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The First Selectwoman's Corner

As I pen this article, we are approaching the end of our summer season and grateful to be seeing a return to some level of normalcy in our town. I am excited to see more businesses opening their doors, and children playing on the playgrounds, beaches and sports fields again. We launched our summer concert series and look forward to Madison's annual parade and fireworks display, which has tentatively been rescheduled for Labor Day weekend.

So many residents of our town have chosen "staycations" this year because Madison has so much to offer: a great collection of local shops, a nice variety of restaurants with plenty of take-out service and outdoor seating, and, most importantly, a wide variety of outdoor recreation opportunities.

Let's use this beautiful time of year in Madison to enjoy the progress we have made these last few months in fighting COVID-19 by spending time with our friends and families in small gatherings, and enjoying our beaches and other natural assets. I know many have been frustrated with the increased traffic and parking issues resulting from high visitor volume associated with Hammonasset State Beach. Be assured that the town continually monitors and modifies policies for our town beaches and facilities to respond to both citizens' suggestions and updated health directives from the state. We hear your concerns and are trying to address them thoughtfully.

In fact, we have implemented a number of policies to promote a safe experience at our beaches. This includes stepping up police patrols along our shorefront roads, restricting beach parking to residents only on Friday, Saturday, Sunday and holidays, and expanding gate staffing to 7 days a week. Non-resident and guest parking passes can be used at our beaches Monday through Thursday only and are available for purchase at the Surf Club office. To reduce lines for resident pass sales, we launched online ordering of stickers through the Beach & Recreation website, and now offer in-person pass purchases at the Surf Club office seven days a week. More details on gate hours and pass purchases are available on the town website at www.madisonct.org.

While enjoying Madison these few remaining weeks of summer, please continue to be mindful that we are still in a state of public health emergency, and need to exercise caution through social distancing and mask wearing. The more vigilant we are today, the more likely we can continue on a path toward normalcy.

Let's stay safe and healthy Madison. We can do this.
Peggy Lyons,
First Selectwoman



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Attention Madison Veterans and Families



Thank you for your service!

The Town of Madison’s Veterans’ Advisory Committee is now available to you as a resource for questions and concerns. This is a result of a requirement by the State of Connecticut. You can contact The Veterans’ Advisory Committee through the Madison Town Clerk’s office.

Please call 203-245-5672 for any needed assistance. Your request will then be referred to a committee member who will contact you. (If you have an emergency situation, please contact 911.)

All communications are confidential. We look forward to working with you.

2020 Summer Concert Series



Madison Beach and Recreation Department

July 12, 2020	60's Satisfaction (<i>All 60's Music</i>)
July 19	Last Licks (<i>Classic Rock</i>)
July 26	The Larry Stevens Band (<i>Signature blend of Pop, Rock, Folk and Country</i>)
August 2	1Wild Night (<i>Bon Jovi Tribute Band</i>)
August 9	Nightshift Band (<i>60's, 70's and 80's</i>)
August 16	The Kenn Morr Band (<i>Folk, Rock, Americana Style</i>)
August 23	Eddie Seville (<i>Alternative/Country/Rock</i>)
August 30	LA's Backstage Pass (<i>The Glam Rock 80's</i>)

Concerts are held each Sunday evening from 6 pm to 8 pm on the Town Green

All events are free of charge.

Bring your own lawn chairs and a picnic dinner if you like.

Please no alcohol as per Congregational Church request.

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The Barn is a very small non-profit that runs on the income we generate from our programs and generous donations from our wonderful patrons and supporters.

The Barn empowers young people to pursue their interests and passions: encouraging a sense of community through creativity, music and the arts in a safe and supportive environment. The Barn strives to never disappoint a child due to the family's inability to pay.

Filmmaker's Boot Camp Workshop

August 3rd, 5th, 10th, & 12th, 3:15 pm - 5:15 pm

Five Steps of Filmmaking: In five weeks we will cover the five stages of production essential to any film. Covering all the way from development to distribution, this comprehensive program will give you the confidence to pursue filmmaking with your own crew.

Find Your Zen: a Retreat Camp

August 10th – August 14th, 8:30 am - 3:00 pm

Every day campers are met with stress and anxiety. This camp nurtures the body, mind and soul. We will offer kids a way to help deal with that stress and anxiety through Yoga, guided meditation, mindfulness, relaxation and so much more. Open to students in the 4th grade and up.

