

Essex events

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VOLUME 23 • QUARTER 3 • 2019



DELIVERING TOWN NEWS



TO EVERYONE IN TOWN

A photograph of two hikers, a man and a woman, crossing a stream by stepping on large, smooth rocks. The man is on the left, wearing an orange jacket and white shorts, and the woman is on the right, wearing a red jacket and blue shorts. They are both wearing backpacks. The background is a dense forest with sunlight filtering through the trees.

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First Selectman's Corner

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

It's nice to see so many people enjoying the parks, marinas, shops, and restaurants that make Essex a unique place to live, work and play. I'd like to welcome the new restaurants and businesses in Town. Our small businesses help define the community and create a unique sense of place that draws so many to visit each year. Small business continues to be the backbone of the community. They pay taxes, support local youth programs, contribute to non-profits and support charitable causes. We need to choose to buy local if we want to see them not only prosper and grow but also continue to give back to the community.

I would like to thank Essex residents for once again unanimously supporting the annual budget. The \$24,195,150 combined Town and education budget for fiscal year 2019-2020 was approved by voters at our Annual Town Budget Meeting in May. The total spending package, which reflects a 0.4 percent increase, includes the Town government budget, an appropriation for Essex Elementary School, and the Town's share of the Region 4 education budget. Due to judicious control of expenditure increases and growth in the Town's grand list, the Board of Finance was able to set the mil rate for fiscal year 2019-2020 to 21.65 mills which represents a reduction of 0.9 percent. I am very proud of this budget and being able to once again reduce the mil rate for the residents

of Essex. I would like to give special thanks to Finance Director Kelly Sterner, Selectmen Bruce Glowac and Stacia Libby, and the Board of Finance.

Travel on Route 154 in Centerbrook will continue to be slow on weekdays during business hours. The CT Water Company will soon complete the replacement of an aging water main under the roadway. Upon completion the Town will begin work on the Main Street sidewalk renovation project in Centerbrook. New five-foot wide sidewalks and lighting will be installed from Cumberland Farms to the Essex Steam Train. The final step being, sidewalk installation from the Steam Train. Please consider re-routing to Route 153 when possible to help reduce traffic. We appreciate your cooperation and anticipate completion by the end of August.

The Harbor Management Commission has recently completed improvements at the Town dock. They consist of new pilings, decking, handrail, a 20' x 10' float with two new pilings, and four stationary dock ladders. A new ordinance allows a 4-hour tie-up limit and no overnights. Great job getting this done!
continued on page 3



Norm Needleman
First Selectman



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events

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I'm pleased to announce that free public wifi is now available at the Grove Street Park, Main Street Park, and coming soon to the Ivoryton Green.

While this is a wonderful time of year to walk the dog, it's important to remember to keep your pet leashed and bring a bag to pick up after your pet. We do have bags available at the Main Street, Comstock, and Viney Brook parks. Pet waste stations will be coming soon to the Town Dock, Hubbard Park, Grove Street Park and the Ivoryton Green. The Town ordinance concerning pet waste pickup violation comes with a fine of \$35.00.

The Summer Concert Series, sponsored by the Park and Recreation Department, runs from June 25th through the middle of August at our Town greens in Essex and Ivoryton. Concerts are Tuesday evenings in Ivoryton and Wednesday evenings in Essex from 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm. The Ivoryton Village Farmer's Market on the green is held on Saturdays from 10:00 am - 1:30 pm from June 22nd into September.

Take a look at the Board of Trade's website www.essexct.com and the Ivoryton Village Alliance website www.ivorytonalliance.org for other happenings in Town.

All the Best,
Norm

Essex Community Fund Distributes Grants at Annual Evening of Giving



Some of the 2019 ECF Grant Recipients at the Annual Evening of Giving.

Essex Community Fund and its grant recipients gathered for their Annual Evening of Giving recently. The purpose of this special event is to distribute funds to local non-profit organizations that are supporting and enhancing the lives of the residents of the three villages of Essex. Many thanks to Penny Lane Pub for graciously hosting the event this year.

continued on page 4

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Thurs-Sat: 11:30a.m. - 9:00p.m./Bar 10:30p.m.
Sunday: 12:00p.m. - 8:15p.m./Bar 9:00p.m.

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Essex Community Fund... continued from page 3

LOCAL NON-PROFITS RECEIVING GRANTS THIS YEAR INCLUDED:

A Little Compassion
 Bushy Hill Nature Center/Incarnation Camp
 Camp Hazen
 Community Music School
 Connecticut River Museum
 Essex Cub Scouts Pack 4
 Essex Eagle Scout Program
 Essex Elementary School Camperships
 Essex Police DARE Program
 Essex Veterans Memorial Hall
 Estuary Council of Seniors

F.I.S.H.
 Gilead Community Services
 Ivoryton Library Association
 Ivoryton Playhouse Foundation
 Region 4 Foundation
 Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries
 Teen Zone
 Tri-Town Youth Services
 Valley Shore YMCA
 Valley TV
 VNA of Lower Valley

Thank you to all our donors for helping to make this event possible and helping these

very important nonprofits that serve our residents to continue to do the important work they do. A short video of the evening, filmed by Valley TV, can be seen on our website: www.essexcommunityfund.org.

IVORYTON FARMERS' MARKET

Look for ECF, on select Saturdays in July and August, at the Ivoryton Farmers' Market. Please stop by and learn more about what we do in the three villages of Essex. There will even be a chance to participate in a drawing!



Welcome to Essex

Essex consists of three unique villages and is ideally located on the Connecticut River a few short miles from Long Island Sound. Well-known for its beautiful landscapes, majestic trees and gardens, fascinating architecture, and cultural and historical attractions, we are a boating and sailing destination as well. Essex is famous for hosting a multitude of parades throughout the year and offers an outstanding culinary and shopping experience to our residents and visitors. Come experience, explore and enjoy the small-town enchantment of Essex, Connecticut.



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Edward & Donna Gundy	34 Mallard Point Rd.	Essex
David Zeleznik & Maxine Klein	14 Essex Glen Drive U-11	Essex
Ryan & Natasha Damon	34 River Road Drive	Essex
Charles & Heather Hajnal	79 No. Main Street	Essex
Steven Babjak	22 No. Main Street	Essex
Elizabeth Taylor	8 Foster Lane	Ivoryton
Glenn & Susan Beckwith	179 Saybrook Road	Essex
Louis & Lisa DiBacco	3 Orchard Heights Rd.	Essex
Nancy H. Tela	8 Riverview Street	Essex
Daniel M. Pedra	11 Crosstrees Hill Rd.	Essex
Michael & Laura Borla	10 Stonebrook Drive	Ivoryton
Jeffrey Goldblatt	14 Essex Glen Drive U-8	Essex
Kirsten E. Owens	12 Old Dobbin Lane	Ivoryton
William & Laura Pirsig	29 Prospect Street	Essex
John & Melinda Patterson	33 Main Street	Essex
Stephen & Susan Ertelt	105 Book Hill Road	Essex
Kellie A. Gosselin	29 Pratt Street	Essex
Michael Semenov	85 River Rd., Unit C 8	Essex
Diane B. McNeil	14 Essex Glen Dr. U-12	Essex
William & Kathryn McGowan	87 Main St.	Centerbrook
Daniel S. O'Brien	5 Book Hill Woods Rd.	Essex
Jon Wojculewicz & Ariel Crohn	46 Book Hill Rd.	Essex
Marcelle O. Stagno-Hardy	85 River Rd., Unit L4	Essex
Andrew & Tara Zuckerman	26 Parker Terrace	Essex
Tanya R. Cutolo	8 Lookout Hill Rd.	Essex
Terry Lennox	8 Mitchel Terrace	Ivoryton

LOSS OF RESIDENTS & FRIENDS

March	Judy Ann Nagle
Dorothy B. White	Paul K. Junkmann
Carmella R. Peruti	Leonard T. Pascoe
Richard W. Sauer	Milton N. Allen
Raymond Rubenbauer	Ann Marie Scalza

April

Elisabeth S. Bundy
Louise B. Bartholomew

June

Patricia A. Palau

Respectfully submitted,

May

Alan F. Miller

Yvonne Roziak,

Assistant Town Clerk

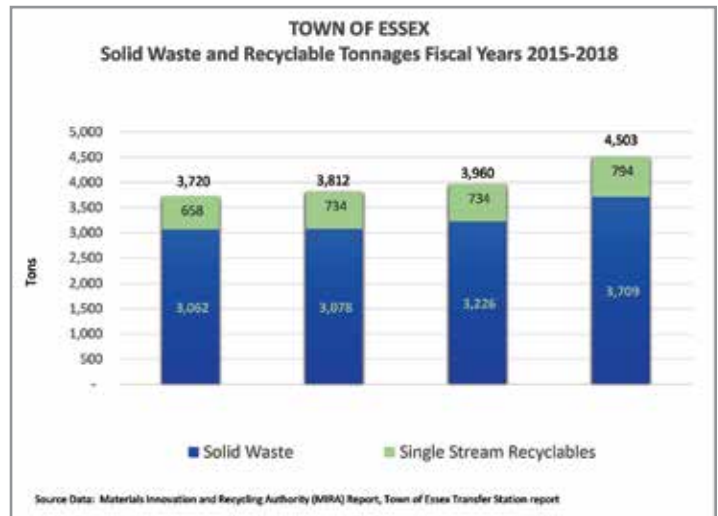
Watching our “WASTE” line in Essex

DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOUR GARBAGE GOES?

It is certainly nice to get it out of the house, but most of us think no farther than the transfer station or the weekly rumbling truck that carries it away. In fact, 82 percent of the state’s garbage is burned to produce energy. In 2017 that was 2.38 million tons of garbage.

