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VOLUME 14 • QUARTER 2 • 2020



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p.30



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First Selectman's Corner

The last three months have been like no others we have experienced. Not long after the last Old Lyme Events article, we started hearing more about the novel coronavirus (COVID 19) that originated in Wuhan, China. It spread west to Europe and east to South Korea, Japan and ultimately the west coast of the United States. There were dire predictions about how many Americans would be infected (1.7 million) and die (170,000). When it got a firm grip on New York City, it seemed as if we in Connecticut were next, waiting for the pandemic hurricane to sweep over us, and there was little we could do. There was no vaccine to take and the personal protective equipment (PPE) and hospital ventilators were in woefully short supply.

On March 16th, the Board of Selectmen signed a Declaration of Health Emergency and on March 18th, the Town Hall was closed to the public. Some Town Hall staff continued to work in Town Hall while others worked from home. Most town boards and commissions are now meeting using such electronic formats as WebEx and Zoom. Because town meetings may not be held at present, the Governor's Executive Order allows the Regional School District 18 Board of Education to approve the school budget and the Old Lyme Board of Finance to approve the town budget. We do have items that will need to be approved at a future town meeting but that must wait for now. Our public works employees and police kept functioning as did the Town's Emergency Services staff and

volunteers. All public schools in Connecticut shut down on March 16th and the teachers scrambled to implement lesson plans for distance learning. The Governor closed non-essential businesses which has had a profound effect on retail stores, restaurants and other operations.



Timothy Griswold
First Selectman

Old Lyme had its first "positive" COVID-19 case reported on March 29. As of May 2nd, we have a total of 15 reported cases, including one related death. We have been practicing social distancing in public places and staying at home as much as possible. The Governor has issued dozens of Executive Orders, one of which prohibits short-term property rentals for periods of less than 32 days, excepting to essential workers needing to self-isolate from their family members.

I made the difficult and controversial decision to close the Old Lyme public beaches effective May 2nd until further notice. The primary reason was related to the beaches at Sound View which attract crowds of several hundred young, non-resident people on warm, sunny days. With the first warm, sunny weekend forecast **continued on page 5**



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this season and "cabin fever" at its highest, the team of advisors I assembled concluded that we had to prepare for the worst rather than do nothing and react to a potentially bad situation. We also concluded that we could not close the Sound View area while allowing White Sand Beach and Hains Park to remain open; thereby creating a distinction between town residents and public at large. The beach closings will hopefully be for a short duration because we know many of our town's businesses depend on seasonal customers.

Other effects from COVID-19 have been the cancellation of the Town's Memorial Day Parade and the Mid-Summer Festival. Another regrettable cancellation is the graduation ceremonies for our high school seniors, but plans are underway to make the best of a bad situation for all concerned.

There are some positive notes amongst all this unfortunate news. The Old Lyme Public Safety Departments (Ambulance, Fire and Police) conducted a vehicle parade throughout town on Friday April 24th. It was a loud and well received thank you from the front line responders to the townspeople for their support. There have also been numerous acts of generosity such as the \$2,000 donation from the Old Saybrook Rotary Club for Emergency Services PPE and over \$50,000 in donations to the Lymes Youth Services Bureau fund to help struggling local people. There are many local sources of help and assistance, many of which may be found on the Town's

web page. We all look forward to things returning to normal or, at least, a new normal soon. Hopefully, the COVID-19 virus will subside to the point where we all may get back to work and resume the activities we all love.

OTHER LOCAL NEWS IN BRIEF

Following the Town's five-year revaluation by Vision Appraisal Inc., the Town's Grand List (taxable value of real estate, vehicles and personal property) decreased 2.47%. One should note – when the Grand List decreases, the taxes must increase to support a level amount of spending. While the school budget actually decreased slightly and the town budget increased slightly, the decrease in the Grand List and the increase in Old Lyme portion of the school budget (based solely on student count) caused the town's mill rate to increase from 22.41 to 23.2. Thanks to the School Board and the Old Lyme Board of Finance for their hard work.

The Board of Selectmen selected the Low Interest Rate Option in the Governor's Executive Order 7S which provides relief to taxpayers for their tax bills due on 1 July 2020. If taxpayers do not pay their taxes by the end of July, the unpaid portion will bear an annual interest rate of 3.00% (0.25%/month) rather than 18.00% (1.5%/month) from July 1st until paid during August and September. Amounts not paid by the end of September

continued on page 6

Publisher's Note

As of press time, our country is still in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. These are, indeed, difficult times for all. Included in this issue of Old Lyme Events Magazines is information regarding various programs and activities that span the upcoming quarter. Given the circumstances, some dates and times are subject to change.

Please check with the applicable organizations for any potential changes and/or cancellations.

We hope that the situation resolves as quickly as possible and that we can all get back to some sense of normalcy!

Please also take note of our The Last Word feature (on page 30). The array of pictures celebrates the strength of our community as we persevere through hard times.

Thank you to all!

We are pleased to be able to continue to provide you with Old Lyme Events Magazines. Please stay safe and healthy. We look forward to celebrating better times ahead!

William McMinn,
Essex Printing and Events Magazines



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will lose the low interest benefit and be charged 18.00% back to July 1st.

TOWN PROJECT UPDATES

Sound View Water & Sewer: Due to COVID-19, CT Water suspended its work to replace certain water lines and to make lateral connections to houses. The Town and the three private beach associations (Old Lyme Shores, Old Colony & Miami) have been working on documents concerning the assets they will share for the sewers (collection pipe, pump station and force main to East Lyme) and the intermunicipal agreements with East Lyme and New London that govern the charges for processing our sewage. A future Town meeting will likely be necessary to approve certain rights of way for the sewer pipes.

Sound View Sidewalks: The Town is working with an engineering company to design sidewalks on Hartford Ave. (from Bocce La. to Rte. 156) and along the north side of Rte. 156 (from Cross La. toward the Police Station.) The Town is responsible to pay engineering costs of \$40,000 and a State grant of \$400,000 will pay for the construction of the sidewalks.

Hains Park Bathroom Building: The Town is preparing to put out for bid the construction of a new bathroom building in Hains Park. The budget provides for \$150,000 for the building and we shall seek Town meeting approval to use the remaining funds in the Boathouse account (about \$32,000) to install an 800 gallon water storage system and a concrete crawl space under the building. The Committee plans to have construction begin in July.

Senior Center Building Expansion: The Towns of Lyme and Old Lyme have formed a committee to perform a needs assessment for a possible addition to the Senior Center. Each town has designated \$15,000 in its budget to fund the work of a consultant, yet to be determined, once the Committee has performed some preliminary work.

Mile Creek Road Bridge Replacement: Machnik Brothers Inc. is about to start work on replacing the bridge over the Black Hall River. We await the movement of the electric wires at the bridge before the work may begin. The bridge will be out for about two and a half months and there will be signs instructing motorists how to detour the work zone. The project is being funded by a 50% State grant.

Grassy Hill Rd. Bridge Replacement: The bridge at the beginning of Grassy Hill Rd. will be replaced next year. The Town was informed by the State that it must perform an archaeological survey of the work area before construction begins. The Town is also working with the various utilities to move a significant utility pole that is very close to the work area. The State will also fund 50% of this project.

Lt. Governor Bysiewicz has taken the lead in Connecticut to encourage everyone to complete the census forms that were mailed out. She noted recently that Old Lyme's response rate was 43% versus the State average of 56%. When speaking with someone from the Census 2020 organization, I found that the reason is because census cards were sent to all town property addresses and, as we know, many of the beach properties are owned by people who are not Old Lyme residents and they evidently did not return the card stating they do reside here. If you have not completed your census form (electronically or manually,) please do so as soon as possible. The census information has a direct bearing on how much funding our state receives and determines

continued on page 8



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Selectman's Corner... continued from page 6

how many congressmen/women we will have. You may recall Connecticut lost a Congressman after the last census.

