



# The Lisbon Quarterly

A Newsletter for Lisbon Residents

## Board of Finance

### Participating in the Budget Process

By Wayne Donaldson, Chairman

The Lisbon Board of Finance continues to struggle with ensuring that the residents can fully participate in the budget process if they wish to. With the requirements for virtual meetings, it is difficult to ensure that all residents have the ability to log on and participate. We encourage residents to email the Chairman at ***Lisbon.BoF.Chairman@hotmail.com*** or mail questions and/or comments to the Town Hall, 1 Newent Road, attention Board of Finance Chairman. All correspondence will be read and considered at the next scheduled meeting. Join information for the scheduled virtual meeting is included on the agenda posted online on the Town website: [www.lisbonct.com/board-finance](http://www.lisbonct.com/board-finance).

During the Summer of 2020, the Lisbon Fire Department came before the Board of Finance with a proposal for part time paid staff. For an extended period of time, they were having problems responding to medical emergencies and fire calls in a timely manner during certain periods of the day. The Board of Finance approved a significant appropriation to fund this. Based on the Fire Department projections, this is expected to be an ongoing permanent budget item in the future. The health and safety of the Lisbon residents requires that we can ensure that help arrives when needed, and in a timely manner.

An additional item that will have a large impact on the budget for 2021-2022 will be the new host agreement



Artwork submitted by Lisbon resident, Nicole Kuhn, who has conducted painting classes at the Lisbon Senior Center.

with the Wheelabrator trash-to-energy plant. The current agreement expired in December 2020 and the new agreement provides significantly less revenue to the Town.

*The Board of Finance welcomes residents to contact the Chairman or the First Selectman if they are interested in filling a position on the Board. We currently have openings for alternate members.*

**Lisbon Quarterly Newsletter is available on-line at [www.lisbonct.com](http://www.lisbonct.com).**

## Assessor's Office

### REVALUATION

The Town of Lisbon is undergoing a State mandated revaluation of all real estate parcels, which will be effective for the October 1, 2021 Grand List. We have contracted with Vision Government Solutions to assist the Assessor's Office with this project.

Pursuant to Connecticut State Law, every municipality must complete a town-wide revaluation every five (5) years. A revaluation determines the current fair market value of all real estate in town, both commercial and residential. It equalizes the values of all properties for the purpose of a fair distribution of the tax burden.

A revaluation consists of five (5) phases which include: Data Collection, Market Analysis, Valuation, Field Review and Informal Hearings. The Data Collection phase will begin during February 2021. A detailed explanation of the revaluation process, as well as answers to frequently asked questions, may be found on the Vision Government Solutions website at [www.vgsi.com](http://www.vgsi.com)

### DATA COLLECTION:

Data Mailers will be sent to all residential improved property owners. We ask that you review and verify the information on these data mailers and note any changes prior to returning the form as instructed.

Approximately 50% of all properties will be visited by Vision Data Collectors. At this time, data collectors will physically inspect the *exterior only*, to verify the measurements of each building as needed. Building size, condition, quality of construction, improvements, topography, utilities, and numerous other characteristics will be noted.

Data collectors will be wearing an identification badge and will have written documentation from the Town stating their affiliation with the project and will travel in registered vehicles with an 'Assessor's Office' sign in the window. All Vision representatives and their vehicles will be registered with the CT State Police Troop E and the Town Hall. If a homeowner has a question as to identity of a data collector, they may call the Resident Trooper at 860/848-6500 x5128 or the Assessor's office at 860/376-5115 for further confirmation.

### COVID 19:

The Town of Lisbon continues to actively monitor the evolving health situation regarding COVID-19 (coronavirus) and is deeply committed to the continued health and safety of our residents. Based on the recommended social distancing protocols established by the Center for Disease Control, the Town will be delaying interior inspections until it is deemed safe again to resume these procedures. This approach accomplishes the goal of ensuring the utmost safety of our residents and data collectors.

Updates and information can be found on the Assessor's webpage at [www.lisbonct.com](http://www.lisbonct.com) Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Gail Gwiazdowski, CCMA I  
Lisbon Assessor

## Senior Center

By Karen Washington, Senior Center Co-Ordinator

The Senior Center remains closed until further notice. Please know that, even though our building is closed, we are here for you if you need assistance. Contact us M-F, 9 AM -3 PM, at: **860-376-2329**.

We have volunteers who can run errands for you. If you are looking for activities, we have items we can offer you such as puzzles, yarn and needles, and donated library books, to name a few.

If you are unable to leave your home you can receive Meals-on-Wheels. Contact TVCCA at 860-934-1006 to get set up.

As of this writing, COVID vaccinations are currently being offered to anyone 65 and over. If you are having trouble getting signed up for an appointment, contact us for information and help.

