



Lordship Fathers' Club

21 1/2 Prospect Drive - Lordship

www.lordshipfathersclub.com

Since 1947



E-NEWSLETTER ON-LINE EDITION

WINTER 2013

CALENDAR

Meetings

First Wednesday
of every month
LFC Clubhouse
8:00pm
FEB 6th
MAR 6th
APR 3rd
MAY 1st

LORDSHIP SMARTS

FEBRUARY 1ST
6:00pm
LORDSHIP SCHOOL
REGISTRATION DUE
JANUARY 24th

DODGEBALL

FEBRUARY 15th
LORDSHIP SCHOOL
6pm-8pm

EASTER EGG HUNT

SATURDAY
MARCH 23rd
1:00pm
ON THE BLUFFS
VICTORIA LAWN
rain date
MARCH 24th

6th GRADE SPELLING BEE

End of May
Date TBD

LFC 23rd ANNUAL SANTA BREAKFAST

Breakfast with Santa, held Saturday December 15th at Our Lady of Peace Hall was well attended with many families and children of all ages. Santa was thrilled to see so many of the good children from Lordship this year. Santa enjoyed talking with more than 150+ children, and the children were not hesitant to share their most desired Christmas wishes as they posed for a



few photos. We all enjoyed an abundance of pancakes and hot chocolate courtesy of the excellent breakfast chef volunteers from the Lordship Fathers' Club. We each appreciated the neighborhood gathering and sharing the holiday spirit.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

LORDSHIP SMARTS

On February 1st at the Lordship School from 6-8pm, the Lordship Fathers' Club will be sponsoring an ALL Lordship Science Fair entitled **LORDSHIP SMARTS**. The science fair is offered to any student, grades K-12 whose family resides in Lordship, or attends Lordship School. All students who participate in LORDSHIP SMARTS will receive a participation certificate, and prizes will be awarded to the top three exhibits in each of the following categories: **Invention, Science through Art, Scientific Experiment, and Scientific Display.**

For information on how to create a project for the exposition, or to download a copy of the **LORDSHIP SMARTS** handbook visit the LFC website or click here: [LORDSHIP SMARTS](#)

Students are reminded that **Registration forms are due** to the Lordship Fathers' Club or Lordship School by **January 24th**

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HOLIDAY LIGHTING CONTEST

This year's annual holiday lighting contest was held the week before Christmas 2012. The top three winners were:

- The Squarciafico Family, 330 Second Avenue
- The Puerta & Tomassini Family, 431 Washington Pkwy
- The Nuzzo Family, 985 Stratford Road

The community appreciates how much energy each family puts into sharing the festive spirit with all of us to enjoy as we stroll around Lordship during the holidays. Each winner received a gift basket of assorted items from the club, elegantly crafted by Karen Tomscheck. Each year's winners are excluded from the next three years of competition; so be ready for next season as your decorative efforts could place you in the winner's circle.

Most importantly thanks to all of this year's Lordship residents for the effort you spend in decorating your home exteriors; it certainly makes our holiday season merrier.



LORDSHIP PICNIC SAT. JUNE 29th

With winter season now in full blustery chill, is it too early to begin thinking about warm weather and The Lordship Fathers' Club's annual Beach picnic? An estimated 200 Lordship residents attended the event on the bluffs last year, where warm sunny skies prevailed.

There was plenty of good summer barbeque food, cool beverages and games for the children to enjoy. The Lordship Fathers' Club Sunshine Committee held its annual raffle, giving away prizes to ten lucky winners all whom resided here in Lordship. Be sure to capture your chance to win a prize this summer when Raffle tickets go on sale this spring.



HOLIDAY DECORATIONS

Were you considering replacing some of your old Holiday Decorations this year? The Lordship Fathers' Club could possibly use a few additional Holiday props for the Breakfast with Santa Photo Booth next year. If you think you may have an item which could add to our Santa Breakfast photo booth, contact FL290@optonline.net



FRIEND US ON FACEBOOK!



The Lordship Fathers' Club has established a Facebook page. Friend us today to stay connected with upcoming LFC events.

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

During this fall's first- ever fundraiser, the LFC Sunshine Committee sold over 700 daffodil flower bulbs in time for fall planting to residents around Lordship. When the flowers bloom next spring, those who purchased bulbs will be the envy of their block, proudly displaying their support of the LFC! The Sunshine Committee wishes to thank everyone in the community who supported its effort and wish to announce they do intend to sell again next fall with a mixed variety of bulbs.



