

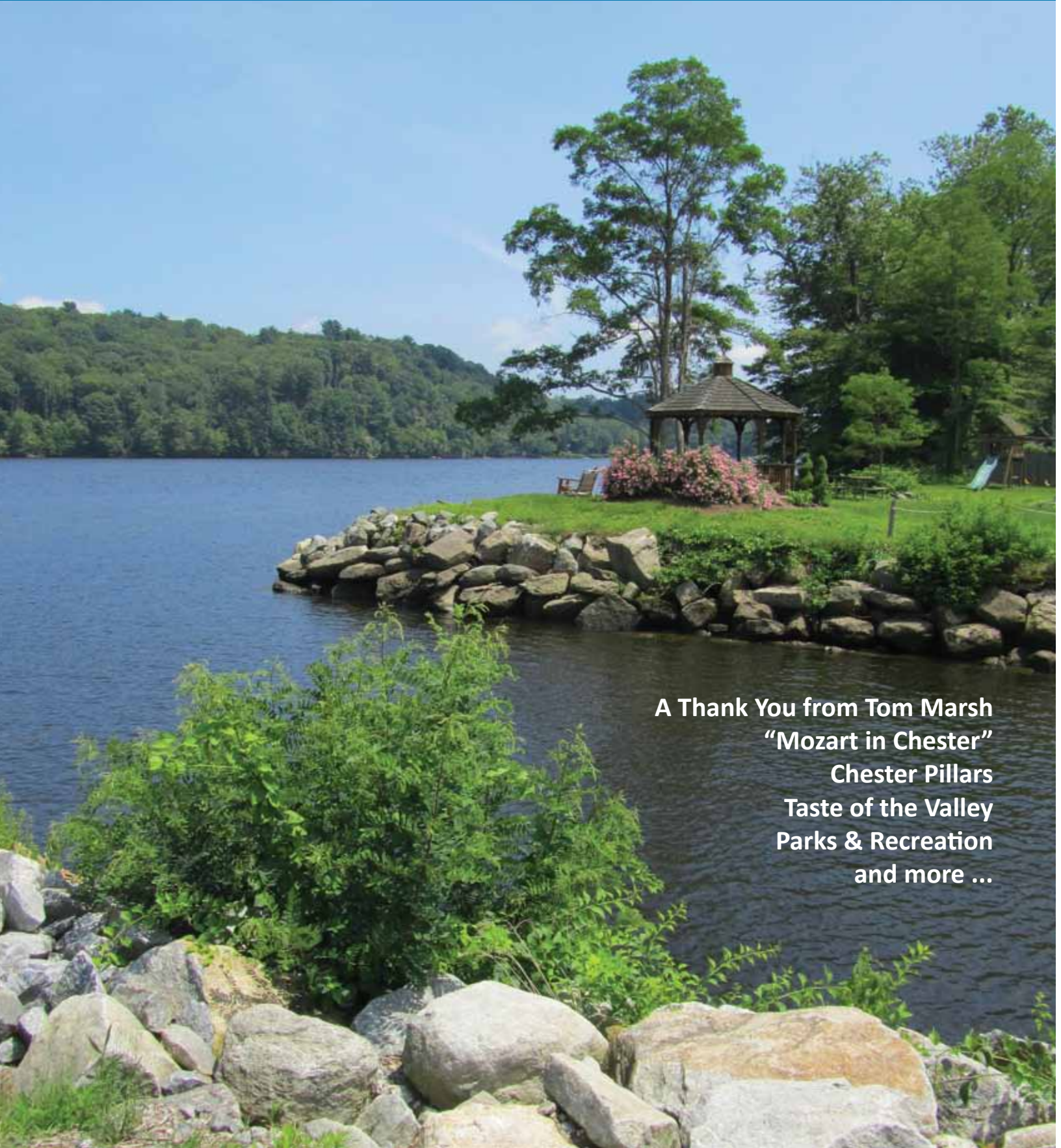
Chester



Events

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Volume 10 • Quarter 2 • 2011



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First Selectman's Corner

A HEARTFELT THANK YOU FROM MY FAMILY AND ME

Chester has been our home since 1989. My wife, Kathy, and I have raised our children, taken care of our parents, started and run a small business, and been involved in a variety of town organizations and activities. The last five-and-a-half years spent serving as First Selectman have been some of the most personally and professionally rewarding years of my life. I thank the town for providing me the opportunity to serve.