Then in November last year, the trash-to-energy plant in Hartford that services 70 municipalities - including Essex - broke down. In the three months it took to repair the aging turbines, more than 20,000 tons of waste built up and was stored indoors. Few landfills remain in Connecticut and the last big one, in Manchester, wouldn’t take it. Due to high demand, expense and limited out-of-state options, the garbage just sat there, accumulating. It took nearly four months to process the backlog of garbage once the plant came back online.

Connecticut no longer buries its garbage, and the cost to ship it elsewhere is going up, according to Norm Needleman, the Town’s First Selectman and state senator for Senate District 33. And while trash-to-energy is indeed a renewable source of electricity, it is not without its costs. The process produces greenhouse gases and generates 575,000 tons of ash each year, which must be disposed of. Connecticut’s Department of Energy and Environmental Protection has formulated a management strategy that



aims to achieve a 60 percent reduction of waste by 2024 through a combination of increasing re-use, recycling and composting as well as developing new waste technologies.

“We have a trash problem,” said Needleman, “We need a wholesale rethinking of how we manage trash in the state - and that starts with everybody.”

continued on page 8

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Essex's "WASTE" line... continued from page 7

The best place to begin solving the burgeoning consequences of our throw-away society is right at home. Through simple actions that easily become habits, everyone can help to reduce the waste stream. The old ad applies as much today as it did in the 70s: REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE. To that we would add: COMPOST!



Left: The REDUCE part is easier than ever with the plethora of new products available. Reusable coffee mugs and water bottles made of stainless steel will last a lifetime and keep drinks hot and cold. Stainless steel straws come in pocket-sized carrying cases. Reusable grocery bags are now made small enough to keep in a pocketbook. Bigger ones can stay in the car.

Soon everyone will reduce their use of plastic grocery bags:

Governor Lamont has just signed into law a ban on plastic grocery bags starting July 1, 2021. In the meantime, every plastic bag is now taxed at 10 cents.

Plastic grocery bags pose problems to RECYCLERS and are particularly important to remove from the waste stream. The long polymer molecular chains they're made of tangle in the recycling machines, sometimes breaking the machines and often slowing

the process as workers must turn off the power and extract them. Unless your grocery store has a recycling bin specifically for grocery bags, do not attempt to recycle them.

A guide to what can be recycled is available on the Town's website, www.Essexct.gov. In the top right corner, search "guide to recycling." This page will tell you whether a specific item can be recycled, and where you can take it to be recycled.

Essentially, any plastic with the number 1 or 2 in the triangle at the bottom is easily recycled, as are glass and foil containers, and most paper and cardboard. Empty jars, bottles and cans simply need a quick rinse and swish with water before going into the bin in order to remove visible residue inside. Pizza boxes that are covered in grease are NOT recyclable, but a few specks of grease are okay. Shampoo and lotion bottles (remove the pump) also need a quick rinse. You can even recycle laundry and dishwasher detergent bottles. Just rinse with warm water. You do not need to remove every iota of detergent. When buying products that come in plastic containers, buy the largest size possible to reduce your personal use of plastic overall. Better yet, buy your laundry and dishwasher detergent in cardboard boxes! Even crumpled up paper and cardboard are fine to recycle. Be sure to consult the link above for a full list of what's "in" and what's "out."

continued on page 10

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Essex's "WASTE" line... continued from page 8



To address the problem of waste textiles, the Essex Landfill/Transfer station has recently installed a textile recycling bin to allow for REUSE of clothing, footwear, linens, and other items. Items must be clean and placed in plastic bags before going into the bin.

Large compost bins will be available soon at a discounted price through the RiverCOG in Centerbrook. Another option is Blue Earth Compost www.blueearthcompost.com/, a service that will pick up your kitchen waste and return it to you in the form of usable compost for a fee.

In the Northeast the tip fees for waste disposal are higher than anywhere in the country, which reflects the precarious position that Connecticut and other states find themselves in as we run out of places to dispose of waste. According to the Connecticut Resources Recovery Authority: "Protecting existing disposal capacity and planning for more disposal capacity will become an increasingly important issue for local and state officials."

A large component of the waste stream in Connecticut is composed of personal food waste, and this is another area where individuals can make a big difference. COMPOSTING at home can provide useful garden soil while reducing by as much as 30% what goes into your garbage can. You can buy a composting bin or simply pile your compost on the ground and cover it with a tarp. Essentially it involves a 1:3 ratio of "greens" like grass clippings, vegetable and fruit waste to "browns" like leaves, dryer lint, and paper. The pile needs to be flipped every few weeks but will eventually convert your wastes to dark humus soil ideal for enriching your garden. This EPA site is one of many online that spell out the basics on how to do it: www.epa.gov/recycle/composting-home.

In short, Connecticut is drowning in waste. This, according to Norm Needleman, requires that we all practice some mindfulness about the situation. "We should really be thoughtful about how much waste we generate," he said. "Change has to occur at the grassroots level."

Highlights of the state's roadmap to achieve its goal of diverting 60 percent of waste by 2024 are available on the on the CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection website: www.ct.gov/deep. To learn more about Sustainable Essex visit our website, if you are are interested in joining as a volunteer please



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80 Meadow Woods, Deep River
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contact Betsy D'Amico at the town hall or email her at bdamico@essexct.gov.

BY THE NUMBERS

- Connecticut disposes over 2 million tons of trash and nearly 1 million tons of Construction Demolition Waste each year.
- Connecticut recycles 1.25 million tons, or about 35% of the total discarded material. This is close to the national average as estimated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- 40 % of disposed trash consists of organic materials that could be composted

- Approximately 25% of municipal solid waste is packaging.
- Recycling saves taxpayers and businesses an estimated \$75 million in avoided disposal fees each year.
- Each CT resident produces an average of 1,300 pounds of waste per year
- 87% of CT municipal solid waste goes to CT's 5 waste to energy plants which generate electricity as a by-product. CT has the lowest rate of landfilling of any state.

Source: CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

Patricia Sisson and Roger Salway, Sustainable Essex

Please Pick Up After Your Pet



We are a pet friendly community but, unfortunately, we have had complaints of pet waste along sidewalks and in Town parks. Essex has an ordinance prohibiting animal defecation on public property or private property unless such person disposes of feces in a proper manner. Violations shall be punishable by a fine of \$35.00.

Dog waste can pollute water and carry bacteria and parasites that can make people sick. Immediately picking up after your pet is part of being a good neighbor and responsible pet owner. Doing the right thing is easy. Pick up after your pet every time. SCOOP the poop, BAG it, TIE it closed and TOSS it in the trash. Thank you!



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Transfer Station Pass Renewal Reminder



Resident Transfer Station Pass Renewals – FOR HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE ONLY
Beginning October 1, 2019, your current Transfer Station Sticker will expire. Annual stickers can only be purchased through the Town Clerk's office.

Punch cards can be purchased at the Town Transfer Station as well as the Town Clerk's office for a fee of: \$25.00 per card (10 punches per card for 10 bags of household trash) - *no cash can be accepted at the Town Transfer station. Check, money order and debit/credit only.*

For those residents that will be renewing their annual sticker(s) - each household will be allowed a total of 2 stickers. A renewal application will be mailed out the week of September 9, 2019. You will need to update and complete the application and mail it with

your payment (check or money order, no credit card or cash will be accepted via mail) of:

\$125.00 per year (age 64 or younger)

\$ 75.00 per year (age 65 or older)

We will then mail back to you the appropriate # of sticker(s) based on the information received.

If you will be coming into the Town Clerk's office for your first time or renewal sticker, come in anytime starting the week of September 16, 2019. Be sure to have with you your driver's license and your vehicle license plate information. The Town Clerk's office can accept cash, money order, check or credit card.

Note: If you currently have private garbage pick up you do NOT need to purchase a Transfer Sticker or punch card. As a Town resident you are entitled to drop off recyclables and brush by proving you are a resident at the entrance of the Transfer Station.

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www.essexct.gov
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 Essex Board of Trade announces its 2019 Summer Event –Alfresco Thursdays!



“Party Alfresco!” That’s the call to action for the Essex Board of Trade’s (EBOT) 2019 summer event, Alfresco Thursdays,

happening the second Thursdays of June, July, and August on Main Street in Essex Village, at 5:00 pm. Mark your calendar for the next event - August 8th!

Alfresco Thursdays invites the community to gather and Experience Essex in all its summer vibrancy - alfresco shopping, patio dining, live music, art, strolling, socializing and more. Participating shops will stay open until 8:00 pm featuring fashion parties, discounts, and festive bites and sips! The village’s charming patios, decks and docks - Abby’s Place, Olive Oyl’s Cuisine, The Griswold Inn, and The Connecticut River Museum - will highlight spirited libations or special events to ramp up the outdoor merriment!

Amy Cameron, President of the EBOT, says, “Alfresco Thursdays will celebrate our open-air experience - the essence of Essex Village all summer long. These three Thursday evenings intend to punctuate that alfresco spirit with extended shopping hours and



Cruise Night at Olive Oyl’s attracts the entire community of family and friends!

a variety of merchant specials and outdoor happenings for all to enjoy.”

HEADLINING THE LIST OF EVENTS FOR ALFRESCO THURSDAY ON AUGUST 8TH ARE:

Cruise Night

A “Classic Car Show” at Olive Oyl’s will display a variety of cool

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and classic cars. Outdoor grills will be fired up for BBQ and LIVE MUSIC will be rocking the patio!

