



# The Lisbon Quarterly

A Newsletter for Lisbon Residents

## Registrar of Voters

### A Grateful Letter to our Election Workers

By Mary Grant, Registrar of Voters

Phew! What a day we had! Record numbers of absentee ballots, over 50 Election Day registrations and a record number of election voters came out to the polls. Steven Barrett, Registrar (D), Laurie Tirocchi, Town Clerk and I are so proud of our fantastic team of workers. Thank you all so very much for your loyalty and abilities. We had a very successful day—thanks to you all!

~ Mary, Steve and Laurie

### Voter Recanvas

Every year in early February, the registrar of voters conducts a recanvas of the electors in Lisbon. During this process, a letter is sent to registered voters to confirm they still reside at the Lisbon address on file. If you receive such a letter, please make sure to return it to the Registrar of Voters so that you do not run the risk of being placed on the 'Inactive' list.

If you are aware of someone who is no longer a Lisbon resident, please have them contact the Registrar of Voters so that they can be removed from our voter list. If you have any questions, please contact the Registrars at 860-376-1743.



## Annual Santa Parade

**December 4th, 5th & 6th**

**See the last page of this newsletter for more information about our Town's famous Santa Parade, conducted by the all-volunteer Lisbon Fire Department!**

## Town Clerk's Corner

### 2020 Presidential Election Statistics

By Laurie Tirocchi, Lisbon Town Clerk

Active Voters on Registry List:	2877
Voted at Polls:	1805
Voted by Absentee Ballot:	642
<b>% of Registered Voters who Voted:</b>	<b>85%</b>

We also had 67 newly registered voters who voted through the Election Day Registration (EDR) process.

**To view election results, go to:**

**<https://ctemspublic.pctg.net/#/selectTown>**

## Website Pointers

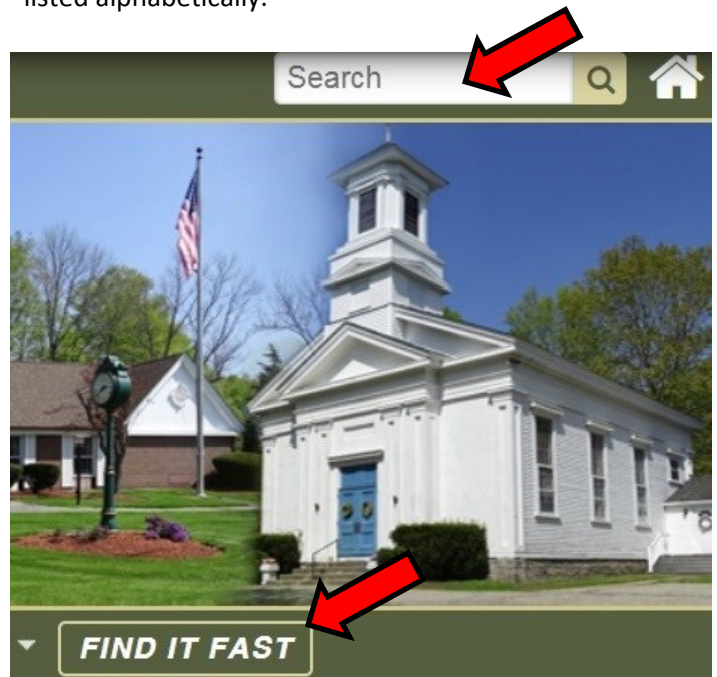
### Finding the Forms & Documents You Need



The Town website is full of resources for its residents and those who do business and/or enjoy recreation opportunities in town. In the last newsletter (Fall 2020), we discussed inquiring about and paying taxes online, as well as how to subscribe to notices, such as agendas and news items.

The **HOME** page is truly the epicenter of the website. One of the most important tools is the **Forms & Documents** button. This button will bring you to a page with the various forms and documents listed under their respective departments: Zoning Regulations and Zoning & Special Permit applications under Planning and Zoning; Building Permits under Building Department; Assessor's Forms under Assessor; Farmers' Market applications under Farmers' Market Committee; Pistol Permit Application under Resident State Trooper...these are just a few of the forms available online for downloading and/or printing. Most of these forms can also be found through links on their respective department pages, as well.

Regardless of which page you are on, the banner at the top follows you throughout the website. The "banner" is the illustration of the Town buildings with the main links: HOME; DISCOVER LISBON; DEPARTMENTS; and BOARDS & COMMISSIONS. Here you have the option for searching for something specific by typing in key words in the "Search" field, then narrowing your search with filters. Another easy way to find what you are looking for is to use the "Find It Fast" button. This button takes you first to a page that gives you the most commonly searched for pages, documents and links, then, by clicking on "more", it further breaks down your search with items listed alphabetically.