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Madison Art Society

The Madison Art Society is sponsoring a Zoom lecture by Courtney Skipton Long, Ph.D, Acting Assistant Curator, Prints and Drawings at Yale Center for British Art, on Friday, August 21 at 10 am. In the lecture, "An English Landscape Revealed: John Constable and the Poetry of Paint," Long will examine the life and artistic practice of one of England's most celebrated landscape painters, John Constable (1776-1837). The Zoom lecture is free and open to the public.

Unlike his contemporary, J.M.W. Turner, Constable was not a prodigy. He labored to acquire technical proficiency, spending years in art classes before being elected as a full member of the Royal Academy at age 52. Never traveling beyond his home country, Constable has been recognized as the local boy who transformed landscape painting, winning medals in France and admirers around the world.

Dr. Courtney Skipton Long is a historian of art and architecture. A Connecticut native, Long received her B.A. in the History of Art and Medieval Studies from Mount Holyoke College and her Masters' and Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh. Her doctoral thesis focused on Medieval English architectural history and its Victorian reception. Long has held curatorial and research internships at Old Sturbridge Village (Sturbridge, MA), the



John Constable, 1776–1837, British, Hadleigh Castle, The Mouth of the Thames - Morning after a Stormy Night, 1829. Oil on canvas. Yale Center for British Art, Paul Mellon Collection

Carnegie Museum of Art (Pittsburgh, PA), the Victoria and Albert Museum (London); and the Florence Griswold Museum (Old Lyme, CT). In 2016, she was the Zvi Grunberg Postdoctoral Fellow at the Bruce Museum (Greenwich, CT), which was followed by a postdoctoral fellowship in Art Collections at the Yale Center for British Art. Currently, Long is the acting Assistant



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Curator of Prints and Drawings at the Center where she oversees the largest collection of British works on paper housed outside of the UK; a collection

that was generously donated to Yale by Paul Mellon and that includes several masterworks by Constable. To register for the Zoom lecture, please contact

Marianne@RTDTECH.com. To learn more about upcoming Madison Art Society events, please visit madison-artsocietyct.gov.

The Women's Club of Madison

CELEBRATING 120 YEARS

Est. 1900 Federated 1902

We are the oldest club in our town!

Our Motto: Unity – Community -- Continuity

A very important part of our town along the Connecticut Shoreline, is our Women's Club. We have been active since the 1900s. Very hard to imagine driving in a horse and carriage to meetings on dark unpaved roads, but a determined group of women they were.

In order to preserve our history, we have a historian on our Executive Board. To us this is an important position and many times during a meeting she can set us straight on many matters. She keeps copies of all meetings and our year books, awards we receive and photos of special events.

Many years ago, the town wanted to start an archive for important happenings in Madison and were looking for some financial

support. The Women voted to donate the earnings from their Community Improvement Project to this cause. Hence our records are stored there, and we have access to them twice a week if needed. History is important to us as we celebrate 120 years of service this year.



We continue in the spirit of those dedicated pioneer women supporting our community in many ways, by supporting the Fire & Ambulance Departments with thermal imaging cameras & defibrillators. Scholarships for High School Students & support for Madison Conservation with a \$5,000 donation plus Shoreline Greenway Trail with \$1,300 in 2014. Our last project raised \$7,700 for the Beach & Recreation department for new grills, benches, and resurfacing bocce courts at the Surf Club in 2018. We also **continued on page 10**



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The Women’s Club... continued from page 9

have outreach programs both locally and internationally. Below is a snippet of how it all began.

1900 - A tiny group of far sighted, enlightened and enter-prising women under the leadership of our first President, Mrs. Frank Dowd, joined forces to form the Fortnightly Club now the Women’s Club of Madison. Open to all Madison residents they had 100 members amazing for that time period.

1902 - They joined the General Federation of Women’s Club’s of Connecticut and since then worked tirelessly for their community. Our 11th President Grace Minor Lippincott wrote the poem below in the early 1900s, it is tucked away in our archives. We hope you enjoy it.

*When you find a pretty village
That surrounds a pretty green,
You will listen for the echoes
That recall each festive scene.*

*If your home is in New
England
You’ll accept the widest range
With the seasonal performance
When each year the echoes
change.*

*Over Tuxis Lake, through the
shore-lands*

*There are voices calling you
To the hilltops or the beaches
For a thrilling point of view.*

Respectfully submitted,
Josephine Mokriski,
Historian Women’s Club
of Madison , CT

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**Middlesex Health:
Continuing to Provide
the Care You Need**

You have been told to stay at home - and to wear a mask - but what happens when you have a doctor’s appointment scheduled or if you experience a possible medical emergency such as chest pain?