I am pleased to report that the beaver problem in Bucky Brook/Black Hall River just south of Black Hall Pond has been dealt with. With thanks to Michael Kiernan, President of the Old Lyme Land Trust, we were able to confirm that there is only one beaver dam between Black Hall Pond and Whippoorwill Rd. on the Trust's property. The Trust took steps to deal with the problem and the water should be flowing properly.

Last, but not least, we welcome our new Resident State Trooper Matt Weber. It's great that Matt is a resident of Old Lyme and, along

with his K-9 Taz, has hit the road running. We also welcome two new part-time police officers - Benjamin Paul DeCrosta and Matt Ward. Ben retired from the East Haven Police Department as a Detective Sergeant and Matt, who is also an Old Lyme resident, recently retired from the CT State Police.

Now that the warm weather has returned, the Board of Selectmen hopes you are coping with COVID-19 as best you can and we all look forward to a timely return to our new normal. Be safe and be healthy.

Timothy Griswold
First Selectman

Town Hours & Holiday Schedule

TOWN HALL WILL BE CLOSED ON THE FOLLOWING HOLIDAYS IN 2020

Friday, **July 3, 2020** - Independence Day, Monday, **September 7, 2020** - Labor Day

Hours for most departments: Monday through Friday, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm.

Transfer Station/Landfill Hours:

The Transfer Station is located on Four Mile River Road and is open Tuesday-Friday, 7:30 am - 3:45 pm, Saturday, 8:30 am - 4:00 pm. Closed Sunday and Monday. Taxpayers' vehicles should have a Transfer Station sticker affixed to the right-hand side of windshield. Vehicles without a sticker, should bring proof of property address (i.e., tax bill, mortgage statement or closing papers,) along with a driver's license and registration.

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Assessor's Office

The Assessor would like to bring to your attention the following important deadlines.

Notice of Extension of Deadline to File Annual Income & Expense Report with the Assessor's Office.

Executive Order 7S, §10, extends the taxpayer filing deadline in General Statutes § 12-63c to August 15, 2020

Section 12-63c (d) of the Connecticut General Statutes requires any owner of income producing real property to file an Income and Expense Report annually no later than the close of business June 1st. This includes owners of real property that is rented or leased, including commercial, retail, industrial and residential property. Please note there is no postmark provision to this statute and all late filings will be subject to a 10% penalty to be applied to the property assessment.

Per CGS 12-41, all business operating in the Town of Old Lyme are required to file a list of Business Personal Property with the Assessor's Office on or before November 1, 2020. Declaration forms will be mailed by the end of September, failure to receive a form from our office does not relieve obligation of business owner to file prior to November.

Any Service Members eligible for a Veterans Exemption under CGS 12-81 must have on file their DD214 or equivalent discharge papers with the Town Clerk before October 1, 2020.

Per CGS 12-107 (b) – (g), any property owner wishing to file for Farm, Forest and Open Space under PA490 must file an application with the Assessor between

September 1 and October 31. During the revaluation year applications are due by December 31, 2020. Further information and Applications are available on the assessor's page on the town website or in the Assessor's Office

Downloadable forms, property information, maps, and other pertinent information is available through our webpage & GIS. Please visit: OLDLYME-CT.GOV follow the Link to GIS Mapping.

Any questions please contact:
860-434-1605 x 218 Melinda R. Kronfeld, Assessor and / or x 219 Mickie Fraser, Administrative Assessment Technician.

Office hours:
Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

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 <p>17 Shawandasse Road \$1,050,000</p>	 <p>37-1 Mile Creek Road \$975,000</p>	 <p>12 Cord Grass \$599,000</p>	 <p>9 Littlefield Lane \$419,000</p>

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Tax Collector's Notice

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF OLD LYME TAX COLLECTOR'S NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the Taxpayers of the Town of Old Lyme that I have a warrant to collect the taxes on the Grand List of October 1, 2019. Motor Vehicle taxes are due in full July 1, 2020. Real Estate and Personal Property bills may be paid in full on that date. However, Real Estate and Personal Property bills over \$100.00 are paid in two installments, July 1, 2020 and January 1, 2021. Partial payments are always accepted.

If the tax due, or installment due, is not paid within one month of the due date, the tax becomes delinquent and subject to interest at the rate of three percent (3%) per annum, in arrears, so long as payment is made by October 1, 2020 in full. If the tax due, or installment due, is not paid by October 1, 2020, interest will be charged against the delinquent amount at the rate of eighteen percent (18%) per annum, in arrears to July 1, 2020. The minimum interest charge is \$2.00.

Any landlord will be eligible for the same three percent (3%) interest rate until October 1, 2020 only if the said landlord files with the Town tax collector, by July 1, 2020, a written

certification that the landlord has granted commensurate relief or forbearance to its/his/her tenants and lessees. The certification form and more particular information about it may be found on the Town's website as <https://www.oldlyme-ct.gov/>.

The three percent (3%) charge is established by approved motion of the Board of Selectmen dated April 20, 2020 under authority of the Governor's Executive Orders 7S and 7W.

Questions pertaining to the assessments and exemptions should be directed to the Assessor's Office at: 860 434-1605 ext. 218 or 219. Tax questions at: 860 434-1605 ext. 216.

PAYMENTS

Payments may be made at the Tax Office, Old Lyme Memorial Town Hall, 52 Lyme St, Old Lyme, CT 06371 - weekdays from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm, and by mail: Old Lyme Tax Collector's Office, 52 Lyme St, Old Lyme, CT 06371, and online at: <https://www.mytaxbill.org/inet/bill/home.do?town=oldlyme>.

Respectfully submitted,
Judith A. Tooker, Tax Collector



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Town Clerk's Office

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Congratulations!

We congratulate the following on their recent marriages:

February

Joseph Ryan Niemiroski & Sarah Nicole Williams

March

Daniel Joseph Spencer & Samantha Joan Westbrook

With Sympathy

We would like to express our condolences to the families of recently deceased Old Lyme residents:

January

Elsie F. Bump

Walter Edward Sanders

Louis J. Bonamarte

February

Richard R. Siemiatkoski

Donald Marshall Joffray

James A. Beattie, Jr.

