



## REMINDERS

### 1. Next General Meeting –

February 8 at the Senior Center.

Anyone who wishes can come any time from 5:30 on. Those who are bringing exhibits should be there no later than

5:45. The general meeting will start at 6:00.

### Hostesses-

Denise Rod,  
Donna Mikiaszewski,  
Nancy Scallion,  
Elaine Sullivan

**(It would be helpful to have a small notecard on the table to identify your appetizer or dessert)**

### 2. February 23

Board meeting  
5:30 – 7:30  
Gathering Room

## *Town & Country Garden Club*

### *Newtown Connecticut*

*Member of The Federated Garden Clubs of CT, Inc.*

*New England Garden Clubs, Inc. and National Garden Clubs, Inc*

*December 2022/ January 2023*



### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Dear Town & Country members:

Welcome Back, fellow gardeners. (even when it's cold and the ground is frozen, we are still "Gardeners." We're still passionate about it, always wishing and willing to learn more about it, and looking forward to getting back to it ! Even though there's snow and ice and the months are LONG, we are still thinking and advocating for our environment and the conservation of it. And even though the Holidays kept us busy and tired, we still found time for our friends and fellow club members - - and were there enthusiastically for those who needed us. And I, for one, want to simply say that it warms my heart to see how much we care about one another. So, welcome back! I hope you all had wonderful holidays and that 2023 is everything you want it to be.

We have some more interesting programs coming up in the next four months before the end of the Fiscal year. On February 8, (a month where we have frequently had to cancel speakers and meetings due to inclement weather), we stayed local and invited the President of the Pootatuck

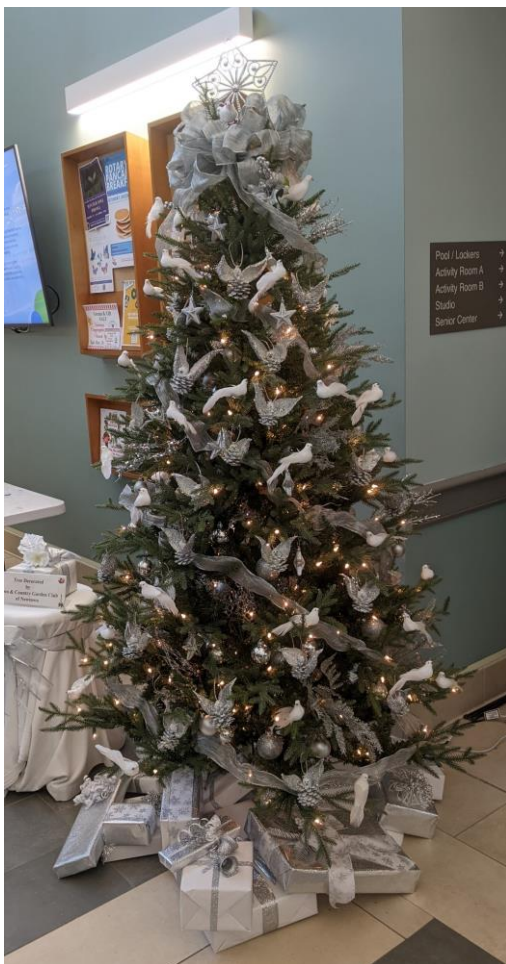
Watershed Association, Randy Walker, to share what they do to raise awareness of water quality and supply issues. In March, "Backyard Birds & Wildlife Gardening" will help us to transform our property into a safe place for birds and wildlife to nest and raise their young and shelter from predators.

AND, in addition (while we learn) we'll be able to socialize and enjoy a (bring your own) glass of wine or other alcoholic beverage as the Board recently approved that request. Of course, coffee, tea, water, appetizers and dessert will still be available and supplied by the club. So, for now, let's enjoy each other and learn and plan so that we'll be ready when Spring finally comes around. 🍷👍

*Chris Lincoln*

## HOLIDAY TREE AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER

The tree committee was led by Jane Vouros. The members who worked on the tree were Alexis Capaido, Jan Gardner, Emi Lydem, Lilleba Peterson, Lina Williams, Peg Fillion, Betsy Reichert, Denise Rod, Barbara O'Connor, and Barbara McCann.