Even during a pandemic, it is important to keep up with your medical care, including routine physicals, and you should absolutely seek emergency care if you need it. Nationwide, there has been a significant increase in mortality rates - more deaths than can be attributed to COVID-19. The worry is that people are not seeking emergency care when they feel very sick.

Middlesex Health knows the idea of leaving home to go to a medical facility can be anxiety provoking, but it is doing everything it can to ensure that you get the care you need safely. This includes offering virtual (telehealth) visits when appropriate.

Please know that visiting a Middlesex Health Emergency Department location is safe. Patients in a Middlesex Health Emergency Department are separated: one area for possible COVID-19 patients; another for patients who may have other

problems. All patients, regardless of why they are visiting, are expected to wear masks.

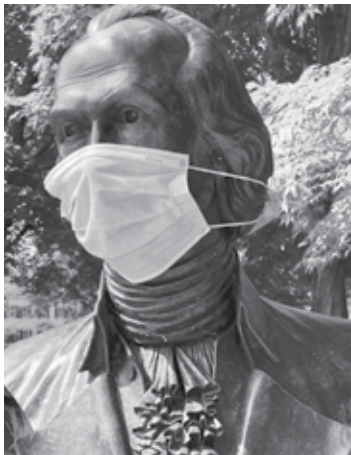
Middlesex Health is also taking extraordinary measures to ensure your safety in its primary care and specialist offices. From extra cleaning and screening staff and patients, to making sure everyone is properly masked and limiting the number of patients in its waiting rooms, Middlesex's goal is not only to keep you safe, but to make you feel comfortable. If you have put off getting the care you need, now is the time to make an appointment.

Putting off annual exams and important tests and procedures can have unintended long-term consequences. It could mean that you miss identifying a problem early, allowing it to become a much bigger problem. The goal is to stay healthy—not to make things more challenging.

For more information about Middlesex Health during this pandemic, visit [Middlesex Health.org/safe](http://MiddlesexHealth.org/safe).

Madison Historical Society wins Grant to Complete Pandemic Documentary

The Madison Historical Society is pleased to announce that it has received a \$5000 grant from Connecticut Humanities to



fund a documentary film entitled "Turning the Tide: Madison and COVID-19." This highly competitive award was one of just six given to Connecticut cultural institutions for the development of projects related to the coronavirus crisis.

Documenting this health and economic crisis is a responsibility we take very seriously as our town's

historical society. In early April, MHS Executive Director Jenny Simpson, in collaboration with Ciné Verité Productions, a Clinton-based film company, began capturing the effects of the pandemic on Madison.

Our short documentary film features key members of the community impacted by this crisis. With safety protocols in place, we interviewed business owners, frontline workers, school administrators, elected officials, civic and religious leaders, and students.

The CT Humanities grant award will fund the post-production work - editing hours of footage into a captivating short
continued on page 12



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Historical Society... continued from page 11

film. This film will become part of the MHS permanent historical record to serve as an educational tool for future generations.

Documentaries can evoke strong emotions and deepen our understanding of historical events. The reality captured in this film, though unique to Madison, is certainly representative of the experiences of small towns across the country and around the globe.

Shot entirely during the shutdown, the film explores how Madison responded to the pandemic and reflects the community's hopes for the future. Personal stories of survival, struggle, and loss will reveal how the pandemic affected all residents.

The MHS plans to release the film in the fall. If state guidelines allow, we hope to hold a screening for MHS members and those who helped make the film. Details will follow in the coming weeks for in-

person screenings and downloading via streaming services.

The Madison Foundation also supported the film with funding in April for the purchase of lighting and movie editing equipment. The MHS remains grateful for the support provided by generous organizations with a vested interest in helping cultural organizations serve the needs of the community.

Rockland Preserve Natural Playground

The Rockland Preserve Playground Committee is excited to share that Madison's newest playground will be at the Route 79 entrance to Rockland Preserve.

The playground is composed of natural elements that are designed to blend in with the natural beauty and intrigue of the forest in which it will reside. It will give families a place to play and relax next to the many miles of trails and the pump track that have already been installed. The playground is custom built by

Environment Design, of Milford, CT. The playground committee prioritized accessibility so that all children will be able to enjoy their visit to Rockland. The playground is best suited for ages 4 and up. Rockland Preserve is managed by Beach and Recreation and owned by the Town of Madison. If you have not visited Rockland recently, it is a worthwhile family destination.