Wilbur C. Spencer

March

Ursula Grace Trainor

Janine Marshall

John Gregory Gordon

Sue Ellen Carlson

Leila G. Silva

Douglas Lorenzo Maynard

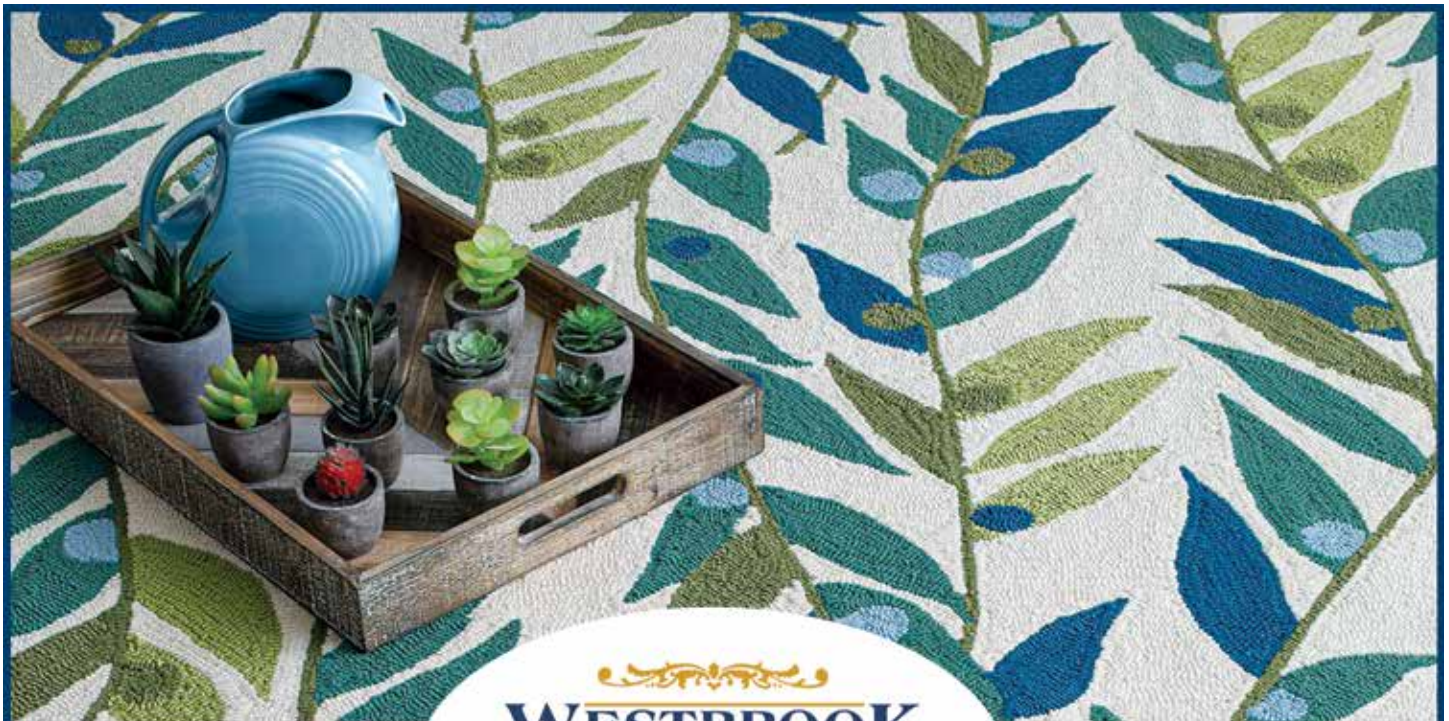
Roderick MacLeod White



Streetlights

REPORTING STREETLIGHT PROBLEMS

When reporting a street light outage/problem, please provide exact address, pole number and issue observed. Either phone Michele Hayes at: 860-434-1605, ext. 212 in the Selectman's Office, or report problem directly to the following link: <http://tankolighting.com/oldlymemaintenance/>. The Town of Old Lyme can only repair streetlights that are on town-owned roads. Streetlights that are located on private or association roads should be reported to the association. Thank you!



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Halls Road Improvement

The Halls Road Improvement Committee (HRIC) is working to create a more vibrant and economically attractive streetscape that maintains the traditional charm of Old Lyme. Our focus is to make the future Halls Road attractive to businesses and Old Lyme residents alike. This is particularly important as local retail is under increasing pressure nationwide. Survey respondents agree: Any future development in the Halls Road area should match the traditional character of Old Lyme.

Analysis of inputs from surveys, public meetings, and economic data has brought

two aspects of the Halls Road master planning to the fore:

Create an Experiential Environment:

A pedestrian-friendly streetscape that takes advantage of the natural setting and encourages visitors to park, stroll, and browse is crucial for retail trade. The long-term ideal is to create a neighborhood that is an attractive meeting place for the whole town (as Lyme Street was for generations.)

Zone as a Village District: We are recommending the current Commercial [only] District be zoned as a Village District. If

approved, this new zoning would open up opportunities for property owners to diversify their land use to include residential and open space while keeping within the traditional character of our town. Doing so would create, long-term, a more sustainable tax base; as well as position Halls Road as an attractive gateway to our town.

Components of our developing plan include sidewalks, a pedestrian bridge over the Lieutenant River, and other improvements. For previous reports and updates, please visit our web page: <https://www.oldlyme-ct.gov/halls-road-improvements-committee>.

The Woman's Exchange

Hope you all are well and we at "The Woman's Exchange" are so looking forward to seeing you SOON.

When we open (hopefully) sometime in June we plan on having a SALE. It will be 20% off all purchased merchandise (date to be determined.) Also, we still have some SEE's candy for sale. So, once we are open do come in to purchase the delicious candy and check out our other wonderful items for sale. Our baby department is looking super great, as well as many of our other artisan's items. We have a lovely selection of various candles and scarves, totes and lots of items you simply can't live without. Once again stay HEALTHY and see you soon.

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Trash and Recycling

CURBSIDE TRASH REMOVAL

Performed by CWPM, phone: 860-447-1473.

There is no trash pick-up on the following holidays: Christmas (Dec. 25,) New Year's (Jan. 1,) Memorial Day (last Monday in May,) July 4th, Labor Day (first Monday in Sept.,) and Thanksgiving Day (fourth Thursday in Nov.). Trash normally collected on Thanksgiving is picked up the next day, and Fridays trash will advance to Saturday for pickup. For other holidays, trash pickup moves to the following day. Please be advised that CWPM DOES NOT take off the same Holidays as the Town does.

Please have trash container out at curbside by 6:00 am on your assigned day. Containers should be three feet away from any other objects, such as mailboxes, cars, other containers, planters, etc. Please be mindful not to block breakdown/emergency lane with receptacle. Clearly mark your address on recycling and trash receptacles to avoid mix up, removal or displacement of cans. Phone Michele Hayes at: 860-434-1605, ext. 212 with any additional trash removal questions that you may have.

Single stream curbside recycling pick-up is provided for clean bottles, cans, plastics and paper products co-mingled in the green recycling carts every week. Corrugated cardboard boxes need to be flattened for recycling. A complete list of acceptable single stream recyclables is available on the Town's website at: www.oldlyme-ct.gov.

gov - click the trash and recycling link on the Selectman's or Public Works pages. Information is also available in the Selectman's Office at the Memorial Town Hall, 52 Lyme Street, and at the Landfill/Transfer Station on Four Mile River Road. Please phone Michele Hayes at: 860-434-1605, ext. 212 with any additional questions you may have.

CURBSIDE RECYCLING

Performed every week by CWPM, phone: 860-447-1473.

There is no recycling pick-up on the following holidays: Christmas Day (Dec. 25,) New Year's (Jan. 01,) Memorial Day (last Monday in May,) July 4th, Labor Day (first Monday in Sept.,) and Thanksgiving Day (fourth Thursday in Nov.). Recycling normally collected on Thanksgiving is picked up the next day, with Friday's pickup advancing to Saturday. For other holidays, recycling pickup moves to the following day with a Saturday pick up added for that week only. Recycling information is available on the Town's website at: www.oldlyme-ct.gov, as well as in the Selectman's Office at the Memorial Town Hall, 52 Lyme Street, or at the Landfill/Transfer Station on Four Mile River Road. Clearly mark your address on recycling and trash receptacles to avoid mix up, removal or displacement of cans. Phone Michele Hayes at: 860-434-1605, ext. 212 with additional questions you may have.

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Old Lyme Municipal Departments

<u>Department</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Phone</u>
Animal Control	Lynn Philomen	434-1605 x244
Assessor	Melinda Kronfeld	434-1605 x218
First Selectmen	Timothy Griswold	434-1605 x211
Board of Selectmen	Mary Jo Nosal	434-1605 x212
Board of Selectmen	Chris Kerr	434-1605 x212
Building Official	Mark Wayland	434-1605 x230
Emergency Management & Fire Marshal	David Roberge	434-1605 x231
Finance Director	Nicole Stajduhar	434-1605 x232
Harbormaster	Harry Plaut	434-1605 x212
Ledge Light Health District		434-1605 x214 860-448-4882
Parks and Recreation	Don Bugbee	434-1605 x235
Police		434-7080
Probate Court	Hon. Jeffrey McNamara	739-6052
Public Works	Ed Adanti	434-1605 x243
Registrar of Voters	Catherine Carter & Marylin Clarke	434-1605 x226
Senior Center	Stephanie Lyon Gould	434-1605 x240
Social Services	Jennifer Datum	434-1605 x228
Tax Collection	Judith Tooker	434-1605 x216
Town Clerk	Vicki Urbowicz	434-1605 x220
Treasurer	Michael Reiter	434-1605 x232
Zoning Enforcement		434-1605 x225
	OTHER AGENCIES	
Library/Passports	Katie Huffman, Director	434-1684
School District #18	Superintendent of Schools	434-7238
Youth Services Bureau	Mary Seidner, Director	434-7208