While I have enjoyed my time in office, I also feel that it is important to have fresh people and ideas in government. I felt that if I was fortunate enough to be re-elected, that six years in office would be my term limit. My wife and I spent months discussing what our next steps would be; our children are heading out on their own paths, our parents have passed. Given my fond appreciation for municipal administration we decided that I would seek a Town Manager's position, of which there are very few in Connecticut. Recently I accepted such a position for the town of Windsor, Vermont, a small community of 3,700 located on the banks of the Connecticut River. Windsor had seen better times, but in recent years a new vitality seems to be emerging. There is new investment, new business, and a strong sense of community pride. I am hopeful that my experiences here in Chester will prove valuable to Windsor's renewal efforts.

I am not sure I can convey just how much I appreciate the opportunity I was given by the residents of Chester. Please know that Chester will always be a place our family remembers fondly and visits regularly. Given the real estate market I expect that our family will be here for awhile. I hope that gives me the opportunity to thank many of you personally.

Kind Regards, Tom



First Selectman Tom Marsh

STAY INFORMED

CHESTER EMAIL LIST: The list is used by the First Selectman's office only to provide information and updates on town events. To have your contact information added please email me at tommarsh@chesterct.org with the subject "town email list."

BUDGETS AND TAXES

While the final chapter of the state budget has not been decided as of this writing, the municipal budget process concluded with much less acrimony than what had been

continued on page 2

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• *Selectman's Corner continued from page 1* •

anticipated. The state budget, as it stands, leaves municipal and education funding whole. As a result of that and continued effective budgeting by the schools and the town, we were able to hold spending in check and avoid a property tax increase. The town budget decreased .72% the elementary school budget decreased by .07% and the regional school budget increased 2.31% (1.98% due to spending increase, the rest due to population shift).

I am sure we will all be feeling the pinch as the new tax structure kicks in but at least your property tax bill will not be going up.

DOGTOWN?

While many are pleased that we shook our old moniker, that doesn't mean that we don't love our dogs. Having a current dog tag (and rabies tag) is very important to both assisting in getting your pet back should it get loose and helping to inform those who may encounter a lost pet as to its rabies status. If you have not already done so, please contact our Town Clerk, Debbie Calamari, and get your dogs tagged. The cost is minimal for the piece of mind they deliver, \$8 for spayed/neutered and \$19 for those who have not been "fixed."

CONSTRUCTION

The town received a \$500,000 grant to extend a water line up Route 154 to Denlar Drive to help address some naturally

occurring water quality issues that have been identified by the Department of Public Health. It is possible that the construction will take place late this summer, but given the pace of the paperwork I am not so sure.

We recently received some good news regarding the repair of the exit 7 extension. As you may recall the exit was closed for a short period about a year ago due to the formation of sink holes in the road. The permanent repair work will begin in June and last about two months. The good news is that at the minimum, alternating one-way traffic will be in place and hopefully one lane each direction will remain open. Chester will not be used as a detour.

Chester has also received a grant of \$200,000 toward the reconstruction of Main St. A committee is being formed to provide input on the project, and a public information session will be held later this summer. Actual construction will not take place for at least a year, depending on the schedules for the other bridge projects. (Water St. bridge in summer – fall of 2012 & Main St. bridge Spring of 2014+.)