Yoga in the Park

FREE introductory class with certified yoga instructor Angela Stevens, in Main Street Park, 5:15 to 6:15pm. Sponsored by Essex Park & Recreation. *Bring Yoga Mat*

“Thursdays on the Dock” Concert Series

The Connecticut River Museum will host free live music by Local Honey and drink tasting by Two Roads Brewing. Complimentary

massages by sponsor Prive-Swiss Wellness. Cash bar and Porky Pete’s BBQ available. Bring a lawn chair and blanket, but, no BYOB please.

Invite your boating friends! Safe Harbor|Essex Island Marina is offering FREE hourly docking from 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Just call: 860-767-2483 and mention “Alfresco Thursdays” to reserve.

Full list of retail and event “special offers” for Alfresco Thursdays at: <http://essexct.com/events/>.

FISH (Friends in Service Here)

FISH was founded locally in 1970 to provide free rides to medical appointments for residents of Essex, Deep River and Chester. The officers for 2019 are: Henry May, President; Stuart Warner, Vice President; Mary Samburg, Secretary; Barbara Ryan, Treasurer, Dana Hill, Driver Recruitment and Leo Zavatone, Director. Dispatchers are John Heiser and Tony Carrano.

Residents of our three towns wanting rides

and having no other means of transportation may call: 860-388-2693 up to noon the day before their appointment (Friday noon for a Monday ride) to schedule a ride for the following day. The destinations are within the triangle of Middletown to the north, Guilford to the west and New London to the east.

In the first 5 months of 2019, FISH drivers provided 455 free rides. This is a 23% increase over the 370 free rides in the

first 5 months of 2018. The modest FISH budget is funded by grants from the Essex Community Fund, the Community Foundation of Middlesex County, the Essex Rotary Club, the Essex Savings Bank, the Deep River Community Health Committee, the Town of Chester, Smith Brothers Insurance and other organizations, as well as by contributions from our drivers, riders and friends.

Henry May, Driver and President



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Deep River **\$875,000**

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Listed by: Maureen O’Grady
860-767-5390



Old Saybrook **\$825,000**

Boater or fisherman’s dream home with unobstructed water views. Dock will accommodate a boat up to 24 ft, power and water are connected.

Listed by: Gigi Giordano Taylor
River to Shore Group
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Deep River **\$529,000**

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Listed by: Svetlana Goletz
203-453-6511



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Summer Programs at Essex Historical Society

Essex Historical Society offers plenty of opportunities to connect lifelong-learners with our dynamic past.



COME SEE THE PRATT HOUSE WITH NEW EYES.

EHS welcomes all ages to visit (or revisit) Essex's only historic house museum, Pratt House, 19 West Ave. Open weekend afternoons through September, Pratt House offers free guided tours by trained, knowledgeable guides. Learn what life was like in the 18th and 19th centuries for an Essex family in a seaport town. (See below.) New guides welcome!

STAY TUNED FOR "PRATT POP-UPS"

- one-day special events that 'pop up' at Pratt House throughout the summer, 19 West Ave.

- Potluck Picnic at Pratt House, Sunday, July 28, 3:00 pm. Free. Bring a dish to enjoy with friends, public welcome!
- Historic Gardens with Leslie Evans, Friday, August 9, 2:00 pm. Free.
- Walking Tour of West Ave. and Prospect Street, August 24, 1:00 pm. Meet at Pratt House, 19 West Ave. \$5 admission, free to EHS members.

continued on page 18



Pratt House Museum Now Open!

Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 1:00 - 4:00 pm through September

Essex Historical Society (EHS) invites you to visit the 1732 Pratt House, Essex's only historic house museum. Free guided tours recall early life in a CT River seaport town for one blacksmithing family for more than 200 years. Visitors enjoy Pratt House's beautiful grounds, reproduction barn, kitchen gardens and museum shop.

Location: Pratt House, 19 West Ave., Essex

Admission: FREE

Info: www.essexhistory.org or 860-767-0681.

Essex Historical Society: Engaging and Inspiring the Community:

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6 Mohegan Avenue, Old Saybrook | Stunning waterfront property with over 3,800 sqft of living space. Offered at \$4,980,000



23 Pettipaug Avenue, Old Saybrook | Beautiful Fenwick waterfront home, built in 2016, with the ultimate in craftsmanship. Offered at \$4,725,000



549 Maple Avenue, Old Saybrook | A Fenwick Gem - Architecturally designed and built in 2003. Offered at \$3,575,000



102B Sequassen Avenue, Old Saybrook | Traditional Fenwick home has spectacular water views. Offered at \$3,480,000



25 Pettipaug Avenue, Old Saybrook | Classic Fenwick cottage has been in the Grant-Hepburn family for four generations. Offered at \$3,375,000



1 Foxboro Road, Essex | Essex waterfront signature property is reborn- total renovation of the 1870 Victorian style house. Offered at \$2,995,000



184 North Cove, Old Saybrook | This circa 1850 Colonial was fully meticulously restored and refurbished. Offered at \$1,645,000



5 Foxboro Road, Essex | The last waterfront building lot at Foxboro Point with breathtaking water views. Offered at \$1,600,000



101A Sequassen Avenue, Old Saybrook | A rare opportunity to build a new waterfront home in Fenwick! Offered at \$1,280,000



20 River Road, Essex | Unique Colonial is sited on five beautiful private acres, surrounded by spectacular mature specimen trees. Offered at \$990,00



36 Gates Road, Essex | Classic Stephen Starkey Circa 1847 home, surrounded by flowering shrubbery on a nearly one acre lot. Offered at \$369,000



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Historical Society... continued from page 16



Join EHS for engaging walking tours this summer and fall.

WALKING TOURS ARE BACK!

Join EHS for a walking tour of Essex Village. Take a trip down Main Street in Essex Village to capture the rich maritime history of 18th century “Potapaug,” its working waterfront and ship-building prominence.

- Saturday, August 31, 10:00 am

- Saturday, September 28, 10:00 am

Meet at the Foot of Main Street, Essex. For admission information visit our website at: www.essexhistory.org.

EHS debuts a tour of River View Cemetery this fall!


Mark your calendars for the weekend of September 13, 14 and 15th for a historic walking tour of Essex’s River View Cemetery as we investigate its gravestone art and stories of its ‘residents.’ Funded in part by a grant through the Community Foundation of Middlesex County.




EHS debuts a walk of River View Cemetery mid-September.

For the latest info on scheduled programs and our ‘pop-ups,’ please visit EHS’s website, www.essexhistory.org or follow us on Facebook.


To download previous issues of Essex Events visit: www.eventsmagazines.com and download the issue you desire!



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Essex Veterans Memorial Hall Reflects on Youth



On behalf of the membership I'd like to congratulate Owen Livingston (pictured left) in earning the EVMH Certificate of Appreciation for his dedication and support of the Essex Memorial Day Parade as well as many other EVMH events. His actions and passion to support our veterans and the local community should be emulated by those in his peer group.

We would also like to congratulate the 2019 Essex Veterans Memorial Hall's 2019 Education Grant recipients. In recognizing and honoring a family member's service, the following Valley Regional HS seniors have each received a \$500.00 grant via our Sunshine Fund: Alexi Finnelly, Ben Falivene, Mike Ryan, Kevin Fasulo and Jake Klin. Best of luck as you pursue your post-secondary education.

On behalf of the EVMH membership congrats to all!

Alex Breen Jr
President - Essex Veterans Memorial Hall

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It takes a community to improve the quality of life for all – neighbors and friends who give their time and resources to support a passion or area of interest. We applaud the good people who are working in partnership to enrich and inspire creativity through the visual, written and performing arts.

Together, we are making a real difference. Thanks to our donors, funds, and our nonprofit partners, the arts are flourishing in our community – both “on stage” and “behind the scenes.” Together we are teaching our young people – and people of all ages – to sing, dance, sketch, paint, and even play an instrument. We are helping performing arts organizations purchase updated sound and lighting equipment to enhance production capability and audience experience. Thanks to you, our artists are sharing their talents and receiving that wonderful “Round of Applause.”

Thanks to you, by combining our resources, we are able to make even the smallest gift have a big impact - through charitable funds that support not only arts and culture, but also animal welfare, health and social services, education, history, the environment, civic improvements, recreation, and economic security and opportunity.

We celebrate all of you who share the same desire to help our local community thrive today, and tomorrow.

We invite you to learn more by calling us or visiting us online.

Ivoryton Library Summer News

You recently received our annual Membership Appeal letter in the mail. We hope you will consider renewing your membership or becoming a member with a tax-deductible donation. Beginning this year, members will receive invitations to free, exclusive "Members Only" events, 2-3 per year. Educational, entertaining, and maybe both, these events are a way to thank you for your support. Look for invitations to go out to a special free Estate Planning program this fall. Also in the works, a friendly Scrabble competition!

NAME-A-WINDOW

Our Name-a-Window campaign is finally up and running. Over the past few years, we have been slowly replacing or renovating our 132-year-old windows. After a donation by a patron in his father's name for redoing a window, we realized others may wish to do the same. Please call or drop by the library for a brochure that explains the process, describes the windows available and the cost. A plaque with your name or that of a loved one will be affixed to each window.

SUMMER READING FOR CHILDREN IS IN FULL SWING!

These weekly programs continue through August 17. Please join us!

- **Wednesday Morning Storytime - 10:30 am**
Stories, crafts and lawn games



Our Name-a-Window campaign is finally up and running.

- **Thursday STEM Craft - 4:00 - 5:30 pm**
For parents and children to work on together
- **Second Sunday Storytime - 1:30 pm**
Our final Summer date is August 11

SPECIAL CHILDREN'S EVENTS IN AUGUST:

- **Sunday, August 4th, 1:30 pm**
Star Wars Storm Troopers Unite! Come in costume, join the fun and visit with Storm Troopers.

