

BROOKLYN, CT

LOCATION:	Geographical Center of Windham County
AREA:	29 Square Miles
MILES OF ROAD:	60
INCORPORATED:	1786
GOVERNMENT:	Town Meeting Board of Selectmen Board of Finance
POPULATION:	8,280

TABLE OF CONTENTS

History of Brooklyn.....	3
Town Officials.....	7

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Selectman's Report.....	10
Veterans.....	11
Building Official.....	11
Town Clerk.....	12
Treasurer.....	13
Revenue Collector.....	14
Assessor.....	15
Board of Assessment Appeals.....	16
Registrar of Voters.....	17
Recreation Commission.....	20
Economic Development Commission.....	24
Conservation Commission.....	26

SERVICES

Library Associations.....	30
Animal Services.....	32
Brooklyn Resource Recovery.....	34
Board of Fire Commissioners.....	35
Volunteer Fire Company.....	35
Ambulance Service.....	38
Day Kimball Home Care.....	40
Northeast District Department of Health.....	42

FINANCIAL

Auditors Report.....	47
Town Budget for Year-End June 30, 2013.....	51

Town Offices Telephone Numbers.....	54
School & Historical Sites.....	55
Church Services.....	56

EDUCATION

Brooklyn Schools.....	57
Woodstock Academy.....	68

HISTORY OF BROOKLYN

Brooklyn was once part of the lands claimed by the Mohegan Chief, Uncas. The land, deeded in 1680 to Captain James Fitch, was sold to the first local settlers in 1703. It was settled as part of the Town of Canterbury and Pomfret with the Northeastern third having separate existence as the manorial estate of Mortlake.

Mortlake had been purchased in 1686 as a refuge for Puritans who were forced out of England with the Stuart restoration. It was not part of any town and hence neither collected taxes nor provided services to the tenants residing within its bounds.

The civil disobedience of the inhabitants of Mortlake, along with the difficulty of other residents in attending church or town meeting in Canterbury or Pomfret, led to several attempts to settle a minister, form a church and set up a separate society. Petitions were sent to General Assembly and by 1734, permission was granted to form a society and build a church. Mortlake was finally included in the new society in 1752 and the community grew and prospered.

By 1770 the Meeting House was in need of replacement and the large white church, still standing on the green, was built. One of the owners of Mortlake, Godfrey Malbone, so opposed this construction that he undertook to build and support the first Episcopal Church in the area as an alternative to paying a substantial portion of the cost of the new Meeting House.

Brooklyn was a center of revolutionary activity both before and during the War of Independence. Israel Putnam, married to the widow of the first local minister, owner of the Gen. Wolfe Tavern, and veteran of the French and Indian War, who had served in Roger's Rangers and under both General Wolfe and Lord Amherst, was a key figure in the early stage of the

HISTORY OF BROOKLYN

revolution. Putnam was in overall command at the battle of Bunker Hill and was unanimously chosen as the first Major General in the Continental Army.

The Town of Brooklyn was incorporated in 1786 and in 1819 became the county seat. The large homes, the jail, the courthouse, now used as the town hall, all reflect this period of prominence which continued through part of the nineteenth century. The Agricultural Association was formed about 1820 and continues to attract visitors with the annual fair.

Eastern Connecticut was very much involved in the Civil War and the Town of Brooklyn was no exception. A glance at the local monument will show that local men served in most of the famous battles. Local mills provided clothing and the records of churches and organizations list substantial contributions in man power. Although Brooklyn has been primarily an agricultural community, the many streams provided power for a number of small mills. Eventually areas like West Wauregan and East Brooklyn were built around substantial textile mills. For a time, the center of Brooklyn supported a bank (now the library) and a newspaper, as well as several stores.

In more recent times, Brooklyn has developed into two distinct areas. The central and western parts have continued along a residential and rural path, whereas the eastern sector has become predominantly commercial.

The rural colonial beauty of Brooklyn Center has been preserved in spite of the fact that the Town is one of the fastest growing community's in Windham County. Many of the old churches and homes have been restored. The old Court House has been internally renovated to provide town office facilities, but the colonial exterior was left unchanged.

HISTORY OF BROOKLYN

Planning and Zoning were adapted early to preserve and guide the character and development of the Town. The result has been an attractive residential center in rural surroundings at a density level, which can be supported by the environment. Farming had ceased to be a major factor in the community. A school and recreation complex is centrally located. The former town garage is well screened by trees so as not to disturb the residential surrounding and additional recreational facilities are provided on adjacent property.

Brooklyn's Economic Development Commission continues to work on several projects to promote growth in key areas of the Town's economic front. Brooklyn has joined with Eastern Connecticut Enterprise Corridor (ECEC). This is a competitive incentive program to benefit business that expand, or relocate into the industrial development areas of the participating Town's along our Interstate 395 corridor.

The northeast Connecticut Visitors District has been relocated to the Citizen's Bank building in the center of Brooklyn. This location will be a key launching place for travel, writers and tourists to start their exploration of our quiet corner.

Several initiatives are being looked into to enhance the South Main Street business district in East Brooklyn. Our 'welcome' signs at the Brooklyn Center roads have received much praise. Economic Development Commission members individually are looking at specific programs to enhance our town's presence and friendly atmosphere. The amount of time that the Town receives from the variety of commission and board volunteer members enforces our belief that our citizens 'feel good about Brooklyn.'

Brooklyn has purchased 32 acres of river frontage along the Quinebaug River. Together with two lots already owned by

HISTORY OF BROOKLYN

the Town and the transfer of a lot from the CT DOT, we now own 3550 feet of river frontage. Working with landscape design, UCONN will generate a plan that will encompass activities and passive recreation for this area.

Located in the center of Windham County, proud of its heritage and its preservation but progressive in its outlook, Brooklyn intends to continue to be a vital element in Eastern Connecticut.

TOWN OFFICIALS

Board of Selectmen

Richard Ives – First Selectman
Robert Kelleher, Joseph Voccio

Selectman's Office

Richard Ives – First Selectman
Sherri Soucy – Administrative Assistant
Melissa Bradley – Selectman Secretary
Audrey Cross-Lussier – Building/Planning Assistant

Building Official

John Berard

Land Use Administrator

Jana Butts Roberson

Town Clerk's Office

Leona Mainville – Town Clerk
Katherine Ives – Assistant Town Clerk

Revenue Collector's Office

Jocelyne Ruffo – Revenue Collector
April Blymiller – Assistant Revenue Collector

Assessor's Office

Kathleen Thornton – Assessor
Maryann Szela – Assistant Assessor

Recreation Office

Matthew 'Bucky' Lohbusch – Director
JoAnn Lohbusch – Assistant

Board of Finance

Gene Michael Deary – Chairperson

TOWN OFFICIALS

Board of Education

Mae Ellen Lyons – Chairperson

Board of Assessment Appeals

Cassandra Leach – Chairperson

Judge of Probate

Leah Schad

Town Counsel

Suisman Shapiro

Animal Control Officer

Dianne Collette – NECCOG

Fire Marshal

Doug Kramer

Tree Warden

Richard Regis

Road Foreman

Thomas Rukstela

Agent for Elderly

Tamsen Harris

Water Pollution Control Authority

David Fuss – Chairperson

Planning & Zoning Commission

Carlene Kelleher – Chairperson

Zoning Board of Appeals

Dan Ross – Chairperson

TOWN OFFICIALS

Board of Fire Commissioners

Peter Considine – Chairperson

Parks & Recreation Commission

Michael Gaudreau – Chairperson

Inland Wetland Commission

Real Gallant – Chairperson

Economic Development Commission

Lyn Lacharite – Chairperson

Justices of the Peace

Andrew Dionne, Marie Dusseault, Keith Ellis, Roger Engle,
David Fuss, Richard Ives, Henry Jeffs, Robert Kelleher,
Virginia Jo Moses, Lauren Rossi, Elizabeth Stillman, Carolyn
Teed-Ives, Jane Walker

Town Office Hours

Town Hall & Recreation Department

Monday – Wednesday 8:00am-5:00pm

Thursday 8:00am-6:00pm

Friday CLOSED

Town Highway Department

Monday – Friday 7:00am-3:00pm

Summer Hours M-TH 6:00am-4:00pm

www.brooklyncct.org

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

First Selectman's Report

The Town Government completed another year in good financial and physical condition. The audit firm of O'Connor Davies found no reportable material weakness in the way that we 'manage' your money. Our general fund unreserved balance was \$2,577,795 at year end June 30, 2014.

Our general long-term debt was decreased by \$785,000 to an ending balance of \$4,565,000.

The Town did not transfer funds from our reserves to balance the budget. The tax collection rate in 2014 was 98.3%, of which 97.75% was collected. The Town Clerk's office saw a decrease in fees, but an increase in conveyance tax. The building permit fees increased as well as the planning and zoning fees.

Our pension fund has a 78.8% funded ratio, which is good considering the current market conditions.

Housing stats for single family dwellings decreased from 20 fiscal year end June 30, 2013 to 19 fiscal year end June 30, 2014. Our Town is a choice place for professionals to relocate to while maintaining employment in Providence, Boston, Worcester and surrounding cities.

The strength of town government is measured by its staff, citizen volunteers and customer satisfaction. Our offices are staffed with professionals who are customer friendly as they answer questions, assist our taxpayers and fulfill their myriad of duties. Together the Town employees and Town citizens make Brooklyn a better place to live.

Richard Ives, First Selectman

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Veterans

Brooklyn held the annual Memorial Day parade on Monday, May 23, 2014. A ceremony was held at the Tatnic Hill Bridge honoring soldiers, sailors and marines lost at sea. A parade followed in the center of Town with observances made by the Parade Marshal, Firing Squad, Clergy and various attendees ending with a final observance at the South Cemetery honoring all veterans of war. Students, Haily Barrows and Thomas Nurse recited respected poems “Cover them over with beautiful flowers” and Abraham Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address.

VFW Post 2650 in Danielson, CT participated in our Town’s annual Veterans Day Memorial as well as the Color Guard coordinated by Rodney Bissonnette. The remembrance ceremony was held on Veterans Day, November 11, 2014 at the monuments for the II World War, Korean War and the Vietnam War.

The Town appreciates the support of VFW and those who dedicated their time to these ceremonies and to the help received from the Fire Departments and our Resident Troopers.

Building Official

During the fiscal year of July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014, two hundred and eighty-three (283) building permits were issued valued at \$5,841,000. Eight (8) permits were renewed and seventeen (17) were new homes. Total receipts to the Town were \$57,990 in permit fees. There were also twenty-eight (28) apartment inspections done with receipts equaling \$420. The office hours of the Building Official, John A. Berard, are

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Mondays and 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Thursday evenings.

