

Holiday Closings

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

Monday, May 30
Memorial Day

Monday, July 4
Independence 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.

Plan now for the UCONN Festival by the Sound

UCONN Festival by the Sound will be held Saturday, Sept. 24 at UCONN,



Avery Point in Groton. This event is jointly sponsored by the University of Connecticut and the Greater Mystic Chamber of Commerce.

For those who enjoy discovery-type science exhibits and fun, interactive learning experiences, the Marine Sciences program at UCONN Avery Point will

present on-the-water and laboratory activities in their world-class ocean science facility.

In addition, maritime activities such as Coast Guard Search and Rescue demonstrations, Project Oceanology trips, and pirate antics will please both young and old. Plans are also underway to rededicate the newly restored Avery Point Lighthouse during the festival. For details and sponsorship information, contact Alexa Strunk at the Greater Mystic Chamber at 572-9578.

Adding an electric motor?

If you are planning to add large electric motor loads at your business, we need to know before you install your new equipment. Large electric motors can draw a significant amount of power when starting, which may cause electrical disturbances within your business.

Examples of electrical disturbances are low voltage, dimming lights, and flickering lights. In order to prevent this, it

may be necessary to modify your electrical facilities or even make changes to Groton Utilities' distribution system.

If you are planning to install a motor rated at 10 horsepower or greater, please call Groton Utilities Project Management at 446-4000. We can answer your questions and help make sure your new equipment will not cause electrical problems.

Call first, dig later

Before you or your contractor begin any project that includes digging, you must first call 1-800-922-4455 to find out where underground utilities are located. It makes sense for safety's sake—and it's also the law.

The toll-free number connects you to Call Before You Dig, a one-call notification system aimed at trouble-free

excavating by locating underground utility pipe and cable anywhere in Connecticut.

The law requires you to call at least two working days before you begin. Don't take chances—some underground lines are just a few inches below the surface. Call 1-800-922-4455 before you dig!





BUSINESS

Connections

Get more for less with our affordable digital products

Everyone wants more value from every precious dollar spent in today's competitive business environment. Thanks to Thames Valley Communications (TVC) – Groton Utilities' newest business division – there's now a way to get superior Internet and cable services at extremely competitive prices.

TVC has an exciting package of digital services available today in the City of Groton and parts of the Town of Groton. We will reach the entire Town by the end of 2005, so watch for a letter when we reach your area.

Here's what you can get:

◆ High-speed Internet service at a very cost-effective rate. Our state-of-the-art equipment offers secure and reliable service for this essential business product.

◆ Cable television service to keep up with business news or to offer as

an amenity to customers. We have a very competitive product for taverns and restaurants, and our new international channels give businesses an even wider reach.

◆ Commercial music to create a productivity enhancing environment without the headache of license fees to ASCAP and BMI. Our 45 commercial-free music genres can fit any business need.

You can customize your package, and even choose from among three speed choices. Our entry-level Internet package, for example, offers dial-up customers an affordable way to experience always-on Internet access. Try it for one year for only \$15 per month!

For more information, call 446-4009 or stop by TVC's Customer Care Center in the Municipal Building at 295 Meridian St. in the City of Groton. You can also get details at www.tvconnect.net.



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GBA schedules its spring events

The Groton Business Association (GBA) of the Greater Mystic Chamber of Commerce has announced the schedule for its Spring on the Road Business Tour 2005.

The GBA will kick off the spring tour with an **April 21** meeting at the Branford House on the Avery Point campus of the University of Connecticut, beginning at 7:30 a.m.

A **May 19** meeting will be held at Fairview, Odd Fellows Home of Connecticut, at 235 Lestertown Road at 7:30 a.m. The civil engineering firm, DiCesare-Bentley Engineers Inc., will be the breakfast sponsor.

The spring tour will conclude with a **June 16** meeting at

Butterfly Life at 688 Long Hill Road in the Groton Shopping Center.

The Summer on the Road Business Tour 2005 will start **July 21** with a meeting at the North End Deli in the Groton Shoppers Mart at 7:30 a.m.