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- **Thursday, August 15th, 4:00 pm - Cooking Hogwarts Style.** Bring your magic wands, wear your wizard hats. We will prepare a magnificent meal not commonly available to Muggles!
- **Thursday, August 22th, 4:00 pm - Welcome to Kindergarten Party.** Join us for our 18th annual party to meet your fellow classmates. Please call to reserve a space before 8/19. Please call Elizabeth Bartlett for more information on these programs and to reserve a space!

**9TH ANNUAL PUMPKIN CHASE
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20.**

Registration is open for this fun 5K through Ivoryton and the

Falls River Preserve. Registration form, map and link to online registration are all online at www.ivorytonlibrary.org.

Return for the Haunted Library at the Ivoryton Village Pumpkin Festival 5:00 -8:00 pm!

The Ivoryton Library is located at: 106 Main St in Ivoryton, mailing is: PO Box 515. hContact us at: 860-767-1252 or email us at: staff@ivorytonlibrary.org.

Visit us on the web at: ivorytonlibrary.org or find us on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram- @ivorytonlibrary.



Essex Library

JOIN THE ESSEX LIBRARY SUMMER READING PROGRAM!

When a child completes a summer reading log (available at the library) local ice cream, baseball tickets, and prizes from the library treasure chest are earned. Our summer reading program extends until August 31st.

The Children's Department offers many ongoing story time events and specialty

programs throughout the summer. Drop in for information about our STEM activities, art classes, and literacy events. Our Young Adult Department offers summer programs and reading program opportunities as well. We would love to see you this summer!

Our adult programs include (postponed **continued on page 22**)



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Essex Library... continued from page 21

from this spring), Architect William Earls speaking about The Harvard Five in New Canaan: Midcentury Modern Houses by Marcel Breuer, Landis Gores, John Johansen, Philip Johnson, Eliot Noyes, and Others at 7:00 pm on Friday, September 6, as the Centerbrook Architects Lecture Series continues into its twelfth year.

On Monday, September 9, at 7:00 pm, Roy Manston, author of The Listeners, will talk about the rise of German predator submarines in World War I and the Allies' successful response of tracking them with innovative listening devices-precursors to modern sonar. Success or failure was in the hands and minds of the scientists and naval personnel at the Naval Experimental Station in New London, Connecticut.

For more information, visit our website at: yoursessexlibrary.org.

Friends of the Essex Library Activities



June was a special month for the Friends of the Essex Library and for the Essex Library itself! On June 5th at the Friends Annual Meeting, Richard Conroy, (above) representing the library, was presented a check for \$25,000 from Suzy Baird, current Friends of the Essex Library President, which reflected a very good year of fundraising by the organization. Richard Conroy conveyed that these funds greatly assist the library in continuing to provide and make useful services available for the entire community.

Also in June, Suzy Baird and Susan Hosack represented the Friends at the annual meeting of Friends of Connecticut Libraries (FOCL) on June 8, 2019. They accepted an award for the submission in the Focused Project Category - PUTT FORE THE ESSEX LIBRARY - at the annual FOCL awards. That fun event back in January not only raised significant funds for the library, but it also provided the Friends of the Essex Library with statewide recognition.

On the evening of June 8th the Friends and the Board of Trustees hosted an Open House for Executive Director, Richard Conroy at the Essex Library where more than 100 people came to thank him for his years of service and to wish him all the best upon his retirement at the end of June. Rita Christopher,



Suzy Baird and Susan Hosack accepted an award for the submission in the Focused Project Category - PUTT FORE THE ESSEX LIBRARY - at the annual FOCL awards.

Chairwoman for the Essex Library Board of Trustees, thanked Richard for all of his years at the Essex Library. Richard served as Executive Director for 11 years and brought many changes and improvements to the library and the services it offers. He will be greatly missed. The Library Staff, Friends, Board of Trustees and patrons look forward to working with Deb Smith, the incoming Executive Director, who will start her role in July.



Executive Director Richard Conroy and Rita Christopher, Chairwoman for Essex Library Board of Trustees.

FALL 2019 BOOK SALE AT ESSEX LIBRARY

The Annual Fall Book Sale (the “best little book sale in town”) is a two-day event on Saturday, October 5, 2019 from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm. Starting at 2:30 pm to close, books will sell for half price.

The “Fill your Bag for \$5” sale will be on Monday, October 7, 2019 from 10:00 am - 5:00 pm. You are invited **continued on page 24**

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Maria Lucarelli, Assistant	x112	mlucarelli@essexct.gov
Betsy D'Amico, Alyson Finnegan	x145	afinnegan@essexct.gov
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Jessica Sypher, Assessor	x124	jsypher@essexct.gov
Betsy D'Amico, Assistant	x123	bdamico@essexct.gov
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Darcy Roper	x144	droper@essexct.gov
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Dana Novorio, Assistant	x116	dnovorio@essexct.gov
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John Heiser	x142	criley@essexct.gov jheiser@essexct.gov
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David Tretter, Resident State Trooper	860-767-1054	dtretter@essexct.gov
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Todd Belcourt		tbelcourt@essexct.gov
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Joel Marzi, Town Clerk	x129	jmarzi@essexct.gov
Yvonne Roziak, Assistant	x128	yroziak@essexct.gov
TOWN HALL OPERATIONS		
Maintenance	x136	maintenance@essexct.gov
Andrew Herrington	x136	aherrington@essexct.gov
ZONING ENFORCEMENT		
Joe Budrow, Enforcement Agent	x115	jbudrow@essexct.gov
Kerry Berardinelli	x119	kberardinelli@essexct.gov

www.essexct.gov

Friends of Essex Library... continued from page 23

to bring your own tote or paper bag. Free paper bags will also be available at the library.

Upcoming Events

SUMMER GIFT SALE, A SWALLOWS CRUISE & THE FESTIVAL OF DINNERS

At the Library, during the entire month of August, the Friends will be have a Summer Gift Sale of "new" and "like-new" books, games, movies and music items for all ages. These make wonderful gifts for the upcoming holiday season or for any gift giving needs you may have for the fall and winter. (Very similar to our December sale each year.)

In the fall of 2019, the Friends of the Essex Library will be hosting a Swallows Cruise aboard the RiverQuest on September 13, 2019. Later in the fall, on November 2, 2019, the Friends Fall Festival of Dinners - with a reception at the library, followed by dinners in private homes throughout Essex.

For more information about these and other events and how to purchase tickets for the Fall Festival of Dinners and Swallows Cruise can be found on the library's website at: www.youressexlibrary.org/friends/friends-events.

Growing Vascular Program Uses the Latest Technology

Surgeons from The Vascular Experts practice at the Middlesex Health Center for Advanced Surgery are led by Dr. Bart Muhs. The Vascular Experts team is comprised of capable board-certified surgeons who are solely dedicated to vascular care and who can tackle simple or complicated cases.

They use the latest technology provided by Middlesex Health to best help patients. A recently renovated, state-of-the-art Diagnostic & Interventional Suite at Middlesex Hospital includes a hybrid catheterization laboratory designed to meet the needs of patients requiring heart, vascular and other interventional procedures. The suite also features intravascular ultrasound equipment that enables surgeons to view images from inside blood vessels in real time to identify blockages or ruptures.

This cutting-edge technology gives surgeons the tools needed to perform complicated procedures at Middlesex Health. For example, surgeons are able to per-

form fenestrated grafts, a vascular procedure that's generally performed only at larger tertiary care centers.

Middlesex Health vascular surgeons also perform a number of more common vascular procedures, including abdominal aortic aneurysm repair, carotid endarterectomy, leg angioplasty and stenting, and peripheral bypass surgery.

At Middlesex Health, vascular surgeons pioneer minimally invasive techniques and they're committed to providing personalized care. They take the time to develop a unique care plan for each patient to ensure the best possible outcome.

The Vascular Experts has offices in Middletown and Old Saybrook and can be reached at: 844-482-7285.


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Sustainable Essex Committee

Since its inception in May of 2018, the Sustainable Essex Committee has been working toward Bronze level certification through the Sustainable CT initiative. The Sustainable CT program strives to help CT build thriving, resilient, forward-looking towns that promote the health and well-being of current and future residents, while respecting the limits of the natural environment.

The deadline for submission of work to be considered for certification is August 2019. To achieve Bronze level status requires 200 points from 10 different “action” categories. So far, the committee has completed 175 points with other actions still in the works. We are extremely optimistic we will meet the 200 point target by August!

Some of the actions the committee has completed include: increasing the use of renewable energy in municipal buildings, implementing a community energy campaign, holding a sustainability event, increasing affordable housing options in Essex and facilitating an invasive species education event.

Looking forward, Sustainable Essex has arranged for a free Community Resilience Building (CRB) workshop facilitated by The Nature Conservancy. (Date in August to be determined.) This event will help our community assess and prioritize potential impacts due to climate change and natural hazards while developing solutions for the community, its infrastructure and the environment.

Beyond certification, the state of CT has set a goal of 60% reduction in solid waste by 2024. To aid in this goal, Sustainable CT has requested that Sustainable Essex publish the amount of waste generate annually in pounds. In the companion piece in this publication, located on page 7, Watching our “WASTE” line in Essex, it can be seen that solid waste generation has been increasing over the last few years with serious consequences. A major goal of Sustainable Essex in the future will be to challenge the community to decrease its solid waste.

