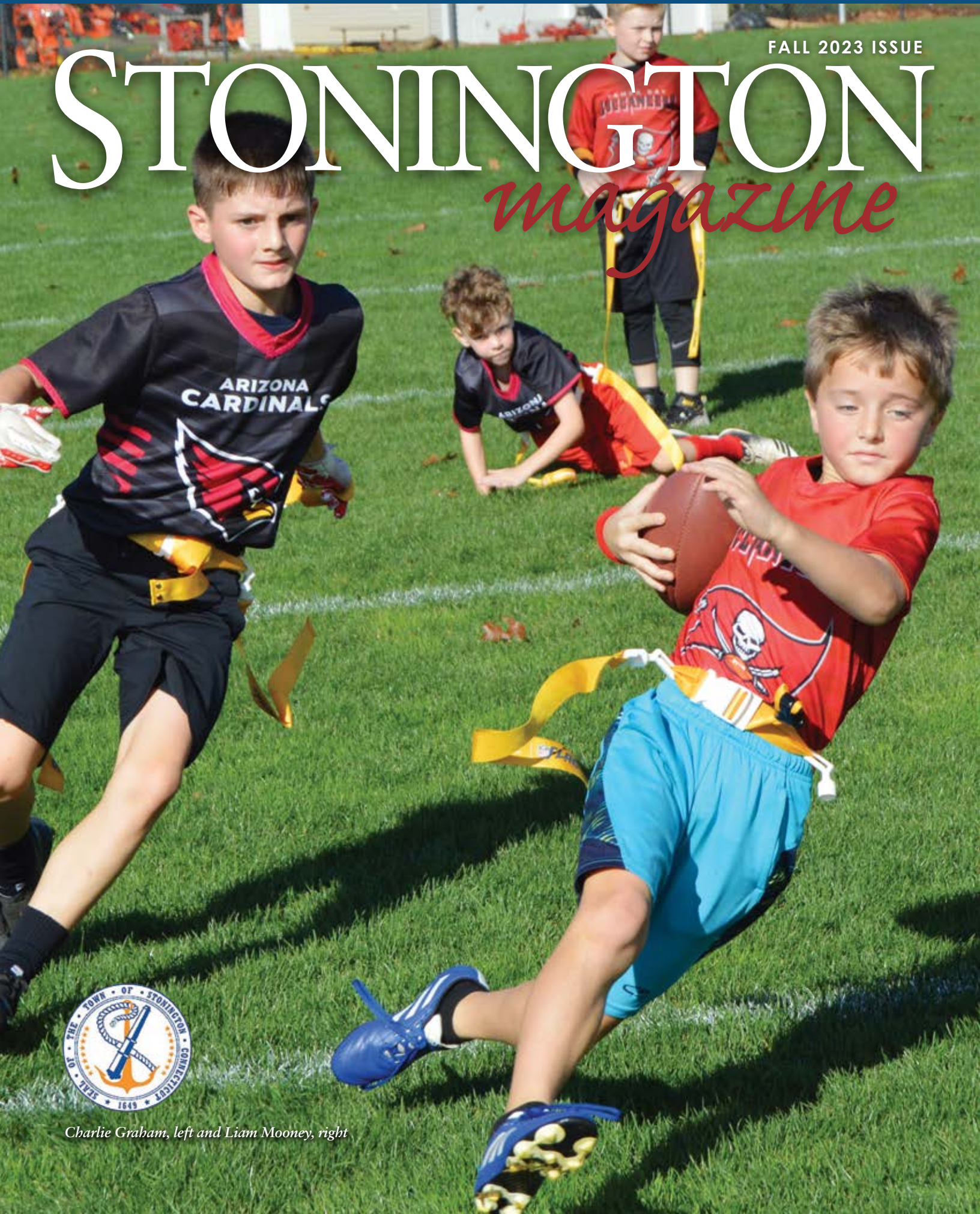


STONINGTON

magazine



Charlie Graham, left and Liam Mooney, right

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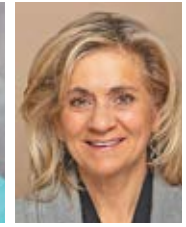
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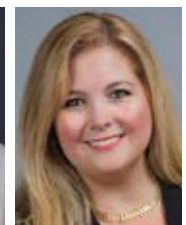
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166 South Broad Street, Pawcatuck, CT 06379
Monday-Friday 8:30am to 4:00pm

STONINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
173 South Broad Street, Pawcatuck, CT 06379
Monday-Friday 8:30am to 4pm
911 for Emergencies

TRANSFER STATION
151 Greenhaven Road, Pawcatuck, CT 06379
Monday-Tuesday/Thursday-Friday: 9-3
(Closed Wednesday); Saturday: 8-3; Sunday 8-1