Go to **www.lisbonct.com** and look around! There is an abundance of information and resources on our Town's website!

### Quick Tip:

*Have a question, suggestion or concern?  
Go to our website **www.lisbonct.com**  
and use the **CONTACT** form to reach us  
by email. It will be forwarded to the  
appropriate department.*

## 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 at 860-376-2329, M-F, 9-3.

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.

We are working with the State and Uncas Health District and collaborating with many other senior centers on best practices to keep everyone safe when we start to phase in a reopening. Until then, please stay safe!

***If you would like to be on our list to receive the Senior Center newsletter, The Lisbon Link, by email, please send your email address to:***  
[kwashington@lisbonct.com](mailto:kwashington@lisbonct.com)

## 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.

## Assessor's Office

### REVALUATION

The Town of Lisbon will be conducting a Revaluation for October 1, 2021. In accordance with CT General Statute, a revaluation is required every five years. The purpose of a revaluation is to reconcile property assessments to their full and fair market value as of October 1, 2021. Additional information regarding the revaluation process will be available in January.

### REAL ESTATE CHANGE OF MAILING ADDRESS

The Office of the Assessor is responsible for all Real Estate mailing addresses. If you recently changed your mailing address, please call our office at 860-376-5115 or download the **Change of Address Form** on the Assessor's page of our website at:

[https://www.lisbonct.com/sites/g/files/vyhlif791/f/uploads/address\\_change\\_form.pdf](https://www.lisbonct.com/sites/g/files/vyhlif791/f/uploads/address_change_form.pdf)

*Gail Gwiazdowski, CCMA I*  
 Assessor

## 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*

For Walktober this year, the Lisbon Trail Committee hosted a socially distanced, guided walk along the Burnham Tavern Trails on both Saturday, October 3rd and on Sunday, October 25th. The walks through the beautiful fall landscape highlighted the work accomplished by dedicated committee volunteers over the last 2+ years. A member of the Lisbon Historical Society was present for the first walk to provide information to walkers about the architecturally and historically significant tavern that dates back to the early 1700s.

Also in conjunction with the earliest walk, the Butterfly Garden was the site of a demonstration by two horse drawn plow teams, one lead by Mr. Terry Joseph from Lisbon and the other by his friend Red Clements of Voluntown. The plowing was hosted by the Historical Society and was followed by a more conventionally powered harrowing of the field by a Trail Committee volunteer. These efforts were all in preparation for the planting of additional milkweed and other pollinator-

attracting wild flowers, food sources for monarch butterfly caterpillars and adult butterflies. Each month and season brings something new to see and appreciate on the Burnham Tavern Trail so take the opportunity to enjoy a peaceful stroll through this community treasure. Parking is available at 62 Kimball Rd.

*In every walk with nature, one receives far more than he seeks.” – John Muir*



*Men and their teams plowing the ground at the Butterfly Garden at the Burnham Tavern on Route 169.  
Photos courtesy Posey Clements.*

## From The History Books

*By Marcia Shafer, Lisbon Town Historian*

Covid-19 has changed the world we live in with regard to our social, medical, and mental status. Many people with existing diseases are at higher risk for catching and becoming seriously ill, or worse, from the Corona Virus, and many more are at risk for developing mental health issues due to the loss of income, homes or apartments, and/or family members and loved ones.

I started out with the idea of looking to see how many doctors there were in colonial times in the Norwich/Newent/Lisbon area and once I started my research online, I got side tracked on what doctors treated patients with, where they got their education for doctoring, and what people did when there was no doctor within miles of an accident, dying family members, and childbirth.

Many doctors just starting out would follow a doctor in town who had experience. He would teach them what symptoms to look for, what might be ailing the patient, and what the best course of treatment was. Some doctors stayed in this area. Others may have moved to the western territories.

There is historical documentation from the 9<sup>th</sup> century that suggests doctors were suturing wounds, and using plaster, saws, scalpels, surgical needles, and forceps for surgical purposes. By the 12<sup>th</sup> century, universities and medical schools were available. At this time, however, doctors were not educated in human anatomy. This made it difficult to accurately diagnose common illnesses. It was common belief that illnesses were contracted from a "poisonous cloud". Medicines derived from pagan and folk practices, blood-letting and the use of leeches, were used to try to cure a person of an illness.