The Sunshine Committee will use the funds raised from its fall bulb sale to expand its reach into the Lordship Community. Several 'Rays of Sunshine' were delivered this year, including committee-made baby quilts for the smallest Lordship residents and welcome baskets to new neighbors who have recently joined our community.

Those of you familiar with the LFC Sunshine Committee understand its dedication to establishing a network of friendly volunteers in our community, extending cheer on special occasions, and encouragement during times of need. The Committee recognizes the significance of bringing neighbors and generations together within our community by reaching out and reminding Lordship residents that they are cared for. Click here to request a [Ray of Sunshine](#) for a member of our Lordship Community.

This group never hesitates to participate in Lordship Fathers' Club events, including the Halloween Parade, Beach Picnic, and Easter Egg Hunt. The Committee typically gathers once a month, planning an assortment of events, such as gathering their families in December for ice skating, and, last fall, enjoying a 'Girls Night Out' to celebrate the birthday of a Committee member. The Fathers' Club appreciates all of the contributions and energy The Sunshine Ladies bring to the community.





LFC MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

We would like to thank all who participated in our Fall Membership Drive, including those who earned a **Limited Edition LFC sticker** by contributing \$1 for each year we've been serving Lordship....(\$65). Your membership allows us to continue enriching the social well being of Lordship's youth, and provide a focal point for community based activities.

The Lordship Fathers Club appreciates your tax deductible membership contribution allowing the club to continue to enrich the social welfare and support the education of Lordship's youth. The LFC was formed in 1947 to help the children of Lordship either directly or through the schools. Membership is open to men and women interested in supporting our programs or becoming more involved in the Lordship community. You are encouraged to join us at meetings (first Wednesday of every month @ 8pm) where you're invited to help coordinate upcoming children events.

LORDSHIP EASTER EGG HUNT

The Lordship Fathers Club will host its annual Easter Egg Hunt at the base of Victoria Lawn on Saturday March 23rd at 1:00pm (weather permitting). This is one of our most popular events so be sure to bring your Easter Basket and hunt for eggs on the Bluffs and exchange one for a chocolate Easter bunny delight. Rain date will be Sunday March 24th at 1pm.



LFC E-NEWSLETTER

For those who have been receiving the Lordship Fathers Club Newsletter for years and appreciate its content, you will be pleased to learn that the Fall and Spring issues will continue to arrive via regular mail. The summer and winter online E-Newsletters will include photos, and interactive web links which might be of interest to those in our community. By updating your email address with the LFC via our website, you may be included in these e-newsletters and added to our growing list of subscribers. Visit the LFC homepage to subscribe, or click here to start receiving LFC E-newsletters and updates: [Join our Mailing List](#)

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN LORDSHIP?

What's going on in Lordship? With a multitude of groups now actively participating in the online calendar found on the Lordship Fathers Club website, it's easier now more than ever to see what's happening in our community. The calendar currently includes events hosted by the LFC, SAIL, LIA, Lordship PTA, and PYE. The calendar also incorporates the Lordship School calendar and additional events which may be of interest to Lordship residents. If you have an event which Lordship residents should be aware of, and would like to have it added to the calendar, contact: MJS1995@optonline.net

Lordship Community Calendar
 **** UNOFFICIAL CALENDAR OF LORDSHIP EVENTS ****
 June 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 Lordship Feedback to Board	28 Memorial Day Lordship School Closed	29	30 6 pm - 8 pm Lordship PTA, Family Pasta Night, Fundraiser	31	June 1	2
3	4	5	6 8 pm - 9 pm PAC Monthly Meeting	7 7 pm - 8 pm LFC Supervision Committee Meeting	8	9 8 am - 12 pm SAIL Family Marsh Walk Lodge Meeting 10 am - 2 pm Lordship School PTA Book Sale
10	11	12 8 pm - 7:30 pm SAIL Meeting 7:30 pm - 9 pm LFC Sunshine Committee meeting	13 7 pm - 9 am Lordship Improvement Association Meeting - Sunlighthouse	14 Flag Day	15 8 pm - 10 pm LFC Star Captain on the tour	16 8 am - 12 pm Lordship School Bottle and Can Drive
17 Father's Day	18 7 pm - 11 am LFC committee meeting	19	20 Lordship School Forecast Last Day of School	21 7 pm - 8 pm Lordship PTA Monthly Meeting	22	23 8 am - 2 pm SAIL Golf Day
24 9 am - 2 pm SAIL School Project to restore Gregg Ackley Park	25	26	27	28	29	30