Susan Abbot

Essex - Community Listings

HOUSES OF WORSHIP

- All Saints Episcopal Church..... (860) 767-1698
- First Baptist Church..... (860) 767-8623
- First Congregational Church (860) 767-8097
- Ivoryton Congregational Church..... (860) 767-1004
- Our Lady of Sorrows Church (860) 767-1284
- St. John’s Episcopal Church..... (860) 767-8095
- Trinity Lutheran Church (860) 767-0228

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

- Ancient Order of Weeders (860) 767-2700
- Democratic Town Committee..... (781) 483-2021
- Community Foundation of Middlesex County (860) 347-0025
- Essex Board of Trade..... (860) 767-3904
- Essex Boy Scouts of America..... (860) 304-9027
- Essex Community Fund..... (860) 304-2751
- Essex Cub Scouts of America (860) 790-0681
- Essex Garden Club (860) 388-7209
- Essex Historical Society..... (860) 767-0681

- Essex Lion’s Club (860) 767-8072
- Essex Land Trust.....info@landtrust.org
- Essex Little League..... www.essexlittleleague.org
- Essex Veterans Memorial Hall (860) 767-8892
- F.I.S.H. (860) 388-2693
- Ivoryton Company of Fifers & Drummers..... (860) 767-2237
- Ivoryton Village Allianceinfo@ivorytonalliance.org
- Lower Valley Visiting Nurses (860) 767-0186
- Republican Town Committee..... (860) 262-0226
- SCORE Mentors (860) 388-9508
- The Shoreline Soup Kitchens (860) 388-1988
- Tri-Town Youth Services Bureau (860) 526-3600
- 9 Town Transit (860) 510-0429

SCHOOLS

- Essex Elementary School..... (860) 767-8215
- John Winthrop Middle School..... (860) 526-9546
- Superintendent..... (860) 526-2417
- Valley Regional High School..... (860) 526-5328

Summer Concert Series Presented by Essex Park & Recreation

From 6:30 - 8:30 pm, join us for an evening full of music and fun at our town greens in Essex and Ivoryton!

CONCERT INFORMATION:

DAY	DATE	LOCATION	MUSIC BY
Wednesday	July 31	Essex Main Street	Leaf Jumpers
Tuesday	August 6	Ivoryton Green	Long Island Sound
Wednesday	August 14	Essex Main Street	Blues on the Rocks

The schedule is subject to change. Please visit our website for weather related announcements and information at: www.essexct.gov or call: 860-767-4340 extension 148.





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Red Wines for the Summer

With many barbecues going on and parties for the summer this calls for a lighter red than you would have with a heavy winter meal. There are quite a number of wines from all over the world that will go with your tasty summer dishes.

One of the lighter and more refreshing wines is made from the Gamay grape, which partakes the flavors of red fruits such as cherries, strawberry and raspberry. Most of these style wines come from Beaujolais, France. Typically they are light in body with bright fruit and a light finish.

For a higher quality one there are 10 villages and each one has own unique taste. The ten villages are: Brouilly, Chénas, Chiroubles, Côte de Brouilly, Fleurie, Juliéna, Morgon, Moulin-à-vent, Régnié, and St-Amour. These are called Cru Beaujolais. They pair well with grilled chicken and light salads. The next light wine to examine is Pinot Noir. This red is usually drier than those previously mentioned. The Pinot Noir grape is grown all over the world. It originated in Burgundy, France and has flavors of red fruit and a dry, slightly earthy finish. The California Pinot Noirs have a different taste profile. They have less of an earthy taste and are a bit softer in the finish. The fruit flavors can vary from bright cherry to dark fruit such as blackberry and cassis but it is still light in body.

Oregon Pinot Noir, due to its similar climate, tends to resemble the wines from Burgundy, rather than California. For wine, Oregon is known best for its Pinot Noirs. They are also available from Argentina, Chile, New Zealand, and many other parts of the world. When they are produced in Italy they are called Pinot Nero. Pinot Noir pairs best with heavier seafood dishes, swordfish and light meat dishes like barbecue pork ribs.

One type of wine that pairs well with any barbecue dish is a Cote du Rhone. Coming from the southern Rhone area in France, it is a light to medium bodied wine with a good amount of fruit with a spicy dry finish, but not tannic or too heavy. Most Rhone wines are a blend of Grenach and Syrah. They can also include grapes such as; Mourvèdre, Cinsaut, and Carignan. A few other reds to try this summer are Malbec, Petit Sirah and Zinfandel.

Have a fun time experimenting with these summer reds! Enjoy the summer with friends, family and great wine, at your barbecues and picnics.

Art LiPuma
Manager, SeaSide Wine & Spirits

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Upcoming Essex Land Trust Events



Essex Land Trust welcomes everyone to attend any of our upcoming programs. For more details download our Calendar of Events brochure from our website: www.essexlandtrust.org. All events are free.

Saturday, September 14, 9:30 am

- Kayak Trip on the Lieutenant River.

Join ELT expert kayakers Jeff Croyle and Pam Peters at the Ferry Landing State Park off Ferry Rd in Old Lyme. Paddle briefly up the CT River to enter the Lieutenant River for a 2.5-hour trip. Enjoy passing the Florence Griswold Museum and seeing the beauty of this river up close. Intermediate skill level required. Inclement weather will postpone event to September 28.

Saturday, October 19, 7:30 am

- Ivoryton Pumpkin Chase, Ivoryton Village Green.

This race is supported by the Essex Land Trust and benefits the Ivoryton Library and its programs. The 5K race course winds through Ivoryton Village and the Essex Land Trust's Falls River Preserve. 5K prizes awarded in 10 age groups. Runners 8 and under running in the Kids' Fun Run will be given medals and invited to stay for craft and story time. Registration begins at the Ivoryton Village green at 7:30 am. Race starts at 8:45 am for children and at 9:15 am for adults. Parking in designated lots. Rain or shine.

continued on page 30

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Essex Land Trust... continued from page 29

Saturday, October 26, 6:00 pm

- Stargazing with the New Haven Astronomical Society
- Johnson Farm, Walnut Street, Ivoryton.

Join us for this unique opportunity to learn what we see in the late October skies during the New Moon. Experts from the New Haven Astronomical Society will bring telescopes for us to observe the stars, deep sky galaxies, nebula and clusters close-up. Maybe even Saturn before it sets. All ages welcome. Parking in designated location at the farm, 77 Walnut Street, Ivoryton. Rain date: October 27.



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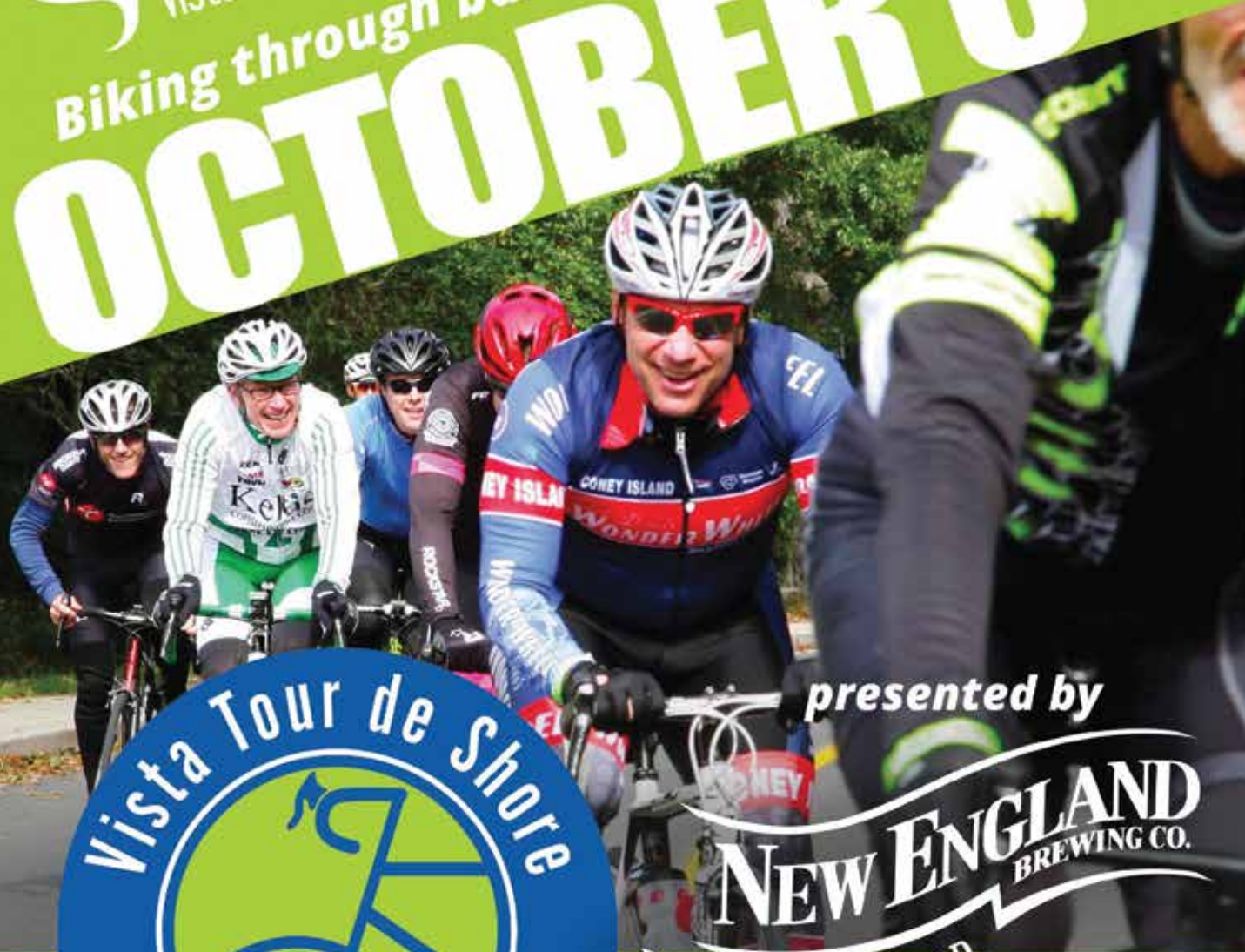
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Connecticut River Museum News



RiverFare 2019.