- Administrative Services (860) 535-5000
- Animal Control (860) 599-4411
- Assessment Department (860) 535-5098
- Building Official..... (860) 535-5075
- Emergency Management (860) 535-5050
- Engineering (860) 535-5076
- Finance Department..... (860) 535-5070
- Highway (860) 535-5055
- Human Services (860) 535-5015
- Planning Department (860) 535-5095
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- Registrars of Voters..... (860) 535-5047
(860) 535-5054
- Sanitarian..... (860) 535-5010
- Selectmen's Office (860) 535-5050
- Solid Waste and Recycling..... (860) 535-5099
- Transfer Station (860) 535-5088
- Police Department..... (860) 599-4411
- Tax Collector (860) 535-5080
- Town Clerk (860) 535-5060
- Water Pollution Authority..... (860) 535-5065

www.stonington-ct.gov

SELECTMEN'S CORNER

Dear Stonington Residents,

We are grateful for all the time and effort put forth by so many people working to improve our community. So many positive aspects of our community are thanks to the efforts of our staff at Town Hall, Human Services, the Transfer Station, Public Works, the Police Department, and Stonington Schools, as well as the work done by hundreds of volunteers who give their time and knowledge to our Boards and Commissions, as well as our local nonprofits. Together, we have all been able to make so many positive contributions within the community.

Below you can find just a handful of these positive moments, along with a few updates we thought you may be interested in.



1- Community partners came together in May for a Mental Health Round Table to raise awareness, advocate for change and engage in meaningful dialogue on how we can continue to improve as a community and a State on Mental Health Issues.

2, 3 – With over 300 people in attendance, the Stonington Veterans Monument was dedicated on June 14, 2023. The monument honors Veterans from World War I and on who call the Town of Stonington home. Visitors at the site can utilize a new technology with their smart device that brings them to the dedicated website. The website allows visitors to view or search a list of over 6,000 Veteran names, watch interviews with local Veterans or learn about the artwork and history of the project. It also allows for names of Veterans to continue to be added over the years. More information can be found by visiting www.stoningtonveteransmonument.org.

4- Construction began on the Route 1 Sidewalk project linking the high school with downtown Pawcatuck. The \$1.38 million project was made possible due \$600,000 in Urban Act Funds with an additional \$700,000 contributed by the Town. The project is due to be completed this fall. This local-state funding partnership made this project possible, and we look forward to celebrating this community project once the sidewalks are completed this Fall.

5 – The Stonington Police Department recently welcomed three new officers to their team at a swearing-in event. They also recognized the efforts of many of our officers during specific events in our community and shared their gratitude for a dedicated retiring officer.

6- Town and School officials came together to celebrate 2023 Stonington High School graduates!





7- A dedication ceremony for the Venture Smith Freedom Site at Barn Island was held in May. The site sign is about a half-mile from the southeast parking area, located off of Stewart Road. Thank you to CT DEEP and all who made this possible.

8 - Solid Waste Department launched yet another new, sustainability initiative aimed at further reducing our waste stream with the plastic film recycling program. Since its inception 2,224 lbs. of film recycling has been collected. The composting program continues to be successful with over 115 tons of food waste diverted from our yellow bags!



9- The community celebrated Stonington Little League's 70th Anniversary

10 – A second in person meeting was held with the CT DOT, Town and Borough staff, Police and Fire regarding the Alpha Ave Viaduct. The DOT emphasized the importance of local partnerships and after hearing concerns raised about the project, came back to the Town with additional options. All participants, including DOT, agreed to fully replace the bridge and no longer close off town roads. The expected lifespan for the replaced bridge would be 75 years and could ensure future generations have lower costs for bridge maintenance and repair. The current timeline would have a draft preliminary design ready for public input in the summer of 2024, with final preliminary designs completed that Fall. A semi-final design should be done



by 2025, with design completion in late summer of 2026. Construction would start in spring of 2027.

11 – Stonington was one of 15 municipalities awarded funding by the Department of Economic and Community Development to help remediate and redevelop vacant and blighted brownfield properties across the state. The Board of Selectmen supported an effort to put forward an application of \$200,000 to conduct assessment activities at the former 5.5-acre industrial site at 21 Pawcatuck Ave to potentially enable residential use. Redevelopment ideas were presented by the developer to Planning and Zoning in early July.

12, 13 – The community came together to celebrate our local fishing fleet, fishing families and those who were lost during the 70th anniversary of the Blessing of the Fleet.



14- A recent meeting to discuss how we can continue to effectively reach as many citizens as possible for emergency notifications occurred with our new Emergency Operations Manager, Captain Schneider and emergency management team including representatives from our Police Department, IT and First Selectman's Office. The Stonington Alerts systems allows us to keep you informed with important information such as emergencies, weather related events, major detours, resources and more. As a reminder, if we can't reach you, we can't alert you! Please take a moment to sign up for Stonington Alerts at www.stonington-ct.gov/home/pages/stonington-alerts

Lastly, after securing \$1.9 million to address a long-standing public safety concern and with a finalized environmental review approved, in August another milestone for the water loop project was completed with a RFQ for engineering and design work underway.

Thank you, Stonington,

Sincerely,

Danielle Chesebrough, First Selectman

Deborah Downie, Selectwoman

June Strunk, Selectwoman

Stonington Beautification

The Stonington Beautification Committee is actively looking for volunteers of all ages to help maintain our many flowering pots, gardens, and memorials in town. But in order to continue our mission to improve the esthetics and environment of this beautiful area we need your help. Please consider signing up today to become an active volunteer. Email us at stoningtonbeautificaion@stonington-ct.gov. or please consider making a tax-deductible donation to our committee toward future trees and pollinating gardens in Stonington. Please send donation to: Stonington Beautification, c/o Stonington Human Services, 166 South Broad St, Pawcatuck, CT 06379. Thank you for your support!

