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The First Selectman's Corner

Trunk or Treat

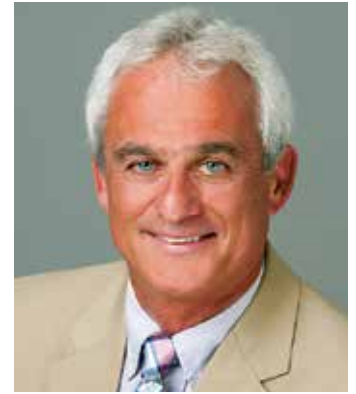
Madison's annual Trunk or Treat will take place on Halloween - Tuesday, October 31 from 4:00 - 6:00 pm on the Madison Green (no rain date). Sponsored by the Town of Madison, the Department of Police Services, and the Madison Chamber of Commerce, this annual event is anticipated by children and adults alike. Decorated car trunks are welcome, and hundreds of costumed children are expected.

Residents or businesses planning to bring a vehicle to hand out treats MUST be in place on the Green no later than 3:45. Please enter from the Meetinghouse Lane side (NOT the Post Road side), and feel free



to decorate your trunk/vehicle for Halloween. Trick or treaters may arrive any time after 4:00. All children at the Trunk or Treat must be accompanied by an adult.

The winner of the Chamber of Commerce's "Scarecrows Invade Madison" Contest will be announced at Trunk or Treat!



Tom Banisch, First Selectman

Holiday Festivities

There are lots of things to do during the upcoming holiday season.

On Friday evening, December 1, we will have the Tree Lighting on the Madison Green, sponsored by the Madison Beach and Recreation Dept. Starting at dusk, there will be caroling and holiday songs with summertime favorite Larry Stevens. We can count on a "surprise" visit from Santa, who will join in the fun.

Speaking of Santa, he'll be back again on Sunday, December 3 from 2:00 pm until everyone has gotten to talk to him. He'll be at

continued on page 2

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Selectman... continued from page 1

the porch of Café Allegre in downtown Madison. The fun lasts all afternoon with hayrides, Santa visits, storytelling and displays of gingerbread houses. Later that afternoon is the ABC Annual Concert starting at 4:30 pm at the First Congregational Church on the Green.

Tom Banisch
First Selectman

Made in Madison

Join M.A.D.E. and Madison Youth and Family Services for the screening of Chasing the Dragon. Chasing the Dragon is a documentary aimed at educating people about the dangers of addiction and to combat the growing epidemic of prescription drug and heroin abuse. During the evening be sure to experience the interactive display of Hidden in Plain Sight. The Hidden in Plain Sight program will allow parents, and other adults to walk through an interactive exhibit of a teen's room to find potential signs of drug use. WHEN: Thursday, December 7th at 6:00 pm. WHERE: Madison Senior Center.



Pieper Veterinary Emergency Room



We're excited to announce that this November, Pieper Veterinary is opening a brand new **24-hour Emergency** & Specialty Veterinary Hospital in **Madison!**



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Madison Land Conservation Trust



Learn about cougars at the MLCT Annual Meeting on December 1st.

Saturday, November 4, 10:00 am. Geocaching Hike, Blinshed Loop

Learn the popular sport of geocaching with MLCT board member and active geocacher Ian Taylor. There are geocaches hidden on all 23 MLCT trails and Ian has found all of them.

Bring a GPS receiver or download the free Geocaching app onto your smart phone and we'll teach you the rest, including the history of geocaching, what a travel bug and geocoin are, and the translation of FTF, TFTC and TOTT! Meet in the parking lot at the intersection of Opening Hill and Blinshed Roads.

Friday, December 1, 7:00 pm. MLCT Annual Meeting, Memorial Town Hall. "Coming Soon: The Cougar Returns to the East"

There is no question about it. Cougars are not only being seen in eastern North America, but some are also attempting to recolonize their former habitats. Where once it was flatly dismissed as impossibility in the so-called 'developed' east, scientists have now documented cougar dispersals and even occupancy of a growing list of eastern states and provinces. Join us for a magnificently illustrated introduction to cougar biology and ecology with wildlife biologist Susan Morse. We will also get the low-down regarding the latest confirmations of cougars in the east, including the recently documented suitability of a substantial amount of wild habitats from Manitoba to Louisiana, and Maine to Georgia. It is only a matter of time!

