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From the EDITOR

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## CHANGING CONNECTICUT

Change is in the air! We shouldn't be surprised, after all, it's New England. Recently, I was asked to speak about what's changing in Connecticut, from the coastal perspective. I mentally put together a list, but like Pinocchio's nose, it kept growing longer and longer. The result was a theme for this issue of *Wrack Lines*, "Changing Connecticut".

It features some, certainly not all, major changes, explained by experts. From tiny beasties that fuel the food web of Long Island Sound to the landscape itself, to the flora and fauna, sea level, legal policies, people's attitudes, to the very landscape itself, change is happening rapidly. They may sound unrelated, but they're all interwoven. All these changes pose new questions that require new answers and solutions.

Another change will have happened by the time you read my letter. The next issue of *Wrack Lines* will have a new editor. After nearly 30 years with Connecticut Sea Grant and UConn, I have decided to begin the retirement journey. I am proud of the fact that *Wrack Lines* has continuously published for 17 years and will go on. It has been a pleasure serving you. I also want to profusely thank our wonderful graphic designer, Maxine Marcy at the UConn Design and Document Production Center. She has worked magic to make the magazine come alive.

Speaking of change, you may have heard about the proposed budget threat to cut Sea Grant from the federal budget, which would in effect eliminate the program. However, we know that many of you reached out to your legislators to sing our praises and that many will continue to support us. We thank you and hope we can continue to serve you and your community in the future.

Farewell,

*Peg Van Patten*

*Wrack Lines* editor

About our cover:

Aerial photos on the cover (Barn Island Dike), this page, page 3 and 4 are courtesy of Jeff Simon Photography.