10 Ways to Help Volunteer and Support our Stonington Environment

1. Plant a Native Tree or pollinating garden on you/r property
2. Host a litter cleanup in your neighborhood or pick up litter on your daily walk.
3. Volunteer at a river or beach cleanup.
4. Pick up litter in our Downtown Pawcatuck, Mystic, or Stonington Areas
5. Water any flowering pots or new planted trees in Downtown Pawcatuck.
6. Help water and weed any one of our many local War Memorials.
7. Choose reusable items over single-use plastic.
8. Compost your food scraps and yard waste.
9. Recycle items properly.
10. Donate to The Stonington Beautification Tree Fund to help plant more trees in Stonington.



Volunteer Cynthia Moore waters flowers on the Stillman Ave Bridge in Pawcatuck.

Department of Assessment

The Department of Assessment would like to remind all owners and lessees of tangible personal property that Connecticut General Statute 12-40 requires all persons, both residents and non-residents, to file a sworn declaration of all assets owned as of October 1, 2023 to the Assessor by the statutory deadline of November 1, 2023. The definition of personal property is “property that is not permanently affixed to or part of real estate.” This includes, but is not limited to, tangible items such as furniture, fixtures, machinery & equipment, supplies and unregistered motor vehicles. Household furniture used exclusively for personal use is exempt. In September a declaration will be mailed to each owner of tangible personal property on record. If you do not receive a form but own assets located in town, you can request one from the Assessor’s Office either via email: assessor@stonington-ct.gov or via phone: 860-535-5098. Forms and more information about the personal property process are available on the town website: <http://www.stonington-ct.gov>. Declarations clearly postmarked by USPS on or before November 1st will be considered timely filed. Extensions may be granted for just cause if a written request is received on or before November 1st.

The Board of Assessment Appeals will be meeting on Saturday September 16th, at the Town Hall, from 9:00-10:00am to hear any motor vehicle appeals.

The application period for the Additional Veteran’s Program ends September 29, 2023. This is an income-based program with the maximum income for a single person being \$40,300 and for married couples \$49,100.

SAVE THE DATE!

22ND ANNUAL

 *Halloween*

EGG HUNT

**Sunday, October 29th from
5-6:30pm**

At Stonington Human Services

Making a Difference

Solving real problems takes real commitment and vision. For more than 110 years, Rotary's people of action have used their passion, energy, and intelligence to take action on sustainable projects. From literacy and peace to water and health, we are always working to better our world, and we stay committed to the end! Each year the incoming International President of Rotary chooses a presidential initiative for their term. Our current 2023 initiative is to "Create Hope For The World" by prioritizing mental health, fostering understand and creating connections, and by unlocking the power of girls and women around the world. Everything Rotarians do is in the spirit of giving, friendship, and compassion, and has been that way since the beginning of the founding of Rotary. Please join us for one of our meetings and learn more about what we do, locally and internationally, and how you can find meaning and joy in joining a diverse, fun, committed group of caring folks.

The Rotary Club of the Stoningtons is offers grants to area non-profit organizations that serve the Stonington and North Stonington communities. The Club recently made a \$1,000 donation to the Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center to assist with their food pantry. Accepting the check from Rotary member Margaret Victoria on behalf of the PNC is Cathy Marshall.

New grant applications will be available October 2023. For more information, contact us at stoningtonsrotary04@gmail.com.

Stonington Arms Programs

EXERCISE CLASSES held at 133 S. Broad St. in Pawcatuck on

Gentle Yoga: Thursday afternoons @ 4 pm

Groove & Tone: Friday Mornings @ 8:30 am

BINGO is held at 5:30 every Monday night in the community room.

Watch for upcoming dates for flu & COVID vaccine clinics in September and other health clinics for October and November.



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Our mission is to foster a more collaborative community by connecting residents with resources, support and facilities that provide the framework for a healthy, fulfilling life in the Town of Stonington.

Leanne Theodore – Director, ltheodore@stonington-ct.gov

Amanda Davis – Human Services Specialist, adavis@stonington-ct.gov

Julie Holland – Receptionist, jholland@stonington-ct.gov

STONINGTON
HUMAN SERVICES
PLAY • PROVIDE • PROSPER



Thank you to our past and present supporters (players included!) of Stonington Human Services Annual Benefit Golf Classic, a tournament coordinated to benefit the vital supportive services and program scholarships offered through this Department. Support of this event not only benefits positive youth development and recreation activities, but also assists us in offering a wide array of helpful programs that allow our neighbors in need to maintain secure housing and utilities, as well as meet basic needs - such as food and transportation - in times of crisis and hardship.

STONINGTON HUMAN SERVICES 6TH ANNUAL BENEFIT GOLF CLASSIC

Monday, October 2nd at Stonington Country Club

Format: Scramble (4) person teams.

