December

TIME TO PUT THOSE GARDENS TO BED!
FREE MULCH IS AVAILABLE
AT THE TRANSFER STATION
YOUR BRUSH AND SCCRA'S TUB GRINDER
WORKING TOGETHER
ALLOW US TO PROVIDE THIS PRODUCT TO
YOU
AVAILABLE DURING REGULAR HOURS

There is a mailbox placed up at the
transfer station to be used for worn
and torn Flags. Please place the flags
there; when the mailbox is full the
American Legion Post 85 will remove
them for proper flag disposal.

Veterans Memorial Fund
Presented by American Legion Post 85 Annual Luminary Lighting
Purchase price: $10.00 call or email Post Commander Cathy Osten @ osten16@gmail.com or 860-334-9416.
Luminaries will be placed and illuminated on December 31st, 2019 at the Baltic Veteran’s Memorial Park,
West Main Street, Baltic, CT, Name of the individual to be honored on the luminary along with the branch of
military service will be required.

Caroling Through Sprague

Join us at the Sprague Grist Mill for our annual
caroling through Town. We will stop by the
Shetucket Village. Cookies and cocoa will follow
with a visit from Santa.

Friday, December 13th 5:30pm-7:30pm

Have a happy holiday season!

Newsletter Deadline:
There will be no late submissions accepted for the Our Town.  As a reminder, the Our Town
deadline is the 15th of every month. The newsletter will be collated on Saturday, the 28th of December, for the January
issue, we will meet at the Town Hall at 10 am. Contact Cristian for details. If interested in volunteering email
Cristian @ Spragueourtownnewsletter@gmail.com

OUR TOWN
SERVING THE VILLAGES OF BALTIC, HANOVER, AND VERSAILLES
IN THE BEAUTIFUL SHETUCKET RIVER VALLEY

Information & News for December 2019

Caroling Through Sprague

Join us at the Sprague Grist Mill for our annual
caroling through Town. We will stop by the
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with a visit from Santa.

Friday, December 13th 5:30pm-7:30pm

Have a happy holiday season!
From the Desk of the First Selectman,

The temperature is dropping and the days are getting shorter. The bare trees create a beautiful picture against a colorful sunset.

The Public Works crew is preparing vehicles and sand for the onset of any snowfall or icy weather. They have also been removing the flags from the poles and performing other fall cleanup.

On Veteran’s Day, the American Legion Post 85 held a dedication ceremony for the bronze statue of a female combat soldier at the Memorial Park. It was a very touching gathering. Please stop by to see the beautiful new addition.

If you have any questions or concerns about Town issues, please feel free to call me at 860.822.3000, extension 202 or stop by during Town Hall business hours. Currently the Town Hall is open Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, and Wednesday from 8:00 am to 5:30 pm.

Warm regards,

Cheryl
First Selectman

Sprague Democratic Town Committee December

Dear Sprague Residents,

Thank you for your energetic and enthusiastic participation in the 2019 Municipal elections.

The historic turnout in Sprague symbolizes the great responsibility we are given and the privilege we enjoy of taking our cares and concerns to the ballot box on every Election Day.

While the election did not turn out the way we had envisioned, we congratulate the winners and wish them well and we celebrate the zeal Sprague residents exhibited in participating in the electoral process.

The Sprague Democratic Town Committee
Jack Malone, Chairman; Claire Glaude, Secretary; Jeannette Deschamps, Treasurer, Margaret Becker, Marsha Cirrito, Denise Dembinksi, Pat Deslandes, Austin Deschamps Jr., Dave Giroux, Maria Gladue, Tom Hannon, Liz Lickwola, Cathy Osten, Jen Synnett, Andy Trudelle, Maureen Trudelle & Dick Waterman

Branching Out...