EVENTS

There is a lot going on again this summer. We have fixed up the "snack shack" out at Cedar Lake. Please stop by and say hello to Garth and Jake, the new concessionaires (while spending some cash). The Chester Sunday market is back, Sunday mornings from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Remember, Main St.

continued on page 3

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Chester Public Library

One World, Many Stories: Summer Programs for Children

It's a wonderful world with so many amazing stories to be told. Plan to explore some of them this summer at Chester Library. Here is a sampling of what lies in store.

- Chester Library's summer reading incentive program is **One World, Many Stories**. Beginning Monday, June 27, children will receive a passport to start their reading journey. Each week the passport will be stamped and a coin awarded for each book read. Collect and keep the coins for a prize at the end of the summer! This program is open to all, readers and pre readers. Participate any day of the week during open hours.

- Stories and crafts for children ages 3 to 6 will begin Monday, July 11 at 10:30 a.m. We will have games, stories, and crafts from across the globe. Come learn the Potato Hop, make a dancing bear hat, and much more.

- International folktales and crafts to create for kids 7-10 are planned for Wednesdays at 3:30. On July 6 we will make Irish Rune bags; July 20 features loom weaving from Central America; July 27, African paper mache' bowls; and Aug. 10, Native American Dream Catchers.

- Our Wednesday afternoon 'tweens and teens book discussions with Sally (and pizza!) are back! We also welcome any adults who would like to join these fun and lively sessions. Books are available at the library. Two discussions are planned:

- *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, by Rebecca Skloot on July 13 at 3:30 p.m. This book is included in the Valley Regional summer list and participation in this discussion will fulfill your VRHS requirement for this book. Proof of participation will be provided. This session is open to ages 14 and up.

- On August 3, at 3:30 p.m., readers ages 12-14 will be discussing *Ship Breaker*, by Paolo Bacigalupi. This is a page-turning adventure you simply will not want to put down.

- Everyone is welcome to join us at the library to complete our summer journey with an International Music and Food Tasting fest on Monday, August 15 at 10:30 a.m. "One World, One Home - Family Music From Around The World" featuring Margie Warner promises joyous, interactive music and fun. There will be a sampling of treats from many countries to follow.

Registration is required for all summer programs. Space is often limited. Phone 860 526-0018 for more information and to register.

• *Selectman's Corner continued from page 2* •

will be closed during the market this year. The 4 on the 4th has a new start time of 9 a.m. It appears that a "mini-triathlon" will be held, starting at Cedar Lake, every other Thursday beginning June 9th. Check the weekly emails for more details. The Chester Fair takes place August 26, 27 & 28. The Chester Rotary Lobster Festival is scheduled for September 10th.

Have a great summer!

— Tom Marsh, First Selectman

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860-767-9087 Fax 860-767-0259
essexprinting.com

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Cover Photo: Riverfront at Chisholm Marina.
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Chester Air & Land Festival

Chester, Connecticut is a quaint New England town that is well known for its artists, great restaurants, beautiful homes, and life on the river. Chester also has an airport. Local general aviation pilots have known for decades just how good the Chester Airport is. Now it's time for everyone in our local communities to learn about our hidden gem.

On Saturday, October 1,, the Chester Airport will present the Chester Air and Land Festival. The festival is a celebration of airplanes, classic cars, and tractors. World-famous acrobatic pilot Mike Goulian and his airplane will also be on hand to take pictures and sign autographs. Mr. Goulian has recently become a spokesperson for Whelen Engineering's aviation division.

The airport, which is located on the grounds of the Chester-based Whelen Engineering Company, has long been recognized by local pilots as one of the premier general aviation airports in New England. The festival will be fun and exciting for the entire family.



The event will feature many of the airplanes that call Chester their home airport. The festival will also feature a car and tractor show with over 225 classic and antique vehicles sponsored by the Chester Hose Company. There will be lots of great food provided by the Chester Hose Company and Deep River Lions Club.