Town Clerk

The Town Clerk's office records and maintains all land record transactions for all property owners in the Town of Brooklyn. This office recorded approximately 1,650 land records in 2014 and maintains over 555 volumes of land records. The office has an electronic search system available to the public for researching land transactions. In addition, all land records are available online at www.uslandrecords.com. Survey and subdivision maps are also filed in the office and are now available electronically for printing. Forty-seven maps were recorded and reproduced in 2014. Over 2,435 maps are on file. A total of \$206,000 in fees were collected with 57% of the total having been submitted to the State of Connecticut.

In addition, the Town Clerk is the Registrar of Vital Statistics on behalf of the State Health Department. In 2014, 64 births, 76 marriages and 83 deaths were recorded and certified copies were sent to the State. Any resident requiring a certified copy of a vital record can request a copy for \$20 from the office.

Dog licenses are also available from the Town Clerk. Yearly registration is due during the month of June and all dogs must be registered when they become six (6) months old. All dogs must be vaccinated against rabies and the certificate showing the expiration date must be presented to the Town Clerk when licensing. Fees are as follows: \$19.00 per dog or \$8.00 per dog that is spayed or neutered.

The State of Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection provides the Town Clerk's office with a licensing system for obtaining hunting and fishing

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

licenses. Residents also have the option to purchase their licenses online at www.ctwildlifelicense.com.

Notary application forms to become a Notary Public are available in the office. A Notary Public is required by State Statute to record his/her commission in their Town of residence with the Town Clerk. Notary Public services are available for a fee of \$5.00.

The office provides voter applications throughout the year and accepts new voter registration on behalf of the Registrar of Voters. This office also processes absentee ballot requests and is responsible for the preparation of election material for all elections and primaries.

Leona A. Mainville, MMC

Treasurer

The Treasurer's mission is to help provide the best quality services that are available in an efficient, cost-effective way for the town of Brooklyn residents and tax payers. To work together with all departments of the Town in a spirit of cooperation and trust and keep moving forward developing constructive solutions to help better the Town.

The Treasurer's responsibility is to receive, deposit, invest and disburse all Town funds.

The Treasurer has the authority to invest and reinvest in securities legal for investment of trust funds under the State Statutes.

The Treasurer, by State Statute, has custody of, and disburses all funds belonging to the Town and deposits these funds in

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

banks and trust companies in which the Board of Selectmen and Treasurer are in agreement.

The interest earned on investments for the budget year 2013/2014, ending on June 30, 2014 totaled \$14,858.

Sherry Holmes
Treasurer

Revenue Collector

The Revenue Collector's Office bills, collects, processes and safeguards the Town's tax receipts and Water Pollution Control fees. The office maintains balanced records of all accounts.

The Town of Brooklyn collects real estate taxes and personal property taxes quarterly. They are due July 1st, October 1st, January 1st and April 1st. East Brooklyn Fire District taxes are due July 1st. Motor vehicle taxes are due once a year on July 1st. Sewer usage taxes are due twice a year on July 1st and January 1st. Bills are mailed each year in July. If for any reason a resident does not receive a tax bill for property that they own, they should contact the Revenue Office as soon as possible. Failure to receive a bill does not excuse your from paying late charges. Sewer use fees are billed at the request of the WPCA upon passage of their annual budget.

Collections this year on the October 1, 2012 grand list totaled \$13,469,687. This includes collection of real estate, personal property and motor vehicle taxes due. Current year collections resulted in a collection rate of 101.2%.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

How Your Tax Bill is Computed

Grand Levy: The total amount of money that must be raised by the property tax to meet Town expenses during the ensuing year.

Grand List: An official listing of the assessed value of all taxable property in Town. Compiled each October 1st by the Assessor.

Tax Rate: Grand Levy divided by the grand list. Usually expressed in terms of ‘mills’.

Mill: One thousandth of a dollar (.001)

A taxpayer’s bill is determined by multiplying the net assessed value of taxable property by the tax rate. Example: If net value is \$10,000 and the tax rate is 29.29 mills, then the taxpayer’s bill is \$292.90.

If you have any questions regarding your taxes, please do not hesitate to call the office at (860)779-3411, option #5.

Jocelyne Ruffo – Revenue Collector

April Blymiller – Assistant Revenue Collector

Assessor

October 1, 2012 Taxable Grand List

Real Estate	\$ 466,510,730
Personal Property	\$ 14,879,760
Motor Vehicles	\$ 50,664,735
Total	\$ 532,055,225

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

The total grand list represented an overall increase of .80% increase from the October 1, 2011 Grand List.

Tax Relief Programs/Exemptions Filing Date

Elderly and/or Totally Disabled Homeowners

Program* February 1st to May 15th

Elderly and/or Totally Disabled Renters

Program* May 15th to Sept 15th

Veterans Exemption (DD214) Before October 1st

Additional Veterans* Before October 1st

*Income based

Property field cards are available online at www.vgsi.com

Assessor maps are available online at www.neccog.org

Both sites can be accessed from the assessor's webpage at www.brooklynct.org

If you have any questions regarding the Grand List or any of the tax relief programs, please call the Assessor's Office at (860) 779-3411 Option #6 or visit the assessor's webpage at www.brooklynct.org

Kathleen M. Thornton, CCMA II
Assessor

Board of Assessment Appeals

The Board of Assessment Appeals members (3) are elected positions for a two year term. The Board is a review board to hear appeals of assessment for real estate, personal property, and motor vehicles. The Board meets twice a year in the months of September and March.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

In September 2013, the Board met to hear and act on appeals for motor vehicles. There were 7 motor vehicle appeals. In March 2014, the Board heard and acted on 7 property appeals.

We would like to remind taxpayers of the State Statute, Section 12-112 that no appeal shall be heard by the Board, except at the dates set by the Board. A legal notice is filed for the September hearing. A petition needs to be filed by February 20th for the March hearing. The petition can be accessed on the Assessor's page of the Town's web site, www.brooklynct.org, or by contacting the Assessor's office.

The Board wishes to extend our thanks for everyone's cooperation and understanding of our decisions during this past year.

Cassandra Leach, Chairperson
Diane Wimmer, Member
Robert Simons, Member

Registrars of Voters

Annual Canvass and Voting History:

The annual canvass of voters was conducted from February 2014 throughout April 2014 according to Connecticut General Statutes. The canvass of electors was completed by the Registrars using the National Change of Address System which is a product that most town registrars used within Connecticut that is available from the U.S. Postal Service. The purpose of executing the canvass is to update existing voter records as well as to purge voter records for those voters who have moved out of the town and/or state.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

The Voting History for all eligible citizens voting in the August Republican Primary and the November State-Wide election was updated into the SOTS database in December.

Mandated Voter Enrollment Sessions:

The Registrars held a state mandated (Sec. 9-17) enrollment session at the Killingly High School and Woodstock Academy in February. More than 20 Brooklyn students were enrolled as new voters as a result of this effort.

The registrars held several day-long enrollment sessions throughout the year to permit eligible residents to register as voters prior to the November elections. The Sec. of State increased the number of enrollment sessions in an effort to ensure all voters had ample opportunity to enroll as a qualified voter. In addition, during the day of the November 4th election, the Registrars conducted a 'Election Day Registration - EDR' process at the Registrar's Office which also attracted another 18 new voters to register and vote in the November Municipal Election process.

Required Training:

Attended a meeting with our legislators and representatives in May at the State Capitol /Legislative Office building to discuss new laws being proposed by the Sec. of State for election law enhancements.

The registrars attended (2) state-wide Registrars Conventions in July and in September, as an on-going effort to comply with Sec. of State Continuing Education requirements. State Law (Sec 9-192b) requires each registrar to obtain at least 10 hours of instruction for elections training processes per year.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Attended a training session in July for a basic introduction to the newly introduced electronic Election Night Result (ENR) application.

Attended a training update session in August presented by Sec. of State staff for changes in detailed processes of the (EDR) application in our Registrar Office.

The registrars maintained active memberships and participated in both the State ROVAC Association and the Windham County ROVAC Association meetings.

The registrars facilitated and implemented successful training sessions prior to the November elections for poll workers in order to ensure an accurate and uneventful election process.

There were no town-wide referendums this year

August 12th – Primary Elections for State, District, and Municipal Offices

There was a Primary Election for Republican Candidates for various offices.

There were 968 registered Republican voters on the official check list; a reduction of 170 voters from the previous year.

There were 2 Absentee Ballots accepted by the Town Clerk.

There were 158 voters that actually voted

The percentage of voter turnout was 16.33%

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

November 4th – State-Wide Government Election

There were 4,804 registered voters on the official check list; a reduction of 170 voters from the previous year.

There were 73 Absentee Ballots accepted by the Town Clerk.

There were 2368 voters that actually voted

The percentage of voter turnout was 50.81%

Respectfully Submitted by

Registrars of Voters

Brooklyn, CT 06234

Recreation Commission

Parks & Recreation Commission Members:

Michael Gaudreau, Chairperson

Lauren Rossi, Vice Chairperson

Stephen Danna

Kim Conroy, liaison

Mae Lyons, liaison

Secretary: Christine Boyle

David Guimont

Chris Toney

Steven Phillips

Scott Allen

This fiscal year the department's programming included annual events and seasonal programming. The Before School Program (for grades K-4th) and After School Program (for grades K-6th) were offered for both full-time and part-time participants. Both programs are near or at capacity throughout the year.

The Summer Day Camp Program was attended by over 150 children during the six week program. Campers participated in camp activities and various camp trips. Favorite camp trips

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

to Breezy Park Waterslides, Canobie Lake Amusement Park and a trip to the zoo were included in this year's trips. Self Defense Demos, Campardy, Wingmaster and others brought their shows and programs to camp again this season. Family Day at Camp was well attended and Safety Day in cooperation with the resident troopers, Troop D and the local fire departments was a success.

