



CANTON

Winter 2008 Edition

MEETING SCHEDULES
Various Boards & Commissions
(Held at Community Center)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:
First and Third Wednesday, 7PM

BOARD OF FINANCE:
Third Monday, 7:30PM

BOARD OF EDUCATION:
Second and Fourth Thursday, 7PM

LAND USE COMMISSIONS
CANTON CENTER HIST. DIST.
Second Wednesday, 7PM
COLLINSVILLE HIST. DIST.
Second Tuesday, 8PM (Town Hall)
CONSERVATION COMM:
Second Wednesday, 7:30PM
INLAND WETLANDS:
Second Thursday, 7PM
PLANNING COMMISSION:
First Monday, 7:30PM
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS:
Second Monday, 8PM
ZONING COMMISSION:
Third Wednesday, 7:30PM

OTHER COMMISSIONS
COMMISSION ON AGING:
First Monday, 12PM
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:
Second Tuesday, 7:30PM
LIBRARY BD. OF TRUSTEES:
Second Wednesday, 7:15PM
OPEN SPACE COMMISSION:
First Tuesday, 7:30PM
PARKS & REC. COMMISSION:
Third Monday, 7PM
WATER POLLUTION:
Second Tuesday, 7PM
YOUTH SERVICE BUREAU:
Fourth Thursday, 6PM

TOWN HALL HOURS
Monday, Tuesday & Thursday
8:15AM to 4:30PM
Wednesday
8:15AM to 6:45PM
Friday
8:15AM to 12PM

TOWN WEBSITE
Be sure to check out our website at www.townofcantonct.org and sign up for electronic notification of meetings and important information!

TOWN ACTIVATES CITIZEN RESPONSE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

As part of the Town's commitment to continue efforts to maximize communication among Canton residents and Town government, an additional function of the Town's redesigned website has been activated. The Citizen Request Management component, known as QAlert, will enable residents the ability to report complaints, concerns and service requests directly to appropriate staff for response. Residents may access QAlert through the Town's web page at www.townofcantonct.org. The link, listed as "QAlert-Citizen Service Request," is located on the left hand side of the Welcome page and will provide guidance through the simple reporting process. Those utilizing the system are

required to provide name and contact information along with the issue and/or concern. Upon entry, the Alert will be immediately transmitted to the appropriate Department for response. The QAlert component of the Town's website is just one more method for residents to communicate directly with the General Government. As always, the Town of Canton staff remains available to speak with concerned residents by telephone or in person at Town offices. Be sure to check it out and give it a try the next time a question or concern arises. Questions regarding the process may be directed to the Town Clerk's Office at (860)693-7870.

2008 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Wednesday, January 30, 2007
7:00PM

The Annual Town meeting will be held at the Canton Community Center, 40 Dyer Avenue, Canton. The non-voting meeting will hear a presentation and hold a discussion on the issues, challenges and opportunities in Collinsville.

FREE SAFETY INSPECTIONS

The Canton Building Department is offering free safety inspections for existing wood stoves. New installations will still require a permit and fee. Contact the Building Department at (860) 693-7854 to schedule an appointment or with questions.

SENIOR SERVICES NEWS

Seniors and anyone else interested in being on the Senior Center's e-mail list should e-mail the Senior Services Coordinator, Mary Fletcher, at mfletcher@townofcantonct.org. Please put "senior e-mail newsletter" in the subject line.

SELECTMEN'S COLUMN

Greetings,

You will see changes in the Board of Selectmen's Newsletter which will acknowledge our commitment to the "team approach". We have dropped the word "First" from the First Selectman's Column in acknowledgement that the accomplishments we achieve will be the product of the Board of Selectmen. We will also be featuring a Town employee in each issue so that you may put a face with the individuals that provide you with various municipal services. Linda Smith, our Town Clerk, is a natural for our first team member since she is the first person you meet when you enter the Town Hall.