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PORK ITEMS

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Land Trust... continued from page 4

Saturday, December 2, 1:00 pm. Tracking Hike, Summer Hill Preserve

Join master tracker Susan Morse on an excursion through the land trust's Summer Hill Preserve. Susan will identify tracks, scents and signs of the many animals that live in and travel through the preserve. Susan has over forty years' experience monitoring wildlife and interpreting wildlife habitat use. She is the founder of Keeping Track, a Vermont non-profit organization devoted to providing technical training to professional biologists, citizen science volunteers, land trust officials and conservation planners. This knowledge is used to better detect, record and monitor the status of wildlife and habitat. Meet in the Summer Hill Preserve parking lot on Summer Hill Road, just north of its intersection with Route 80.

Visit www.madisonlandtrust.org and see if you can solve the Mystery Trail Challenge! Prizes will be awarded to those who have completed the Challenge at the Annual Meeting.

For event weather updates and photos, visit www.facebook.com/madisonlandtrust.

Beach & Recreation Department News

We, the staff of the Beach and Recreation Department wish you much joy in the upcoming holiday season. We have many programs planned for your consideration and participation throughout the holidays and into the New Year. Please visit our website www.madisonct.org/recreation to see a complete listing of our program offerings. Be sure to click on online registration to browse and register for our programs!

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

Holiday Tree Lighting, Friday, December 1, 2017 – 6 pm at Memorial Town Hall

Join us as we light the Town Christmas Tree. Music by Larry Stevens and Van Manakas. Hot chocolate provided by Troop 490 of Madison who will also be helping with the candle lighting ceremony and selling wreaths. Special visit from Santa and Rudolph who will lead us in lighting the tree! Join us for this free event on the Town Green near the old town hall.

Boston Christmas Festival – November 4, 2017

The 30th Annual Boston Christmas Festival at Seaport World Trade Center. It is a favorite and a blockbuster event for a holiday day trip. With 350 exhibitors, this award winning show is the largest arts and crafts festival in New England. It features handcrafted gifts, holiday decorations, jewelry, clothing, pottery, folk art, delicious foods to buy and sample and much, much more. Then

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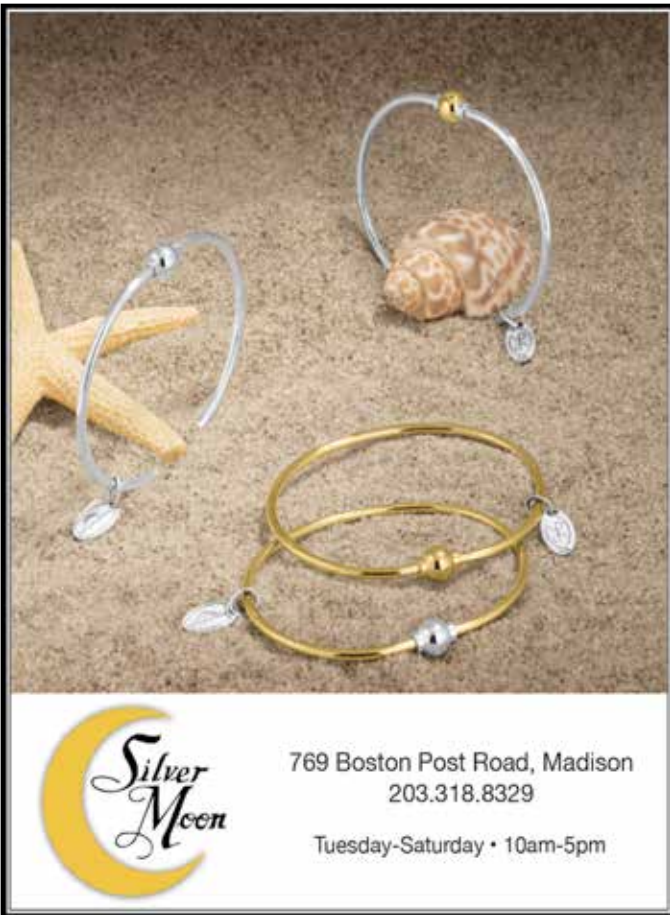
Beach and Recreation... continued from page 6

you will enjoy leisure time at Quincy Market, one of America's most famous dining experiences. Bus leaves the commuter lot on route 79 at 7:00 am and leaves Boston at 6:00 pm. We are sharing a bus so there may be additional stops. Lunch is on your own. No refunds. These are approximate departure and return times. You will get exact times closer to date of trip. Fee: \$79