QUESTIONS CONCERNING THIS CALENDAR CONTACT: MJS1995@OPTONLINE.NET

The **UNOFFICIAL LORDSHIP CALENDAR** can be found on the LFC website or clicking here: [Unofficial Lordship Calendar](#)

ANNUAL FISHING DERBY

Some would say the best fishing of the season is between late summer though early fall. With the temperatures and mosquitoes tapering off, the Lordship Fathers Club hosted its annual Fishing Derby on the morning of September 15th. A wide variety of sea creatures were landed this year on Russian Beach. LFC VP Mark Cody, along with other parents, helped children bait hooks and measure the catch through the early morning, which saw favorable tide and weather conditions. Six year old Zohar Rosenberg won first prize for bringing in a 19" bluefish. Several honorable mentions go to other young fishermen who enjoyed bringing their catch ashore: Zack Levine, Zackery Macial, Ceili Roberts, Mia Butkovsky, Nico Cody, and Chris Ottowell. See you next fall on the beach, and don't forget to bring your lucky lure.



LFC ANNUAL HALLOWEEN PARADE

With Hurricane Sandy sliding up the East Coast, many Lordship trick-or-treaters participated in the Lordship Fathers Club longest-running event. The Halloween Parade held on Saturday October 27th at the Lordship School baseball field (directly behind the Fathers Club Clubhouse) was creepy, kooky and all together spooky; there were witches, fairies, ghosts, ghouls and adorably dressed toddlers.

Thanks to the Sunshine Committee, this year's parade featured a variety of pre-parade activities including, face painting, fortune telling, guessing jars, haunted boxes, spooky music and plenty of Halloween treats. The neighborhood thanks the ladies of the LFC Sunshine Committee who contributed tremendously to the events overwhelming success. With more than 100 kids in costume the judges had plenty of deliberation in determining the top three in each of the following categories: scariest, funniest, most original, cutest, and best group. When Hurricane Sandy, cancelled, postponed, and then delayed the traditional Halloween festivities for more than a week, neighbors from Lordship were glad the children had an opportunity that Saturday afternoon to gather as a community and strut their Halloween garb.



UPDATE FROM PYE

Protect Your Environment of Stratford would like remind everyone about Project Green Sweep in Stratford which will take place on Saturday April 27th. The Sweep is a town wide clean-up of all public areas. Please mark your calendars to help beautify our town especially after storm Sandy. Choose an area or call town hall to find a place. Clean-up materials will be provided. Call your friends, pick an area and make a difference. Additionally, PYE would like to share a link to the updated PYE website: www.pyestratfordct.org where members of the community can sign-up to receive updates or review recent news regarding the environment here in Stratford.

LIA UPDATE

Russian Beach Dune Replenishment Project: The Lordship Improvement Association is working with the Town of Stratford on a project to use discarded Christmas trees as snow fences to help build up the sand dunes at Russian Beach. We will need plenty of volunteers and anyone with experience in this type of a project. Work will be on Saturdays at 10am beginning January 12. Volunteers are asked to dress warmly, bring work gloves and meet at the Bluff in front of Laurel Street. The Town of Stratford will provide the Christmas trees. For additional upcoming LIA projects involving Russian Beach, please visit the website at: <http://www.lordshipct.org/>

LORDSHIP PTA NEWS

The Lordship PTA is excited to announce that Lordship School has submitted 16 entries for the Reflections Program. The Reflections Program is a National PTA sponsored Program to encourage student creativity and self-expression through the arts. This year's theme is "the Magic of a Moment." There are six categories which consist of literature, musical composition, dance choreography, film production, photography, and visual arts. The PTA will display our students' submissions throughout the school; participating and in addition will be rewarded with an ice cream social. Winners of the contest will then move on to the state level with an opportunity to be recognized nationally. We are so proud of our students and we wish them good luck as they go on through the judging process!