Rockland Preserve Trail Status

Rockland Preserve welcomes the many new users that have come



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These are similar to structures that will be installed at Rockland Preserve.

to hike and bike in 2020. We encourage users to come and enjoy the fresh air at a comfortable social distance. Please visit our website at madisonct.org/rp for maps and information. Bikers: trails close based on condi-

tions for the safety of riders and the health of our trails. This information is on our website and available on the Trailhub app. Generally, we close both trails and the pump track for 24 hours following 1 inch of rain.

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Vista Life Innovations to Celebrate the Graduation of Six Students

On August 21, six students will graduate from Vista Life Innovations' nationally accredited post-secondary residential transition program: Discover Independence.



Five of Vista's Six 2020 Graduates.

During their time in the Discover Independence program, these graduates were immersed in a college-like experience where diverse young adults 18 and older can learn to develop meaningful relationships, safely navigate their local community, establish a vocational direction, and ultimately

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achieve personal long-term success through experiential training in a community-based setting.

Graduation is a significant milestone that acknowledges the independence and success that students have worked hard to achieve while in the Discover program. The graduates are planning to join Vista's long-term, community-based program, Engage, to continue to develop themselves as they accomplish new goals.

While in the Engage Program, graduates become members of the greater Vista community and continue to receive individualized services or supports from Vista while living in their own homes along the CT shoreline.

With campuses in Madison and Westbrook, CT, Vista has been providing services and resources to assist individuals with disabilities achieve personal success for 30 years.

Vista Life Innovations is a 501©3 nonprofit organization with campuses in Madison and Westbrook. Vista's mission is to provide services and resources to assist individuals with disabilities achieve personal success. For more information about Vista, please visit www.vistalifeinnovations.org.

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Events Presents ~ 1-800 WATER DAMAGE

Whether you own a home or a business, regular maintenance is a must and the unexpected can and does happen. From routine carpet cleaning to managing through the misfortunes of a fire, 1-800 WATER DAMAGE of Southeastern CT stands ready, 24/7. Headed up by owner, Jim Porter, the company is quickly building its reputation as a reliable resource when you need help.



Porter's 1-800 WATER DAMAGE franchise combines the personal touch and care you expect from a sole owner with the backing of Belfor Restoration, the world's largest restoration company. That allows Porter to effectively and efficiently service your needs and stabilize conditions when disaster strikes. The range of residential and commercial services is broad - water damage restoration, fire and smoke damage restoration, sewage cleanup, mold remediation, home and workplace sanitizing, and carpet cleaning.

"When you have a problem, big or "big", my staff and I will be on-site to take care of the messy details in a safe and thorough fashion," explains Porter.

"There are no small jobs. When a client's basement is flooded or a leak in the roof has, unknowingly, been promoting the growth of mold in the attic and behind the walls of a home for months (sometimes years), that job IS a big job. For many homeowners the events that motivate a call to 1-800 WATER DAMAGE are the most difficult and trauma-

tizing experiences they will encounter as homeowners."

With Porter, it is all about trust combined with high standards standards of ethics and professionalism. "As an independent business owner, I get to define and maintain a culture of excellence in my organization and achieving that goal is where I chose to dedicate my efforts," underscores Porter.

"Together, my staff and I, are committed to bringing professionalism and dedication to every aspect of the job. We strive to surpass customer expectations and through transparency of process and open lines of communication, from project start to finish, we attempt to reduce the stress and uncertainty that accompanies a disaster in your home or business."