The holiday season programs offer an opportunity to bring our residents together through our annual events such as Letters to Santa, Toys for Giving Toy Drive and our Holiday Lighting Contest. Our Toy Drive was again a success thanks to the generosity of our local businesses and residents. The program continues to see a yearly increase in families requesting assistance, and the department was fortunate to have many residents and businesses step forward to fill those needs. We had several Brooklyn residents participate in our annual Holiday Lighting Contest. The contest awards prizes to the top traditional and festive entries. Many Brooklyn children sent Letters to Santa with return letters sent to all those who include a return address. Our Spooky Nights event, held at the Brooklyn Fairgrounds during a weekend in October was a sell out again this fiscal year. Attendants enjoyed a hay wagon ride through haunted scenes, including actors portraying scary characters, a "haunted house" located in the Better Living Building and a bonfire area with family friendly activities. Our Easter Egg Hunt was very well attended, and the annual Breakfast with the Bunny which included a breakfast cooked and served by the Danielson Lions Club went well. With the help of our commission members, children enjoyed a visit with the Bunny, treats to take home as well as our annual egg hunt. Once again, the weather allowed us to be outside for the hunt portion of this event.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

The Summer Slam Basketball Clinic was popular and was held at the Brooklyn Middle School gym. This program is available to Summer Day Campers as well as all other interested area youths. The Baseball Pitching Clinic was once again offered, with Bucky Lohbusch, Parks & Recreation Director, as the clinic's instructor. Our tennis program continued to be offered to area players of many ages. Our fitness programs are always popular. Our Running Club has continued to be popular and is offered as a Winter Warriors program during the colder months. Our annual Bike Rodeo was held in June. We are always grateful for the assistance of our resident troopers, Troop D and commission members who help make this a successful event. Cooking with Ana was popular again. Ana Klawitter offered this program in the spring for grades 1-2 and in the fall for grades 3-4. Adult Open Gym was well attended, and ran from November through February at the Middle School Gym.

Our trips are offered in both the Spring/Summer and Fall/Winter Brochures. This year many people took advantage of the opportunity to join the department on the trips offered. Trips included the annual trips to the Boston Red Sox, New York City and Bruins game. A trip to Boston for a day of exploring on your own was once again popular this year. Shoppers enjoyed a trip to the Kittery main outlets in the fall. All the department's trips, programs and events are in our semi-annual brochures, mailed to all Brooklyn households in August and January. Information can also be accessed on the town website. Flyer updates are handed out in the Brooklyn Schools to all students and the flyer is also located on the Middle School's website, thanks to the help of Mr. Lessig, a teacher at the school. Many registration forms are now available online, for the resident's convenience.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

The Parks & Recreation Department maintains our town parks in Brooklyn. Michael Dragon Complex at Prince Hill Park continues to be a popular facility used by leagues and individuals throughout the year. This park offers a playscape, picnic tables, walking track, trails, and playing fields. Many take advantage of the park's lighted basketball courts. The softball field is utilized by the local little league teams. The concession stand and restrooms are open during scheduled events. The Brooklyn School Cross Country Team once again enjoyed a season of competing and practicing on the department's well-maintained trails. The playing fields are aerated and seeded each season, to keep them at optimal condition. South Street Park offers a playscape, picnic tables and basketball courts, and is located at the corner of South Street and South Main Street. The Parks & Recreation Departments Maintenance employee maintains these parks, many walking trails, the town monuments and many other town owned areas. The Riverside Park area construction was ongoing this year and went through many changes. Little League fields, a volleyball court and new parking area were mostly completed by the fall of 2013. Little League fields were ready for play by spring of 2014. A picnic Pavillion/Gazebo was completed by the summer of 2014. Built to mirror the "pump house" in the center of town, this pavilion may be used in the future for park events. A canoe launch and passive walking trails along the river, which are being enhanced under the guidance of the Conservation Commission, are also available. Davis Park saw the start of the new 18 hole Disc Golf Course. A tree harvest, under the direction of the Conservation Commission, was underway until the spring of 2014. At that time, construction on the Disc Golf Course started in earnest. This course is slated to be ready for play by the spring of 2015. Signage and completion of tee boxes will be underway in spring of 2015.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

The Recreation Department's & Commission's goal is to continue to improve the current facilities and programs and to expand when the need arises. Parks and recreation programming helps to maintain the quality of life our residents deserve. We will work in cooperation with our town leaders, our school officials and various town departments, boards and commissions, to achieve the commission and department's goals. Brooklyn is fortunate to have many residents who share a vision for the future of the department, and continue to offer their support. The Parks & Recreation Commission and the Department have worked successfully for many years to improve and adapt to the changes happening in Brooklyn. We look forward to the challenges and opportunities ahead, in our continuing dedication to serve the residents of Brooklyn.

Matthew "Bucky" Lohbusch,
Parks & Recreation Director

Economic Development Commission

Brooklyn is clearly a town with the best of both worlds, old and new. Although much of Brooklyn is rich in history with a distinct New England charm, the eastern corridor is a busy and growing commercial district looking to the future. These qualities make Brooklyn a great place to do business.

In addition, the center of town is home to the crossroads of a federally designated scenic highway, Route 169 and Route 6, the major business route between Hartford and Providence. Businesses located along Route 6 corridor benefit from a high traffic count, estimated to be as high as 20,000 vehicles per day in some sections.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Brooklyn's central location also provides a short commute to Providence, Hartford and Worcester, making Brooklyn home to an increasing number of young professionals looking for a quiet alternative to the city life.

The Economic Development Commission (EDC) is a volunteer commission of five regular and two alternate members. The commission strives to create an environment where a business of any size can feel welcome and appreciated. Brooklyn has several different business zones including planned commercial, restricted business, neighborhood commercial and the village center district. This allows Brooklyn to accommodate business of all types and sizes.

2014 Commission Accomplishments

1. Continued the Business Recognition Program which welcomes new businesses and showcases existing businesses that are improving the economy of Brooklyn. This program allows the EDC an opportunity to meet business owners and make them aware of the efforts of the EDC.
2. Continued to work closely with the Brooklyn Business Association in their effort to promote Brooklyn Business.
3. Attended Economic Development Seminars hosted by area economic development professionals.
4. Attended Planning and Zoning Meetings in an effort to assist businesses with zoning concerns and to encourage economic growth.
5. Participated as a member of CEDAS, the Connecticut Economic Development Association, an organization that is a valuable source of economic information and knowledge to the commission.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

6. Provided funding for refurbishment of five Brooklyn Signs that were is disrepair.

The Commission looks forward to welcoming new businesses to town. Whether it is a home based, a family run or national chain, the Brooklyn EDC is eager to work with all businesses and assist them in meeting and exceeding their economic goals. The commission continues to work with existing boards and commissions to serve the needs of Brooklyn businesses to encourage economic growth in the Town.

The commission meets at 4pm the first Tuesday of every month at the Clifford B. Green Memorial Center located at 69 South Main Street. Meetings are open to the public.

Lyn M. LaCharite
Chairperson

Conservation Commission

Activities/Projects/Grants

The commission purchased a hand-held OPS to be used for easement monitoring and trails. A trail maintenance and monitoring schedule was created. The commission continues to work on the trails in Brooklyn, in conjunction with other town agencies.

A planting party and clean-up was held at Riverside Park in May. The commission planted bushes and grasses that were purchased from the Eastern CT Conservation District Plant Sale. Meadow mix was also planted at Riverside Park. In addition, park signs were installed at the park. The commission received a grant from the Last Green Valley for an Earth Day Clean Up project. The clean-up took place in

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Riverside Park as well as areas around Town. Fifty bags of trash were picked up along with bulk items such as a mattress. At Family Fun Day, members of the commission distributed sugar pumpkins seeds in cow pots. Pictures from the 2013 Spooky Nights Event were displayed to encourage town participation in a pumpkin carving event.

The commission participated in the Spooky Nights event in October. Michael Oatley and Harry Adams constructed two pumpkin towers using recycled jugs and real pumpkins. Commission members collected and painted plastic jugs for the tower and volunteered at the weekend event.

Diane Wimmer was elected chairperson. Jeannine Noel was elected secretary. The treasurer duties are handled by the chairperson. In the spring, the Town hired a recording secretary, Shelley Hopkins, for the commission. Jeannine Noel stepped down as secretary.

The timber harvest was completed at Davis Forest. Signs for Davis Forest and the Disc Golf Course were purchased and a kiosk was built. The kiosk will be installed in the spring/summer of 2015. Eighteen disc golf baskets and three tee boxes were installed. The remaining tee boxes and disc golf tee signs are expected to be installed this spring/summer. A Town resident created a Davis Forest Disc Golf Facebook page.

Brooklyn Conservation commission members continue to attend the Windham County Conservation Consortium meetings. The Consortium was created to link the conservation commissions in Windham County in order to share information and experiences. The Consortium meets twice a year and continues to educate members on conservation issues.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Development Reviews

As a non-regulatory land use commission, the Brooklyn Conservation Commission conducts development site plan review and forwards recommendations to the other regulatory land use commissions, Inland Wetlands and Planning and Zoning. These recommendations are based on review of our natural resource inventory mapping and the potential for impacts from site plan proposals. For subdivisions of three or more parcels, subdivision regulations stipulate Open Space donations (quit claim or conservation easement) either to the Town of Brooklyn or other not-for-profit land preservation trust or a fee in-lieu of the property donation.

During the year of 2014, the Brooklyn Conservation Commission reviewed one site plan and approved a Declaration of Permanent Restrictions and Covenants.

Training

During 2014, local conservation and land use educational training events and webinars were attended by members. These are essential in developing the skills necessary to protecting open space and the environment for future Brooklyn residents. Below is a list of training events/workshops/webinars/podcasts, dates and attendance as members of the Brooklyn Conservation Commission.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Training/Workshop Name	BCC Member Attended
Freedom of Information Act Training - January	Harry Adams, Jeannine Noel, Bev Thornton, Diane Wimmer
WCC – Biomass/Renewable Energy Sources – January	Jeannine Noel, Bev Thornton
Natural Resources Conference – March	Bev Thornton
Analysis of Shoreline Change in CT – April	Michael Oatley
Green Infrastructure on the UCONN Campus – May	Michael Oatley
CACIWC Conference – November	Bev Thornton
Aquifers and Watersheds – Podcast	Jeannine Noel

Jeannine Noel
Brooklyn Conservation Commission

SERVICES

Brooklyn Library Association

The first independent Brooklyn Library Association was founded in 1775. The present Association was organized in 1893. In 1913, a group of citizens purchased the building presently housing the library and donated it to the Association. The library continues to be governed by an independent association and its executive committee. The day-to-day operation is the responsibility of Librarian, Catherine Tucker.

The library is open to the public on Mondays and Wednesdays 2:00pm to 7:00pm, Tuesdays and Saturdays 11:00am to 5:00pm and Thursdays and Fridays 2:00pm to 5:00pm. Any Brooklyn resident may obtain a first library card and renew that card free of charge.

The library offers popular reading from the bestseller list, an extensive mystery collection, a growing juvenile collection, and access to online services. Two computers for Internet access and an Awe computer for children's literacy are also available for public use. Patrons may also check out a Kill A Watt Kit to monitor home energy.