The months are warming up and so has the activity at the end of Main Street where pavement meets the Connecticut River!

As the seasons change from wet to warm we've seen a lot more people out and about; whether on the water enjoying a sail aboard the Onrust or in the evening enjoying another Tavern Night at the Lay House complete with live music, tasty food samples and drink tastings. While we do enjoy our fun, we've also been exceptionally busy with our educational programs

with schools coming to learn the history, geography, science, and stories of the Connecticut River! There are also plenty more stories (these ones being quite spooky) to be told in our new exhibit: Myths and Legends of the Connecticut River Valley!

We've already kicked off summer with both of our staple events; the Annual Shad Bake, where we celebrated (and ate) the most historical fish in the Connecticut River Valley and RiverFare, where we enjoyed cuisine and drink from local businesses! We are not done yet... we have a lineup of events both ongoing and annual that we are excited to host!

DON'T MISS OUT ON WHAT'S TO COME!

Paddle Program

- Ongoing!

Summer Adventure Camps

- July 8 through August 16

Conquer the Current Paddle Regatta

- August 10 (registration is open!)

Myths and Legends Public Programs

- Ongoing!

Swallow Tours

- Late August



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Ivoryton Playhouse Opens Record Breaking Season

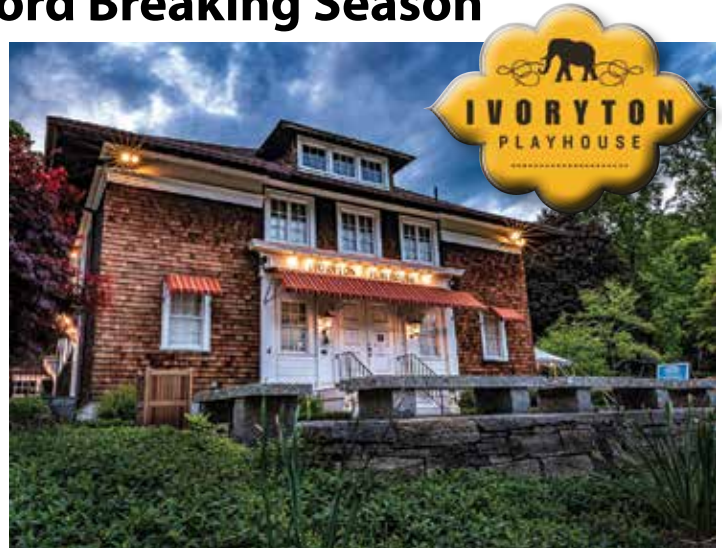
SING AND DANCE YOUR WAY THROUGH THE SUMMER AT THE IVORYTON PLAYHOUSE!



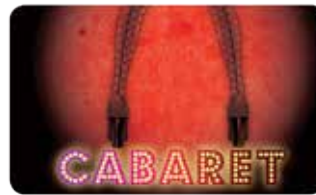
On stage now until July 28:
MAMMA MIA!
The Ivoryton Playhouse is transformed to a Mediterranean island filled with the music we have loved for over 40 years!

Over 60 million people worldwide have fallen in love with the characters, the story and the music that make MAMMA MIA! the ultimate feel-good show! Set on a Greek island paradise, the story-telling magic of ABBA's timeless songs propels this enchanting tale of love, laughter and friendship, creating an unforgettable show.

On the eve of her wedding, Sophie reads her mom's diary, only to discover that the father she has never met, could be one of three men! The wedding invitation brings Sophie's three dads to the Greek Isles in search of the life that could have been with Sophie's mother, Donna. Filled with laughter, heart and 22 hit songs including "Super Trouper", "Dancing Queen", "Knowing Me, Knowing You", "Take a Chance on Me", "Thank You for the Music", "The Winner Takes It All", "SOS" and the title track. Additional Saturday matinees were: July 6 and July 20.



Ivoryton Playhouse 2019.
Photo by Brian Wilson - Brian J. Wilson Photography



“There was a cabaret and there was a master of ceremonies and there was a city called Berlin in a country called Germany. It was the end of the world ... and I was dancing with Sally Bowles and we were both fast asleep.” So begins the international classic musical - continued on page 34

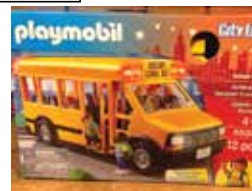


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Ivoryton Playhouse... continued from page 33

CABARET. Join us at the Kit Kat Club from August 7 - September 1 as the Emcee takes us back to 1931 Berlin as the Nazis are rising to power.

CABARET focuses on the nightlife at the seedy Kit Kat Klub, and revolves around American writer Cliff Bradshaw and his relationship with English cabaret performer Sally Bowles. Featuring unforgettable musical numbers including "Willkommen," "Cabaret," and "Two Ladies," CABARET is a Broadway classic. The original 1966 Broadway production won eight Tony Awards in 1967 and four in 1998. Additional Saturday matinees: August 17 and August 31.

WAITING IN THE WINGS:

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Sailing Masters "Old Guard" Continues to Perform

On the second Saturday of May earlier this year, the annual Commemoration of the Burning of the Ships was held in Essex remembering the events of 1814 when the British Navy burned 29 ships in Essex harbor during the War of 1812. The Sailing Masters of 1812 Fife and Drum Corps has observed this anniversary each year since 1968 with a parade of invited fife and drum corps, a small music muster at the foot of Main street, and a celebratory feast of shared dishes for all to partake.

Essex has been proud to claim the Sailing Masters as its home Corps and even the most casual observer has to feel that spark of patriotic fervor as the Corps smartly marches down Main Street with fifes piercing and drums pounding to the cadence of 95 beats per minute. Much of the music of the Sailing Masters repertoire was created by an earlier Corps that was based in Ivoryton, the Comstock Drum Corps, and a past Drum Lieutenant, Harold Ek, was responsible for passing on both the music and the drumming technique to future Sailing Masters. I joined the Corps in 1980 and remember Harold as an ageing member of the Corps who had some trouble marching but would always seem to be able to finish a parade. At the time, I didn't appreciate the

continued on page 36



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Sailing Masters... continued from page 34

extent of his contribution to the Corps because I was a young up-and-coming drummer who was only interested in executing the various drum rudiments correctly and memorizing the music. But now, as an ageing drummer myself, I understand what he went through. The 2-mile parade route that was once like a “nice stroll in the park” has become a real chore to complete. The feet aren’t as strong, the legs are weaker, and the drum seems heavier. But I have also discovered that I have a different role in the Corps now that I am a senior member. Just as Harold Ek served as a mentor to myself and other young members of the Corps in the 1980s, so I can do likewise. I can help young members come into the Corps, become comfortable with the new music and technique, and provide a mentor for them to seek out. I can no longer march with the Corps because of arthritic joints. But I can still play the snare drum at 95 beats per minute and execute the rudiments of close to 100 tunes that constitute our repertoire, can still perform in concert with the Corps, and continue to enjoy the wonderful camaraderie that comes with being a member of this special organization. And Life Members Ted Nelson and Bob Herel and Charter Member Sal Chiaramonte also continue to attend Corps functions while serving as mentors for younger members.

There is certainly a wealth of experience to call upon in the “Old Guard” of the Corps. So I would like to reach out to you who have thought about joining our Corps but felt that there was no way



you could do it. After all, we look so formal and regimented and the music sounds difficult to play, how could I ever do that, even though I would like to? Well, it IS possible. If you have the passion to do something, you will do it. Our members are here to help you become members of the Sailing Masters. We welcome members of all ages - young (minimum age 16,) middle, advanced. All have something to contribute to the Corps as we continue to honor the history of the Sailing Master in the US Navy, the role of Essex in the War of 1812, and the perpetuation of the art of fifing and drumming for future generations.

Alex Cardoni*

**Alex Cardoni is a Life Member of the Sailing Masters of 1812, former Drum Lieutenant, and a resident of Ellington, Connecticut.*



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Lawn Pollution a Big Connecticut Concern

Essex Land Trust Editor's Note:

Although several years old, the following article highlights the need to be careful in how each of us cares for our lawns.

Connecticut's largest agricultural crop by acreage is now something that humans don't eat, benefits very few other creatures, and contributes to the pollution of our air, land and water.

The crop in question is the grass growing on your lawn, on school fields, in state and local parks, around industrial developments, condos and government buildings. And we're growing more of it every year.

Lawn grass now covers more than 245,000 acres of Connecticut's landscape - surpassing the land in agricultural use by better than 13,700 acres, according to a University of Connecticut satellite technology survey.

"In relative terms, it's the fastest growing portion of our landscape," said Chester Arnold, co-founder and co-director of UConn's Center for Land Use Education and Research.

In 1985, lawn grasses covered about 197,634 acres in this state, UConn's survey records show. By 2010, Connecticut's grass



coverage had increased to 254,551 acres - an increase of 56,917 acres.

continued on page 38



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Lawn Pollution... continued from page 37

The same quarter-century saw agricultural land in Connecticut drop by nearly 40,262 acres.

Connecticut homeowners, businesses, and governments spend millions of dollars every year on fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides that can get washed into rivers and streams and end up polluting ponds, lakes and Long Island Sound. Exhaust from gasoline-powered lawn mowers has become a significant source of air pollution, and large amounts of gas are spilled annually by people filling their mower tanks.

Scientists and environmental experts say there have been efforts in recent years to reduce lawn-related pollution, including industry changes in the types of fertilizers being sold and tougher air pollution standards for lawn mowers.

Scientists and environmental experts say there have been efforts in recent years to reduce lawn-related pollution, including industry changes in the types of fertilizers being sold and tougher air pollution standards for lawn mowers.