The event will truly be a community event. The Chester Pilot's Club, the Chester Hose Company, and the Chester Rotary, along with Whelen Engineering, have all been working together for months to put the event together. The event is a not-for-profit fundraiser for many local organizations. Tickets for adults will be \$7, and children will be \$3. Chester Rotary will also be selling "Historic Flight Sight Seeing Trips" as part of the fundraiser. The flights will all be flown by local pilots. The Chester Airport grounds will open at 10:00 a.m. through 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 1. The rain date is Sunday, October 2. Parking will be available at the airport and the nearby parking lot on Rte.148. Shuttle service will be available.

Chester Historical Society's New Civil War Exhibit

In conjunction with the country's 150th anniversary of the beginning of the Civil War, the Chester Historical Society opened a new exhibit, "Chester Voices of the Civil War," on June 11 at Chester Museum at The Mill. The exhibit, along with the award-winning "Steams of Change: Life and Industry" along the Pattaconk permanent exhibit, can be visited on Saturdays from 10 to 4 and Sundays from 11 to 2 through October. Admission is free for members; for non-members, adults - \$4, seniors or students - \$3, youths (12 and under) are free.

The Civil War exhibit tells the story of several Chester men who answered the call and went off to serve. Some enlisted in Chester, some came to Chester to enlist, and others joined in other towns. Their letters from the battlefield bring life to personalities, concerns, patriotism, and emotions of these men who were intimately involved in the most devastating event in American history.

The exhibit also contains Silliman inkwells, which were produced in Chester and carried by hundreds of Union soldiers, so they could write home to their families, as well as a surgeon's kit, a Connecticut-made rifle musket, swords, cannon balls, belt buckles, and more. All of these illustrate Chester's participation in and contributions to the war effort.

Please stop by to visit the Chester Museum at The Mill on weekends during the summer.

The Chester Historical Society sponsored an encampment by Civil War reenactors from the 14th Regiment of CT Volunteers and the Second CT Heavy Artillery on June 18th. They recreated soldiers' daily lives and demonstrated aspects of Civil War life in the camps. Dr. Matthew Warshauer of Central Connecticut State University spoke after the reenactment in the Meeting House. Dr. Warshauer has recently written the well-received *Connecticut in the American Civil War: Slavery, Sacrifice & Survival*.

Fall Registration at Chester Child Center

"Chester Child Center is accepting registrations for the fall session. We follow the Region 4 school calendar. We closed for the summer on June 23 and will re-open on Tuesday, September 6, 2011.

Our children work together in a multi-age setting of children ranging in age from 3 to 6. We offer a nursery school program, as well as full- and part-time child care. We also have spots for children before and after school.

We encourage registration as soon as possible for visiting days and meeting the staff. Please call for more information or if you have any questions: 860-526-3337."

— Ellen Spencer, Director

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Animal Control Officer

At last, summer is here, which means that windows will be open, so be kind to your neighbors and don't let your dog bark for a long time or at all.

It's also time to license your dog and check its rabies information – and don't wait until the last minute as your vet may be very busy. Unvaccinated dogs will get a \$136 fine, and if it bites someone, it really becomes a costly problem for all involved. An unlicensed dog carries a \$75 fine.

There have already been too many dog bites this year so far, so if you have packages coming by mail, UPS, or FedEx,

please use caution. Your dog doesn't know them and that is when accidents could happen. School is out and children will be riding bikes and skateboards, and dogs like to chase them too! If you go on vacation and you have a pet sitter, please be sure you leave the license and rabies certificate where they can find it just in case something should happen. If you take your dog on vacation, it is a good idea to take a copy of the license and rabies certificate with you.

Enjoy your summer and have a great time!

— Bob Jenkins, Animal Control

“Mozart in Chester,” August 21

Music of Mozart, Strauss, and Schubert will be featured when the Chestnut Hill Concert series makes its annual Chester visit on Sunday, August 21, at 5 p.m.