Notes from the Tree Warden

Just a quick note on the progress at the Baltic Reservoir for the ash tree harvest:

The forester should be finished marking all of the ash trees (that will be removed) by the end of November. If you are up around the Reservoir, the trees are marked with orange paint eye high and at the base of the trunk. The good news is there are more ash trees than originally estimated on her initial walk – through. The bad news is the forester found evidence of Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) in the crowns of some of the trees. Consequently, the forester is going to try and get the ash trees harvested this winter while the trees still have value to the mill. Hopefully her efforts to speed up the process will work out in our favor.

Dave Gustafson
Sprague Tree Warden
DECEMBER 7, 2019
ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL ANNUAL CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA

JOIN US FOR A FAMILY NIGHT OF FUN!
FULLY LOADED THEME BASKETS, MUSEUM MEMBERSHIPS,
GIFT CARDS AND MUCH MORE!!!

GO TO OUR FACEBOOK PAGE ST JOSEPH SCHOOL ANNUAL AUCTION/BASKET RAFFLE TO GET A SNEAK PEAK!!
On the evening of Saturday, December 7, the Friends of Troop 19 will hold its annual auction at the Baltic Fire Department. Doors will open at 5:30 for viewing and the auction will commence at 6:30. The auction proceeds will be used to fund the scouting program in Sprague for all of 2020. We use the funds to repair broken equipment, purchase new equipment, maintain the troop cabin, pay for heat and electricity, and assist scouts who cannot afford it to attend camp and participate in our many other activities throughout the year.

It's a great opportunity to support the troop and also find fantastic bargains! And if you have any items that you’d like to donate for us to auction, we’re always willing to come take a look. Please contact me at the email address or phone number below if you have anything of interest to donate.

In the event of inclement weather, the auction will be held the following Saturday, December 14.

We'd also like to thank everyone who donated food during our annual Scouting for Food drive. It was a great success and we appreciate your generosity.

Finally, if you know a youth (boy or girl!) between the ages of 11 and 18 who is interested in developing leadership skills, enjoys camping and hiking, or is interested in community service, we'd love to have them as a member of Troop 19. Contact me for information about meeting times and come out for a visit!

Stuart Woronecki
Scoutmaster, Troop 19 Baltic
860-334-2245
November 5, 2019
Dear Sprague Planning and Zoning Commission members.

It was with a great degree of sadness that I received the news that Mr. Spielman was resigning from the Commission. His resignation was effective on October 16th 2019.

I would think that all present members of the Commission who have served with Art, and those who have served with him on previous iterations of this commission can all agree. His dedication to serving our town was exemplary. Mr. Spielman’s knowledge of previous applications, decisions by the Commission and uses of the various properties in our town was extremely valuable to this commission in its deliberations.

It seems such a short time ago when I joined the Commission, but in reality it has been somewhere around sixteen years. When I began serving our town by volunteering on this commission Mr. Spielman was already a fixture with many years of service. I had wondered how long Art had been with the Commission so I reached out to the Commission’s land use secretary Colette Hoffman to do some detective work. She contacted the Commission’s former chairman Richard Waterman and received this response.

“Rumor has it that Mr. Spielman was born in a corner of the upstairs Courtroom with a manure fork in one hand and a copy of the zoning regulations in the other.”

After some serious bouts of laughter I reached out to Mr. Waterman who graciously let me include his thoughts in this letter. For all those who are still wondering if Art actually was born with the first copy of our towns zoning regulations in his hand, unfortunately that is not true. It turns out Art began his service to the town by serving on this commission on November 7, 1966. That adds up to fifty three years of service.

I’m sure that most residents of our town can tell many stories about Mr. Spielman, as he has been not only a fixture on this commission but around this town as well. I can remember driving by Art’s farm on many an occasion when my youngest son was still little. We would moo to the cows as we drove by. One day he saw all the baby cows in their pens and wanted to see them. We stopped, knocked on Art’s door and showing the gracious character that all whom have know him can testify to, he not only let my son see the cows but gave him a tour of the milking operation, filled a giant baby bottle with milk and let him feed the baby cows. The smile on my son’s face was priceless.