Old Lyme - Community Listings

USEFUL NUMBERS

CAMP CLAIRE	(860) 434-0368
CONSUMER PROTECTION	(860) 566-2294
LYMES' YOUTH SERVICE BUREAU	(860) 434-7208
SENIOR CENTER.....	(860) 434-1605 x240
OLD LYME VISITING NURSE	(860) 434-7808
OLD LYME HISTORICAL SOCIETY	(860) 434-0684
9 TOWN TRANSIT.....	(860) 510-0429
LYME/OLD LYME JR WOMEN'S CLUB	(860) 501-9773
DEMOCRATIC TOWN COMMITTEE	(860) 434-2271
REPUBLICAN TOWN COMMITTEE.....	(860) 434-0740
LYME ART ASSOCIATION.....	(860) 434-7802
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS -	
LYMES' POST 1467	(860) 434-4207
AMERICAN LEGION - POST 41.....	(860) 664-0047

SCHOOLS

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE DISTRICT 18.....	(860) 434-7238
MILE CREEK SCHOOL.....	(860) 434-2209
CENTER SCHOOL	(860) 434-7838
MIDDLE SCHOOL	(860) 434-2568
LYME/OLD LYME HIGH SCHOOL.....	(860) 434-1651
MULTICULTURAL MAGNET	
(NEW LONDON).....	(860) 437-7775

COLLEGES

LYME ACADEMY COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS.....	(860) 434-5232
--	----------------

Trash and Recycling... continued from page 13

Additional automated trash and recycling containers should be ordered through Michele Hayes at: 860-434-1605, ext. 212 in the Selectman's Office at the Memorial Town Hall, 52 Lyme Street. Containers cost \$80. Please mark clearly your address on recycling and trash receptacles to avoid mix up, removal or displacement of cans. Homeowners are responsible to replace lost, stolen or broken cans at their expense.

Transfer Station Information

TRANSFER STATION/LANDFILL HOURS

The Transfer Station is located on Four Mile River Road and is open Tuesday-Friday, 7:30 am - 3:45 pm, Saturday, 8:30 am - 4:00 pm. Closed Sunday and Monday. Taxpayer's vehicles should have a Transfer Station sticker affixed to the right-hand side of windshield. Vehicles without a sticker, should bring proof of property address (i.e., tax bill, mortgage statement or closing papers,) along with a driver's license and registration.

Bulky Waste and Demolition: Vehicles will be charged by weight at \$110/ton. Recyclables should not be mixed in the same load with Bulky Waste or Demolition debris. Loads less than 100 lbs. are charged a minimum fee of \$5.

Brush is charged on a per load basis at \$40 per ton. No wood or limbs thicker than four inches are accepted.

Grass clippings are not allowed at the Transfer Station because of chemical contamination from pesticides and fertilizers and cannot be deposited in your trash can. Please compost on your property.

Electronics are now accepted at the Transfer Station.

Residents are able to bring the following items to the Transfer Station on Four Mile River Road: computers (personal computers, mainframes, med-range computers, laptops); networking equipment (hubs, switches, control cards, etc.); computer monitors, televisions, printers, keyboards, mice, adaptors, stereos, speakers, VCR's, scanners, fax machines, copiers telephones and telephone systems, computer wire and cable; computer drives and storage devices (floppy drives, CD ROMs,

AJ Shea Construction

hard drives), power supplies, circuit boards, microwaves, scrap copper (cable, pipe, etc.), scrap aluminum (machine and machine parts, cable extrusions, etc.), fluorescent light bulbs, UPA (uninterrupted power supply) batteries, and related computer and electronic equipment.

Compost from Your Kitchen, It's Easier than You Think!

COMPOST-READY ITEMS RANGE FROM FAMILIAR TO SURPRISING.

- 1 Veggie scraps, uncooked or cooked, without oil or salt. Moldy or freezer-burned veggies okay.
- 2 Fruit scraps and rinds, uncooked or cooked, are fine with sugar, honey, or molasses on them. Moldy or freezer-burned fruits okay.
- 3 Coffee grounds, tea bags, filters, bags, strings, tags.
- 4 Olive, avocado pits, other large seeds.
- 5 Expired herbs, spices, tea bags, tea leaves.
- 6 Eggshells, preferably crushed.
- 7 Shells of nuts and peanuts, salt-free.
- 8 Dry popcorn-Unpopped or popcorn chains, strings with cotton or burlap twine is compostable.
- 9 Leftover gelatin dishes, gelatin packets past expiration (sugar not a problem.)
- 10 Used potpourri and mulling spices.



Compost-ready items range from familiar to surprising

- 11 Paper napkins and paper towels are compostable free of glossy paper, or residue of dairy, meat, poultry, or fish. Traces of oil or liquids okay. Color is okay.
- 12 Plain brown gift boxes and plain newsprint, torn or shredded.
- 13 Plain gift tissue, without plastic or metallic sparkles. (Colors okay.)
- 14 Plain paper gift wrap or ribbon, without glossy, waxy, plastic, or metallic surfaces.
- 15 Plain egg cartons (no glossy paper or plastics).
- 16 Cardboard rolls inside paper towels, gift wrap, toilet paper
- 17 Plain envelopes (not metallic or coated).
- 18 Leaves and needles from Christmas trees and wreaths, dead poinsettias and bouquets.
- 19 Fireplace ashes, matches.
- 20 Cotton "snow" decorations without plastics or metallic sparkles, all-wool and all-cotton items.

Information provided on behalf of the Conservation Commission.
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Schools were Well Prepared for Unexpected Transition to Distance Learning

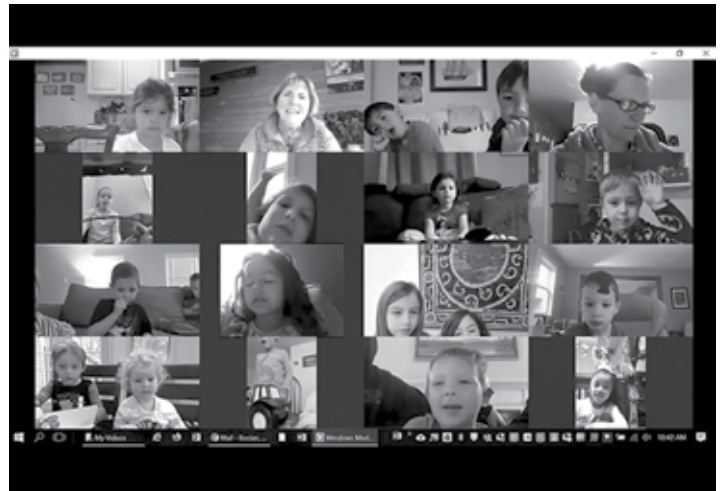
Thanking the Community for Support

PROGRAM FEEDBACK POST-IMPLEMENTATION HAS BEEN OVERWHELMINGLY POSITIVE

On March 13, 2020, the Lyme-Old Lyme Schools announced an indefinite school closure due to the COVID-19 pandemic. A few days later Governor Lamont mandated that all schools statewide be closed. In response to this unplanned and potentially lengthy closing, the Lyme-Old Lyme Schools started preparing for a distance learning program. During the week of March 16, teachers and other staff members began making plans for this unprecedented occurrence. On March 20 all schools distributed materials to students and parents in preparation for the beginning of the distance learning program on March 23.

The Lyme-Old Lyme Schools were well prepared to adapt to this new-found reality based on years of preparation and effort to develop online learning tools. The district was able to supply all students in Kindergarten through grade 12 with an electronic device (laptop, Chromebook, or I-Pad) to ensure all students were able to participate remotely.

Teachers have used Google Classroom, Canvas, Google Meet,



This is how it looks when a pre-school teacher hosts a class meeting in the distance learning environment.

Zoom, Screencastify, Seesaw, Lexia, and a host of other online tools to help students continue their studies while they are under stay-at-home orders. As the program has grown, the district has adapted to the feedback from students, parents, and teachers to be certain that all students are able to participate effectively. The community response has been overwhelmingly positive.