Team prizes will be awarded. Individual Contests/Prizes:
Putting Contest • Longest Drive • Closest to the Pin • Hole in One

To register: <https://stonington.recdesk.com>

988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE

The 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline is a network of more than 200 state and local call centers funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) through Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and administered by Vibrant Emotional Health. In Connecticut, the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) and Department of Children and Families (DCF) fund the Connecticut 988 Contact Center operated by the United Way of Connecticut/211. 988 Contact Center services include rapid 24/7 access to trained crisis contact center staff who can help people experiencing suicidal, substance use and other mental health crises, provide referrals to resources, and perform warm transfers to mobile crisis services or emergency services as needed/ desired. Studies have shown that after speaking with a trained crisis counselor, most people served by the Lifeline are significantly more likely to feel less depressed, less suicidal, less overwhelmed and more hopeful. To reach the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, call or text 988 or chat at www.988lifeline.org.

****IF YOU ARE HAVING A MENTAL HEALTH EMERGENCY YOU CAN DIAL 988 DIRECT TO SPEAK TO SOMEONE 24/7. CALL 911 IF YOU ARE HAVING THOUGHTS OF SELF-HARM.****

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**STONINGTON
HUMAN SERVICES**

SOCIAL SERVICES

Social Services programs address poverty issues within the Town of Stonington and help to increase self-sufficiency.

Michelle Banks – Social Services Administrator, mbanks@stonington-ct.gov

Deanna Rushlow, MA – Community Outreach Specialist, drushlow@stonington-ct.gov

Two hundred and forty-two individuals have been referred to the Community Outreach Program in its first year of operation. The majority of referrals have come from the Police Department and first responders, while others have come from other Town Departments, local school personnel, non-profit agencies, housing property managers and concerned residents.

REFERRALS RECEIVED (7/1/2021-7/1/2022)

- 68 Mental Health/Substance Abuse/Suicide
- 63 Domestic Disputes/Restraining or Protective Orders
- 27 Homelessness
- 41 Financial Support/Basic Needs
- 23 Disabilities and/or Serious Medical Issues
- 20 Elder Issues

Stonington Human Services screens each referred individual and provides a unique service plan for ALL residents willing and open to accepting assistance. We are tremendously grateful for the true community

collaboration involved with this effort and our many partners who assist us with this work.

We can screen for a wide variety of federal, state and local programs that may be able to assist your situation – we are here for you! For more information or to make an appointment with a case manager, please call (860) 535-5015 or email mbanks@stonington-ct.gov.

ENERGY ASSISTANCE APPLICATIONS NOW BEING TAKEN!

TVCCA’s Energy Assistance Program helps families and individuals pay their home heating bills. Priority is given to “vulnerable households” with young children, elderly or disabled individuals. Applications are being taken remotely. Please contact our office and an application packet can be sent to you to complete and return (via drop-box or mail) along with required documentation. For additional information, or to apply online, visit <https://www.tvcca.org/energy-assistance/>.



**STONINGTON
HUMAN SERVICES**

SENIOR SERVICES

Acting as an advocate for elderly residents in the Town of Stonington, the Commission on Aging (COA) is a twelve-member commission, which meets monthly in order to discuss issues with regard to the elderly. The division provides local and regional access to supportive services, as well as a variety of educational workshops and socialization opportunities.

Michelle Banks – Municipal Agent for the Elderly, mbanks@stonington-ct.gov

Cynthia Gardiner – Program Coordinator/Case Manager, cgardiner@stonington-ct.gov

**MEDICARE’S OPEN ENROLLMENT:
OCTOBER 15TH – DECEMBER 7TH**

Human Services has a CHOICES counselor on staff offering phone or in-person appointments for Stonington residents to discuss Medicare options, including Medicare Supplemental/Medigap plans, Part D options and Medicare Savings Programs.

**STATE OF CT RENTERS’ REBATE PROGRAM
FOR ELDERLY AND DISABLED STONINGTON
RESIDENTS**

A program to assist CT renters who are elderly or totally disabled, and whose incomes do not exceed certain limits; documentation on income and housing expenses for 2022 will need to be provided. Apply before October 1st.

DAY TRIP: COLORS OF VERMONT OCTOBER 6TH

Motor Coach leaves Human Services at 6:30am and returns at approximately 8:30pm. Tour Includes: Trip to Hawkins House; Stop at Bennington Battle Monument; Lunch; Visit and Tour at Apple Barn; All Gratuities (Including Driver and Tour Director). \$98/Resident; \$108/Non-Resident.

To register: <https://stonington.recdeck.com> or email LTheodore@stonington-ct.gov. Call (860) 535-5015 for more information.





STONINGTON HUMAN SERVICES

RECREATION

Serving as an advocate for meeting the recreational needs of all the residents within the Town of Stonington by providing youth and adults with an abundance of seasonal and year-round recreational opportunities. Residents can participate in camps, clinics, leagues, open runs, trips and fitness programs.

Richard Ward – Recreation Administrator, rward@stonington-ct.gov

Peter Christina – Recreation Program Coordinator, pchristina@stonington-ct.gov

GET OUTSIDE AND GET MOVING!