Mr. Spielman’s dedication to this commission has been priceless as well. I’m sure every member of this commission and commissions past would join me in saying a heartfelt Thank You to Art for his service, good nature, and knowledge.

Sincerely,

Sandor Bittman

Sprague Housing Authority Commissioner Vacancy
Sprague Housing Authority is accepting applications for a Commissioner’s vacancy.
* Meetings are quarterly throughout the year *
Please send a letter to Housing if you are interested. You can drop off/mail to our address at the Town Hall:
Sprague Housing Authority
P.O. Box 162
Baltic, CT 06330

Sprague Housing Authority
Shetucket Village Accepting Applications
Requirements: Applicants must be 62 years of age and/or disabled
No Smoking; No Pets Allowed
Please call 860-822-1512 for applications to be sent
December 2019

Weekly Drop-in Programs (no registration required)

TUESDAYS at 10:30am – Children’s Story Time It’s never too soon to bring your younger to the library! Join us for age-appropriate stories, early literacy activities, and social time. Recommended for children up to age 5, but older siblings always welcome!

WEDNESDAYS at 12:00pm – Crochet & Knitters’ Club Want to learn or like to knit? Join our skein-ful group. It won’t take long to get you hooked! Help is always available...

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3rd at 4:00pm – Afternoon Delight Book Club: The Wedding by Nicholas Sparks. Put a little “spark” in your life and join us for a friendly conversation of this month’s selection. Books available at the library to check out. All are welcome!

Family Holiday Craft Program
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11th at 6:00pm

DIY Holiday Drink Coasters
Perfect for teachers or as a hostess gift – surprisingly simple yet thoughtfully unique! We’ll provide everything you need from start to finish. Be sure to register so we can reserve your spot!

Sock Snowman & Cinnamon Ornaments
Bring the kids to create some holiday cheer! We’ll keep them busy with 2 fun projects while you enjoy some adult crafting time yourself. Projects suitable for all ages and help available for youngsters.

Stories with Mrs. Claus
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17th at 6:30pm

A SPL tradition! Once again, we’ll be decking the halls and rolling out the red and green carpet for Mrs. Claus and her very special guest. Join us for cocoa, carols, and a few holiday stories, just be-claus! Be sure to charge your cameras and bring your Christmas lists.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 30th from 10:00-12:00pm – Ozobot Trivia Drop in to play a trivia game ozobot style!

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8th at 6:00pm – Non-fiction Book Club - Christmas: A Biography by Judith Flanders. Save the date to join us for an after-holiday discussion of one historian’s picture of seasonal myths, legends, and traditions as it’s never been told before.

The library will be closed for the holidays on Tuesday, December 24th, Wednesday, December 25th, & Wednesday, January 1st. We will also close early at 4pm Tuesday, December 31st. During inclement weather, the library follows Sayles School for all closing and delays.
SPRAGUE SENIOR CENTER

Join us by stopping in or calling Buddy Meadows (Coordinator/Municipal Agent) at 860-822-3000, ext. 203. Buddy can also be reached by email: seniorcenter@ctsprague.org.

Requirement: age *55 and over*

Might you be interested in one or all offered: health services, programs, trips, informational presentations, luncheons, and more?

Transportation is available to attend Senior Center lunches, shopping, and senior events as well as medical appointments.

Lunch is served at the Senior Center at 11:45 am on Monday, Tuesday & Thursday. Brunch is available on Wednesdays. The third Wednesday is a Special Celebration Meal. Make a reservation by calling 860-822-3000 ext. 245 or ext. 203. You must be age 60.

TVCCA “Meals on Wheels” program delivers hot meals (to the homebound) Monday through Thursday. Call the TVCCA Senior Nutrition Program at 860-886-1720.