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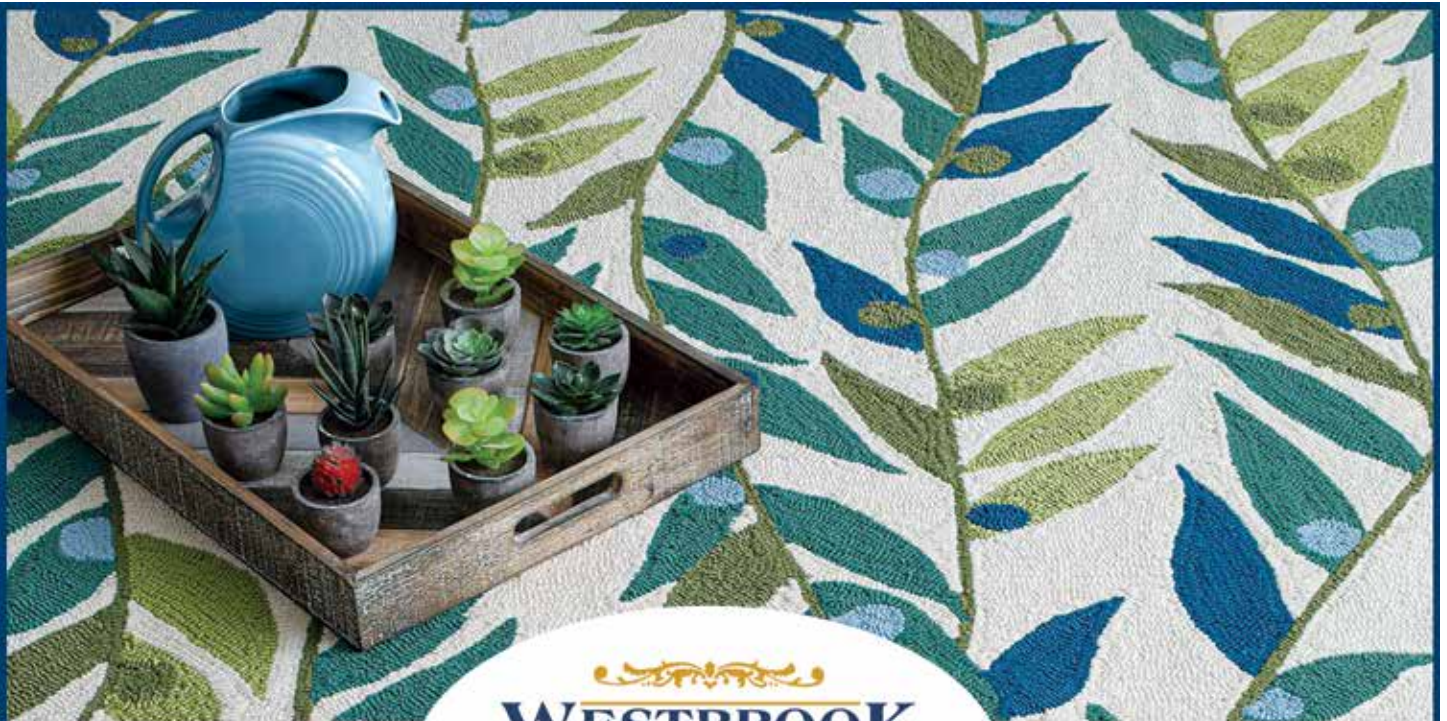
Madison Winter Club “A Social Gathering Place”



The Madison Winter Club is looking forward to re-opening in September following a surprise shutdown of club functions in early March. During this time however we started a highly successful take-out dinner service twice a week. It was embraced by many club members and friends. Not only was the food delicious, but it was also nice to be able to wave to friends from our cars as we got in line to pick them up.

Upon opening in September, we will be following all the local & state guidelines so rest assured their recommendations will be strictly adhered to.

Come visit us in the fall for an evening of fun & friendship. Check out our website - info@madisonwinterclub.org or call 203-245-9377 and leave a message.



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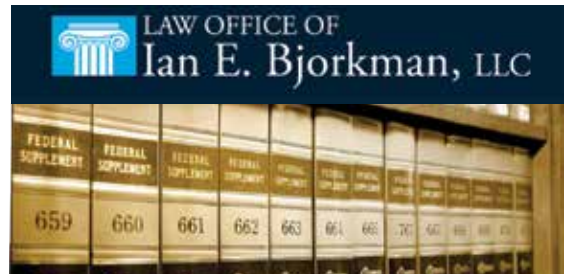
Tues - Fri: 9am - 5pm
Sat: 10am - 4pm
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Essex Printing Wins Four Awards of Excellence

Essex Printing recently received four awards in the Print Industry of New England's (PINE) Regional Awards of Excellence competition. Essex Printing has now won a total of 32 print awards over the past 8 years - including an International Benny Award (the "Oscar" of the print industry) in 2014. The awards span multiple categories, from business and consumer marketing and promotional materials to calendars and other specialties.

"We are proud to be recognized for the quality of our work once again this year. But, more importantly, we are pleased to be an important part of the businesses and communities that we serve in working so closely with them to create impressive print materials," said Essex Printing's President, William McMinn. "As an essential business we have been and continue to serve our customers through good times and bad," added McMinn. "We are happy to be here for them to make sure each project is a piece to be proud of."