"We have never changed our industry as much as we have in the last three years," said David Christensen, president of the Connecticut Groundskeepers Association and owner of Christensen Landscape in North Branford. He said his company and many other landscapers are increasingly encouraging homeowners to think about letting their lawns or portions of lawns grow into more sustainable, less polluting wildflower and hay fields.

But Roger Reynolds, legal director of the activist groups Connecticut Fund for the Environment and Save the Sound, said pollution tied to lawns and other runoff continues to be "a huge problem" in this state.

"It is the driver of water pollution today," Reynolds said of nitrogen and phosphorus runoff from septic systems, storm sewers and lawns. Although lawn-related pollution isn't the main source, "it's really a growing source," he said.

DEAD FISH IN LONG ISLAND SOUND

Nitrogen fertilizer washed off lawns gets into streams, rivers, lakes, ponds and eventually into Long Island Sound. Reynolds said it is the primary cause of "over-nutrication leading to algae blooms" that can foul waters and cause large areas of the Sound to become "dead zones" with too little oxygen for marine life to survive.

Jamie Vaudrey, an assistant research professor with UConn's Department of Marine Sciences, said the biggest problems involve the approximately 110 small inlets and harbors lining Connecticut's Long Island Sound shoreline.

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Lawns within 200 yards of these small inlets can have “a huge impact on water quality,” according to Vaudrey, who studies the impact lawn pollution has on Long Island Sound. The closer a lawn is to a stream, river or an inlet on the Sound, the more of the nitrogen fertilizer will seep under or across the ground and into the water.

Connecticut has spent billions of dollars in the past 20 years making improvements to sewage and stormwater drainage systems in an effort to cut down on the runoff pollution reaching streams, rivers and the Sound. Vaudrey said that has produced a significant reduction in pollution, but that lawns near those inlets and harbors “can be a big part of that [pollution] load to local waters.”

Vaudrey said her research indicates that lawns close to shoreline inlets and harbors contribute about 16 percent of the total amount of nitrogen flowing into those waters. If fertilizer on parks, recreational fields, golf courses and agricultural fields is included, the amount rises to about 27 percent of the total nitrogen pollution. Those figures don't include the nitrogen that flows into the Sound from major rivers like the Connecticut, Housatonic and Thames Rivers.

“In Peconic Bay [at the eastern tip of Long Island] there were a couple of pretty big fish kills last year” related to nitrogen pollution, Reynolds said. Those involved die-offs of thousands of menhaden and other marine creatures because algae blooms that resulted in oxygen depletion in the bay.

“For some local water bodies, lawn fertilizer can be the most important source of nitrogen,” said Rob Hust, assistant director of the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) unit charged with planning and setting standards to deal with water pollution. In some inland ponds and lakes and in marine areas like Niantic Bay, Hust said, nitrogen pollution can lead to “algae blooms that go out of control.”

MORE LAWNS, MORE FERTILIZER

As grassy lawns have expanded around the state, scientists say the increasing dependence on nitrogen-rich fertilizer has become more of a concern.

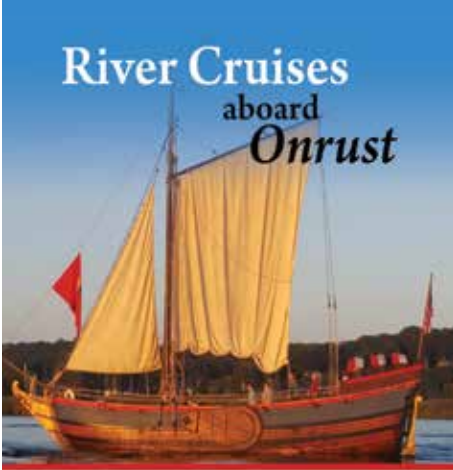
To flourish, all this grass needs water, fertilizer, pesticides and herbicides to compete with native North American species of plants that most homeowners call weeds.

A 2014 study by University of Florida researchers entitled “Consumer Lawn Care and Fertilizer Use in the United States” found that 92 percent of the people responding to a nationwide survey saw “improving the property value as the primary benefit provided by a lawn.”

Approximately 77 percent of homeowners used herbicide on their lawns in the prior year, and just six percent of those surveyed said they spend less than \$24 a year on fertilizer, according to the Florida University study.

A recent estimate by an industry research firm, Freedonia Group, is that spending in the U.S. on packaged lawn-and-garden products like fertilizer, pesticides, seeds, and mulch is expected to grow by 3.4 percent a year and hit \$9.3 billion by 2020.

continued on page 40



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Lawn Pollution... continued from page 39

In response, Connecticut's General Assembly passed legislation in 2012 designed to reduce phosphorus pollution in the state, and one result has been the removal of phosphorus from lawn fertilizers sold here.

Lawns "need nitrogen constantly," the DEEP's Hust said. Calculating the amount of nitrogen-loaded fertilizer sold in the state is very difficult, according to Hust, and how people use it on their lawns also varies enormously.

"Some people fertilize their lawns all the time... and some people have good soils and don't fertilize as much," Hust added. He and other experts said that teaching homeowners about the need to reduce the amount and frequency of applying fertilizer to their lawns is crucial.

"We're still seeing residential growth with larger lawns than in the past," said Hust. "It's a disturbing trend."

By Gregory Hladky, Staff Reporter, Hartford Courant, September 14, 2016. This article is reprinted with permission from the Hartford Courant.

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Appointment of New Chair & Trustees at High Hopes Riding

Jacqueline Kangley is the new Chair of High Hopes Therapeutic Riding. Kangley was introduced to therapeutic riding by her Essex Elementary School classmates and has been a volunteer at High Hopes since 2004. She has been a Trustee since 2015 and currently volunteers in the therapeutic riding program and serves on the Program, Marketing Advisory, Event, and Development Committees. She has co-chaired the 'Concert in the Barn' and served on many Auction, Décor, and other Benefit Committees. She is a past recipient of the Sally H. Aubrey Award, and the 2018 Path Intl. Region 1 Volunteer of the Year for her outstanding contribution to High Hopes.

"High Hopes is a unique, vibrant community with an important mission. For over 15 years, I've watched participants, instructors, volunteers, and horses work together to improve each others' lives in very measurable ways. I am grateful to be a part of the High Hopes team and value this opportunity to help guide the

organization," said Jackie of her appointment.

John Catlett is stepping down as Chair but will continue as a Trustee at the Old Lyme Non-Profit. Handing over the gravel, Catlett commented: "Jackie is an outstanding choice to lead High Hopes as it begins to implement its latest Strategic Plan and transitions to the public phase of its endowment campaign. Jackie's long involvement with the organization gives her a deep understanding of High Hopes and positions her well to take on this important role. I'm sure she will help lead the organization to an even stronger position to help impact the lives of those who depend so much on High Hopes."

Two new Trustees were also welcomed to the Board; Sarah Kitchings Keenan and Margaret (Mac) Mummert. Each will serve for a three-year term.

Sarah and her husband Christopher reside in Essex with their three children, Ryan,

Maggie, and Ashley. Ryan has been an active High Hopes participant for five years; both of her daughters have attended the High Hopes Unified Summer Camp. Sarah has served as a member of the High Hopes Development Committee and is currently Treasurer of the Essex Elementary School Foundation.

Lyme resident Mac Mummert and her husband, Earl, are veterinarians and have owned four small animal practices. Her special interests include internal medicine and oncology. She has served in many local civic organizations including the Lyme Garden Club, the Child and Family Agency and is a past President of the SE Connecticut Professional Women's Network. She has served on the vestry of St. Ann's Episcopal Church and was District Commissioner of the Connecticut Valley Pony Club. Mac has two children, Brian and Anya. Anya has been a participant at High Hopes since she was five and now works as a volunteer twice weekly.



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Human Trafficking – Our Problem to Solve

Publisher’s Note:

Welcome to Part 1 of a special series in Essex Events Magazines. We were initially planning to publish a short article about a human trafficking sting operation that was conducted in Connecticut by the Guilford Police Department in January of 2018. It seemed like a good time to take another look at that operation; what it was all about and where things stood today. What we uncovered was that human trafficking is a vast and insidious problem. It continues to rage in our own backyards and across all social and economic strata. The perpetrators and victims are among us. They could be our own friends, neighbors, or relatives. It is a topic most would rather not examine. This Essex Events Magazines series offers a start - an attempt to raise awareness. Special thanks to Madison Just, a recent graduate of Valley Regional High School for her diligent work in researching this topic, conducting interviews, and drafting these reports. Many thanks also to Chief Jeffrey Hutchinson and Lieutenant Timothy Bernier of the Guilford Police Department and State’s Attorney Brian Sibley for their open discussion about human trafficking and the ongoing efforts being made in Connecticut to confront the issue.

It is in our backyard

Human trafficking is an unsavory topic most would rather not address. Some say it’s not my problem. Others say it’s just the world’s oldest profession – confusing trafficking with prostitution (which is not the same thing). Still others look at it as something that exists only in third world countries. Human trafficking is a crime. It is big business. It is everywhere, including in every town and city in Connecticut.

Human trafficking can take several forms. For example, victims

of labor trafficking essentially become indentured servants who are forced to work for little or no pay. There is no set manner in which this exploitation takes place. They may, for example, have their travel to the U.S. paid for. They are seeking a better life. But once here, they are stripped of their cell phones and passports. They are forced to work in deplorable conditions and are led to believe that their only means of survival is to work for the trafficker. There is the constant fear of physical harm or death. Sex trafficking is another form of human trafficking, Under the Trafficking Victims Protection Act, sex trafficking is a commercial



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sex act that is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform the act has not attained 18 years of age. This Essex Events Magazine's series focuses on sex trafficking of minors in the U.S.