We will be having the following walk-through take-out meals:

- March 18<sup>th</sup> – Corned Beef & Cabbage w/carrots, potatoes, bread & dessert: \$10
- April 22<sup>nd</sup> – Meatloaf w/mashed potatoes, vegetable & dessert: \$5
- May 20<sup>th</sup> – Chicken Casserole w/biscuit topping & dessert: \$5

Call 860-376-2329 to sign up – cutoff dates are one week before event. Masks and social distancing required.

## WPCA

The Water Pollution Control Authority is in need of a volunteer to work as part of a team to ensure the continued effective management of the physical and financial resources of the town's two sewer districts. The Rt 12 district serves retail and business customers in the area around the Interstate 395 Exit 21 interchange and a smaller district on the western side of town abutting the Versailles village section of Sprague serves residential customers. Meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at 7 pm. Contact WPCA Chairman Kenneth Robb at [wpca@lisbonct.com](mailto:wpca@lisbonct.com) for additional information.

## Town Clerk's Corner

By Laurie Tirocchi, Town Clerk

### Trout Fishing Season opens April 10, 2021 in Connecticut

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the Lisbon Town Clerk's office will not processing fishing and gaming licenses until further notice. You may obtain a fishing license online at this link: <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Fishing/CT-Fishing>

### Town Commissions, Committees and Boards

Many of our Boards have openings for members and alternate members. Visit the Town website at [www.lisbonct.com](http://www.lisbonct.com), click on the Board that interests you, and if there is a vacancy, it will be listed on that Board's page. Send in your letter of intent to the First Selectman's Office.

*Current Board Vacancies: Conservation Commission (1 Alt); Recreation Committee (3); WPCA (1); Board of Finance (3 Alt); Planning and Zoning Commission (2 Alt, R & D); ZBA (1 Alt, either party).*

## Recreation Committee

Due to the ongoing pandemic, the Recreation Committee will **NOT** be hosting the Annual Egg Hunt this year. Sorry, folks!

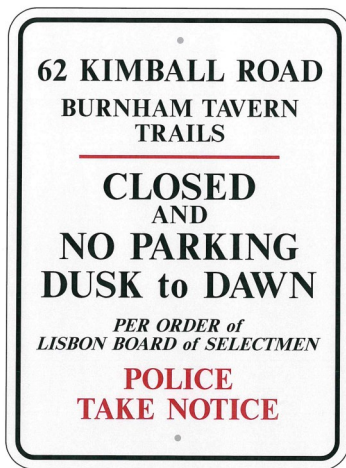
## Conservation Commission

The Conservation Commission has an immediate vacancy for an alternate member. The Conservation Commission oversees enforcement of local and state regulations designed to protect the quality of the town's wetlands and watercourses such as streams, brooks and rivers. The Commission and its enforcement officer additionally seek to educate residents on the appropriate way to conduct activities in these wetlands and watercourses as well as within the surrounding 100 ft area. Meetings are held monthly on the third Tuesday of each month at 7 pm with periodic field walks to examine the sites of proposed activities that have the potential to affect wetlands and watercourses. Contact Chairman Rick Hamel at [rhamel@lisbonct.com](mailto:rhamel@lisbonct.com) for additional information.

## Trail Committee

By Joseph Lewerk, Chairman, Trail Committee

The Burnham Tavern trails are open during the winter months and when snow covered are an excellent place to try out your cross country skiing or snow shoe skills. A Trail Committee volunteer has been kind enough to plow the parking area at 62 Kimball Road where you'll soon notice a new sign designating the parking area and providing notice that the area is closed from dusk to dawn. This is the only parking area for accessing the trails. Parking at the Burnham Tavern and adjacent lawn on North Burnham Highway (Rt. 169) is prohibited for the safety and security of the historical property.



The Lisbon Farmer's Market Committee is excited to announce that the market is planned to be open on Thursdays from 3:30 pm to 6:30 pm, starting June 17th. We are hoping to have a few themed markets and many of the vendors we have had in the past. As we plan out this season, we are looking for volunteers to help out with some of the market tasks. If you are interested, please contact us via email at our new address: [farmers\\_market@lisbonct.com](mailto:farmers_market@lisbonct.com). Hope to hear from you soon and see you at the market!

- Jenny Danburg, Secretary, Farmers' Market Committee

## Slater Library News

### Slater Library News and Events

**COVID Hours:** Monday, Wednesday and Friday 12:00 PM — 5:00 PM; Tuesday and Thursday 1:00 PM — 6:00 PM  
26 Main Street, Jewett City / **860-376-0024**

**March 2** — Celebrate Dr. Seuss' Birthday with us!

Join us for **UNPLUGGED 06351** events taking place throughout the zip code, April 24th and 25th.

Slater Library will be hosting a "Sidewalk Search" (details will be available on line and on Facebook closer to event day!) Each and every activity is designed to get the kids (and adults) outdoors! So Unplug with us and step outside!