The fall is a GREAT time to take a HIKE! This is our 7th year hosting this challenge, now with close to 1,600 participants to date. A new lineup is offered each year, so jump onboard again if you have already completed the challenge in the past - we love hearing about all the adventures! Participants who hike ALL of the trails during the course of one season (and tells us about it) will receive a one-of-a-kind t-shirt that you can proudly wear at the gym or in the park

1st – REGISTER - IT's FREE!
<https://stonington.recdesk.com/>

2nd – HIKE IT! The best part

3rd – TELL US ABOUT IT! (PICTURES WELCOME)
hikestonington@stonington-ct.gov

4th – GET YOUR T-SHIRT! Woohoo!



INDOOR YOUTH FLAG FOOTBALL IS BACK!

Watch for details posted later in October. Games held on Sundays in Dec-Feb as we return to Mystic Indoor Sports.

ADULT FITNESS & EXERCISE CLASSES

Please note the location of each respective class. Outside classes are weather dependent and subject to change. Registered participants will receive notice for any weather-related cancellations. All social-distancing protocols are followed.

MONDAY MORNING ABC'S...

Day: Mondays Time: 8:30-9:30AM

Location: Stonington Arms—133 South Broad Street

Arms & Abs—Balance & Butts—Cardio & Core! A light cardiovascular workout combined with toning and strengthening for a strong core, amazing arms and healthy heart. We will throw in a little bit of balance to spice it up. Low impact class for all fitness levels Light weights are needed. Instructor: Yvonne Brown

FALL 2023 LEAGUE

Our 11th Season! As of press time spots still remain. Program runs from early September into November (schedule TBD) with practices and games held at Spellman Park and/or SPS District Office fields (Field St, Pawcatuck). Each team will practice once during the week, with games played on Saturdays. Goals of the league are that all participants will develop their social and mental skills, as well as physical strength and character, while safely learning how to play flag football. Teamwork and active participation are key outcomes. Every child plays! We will host a skills day in an effort to draft teams as evenly as possible. This is strictly a recreational league and commitment will not conflict with other fall sports. Each player will receive an Official NFL Flag reversible team jersey. Coaches and referees will have access to amazing trainings and support tools to better teach and prepare for practices and games!

Age: Co-Ed - Ages are as of Dec 31st

Four Divisions: Ages 5-7; 8-9; 10-11; 12-14.

Dates: September – November (Schedule TBD)

Where: Spellman Park and/or SPS District Office fields

Fees: \$100/Resident; \$120/Non-Resident



BOOMERS EXERCISE

Age: 50+ Instructor: Michele Gardner

Days: Mon & Wed Time: 8:30-9:30AM

Location: St. Michael's Church Hall—Liberty Street

Participants use weights, bands and balls to strengthen muscles and increase range of motion. Balance and fall prevention exercises are included. Designed specifically for individuals ages 50 and older. Join at any time.

CHAIR YOGA

Day: Mondays Time: 10:00-10:45AM Location: Stonington Arms—133 South Broad Street, Pawcatuck

Slow down, stretch and breathe in this 45-minute seated and standing class. Work within your own ability to improve flexibility and soothe tight muscles. Bring a water bottle for hydration. Instructor: Michele Gardner

GROOVE & TONE

Day: Fridays Time: 8:30-9:30AM

Location: Stonington Arms—133 South Broad Street

Groove & Tone uses weights, balls and bands for strength and balance exercises - mixed in with cardio dances - all set to some jazzy music, along with some popular tunes, that you'll be sure to recognize. Instructor: Tina Pagliusi

STRETCH & MOBILITY CLASS

Day: Thursdays Time: 11:00-11:45AM
 Location: Stonington Arms—133 South Broad Street

A gentle, steady class of movement, stretches, poses and muscle isolations, performed to music, in a continuous flow of sequences. Participants will stretch, tone, lubricate and lengthen the muscles and joints. Moving the body through these dynamic positions will increase blood flow, oxygen levels, body strength, stability, control and positional awareness. This class can be done at any level of fitness and participants can move at their own pace. No equipment necessary. Instructor: Tina Pagliusi

YOGA FOR EVERYONE

Day: Thursdays Time: 9:30-10:30am
 Location: Stonington Arms

Practice a gentle style of yoga that focuses equally on strength, stretching and balance. Perfect for new students and seasoned yogis alike. Please bring a mat or towel/blanket to practice on as well as any additional props that are part of your usual practice (block, strap, pillow, extra blanket). Instructor: Chelsea Hauck

ZUMBA® FITNESS

Zumba is a fitness format fusing Latin and International music with choreographed movement and dance. This hour-long workout will fly by, leaving you with an intense energy and endorphin boost.

SUNDAY Time: 8-9AM
 Instructor: Kelly Nunes Donohue
 Location: Outdoors Spellman Park Tennis Courts

FRIDAY Time: 10-11AM
 Instructor: Tina Pagliusi
 Location: Outdoors Spellman Park Pavilions

FITNESS CLASS FEES / PUNCH CARDS

Good for any current or future Fitness Class hosted by Stonington Human Services—Recreation Division

1 - 10 Class Punch Card \$37.50

1 - 20 Class Punch Card \$70.00

Punch cards made be purchased during normal business hours - M-F 9am-12pm / 1-3:30pm - at Stonington Human Services, 166 South Broad Street, Pawcatuck (next door to Stonington High School)



**FAR FLUNG
 DISC GOLF
 AT SPELLMAN PARK**

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC! Watch for events and tournaments! A huge thanks go out to our sponsors: Far Flung Enterprises (Title); First Financial Advisor Services, Mystic Knotwork, The Valenti Family of Dealerships; Ear Nose & Throat Associates of SECT (Founding); Pawcatuck Roofing; Beer'd Brewing Co; SHS Class of 1998; Stonington Prevention Council; SHS Class of 1995; The Moody Family; Chelsea Groton Bank; Gales Ferry Medical Group (Legacy) and the numerous seasonal sponsors that contributed the funds needed to make this project a reality. Please reach out to us at discgolf@stonington-ct.gov to learn more about how you, or your organization, can help us reach our goal of building another 9 holes!