Essex Printing is located in Centerbrook, CT and can be reached at 860-767-9087 or print@essexprinting.com.



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New Questions; Some Silver Linings by Morgan McMinn

The COVID-19 pandemic has turned our lives inside out. We went from the normalcy of work and school, attending events, going to gyms, restaurants and bars to a state of emergency, social distancing and new protocols. As we continue to grapple with the struggles that have come with the pandemic, it is important to reflect upon what we have learned to date. Uncertainty remains, but perhaps we are better prepared for what may lie ahead.

THE HEALTHCARE INDUSTRY RESPONDS TO CHALLENGING TIMES



We have been living amid constantly evolving information about just what COVID-19 is? Is there immunity from the virus? Will the virus mutate? How is the virus transmitted? “We are always

learning new information” notes Amanda Falcone, Public Relations Director for Middlesex Health. “As of today, there is still much that is unknown. There’s no clinical playbook - no established standards of care for this virus. Knowledge changes rapidly.”

COVID-19 has altered what “normal” health care entails. Insurance has, at least for an interim period, approved telehealth visits. Telehealth is an important option especially for those who may lack mobility, access to transportation or the time for typical health care appointments. Middlesex Health stresses the importance of keeping up with your medical care. “Putting off annual exams and important tests and procedures can have unintended long-term consequences,” states Falcone.

Organizations like Middlesex Health are working to find out more about COVID-19. Middlesex Health is a part of a national initiative, led by the Mayo Clinic, that is investigating the use of convalescent plasma. Middlesex Health is also part of a study on Remdesivir, which, according to Falcone is the only medicine so far to show even a moderate benefit with respect to treating COVID-19.

Early on the healthcare industry faced worldwide supply shortages with respect to items such as personal protective equipment and cleaning supplies. Middlesex Health quickly made adjustments in how care is provided (additional cleaning, masks, care areas segregated based on COVID-19 status, additional safety equipment, etc.)

“We are actually using our pandemic plan as we work,” states Falcone. “When things get better, we will take a close look at our emergency and pandemic plan and adjust accordingly so that we are even more prepared should we ever need to use them again. Over the past several months we’ve learned a lot. We are now more knowledgeable and more prepared as we move forward, and we recognize that we will be dealing with this virus for a long time to come. It will likely be a moving target for a while yet to come.”

A RETURN TO NATURE?

With families and individuals confined to their homes across the globe, our planet was able to take its own breath and get slightly healthier. Startling images show clear waters in the Venice canals and the India Gate War Memorial in New Delhi became more visible as air pollution decreased (above right).



Some studies indicate that, while pre-pandemic levels of daily emissions were rising steadily every year, COVID-19 restrictions brought numbers comparable to 2006, mainly due to a reduction in surface transportation, power and industry (cars, electricity, fossil fuel, etc).

Mr. Robert Klee, Lecturer at the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, notes that “clean air is important and this is a link to the pandemic being a respiratory pandemic - those who suffer from dirtier air and depressed or compromised health from dirty air are more susceptible to the likes of COVID-19. There are correlations with bad air quality and higher incidents.”



People are taking walks, running, hiking, biking, kayaking, etc. The pandemic “reconnected people in interesting ways,” observes Klee. “People locked in the house go on walks, hike on a trail, want to go out and experience nature.”

Cities like Bogota, New York, Paris and Berlin, along with local communities, have made new street spaces for safer individual mobility (walking, cycling etc.). Will this lead to more permanent change? “Part of the question as we restart our economy is what are we restarting it for and to? What is our goal?” And don’t forget climate change is still an existential threat and a huge crisis and we can’t forget about it for one moment.”

MENTAL HEALTH – RESILIENCE AMID UNCERTAINTY

COVID-19 has taken an emotional toll. “There is so much uncertainty. It’s unprecedented,” observes Nancy Randall, a psychologist at East Lyme Psychological Associates. “People are more isolated than they have been. People are stressed about going back to work. They are anxious about the reopening and not sure what it will look like. The anxiety is really the biggest thing. Not knowing what’s coming next.”

Is there a silver lining? “We adapt pretty well to things,” she says. Many are enjoying nature, adopting pets, finding time for relationships and hobbies. People connect via facebook groups or Zoom. They have found ways to make a difference, whether sewing face-masks or checking in on others. “People are resilient,” notes Randall. “We’ve found ways to adapt and try to find the positive in things. Things we learned we can take with us. That doesn’t have to go away.”

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