The concert features acclaimed musicians Mihae Lee (piano), Ronald Thomas (cello), and Ida Levin (violin) and is part of the Music & More series at Congregation Beth Shalom Rodfe Zedek, 55 East King's Highway.

Mihae Lee has captivated audiences throughout the U.S., Europe and Asia, and recently returned from South America, where she held classes for young musicians. Ida Levin has performed as a soloist at Carnegie Hall and at prestigious venues around the world. Ronald Thomas, artistic director of Chestnut Hill, has performed with the country's most prestigious orchestras.

For tickets (\$25 for general public, and \$20 for members), please call the office at 860.526.8920.



Mihae Lee.

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2011 Town Picnic Honors Chester Pillars

Six Chester residents form the 2011 class of Chester Pillars – selected for work that has helped improve the quality of life in our community. They will be honored at a town-wide picnic (bring your blankets and baskets) at 4:30 p.m., Sunday, August 14, at the Meeting House. Honorees are the following:

Bruce Watrous helped to build the foundation for the town's financial stability. He has committed over 40 years to community service and protecting the charm and character of Chester. He has served on the Board of Selectmen and is currently the chair of the Board of Assessment Appeals; a trustee of the Chester Historical Society; and a member of the Chester Rotary Club, Chester Cemetery Association, Camp Hazen, Middlesex Hospital, and the Rockfall Foundation.

Peter Walker, the gifted actor and lyricist who in his "retirement" years has delighted audiences young and old with readings, storytelling, and monologues, has been a mentor for many. His were the first words ever sung at Goodspeed's Norma Terris Theater, when *Harrigan 'n Hart*, the show that he and the late Chester resident Max Showalter wrote, opened in 1984.

Beth Mularski has selflessly volunteered for numerous activities at St. Joseph's Church over a long period. Beth has been a CCD teacher for more than 20 years, led the pre-marriage program for the church, and organized dances and many other activities. The former parish priest, Father Murphy, said that Beth and her husband, Chris, embody the meaning of the word "generous." She also takes care of the Chester youth, working at both the Chester Child Center and Chester Elementary, where she is lovingly referred to as "Bethy" by the children.

Nancy Freeborn was the first manager of the Chester Sunday Market, taking it from the modest version held at the Maple Street parking lot to the now vibrant and wonderful market, reminiscent of European marketplaces, which brings hundreds of people to town every weekend. The economic impact for the town and local merchants has been noticeable, which is especially appreciated during these harder economic times.

Lauren Agnelli and **Matthew Male** have been the maestros of the Small Town Concert Series. In performing with others the music of Johnny Cash, Bob Dylan, Leonard Cohen and other legends, they have raised money for the Chester Library, the Shoreline Soup Kitchen, Chester Audubon, the Chester Emergency Relief Fund, and other charitable organizations.

Chester Pillars are nominated by representatives of the Chester Library, Chester Rotary, the Chester Land Trust, the Chester Historical Society, the Chester Hose Company, Chester Merchants, Town Hall, St. Joseph's Church, United Congregational Church of Chester, and Congregation Beth Shalom Rodfe Zedek. The committee chairperson is Suzanne Levine.



*Front: Matthew Male and Lauren Agnelli.
Back: Nancy Freeborn, Peter Walker & Mona, and Beth Mularski.
(Bruce Watrous, unavailable for photo, will be honored also.)*

Live music will be provided by several musicians who have played in the Small Town Concert Series. The Chester Hose Company will once again provide grills for public use.

In case of rain (perish the thought), the festivities will be held inside the Meeting House. For more information, call Suzanne at 860.526.9401.

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Back to the Shack

When two Chester friends grew up spending their summers at Cedar Lake, no matter what the sign said, the restaurant at the lake was always referred to as "The Shack." Now these local guys, Jake Warner and Garth Lund, have decided to run the restaurant themselves, and upon applying for their business license, found that the name "The Shack" had been taken. So they decided to name it "The Cedar Shack," which will be open 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Mon-Fri, 9:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. Sat., and 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. on Sundays for the summer, through Labor Day.