**STONINGTON REC YOUTH BASKETBALL LEAGUE
 BOYS & GIRLS DIVISIONS GRADES 3-8**

In house REC Basketball League! Intended for all skill levels with an emphasis on athletic enjoyment, instruction, fundamentals, sportsmanship and equal playing time. Team practices are held once during the week at any one of the area schools (dates depends on the team). League games, also held in Stonington and are scheduled on Saturdays starting Dec 2 through Feb 24.

**Coed Division
 3rd & 4th Grade**

Girls Age Divisions
 5th & 6th Grade
 7th & 8th Grade

Boys Age Divisions
 5th & 6th Grade
 7th & 8th Grade

2023-2024 Season Schedule:

Skills Day: Saturday, Nov 4 from 9:30-1:00 pm at SHS Gymnasium

Practices: Begin on (or around week of) Nov 13

Games: Saturdays, Dec 2-Feb 24 (no games 12/23 & 12/30)

Fees: Resident/\$95; Non-Resident/\$125



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STONINGTON HUMAN SERVICES

— YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES

2023-2024 PROGRAM

Monday-Friday 9am-12:30pm

Monthly Tuition:

2-Days: \$225; 3-Days: \$300;

5-Days \$450 (for ages 4&5)

(Non-Residents add \$25/ month)

**Students must be fully potty

trained and

3 years of age by September 1st. **

Every parent wants a nurturing environment for their young child's early education. Get off to a good start and enroll in our program! Open to fully potty-trained children ages 3-5. Located within Stonington High School, 2, 3, and 5* day options are available.



The mission of the SPC is to permanently change attitudes, laws, and policies to stop substance abuse and establish a safer community. The council of works to educate community members regarding limiting underage access and use of alcohol; substance abuse prevention; preventing impaired / distracted driving; supporting enforcement of alcohol and drug-related offenses through media coverage; substance-free graduation parties; parent education sessions; TIPS certification; breathalyzer purchase for SHS events; Cops in Shops Compliance Checks and MORE!

Would you like to make a difference in your community? Email to: KKing@stonington-ct.gov.

STONINGTON JUVENILE REVIEW BOARD

A Juvenile Review Board (JRB) is a community-based diversion process for youth that may otherwise be referred to the Juvenile Court for minor violations of the law. Stonington Human Services, in partnership with the Stonington Police Department, work collaboratively to coordinate community-based services to provide comprehensive delivery of prevention, intervention, treatment and follow-up services, included but not limited to: (1) Individual and group counseling; (2) parent training and family therapy; (3) work placement

The programs and services that are offered by the Youth and Family Services Division are done so as a means of promoting positive youth development and supporting improved family and community relations.

Kristen King – Youth & Family Services Administrator, kking@stonington-ct.gov

Sara Startz – Preschool Head Teacher, sstartz@stonington-ct.gov

Emily Hamm – Assistant Preschool Teacher/Program Coordinator, ehamm@stonington-ct.gov

Miranda Krause-Cahill – Counseling Supervisor, mcahill@stonington-ct.gov

Maribeth Scahill – Counselor

and employment counseling; (4) alternative and special educational opportunities; (5) recreational and youth enrichment programs; (6) outreach programs to insure participation and planning by the entire community for the development of regional and community-based youth services; (7) preventive programs, including youth pregnancy, youth suicide, violence, alcohol and drug prevention; and (8) programs that develop positive youth involvement. One of the features of the JRB model that sets it apart from other programs designed to assist youth and families, and one of the reasons for its success, is that each JRB program is unique to the community it serves. For more information on referring a child to the program, or if you are a local business owner interested in providing a community service opportunity, please contact Kristen King – Kking@stonington-ct.gov.

YOUNG ADULTS SOCIAL CLUB

Open to young adults with disabilities. Each session includes an opportunity for socialization while enjoying games, crafts and music, with a focus on various life skills and lessons. This group meets at a different location within the area in order to familiarize participants with what their community has to offer. Space is limited and pre-registration is required.

STONINGTON EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

A state-of-the-art community notification system alerts residents about emergencies and important community news.

The notification system provides immediate & accurate ALERTS that can be sent across multiple platforms, including voice messages, texts, and emails. Receive notifications that may affect your home, business, workplace, school or any other locations within Stonington.

Please visit <https://www.stonington-ct.gov/pages/stonington-alerts> and click on the "Stonington Alerts" icon to sign up. Create a simple account and tailor it to your notification preferences.

If we can't reach you, we can't ALERT you.