The library also offers a wide variety of online services on their website, <http://www.brooklyntownlibrary.org/>. From this website, you can access Tumblebooks which has animated, talking picture books and real-alongs for children. Using Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome as your browser, you may access Consumer Reports Online with our Brooklyn Town Library card. The library also has a subscription to Universal Classes which offers over 500 free online classes to Brooklyn residents on a wide variety of topics from Adobe Photoshop to Autism Spectrum Disorders for Teachers to Fundraising 101. Patrons may enroll in up to 5 classes at one time. A

SERVICES

library visit is necessary for the Brooklyn resident to initiate an account for these classes then class work may be done on a home computer with internet access. The web browser Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome is necessary to access both Consumer Reports and Universal Classes. We have Overdrive to allow patrons with Kindles, HD Kindles, Nooks, Tablets, iPads, iPhones, iPods and Android devices to access to 1,500 ebooks.

By using the barcode on their Brooklyn Library card, patrons may access BookFlix, an online storybook video resource for toddlers through Grade 3. The Brooklyn Library also subscribes to OneClickdigital eAudiobooks. Brooklyn town Library card holders may access via the library website to downloadable audiobooks for their computers, MP3 players and Ipods. The Brooklyn Library is a member of the Connecticut Library Network, which enables patrons to search the holdings of other libraries throughout the state and also borrow materials from many public libraries in Connecticut. Patrons may submit requests for interlibrary loans online through the ReQuest system, or visit or call the library with the author and title information. When the requested items are received at the library, patrons are notified that their library materials are ready to be picked up. The Connecticut Library Network also provides patrons with access to the state's online database at <http://www.iconn.org>. There is a link to this service on the library website.

Discounted and free passes to the following local museums are available at the library:

Mystic Seaport	Mashantucket Pequot Museum
Mystic Aquarium	Roger Williams Park Zoo
CTs Old State House	DEEP No Child Left Inside Day Pass
CT Science Center	Wadsworth Atheneum Art Pass
Old Sturbridge Village	

SERVICES

The library is very active in promoting reading for children of all ages. Each year the library provides a Reading Room at the Brooklyn Summer Recreation Camp. Library staff provides reading activities, book and games for all children who attend. The Brooklyn Library also offers a summer reading game for children who do not attend summer recreation. The library sponsors a book discussion group that meets regularly at the Creamery Brook Village Community Room. Book titles and date of upcoming discussions are posted on the library website. Everyone is welcome to attend these discussions.

The Friends of the Brooklyn Library continue to contribute in many ways to the library's program. Meeting times and locations are posted on the library website. The Friends hold a Fall Plant and Bake Sale each year on the Saturday after Labor Day. They also offer a selection of historic Brooklyn buildings by Cat's Meow. Pieces in the services include Friendship valley, the Isreal Putnam Statue, the Town Pump, the Unitarian Church, Old Trinity, the Brooklyn Library, Mortlake Firehouse, and the Copper Beech Tree. Recently added pieces are Cat's Meow, Christmas ornaments of the library and Mortlake Firehouse. These may be purchased at the library. The Friends also had a once-a-month table at the Farmer's Market in Brooklyn where they sold baked goods and library tote bags. Proceeds from Friends' projects support library programs that include, but are not limited to, funds for Library Passes and the Book Discussion Group.

Animal Services

Animal services are provided to the Town of Brooklyn through the Northeastern Connecticut Council of Governments Regional Animal Services Program. The Animal Services Program (begun in August 2004) currently serves the Towns of Brooklyn, Canterbury, Chaplin,

SERVICES

Hampton, Killingly, Pomfret, Sterling, Voluntown and Woodstock. The towns of Hampton and Voluntown were added in 2012 and Chaplin in 2014. The program has launched a Facebook page to aid in placing animals and helping in their care. Our program is available 24/7/365. We always have an ACO on duty. Please call 860-774-1253 for lost dogs, adoption questions, complaints and other issues regarding domestic animals (for wild animal issues, please call 860-424-3333, Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Wildlife Unit).

	FY 13-14	FY 14- 15 (July-Jan.)
	total	total
Impounded Dogs	36	15
Adopted Dogs	12	6
Impounded Cats	10	5
Adopted Cats	5	2
Other Animals Adopted	0	0
Redeemed Animals (by owner)	22	7
DOA	4	0
Euthanized	1	3
Investigations	47	16

Since the Animal Services Program began, more than 4,000 animals have been either adopted or returned to their owner. No animal has been put down due to lack of space or because the breed is deemed to be undesirable. The numbers associated with “euthanasia” are the result of an animal

SERVICES

having a behavioral issue making not suitable for adoption or a disease issue where our consulting veterinarian determines that this action is warranted.

Please Remember!

Connecticut Law requires you to annually license your dog's during the month of June.

Contact the Town Clerk for details.

Brooklyn Resource Recovery Commission

The BRRC completed its nineteenth year of operation of the transfer station and curbside recycling, electronic waste and disposal of waste paint. We also keep the brush and leaf collection up to State DEEP standards. We monitor water quality and have continued to pass all tests by DEEP.

The model airplane club is still going strong and extends an invitation to anyone who wishes to join or just come and watch.

We have put television monitors in to support surveillance of all areas and discourage trespassing when the dump is closes.

Hours of operation are Friday's 10am – 4pm with extended hours in the summer

Saturdays 8am - 4pm year round.

Members:

Mike Barry, Chairman
Donald Francis
Robert Benson

Chuck Morrison
Robert Lee

SERVICES

Board of Fire Commissioners

The Brooklyn Board of Fire Commissioners is responsible for establishing policies of the Town's Government related to public safety and emergency medical services as required by ordinance and state statutes. It is also responsible for overseeing the activities of the independent volunteer fire departments as they relate to the public and the Town's Government. Current members are Chairman Peter Considine, First Selectman Richard Ives, Stephen Breen, Felix Ramos, Patrick Gauthier, Jeffrey Otto, and James Soler.

The Board reviews each department's budget request and updates a capital expenditures plan for equipment replacement, both of which are presented to the Board of Finance for approval and incorporation as necessary into the Selectmen's and capital budgets for taxpayer approval. The board has recently decided to extend expected useful life of most types of fire apparatus from twenty to twenty-five years, reflecting Brooklyn's quality of apparatus, maintenance provided and duty cycles anticipated.

Volunteer Fire Companies

Brooklyn's volunteer fire companies operate out of three fire stations to provide emergency services to the Town. The East Brooklyn Company operates out of a station owned by the Brooklyn Fire District that is located on South Main Street. The Mortlake Company operates out of its main station on Canterbury Road in Brooklyn Center and also out of a station located on Wauregan Road, near the Plainfield town line. Each Company is non-profit corporation responsible for its own operations. The Town supplies funds to cover operating expenses, and worker's compensation insurance as well as capital funds for major apparatus and equipment purchases for

SERVICES

each company. The Town also supplies capital funds for the periodic replacement of smaller capital equipment such as radios, pagers and personal protective equipment, including self-contained breathing apparatus.

Both fire companies conduct fund raising events during the year to supplement the funds provided by the Town. The proceeds from these events lower the cost of public fire protection to residents of Brooklyn and enable the fire companies to purchase supplies and equipment beyond the bare minimums. The fire companies appreciate your support of these worthwhile fund raising endeavors.

The fire companies are also active in soliciting and obtaining grant funds from the state and federal government and from private sources. The East Brooklyn Fire Department was successful in obtaining a FEMA grant that paid for a mobile breathing air compressor and storage unit. The Mortlake Fire Company has been the recipient of several grants that have provided an Attack Tanker Fire Truck, a Rescue Truck, a HazMat Decontamination Trailer, a Regional Trench and Collapse Rescue Team and an Environmental Contamination Response Trailer and Equipment as well as numerous smaller equipment items. Unfortunately, state and federal grants for these purposes are not as available as they have been in past years.

The level of training and performance certification required to Brooklyn's volunteer firefighters are identical to those required of full time paid firefighters. Our volunteers participate and instruct in local and regional training programs. Members are active participants and hold leadership positions in several associations and organizations that are influential in determining regional and state wide policies in the public safety area. The fire companies are

SERVICES

proud of the achievements of their members and feel that attaining these high standards demonstrates to the taxpayers the seriousness of their efforts.

In addition to responding to alarms of fire, each fire company provides first response service to medical emergencies occurring within their respective areas. Early intervention by trained medical responders coupled with rapid transportation to a primary care hospital has shown an improvement in the outcome of critical medical emergencies. Each of the fire companies responds with semi-automatic defibrillators and other state-of-the-art lifesaving equipment. This technology for monitoring and restoring correct cardiac rhythm had improved the chances of survival in certain coronary disorders. The Town participates in the Regional Paramedic Intercept program. This effort allows a paramedic, trained to higher levels than local EMT's, to respond to the scene of an emergency or to intercept the ambulance en route to the hospital. The paramedic can administer drugs and perform other procedures under the direction of the Emergency Room physician.

The response of the federal and state governments to the threat of terrorist activities has brought new training and organizational responsibilities to our fire companies and town government. Mortlake operates a regional hazardous materials personnel decontamination unit. Mortlake has also organized and hosted a major regional drill at the Brooklyn Fairgrounds involving many Eastern Connecticut emergency response agencies. These training activities are aimed at sharpening skills in multiple disciplines and in improving coordination and communications between agencies that might not work together regularly. The potential to respond to multiple hazard events requires that our fire companies develop a broader

SERVICES

range of skills and capabilities than have theretofore been required.

The Town of Brooklyn is fortunate to have an effective supply of volunteer firefighters to handle emergencies that occur at any time, day or night, and give their time unselfishly to help others. These firefighters provide the alternative to having to employ emergency responders. However, as the time demands of modern family life increase, it becomes more difficult for each company to retain and recruit new members. One consequence of this situation is that the Mortlake Fire Company now employs one paid ambulance crew, twelve hours a day, seven days a week. The cost of the paid crew is largely covered by receipts from state-regulated ambulance billing. If the demand for services taxes the ability of the volunteers to man the ambulances, additional paid shifts might have to be added.

The skills learned as well as experienced and satisfaction received in serving the Town as a volunteer fire fighter or ambulance technician are beneficial and rewarding. Each fire company welcomes the opportunity to explain the responsibilities and rewards of membership. If you think you might enjoy serving in one of Brooklyn's fire companies, please contact any firefighter or the Selectman's office.