Jake has been in the restaurant business for the past five years. He has taken a leave of absence as grill chef at Gabrielle's in Centerbrook to make a go of a place that is close to his heart and home. Garth is in his senior year at Maine Maritime Academy in Castine, ME, majoring in business. It seems like a perfect pairing.

The new owners will be going back to basics – burgers, hot dogs, fries, and wraps – and of course, awesome breakfast sandwiches for the early risers. They insist on all fresh ingredients – nothing frozen – and on making it delicious and affordable. They encourage "to-go" orders from local businesses, so give them a call at 860-581-3640 and they'll drop off a menu!



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Let swallows swoop, sunbeams dance,
country creeks
shine their silvery ribbons.

Let the sky unsheathe slow-motion clouds,
canopies of unbusy blue, white, gold,
the sun play shadowy stripes on walls and trees.

Let happenings, holidays, bugles and bells
begin with a lemonade haze
toward basking afternoon,
finish with an apricot sky
and a breeze for a mantra.

Let come the season of summer
transfiguring all in blessing
and light.

Summer: like a life that's long and rewarding.

— Gerry Feeney

Meet Chester's Tree Warden William Scot Mills (Scot)

Scot was born in Cleveland, OH, and relocated to CT in 1978. After attending Old Saybrook High School, Scot went to TN, where he worked on his family farm harvesting pulpwood. After leaving TN, Scot returned to CT, where he worked in woodland management doing low-impact harvesting of hardwood trees. For the past fourteen years, Scot has been involved in property management as well as the trimming and removing of large hazardous trees. Scot's formal tree education includes Woodland Management and Arboriculture. Scot is continuing his education by studying forestry, becoming a licensed arborist as well as a certified tree warden. Scot currently lives in Chester with his wife and two children.



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Chester Rotary 41st Annual Lobster Festival on Saturday, September 10, 2011

The Rotary Club of Chester will host its 41st annual Lobster Festival at the Chester Fairgrounds on Saturday, September 10, 2011. Tickets will go on sale in July.

The event is highlighted by classic double entree dinners featuring Twin Lobster, Twin Steak, or Surf and Turf. Traditional sides include corn on the cob, baked potato, cole slaw, and rolls. Food service will start at 5:00 p.m. Soft drinks, bottled water, draft beer, and wine are available for sale throughout


the night. The bands Bittersweet Harmony, Flying Blind, and Second Chance return to entertain with classic tunes until the 10:30 p.m. closing. Please note that this year the gates will open at 4:00 p.m. for table decorating and general admission.

Admission is \$40 in advance (by September 5), \$45 for remaining tickets at the gate. Single entree dinners are \$30 and \$35. Children's hot dog meal tickets are available at the gate for \$5. Purchase tickets from any Chester Rotarian, from selected Chester merchants including Hammered Edge LLC Studio & Gallery, Chester Bottle Shop, Chester Package Store, Century 21 Heritage Company, and Chrisholm Marina or call John at 860-526-1106. Further information is available at the Chester Rotary website: <http://www.ChesterRotary.org>.

Access to the Lobster Festival is restricted to dinner ticket holders. Seating is limited. This event has been a sellout for the past several years so be sure to get your tickets early!

Chester Rotarians are dedicated to providing funding and service to local, national, and international charitable organizations. All proceeds from this event support these causes.

— Debbie Alldredge, Chester Rotarian



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Essex Bank Executive Named to New Advisory Board



Gregory Shook, president and CEO of Essex Savings Bank, was recently appointed by the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston to a 12 member Advisory Council formed in response to new regulations.

Each Federal Reserve Bank across the country is establishing a First District Community Depository Institutions Advisory Council (CDIAC) in response to the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010. The councils will represent the perspective of smaller financial institutions and provide input on the economy and lending conditions, among other issues, according to a statement. The First District's 12 CDIAC members represent commercial banks, thrift institutions and credit unions with assets less than \$10 billion. Members, which are from each of the six New England states, will meet three times annually.