Progressive Meal in New York City – November 18, 2017

Our progressive dinner will start with an appetizer at one location (Chinatown), move to another for entrees (Italian) and lastly head to a third for dessert and coffee (Brooklyn). This is a perfect way to spice up the restaurant monotony while at the same time having a multi-cultural dining experience mixing cuisines and new locations . . . a sightseeing tour along the way to each restaurant is included. You will see Greenwich Village/Washington Square Park, SoHo, TriBeCa, The World Trade Center Site, Battery Park, Wall Street, Trinity Church, St. Paul's Chapel, South Street Seaport, the Brooklyn Bridge, Brooklyn Heights, DUMBO and Fulton Ferry. Departs from the route 79 commuter lot at 7:00 am and leaves NYC at 5:00 pm. No refunds. Fee: \$137

Madison Beach and Recreation Offers its Annual Ski Bus Program to Madison Residents in grades 7 to 12. Ski Bus takes place immediately after school for Polson and Daniel Hand



The advertisement features three pieces of jewelry: a silver hoop earring with a pearl drop, a gold hoop earring with a pearl drop, and a gold necklace with a pearl drop. The jewelry is displayed on a light-colored, textured background. Below the jewelry is the Silver Moon logo, which consists of a yellow crescent moon and the text "Silver Moon".

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Wednesday, November 1st – 5:00 pm

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students, when they load coach buses with their gear and head off to Mount Southington Ski Area in Southington, CT. The program lasts for 5 weeks and is held every Tuesday night from January 16th to February 27th. (skip 1/30 and 2/20). Cost varies by the type of ski package that you register for and start with a Lift Only package for \$245. This includes 5 weeks of skiing or snowboarding and bus transportation provided by Dattco. You

can register for Ski Bus now until December 15th or until the bus is full. You must register in person, by mail or fax after you download the required paperwork. Required forms can be found by going to www.madisonct.org/recreation. Click on Programs. Information details will be emailed to you once all spots are full. If you have additional questions after you have read the information, you can contact Carrie at gazdac@madisonct.org.

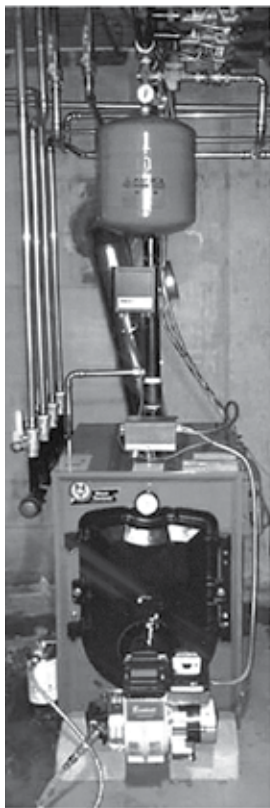
Madison Health Department - Community Health Needs Assessment

The Madison Health Department along with Southern Connecticut State University's Public Health Graduate Program will be conducting a Community Health Needs Assessment this fall. A needs assessment is a systematic process for determining and addressing needs, or gaps between current conditions and desired conditions or wants. The Madison Health Department needs assessment will take a health-oriented approach by assessing the needs of the community; it will look at health as the optimal physical, social, and emotional functioning unit of a community. It will be a tool to clarify problems

and identify appropriate interventions or solutions. The results of the needs assessment will guide us to decisions - including the design, implementation, and evaluation of projects and programs that will lead to a healthier community for all our residents.

Our plan is to develop a questionnaire to be emailed or distributed to our community at selected sites, i.e., doctor's offices, library, Community Senior Center. The completed questionnaire can be emailed back to the Madison Health Department or dropped off at the selected sites. The

gathering of appropriate and sufficient data informs the process of developing an effective product that will address the residents' needs and wants. After completion, the students will help summarize, evaluate and analyze the data collected. The goal is to map out a course for health improvement by creating strategies that will lead to positive and sustainable changes in our community. The Madison Health Department has never conducted a community health assessment. This project will merit opportunity to improve health awareness in the town.



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Madison Senior Services News

Madison Senior Center, 29 Bradley Road, 203-245-5627

Medicare's Annual Open Enrollment Period

This is the time of year to look over your health insurance and prescription drug coverage and consider whether you would like to make changes for 2018. The open enrollment period is from October 15th through December 7th. The Madison Senior Center has two CHOICES trained Medicare Counselors, Austin Hall, the Director and Heather Noblin, the Assistant Director. We are able to help you navigate through your options. Please call to schedule an appointment as soon as possible.

Medicare Savings Program

Helps to pay the monthly Medicare Part B premiums for qualifying

participants. Depending on income level this program may also lower co-pays for prescriptions to between \$2.60 and \$6.50 and may cover doctor's co-pays, if your doctor accepts State Medical Insurance. There is no asset test or filing deadline for this program. Monthly Max. Income: Single: \$2,472.30, Couple: \$3,328.38 - new guidelines as of March 1st, 2017.