Ambulance Service

The Mortlake Fire Company provides ambulance service for the Town of Brooklyn. They operate a volunteer ambulance service and maintain a staff of over 40 Connecticut certified Emergency Medical Technicians. In addition to responding to emergencies, ambulance volunteers train on a monthly basis and also participate in State of Connecticut mandated training to maintain their certification. Other training activities such as

SERVICES

a defibrillator, mass casualty, helicopter familiarity and other specialized training are available for members. Increasing call volume (950 responses during 2014) has placed pressure on the volunteer responders that is beyond their capacity. Following regional trends, starting on January 1, 2007, volunteer response was supplemented with a paid daytime crew.

The ambulance service is operated on a user payment system. All residents who utilize the service bill their respective insurance companies to provide payment for the service. Experience to date has shown that third party payers contribute most of the funds required to operate the service.

The ambulance service is part of a mutual aid network that allows access to neighboring ambulances, or, if needed, other resources such as medical helicopters. A regional paramedic program has been established at Day Kimball Hospital and is partially supported, in proportion to their use of the service, by the towns that operate out of the hospital. This service is dispatched through Quinebaug Valley Emergency Communications located in East Killingly and is available for any life-threatening emergency. The paramedic responds from the hospital and usually intercepts with the ambulance en route to the hospital. Operating under the medical control of the Hospital's Emergency Physician the paramedic is able to administer drugs and provide a wider range of interventions than are EMT's.

Serving as an ambulance volunteer is very rewarding way to develop valuable skills while contributing to the community. Interested residents are encouraged to discuss participating in this worthwhile activity with members of the Mortlake Fire Company. Volunteers who are available during the daytime are particularly needed.

SERVICES

Day Kimball HealthCare

Day Kimball Homecare continues to play an important role in ensuring that residents of the Quiet Corner have access to the highest quality health care service right in the comfort of their own homes. Over the years we have grown from a small community visiting nursing agency to a vital part of an integrated healthcare system. In response to the needs of our patients and communities, we have expanded our specialty programs to include chronic disease management, behavioral health, maternal child health, pediatrics, palliative care, hospice, and private duty. Our highly skilled team of nurses and therapists are able to perform in-home complex care and high-tech procedures that were once only available within the hospital or clinic setting. The care we provide is not only cost effective, but research has shown that patients recover quicker and experience fewer infections when recuperating in their own homes. Our team of hospice and palliative care nurses, therapists, medical social workers, home health aides, volunteers, and clergy, provides compassionate care and support for our patients and families dealing with terminal and life-limiting illness. We are available 24 hours per day, 365 days per year, to provide services and support for both patients and their caregivers throughout the fourteen communities we serve.

In addition to in-home services, our Wellness Program, led by Judy Hanson, RN, provides community members of all ages with the opportunity to participate in educational programs, health screenings, and various health promotion activities.

As an organization, we continue to strive for excellence in clinical services and customer satisfaction, and this is reflected in our Patient Satisfaction Scores, available at

SERVICES

Medicare.gov, which consistently meet or exceed both state and national benchmarks.

Like most providers in today's healthcare system, Day Kimball Homecare is facing the difficult challenge of providing excellent care, despite the increased acuity of our patients and shrinking reimbursement from Medicare, Medicaid, and commercial insurance plans. To meet this challenge, we are constantly looking for ways to be more efficient, while continuing to provide the excellent level of care that our patients and communities have come to expect from us.

Throughout the years, the town of Brooklyn has been a strong advocate for our agency and the services we provide. During fiscal year 2013-2014, a total of 4,981 home visits were made to residents of Brooklyn. Additionally, in fiscal year 2014-2015 to date, 3,168 visits have been made to our patients residing in Brooklyn

In fiscal year 2013-2014, a total of 428 Brooklyn residents took advantage of our various Wellness programs, including the Safe Sitter Program, Blood Pressure Clinics, our Walking Program, our Breast Cancer Support group, and our Flu Clinics. In fiscal year 2014-2015 to date, 160 Brooklyn residents have participated in our Wellness Programs.

On behalf of myself and our entire team of nurses, therapists, home health aides, volunteers, and office personnel, I would like to extend our sincere appreciation for your support of our agency, our programs, and the important work we do. We are very fortunate to be welcomed both into homes and community centers in Brooklyn, and we look forward to an ongoing partnership as we work together to meet the needs of your residents.

SERVICES

Renee M. Smith, RN, MSN
Executive Director, Day Kimball Homecare
860-928-0422 Extension 6406
rmsmith@daykimball.org

Northeast District Department of Health

The Northeast District Department of Health (NDDH) started Fiscal Year 2014 by celebrating 40 years of public health service to our member towns. To commemorate this anniversary, NDDH launched a creative campaign to both educate and thank our valued residents and community partners for the many ways they practice public health in northeast Connecticut.

Much has changed since our establishment in 1973. We have modified strategies and services to meet today's challenges—from chronic disease associated with obesity and tobacco use to new and emerging public health threats that bring global issues to this quiet corner. We have acquired new tools and technology, enhanced surveillance and communications systems, and developed partnerships to build a strong public health system. Yet one thing has not changed: the commitment that NDDH has to prevent illness, promote wellness and protect public health.

Some highlights of NDDH public health activities in Fiscal Year 2014 were:

Our successful *Follow the Fifty Models of Heart Health* campaign continued to spread the message that heart disease is the number one killer of women as we provided presentations at the state, regional and national levels. Local FTF Model of Heart Health, Cindy Parsons, was featured in

SERVICES

national Heart truth ® materials developed by the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute.

NDDH hosted a Town Leader Reception and Orientation for all incumbent and newly elected town leaders in December, 2013. This well-attended event introduced local leaders to the members of our staff, our financial position and the extensive scope of services we provide.

HealthQuest Northeast Connecticut, a regional public health and wellness coalition managed by NDDH, lead a number of high profile projects that were funded by a federal Community Transformation grant. These projects included ground-breaking, equipment and enhancements for community gardens in Killingly, Thompson, Plainfield, and Putnam; a portable garden placement partnership through TEEG and Tourtellotte Memorial High School Technical Education students; the placement of benches to support senior walking programs; and the placement of tobacco-free signage in the town of Putnam and at all community garden locations.

We are grateful to the community leaders who worked to establish the health district 40 years ago. They planted the seeds that grew a strong public health system. Today NDDH is fortunate to have a dedicated Board of Directors, highly skilled staff and supportive community partners who are working to make the Quiet Corner a healthier place to live, work, learn and play.

We are proud and grateful to be your public health department.

Susan Starkey, MS, RD, MPH

SERVICES

Subsurface Sewage Disposal	
As-Built	23
B100	56
Plan Review- New	9
Plan Review-Commercial	0
Plan review-Repair	12
Plan Review-Revised	5
Plan Review-Subdivision	2
Permit to Construct	21
Permit to Construct-Comm	0
Permit to Discharge	19
Permit to Repair	0
Sieve Analysis	3
Soil Test	12
Soil Test Additional	6
Soil Repair	8
Tank or Sewer Line	3
Portable Water	
Well Permit	14
Well Cap	2
Other Water Services	23
Food Service Sanitation	
Restaurant Inspections	76
Restaurant Re-inspection	4
Temp Event for Profit	15
Non Profit Temp Permit	20
Restaurant Plan Review	1
Restaurant Pre-Op Inspection	2
Enviro. Health Inspect	
Campgrounds	1
Daycare	2
Group Homes	9
Hair Salons	7
Nail Salon	1
Hotel	1
Pools	1
Special Request	0
Complaints	
Food Service	4
Garbage	4
Housing	1
Insects/Rodents/Oth Animals	8
Mold	1

Sewage/Septic Complaint	1
Water/Heat Complaint	0
Other Complaint	4
Other	
Consultation	1
FOI Documents	65
Rabies Calls and Submissions	3
Rabies Positive Test Results	0
Other Service	0
High Blood Lead Level-New	9
Lead Inspections	1
Reportable Communicable Diseases	
Babesopos	6
Campylobacteriosis	1
Chlamydia	12
Gonorrhea	3
Hepatitis C	5
Legionellosis	0
Lyme Disease	7
Salmonellosis	2
Shiga toxin producing organism	2
Streptococcus pneumoniae	1
Total Reportable Diseases	39

*Please note: The following reportable communicable disease statistics are based on calendar year 2013 (1/1/2013-12/31/2013). All other public health activities listed in this report are based on fiscal year 2013 (7/1/13-6/30/14).

SERVICES

NDDH District Wide Services, July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014:

- **Community Health Education** covering a broad range of topics that prevent illness, promote wellness and protect the health of district residents
- **Qualified Food Operator & Food Awareness Safety Training Classes**
- **Emergency Preparedness, Planning & Response**
- **Flu Immunizations**

Grants (Federal, State & Private Funds):

- **State of CT – Department of Public Health (DPH) – State Per Capita Allocation** – State revenue support of local and district departments of health
- **U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) & Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Bioterrorism Grant** – Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program & Pandemic Flu Response Initiatives
- **State of CT DPH/Preventive Health and Health Services (PHHS) Block Grant** – Environmental and policy strategies to decrease chronic disease.
- **State of CT DPH & Connecticut Association of Directors of Health – Lead Poisoning Prevention and Control Program** – For lead poisoning surveillance, environmental investigation and case management
- **State of CT DPH/Connecticut Children’s Medical Center** – provision of the “Easy Breathing” Asthma Grant for medical management and physician training
- **Connecticut Children’s Medical Center & Community Health Network of Connecticut (CHN)** – An extension of the “Easy Breathing” asthma grant to bring Easy Breathing training, consultation and recruitment activities to targeted

SERVICES

physician practices and enrolled members of the Community Health Network

- **State of CT DPH/Bureau of Community Health/Environmental Protection Agency -**
“Breathing New Life in Asthma Management”
Putting on Airs In-Home Asthma Trigger Assessment Program
- **National Association of Chronic Disease Directors**
– NDDH’s HealthQuest Northeast Connecticut Initiative was selected as a national ACHIEVE community to reduce obesity through policy, systems and environmental changes that support increased physical activity and better nutrition
- **National Association of County & City Health Officials** – Funding for the Northeast CT Medical Reserve Corps to build voluntary medical and ancillary care capacity
- **Foundation of the National Institutes of Health with the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute**
- funding to promote *The Heart Truth*®, campaign through *Follow the Fifty: Models of Heart Health*, a women's heart health initiative of NDDH and HealthQuest Northeast CT partners

FINANCIAL

Independent Auditor's Report

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Brooklyn, CT as of and for the year ended June 30, 2014, which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this included the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the USA and standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to

FINANCIAL

design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town as of June 30, 2014, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the USA.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require the Management's Discussion and Analysis and the budgetary comparison information be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic or historical context. We applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the USA, which consisted of inquires of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responded to our inquires, the basic

FINANCIAL

financial statements and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements. The combining fund financial statements and supplementary schedules are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not required part of the financial statements.

