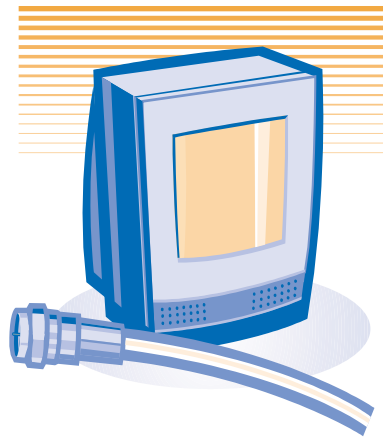




# connections



## *Build-out continues in 2005*

# Cable TV moves ahead

Groton Utilities Cable Division (Thames Valley Communications—TVC) will continue to build out the remaining part of the Town of Groton in 2005. Now that the first-year build-out in the City of Groton and some parts of the Town is complete, the rest of Greater Groton will have access to our cable television and high-speed Internet services by the end of this year.

Once our network is extended to your neighborhood, we will contact you so you can start saving.

“We want to thank all our future customers in Greater Groton who have been so patient, as we continue to expand our state-of-the-art fiber optic system,” said David Lee, TVC’s Chief Operating Officer. “Groton Utilities Cable Division is a viable, working business aggressively building to serve you and meet your cable television and high-speed Internet needs.

“We will proceed with all deliberate speed, but will not jeopardize customer satisfaction,” he added. “Our first consideration will be to satisfy our cus-

tomers with quality local service—local service from local people and a local company.”

As a sign of our commitment to you, **GU guarantees to maintain the \$36.95 price for our expanded cable television package, which offers 74 channels, until December 31, 2006.** Our guarantee includes free installation, a free month of digital basic service, a free month of any premium service, and Internet service as low as \$15 per month.

GU offers three levels of Internet service to meet a variety of customer needs. The entry-level package offers dial-up customers a great alternative to experience the always-on feature of Internet access. Try it for one year for only \$15 per month!

Call 446-4009 for more information or stop by the Customer Care Center in the Municipal Building at 295 Meridian St. in the City of Groton. You can also check us out on the web at [www.tvconnect.com](http://www.tvconnect.com).

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## Doolittle Raiders plan local reunion April 15-17

# It was a rendezvous with history

It was a gathering of old eagles, veterans from many wars. It was the older generation.

It was a gathering of young eagles, high school students from Fitch Senior High School's history classes. It was a new generation.

Two generations—one fought the wars so that the new generation and their successors could continue to experience democracy and keep it alive. Both generations were there to honor and to listen to two veterans who fought during War World II—one in the sky and one under the sea.

The occasion was a press conference, previewing the Doolittle Raiders 63rd Annual Reunion, which will be held in New England for the first time this April. Even better, it will be in the Groton-Mystic area. A short time remains to this gathering of survivors of the Doolittle Raiders who made the

first advances into Japan with successful air bombing raids in 1942.

The press conference was hosted by Groton Utilities and the City of Groton on Thursday, February 3, in the City's auditorium. The Greater Mystic Chamber of Commerce is coordinating the reunion, which will include many public events.

One of the 18 survivors, Air Force pilot Colonel Richard Cole, was present to meet a fellow military member from the U.S. Navy, Deen Brown of Montville, who was on the USS Trout as part of this mission. While Col. Cole was Maj. Gen. Jimmy Doolittle's co-pilot during the first bombing raid on Japan, Deen was in a submarine under the waters off the coast of Japan, part of a Naval reconnaissance for the American pilots.

On this day, the two veterans exchanged greetings, they exchanged stories, they expressed their mutual

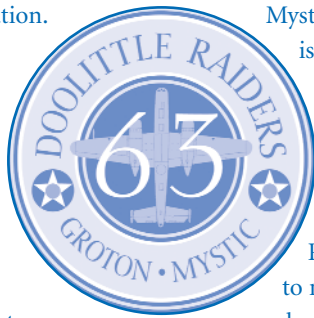
respect for each other and they exchanged symbolic gifts. And, oh yes, it was the first meeting of these two veterans, two gentlemen, since they both made history over Japan and under the adjacent waters some 53 years ago.

It was a day of veterans applauding a fellow brother. It was youth experiencing history from those who lived it. It was a gathering of eagles young and old, the future and the past.

The best is yet to come. The surviving Doolittle Raiders, or at least 10-12 of the 17 still living, will be in Groton—Mystic from April 15-17 for their annual reunion.

It will be a time of reunion. It will be a time for memories. It will be a time for reflection. It will be a time for the type of camaraderie that only those who served and survived wartime can experience.

It will also be a time for our citizens to enjoy a rendezvous with history.



## Check out our website

We are continually changing GU's website, especially our homepage, so if you haven't visited lately, you may want to take a look. See what's new at [www.grotonutilities.com](http://www.grotonutilities.com). It's a great way to stay informed about what's going on at your utility.

This month features an introduction to our new customer bill, which is coming soon. There is also an announcement on this year's Concerts in the Park series, described on page 2 of this newsletter. And if you're looking for a job, you'll want to visit our website often, because all new job openings are posted there, including the closing dates for applying.



# Our rates are lower

Groton Utilities is committed to the best possible service at the lowest possible rates. A recent regional rate comparison, shown at right, uses figures for other utilities that appeared in *The Hartford Courant*. The numbers show that Groton Utilities' focus on low rates translates into savings for our customers. For example, during 2004, our residential customers paid \$52.80 less than those at Connecticut Light & Power and are expected to pay \$139.20 less than CL&P's residential customers during 2005. The comparison is based on using 500 kilowatt-hours of power.