Chorus – visiting various places with an hour program

All Occasion Card Making – December 3rd 10 – 11:30 am

Library on premises – either just take a book or exchange for one

Movie shown at Senior Center on December 18th 12:30 PM – No fee charged

No Monthly Meeting in December

Come in to see what the Center is all about and we encourage recommendations.

SAYLES SCHOOL EIGHTH GRADE PRESENTS OUR WINTER BASKET BASH

VIEWING TIME: 5:30-7:00

DATE: DECEMBER 6, 2019

COST: Tickets are $5.00 for 20

PLACE: SAYLES SCHOOL GYM
25 SCOTLAND RD. BALTIC, CT

Thank you for supporting the class of 2020!
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<th>Monday</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fresh Orange Juice, Zucchini &amp; Carrots, 8oz</td>
<td>Broccoli, Rice Pilaf w/ Broccoli, 8oz</td>
<td>Apple Cider &amp; Caramel Apple, 8oz</td>
<td>Green Beans, Sausage, 8oz</td>
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**Notes:**
- All meals are served with milk and whole grain bread.
- The menu is subject to change.
- Please call 540-888-7120 for more information.

**Contact Information:**
- TCVA Senior Nutrition Program
- 816 Old Mine Road
- Bristow, VA 20136
- Phone: 540-888-7120
Ads must be pre-purchased at rates of: Business Card $21; Double Business Card $40; Half Page $70; Full Page $100. Purchase 11 months and receive the 12th month free. All payments for ads are made in the Town Clerk’s Office at Town Hall. All payments must be made prior to the submission deadline. All ads must be emailed to the editor by the 15th of the month @ Spragueourtownnewsletter@gmail.com

Personal and Commercial Vehicles
All Makes and Models
Foreign and Domestic
Certified CT Emissions Repair Technician

4 Rachel Drive, Bozrah
M-F 8am-5pm
860-213-5914

Bozrah Auto Repair Center
David Wigfield, Jr
Owner/Operator: ASE Certified with over 20 years experience

LOCAL LISTINGS

SOLD IN 10 DAYS

SOLD IN 10 DAYS

WILLIAM RAVEIS
REAL ESTATE • MORTGAGE • INSURANCE
The Largest Family-Owned Real Estate Company in the Northeast

SOLD IN 10 DAYS

SOLD IN 10 DAYS

DONALD BOUSHEE
157 West Main St, Niantic, CT 06357 | Email: Don.Boushee@raveis.com
YOU COULD BE NEXT. GIVE ME A CALL
860-772-6050
$50 OFF
Any Seal Coating Job

• Licensed and Insured
• Free Estimates
• Locally Owned
• Owner Operators

$100 OFF
Any Driveway Installation

HASTEDT BROS. LLC
ASPHALT PAVING
860.848.0545
Baltic CT

ANDY’S CELL: 860.234.3541  JOE’S CELL: 860.234.3543
Email: estimates@hastedtbrothers.com  Web: www.hastedtbrothers.com

DRIVEWAYS * PARKING LOTS * GRADING * CRUSHED STONE * OIL AND STONE DRIVEWAYS * ALL TYPES OF DRAINAGE WORK * APRONS * CURBING *
LINE STRIPING * SEAL COATING * CRACK FILLING
## BUS SCHEDULE FROM SPRAGUE TO OCCUM

### Points of Departure to Occum

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points of Departure to Occum</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>Shetucket Village</td>
<td>7:45am</td>
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<td>11:45am</td>
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<td>Playground</td>
<td>7:48am</td>
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<td>Brookside &amp; High Street</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11:48am</td>
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<td>TJ’s Parking Lot</td>
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<td>11:50am</td>
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<td>Arrive Occum - SEAT Connection Site</td>
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<td>Red McKeon Park, Hooper St. &amp; Rte. 97</td>
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<td>12:10am</td>
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### Points of Departure to Sprague