In the past month the Board has established a temporary study committee to evaluate strategies to recruit and retain volunteers for our fire and emergency medical technician (EMT) services. Programs to commensurate these individuals are financially cost effective when compared to the costs of providing paid full time staff.

~~We have also formed a temporary study committee to~~ consider expansion of our existing senior citizen tax relief program. The current program is providing assistance to approximately 75 of the 1,100 plus seniors (65 years and older).

The Town charter which is the foundation of our gov-

ernment has not been revised in eight years. The Board has adopted a resolution to establish a Charter Revision Commission. In the coming month the Commission will be appointed and given specific changes to consider. The Commission also will be authorized to consider any additional changes to the Charter which they deem appropriate. The process will provide ample opportunity for input from Boards, Commissions and citizens prior to any final recommendation to revise the Charter. The entire process will take close to 1 ½ years to complete. The steps and progress will be reported on the Town website. Please participate in this important task.

Finally while the Board of Selectmen is committed to open government it will only be effective with your input. Sign up for the QNotify system on the Town's website to follow the meetings of our Boards, Commissions and Committees. Use the QAlert system to notify us of problems or issues. We will be partnering with the League of Women Voters to conduct quarterly public forums for public education and input. If you have any suggestions for the format of these events please contact us.

Wishing you the best in 2008,
Your Board of Selectmen

TOWN TEAM NEWS

MEET THE TOWN CLERK - LINDA SMITH

This is one in a series of brief introductions of Town employees and community volunteers.

Background: A Town employee since 2001, Linda served as Assistant Town Clerk under the guidance of Town Clerk Shirley Krompegal while attending additional classes and attained the title of Certified Connecticut Town Clerk with the State of Connecticut and Certified Municipal Clerk with the International Institute of Municipal Clerks. Following Shirley's retirement in early 2004, Linda was appointed Town Clerk after a competitive search.

Education: Linda holds a Bachelor's Degree in Marketing from the University of Hartford and a Masters Degree in Organization and Management from Central Connecticut State University.

Best part of the Job: Aside from interacting with many residents on a daily basis, Linda enjoys being able to make advancements in the organization of her office by improving the technology and logistics of the workflow and records kept in the Town Clerk's office. Each year, Linda has been able to secure a grant made available through the Connecticut State Library in order to fund these improve-

ments.

Personal: A resident of Canton since 1987 with her husband and two sons, Linda enjoys movies, shopping with her Mom and watching her sons' athletic games.

Little known fact: Linda's first job out of college was with WTIC AM/FM radio where she had the good fortune of working with radio legend Bob Steele on a daily basis.

WELCOME!

The Town is pleased to welcome the following new staff member to the Canton Team and wish them well in their public service:

- Heather Baker, Children's Librarian, Canton Public Library
- Sarah McCusker, Technical Service, Canton Public Library
- Darrien Lynn, Program Supervisor, Parks and Recreation

THANK YOU!

The Town offers appreciation and thanks to the following individuals for their service to the community and best wishes for continued health, happiness and success:

- Jean Kelley, Recording Clerk, Planning; Finance

WINTER FIRE SAFETY TIPS

- Have chimneys, wood stoves and fire places inspected and cleaned. Chimneys can build up creosote causing a blockage in the flue which may lead to poor ventilation and possible carbon monoxide poisoning in the home. Creosote buildup may also catch fire when heated, causing a chimney fire that could extend to the rest of the house.
- Have furnaces or boilers inspected yearly.
- Install smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors on each level of the house, ensuring one of each is located near each bedroom area.
- Do not run vehicles inside an attached garage for an extended period of time (i.e. to warm it up). Carbon monoxide, which is odorless and colorless, is the "silent killer".
- Make sure that fireplace or wood stove ashes are properly disposed. Do not place hot coals in a wastebasket until cooled, but try the practice of placing them in a metal container outside and away from any structure.
- In the case of any fire or medical emergency, do not hesitate to dial 911 and seek help!
- Questions or Concerns? Contact the Fire Marshal's Office at (860) 693-7857; Fire Chief at (860) 693-7858 or the Canton Police Department at (860) 693-0221.