Living with Arthritis

Learn how to protect your joints and simplify the activities of daily living. Our therapists can teach you exercises that can help you live with your arthritis. We will also show you a variety of adaptive equipment, splints and other assistive devices. Thursday, Nov. 2nd at 10:30 am. Please Pre-Register.

Caregiver Support Group

Join VNA's Caregiver Support

Network expert, for an interactive, confidential support group. Share experiences, discuss ideas and problem-solve with other caregivers. Discuss different options such as: Curative, Palliative or Hospice Care. Discover ways to be mindful in healing from grief. Group meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month at the Madison Senior Center. 3rd Tuesday of each month, 11 am-12 pm. Please Pre-Register.

Ask the Nurse

VNA Nurses come to MSC on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month, and can check your blood pressure, pulse and weight. She can also review your medications, help you to create a medication list, help you prepare for an appointment with your doctor. This free program begins at 12:30 pm. PLEASE REGISTER.

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Americans with Disabilities Act - 504 Self Evaluation Plan

The Town of Madison is currently reviewing its facilities and policies pursuant to the 504 Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance requirements. The Americans with Disabilities Act Self Evaluation and Transition Plan establishes the Town of Madison's ongoing commitment to providing equal access to all public programs, services and activities for citizens with disabilities. Madison is currently undertaking a comprehensive evaluation of its facilities and programs to determine what, if any, types of access barriers exist.

The Town has recently installed handicap accessibility doors at the Town Campus entrance across the street from the Police Department and the entry way doors at the Police Department. Our largest conference room, known as the Fishbowl, at Town Campus has had its sound system upgraded with assisted hearing devices for use by the public. Most recently the Town has installed a TTY telephone in the First Selectman's Office. The telephone number is 203.245.5638.

Visit the town website for information pertaining to the policies, procedures and contact information for individuals with disabilities. www.madisonct.org/ADA.

The Town is very interested in listening to ideas or concerns from the public. You can reach Debra Milardo, Director of Human Resources and ADA Coordinator at 203.245.5603 or via email at milardod@madisonct.org.

Want to reach every home & business in town?

Call Ward Feirer at 914.806.5500

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Emergency Management	203-245-5681
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Health Department	203-245-5681
Human Resources	203-245-5603
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Madison Public Schools	203-245-6300
Planning & Zoning	203-245-5632
Police Department	203-245-2721
Probate Court	203-245-5661
Public Works & Engineering	203-245-5611
Registrar of Voters	203-245-5671
Selectmen's Office	203-245-5602
Senior Center	203-245-5627
Tax Collector	203-245-5641
Town Clerk/Vital Statistics	203-245-5672
Youth Services	203-245-5645
Zoning Board of Appeals	203-245-5632

www.madisonct.org

Smoking and Eye Disease

Smoking tobacco (cigarettes, cigars, or pipes) can cause lung disease, heart disease, cancer, and many other serious health problems. But did you know that smoking can also harm your eyes?

- **Cataracts** - Smoking increases your risk for getting cataracts. Cataracts is the clouding of your eye's naturally clear lens that causes blurry vision and makes colors look dull, faded, or yellowish. Cataracts are removed in surgery.
- **Age-related macular degeneration (AMD)** - This disease happens when a part of the retina called the macula is damaged. You lose your central vision and cannot see fine details. Sometimes medicine or surgery can help certain people with AMD from getting worse, but there is no cure. Studies show that smokers and ex-smokers are more likely to get AMD than people who never smoked.
- **Diabetic retinopathy** - Smokers who also have diabetes risk getting diabetic retinopathy. Diabetic retinopathy is when blood vessels in the eye are damaged causing blurry or distorted vision and possibly blindness. Treatment includes medication or surgery.

- **Optic nerve problems** - People who smoke risk having optic nerve problems. The optic nerve connects the eye to the brain. Damage to this nerve can lead to blindness.
- **Dry eye** - This is when your eyes don't produce enough tears. Smoking with dry eye will make your eyes more likely to feel scratchy, sting, burn, or be red.
- **Uveitis** - Smoking can lead to a disease that affects part of the eye called the uvea. This is the middle layer of the eye wall. Uveitis is when this layer becomes inflamed (red and swollen). This disease causes a red eye, pain and vision problems.
- **Graves' disease** - This is a disease of the body's thyroid gland. One of the symptoms of Graves' disease is bulging eyes. Smokers who have Graves' disease risk having their eye condition get worse. They can also lose vision.