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These siblings are sharing space at their home as they work on their assigned tasks.

The Lyme-Old Lyme Schools would like to thank all members of our communities as our ability to adapt to this new method of instruction could not have been possible without the strong support over many years for a digital learning environment. Having these capabilities allowed us to be flexible when needed to support our students during this pandemic. For further information on Lyme-Old Lyme Schools, visit: Region18.org or call 860-434-7238.

Stay well,
 Ian Neviasser, Superintendent of Lyme-Old Lyme Schools

Old Lyme Arts District

The Old Lyme Arts District partners continue to provide quality experiences including walking tours, family activities, virtual concerts and gallery tours while cautiously reopening our own businesses during the Governor's Reopen Connecticut Plan. Our website www.OldLymeArtsDistrict.com has great ideas while you continue to social distance.

After much consideration, the 2020 Midsummer festival is cancelled.

We did considerable research to determine how to keep the spirit of the Festival, which

attracts thousands of people from across the region, while keeping within the current CDC guidelines. To ensure things like having enough hand sanitizing stations (in short supply!), social distancing and masks, and the staffing necessary to disinfect surfaces after every use, would be difficult, if not impossible. We made this decision at the end of April; the world likely looks much different to you as you read this in June!

Our future joint events include an October Fairy Door Trail and Light Up Old Lyme

during the holidays. We are already thinking about the 2021 Midsummer Festival. 2021 is the 100th anniversary of the Lyme Art Colonists opening their own gallery (known to us all as the Lyme Art Association.) Those artists persevered through World War I and the Flu Pandemic, creating art and, in 1921, inviting the public to their new gallery to purchase and bring home treasures for their own walls. We know our artists are creating art as we speak and we look forward to sharing it with you - along with music, food, and fun purchases - next year!

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The Plan to Reopen Connecticut's Colleges & Universities



State Representative
Devin Carney

On May 6th, Governor Lamont announced that he had received a detailed report with recommendations for a phased-in re-opening of Connecticut's private and public colleges and universities. The report was compiled by the education committee of the Reopen Connecticut Advisory Group,

The recommended sequencing of the reopening is as follows... First, research programs and administrative functions will be able to open on the same timetable as the first phase of the general business reopening (May 20th as of this article.) Next, early in the summer, workforce development programs at community colleges may open, and schools may allow back students who were unable to complete courses with lab or studio requirements for their spring degrees.

If public health conditions continue to improve, some institutions may resume graduate and some summer programs. By the end of the summer, undergraduate residential facilities may have the option to reopen.

The phase-in of this reopening, though, depends upon the status of public health conditions. The prevalence of COVID-19 must be low enough to allow for the safe reopening of campus, the institution must have adequate capacity for contact tracing, and schools that have residential facilities must have access to enough COVID-19 tests so that every student can be tested upon arrival. If a student tests positive, they must be immediately isolated.

The phase-in also requires schools to file reopening plans with DPH detailing how they plan on repopulating the campus, monitoring public health, containing the disease if detected, and shutting down campus, if necessary.

If you have any questions or concerns related to this or any state issue, please contact me at devin.carney@cga.ct.gov or 860-240-8700.

Thank you to all who have made a positive difference over the past few months to help us get through this crisis. I wish everyone a safe and healthy summer.

Devin Carney,
State Representative

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Lyme's Senior Center



Dear Town Residents & Members,

What a crazy few months it has been! I hope this letter finds you and your family in good health. I have been sending out emails weekly. These emails contain a virtual class schedule which varies from week to week,

but also include links to access live classes Monday - Saturday to include Pilates, Yoga, Piyo classes, Tabata, Chair Yoga classes, beginner and intermediate Country Line Dancing classes, low impact/ high energy Dance Fitness classes (like Jazzercise), Sit and Be Fit classes, Fitness Fusion, a coffee chat, and a Tai Ji Quon (Move for Better Balance) class. In addition, I always send out another email with information and entertainment links to help with the boredom that you may feel during this extended time at home. If you do not receive our emails and would like to get them, please call me at: 860- 434-4127 ext. 1 or email me at: seniorcenter@old-lyme-ct.gov and we can add you to the list. Also, any town resident can enjoy a temporary membership and join our virtual classes, no matter your age. Just call or email us your contact information.

“To go” meals are being offered curbside on Tuesdays between 11:30 am - 12:30 pm to seniors 60 and over. To sign up for this,

you just need to call the Estuary Senior Center at: 860-388-1611 by Mondays at 11:00 am. Tuesdays’ curbside pickups at the Lymes’ Senior Center will include five frozen meals. The suggested donation of \$15.00 can be paid with cash or check to the person who loads your meals into your trunk. It may be wise to put your check or money in a ziploc bag in the trunk in order to avoid any exposure.

On Monday, June 22, we will be dropping books off on the front step of those needing a book. We will have you call us by Friday, June 19 and let us know you would like a book and what genre (ie biography, romance, mystery etc.) and authors you like. We will try to match your choices as best we can. We will ask that you do not open your front door until after we have left, thereby guaranteeing contactless delivery.

On Wednesday, June 17, we will be dropping off puzzles on the front step of those needing a puzzle. All of our puzzles are 1,000 pieces and less. We will have you call us by Monday, June 15 and let us know you would like a puzzle delivered. We will ask that you do not open your front door until after we have left, thereby guaranteeing contactless delivery.

continued on page 20

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Lymes' Senior Center... continued from page 19

If you would like to receive a weekly phone call from us, please call and let us know. We would love to catch up with you and offer a friendly voice to talk to...none of us should feel alone! The phone number is: 860- 434-4127 ext. 1. We would love to add you to our weekly call list!

In addition, if you need help during this trying time (with shopping, errands, money for groceries, etc.) there is a web page set up to take your information: <https://www.oldlyme-ct.gov/covid-19-community-help>. If you do not have a computer, please call us and we can enter your information for you.

For members in the Lyme- Old Lyme Community, there are reusable masks available and the OL Police can drop them off at your house. Please call or email LYSB at: 860-434-7208 ext. 0 or Lysb@lysb.org with your request.

I am available to you by phone Monday through Friday, so please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or are looking for resources.

Many of you may have already received your stimulus check through your social security benefit. The IRS & Treasury Department announced that Social Security beneficiaries who are not typically required to file tax returns will not need to file to receive an economic impact payment. It's automatic. Get the full details at: <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm96> .

This next announcement pains me, but erring on the side of caution, we will be canceling our Summer Concert Series this year.

Stay Well and Be Kind,

Stephanie Gould, Lymes' Senior Center Director

860-434-4127 ext. 1

seniorcenter@oldlyme-ct.gov

Fire Well Signs & Your Fire Protection Rating

You may have noticed a couple of months ago, white reflective signs with a blue "W" were popping up all over town. The Town of Old Lyme, and specifically the Old Lyme Fire Department (OLFD), is in the process of being evaluated for its Fire Protection Rating. The Fire Protection Rating is a factor that the insurance industry uses to calculate the cost of property insurance. One of the items we have been asked to develop is a better understanding of the fire well locations in town. All of Old Lyme's fire engines carry water ranging in capacity from 500 gallons to 2000 gallons, depending on the purpose and set up of the truck. The Town of Old Lyme has a small area that is covered by hydrants, supplemental fire protection water comes from Fire Wells. Fire Wells consist of ponds, streams, rivers, and cisterns. Extra water that is occasionally needed to control a fire comes these Fire Wells. Fire Wells are located on public and private roads and public and private property. The publicly accessible Fire Wells are maintained by the OLFD and the Town of Old Lyme Public Works department. We ask that if you have a Fire Well on your private property, please clear access to the water so we can place an Engine within several feet of the Fire Well to withdraw water and supply it to a fire for extinguishment. The access area should be able to accommodate a fire engine that is nearly 9' wide and up to 12' in height.