245 West Shore Avenue, Groton

LISTED AT: \$1,700,000



91 Sergio Franchi Drive
Stonington

LISTED AT:
\$7,990,000



27 Lords Meadow Lane
Old Lyme

LISTED AT:
\$1,350,000



503 Fox Hopyard Road
East Haddam

LISTED AT:
\$1,250,000



144 Neck Road
Old Lyme

LISTED AT:
\$950,000



40 Flat Rock Hill Road
Old Lyme

LISTED AT:
\$699,00

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2020-2022 Diamond Award Winner, Old Lyme Brokerage*



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*Source: William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty
2022 Awards Recognition, Old Lyme Brokerage.

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Theater at the COMO

The Stonington Community Center (COMO) is thrilled to announce an exciting opportunity for kids, preschool to 3rd grade, to explore the enchanting world of theater with none other than Erin Shea of Poppi's Planet! Starting this September, young actors will take center stage in a traditional auditorium space with Theater at the COMO, offering eight weeks of classes, then it's curtain up for a showcase performance families can enjoy!

Theater at the COMO will take students on a creative adventure, encouraging them to explore their imagination, develop confidence, and enhance their communication skills. During classes, Erin will delve into various theatrical exercises, interactive games, and role-playing activities to promote teamwork and self-expression. Erin aims to unlock students' potential through storytelling and performing arts while incorporating social-emotional learning tools. They will discover the joy of embodying characters, expressing emotions, and embracing their individuality on stage. It's an opportunity for kids to step into the spotlight, build lasting friendships, and most importantly, have fun! To learn more and enroll your child in Theater at the COMO today, please visit thecomoo.org/theater or call 860.535.2476. Facebook: Stonington Community Center, Instagram: @stonington_como



Arc Eastern Connecticut

The Arc Eastern Connecticut was at the Mystic Chamber of Commerce Visitors' Center in downtown Mystic on June 28, promoting their bakery micro-enterprise that provides employment opportunities for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in eastern Connecticut. The pop-up cookie display, manned by Penny Newbury (L) and Denise Tift ® of The Arc's Development Department, was made possible through the generosity of the Greater Mystic Chamber of commerce, which allows nonprofits to showcase their services each weekend



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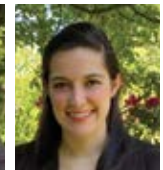


Christine H.
Kendall, MA

**WELCOME
Ariana
&
Katherine**



Ariana de Labry
AU.D, CCC-A



Katherine Audet
AU.D, CCC-A

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Connecticut is a beautiful place to live, and it comes at a cost that many residents find difficult to afford. You may be familiar with the 30 percent rule - that a household should spend no more than 30 percent of its gross income on housing costs. Yet throughout our region, low-income families are severely cost-burdened (spending more than 50 percent of their income on housing), and they're struggling to stay housed. Many of these families are employed in service industry jobs that we all depend on, like grocery store clerks, childcare providers, fast-food workers, pet sitters, home health aides, manicurists and store cashiers.

For 25 years Always Home's mission has been Preventing Family Homelessness. We work exclusively on behalf of families with minor children, helping parents overcome a housing crisis before it spirals into eviction and homelessness. Some of the support we may provide includes financial assistance with: past-due or current month rents; first month rents and security deposits; car repairs; gas cards; summer camps and daycare; and employment training courses and certifications.

If you are experiencing housing insecurity or know of someone who needs help, please call Always Home (860) 245-0222 or visit www.alwayshome.org.



The Ocean Community YMCA provides a positive environment where you and your family can feel comfortable while pursuing the activities that interest you the most.

Members have full access to all three of our locations: Naik Family Branch in Mystic, CT; Westerly-Pawcatuck Branch in Westerly, RI; and Arcadia Branch in Richmond, RI.

With several Membership options available, there is something for everyone at the YMCA. We offer a wide range of programs for every age and ability, including Youth Sports & Enrichment, Swim Lessons, Group Exercise Classes, Personal Training, Senior Wellness, and more. The Y also offers Child Watch for parents while they enjoy a workout or take a Group Exercise class.

With a commitment to youth development, healthy living and social responsibility, the Y ensures that everyone has access to the essentials needed to learn, grow and thrive. Our financial assistance program, YCares, offers children, teens, adults and families the opportunity to benefit from Y programs and services that they otherwise could not afford. Every year, thousands of individuals and families participate in Y programs and services through our financial assistance program.

To learn more, please visit our website: www.oceancommunityymca.org. We look forward to seeing you soon!



The Misquamicut Business Association

FallFest

September 15-17, 2023
Friday 5-11pm • Saturday 11-11pm
Sunday 11-5pm

Rockwell Amusements
 Classic Car Show
 Food Truck Rodeo
 Tickets only \$12



Fri, Sept 15
8:00pm
Ambrosia



Sat, Sept 16
8:30pm
Mac McAnally



MisquamicutFestival.org

PNC Distributes Food Valued Over \$1,000,000

For the first time in its history, the PNC distributed food valued over \$1,000,000 in one year. Stonington residents who meet income guidelines can pick up food, personal care items, pet food and diapers once each week in the PNC food pantry. In addition, children receive 45 pounds of food per child through the Backpack Program every Friday.