The good news is that after people quit smoking, their risks for these eye diseases lowers.

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Madison Health Department - Seasonal Influenza Information

Getting an annual flu vaccine is the first and best way to protect yourself and your family from the flu. Flu vaccination can reduce flu illnesses, doctors' visits, and missed work and school due to flu, as well as prevent flu-related hospitalizations. Increasing the number of people who get vaccinated each year helps to protect more people, including older people, very young children, pregnant women and people with certain health conditions who are more vulnerable to serious flu complications.

What's new this flu season?

A few things are new this season:

- Only injectable flu shots are recommended this season.
- Flu vaccines have been updated to better match circulating viruses.

- There are some new flu vaccines on the market this season.
- The flu vaccine recommendations for people with egg allergies have changed.
- Generic versions of the flu antiviral drug oseltamivir have become available.

When and how often should I get vaccinated?

You should get a flu vaccine before flu begins spreading in your community. It takes about two weeks after vaccination for antibodies to develop in the body that protect against flu, so make plans to get vaccinated early in fall, before flu season begins. CDC recommends that people get a flu vaccine by the end of October, if possible. Getting vaccinated later, however, can still be beneficial and vaccination should continue to be

offered throughout the flu season, even into January or later.

Children who need two doses of vaccine to be protected should start the vaccination process sooner, because the two doses must be given at least four weeks apart.

Where can I get a flu vaccine?

Flu vaccines are offered by many doctor's offices, clinics, health departments, pharmacies and college health centers, as well as by many employers, and even by some schools. Even if you don't have a regular doctor or nurse, you can get a flu vaccine somewhere else, like a pharmacy, urgent care clinic, and often your school, college health center, or work.

Visit the www.vaccinefinder.org to locate where you can get a flu vaccine.

The Legend of the Black Thumb

A Black Thumb is described as "a person who has a notable inability to make plants grow: a tendency to fail as a gardener." Some of you reading this might think this would describe you. But I am telling you the Black Thumb is a myth! Everyone has the ability to grow plants as long as they have the right tools in their tool box.

Desire, commitment and time is something that all of us have whether we realize it or not. The variable is a matter of priority and choice. You may want to grow plants but without the commitment and/or time to care for them you will not be as successful as you'd like. Or perhaps the desire to spend time doing something else is more of a priority for you. Your tool box must contain some level of these three tools to be successful. As well, your garden must be in balance with your level of desire, commitment and time.

Knowledge is another necessary tool to be successful. You need to have a basic knowledge of what makes a plant grow. As with anything, knowledge is power. The more knowledge you have about your plants and their environment the better they will grow and

flourish. You must be aware of environmental factors that affect your plants. Factors such as sun exposure, soil, wind and moisture all influence how a plant grows. Fortunately, there is a plant for most situations. The key is planting the right plant in the right place. No tool box should be without knowledge. It is very easy to obtain through books, garden talks, YouTube, and the list goes on. The best way to obtain knowledge is by experience. Do not be afraid to learn from your mistakes.

Intuition is learning to use all of the senses to notice the environment around us. We all have this ability but it takes practice and presence of mind to sharpen this tool.

If you are someone who suffers from Black Thumb syndrome put that notion aside. Fill your tool box and as we say here at Madison Earth Care, "Give Green a Chance."

Melissa Blundon- CANP, AOLCP
Madison Earth Care

Visit our website at:
www.madisonct.org

We hope you will find our website to be a useful tool to find updated information and explore our wonderful community.

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The Misunderstood Red Wine “Merlot”

When people think of red wine, one of the most commonly known varieties is Merlot. This varietal is misunderstood and sometimes overlooked, due to the growing popularity in big red blends. Merlot is keeping up with the times in creating bold vibrant wines that really leave you asking for another glass!

Some of the most coveted wines in the world are made from Merlot, most notably French Bordeaux's from Pomerol and Saint Émilion. These wines are full of flavor yet are very dry in the finish. The most famous Bordeaux from Pomerol is Château Pétrus, which nowadays is priced around \$2,000.00 per bottle.

Italian Merlot is much like Merlot from Saint Emillion in France - soft, dense and drier in the finish than California. They do a lot of blending of Merlot in Tuscany with Sangiovese and Cabernet. Massetto from the Ornellaia Vineyards in Bolgheri is Italy's most famous Merlot wines.