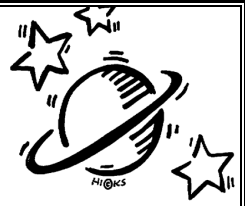
ANOTHER POST-TROPICAL WHAT?

Public schools were closed most of the week and Halloween delayed as Lordship hunkered down for Super Storm Sandy during the last week of October. Reaching the Lordship shoreline, as a "Post-Tropical Cyclone" which in weather forecasting speak, is code for - fill the generator, cleanout the basement, and call the roofing contractor. Nothing 'Super' about Sandy which left us with flooding of epic proportions, filling basements with seawater, heaved sand around the neighborhood, caused havoc to the Short Beach Golf Course and split open the Sea Wall.



The record-breaking storm surge left Lordship beaches in shambles with varying degrees of flooding and erosion, and still in need of repair and clean-up months after the storm. With the Sikorsky Memorial Airport mostly underwater, including the runway and several hangars, the airport was closed for days and some navigation aids and runway signage still remain inoperative. Some planes were totaled by insurance companies as the corrosive salt water left more than 10 airframes with the fate of needing to be entirely re-skinned, which can exceed beyond their economic value. There was no shortage of sparks generated from downed power lines throughout Stratford, leaving 11,000+ without power, but fortunately they did not ignite flames endangering people or property. Environmentally, Sandy dramatically altered many beaches and other parts of the landscape along Connecticut coastline including sweeping oysters to new locations, potentially killing the shellfish. The extent of damage to shellfish beds caused by the storm surge and the sewage discharges led to a ban on shell fishing in many areas. A full assessment of how Sandy damaged the environment may not be known for months, but destruction on land from ruptured oil tanks, sewage treatment problems, and floating debris into open waters certainly affects the water quality. Beyond property damage, one of the biggest impacts near Lordship from storms like these is on the beaches and the barrier island system, where many shorebirds and other animals depend on for survival. Believe it or not, Lordship has not received a direct hit in recent hurricanes, but it doesn't mean we haven't felt the sting these massive storms leave behind. It would be a refreshing New Year's resolution to not engage in anything 'record-breaking' for 2013, unless, of course, it's referencing a Lordship native capturing acclaim in a Yo-Yo, Juggling, Pole-sitting, or cup-stacking contest. Good Luck!

LORDSHIP FATHERS' CLUB presents



LORDSHIP SMARTS

February 1st, 2013 Exposition of **SCIENCE, MATH, & ARTS**
LORDSHIP SCHOOL 6PM-8PM

REGISTRATION form
due JANUARY 24th



Top Ten Reasons To Participate in the LFC Science, Math and Art Exposition

10. Meet students with shared interest!
9. Have fun!
8. Learn a ton!
7. So you won't think relative humidity refers to your sweaty cousin!
6. Because learning about magnets is a real attraction!
5. How else are you going to become a famous inventor?
4. So you know that a periodic table isn't found at a local furniture store!
3. To learn that atoms and molecules really matter!
2. So that you learn that gravity is a subject that should not be taken lightly!
1. When your parents ask you to clean your room, you can respond, "But it's my Science Project for the LORDSHIP SMARTS EXPO!"

Open to ALL Lordship Students Grade Levels K-12

Four categories of participation: Scientific Experiment, Science in Art, Scientific/Mathematical Display, Invention

**For information on how to create a project for the exposition,
or to download a copy of the LORDSHIP SMARTS handbook
visit the LFC website at: www.lordshipfathersclub.com**

LORDSHIP HISTORY

There have been many stories of Captain William Kidd burying treasure in Lordship between 1698 and 1699. People have searched for his treasure on Lordship's Long Beach (now Pleasure Beach). Point-No-Point (the Seawall) and at Stratford Point. The largest occurred in 1855. The Spiritualists of Bridgeport, Huntington, and Stratford, gathered a hundred or more strong, and dug for thirty days in search of Captain Kidd's gold. The excavation covered several acres in area, and was still visible almost 100 years later. A medium of some note pointed out the locality as the true one, and great faith was placed in her ability to discover hidden treasures. The restriction was placed upon the company that, while they searched, no one should speak above a whisper. This stipulation was rigidly adhered to until the thirtieth day, when one of the party struck another accidentally on the foot with a shovel. The pain was so great that the injured man uttered a terrible oath and the spell was broken. Then all departed silently to their homes, firmly believing that they had been very near to the coveted money. One of the areas that they dug is shown in a 1936 photo at the land on 1005 Prospect Drive. Prospect Drive is named for the prospectors who took the dirt road out to the Point to dig. While digging here in ruins from what legend has was a smuggling warehouse, they discovered tunnels which continually filled with water.