### NEW!!!

School-age children can visit the Children's Area with an adult and check out selections (by appointment only – please call for available dates and time slots).



March 2nd

### Celebrate Dr. Seuss' Birthday

with a "TAKE and MAKE" Craft!

Available while supplies last, but don't despair, we have more to share!

"TAKE and MAKE" crafts are here to stay.

We have one available each and every day!



## From The History Books

### The History of Medicine in our Town

*By Marcia Shafer, Lisbon Town Historian*

Medical education was very poor up until the late 1800's. By the 1890's, John Hopkins University School of Medicine served as the standard for medical schools that included lab work and hands-on training. In the early 1900's, a reform of medical schools towards the John Hopkins model caused 30% of medical schools to close. Teaching hospitals, internships and residency training was established. This brought about medical specializations and sub-specialties as well.

Many of the doctor's names I was able to locate also practiced medicine locally. They may have lived in Norwich/Lisbon/Newent before or after 1786. Some of them grew up in Lisbon and developed their medical practice in other local towns. Some served as military doctors during the various wars, taught medical school, or moved to other locations, including westward, as the territories developed. Some of the doctors' names will be familiar to you as a Lisbon resident, and include:

- Elijah Bishop, MD, a descendant of Reuben Bishop.
- William Tyler Brown, MD, son of Daniel and Phebe Brown (who lived on the John Bishop property) went to Yale Sheffield Scientific School.
- Jedediah Burnham, MD, son of Capt. Benjamin and Jemima Burnham, was tutored by Dr. Joseph Perkins of Lisbon. Burnham had a medical practice in Lisbon until he moved to Ohio in 1817 and continued his practice there.
- Walter Burnham, MD, was a grandson to Captain Benjamin and Jemima Burnham and was born in Norwich (Lisbon) in 1762. His two sons, Zebulon and Walter, also became doctors of medicine.
- Andrew Lee Bushnell, MD, son of William Fitch Bushnell, was born in 1816. He practiced medicine in Ohio.
- Daniel Gordon, MD, was born in Newent and studied medicine with Dr. Elisha Perkins in Plainfield and practiced in New York.
- Jabez Fitch, Jr, MD, was born in Newent. Major James Fitch, an original settler of Newent, was an ancestor.
- Jonathan Knight, MD, was born in Newent and was the grandson to David Knight. Jonathan studied medicine and was a surgeon enlisting in 1777 under Col. John Durkee and was Surgeon's Mate with George Washington's army at Valley Forge. His son Jonathan was one of the founding professors of the Medical Institution of Yale College and a leading surgeon in Connecticut. He served first as professor of Anatomy and Physiology from 1813 to 1838, and then as Professor of Surgery from 1838 to 1864.
- Born in 1748, Luther Manning, MD, studied medicine and practiced in Newent/Lisbon. During the Revolutionary War he held the position of assistant surgeon and was stationed at New London, when the town was burned by the British. He was a selectman and represented Lisbon in the Legislature for several terms. He was still actively practicing medicine and was regarded with the highest esteem. His son Mason and Luther were also physicians.
- Abijah Perkins, MD, was born in Newent to John and Lydia Perkins in 1755. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, captured by the British forces, and died from hardship endured while a prisoner.
- Caleb Perkins, MD, was born in 1747 in Newent and was the youngest son of Dr. Joseph Perkins, Sr. and Mary Bushnell. His brother, Eliphas Perkins, MD, was born in Newent in 1753, and was a graduate of Yale College. Elisha Perkins, MD, the 3<sup>rd</sup> brother, was born in 1741. He was educated by his father in Plainfield, where he later practiced medicine. When the American Revolutionary War broke out, Elisha Perkins served as a surgeon for the Continental Army. Elisha Perkins invented what is called "Tractors", for which he took out a 14-year patent in 1796. The tractors consisted of two 3-inch metal rods with a pointed end. Perkins claimed that they were made of unusual metal alloys although they were just made of steel and brass. He used his rods to "cure" inflammation, rheumatism and pain, claiming they could "draw off the noxious electrical fluid that lay at the root of suffering". The Connecticut Medical Society condemned the tractors as "delusive quackery" and expelled him from the society.
- Joseph Perkins Sr., MD, was born in Newent/Lisbon in 1704 to Deacon Joseph and Martha (Morgan) Perkins. His father was one of the first settlers of Lisbon. He studied medicine and surgery, established his practice in Newent and remained practicing until his death.
- Elisha Tracy, MD, was born in Norwich in 1712 to Joseph and Mary (Abell) Tracey. He graduated from Yale College in 1738, and was a surgeon examiner in the Revolutionary Army.

My next article, which will be published in the Summer 2021 Lisbon Quarterly Newsletter, will be different. It will be a puzzle to which you must pair up the question to the answer. It will be matching up the new medical terminology with the old historical names that are sometimes used today. Hope you put your thinking caps on, but there is no grade and the answers will be provided within the newsletter.