In the mid 90s Merlot became very popular in California. It brought more red wine drinkers into the market with its light style, fruity flavors, and soft finish. The popularity became so big that the planting doubled and production increased. Many of these mass-produced Merlots were flabby and thin in the \$8-\$10 a bottle range and hurt the Merlot business. Then with the release of the acclaimed film “Sideways” in 2004 the Merlot grape was snubbed and Pinot Noir made its rich debut into the American market. Merlot sales decreased by 15% in the US and Merlot slowly became ‘the forgotten’ grape.

In the past few years however, Merlot has really started taking off again. With the vineyards concentrating more on the quality of the grapes these Merlots are rich and flavorful, still with a light mouth feel, but with depth. Some vineyards have Merlots that are richer and more dense than the Cabernet Sauvignon that they grow. Washington State, for example produces some excellent Merlot that is full of flavor, and still holds true to the classic dry Merlot finish.

Whether it's been weeks, months, or years, you owe it to yourself to go out and grab a bottle of Merlot. If you prefer a classic drier style, look into beautiful Bordeaux. Or if it is a fruiter, more layered Merlot you are in search of, check out the California and Washington Merlots. These wines can pair with almost any meal you could think of, so they will not fail you when entertaining guests. Cheers!

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How to Tell if You Will Age Well

We all do it. Compare ourselves to other women and either feel good for our age or wonder “How does she do it?” How is it that some women in their 60s and 70s still look young and vibrant and some women in their 30s look worn and tired?

While environmental and lifestyle factors play a major role in how you age, pure genetic luck also plays a part. A 2009 study of twins published in the Archives of Dermatology revealed that up to 60 percent of skin aging is due to genetics.

But don't count on your genes to save you from a poor lifestyle. Environmental damage determines the speed at which you age. You can have the best genes in the world, but if you are a smoker or a sun worshiper, you are going to look 10-15 years older.

So, how can you tell if you will age well? Here are some factors to consider.

Your parents aged well - First degree relatives are the best indicator of how you'll age because genes direct the cell functions that affect your appearance. The rate at which our cells turn over and how quickly damage is repaired is something that we inherit from our parents. We also inherit how much collagen we produce.

You have a baby face - Although we glamorize angular, chiseled features, those of us with round faces actually age better. Fortunately, dermal fillers help those of us with less volume.

You have high cheekbones - There's a reason why everyone loves great bone structure. When we are younger, our faces have the shape of an upside-down triangle. As we age, our skin sags and jowl develop, changing our face from an upside-down triangle to bottom heavy. Higher cheekbones help support your face, keeping that triangle shape longer.

You have olive toned skin - Lighter skin burns quicker and more easily which can give you more lines and wrinkles. Also, lighter skin usually produces less oil than their darker counterparts. However, there's a catch. Because lighter skin burns faster, these individuals get a signal to come out of the sun sooner. People with darker skin don't get that signal and can be lured into a false sense of security. The bottom line is that if you don't wear sunscreen daily, your darker skin won't protect you for very long.

Dr. Susan O'Malley, founder and Medical Director of Madison Med Spa is dedicated to helping women maintain their beauty without surgery. To learn more about Dr. O'Malley or Madison Med Spa, please visit www.madisonmedspa.com or call 203 245-2227 for a free consultation.



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Madison Historical Society Marks Its 100th Birthday With the Publication of Madison Treasures



For the first time in its hundred-year history, the Madison Historical Society offers to a look at an important selection of its historical artifacts through the illustrated pages of Madison Treasures. Scheduled for release in mid-October, this full-color, hardcover volume was imagined as both a vivid visual exploration of Madison's history and a way of preserving that history for future generations. Conceived in celebration of the

Society's centennial, its pages illuminate through images the ways Madison's citizens lived as the land between the East and Hammonasset Rivers transformed from its Native American beginnings through the arrival of European settlers and the development of farming and shipbuilding hubs, then onward to a holiday mecca, and finally to the diversified community of today.

Organized around major themes, Madison's Treasures transports the reader from the pre-contact artifacts of its "First Peoples" to a lively pictorial examination of the lives of our immigrant forebears in "Tools of the Trade" and "Inside the Home." Further on are stunning examples of handicrafts in "Needles and Thread," an intriguing selection of the Society's "Portraits of the Past," and a charming stop at "From the Playroom" to see childhood toys of a bygone age. "From the Armory" explores Madison's role in the wars and turbulence of the outside world through images of some of our military heroes and the implements of the soldier's life. On a lighter note, two sections look at the clothes we wore in "All Dressed Up" and the ways we decorated ourselves in "All that Glitters."