Infections were often due to, poor sanitation habits, poor personal hygiene, and crowds. If a patient was seen by a doctor or surgeon, surgical instruments, which were not disinfected, would cause serious infection. Home remedies, often passed down in folklore, were common before the turn of the 20th century.

Smallpox killed vast numbers of people before a vaccine was created in 1796. In the early 1800's, the three deadliest diseases were diphtheria, typhoid, and typhus.

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the lack of anesthesia and disinfectant for surgery caused some people to die, not from the ailment, but from the physical shock of pain or infection afterwards. Dr. Joseph Lister pioneered the practice of antiseptic surgery and, together with the use of ether and chloroform to anesthetize the patient, made great strides in the ability to perform successful surgeries in the latter part of the 1800's.

As medical treatment advanced, plants and herbs were used to treat illnesses. Prior to the mid 20th century, cocaine, opium, and heroin were widely used for medicinal purposes. Naturally, the use of these drugs has proven to be highly addictive and counterproductive to a healthy life. Mercury and lead was also used for "healing", but we now know they are extremely dangerous chemical compounds.

Before modern medicine, most people relied on home remedies of plants and herbs. Midwives were most often used in childbirth. Local folk healers, conjurers who practiced magical medicine, and soothsayers were often sought after to heal the sick.

Common herbal treatments were aspirin made from willow bark, fever reducers made from feverfew plant and meadowsweet. Camphor relieved itchy skin and also seemed to prevent infection when the wound was washed with a solution made from camphor. Bladder infections were cured with calendula tea. Chamomile tea was used for women's ailments from menopause to insomnia. Vinegar was used to relieve fainting spells. Raspberry tea leaves were often used to treat painful menses and infertility. Gargles, tonics, and steam baths were often used.

As I continue this information regarding the advances in the medical profession in the Spring edition of 2021, I hope and pray the vaccine for the Corona virus has passed the trials for use in our world, there will be enough for everyone, and this pandemic will be under control. Many lives can be saved, loved ones will be able to be enjoyed longer, and the world will be a better place to live in.





# 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. In-person meetings are still on hold, however our social media platforms, Facebook and webpage, <https://lisbonhistoricalct.org> are live, please visit them for updates and information.

**Burnham Tavern Update:** The new roof is on! Ken Mahler reports that after a comprehensive evaluation and much consideration, the tavern roof was replaced with "taper cut" cedar wood shingles. Nick Anderson our longtime restoration carpenter used a period appropriate construction method of slats over frames rather than plywood. He believed that would not only have been inappropriate for the era of the building, but plywood would have added greatly to the weight of the roof. We have also taken on the added expense of using custom milled, historically correct rough sawn oak slats, rather than pine slats that have a limited life span. The original slats under the asphalt shingles were in bad shape on most of the roof so they were replaced as were a patchwork of plywood added many years ago. The chimney was rebuilt and flashed above the roofline in advance of the roof replacement.

Ken also reports that the next major undertaking is to replace the girt, a key horizontal beam used to connect posts or sills, between the second, and attic floors on the Canterbury side. When that project is out of the way we can begin exterior finish work, especially on the front to include trim, windows, clapboards and then paint the surface. This will greatly improve the appearance of the building. The fields at the Burnham Tavern have yielded what is believed to be an excellent crop of feed corn. Other fields have been hayed once this year.

Kevin Shafer kept up with the mowing of fields that are not under cultivation. He reports the milkweed in the field just off Puppy Lane has not been developing as well as expected and has a plan for improving that field and planting seed at the bottom of the field just across the road from the Tavern.

**Cans and Bottles.** With the shutdown of the redemption centers, our donations remain steady. Although we have seen an uptick in craft beer from around the county, plastic water bottles and soda cans outnumber the national beer brands. This quarter Mountain Dew, cans and bottles, is the all-around winner by volume. Did you know: Mountain Dew, a 19<sup>th</sup> century nickname for moonshine, was born in the foothills of the Smoky Mountains in Tennessee? The beverage was created by brothers Barney and Ally Hartman as a mixer to make whisky taste better, and marketed as a "zero-proof hill-billy moonshine that will tickle yer innards". For additional enlightenment visit [www.appalachianhistory.net](http://www.appalachianhistory.net)

**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, click the link <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/51-0197314> or go to Smile.Amazon.Com.