VOLUNTEER COMMISSION/ BOARD VACANCIES

Serving on a Board or Commission is a great way to become involved in our community and meeting the needs of Canton's citizens. Vacancies currently exist on the following boards and commissions:

- Canton Center Historic District Commission
- Commission on Aging
- Conservation Commission
- Economic Development Agency
- Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency
- Juvenile Review Board
- Open Space Preservation & Acquisition Com.

- Parks and Recreation Commission
- Planning Commission
- Town Meeting Moderator (Alternate)
- Water Pollution Control Authority
- Youth Service Bureau
- Zoning Board of Appeals

Each Commission/ Board holds monthly meetings, a schedule of which can be found on the front page of this newsletter or on the Town's webpage. If you are interested in serving or would like more information, please contact Richard Barlow at (860) 693-7847.

SNOW AND ICE CONTROL PROCEDURES

This year, the Highway Department is utilizing salt treated with magnesium chloride to assist in its efforts. The product, known to be environmentally safe for ground water, surface water, and vegetation, helps prevent snow or ice from forming, also enables the Town to minimize street sand sweeping in the Spring. The treatment also contains a green dye for visibility purposes. Questions? Contact the Highway Department at (860) 693-7863.

OVERNIGHT PARKING BAN: Overnight parking is prohibited from November 15, 2007 through April 15, 2008. Vehicles in violation of this ban will be towed.

SIDEWALK SNOW REMOVAL REMINDERS: Snow may not be shoveled, snow blown, or plowed onto a town road. **Please remember to shovel walks within 24 hours from end of a storm.**

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
WINTER 2008 EDITION**

Town of Canton
4 Market Street, PO Box 168
Collinsville, CT 06022-0168

Happy New Year!

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

First Selectman, Richard Barlow
(860)693-7847
rbarlow@townofcantonct.org

Deputy First Selectman, Shirley Krompegal
(860) 693-0400
skrompegal@townofcantonct.org

David W. Gilchrist
(860) 693-8406
dgilchrist@townofcantonct.org

Timothy B. LeGeyt
(860) 693-8718
tlegeyt@townofcantonct.org

Mary Tomolonius
(860) 693-0368
mtomolonius@townofcantonct.org

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 71
Collinsville, CT
CAR-RT-SORT

Postal Customer

Local

IMPORTANT NEWS, EVENTS AND DATES

- **All Town Officers will be closed in observance of the following:**
 - January 21, 2008 Martin Luther King Day
 - February 18, 2008 President's Day
 - March 21, 2008 Good Friday
- **Tax Collector's Reminder** -Real Estate and Personal Property bills mailed in July that involve a second payment are due January 1, 2008 along with Supplemental Motor Vehicle (SMV) bills. SMV bills are sent to those who have replaced or added a car after October 1, 2006 but before September 1, 2007. Those expecting to receive a SMV bill who have not, please call the Tax Collector's office at (860) 693-7843. Interest will accrue for unpaid balances effective February 2, 2008. The Tax Collector's Office will be open each Wednesday until 6:45PM.
- **Do you receive the Senior Scribe Newsletter?** If you are not receiving it and would like to, please contact Mary Fletcher, Coordinator of Senior Services at 693-5811 to be added to the mailing list.
- **AARP Connecticut Tax-Aide** program is available by appointment on Wednesday mornings, February 6 through April 9. Please contact Senior Services Coordinator Mary Fletcher at (860) 693-5811 to schedule an appointment.
- **Transfer Station** stickers for 2008 are now available at the Town Clerk's office. All residents **MUST** present a copy of their vehicle's REGISTRATION for each vehicle. A fee of \$80 fee applies for the first car and \$1 for the second vehicle in the household. Annual permits are also available by mail by sending a copy of the registration along with a check payable to the "Town of Canton" to: Town Clerk, PO Box 168, Collinsville, CT 06022
- **Christmas trees** may be discarded at the Transfer Station with proof of residency at no charge.