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Other factors that affect the Fire Protection Rating, and the OLFD is providing, include equipment (apparatus, pumps, hose, ladders, tools, and material) quantities, condition, and testing records; personnel training type, hours, frequency, and content; inspection records; water supply (fire well and hydrant locations, access, and volume); dispatch systems, certifications, and methods including radio infrastructure and computer programs and file systems.

Lastly, we want to relay to everyone in town, that the dedicated volunteers of the Old Lyme Fire Department are fully prepared to respond to any emergency during this COVID-19 pandemic. We have had to adjust our operations to fit the criteria from the State level, but we have found ways to communicate to our membership, brought in an online training system and ensuring we have the proper the PPE required so can respond effectively. The Old Lyme Fire Department would like to thank all the citizens that supported us through this time and also thank those who made signs, waved and saluted during our First Responder Parade. We know it made us feel good and hope it brought some joy to the town.

The Line Officers and Executive Officers of the Old Lyme Fire Department

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Old Lyme Visiting Nurse Association

The Town Nurse's office at the Lymes' Senior Center is currently closed to walk-in visits due to the COVID-19 situation; however, home visits are still available. Lyme and Old Lyme residents can arrange a house call from Town Nurse Karen Veselka, RN by leaving a secure voicemail message at the Senior Center 860 434-7808.



Karen Veselka,
Town Nurse.

Home visits from the Town Nurse are provided one per month, free of charge, to individuals. For couples needing care, the Town Nurse can visit the home twice per month at two week intervals.

If you need additional skilled nursing services, the Old Lyme Visiting Nurse Association can work with our agency, the Visiting Nurse Association of Southeastern Connecticut to provide these services.

Since 1922, the Old Lyme Visiting Nurse Association has provided healthcare to residents of all ages. OLVNA awards scholarships to high school graduates from Old Lyme and Lyme who plan to pursue healthcare degrees. We also hold a Flu Vaccine Clinic and Wellness Fair in the fall and a Blood Pressure Clinic in the spring.

For updates, volunteer opportunities, and more information on the services of the Old Lyme Visiting Nurse Association, please email: oldlymevna@gmail.com.

We give special thanks to Town Nurse Karen Veselka for working on the front lines in service to our community during COVID-19. And we congratulate Karen for winning Old Lyme's inaugural Kindness Award. Well done and well deserved!

What is Your COVID-19 Mental Health Temperature?

On a scale of 0–10, are you feeling relieved over the absence of social obligations; or, “chomping at the bit” to resume in-person social connections? Tele-mental health is revealing clients at every point on the continuum. It appears that introverts tend to be on the “This is not so bad,” end of the continuum while extroverts tend to be on the “chomping at the bit,” end. Of course, there are many other factors affecting where you find yourself on the continuum—living alone, balancing work at home or outside the home while home-schooling, unem-

ployment, etc. Wherever you find yourself on the continuum, here are a few universal prescriptions:

- 1 Create a flexible daily schedule—time for sleep, time for productive activity, and time for leisure time activities = balance.
- 2 Incorporate time for personal reflection—draw, paint, journal, meditate, pray. Explore apps such as “Breathe,” to assess your physical and emotional status followed by recommendations such as brief guided meditations.

- 3 Incorporate exercise—walk, hike, bike, or dance in your living room.

If you are struggling with depression and/or anxiety during this crisis, tele-mental health is available to you now.

Wherever you are on the continuum at this time, reach out/remain connected--though it may be virtual for now!

Lorraine Plante, LCSW
East Lyme Psychological Associates

Old Lyme Ambulance

Old Lyme Ambulance continues to serve the community through the COVID 19 pandemic. OLEMS is taking every precaution to ensure the safety of our members and the public. This includes donning full airborne virus PPE precautions such as gowns, respirators, and eye protection.

For this reason, if you need us, you will be asked additional questions by our 911 dispatchers at Valley Shore, and you may see us in a large amount of personal protective equipment. As said earlier, this is for everyone's safety and to ensure continuity of operations.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that the CDC now recommends surgical masks in public for everyone, and that people maintain 6 feet of distance while out and about and practice social distancing. We look forward to continuing to serve the community and are here for you!

A graphic with a teal background. At the top, it says "UPLIFT OUR FRONTLINE WORKERS" in large, bold, white letters, flanked by two orange heart icons. Below that, it says "SHOW YOUR SUPPORT BY PLACING A HEART ON YOUR FRONT DOOR" in white letters. At the bottom left is a small circular logo, and at the bottom right is a small blue box with the text "#KindnessMatters" and a small heart icon.

Phoebe Griffin Noyes

2 Library Lane, Old Lyme, CT 06371,
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oldlymelibrary.org

OLD LYME LIBRARY

The Library continues to fulfill its mission to inspire lifelong learning and discovery in a welcoming place with exceptional resources, programs, and services. From developing fun, interactive storytimes for babies and toddlers to hand-delivering novels to home-bound patrons, the Library continues to provide opportunities for residents of all ages to learn and grow.

CONSTRUCTION & PROGRAMMING UPDATE

We're almost there! As of May 1st, we're on schedule to complete construction on the interior of the building by the end of the month. New furniture should be arriving shortly thereafter, and the Library collections will return from storage soon after that. We're hopeful that we'll be able to open our doors and welcome in the community before long. In the meantime, work on the Library grounds will continue into the summer. This will include constructing the new patio, preparing the front lawn for a native garden, laying the commemorative pavers, and completing the parking lot and sidewalks.

We were eagerly anticipating hosting a grand re-opening celebration for Founders' Day on June 23rd. Unfortunately, we've had to cancel this event, just as our community has had to cancel so many other celebrations scheduled for the summer. In good news,

Summer Learning—Imagine Your Story!—is still on. We'll be offering other programming as well, virtual or on-site as circumstances allow, throughout the months ahead. Complete details for all programs can be found on the Library's website at: oldlymelibrary.org.

PHOEBE'S BOOKCELLAR

The BookCellar is a highly successful used book store - Old Lyme's only bookstore - managed by the volunteer Friends of the Library.

The BookCellar is planning on re-opening in their newly updated space this summer. Stay tuned to the Library's website at: oldlymelibrary.org for complete details.

Every dollar earned at the BookCellar goes directly to support the Library's programs, collections and equipment.



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Old Lyme Historical Society

55 Lyme Street | P.O. Box 352 | Old Lyme, CT 06371
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55 Lyme Street
Drawing by
Edie Twining Design.

Located in the former Grange Hall at 55 Lyme Street, OLHSI is an all-volunteer organization dedicated to researching, preserving, and sharing the history of Old Lyme.

Writing a notice of coming events at the beginning of May, 2020 is a puzzling task. Community efforts to blunt the impact of a new virus have

left millions of us sheltering in place, or smiling behind masks as we greet one another from what we hope is a "safe" distance. The conviviality of the holidays seems a lifetime ago. Without sufficient data we can only guess where we are at any moment, and yet must continue to steer between hope and caution toward a future hidden from all. Like sailing in a fog bank, it is eerily peaceful, and fraught.


This is a salutary time for historians and those who love history. We try to understand the people and events of the past. No matter how much we know about their conditions, their habits, their

actions or failures to act, their hopes and fears, and all the rest; we can never wholly put ourselves in their place. Unlike them, we know their actual future, and we cannot un-know what we know. Our more perfect knowledge makes it almost impossible to recapture the conditions under which they moved and lived. This spring, we've had a forceful reminder of what it is like to fly blind into a future sketched out more by hopes and fears than by certain knowledge. As the fog lifts this summer and fall, I hope we will remember this spring. It may give us a better appreciation for what it was really like for those who came before.


Some current restrictions will be lifted, but the timing and format of public events will remain subject to sudden change for many months. Within those constraints the Historical Society still hopes to host docent-led walking tours of Lyme Street, Tad Fallon's presentation on Caring for Antique Furniture, and other events. Fast-changing times require flexibility. Luckily, we have the tools to stay in touch. Please check our website or follow us on Facebook for the latest details of upcoming Historical Society events.

Even in times far worse than these, life goes on in its quietly insistent way. We are all a part of it.