Accompanying the hundreds of photographs are explanatory captions and brief biographies of important figures in Madison's history. Readers will learn the stories of philanthropist Daniel Hand; military hero Captain Frederick Lee; financier Cornelius Bushnell; renowned poet Grace Miner Lippincott; celebrated botanical artist Clarissa Munger Badger; and playwright Constance Wilcox Pignatelli.

Madison Treasures (\$29.95) can be purchased directly from the MHS, both at Lee's Academy and through its website, www.madisonhistory.org.

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Please call 203-245-5672 for any needed assistance. Your request will then be referred to a committee member who will contact you. (If you have an emergency situation, please contact 911.) All communications are confidential. Thank you for your service. We look forward to working with you.



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Town of Madison Designates September 17 Beverly Schirmeier Day



Marge Casey of Guilford is to the left and Beverly Schirmeier of Madison is to the right.

At the 42nd Annual Meeting of the Madison Art Society held at the Madison Country Club a number of citations were awarded to Beverly Schirmeier for her almost a dozen years of leadership in the art society. Thomas J. Banisch, First Selectman of the Town of Madison brought to the meeting, along with the signatures of the Board including Alfred J. Goldberg, Robert G. Hale, Scott M. Murphy and Bruce H. Wilson, a proclamation to name

September 17, 2017 as Beverly Schirmeier Day in the Town of Madison.

Eric Dilner, Executive Director of Shoreline Arts Alliance, presented the State of Connecticut Citation to Beverly from the entire membership of the General Assembly of the State of Connecticut. They acknowledged it was through her artistic talent and gifted leadership that the Madison Art Society experienced unprecedented growth. It was under her tenure, they noted, that the Madison Art Society brought recognition to artists along the shoreline and throughout the state in all painting mediums. Her years of service enhanced the lives of artists here and in surrounding communities.

The E. C. Scranton Memorial Library of Madison, Connecticut has been host to many shows and exhibitions over the years and the Madison Art Society has made a

considerable contribution in money and publicity to benefit the library. In response the Scranton Library also acknowledged Beverly on her special day with a letter from the board. After the renovation project at the library the Society looks forward to being a part of the library's future.

The 250 members of the Madison Art Society gifted Beverly with a personalized wooden travel box for her pastels as she is often found outdoors along the shoreline creating her prize winning pastel art. Because flowers are one of her favorite subjects and because she has beautiful gardens on her property Beverly also received a garden rock with a quote inscribed on it from Vincent Van Gogh, "I am seeking, I am striving, I am in it with all my heart." The group felt this quote best described her dedication to the success of her art and the society during her years of leadership.

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During her leadership she and the board have provided benefits for local artists and townspeople. Up to seven art demonstrations are held per year featuring professional artists and are very popular with the public often with 'standing room only' at these meetings held in various locations around the Town of Madison. Members and friends also enjoy outdoor painting that begins in May and continues weather permitting into the autumn months. A select number of members continue in the winter months with a winter studio where still life painting is done. A number of bus trips were enjoyed over the years to art museums in greater New England. The Society schedules a number of shows to acknowledge various levels of accomplishment in the art community including a juried show, an elected artist's show, a member show and a board of director's show. In addition Peoples Bank and other public venues

give space for artist's work. This year in July the group held its 42nd annual outdoor exhibition and show on the Scranton library property adding additional money to the thousands of dollars given to the library over the past 12 years. Shoreline high school students also benefit from the Madison Art Society during juried shows each year with the Sponsor a Student Award of \$250.00 given through the Shoreline Arts Alliance.

During Beverly's tenure she and the Board rewrote the bylaws to prepare a solid foundation for future growth. They became recognized with a 501(C)(3) tax exempt organization status, set up an auditing system, secured the dues paying process, added events and wrote a long term strategy plan and mission statement including qualifications for associate and elected artist status. So impressive was this accomplishment that

many other art societies have adopted this plan to ensure solvency.

An important part of this strategy included member surveys to ensure everyone was on board with the changes. A future hope is that the Madison Art Society can have a permanent location where workshops, shows and professional demonstrations can take place for the benefit of the entire shoreline art community.

At the board meeting on October 2nd Beverly Schirmeier will pass the baton to Marge Casey who will take the reins of the organization. She and Beverly have worked together for months to ensure a smooth transfer and uninterrupted success for the future. The members look forward to Marge's ideas as she enjoys leadership in the coming year.