All members of the business community are welcome whether they are members of the Chamber or not. In fact, bring a friend and let them network and experience the advantages of joining this active group of business men and women from the Greater Groton area.



Join in the Fourth of July parade



Don't miss the annual Fourth of July parade, sponsored by the Town of Groton. This year, the parade will be known as the Tercentennial 4th of July Parade in honor of the Town's celebration of its 300th birthday. The parade is scheduled for Monday, July 4 at 10 a.m. The theme is "Groton: Past,

Present, Future," which is the Tercentennial theme.

Be a part of Groton's history. The Town of Groton invites you to be a part of it and make this year's parade the best yet. It's a community-wide event and only your participation can make it better. Save this date and start your planning now.

Parade participants should mail in their Notice of Intent to Participate forms no later than June 17. Don't forget to include a short biography for your marching unit to be used by the announcer on the viewing stand.

Who's invited? Everyone is—merchants, businesses of all kinds, nonprofit community organizations, marching groups and bands.

How can you get involved? Make plans to create a float for this year's parade. Show off your pride in your business, your pride in your organization, and your pride in your community.

Invitations and forms have been mailed to those who participated in recent Fourth of July or Holiday Lights parades. You can also request a form from the Town of Groton Parks and Recreation Department at 536-5680.

2005 Family Air Fest canceled

The Greater Mystic Chamber of Commerce has canceled plans for its Family Air Fest, originally scheduled for June at the Groton-New London Airport.

Plans are underway for a bigger and better Air Fest next year, tentatively

scheduled for June 2006.

"With the heavy and tight scheduling of our annual events this year, we reached a consensus that we would better serve the public by rescheduling this popular event for next year," said Linnea Lindstrom,

Executive Director of the Mystic Chamber. "We know that Air Fest attendees look forward to this event each year, and we believe we owe it to them to provide the best possible event."

Doolittle Raiders plan local reunion April 14-17

Mark your calendars for these open-to-the-public reunion events

The Doolittle Raiders 63rd Reunion, scheduled for the Groton-Mystic area in April, will offer opportunities for the public to meet the Raiders during the weekend activities. Local citizens can attend dinners, an opening reception, and book signings to associate themselves with and meet the Raiders.

This group of former World War II pilots has held reunions since the end of the war. The original group of 80 conducted a daring and heroic bombing raid on Japan in 1942. Only 17 of the Raiders remain alive. Some 10-12 of these are expected to attend the reunion activities, planned for both Groton and Mystic. This is the first time that the Raiders have held their annual event in New England.

The first public event is a Thursday, April 14 opening reception beginning at 6 p.m. at the City of Groton Municipal Building. The cost is \$25 per person.

On Friday, April 15 at 11:30 a.m., the Raiders will also conduct a special lecture for school children at Leamy Hall at the U. S. Coast Guard Academy in New Lon-

don. This event is free and open to the general public.

A second event at the Groton Inn & Suites on Friday at 6 p.m. will give the public another opportunity to meet the Raiders. This is a Steamship Round Buffet.

The cost is \$50 per person.



The major event of the weekend is scheduled for Saturday evening, April 16. It is a Raider Soiree, a banquet to be held at the Lanmar Aviation Hangar. The speaking program will be limited to allow attendees to socialize with the Raiders. The cost is \$85 per person.

Two book signings have been scheduled and are open to the public. The first is on Saturday from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the Seamen's Inn in Mystic, and the second is at the Groton Inn & Suites on Sunday from 2 to 4 p.m.

To order tickets or for more information, call the Greater Mystic Chamber of Commerce at 572-9578, ext. 107, or e-mail the event administrator, Bridget Linicus, at Bridget@mysticshore.com.

A rendezvous with history



A preview of the Doolittle Raiders 63rd Annual Reunion took place this winter at a local press conference to announce the event.

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.

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 copilot 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.

April 14-17 will be a time of reunion. It will be a time for memories. It will be a time for reflection. It will also be a time for our citizens to enjoy a rendezvous with history.