Barbara McCann reported that the committee met on November 16<sup>th</sup> at Planters Choice to refurbish the 26 angel ornaments which inspired the theme for the tree this year – “26 Angels” – in memory of the lives lost in the Sandy Hook tragedy 10 years ago. The tree was then set up and decorated at 3:00 pm in the Community Center’s main area on Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>, prior to the town Tree Lighting in Ram’s Pasture.

# Holiday Get Together Wednesday, December 7 at the Newtown Country Club.

## PICTURES FOR "SENIOR" PEOPLE

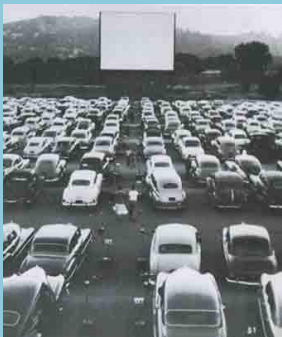
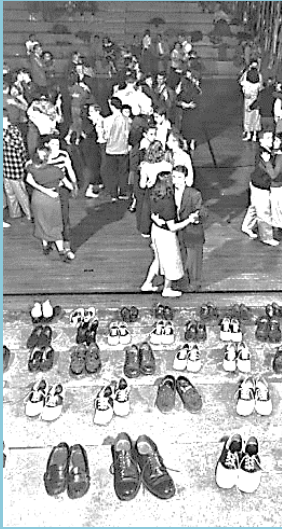
**WARNING:**  
If you are not a senior don't bother to look at these pictures because you will not understand.





## REMOVAL OF CABBAGES/CLEAN UP ISLAND 3

Jan, Arline, and their husbands were out one day at the beginning of January to clean up Island 3 and remove the cabbages.



If you remember most of these –You (like me) must be really old . Spread the laughter, share the cheer, Let's be happy while we're still here!!!  
*(Found and shared by Arline)*



## PROGRAM

Randy Walker from the Pootatuck Watershed Association has agreed to come and speak at our February 8 meeting.

In 2006 several oil and pesticide spills at Fairfield Hills impacted Deep Brook. He is trying to raise awareness of water quality and supply issues plus advocate for sustainable land use practices.



## DESIGN FEBRUARY 8 GENERAL MEETING

There are no design exhibits listed in our handbook for the February 8 meeting, because it was planned as a workshop night. The workshop was changed to February 1 with instruction on Line Design or Mass Line Design. We are hoping participants will bring in something reflecting what they learned at the WORKSHOP to the February meeting. For those that did not attend the workshop you can also bring in a Line Design or Line Mass Design. There will be no Horticulture this month.

**Line Design** -One-dimensional visual path through design. Line direction may be vertical, horizontal, diagonal, or circular. The arrangements are characterized by restraint in the quantity of plant materials used, with an emphasis on the beauty of individual blooms or foliage.



**Line Mass Design** -The dominant line is combined with a mass of plant material at the focal area; additional material is used to enhance and develop the linear shapes.





MARIANNE  
MUSKUS

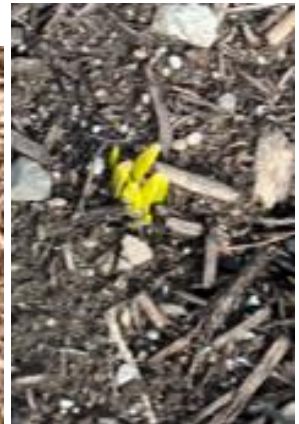
September 21, 1929 –  
January 8, 2023

We will have a short memorial for Marianne after our February 8 meeting, so please bring your memories and stories to share.

Arline Shanley has these snowdrops blooming in her yard.



Gail Diminico noticed these first signs of life on Island I, can spring be far behind?



Barbara O'Connor is enjoying time with her four great-grandchildren.