The combining fund financial statements and supplementary schedules are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the USA. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated December 16, 2013 on our consideration of the Town's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over

FINANCIAL

financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integrate part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards in considering the Town's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

O'Connor Davies, LLP
Wethersfield, Connecticut

FINANCIAL

Expenditures

General Government	Final Budget	Actual	Variances
Board Finance	35,300	32,006	3,294
Board of Selectmen	50,514	50,514	0
Engineering	24,740	24,214	526
Administration	149,168	149,168	0
Treasurer	13,301	13,301	0
Revenue Collector	103,399	103,399	0
Assessor	114,063	114,063	0
Board of Assessment	400	400	0
Recording	114,746	110,379	4,367
Elections	28,889	24,204	4,682
Legal	32,119	32,119	0
Probate	5,079	4,124	955
Town Hall	41,060	38,914	2,146
Central Supplies	57,868	57,520	348
Total	770,646	754,328	16,318

Public Safety	Final Budget	Actual	Variances
Canine Control	24,567	24,567	0
Patrol Services	220,959	220,959	0
Fire Marshal	44,484	44,484	0
Fire Facilities	472,427	472,427	0
Emergency Communications	37,701	37,701	0
Homeland Security	3,060	802	2,258
Total	803,198	800,940	2,258

FINANCIAL

Public Works	Final Budget	Actual	Variances
Roads & Drainage	512,180	512,180	0
Maintenance & Equipment	105,452	105,452	0
Snow Removal	76,300	70,705	5,595
Garage Maintenance	18,601	18,601	0
Resource Recovery	197,730	189,790	7,940
Building Official	70,747	70,747	0
Total	981,010	967,475	13,535

Human Services	Final Budget	Actual	Variances
Health	75,910	95,910	0
Cemeteries	10,585	10,585	0
Total	86,495	86,495	0

Civic & Cultural	Final Budget	Actual	Variances
Library	118,803	118,803	0
Transit District	13,517	13,517	0
Special Programs	6,000	4,390	1,610
Recreation	260,408	249,182	11,226
Park Maintenance	92,782	92,782	0
Community Center	27,740	20,782	6,958
Recreation Building	21,700	19,453	2,247
Total	540,950	518,909	2

FINANCIAL

Development & Planning	Final Budget	Actual	Variances
Planning & Zoning	78,952	63,198	15,754
Zoning Board of Appeal	700	0	700
Agriculture Commission	748	748	0
Conservation Commission	2,100	1,877	223
Inland/Wetland Commission	32,014	29,541	2,473
Economic Development Commission	6,500	3,432	3,068
Open Space	8,192	8,192	0
Total	129,206	106,988	22,218

Sundry	Final Budget	Actual	Variances
Contingency	20,000	0	20,000
Fringe Benefits	455,672	447,576	8,096
Municipal Insurance	128,731	128,731	0
Long Term Debt Service	1,051,947	1,045,150	6,797
Short Term Debt Service	205,600	205,600	0
Capital Equipment	125,000	125,000	0
Total	1,986,950	1,952,057	34,893

Total Government	5,298,455	5,187,192	111,263
Total Board of Education	16,645,267	16,502,893	142,374
Total Expenditures	21,943,722	21,690,085	253,637
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures – Budgetary Basis	(271,568)	185,554	457,122

TOWN OFFICES TELEPHONE NUMBERS

		Option
First Selectman's Office	860-779-3411	# 2
Financial Department	860-779-3411	# 8
Town Clerk	860-779-3411	# 4
Assessor	860-779-3411	# 6
Tax Collector	860-779-3411	# 5
Recreation	860-779-3411	# 7
Land Use Administrator	860-779-3411	# 9
Water Pollution Control Authority	860-779-3411	# 8
Fire Marshal	860-779-3411	# 9
Building Official	860-779-3411	# 9
Director of Highway Department	860-779-3411	# 3
Animal Control Officer	860-774-1253	
Landfill Attendant	860-779-1105	
Housing Authority	860-779-3339	
Resident Trooper	860-779-9008	

Other Frequently Requested Numbers

UConn Extension Center	860-774-9600
Quinebaug Valley Senior Center	860-774-1243
NE District Department of Health	860-774-7350
Brooklyn Fair Grounds	860-779-0012
Brooklyn Post Office	860-774-4449
Brooklyn Library	860-774-0649
Judge of Probate	860-923-2203
NE Children's Probate Court	860-779-5674
Casella Waste – Recycling	888-485-1469
NE CT Council of Government	860-774-1253
Mortlake Fire Department	860-774-2032
East Brooklyn Fire Department	860-774-1192
First Student Bus Garage	860-779-1256
Troop D – non-emergencies	860-779-4900

EMERGENCIES 911

SCHOOL & HISTORICAL SITES

School Officials & Telephone Numbers

Brooklyn Schools

Louise Berry, Superintendent 860-774-9153

Alan Yanku, Middle School Principal 860-774-9153

Frances Rotella, Elementary Principal 860-774-7577

Killingly High School 860-779-6620

Woodstock Academy 860-928-6575

H.H. Ellis Tech 860-774-8511

Historical Sites

Old Trinity Church – Located on Church Street, Built in 1771 by Col. Godfrey Malbone, a Tory, after a disagreement with Brooklyn Church.

Old Court House – Located in Brooklyn Center, Presently the Brooklyn Town Hall, Built when Brooklyn became the County Seat in 1820.

Old Unitarian Church – Located in Brooklyn Center, Built as Congregational Church in 1771, Isreal Putnam was Sexton after completion of Church.

Isreal Putnam Monument – Located in Brooklyn Center, At his burial place.

CHURCH SERVICES

Federated Church of Christ

Sundays.....10:00am

(American Baptist & United Church of Christ)

St. John Lutheran (ELCA) Route 6

Sundays.....10:30am

Our Lady of LaSalette Church

Sundays.....8:00am & 11:00am

(Roman Catholic)

Trinity-Episcopal Church

Sundays.....10:00am

Wednesdays.....Bible Study 7pm

Old Trinity Church

July & August.....5:00pm & All Saints Day.....11:00am

Unitarian Universalist Society

April-December @ Brooklyn Green Rte 6&169.....10:30am

Jan-April @ Brooklyn Community Center.....10:30am

(Bi-weekly Sunday)

Community Bible Chapel

Sundays.....11:00am

Wednesdays.....7:00pm

Family Bible Hour and Sunday School

EDUCATION

BROOKLYN SCHOOLS

Superintendent's Annual Report
2013-2014

This annual report to the Brooklyn community provides a review of the operation of The Brooklyn School for 2013 – 2014. The School system provides Pre-Kindergarten through grade eight education programs with an enrollment during the current year of 922 students. Brooklyn sends its secondary school students to Killingly High School and Woodstock Academy – our designated high schools. A few of our high school students select other high schools based on the Board of Education freedom of choice policy.

In response to the educational needs of our students, the Brooklyn School has provided a variety of curricular projects as well as new programs during the past decade to help students enrich and broaden their perspective – the best known and widely accepted program is the Pre-Kindergarten Program for three and four year old children. With emphasis on preschool education, Brooklyn has been able to address the developmental and learning problems of our preschool students. Brooklyn's preschool program has received national accreditation by the National Academy of Early Childhood Programs and has strong support from parents of preschool students.

The school system is governed by a six member Board of Education through a committee structure and when appropriate, involves members of the school staff and the community on various committees. In addition, Board

EDUCATION

representatives serve on the town's Capital Committee and the Recreation Commission. The board also has members who serve as representatives to the governing boards of our designated high schools and the regional education center, EASTCONN.

Brooklyn Board of Education

Chair – Mae Lyons

Vice-Chair – Robert Rossi

Secretary – John DonFrancisco

Members

Sheila Johnson

James Kelley

Amy Majek

School Officials

Brooklyn Schools

Louise S. Berry, Superintendent, 860-774-9153

Alan Yanku, Middle School Principal, 860-774-9153

Frances King, Elementary Principal, 860-774-7577

BrooklynSchools.org

EDUCATION

A financial overview of the 2013-14 Budget

OBJECT	ACCOUNT	2013-14 BUDGET
100	Salaries	\$6,844,848
200	Employee Benefits	\$2,208,216
300	Purchased Services	\$253,250
400	Purchased Property	\$148,500
500	Services	\$6,427,657
600	Supplies & Materials	\$658,298
700	Property	\$34,500
800	Dues & Fees	\$70,000
	TOTALS	\$16,645,269

The Brooklyn School Enrollment Report 2013-14

GRADE	Oct. 17, 2013
Preschool	106
Kindergarten	107
Grade 1	81
Grade 2	76
Grade 3	100
Grade 4	78
Total	548
Grade 5	84
Grade 6	101
Grade 7	103
Grade 8	86
Total M.S.	374

EDUCATION

HIGH SCHOOL	KHS	WA	O/P
Grade 9	37	39	4
Grade 10	37	33	0
Grade 11	25	56	3
Grade 12	23	55	5
Total	317		
QVMCHS	17		
Ellis Tech	46		
KHS Vo-Ag	10		
KHS ALPS	0		
WA/E – CONN	2		

*O/P = Other Public Schools (NFA, Putnam, Parish Hill, Plainfield, ACT)

Special Education

Disability	Count	District %
Autism	8	0.7
Learning Disability	56	4.6
Intellectual Disability	2	0.2
Emotional Disturbance	14	1.2
Speech Impairment	27	2.2
Other Health Impairment*	19	1.6
Other Disabilities**	9	0.7
Total	135	11.1

*Included chronic health problems such as attention deficit disorders and epilepsy

**Includes hearing, visual and orthopedic impairments, deaf-blindness, multiple disabilities, traumatic brain injury and developmental delay

EDUCATION

All of these students were reviewed by Brooklyn’s Planning and Placement Team as required by Statute and program implementation was consistent with students’ Individual Educational Plans. Most of these students were placed in special education programs at The Brooklyn School and attended regular class programs with special education support. Many students remained in their classes with program modifications as required by the IEPs.

In addition to the programs mentioned above, special education services at Brooklyn included: psychological evaluation, counseling, occupational/physical therapy, speech therapy and specific one to one support as determined by the Planning and Placement Team.

High school students with special education needs were involved in special programs at our designated high schools; Woodstock Academy and Killingly High School. Some students were placed in out-of-district programs depending on their specific needs. Some of these placements were made by the Brooklyn School; others were made by Department of Children and Family Services or the judicial system.

