

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**GROTON PHARMACIST TO RECEIVE RECOGNITION FROM TOWN COUNCIL AND GASP COALITION**

The Groton Adolescent Substance Abuse Prevention (GASP) Coalition will present Fort Hill Pharmacy owner Jeff Messina with their first ever “Good Neighbor Award” at the Groton Town Council meeting on Tuesday, July 16 at 7:30 p.m. In addition, the Groton Town Council will honor Messina with a proclamation.

The Good Neighbor Award was created to recognize a leader in the Groton community whose actions promote improved health. “We are proud to present the Good Neighbor Award to Mr. Messina for choosing to keep his store tobacco-free and for all of the work he has done in our community to help people quit smoking,” said GASP Coalition Coordinator Michelle Hamilton. “We thank him for his dedication to making Groton a healthier place.”

The GASP Coalition is an initiative of Ledge Light Health District. For more information about the coalition, please contact Michelle Hamilton at 860-448-4882 ext. 305 or [mhamilton@llhd.org](mailto:mhamilton@llhd.org).

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Ledge Light Health District – LLHD – serves as the local health department for East Lyme, Groton, Ledyard, New London and Waterford, Connecticut. As a health district, formed under [Connecticut General Statutes Section 19a-241](#), LLHD is a special unit of government, allowing member municipalities to provide comprehensive public health services to residents in a more efficient manner by consolidating the services within one organization.

The Director of Health and staff of LLHD work to promote health and wellness among the 120,000 residents we serve. By enforcing the Connecticut Public Health Code, conducting health education programs, monitoring disease outbreaks and nurturing our environment, LLHD is focused on *promoting healthy communities*.

LLHD’s mission statement – **to prevent disease, illness and injury; to protect and nurture our environment; and to promote improved health and prosperity for all residents** – describes in more detail our slogan of “promoting healthy communities.”

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Promoting healthy communities

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