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Domestic Violence Prevention and Awareness



*Left to right back row: Barbara Bernie, Sylvia Baker, Barbara DeRosa,
Donna Farrell, Pat Thal, Eleanor Jones.*

Bottom row: Denice McGregor, Kathy DeBurra

This is the 7th year that the Selectmen have granted us a Special Day to try and bring awareness to Domestic Violence. We need this day as Domestic Violence is a silent crime, victims are embarrassed and sometimes feel that it is their fault, so they do not speak up or seek help for some time. Then there is the issue of "where do I go for help?" and "what is going to happen to me?" All very scary problems for victims.

On October 18th businesses in town were asked to hang a Purple Balloon with some contact information on it in front of their store. This was done to bring awareness to this world-wide problem which is prevalent in every city and town in every country. It involves all age groups including many teenagers. It is the signature project of the General Federation of Women's Club International.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

As we have done in the past we ask for a wish list for safe homes and this year it is bed linens, sheets, pillow cases, comforters for single beds, bathrobes and again towels, face cloths and travel sized toiletries are always welcome. Gently used items are acceptable. They seem to have a hard time keeping the safe houses supplied. If you would like to participate in our collection you can let me know. Also, if anyone would like contact information I would be happy to give you some, together we can help make a difference.

Once again thank you for your participation. I will collect items through the month of November.

Sincerely
Josephine Mokriski
The Women's Club of Madison.
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Upcoming events to watch for: Santa Letters 2017 and our Garden Tour 2018.

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Bauer Park



Discover the world of plankton at the Surf Club on November 9

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Come join in the fun of exploring! Learn about nature and science through activities such as hiking, singing, games, stories and making crafts.

Digging Dinosaurs

Saturday, November 4
10:00-11:30 am

Become a paleontologist and dig for "fossils" along with making your own to take home. Learn some dinosaur facts like how big they might have been, how they moved, and how to tell the plant-eaters from the meat-eaters. For ages 3-5, accompanied by an adult.

The Wonder of Water

Saturday, November 18
10:00-11:30 am

It may be too cold to go swimming outside, but discovering the wonders of water is never out of season. As we do some fun experiments and make a craft, we will learn a few interesting facts about water. For ages 3-5, accompanied by an adult.

Fascinating Fishes

Saturday, December 9
10:00-11:30 am

Fish have all sorts of adaptations to help them survive in their aquatic environ-

ments. Learn about some cool ways that fish eat, protect themselves and maneuver through their habitats. Make a festive holiday fish to take home. For ages 3-5, accompanied by an adult.

SCIENCE GIRLS!

The following classes are designed to inspire girls to explore science topics. All activities are geared towards encouraging confidence, curiosity and interest in STEM explorations.

Cool-ology Halloween Engineering

Thursday, October 26
3:00-5:00 pm

Use the engineering design process to create your own spooky Halloween potions; design and create a mini pumpkin chunkin' catapult; bob for apples without getting your face wet by creating a device that can grab apples out of a tub of water in the shortest amount of time!

Ages 7-10

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Plankton Lab

Thursday, November 9

4:00-6:00 pm

Use a plankton net to collect a sample from Long Island Sound, then discover the variety of life in a drop of seawater when you examine it under a microscope. Learn how to distinguish between phyto- and zoo-plankton, as well as the difference between holo- and mero-plankton. Create your own plankton model adapted to survive in the sea, then compete in the Great Plankton Race! Class meets at the Surf Club.

Ages 7-12

Winter Tree I.D.

Thursday, December 7

4:00-6:00 pm

Take a walk on the trails of Bauer Park and learn how to identify trees without their leaves. Then, warm up inside

as we use magnifiers to distinguish species by their unique twigs and buds. These intricate structures tell the story of a tree's past and foretell its burst into lush green life in the spring. This class will change how you see trees!

Ages 7-12

Visit www.madisonct.org/recreation for registration and more information. Questions? Call 203-245-5623.

Learn about upcoming events at Bauer Park at: www.facebook.com/bauerparkmadisonct.

Educational programs can be arranged for school, scout and community groups at Bauer Park, Rockland Preserve and the town beaches. Contact the Beach & Recreation Office at 203-245-5623 for more information.

The 8th annual **goPINK** project
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Support Breast Cancer Patients: goPINK

Throughout the month of October, goPINK raises money to help provide breast cancer patients at the Middlesex Hospital Cancer Center with free integrative medicine services. These treatments can help alleviate fatigue, pain, neuropathy and nausea.

To participate, buy a goPINK T-shirt or get a pink hair extension at a participating salon.

You can also visit a restaurant or attend an event that supports goPINK.

For more details, visit middlesexhospital.org/gopink or call 860-358-6200.

The goPINK initiative is sponsored by AAA and Radiologic Associates of Middletown.

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