This depression may be the remains of the legendary "Minto" or "Mills" tunnel. Ruins of the great Stratford Point warehouse of the Mills, "Minto" and Nichols families. These great stones may have supported a tunnel two centuries ago. 1936.

A second version of the search for buried treasure says the Spiritualists used a wooden pump of Captain Nichols then owner of the Lordship farm. The pump was used to pump out what they call the old "Spiritual Hole" down on the beach by the light-house. The Spiritualists heard that the Bank of England was robbed and the wealth obtained taken aboard a pirate vessel. One of the sailors when on his dying bed confessed the whole business, and said the gold was buried in the Sand bank on Stratford Point, near the light-house. His confidant was a Spiritualist and after the poor fellow had kicked the bucket; his friend consulted the spirits, who told him the money was there yet. A quarter of an acre of land was bought and dug over to a depth of 30 feet. They didn't find the gold, but made an everlasting sight of sport for lookers-on. Every morning a string of Spiritualists from all this and surrounding towns would march in a procession to the shore and begin digging as if for dear life. Not a word was spoken: all directions were given by signs and a stranger would have taken them for a lot of dummies. They had a tent rigged up and hired a man to stay in it to keep watch for thieves, who they had an idea would steal a march on them and lug off their treasure. They hired William Nash and his team to dig for

As a boy once recounted, "The old pump I spoke about was used to draw out the water which filtered in from the Sound. My sakes, how they used to sweat over the old wooden thing. Mother got a notion one day she wanted to see them, so I hitched up the old mare and drove her down. When we came near the Spiritual Hole and tied the mare to a fence post, and we walked to the edge of the bank where they were digging. They were holding a circle, or séance, or something. Mother just then heard a noise behind us and looking around there was the old mare going like likity-split for home: hadn't traveled so fast for 25 years, so we had to foot it home."

A third version comes from Lighthouse Keeper Thede Judson. There was a great hunt for Kidd's money in the fifties (1850s) said Mr. Judson. There was a spiritualist hereabouts and she got a lot of her friends excited over the chance of digging up what the old man had buried. This whole coast has always been a magnet to hunters of pirate treasure. She told her friends that she knew where Kidd had planted his ill-gotten gains. All they need to recover it was to follow her advice. Pointing to a bluff to the westward Mr. Judson said, she decided that the ducats were buried over beyond that bluff. The whole bluff was dug away by the faithful and you can still see evidences of the great treasure hunt that was conducted by the lady's friends and pupils. She went into a trance and the rest dug. They got teams from John Merwin to cart the dirt away. Did they ever get anything? Of course they did not. But the lady explained that. Before they started, she told them that they must follow her directions in every particular and one was that nobody should speak or the spell would be broken. There were those boys digging along that strip of beach for more than a week. When things were getting kind of hopeless something was struck and one of the boys piped up, Thar she is. Whatever it was it sunk into the quicksands. Yes the lady said it was Kidd's gold. This occurrence was unusual and aroused a great deal of attention at the time because students of spiritualism were greatly agitated by an outbreak of ghostly rappings in a Stratford house at the same time that the treasure search was being conducted.

Another legend associated with the diggings involves the cedar pump. Captain Samuel Nichols brought from New York a red or Spanish cedar pump, some say a cedar of Lebanon taken from a Spanish vessel that was being repaired at that port; the pump being old and hence unfit for further service. He set it in his yard on what is now 4th Avenue for watering his cattle at the Lordship farm. After standing there about forty years, it was taken out, somewhat rotten at the lower end, but was afterwards used by the Spiritualists to pump water from the hole at the gold diggings about a mile east from the Lordship farm, near the shore. The old pump was made of two pieces bound together with iron hoops. After a time it was brought to the village and became the property of Nathan McEwen for some work he did in pay. So the old pump, after being transported in active service over the great seas many years, did about sixty years service on land and then although much of the wood was filled with nails, yet Mr. McEwen secured quite a number of beautiful canes from it and thus in parts the old cedar pump travels on.