Elementary School

Average Class Size	School	District	State
Kindergarten	16.7	16.7	18.4
Grade 2	17.8	17.8	19.9

Middle School

Average Class Size	School	District	State
Grade 5	20.8	20.8	21.2
Grade 7	18.9	18.9	20.6

EDUCATION

Enrollment in Selected High School Level Courses

% of Grade 8 Taking	School	District	State
Mathematics	16.0	16.0	34.4
World Language	0	0	48.4

State requires that at least 180 days of school be offered to students in kindergarten through Grade 12; 900 hours of instruction to Grades 1-12 and full day kindergarten; and 450 hours to half-day kindergarten students. This school offers half-day kindergarten

Instructional Time	School	State Elementary Schools
Total Days per Year	182	181
Total Hours per Year	978	987

Instructional Time	School	State Middle/Jr. High Schools
Total Days per Year	182	181
Total Hours per Year	992	1,017

Required Hours of Instruction Per Year in Selected Subject Areas

Grade 2	School	State
Art	27	30
Computer Education	27	15
English Language Arts**	510	491
Health	27	18
Library Media Skills	27	19
Mathematics	186	199
Music	27	31
Physical Education	27	37

EDUCATION

Science	60	72
Social Studies	60	68
World Languages	0	8

**Interdisciplinary approach

Grade 8	School	State
Art	32	36
Computer Education	32	20
English Language Arts	221	242
Family & Consumer Science	0	10
Health	24	23
Library Media Skills	0	14
Mathematics	147	158
Music*	32	32
Physical Education	55	55
Science	147	145
Social Studies	147	143
Technology Education	32	24
World Languages	74	83

*Elective hours also offered

EDUCATION

Elementary Schools

Special Programs	School	District	State
% of K-12 students in bilingual ed program or receiving English as a second language	0.0	0.0	7.7
% of identified gifted and/or talented students who received services	0.0	N/A	N/A
% of special education students attending this school who spent over 79% of their time w/ non-disabled peers	78.7	78.7	81.3

Middle/Jr. High Schools

Special Programs	School	District	State
% of K-12 students in bilingual ed program or receiving English as a second language	0.8	0.8	3.4
% of identified gifted and/or talented students who received services	88.3	88.3	67.4
% of special education students attending this school who spent over 79% of their time w/ non-disabled peers	72.5	72.5	77.7

EDUCATION

Brooklyn Elementary School Indicators of Education Need

Elementary School

Need Indicator	# in School	% in School	% in District	% in State
Students eligible for free/reduced price meals	122	21.7	21.7	38.3
K-12 students who are not fluent in English	0	0.0	0.0	7.7
Students w/disabilities	47	8.4	8.4	10.8
Students identified as gifted and/or talented	0	0.0	0.0	2.0
Kindergarten students who attend preschool, nursery school or headstart	87	89.7	89.7	80.2
Students in grades above school's entry grade who attended same school the previous year	329	90.1	90.1	91.6

EDUCATION

Brooklyn Middle School Indicators of Educational Need

Middle/Jr. High School

Need Indicator	# in School	% in School	% in District	% in State
Students eligible for free/reduced price meals	96	24.9	24.9	29.2
Students who are not fluent in English	3	0.8	0.8	3.5
Students w/disabilities	51	13.2	13.2	11.7
Students identified as gifted and/or talented	60	15.6	15.6	7.5
Students in grades above school's entry grade who attended same school the previous year	267	89.9	89.9	93.5

Appreciation

In closing, I would like to recognize the staff at The Brooklyn School for their dedication and commitment to students and this system; teachers, paraprofessionals, secretaries, custodians, bus drivers, cafeteria workers, and administrators, as well as the many volunteers who have worked together on behalf of the school and its students. For this, I am grateful and encouraged by their desire to work toward the goal of an

EDUCATION

effective and efficient school system making the needs of students their top priority.

The members of the Board of Education have been generous with their time, interested in education and devoted to the cause of seeking the best possible education for the students in Brooklyn.

Although in today's society, people are uneasy about the problems in and the direction of public education, and I am aware that there are differing options about and expectations of staff members at The Brooklyn School. Please be informed that our students continue to receive honors, awards and recognition for their academic and extracurricular achievements. Staff at our designated high schools comment favorably on the performance of many Brooklyn students; parents share with us their satisfaction with our programs; and state program compliance consultants comment favorably on our curricular offerings and compliance with state and federal mandates.

Therefore, with the continuing support and assistance of parents and community members, The Brooklyn School will continue its tradition of a strong and caring educational institution.

EDUCATION

WOODSTOCK ACADEMY 2013-2014

Mission Statement

The mission of the Woodstock Academy is to prepare all students for a lifetime of learning by providing academic rigor, a safe environment, and diversity of educational experiences which will foster a sense of respect for self and others, and will encourage active investment in family, school, community and the world.

From the Headmaster

By almost any measure, this was another successful year at Woodstock Academy. The Academy Mission is grounded in the belief that we prepare ALL students for a lifetime of learning by providing academic rigor, a safe environment, and adversity of educational experiences which will foster a sense of respect for self and others. This annual report highlights steps taken to strengthen the Academy program and student achievement for all students.

I believe it is the obligation of each generation of the Academy community to deepen its commitment to the implementation of its mission. In addition to the adoption of an updated strategic plan, as well as countless other actions and contributions from the dedicated staff and the entire community, we are committed to a constant state of institutional improvement. This report includes many improvements which have occurred throughout the 2013-2014 school year.

Since I arrived on campus in December, I have had the privilege of working with an outstanding staff as well as communities who possess a deep respect for each other and a

EDUCATION

common commitment to student achievement. I am a proud member of Centaur Nation.

As we look to the future, the school's motto, we will continue to solidify the school's commitment to its students and the larger community.

To the staff, students, Board of Trustees, the Woodstock Academy Foundation, and Academy community, I would like to thank you for efforts. What you do for our students is acknowledged and appreciated.

Overview of the School Year

The 2013-14 year began under the guidance of Headmaster Rich Foye who returned to the Academy as the interim Head. Headmaster Christopher Sandford assumed the helm in December. His enthusiasm, charisma, and passion for students will serve the Academy well in the upcoming years.

In compliance with new state statutes, the faculty and administration transitioned to the new teacher evaluation model. With a defined structure for observations, student learning objectives, whole-school learning objectives, and peer observations, the quality of teacher performance continues to be one of the greatest assets of the Academy.

Classroom instruction continued to align with the Common Core. New technology, a virtual desk top that allowed all students and teachers to access programs from off-campus locations, expanded learning opportunities for students. Students who were enrolled in Algebra 2 classes were provided

EDUCATION

with tablets to augment instruction. Many teachers implemented “flipped classroom” experiences with great success. In March, members of the junior class participated in the pilot of the new standardized test, the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC). As an extension of the classroom experience, an advisory program was added. Meeting twice a month for an hour, faculty discussed school climate issues with students, helped students to generate personal success portfolio components, and developed positive relationships with their advisory group members.

Student achievement continues to be outstanding in all areas. There were a few accomplishments that merit recognition.

- AP scores for Statistics and AB Calculus students averaged above a 4 (out of 5).
- The Model United Nations Club was awarded a Best Delegation award, finished in the top ten schools at the National High School Model United Nations Conference (earning an Award of Merit), and was ranked in the top 100 programs in the nation.
- Members of the Technology Student Association won first place in the VEX robotics competition at the state-level contest and took third place for the High School Heist at the National SeaPerch Challenge in Mississippi where they completed among 118 teams from 18 states.
- A Woodstock Academy student finished in first place for the Connecticut State History

EDUCATION

Day Competition and qualified for the national competition.

- Once again, the Woodstock Academy Student Council is the proud recipient of two very prestigious awards. In April, the National Association of Student Councils named our Student Council a 2014 National Gold Council of Excellence for its exemplary record of leadership, service, and activities that serve to improve the school and community. In June of this year, the Connecticut Association of Schools' State Leadership Advisory Board presented the Gold Award to our Student Council for outstanding commitments to school, state, and national leadership service and training. Woodstock Academy is the only high school in Connecticut to hold both of these awards simultaneously for several consecutive years.

Campus Safety

Throughout the year, the school also took an in-depth look at campus safety. A School Safety Committee, consisting of members of the Academy faculty and staff, a member of the Board of Trustees, and members of the community at large, was formed and completed an initial review of campus security with the assistance of the Connecticut State Police. In compliance with state statutes, a School Safety Plan was submitted to the State Department of Education. As part of the committee's recommendations, additional public announcement speakers and 28 video cameras were installed on campus, and a new check list for fire

EDUCATION

and safety drills was created.

Athletics

The Athletic Department started its year with the inaugural Centaur Classic Golf Tournament at Quinnatisset Country Club. This fundraiser was a great success due to local support and many alumni returning to the area to share high school stories on the greens. The event raised almost \$10,000, which went to support the needs of our growing athletic programs. A boys' volleyball team was added to the program offerings in the spring. At the end of the year, 53 students were inducted into the newly established Athletic Honor Society. The gymnastics team continued its domination with ECC, State, State Open, and New England championships. Ice hockey completed its first varsity season and qualified for the state playoffs. Girls track had its best season in several years with many new school records and athletes qualifying for both state and national level competitions.

Teaching and Learning

- 266/267 seniors graduated for a graduation rate of 99.6%.
- WA participated in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) High School Longitudinal Study in High School Mathematics. Our aggregate mathematics achievement score was 54.95, higher than the national average of 50, which included over 900 public and private schools across the country.
- We increased the number of students taking the ACT tests from 100 in 2012-2013 to 118 in 2013-2014. This is up from 93 in 2009. Our ACT scores are below the state average in all four areas of English, algebra, social

EDUCATION

science, and biology

- The total number of students taking AP tests was 145, and they took a total of 197 exams. The average score on these tests was 3.2, above the national and state averages.
- The average class size for 2013-14 was 16.5 (15.2 first semester and 17.8 second semester). Science CAPT scores have not yet been released, nor have our 2014 SAT scores. A meeting with Alan Berstein from the College Board is scheduled to review SAT and AP data. This data will be included in the town reports and in the Academic Report to the Board.
- The new teacher evaluation system was implemented this year. We had 23 faculty members who received a score of exemplary, 53 rated as proficient, and only 5 rated as developing.