## OUR SPONSORS



**(203) 755-2214**  
**25 Obtuse**  
**Road, South**  
**Brookfield, CT**  
**06804**

### *Shakespeare's* GARDEN

When we drive by Shakespeare's Garden this month, we do not see the gorgeous colorful hanging baskets that we usually see, or the spectacular top-of-the-line containers filled with a blend of cascading flowers that are so irresistible. In fact, it's pretty bare outside and looks as though the business is closed for the winter. But it's NOT ! Shakespeare's is staying open all winter long with good prices on their healthy house plants, enticing (and rare) succulents and unusual Barn Shop gifts. Winter hours are M-F, 9:00-5:00 and Sat. & Sun. from 9:00-4:00. Spring & Summer hours will commence again in the beginning of March.

Take a ride up if you need a lift - - add a plant or succulent to your décor - - or to buy a gift for yourself or a friend. I promise, even now, in the cold, it'll raise your spirits.

Needless to say, Shakespeare's Garden is the first place I go to at the very first sign of Spring - - it gives me a much-needed BOOST, ignites my imagination, inspires my creativity, washes away the winter slump and "Jump-Starts" me into a more motivated, excited, enthusiastic self.



Steve & Mark Fancher, owners, (above) and their talented staff do it ALL and do it WELL. Undoubtedly, Heads & Shoulders about the rest. They do it with flowers, shrubs, trees, a profusion of color, originality, ingenuity and a wealth of experience and vision. It doesn't come easily, and they don't take it lightly - - it comes only after many years of drive and hard work.

*It's called EXCELLENCE !*

Chris Lincoln





**203) 426-0805**  
**97 South Main**  
**Street**  
**Newtown, CT**

Well, they did it again! Sal e Pepe's restaurant, once again, received the very distinguished and enviable recognition of being 2023's "Best Italian Restaurant" in the entire state of Connecticut. This Readers' Choice, renowned annual award through CT Magazine speaks (shouts!) loudly as it encompasses thousands of in-the-know expert voters and thousands of well-known and first-rate restaurants. And, simply put, the reason why is - - EXCELLENCE!

**CONGRATULATIONS to them. Very well deserved!**

A couple of notable changes have been incorporated and more will soon be publicized. Due to staffing issues, and in order to offer even better dinner service, Sal e Pepe is no longer open for lunch, except on Saturday. But, though it's still in the works (and a "secret"), there will soon be some popular additions made to their menu. Specifically, a Pastabilities menu will be available where you can practically create your own pasta dish from delicious selections.

All of this success and recognition has not come easily and is not taken lightly. It comes from drive and many years of hard work by Angelo, owner, and his, wife, Renia, part owner, who serves Newtown in another capacity, as well - - as an experienced, energetic, active, and ethical realtor with Coldwell Banker, on Church Hill Road. Angelo and Renia are grateful for their community's enthusiastic support, and in turn, they support the Newtown community in countless ways, enthusiastically.



The holidays are over! it's cold! we need a break! make a reservation, today...

*Chris Lincoln*



Meet our  
President

**FGCCT**  
**President**  
**Polly Brooks**  
**(2021 – 2023)**

First Vice  
President  
**Karin Pyskaty**

Second Vice  
President  
**Nan Merolla**

Recording  
Secretary  
**Kathy Feller**

Treasurer  
**Shirley Hall**

Corresponding  
Secretary  
**Lynda Brown**

Finance Officer  
**Terry Lubman**

Parliamentarian  
**Jean Stetz-  
Puchalski**



The  
**Federated Garden Clubs**  
*of Connecticut, Inc.*

## Upcoming State Events :



1.

### [41st Annual CT Flower Show](#)

**February 23 • 10:00 am - February 26 • 7:00 pm**

*CT Convention Center, [+ Google Map](#)*

### 2. [‘New Perennials: A Love Story’ – CT Horticultural Society](#)

**February 16 • 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm**

This event is presented via Zoom. Members will receive a link for the presentation.

## Events Around Us:

### 1. [‘The Selection and Care of Houseplants’: North Haven Garden Club](#)

**February 9 • 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm**

*North Haven Congregational Church, [+ Google Map](#)*

### 2. [‘Garden Jeopardy’ – Pomperaug Valley Garden Club](#)

**February 14 • 11:00 am - 12:30 pm**

*Emergency Services Building, [+ Google Map](#)*

### 3. [Starting a Garden: Daytime Gardeners of North Haven](#)

**February 28 • 11:00 am - 12:00 pm**

*North Haven Recreation Center, [+ Google Map](#)*