Be well! We look forward to seeing you soon!




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Lyme Public Library

EVENTS AND PROGRAMS FOR
JUNE 8 – SEPTEMBER 6, 2020

Please call the Lyme Public Library at: 860-434-2272 or email: programreg@lymepl.org to confirm the event date and to register:

In a Class All Their Own:

Saturday, June 20 at 2:00 pm

Journalist Tom Verde will talk about classic/unique boats such as the cat boat, the first fiberglass sailing yacht, a New York ferry boat repurposed as a houseboat, the oldest working fishing boat in Stonington, Connecticut, racing rivalries in the Sound, the French love affair with American boat designs, and the Jazz Age era of luxury yachting.

Free concert with Steve Dedman and Plywood Cowboy:

Thursday, August 20 at 6:00 pm

Once again, the warm summer air will be filled with the soothing, rejuvenating sounds of Plywood Cowboy as we welcome back our families, friends and neighbors to music by the meadow at the Lyme Public Library on August 20 at 6:00 pm.

Created by Lyme's own songwriter and multi-instrumentalist Steve Dedman, Plywood Cowboy has been winning over fans from Nashville, Tennessee, to Portland, Maine, with its talented array of musicians since its debut in 2016.

"Sharing songs with these amazing musicians," says Dedman, "is a dream. I'm surrounded by some of the nicest, most talented and hardest working musicians in the land. Throw in a warm and energized crowd of people listening to our lyrics, crying and laughing with us, it's a dream like no other."

The band plays a lively combination of country, bluegrass, rock, blues, and folk, and consists of Kat Wallace on violin and vocals, Shane Tanner on bass, Emmet Hale on percussion, Gracin Dorey on guitar, mandolin and vocals, Ed Larusso on pedal steel and of course, Steve on the piano, organ, guitar and vocals. So mark your calendars, bring a chair, pack a picnic, and come and relax to the music of Plywood Cowboy.

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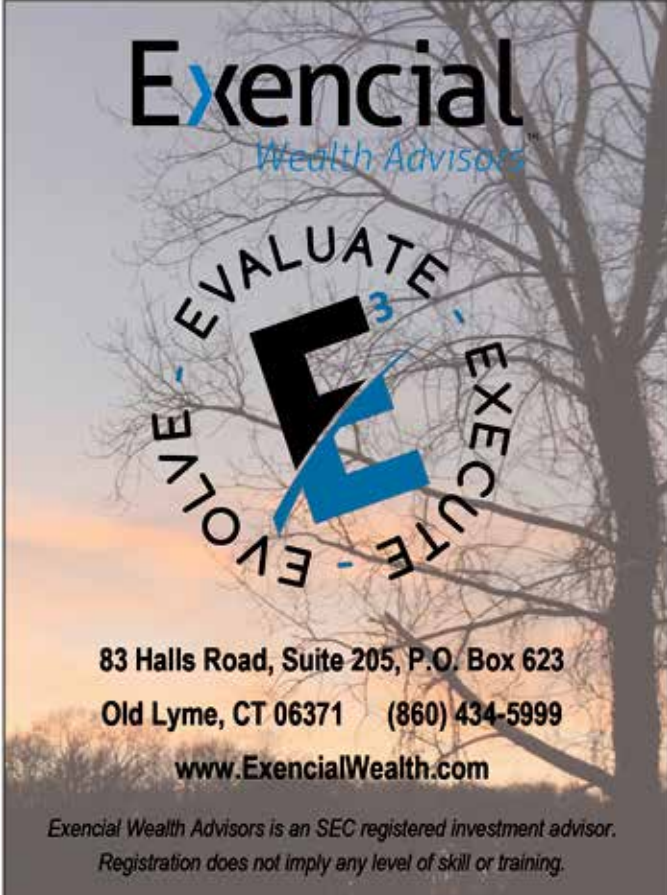
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Lyme Art Association

90 Lyme Street, Old Lyme, CT
860-434-7802

Lyme Art Association Re-opening

JUNE 26 WITH TWO SHOWS

On June 26, the gallery will re-open with two shows to enjoy! Wind, Waves and Water is a marine themed member artist show in two galleries. The prestigious Hudson Valley Art Association's annual member's show will be in the other two galleries.

Beginning on August 21st, the Lyme Art Association presents the Elected Artists Exhibition, with works by the most accomplished artists of the Association. This show had been scheduled for this spring, but was postponed due to the pandemic.

The Birds & Bees show, which was mounted virtually during the closure, may be viewed anytime at: LymeArtAssociation.org.



Zufar Bikbov, Clearing, oil.

Once the Lyme Art Association re-opens, the gallery is open Wednesday through Sunday, from 10:00 am - 5:00 pm, and by appointment.

The Lyme Art Association is located at 90 Lyme Street in Old Lyme, at the corner of Halls Road. Please call: 860-434-7802 for more information or visit: lymeartassociation.org.

White Elephant Sale is Cancelled



Due to the Covid 19 virus and the need for social distancing, we regret to announce the White Elephant Sale that had been scheduled for July has been cancelled. We wish to thank all supporters and friends who have been so loyal in the past and look forward to seeing you all July 10 and 11, 2021!



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Old Lyme Land Trust Preserves Open for Recreation & Enjoyment

With so many of our usual Old Lyme activities unavailable to us, the Old Lyme Land Trust wants everyone to know that some of Old Lyme's hidden gems are still open for all to enjoy. The Trust owns and maintains over 1000 acres in 14 preserves. All the preserves have marked trails and many have scenic views with benches for contemplation and serenity. A new trail at the Lohmann-Buck-Twining Preserve has been opened, and newest benches are at John Lohmann CT River Preserve, planned and built by local Boy Scouts.

The Old Lyme PGN Library sponsored children's "Story Walks" on the Jericho and Griswold Preserves. The Griswold Preserve offers visitors a chance to see alewives climbing the fish ladder to return home for spawning.

The Trust's Lay Preserve trails were connected to new trails on the Town's new McCulloch Farm property. It is now possible to walk from the Lay Preserve on Lord Hill Lane, just off Rt 1 to Rt 95.

The Trust is constantly working to maintain and improve the Preserves, remove invasive species, plant native trees and shrubs, and maintain wildlife habitat. Now that spring is actually here, there is a great opportunity for communing with nature and family and friends (at a "social distance" of course.) To get trail maps and directions to the Preserves, visit www.oldlymelandtrust.org OR check the ALLTRAILS app at Google Play.

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The Connecticut Audubon Society's Roger Tory Peterson Estuary Center is dedicated to the conservation and preservation of the Connecticut River Estuary ecosystem and watershed, through science-based research, education and advocacy.

The Connecticut Audubon Society's Roger Tory Peterson Estuary Center is dedicated to the conservation and preservation of the Connecticut River Estuary ecosystem and watershed, through science-based research, education and advocacy.

RTP ESTUARY CENTER WEEKLY WEBINARS - Join the RTP Estuary Center for our weekly webinar series!

Tuesdays at 7:00 pm we cover all things bird, including topics such as backyard

birding, bird identification skills and conservation practices.

Webinar Wednesdays are at 4:00 pm and include family friendly topics such as creating your own nature journal and how to build a bird feeder.

Thursdays at 4:00 pm are our Eco-Hour series. Topics include Connecticut Frog Ecology and an Eco-Safari of the Connecticut River watershed.

The RTP Estuary Center will also be hosting additional programming throughout

the summer including virtual master birder classes, our virtual kids program, Nature Notes combining story-telling, science and art and private scheduled field programs. Check our website often at www.ctaudubon.org/rtpec for upcoming program announcements!

All programs require pre-registration. For more information be sure to visit our website at: www.ctaudubon.org/rtpec or stop by and visit us Monday-Friday at: 90 Halls Road between Walgreens and Big Y.

Duck River Garden Club

In these COVID-constrained times, Old Lyme's garden club encourages residents to continue appreciating the outdoors and pleasures of gardening. Although the club's annual May Market could not be held on Mother's Day weekend, club officers are assessing the possibility of a fall sale. Please watch for updates.