Cost in cents per kilowatt-hour of electricity for residential customers using 500 kilowatt-hours of power.

STATE	UTILITY	2004	2005
CONNECTICUT	<b>GROTON UTILITIES</b>	11.32	12.02
CONNECTICUT	CL&P	12.20	14.34
RHODE ISLAND	NARRAGANSETT**	13.72	N.A.
MASSACHUSETTS	MASSACHUSETTS ELECTRIC	12.36	13.39
MASSACHUSETTS	WESTERN MASS. ELECTRIC	11.55	N.A.
NEW HAMPSHIRE	PUBLIC SERVICE OF N.H.	13.84	N.A.
NEW YORK	L.I. POWER AUTHORITY	15.10	N.A.
NEW YORK	CONSOLIDATED EDISON	19.55	21.35

\*\*Average of summer and winter rates. N.A.= Not available  
Sources: Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control; Individual utilities

# Concerts in the Park even better in 2005

A Concerts in the Park 2005 series will be held this summer in Washington Park in the City of Groton. There will be concerts in June, July and August.

The six-concert series is sponsored by both Groton Utilities and the City of Groton Parks and Recreation Department. In making the joint announcement, officials from both departments emphasized that making the concert series a joint venture will allow an increase in the number of concerts offered and an improvement in the quality of bands, both now and in the future.



The concerts are designed to be especially appealing to families for a fun, inexpensive night out. Spectators are encouraged to bring their families and perhaps a picnic supper, since all concerts will be held during the early evening hours. The concert site also has sufficient room on the basketball courts for dancing.

The bands and concert schedule will be announced in this newsletter in June, and will also be on both the City's and Groton Utilities' websites. Please watch for it, and mark your calendars!

## Ask for identification

# Our employees wear photo IDs



We would like to alert our customers that, from time to time, there are reports that persons dressed as utility workers have entered customer homes and robbed them. Don't let this happen to you. Always ask for proper identification.

All Groton Utilities employees have picture identification badges with the City of Groton seal on them. When in doubt, you can and should call our Customer Care Center

at 446-4000 and ask if any of our employees are in your neighborhood.

Our meter readers also wear uniforms with their names and our company logo, which also appears on page one of this newsletter. Not all field personnel wear uniforms, but all are required to wear identification badges with their photo and the City of Groton seal.

Play it safe! Do not let anyone enter your home without proper identification.

## Holiday Closings

Our offices at the City Municipal Building, including Customer Care and Thames Valley Communications, our Cable Television Division, and Project Management and our Operational Sections, located at our Operations Center on Poquonnock Road, will be closed for these upcoming holidays:

**Friday, March 25**  
Good Friday

**Monday, May 30**  
Memorial Day

Our operations crews for both water and electric are available on an emergency basis during holidays. If you experience an electrical outage or a water main break, call us at 446-4000, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Normal business activity for all three Groton Utilities' Divisions, including electric, water and cable television, is conducted Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Customer Care is open until 7 p.m. on Thursdays and 8 a.m. to noon on Saturdays. The office is closed on Sundays and holidays.

Groton Utilities hopes you and your family have enjoyable holidays. But, please drive safely. **And, yes, don't forget to buckle up!**



### GROTON UTILITIES

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**Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) statement**  
Federal and State law prohibits employment discrimination. It is the policy of the City of Groton to comply with the laws which prohibit discrimination as to race, color, religion, sex, age, disability, marital status, national origin, ancestry, veteran status, history of mental disorder, mental retardation or any other legally protected class.

# Save money and energy with discount bulbs

To help our customers save energy and money, GU is now offering a substantial



discount on energy-efficient compact fluorescent light bulbs. For a limited time, customers can visit our office to buy up to six energy-efficient light

bulbs at a cost of just two for 99 cents.

**March is the last chance to buy these light bulbs at this bargain price.**

Compact fluorescent light bulbs:

- ◆ Use two-thirds less energy than a standard incandescent bulb;
- ◆ Last up to 10 times longer; and
- ◆ Can save up to \$30 over the life of the bulb.

Customers may purchase the bulbs at our Customer Care Center at 295 Meridian St. during normal business hours. The Center is open Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Customer Care is open until 7 p.m. on Thursdays and 8 a.m. to noon on Saturdays. The office is closed on Sundays and holidays.

Energy-efficient light bulbs are also being offered in local stores as part of a statewide program.



Special discount pricing on Energy Star qualified compact fluorescent

light bulbs is also available at this time at these Groton stores: Dollar Tree, Family Dollar, Ocean State Job Lot and Benny's. The promotion will last until the bulbs sell out.

# Moratorium ends soon

The annual winter shutoff moratorium for electric service ends April 15. All hardship electric customers who had difficulty paying their bills during the November 1 to April 15 period are required to make arrangements to pay their balances and keep current with their monthly bill.

If you cannot pay your longtime balance, Groton Utilities is ready and willing to work with you to develop an amortization plan for your unpaid balance, while keeping your account current. Call us at 446-4000 or visit us at

our Customer Care Center at 295 Meridian St.

Plan now to make your springtime an on-time bill paying experience. The clock is ticking—April 15 is nearly here. If you have any questions about your rights or our obligations as they relate to the winter moratorium ending, please call us immediately at 446-4000.