**LISBON**  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY  
CONNECTICUT

## Lisbon Historical Society Quarterly Notes

*By Kim Sperry*

Friends and neighbors, the Lisbon Historical Society continues to go about the business of fulfilling our mission during this extraordinary time. We are busy sorting cans and bottles, scheduling maintenance and projects whilst maintaining social distancing. Member meetings take place via Zoom as in-person meetings are still on hold, however our social media platforms, Facebook and webpage, are live. Please visit them for updates and information <https://lisbonhistoricalct.org>.

The Historical Society recently received a Neighborhood Assistance Grant from the Jewett City Savings Bank. Funds will be used for the continuation of the Burnham Tavern roof project. We also received a \$500 donation from the Pfizer foundation recognized the work of LHS member Christine Strick.

**Burnham Tavern Update.** Construction projects will resume with the coming of better weather.

**John Bishop House Update.** The museum remains closed due to Covid restrictions, but work on the grounds continued. Ken Mahler cleared and chipped branches brought down by storms and the two rotten trees between the can and bottle shed and garage.

**Cans and Bottles Update.** Donations since the start of FY 2020-21 are healthy due to Covid restrictions on local consumer redemption sites. Recently we were able to deliver 150 cases of bottles and over 50 bags of plastic to the ARC redemption center in Woodstock. To date we have been able to redeem approximately 52,000 pieces; that total is expected to increase with our ability to make the deliveries.

**Gatorade, Snapple, tea beverages, wine bottles, plastic milk jugs, Poland Springs water bottles with the red strip around the label, and all others not marked CT** are not redeemable and should be recycled in blue bins on trash day. Additionally, it is impossible for the bar code readers at the redemption centers to process crushed aluminum cans and plastic bottles. We do our best to pop bottles back in to shape but those we cannot, and the crushed cans, subsequently end

up in the recycling bins and over the year that amounts to a lot of lost nickels. Many thanks go out to contributors to our can and bottle redemption program.

In addition to can and bottle donations, we are now an "Amazon Smile Charity". Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases, go to the following website: [www.Smile.Amazon.com](http://www.Smile.Amazon.com), or use this link directly: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/51-0197314>

**Wanted: New Members!** The Lisbon Historical Society's success is contingent upon the dedication of our members. We are a 501(c) 3 nonprofit volunteer organization; part of our mission is to promote an interest and foster appreciation of the rich history and culture of the town of Lisbon, and we are stewards of three important town owned properties. New members learn and teach open hearth cooking and 19<sup>th</sup> century living at the John Bishop House Museum. Burnham Tavern provides an education in restoration and 18<sup>th</sup> century tavern life. At \$5.00 a year, membership dues make it possible for everyone to sign on. Call President Paula Adams at 860-887-8052 to talk membership.



### FREE Adult Education Programs

Did you know that *Norwich Regional Adult Education (NRAE)* offers **FREE** day and evening classes? We serve residents from the school districts of Norwich, Bozrah, East Lyme, Franklin, Ledyard, Lisbon, North Stonington, Preston, Salem, Sprague, Stonington, and Voluntown. Whether it's obtaining a high school diploma, preparing for the GED® exam, learning *English as a Second Language*, or *Citizenship Preparation*, NRAE has a variety of programs to help you take the next step to your future! In addition to our Norwich location, we also offer programs at Stonington High School and East Lyme High School, including high school completion programs and English as a Second Language classes. Remote learning options and a Chromebook lending program are also available.



#### English as a Second Language Program ⇨

Learn how to read, write, and speak English at any level. Day and evening classes are available. We also offer classes for Families Learning English.

**Adult Basic Education (ABE)** ⇨ These classes offer academic preparation for adults to improve reading, writing, & math skills.

**Citizenship Preparation** ⇨ Class content includes American history and government, civic participation, and practice with the 100 naturalization questions. Our Citizenship Preparation classes are available remotely.



We offer three different pathways for earning a high school diploma:



#### Adult High School Diploma Program ⇨

Adults gain credits toward finishing their high school diploma by attending day or evening classes.

**GED® Program** ⇨ We are a GED® testing site and offer *GED® Test Preparation & Academic Preparation* classes. Classes are offered at any of our three sites: Norwich, Stonington, or East Lyme.

**National External Diploma Program (NEDP)** ⇨ This portfolio-based program is available remotely. It is recommended for adults who are highly motivated and self-directed, have occupational skills, and have acquired life experience.

**For more information on any of our programs, please call **860.823.4299**.**

**Check us out online at**

**<https://www.norwichpublicschools.org/norwich-regional-adult-education>**

**Registration is ongoing.**





*Each Spring, the daffodils grow abundantly at Lisbon Meadows Park.*