Civic beautification has been a cornerstone of the club over the past 50 years. Our members are continuing to lovingly care for Civic Beautification sites around town. These include the Old Lyme Post Office, Lymes' Senior Center, Old Lyme Police Department, Old Lyme Fire Station on Lyme Street, Old Lyme Town Hall, exit 70, a large planter at Sill Lane and Lyme Street, and the large bed at McCurdy Road and Route 156. Look for the addition of bright yellow marigolds to celebrate our 50th anniversary in 2020.

Club members also have collaborated with Lyme-Old Lyme Junior Women's Club to install native plantings and pollinator gardens around Cross Lane Playground. In 2019, volunteers revived and replanted the raised flower bed at Sound View Beach flagpole.

DRGC always welcomes new members, please contact Karen Geisler at: 860-434-5321, karengr007@gmail.com. See www.oldlymeduckrivergc.org for upcoming programs and activities.



DRGC's "McCurdy Island" team cleaning up the club's largest civic beautification site in early May.



DRGC founder & first president Priscilla Bayreuther Swanson and site team leader Paula Schiavone replanting the Police Department beds in 2018.

Rogers Lake Authority News

Everyone on the Rogers Lake Authority hopes that you and your families are well during this time. Because people are getting out and enjoying the lake, the patrol boat is now in the water for the season. As a reminder, there is a 6 MPH speed limit from

sunset until 10:00 am, as well as within 100 feet of shore, rafts or other boats. Jet skis are only allowed 10:00 am - 6:00 pm weekdays and until 7:00 pm on weekends. Jet skis must stay 200 feet from shore, rafts or other boats. There are six places on the lake where

jet skis cannot maintain this 200-foot distance and must proceed at a 6 MPH speed limit. This will be heavily enforced this year for the safety of all on the water. The RLA asks for your assistance in reporting unsafe activity occurring on Rogers Lake. To

report such activity visit RLA's website at: www.oldlyme-ct.gov/rogers-lake-authority. If unsafe activity needs immediate action, call 911. **Reminder that the horsepower limit on Rogers Lake is 135 HP.**

We are planning to draw down the lake 14 inches this year beginning September 15th. This is so lakeshore property owners can conduct any maintenance to their docks or sea walls as needed. We expect the draw-down to take one week and the lake will be allowed to refill October 22.

The joint venture between CT DEEP and

Professor David Post's research group at Yale University is yielding results. Several thousand alewives have migrated back up the fish ladder at the dam on Rogers Lake. Last year there were only 300 alewives that migrated back into the lake.

A whole lake invasive weed study will be conducted in late June. At this time there are no plans for an invasive weed treatment.

"Do Not Feed the Waterfowl!" The Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection indicates waterfowl are wild birds that can locate natural food sources

throughout the year. Supplemental feeding by people is unnecessary and can lead to malnutrition and disease transmission.

Connecticut State law 12-155 prohibits the use of a fertilizer containing phosphorus less than 20 feet from any body of water. A \$500 fine is imposed on violators. If you have questions on the phosphorus legislation or soil testing, call the UConn Home & Garden Education Center at: 877-486-6271.

To learn more about the RLA activities planned, please visit our website at: www.oldlyme-ct.gov/rogers-lake-authority.



Old Lyme Open Space Commission

This past April, we celebrated the 50th anniversary of the inaugural "Earth Day." The Connecticut DEEP and organizations across America promoted the slogan/hash tag #EarthDayEveryDay on the occasion. Old Lyme has a truly extraordinary environment - direct frontage on the Connecticut River, hailed as one of our hemisphere's "Last Great Places;" other scenic rivers such as the Lieutenant and Black Hall; Long Island sound beaches and marshes; and rural fields and verdant hillsides.

The Open Space Commission and the Old Land Trust together protect about 2,000 acres of land in Old Lyme. The town's commitment to open space, like the Earth Day celebration, goes back 50 years. The 1965 Old Lyme Plan of Development stated, "considerable areas of land should become public open space." Since then, thousands of hours of volunteer work have gone toward a goal of creating and maintaining plentiful open space and preserves. So even though the "day" has passed, let's still consider "Every Day as Earth Day."



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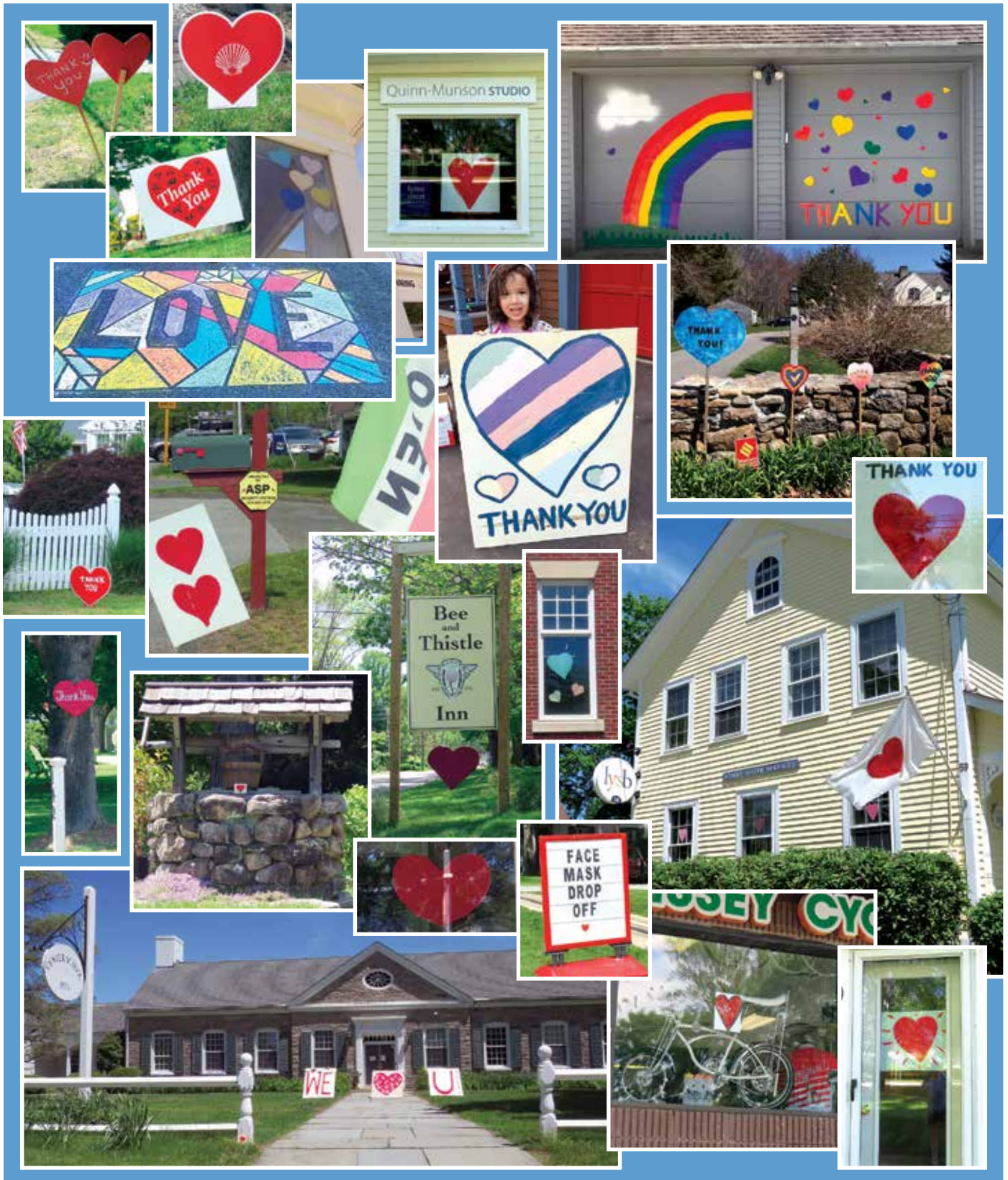
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