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<tr>
<th>Points of Departure to Sprague</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>Red McKeon Park, Hooper St. &amp; Rte. 97 (stop as needed for return trip)</td>
<td>8:15am</td>
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<td>10:15am</td>
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<td>12:15pm</td>
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<td>Express Return to Senior Center</td>
<td>2:15pm</td>
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Times are approximate and may vary several minutes earlier or later. Service runs Monday through Thursday except for holidays. For more information call Buddy Meadows, Sprague Senior Center Coordinator at 860-822-3000 ext. 203. The Sprague to Occum Bus is a courtesy of the Town of Sprague and the Sprague Senior Center. For seat schedule visit [www.seatbus.com](http://www.seatbus.com). Winter Weather Schedule: The bus will follow the school closure schedule during the winter. Watch early morning television on Channel 3, 8 or 30 for closures.

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### Sprague Historical Society 2020 Birthday and Anniversary Calendar.

If you have not submitted your order yet, please do so immediately.

Fill out the form below with the names and dates of people you’d like to see in the calendar.

- Birthdays and anniversaries - $1.00 each; Calendar - $5.00 each
- Send this form and your donation to: “Sprague Historical Society” P.O. Box 162- Baltic, CT 06330.

Calendars will be available for pick up at Town Hall in December. You’ll be notified when they’re ready. Please support the Sprague Historical Society. Place your calendar order today.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Person ordering:</th>
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(B) Birthdays -------- @ $1.00 ea

(A) Anniversaries  @ $1.00 ea

Calendars  @ $5.00 ea

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<td>2 Inland Wetlands 7 pm, Town Hall  Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 pm Town Hall</td>
<td>3 American Legion 7 pm, Sprague Rod &amp; Gun Club</td>
<td>4 Garden Club 6:30 pm, Town Hall  P&amp;Z Comm. 7 pm, Town Hall  Knights of Columbus, 7 pm Baltic Fire House</td>
<td>5 Regional Animal Control Mtg 10:30 am, Franklin Town Hall</td>
<td>6 Winter Basket Bash Sayles School 5:30 pm</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10 Library Bd. Mtg., 6:30 pm, Grist Mill</td>
<td>11 Board of Selectmen, 7 pm, Town Hall  BOE, 6 pm Sayles School</td>
<td>12 Housing Authority 7 pm, Sr. Center</td>
<td>13 Christmas Caroling 5:30pm - 7:30pm Grist Mill  Sayles School Who-liday Celebration 6 pm</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>16 Deadline for all OUR TOWN Submissions</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18 Water &amp; Sewer Auth., 4 pm, Town Hall</td>
<td>19 Board of Finance 7 pm, Town Hall  Rec. Comm. Mtg, 8 pm, Senior Ctr</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>23 Hanukkah Begins Winter Begins</td>
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<td>25 Christmas Eve  Christmas Day</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>31 Veteran Luminaries Lighting</td>
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<td>31 New Year’s Eve</td>
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Note from the Editor: Elizabeth Calderon

The deadline for Our Town submissions (and corresponding payments for ads) is the 15th of each month. Submissions will be no more than 200 words and must be e-mailed to spragueourtownnewsletter@gmail.com. No series will be accepted. Longer articles may be submitted and used based on room at the Editor’s discretion. The focus of Our Town is community events, articles, commission notes and other items of town-wide interest. Annual budget considerations may affect page appropriations. Ads have no restriction on word limit and must be pre-purchased at rates of: Business Card $21; Double Business Card $40; Half Page $70; Full Page $100. Purchase 11 months and receive the 12th month free. All payments for ads are made in the Town Clerk’s Office at Town Hall. Sprague~ Our Town is a free monthly publication of the Town of Sprague, serving the communities of Baltic, Hanover & Versailles. Primarily funded by the Town, support is also provided by paid advertisements. Opinions expressed in Sprague~ Our Town are not necessarily those of town officials or the community at large, but solely reflect those of the writer. Submissions may be edited for clarity and formatted as necessary. Libelous or obscene materials are not permitted.