PNC serves as the Senior Center for residents. All Stonington seniors are eligible to take PNC Senior Center classes at no cost. Each week, free lunches are served on Monday and Tuesday at 11:00 and lunch is included with the Thursday Luncheon Speaker Series. Yoga, fitness, writing and art/craft classes are offered five days each week. Please register for lunches or classes at www.pawcatuckneighborhoodcenter.org.

The PNC Senior Transportation program is equipped with 2 vehicles to bring Stonington seniors to their destination. This free, door-to-door service provides a handicap-accessible bus, and a mini-van to transport seniors. The program has extended to provide rides to New London and Norwich medical offices.

The PNC is open Monday through Friday, 9:00 to 3:30. Volunteers welcome.

Greater Mystic Chamber of Commerce

The Greater Mystic Chamber of Commerce is excited to announce our 3rd annual Groton City Brew Run in partnership with Groton Utilities. The race is a timed 5K to walk or run at scenic Eastern Point Beach followed by a brew fest, live music and food trucks. Last year's event had over 300 participants and we look forward to another fun event!



On October 14th, we continue to celebrate our community with a 50th anniversary celebration event for 50 years of the Mystic Aquarium! The Chamber is hosting a chili cook-off and beverage pavilion, live music and will end the day with a fireworks show sponsored by Foxwoods Resort Casino.

We look forward to seeing you there!



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Thursday 10 am – 6 pm * Saturday 11 am – 3 pm
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Annual Safe Walk

Save the date! Safe Futures invites the community to join us at our Annual Safe Walk on Sunday, October 22nd, 2023 at Waterford High School. Every year, the Safe Walk brings together supporters of all ages to honor victims and survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and trafficking in southeastern Connecticut.

This year's Safe Walk will include exciting raffle baskets for all ages, breakfast food trucks, and more. Bring your friends and family to show support for Safe Futures and take a stand against domestic violence. Learn more at: safefuturesct.org.

If you or someone you know needs help, please call Safe Futures' 24/7 Confidential Hotline at (860) 701-6001 or text CT Safe Connect at (888) 774-2900 to speak with an advocate. All services are free and confidential.



Stonington Free Library

The Stonington Free Library is open seven days a week—Monday-Thursday 10 to 7, Friday 10 to 5, Saturday & Sunday 10 to 3.

Children's story time meets Mondays at 10:30 a.m., starting in September. Chess lessons for ages 10-12 will be held on August 10th—sign-up online. For adults, Knitting Group meets Wednesdays from 1-3. Library Book Group meets the second Thursday of each month at 2pm. Book group at Stonington Human Services meets the third Friday of each month at 12noon. Tech help is available by appointment on Tuesday afternoons. Homebound delivery service provides patrons with a selection of their preferred library materials each month. Sign-up forms available on the SFL website.

In addition to books, newspapers, magazines, jigsaw puzzles and DVDs, the library offers free WiFi inside and outside the building, print, scan, copy and fax service, laptops, chromebooks, WiFi hotspots, and Nintendo Switch games and consoles. Our digital offerings—e-books, audio books, programs on YouTube, Kanopy, Hoopla, PressReader, and LinkedIn Learning—are available to our card holders free of charge.

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The Eugene Atwood Fund Announces Award Winners and Interest Free Loan Disbursement

The Eugene Atwood Fund, a private non-profit foundation located in Stonington, CT, has been providing interest-free loans to New London County area students for over one hundred years. Programs include their annual awards as well as interest-free loans for college, trade/tech school or to obtain certification/licensing. Nineteen (19) senior high school students were awarded a total of \$35,612 in funding and twenty-one (21) students were approved interest-free loans totaling over \$78,000 for the upcoming 23-24 school year.

The Eugene Atwood Award is provided to senior high school students nominated by their principals and awarded for academic achievement. The Board of Trustees voted to award a total of \$22,750 to the following students:

2023 Eugene Atwood Award

- Benjamin Nave, Wheeler High School
- Student Name Withheld, East Lyme High School
- Addie Concascia, Montville High School
- Helen Gross, Stonington High School

2023 Eugene Atwood Recognition Award

- Brooke Rodgers, Bacon Academy
- Jenaliz Cordero, Grasso Technical High School
- Kendall Larkin, Griswold High School

- Ronan Allison, Ledyard High School
- Lauren Pinkerton, Lyman Memorial High School
- Shaelin McMunn, Marine Science Magnet High School
- John Podziewski, Norwich Technical High School
- Isaiah Anderson, Robert E. Fitch High School
- Luca Muscarella, Saint Bernard School
- Anika Gard, The Williams School
- Briana Smith, Waterford High School

The Eugene Atwood Innovation Award provides funding for the purchase of tools/equipment for senior high school students pursuing a career in a trade related profession. The Eugene Atwood Fund's Trade and Technology Committee awarded a total of \$12,862 to the following students:

2023 Eugene Atwood Innovation Award

- McKenzie Wolicka, Bacon Academy
- Kathrine Buckley, Grasso Technical High School
- Benjamin Petersons, Ledyard High School
- Student Name Withheld, Norwich Technical High School

For more information about programming or to apply, please visit www.eugeneatwoodfund.org or contact Stacey Haskell at 860.535.0005.








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