Woodstock Academy will be offering 24 new or updated courses in 2014-15. These courses will be aligned with Common Core Standards and also promote college and career readiness as well as life skills. The new courses are:

- 102 ACP Writing Coach (per permission of Writing Center Director)
- 130 HON English 3 American Literature – UCONN ECE
- 335 ACP German 3
- 373 HON Mandarin 5
- 383 GEN Conversational Spanish
- 559/558 ACP/SCP Introduction To Community Activism

EDUCATION

- (prerequisite: World History & US Govt. & Politics)
- 762 SCP The Developing Child (no prerequisite/formerly Child Development)
- 788 SCP Pastry & Baking (prerequisite: Family Foods & Nutrition)
- 763 SCP Prenatal Development & Infancy (no prerequisite)
- 885 ACP Drawing 2 – UCONN ECE
- 332 HON Music Fundamentals 1 – UCONN ECE (formerly Music Theory)
- 875 Unified Music (.5 credit/1st semester/no prerequisite)
- We adopted Rubicon Atlas, a new curriculum software program, to replace e-Curriculum. Existing courses will be revised on an on-going basis to incorporate Common Core Standards. The existing e-curriculum files were transferred over the summer of 2014.
- The first Annual Woodstock Academy Leadership Institute (WALI), was held in August. Karin Hess, a nationally recognized educational consultant and author, worked with administration, faculty, and sending schools to increase rigor at all levels while providing appropriate scaffolding. She will return to the Academy to continue this work on October 14.
- Graduation requirements were revised in accordance with state mandates. We increased the credits needed to graduate from 24 to 25 and now require one credit in a world language. Language related to CAPT was eliminated, and alternate performance standards were

EDUCATION

modified.

- The technology graduation requirement was also modified. Innovative Technology, formerly required of all students, will now be only one of several options for students. Courses that fulfill the technology graduation requirement must also meet six of six national technology standards used by the state of Connecticut.
- Universal Readistep/PSAT/SAT testing for all students will be on October 15, 2014.
- Our academic newsletter, We Achieve, will be published on a bi-monthly basis throughout 2014-15 and will highlight educational initiatives, student and faculty accomplishments, and exciting educational experiences for students.
- The United Nations Team was designated one of the top 100 in North America by Bestdelegate.com.

Faculty and Staff

The varied accomplishments of Woodstock Academy's student body owes much to the talent and dedication of our teachers, administrators, and staff members, many of whom sacrifice countless hours of their personal time to further their craft and improve their content knowledge. The following is not a complete list of their many accomplishments but rather a representative sample that demonstrates how fortunate we are to have such a talented faculty and staff.

EDUCATION

- Valerie May was selected to participate in a competitive bimolecular engineering program at the Milwaukee School of Engineering this summer. She was also selected as WA's 2014-2015 Teacher of the Year.
- Lauren Gagnon received a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to study at UC Berkeley this summer. Her focus will be the impact of World War II on the San Francisco Bay area.
- Our Student Council was awarded the 2014 National Gold Council of Excellence for its exemplary record of leadership and service. It also received a Gold Award from the Connecticut Association of Schools' State Leadership Advisory Board for its outstanding commitment to school, state, and national leadership.
- WA's Math Team, advised by Lauren Skene and Steve Tyler, scored 6 in the regional Math Competition and made it to the state level championship competition.
- Students in Science Olympiad, advised by Susan Riley and Christina Jolliff, won first place awards at both the New England Invitational Science Olympiad and the state level championship.
- Merry Burke and Kate Field took 15 students on WA's first service learning trip abroad to Haiti to volunteer at an orphanage in Les Cayes for 8 days over April vacation.

EDUCATION

In addition to learning about the culture of Haiti, they built a basketball court for the children.

- Tom Young had 3 statistics students accepted into the Connecticut Insurance and Financial Services Actuarial Boot Camp, a highly competitive one-week workshop designed to support students who wish to pursue a career in actuarial science.
- The Robotics Team placed second overall in the state championship. Advisor Peter Sumner also received a competitive grant to put together an all-female team to compete at the TSA Annual Competition.
- Art students took home 11 awards at the Scholastic Art Competition, including three Gold Key Awards.
- The Writing Center launched a soft-opening and will launch a full opening this fall. This project came out of the Connecticut Writing Project Institute at UCONN and was funded by a grant from AETNA. Coordinator Gillian Zieger collaborated with writing coaches from UCONN to train students to act as peer writing coaches. The center will be located in the library.

Admission and Special Programs

With the new emphasis on local and international recruitment, the goal of Admissions is to market Woodstock Academy as an influential school of choice to both local and international students. The admission team focused on local recruitment, sending town outreach, and international networking. This

EDUCATION

effort resulted in an increase in inquiries and applications during the 2013-2014 school year.

Sending town outreach was the first area of emphasis. All of the sending town eighth grade classes were invited to attend a morning at Woodstock Academy. Students viewed a presentation, went on a tour guided by a Woodstock Academy Ambassador, took part in group discussions with the ambassadors, and enjoyed a snack. We hosted approximately 100 students at each of these sessions, and 10-12 ambassadors handled the tours and group discussions. Eighth grade teachers and guidance counselors were also treated to breakfast and discussions with administration. In addition to the sending town students, local private middle school students also attended, as well as students from The Rectory School, St. James, St. Joseph, and St. Anne. Invitations to our Prospective Student Open House were also extended to all. In addition, the admissions team attended school fairs at The Rectory School in Pomfret, Trinity School in Southbridge, and St. Mary-St. Joseph in Willimantic.

We welcomed approximately 150 students to our Prospective Student Open House on October 27, 2013. The Open House was slightly different this year. Rather than teachers greeting families in the gym, each department set up a room or demonstration for students and families. Many WA students also participated in the demonstrations and tours. While many sending town students participated, approximately 15 tuition students and families inquired about attending Woodstock Academy. These efforts resulted in 53 inquiries and 21 applications. Currently, we have 2 new deposits for tuition students, and at least 8 of these students have moved to a sending town district of Woodstock Academy.

EDUCATION

Our focus this year was to find partners in countries around the world that can promote Woodstock Academy and recruit students. These partners are often educational consulting firms that work with students and their families. We have added at least 4 new partners in our search for students around the world. In 2013-2014, this resulted in 2 students from Italy joining our program for one semester. During the admissions season, we received 167 international applications. Ninety-six of these students were accepted and 25 were rejected. Thirty-three declined our offer. At press time, we had 35 full pay deposits on record.

International Program

We continued to run two international houses this year. The girls' dorm in Putnam opened in December, and we moved the girls who were with temporary host families or in another dorm to their new location. The location of the new dorm enhances the marketing of our program as it allows the girls access to retail services and restaurants.

The Academy continues to help our international student's transition to life in the United States. This year, we instituted an after school study program, International Program for Academic and Structured Support (IPASS) to help these students keep their grades up. If a student was falling behind or having trouble staying organized, they would attend a study session after school for one hour. Karen Olah oversaw this program. We will expand this program in the fall. In addition, Mrs. Olah is planning orientation sessions this summer and some orientation sessions to

EDUCATION

continue through the first six weeks of school. Equally important was the students' integration into day-to-day life and activities at the Academy. Each student found an activity or athletic program of which to become apart. Students joined clubs and sports such as: Student Council, the math team, the tennis, golf, soccer, or football team, Chess Club, National Honor Society, and the Academy Ambassador program.

Twenty five of our international students graduated this year. Each student applied to several schools and was accepted to a wide range of 4-year colleges and universities. New York University, Arizona State University, the University of Connecticut, and Boston University are just a few of the schools chosen.

Student Services

- Three one-to-one paraprofessionals supported students with significant disabilities. They supported students in Applied Skills classes as well as general education classes. In addition, 2 of these paraprofessionals took over coaching roles in the Athletic Department.
- Several general education classes were co-taught, including: Freshman Science, World History, Algebra I; Part I, American Government and Politics, and English.
- Several students participated in Unified Sports (soccer, basketball, and bowling), which pairs athletes with disabilities to non-disabled peers for skill development and

EDUCATION

training. Basic skills are learned and friendships develop, improving the life of children while building acceptance and understanding.

- Approximately 20 students participated in the first annual Unified Olympics hosted by the National Honor Society. The students participated in a relay race, human bowling, basketball, and floor hockey. They engaged in friendly competition with teams from Killingly High School, Stafford High School, and Norwich Free Academy.
- As part of their IEP transition goals and objectives, several students job shadowed or interned at local businesses including: Northwood Childcare, Woodstock Elementary School, Woodstock Academy, Flick Dining Services, PetCo, and The Inn at Woodstock Hill.
- The semester of Unified Foods and Nutrition was a great success! The class was beneficial to students with special needs as well as to students who served as mentors. The successful pairing of these students led to the development of a new Unified Music class.
- Gail McCarthy and Victoria Despres attended a year-long workshop, “Transition Network Services,” presented by EastConn. They gained valuable knowledge regarding transition opportunities for students with disabilities in northeast Connecticut.

EDUCATION

- For the second consecutive year, Mark Chuoke hosted the Summer Careers Academy. Approximately 10 students took part in career exploration while participating in activities such as building maintenance, painting, and landscaping.
- The department celebrated yet another 100% graduation rate with most students enrolled in post-secondary programs!

The department's goal for 2014-2015 is to continually improve support and services to prepare students for lifelong learning in the 21st century. This includes the creation of the Cutler House Program (CHP), formerly the ACES program. Headed by Janet Turini and Lisa Derrico, CHP will focus on academics and well as job-readiness skills for at-risk students who require an alternative approach to education.

Finance

The financial budget for the 2013-2014 school year was adjusted, prior to being presented to the Board of Trustees for approval, to insure minimal impact on the per student tuition to the sending town budgets. These adjustments impacted the non-academic programming while protecting expenditures necessary to ensure the well-being of the students and meet the mission of the Academy.

The International Student Program was further expanded this fiscal year, providing additional tuition revenue. The Academy also expanded the residential component through the addition of the "Putnam property" and related support to maintain

EDUCATION

and improve student and facilities services.

Financially, the consolidated end-of-year numbers were again impacted by technology infrastructure and septic/sewer related expenditures. The details are contained in our annual audit that is reviewed and accepted by the Trustees in the fall of each year.

The continued conservative, prudent approach to managing the Academy funds under the Financial Committee Chair, Paul Kelly, continued to help us support our programs and services and yet maintain our financial position.

Conclusion

The sign of a great organization is its ability to use its strengths to overcome challenges and difficulties. Woodstock Academy does this and continues to impress. The Academy is an institution steeped in history and tradition, yet the school is in a clear position to provide its students with a place to succeed in the 21st century. I am most pleased to be a part of this community.

Christopher J. Sandford
Headmaster