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You can't Go Wrong with a Rosé

Rosés are wines that are basically "pink" in color, which is attributed to the grape varietals used and how long the skins stay in contact during the wine making process. The biggest misconception about Rosés is that they are sweet, due to the previous popularity of White Zinfandel. White Zin is made to be sweet by cutting the fermentation process early which results in higher residual sugar and less alcohol.

Rosés are typically a blend of more than one red varietal, and occasionally white grapes are used. The taste is very pleasing and refreshing with accents of fresh berries such as strawberry, raspberry and cassis. Rosés are a delicious alternative to white or red wine for summer. They are great for picnics and barbecues which normally provide a varied selection of foods including chicken, beef and seafood. These wines are

produced all over the world, so each country's unique blend of grapes varies. France produces Grenache, Syrah, Cinsault blends which are full and clean. California does a beautiful job producing Pinot Noir Rosés which are soft and refreshing. South Africa blends a white, Viognier, into their Rosés which gives a pleasant floral quality to their wines.

Whether you typically drink white or red wine, you can not go wrong with a Rosé. During the hot summer months when you just want something refreshing, try a great bottle of Rosé, it is guaranteed to please the palate. Enjoy your summer and these mouth-watering wines!

— Arthur LiPuma, Manager, Spirits of Madison / MadisonSeaside Wine and Spirits / Old Saybrook

Open Gardens at Sheltara

Sheltara Gardens at 34 Deep Hollow Road, Chester will be having its annual open gardens on July 9 and 10 from 1-4 p.m. Relax and enjoy over 2,000 daylilies, hostas, annuals, perennials, and a Fun Train Garden.

Admission is nonperishable food items for the Chester Food Bank. For more information please call Frank and Helene Ferrari at 860-526-9278.



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"I feel your service and follow-up were fantastic! I have already recommended you to others." D.S. & K.S., Clinton, CT



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Summer Camp Develops Youth's Potential

Registration now open for Day and Specialty Camps at the Valley-Shore Y

Instead of spending the summer at home and indoors, the Valley-Shore Y is encouraging parents to give their kids a chance to explore nature at the Y's DAY camp. YMCA campers gain new experiences, develop essential social skills and create lifelong friendships, while enjoying camp adventures along the way.

"Children and teens have camped at our Y for 64 years," says Rich Ward, Camp Director, Valley-Shore Y Day Camp. "When at DAY camp, kids are given new responsibilities and they learn independence. As a result, they become more confident, open to trying new things and grow as individuals and as part of a group."

As a leading nonprofit committed to strengthening community through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility, the Y works to help children and teens discover their full potential by providing opportunities to learn, grow and thrive amidst caring, supportive adults. According to camping experts at the Valley-Shore Y Day Camp, there are five reasons why children and teens should experience summer camp:

1. **FOR ADVENTURE:** Summer camp is all about fun adventures in the outdoors. YMCA camps have a new adventure for every child and teen. Visit www.vsymca.org for details.
2. **FOR NEW EXPERIENCES:** Day camps are about learning outside of school, exploring and appreciating the outdoors, developing new skills, making friends and showing leadership.

3. **FOR PERSONAL GROWTH:** While being away from the routine back home, youth have a chance to develop confidence and independence by taking on new responsibilities and challenges.
4. **FOR NEW FRIENDSHIPS:** Amidst the fun of camp games, songs, swimming, canoeing and talent shows, campers meet new friends.
5. **FOR MEMORIES:** Summer camp is an unforgettable experience that will give each camper memories that will last a lifetime.

Valley-Shore Y also provides exciting and educational Specialty Camp programming for children and teens, and their parents, including: Flag Football, Gymnastics, UK International Soccer, Swimming, Tennis, Volleyball, Cooking, Rock Band, Golf, Sports, Hip-Hop, Fitness, Cheerleading, Jewelry Making, Origami, Fashion, Photography, Film Production and Forensic Science and many more.