"Any kid who has a cell phone... that's not just giving your child access to the world, but it's giving the world access to your child,"

explains Lieutenant Timothy Bernier of the GPD.

The reality is that with modern day technology, the act of friending and tracking down children as potential victims is rather easy. A sting operation conducted by the Guilford Police Department in conjunction with Attorney Brian Sibley of the CT State's Attorney's office in New Haven illustrates the depth of the problem. And it just scratched the surface.

"People never knew it was happening in Connecticut," says Sibley. "We need to get this out there. It is similar to the opioid epidemic. It is horrific." Jeffrey Hutchinson, Chief of the Guilford Police Department agrees. "The general person would be terrified to find out the actual scope of the problem." Any child is at risk. "Any kid who has a cell phone... that's not just giving your child access to the world, but it's giving the world access to your child," explains Lieutenant Timothy Bernier of the GPD. "Predators on the internet pose as another child, or someone who appears to be trustworthy. Once a connection has been established, they talk,

give compliments, and gain trust." The targets may be showered with gifts to reel them in. During this grooming process, the child may change style of clothes, have new jewelry, electronics, or other gifts, or may start having more sleepovers with friends.

Hutchinson, Bernier and Sibley found out all too well how it works. Sibley was looking for a way to be more proactive with respect to domestic minor sex trafficking. He wanted to spearhead an operation to identify and arrest human traffickers. He contacted Hutchinson, who agreed to participate. Together, they established an operation that serves as the blueprint for other human trafficking sting operations. They set up a detailed operational plan to find trafficking predators. They created false profiles on sites like Craig's List, Grindr, and Facebook.

"There was interest from all over," says Hutchinson. "People were reaching out to us, building relationships." Over the course of 30 days, there were over 5,000 hits. Then, a house in Guilford was set up as a meeting place. Over 2½ days, 5 people were arrested. "And we could have kept going," observes Hutchinson. The profile that received the most hits was called "Looking for Family Fun" - a **continued on page 46**

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Human Trafficking... continued from page 45

38-year-old woman who was offering herself and her 12-year-old daughter for sex.

The goal of the operation was not only to catch criminals, but also to raise awareness that this crime is occurring so close to home. Chief Hutchinson mentions how easy it was to attract the predators. Then, there is the reality of the vast human and monetary resources needed to conduct such an operation. Bernier describes the eye-opening range of offenders. "The consumers of it are everywhere," he noted. "A suburban hockey coach who was also a federal agent, a 22 year-old McDonalds' employee, a 45 year-old accountant." Indeed, one suspect arrested in the sting operation was a foreign national in the U.S. illegally who came to Guilford from out of state to attempt to traffic the young girl.

To date, three of the five suspects arrested in the Guilford sting operation have been convicted and will serve time in jail. They will also be required to register as sex offenders. The cases against the other two individuals are still ongoing. Sibley, Hutchinson and Bernier agree that it will be an uphill battle for a long time. But they won't give up. "Be careful," says Hutchinson. "We are watching you."

If you are being trafficked or you suspect someone you know is being trafficked, please call:

For trafficking of children in Connecticut:

1-800-842-2288

For the national human trafficking hotline:

1-888-373-7888

Important tips for recognizing the signs of domestic minor sex trafficking

APPS TEENS ARE USING:



Calculator%
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Hot or Not
Strangers rate your profile. Goal is to lead to a hook up.

Omegle
A free online chat website that promotes chatting anonymously to strangers.

Burn Book
Post anonymous rumors about people through audio messages, texts, and photos.

Yellow
This app is designed to allow teens to flirt with each other in a Tinder-like atmosphere.

Wishbone
An app that allows users to compare kids against each other and rate them on a scale.

Whisper
An anonymous app where the creators promote sharing secrets and meeting new people.

Kik
Messaging app. Kik has built in apps and web content that would be filtered on home computer.

Ask.fm
Ask an anonymous question and get an answer. This app has been linked to the most severe forms of cyberbullying.

Instagram
Many kids are now creating fake accounts to hide content from parents. Kids also like to text using Instagram.

SNEAKY TEEN TEXTING CODES

What your teen's texts *really* mean.

- LH6 = let's have sex
- KYS = kill yourself
- CD9 = code 9 . parents around
- 99 = parents are gone
- LMIRL = let's meet in real life
- MPFB = my personal f*** buddy
- ASL = age/sex/location
- KOTL = kiss on the lips
- HAK = hugs & kisses
- KPC = keeping parents clueless
- 1174 = meet at a party spot
- ADR = what's your address
- GYPO = get ya pants off
- CU46 = see you for sex
- WTTP = want to trade photos?
- GNOC = get naked on camera

Trim these items out for your own information.

Warning! Online Predator

A guide for discussion with your children.

Below are common tactics that are used by predators.

For more information see our 'Toolbox' Visit: www.Vets4ChildRescue.org
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PREDATOR SAYS

WHAT IT MEANS

What are you doing right now?	Predator trying to see if you're alone or with others.
Let's go private.	Let's go private chat, messaging or phone call.
Do you like music? What do you like to do?	Helps predator know your vulnerabilities.
Can I help you become a model?	Making you feel "special" to get what they want.
Are you upset?	Trying to gain your trust, acting like they truly care.
Where do you live? What school do you go to?	Predator feels you trust them enough to ask.
Do what I say, or I will send the pics to family and friends.	Predators use fear to make you do what they want.
I love you.	Predator wants you to meet with him.

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Jackie Robinson: An Ongoing Legacy of Impact and Achievement

by Sigrid Kun



Rendering of future Jackie Robinson Museum. Courtesy Gensler/Ralph Appelbaum Associates/Mopix Studios.

Jackie Robinson's legacy is stronger than ever. It's not just every April 15th when each Major League Baseball team celebrates Jackie Robinson Day. Through the Jackie Robinson Foundation (JRF) he and his family continue to impact lives and improve the communities in which we live.

BREAKING BARRIERS

Born on January 31, 1919 in Cairo, Georgia, Robinson grew up in Pasadena, CA. He later attended UCLA where he became the only student to letter in four varsity sports in the same year. He was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1942 and became second lieutenant. In 1944, while riding a bus back to Camp (now Fort) Hood, he was court martialed for refusing to move to the back of the bus. This ultimately led to his honorable discharge that same year.

It was around the same time that the Brooklyn Dodgers found it important to integrate Major League Baseball. Robinson signed a contract with the Dodgers in 1945 and began his baseball career with the Montreal Royals. On April 15, 1947, the color barrier was broken. Robinson became the first African American to play Major League Baseball, playing first base for the Dodgers. He carried himself with honor and grace despite facing opposition from crowds and teammates as well as threats to himself and his family. Named Rookie of the Year in 1947, his 10-year MLB career was outstanding - including being named MVP in 1949 and a World Series win in 1955. He was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1962.

ADVANCING EQUALITY AND CIVIL RIGHTS

Robinson transformed more than baseball. He and his wife, Rachel, became increasingly involved in the civil rights movement in the 1950s and 1960s. It was during this time (mid-1950s) that the family home in Stamford, CT was purchased - not without adversity. "Our parents faced housing discrimination during their search for a home," recalls Jackie Robinson's daughter, Sharon, who serves as Vice Chair of the JRF Board of Directors. "Andrea Simon, a prominent resident, heard of our difficulties and intervened." As Sharon and her brothers integrated into the neighborhood and schools, they faced various levels of racism. The home offered privacy, freedom, friendship, and sports.

And there were the wonderful jazz concerts. "Our family hosted our first 'Afternoon of Jazz' on our Stamford property in June of 1963," relates Sharon. "Dad was a fundraiser for the Civil Rights Movement." Robinson was also working with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr to raise money to rebuild black churches that had been bombed. The first concert was a fundraiser for Southern Christian Leadership Conference and came on the heels of Dr. King's efforts in Birmingham, Alabama.



Family portrait left to right: Sharon Robinson, Mom Rachel and Dad Jackie Robinson. Courtesy Jackie Robinson Foundation.

The concert was managed by a massive volunteer force of family and friends. Musicians (like Dizzy Gillespie) volunteered their time and talents. "My brother, David and I - along with our friends - sold hot dogs and sodas. Dad and Jackie Jr. parked cars. Mom was the directress with her hands in all aspect of the concert," recalls Sharon. The second concert was shortly after the Robinson family returned from the March on Washington. "Dr. King came and spoke to the crowd. It was one of the most amazing days of our young lives." The Afternoon of Jazz became a regular fundraiser for the Civil Rights Movement during Jackie Robinson's life. After he passed in 1972, the tradition continued with proceeds to support JRF.

A LEGACY OF IMPACT AND ACHIEVEMENT

Rachel founded JRF in 1973. JRF not only honors the memory of Jackie Robinson and his heroic achievements but also provides college and graduate student scholarships and leadership development opportunities for students of color with strong capabilities but limited financial resources. It is a two-pronged approach with four-year grants and hands-on, comprehensive support.

This year, JRF is commemorating the 100th birthday of Jackie Robinson with a year-long series of events to benefit not only the organization's programs but also the future Jackie Robinson Museum. The culminating event will be the opening of the Jackie Robinson Museum in New York City in December of 2019. "It has been our family's dream to have a physical space where my father's legacy and the values and ideals by which he lived could inspire others," says Sharon. "We are excited to shine a light on my father's life, while raising funds to continue to positively impact the lives of others."

"My parents taught me the importance of loving your world," adds Sharon - an accomplished nurse-midwife, professor, author and educational consultant within the Commissioner of Baseball's Office. "We have a favorite Jackie Robinson quote: *'A life is not important except for the impact on other's lives.'*"

Photo of Jackie Robinson/Getty Images.



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