**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.

## Slater Library News

### Slater Library News and Events

With the holidays fast approaching we are reaching out with a few new Facebook programs that we think will be a treat for all our patrons.

#### Please join us as we **COOK ALONG WITH CHEF ROB SCOTT:**

This series of programs will come to you once a month December 2020, January and February 2021. We will share a link to Simply Creative Chef Rob and a LIVE Facebook feed. Cook along with Chef Rob by picking up an ingredients list and recipe at Slater Library each month or send an email request to: [slaterlibrary@yahoo.com](mailto:slaterlibrary@yahoo.com) and use the subject line "Recipe Request".

Each month the LIVE cooking event will be held and then remain available for at least 2 more weeks if you missed it or need to perfect your recipe!

Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup> @ 12:00 - Holiday Cookie Workshop (Three types of cookie)

Saturday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 3:00 – Winter Food Festival #1 (a full course meal)

Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup> @ 3:00 – Winter Food Festival #2 (a full course meal)

#### Join Mrs. Brown for Craft Time!

Each month as supplies last, we will be handing out craft kits at the library. You can come in the Front Foyer for a kit or request it Curbside. Multiple kits are available so all the children can participate!

Look for Mrs. Brown's HOW TO CRAFT video on our Facebook page.

#### We have Shiny Windows!

Thanks to a wonderful program called the Connecticut Neighborhood Assistance Act we were able to raise funds for a Restoration/Energy Savings Project. The Cooper Group of North Stonington was able to carefully remove the original (1884) windows and restore them to their original beauty. We have a few more steps to the process and the workmen will be continuing this project through the winter.

### New/Safe and OPENING!

We are looking to open more fully with the new year as much as the circumstances will allow. There have been some changes throughout the building to ensure the safety of those visiting as well as our staff. WE will be sporting a new circulation desk (CT. Everyone Learns Grant) and study carrels in the children's area (Jewett City Savings Bank Grant) among other things. Please come visit us inside or curbside!

~ Your Slater Library Family



Lisbon Central School's "Trunk or Treat" was held in Covid-Era style this year as a "Halloween drive-by". This allowed for fun, but safe, social-distancing.





## LISBON FIRE DEPARTMENT

# Annual Santa Parade

\*\*\*Due to Covid-19 gifts will not be accepted this year.\*\*\*

DECEMBER 3RD, 5PM - 9PM OR ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4TH BEFORE 3PM

PLEASE FOLLOW ALL SOCIAL DISTANCING GUIDELINES

**Mask will be required when Santa arrives**

**To conform with social distancing guidelines Santa will be staying on the truck.**

**Fri. Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> at 4:30PM**

138 to River Rd.  
Bushnell Road  
Ross Hill Road Ext.  
Sylvandale Road  
River Rd. (1 - 225)  
Lee Road  
Dogwood Drive  
Kananan Road  
Mell Road  
Blueberry Lane  
Ames Road  
Preston Allen Road  
Kendall Road  
Kendall Road Ext.  
Strnad Road  
Kenyon Road  
McNeeley Road  
Versailles Road  
Paper Mill Road  
Allen Road  
Kinsman Hill Road Ext  
Town House Road

**Sat. Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> at 4:30PM**

138 towards Ross Hill  
Ross Hill Road  
Bayberry Lane  
Strawberry Fields  
Phillips Road  
N. Burnham Hwy (500 - 198)  
Oak Drive  
Harvest Dr.  
Meadowbrook Cir.  
Kimball Road  
Kimball Heights  
Rex Road  
Baron Road  
Regina Drive  
Sullivan Road  
Gavin Way  
Westminster Road  
Inland Road  
Kinsman Hill Road  
N. Burnham Hwy (198-1)  
Autumn View Drive  
Lisbon Heights

**Sun. Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> at 4:30PM**

S. Burnham Hwy to Mell Rd  
Barber Farm  
River Rd (225 - 689)  
Round Hill Court  
Tunnel Hill Rd  
Tunnel Hill Court  
Lower Blissville Rd  
Ice House Rd  
Blissville Rd  
John St  
Jurewicz St  
Club House Rd  
Nora St  
Graham Terrace  
James St  
Bundy Hill  
Lisbon Mobile Park  
Remik Rd  
School House Rd  
South Burnham Hwy  
Ethel Acres  
Laurier Lane  
Rocky Hollow Rd  
South Burnham to Fire House

**For Additional Information or Questions Please Contact**

Lisbon Firehouse 860-376-2558

Matt Babcock 860-608-5044

Jackie Labonne 860-608-3207