To ensure that every child and teen has the chance to go to camp, the Valley-Shore Y offers financial assistance to those in need. For more information about Valley-Shore Y Day Camp, visit www.vsymca.org, contact Richard Ward at 860-399-9622 ext. 27 or rward@vsymca.org. For more information about Specialty Camps please call Chris Ferreira 860-399-9622 ext. 19 or cferreira@vsymca.org.

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Chester Fife and Drum Corps

Here is an update on the Chester Fife and Drum Corps 1868, your local Fife and Drum Corps, which is celebrating its 143rd year of continuous fifeing and drumming. It takes a lot of time, patience, and money to keep this type of corps on the road. The most important part are the members themselves; we cannot do it without them. We are currently growing and that is good. We can now, when all come, place on the road between 6-10 fifers, 6 snare drummers, and – when we're really lucky – 5 bass drummers, with a color guard numbering up to 10-12 marchers. We are doing well and could always use some more musicians and marchers for the Color Guard if you so desire.



We have great news about two of our own Chester residents. Two of our young musicians, one a fifer and the other a bass drummer and fifer, competed in an open competition on April 9 in Windsor, CT. It was an open competition and they did exceptionally well. Kayleigh Johnson competed on the fife and took the silver medal in competition along with Abigail Bradley for trio. Abigail Bradley also competed on the bass drum and won a gold medal in female drummer and overall silver in open competition. This was the first time in over

a century that young Chester musicians competed, and we intend on supporting them as long as they want to compete. Great for them for boosting their morale, and great for the corps and for the Town of Chester.

We have pretty much filled up our schedule for the season and will be appearing at many venues throughout the summer, such as Deep River, Westbrook, Guilford, Provincetown (MA), Moosup, Cheshire, Chester, Colchester, Moodus, and many other areas. We have also concluded setting up our summer practice agenda. If you would like to come and hear us play and talk about the corps, the following is a list of our remaining summer practice schedule. Four of them will be concerts given at the Chesterfield home and the rest will be regular practice:

Summer Practice Schedule and Place

- June 30 - Cedar Lake
- July 7 - North Quarter Park, old Community Center
- July 14 - Cedar Lake
- July 21 - Chesterfields
- June 28 - Gazebo at Chester Meeting House

continued on page 15



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The Chester Land Trust Fair and Harvest Dinner

Mark your calendars and save the date: Saturday, September 17, rain or shine for The Chester Land Trust Fair and Harvest Dinner!

The Fair will be held on the Chester Meeting House green from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Local arts & crafts, environmental themes, sustainable land use, and alternative energy information will be featured under and around our three tents. The Chester Meeting House is located at 4 Liberty Street.

Have fun accessing and learning about local healthy foods, products, and exciting local agricultural developments in the region and learn how this relates to a bright and promising

future for all of us. To find out more about this exciting event please call Errol Horner at 860-526-1137.

The Harvest Dinner, following the fair, will be served from 5~7 p.m. inside the Chester Meeting House. The menu fare is ham, autumn vegetables, homemade apple sauce, baked beans, zucchini bread, and delicious desserts. Please bring your friends, appetizers, BYOB and enjoy the event. Tickets for the supper will be on sale for \$16 per person. Please email marthaakelly4@gmail.com for more information or call 860.304.0940.

• *Fife and Drum continued from page 14* •

August 4 - North Quarter Park, old Community Center
 August 11 - Cedar Lake
 August 18 - Gazebo at Chester Meeting House
 August 25 - Chesterfields

Come out and support your local Fife and Drum Corps and get your children involved in a music program. It does not matter what they play or do as long as they are learning the fine art of music.

— *Frenchy Cordeau, Major and Business Manager*

We will also be playing for the Flag Day Ceremony at the Elks BPOE in Middletown and consider that an honor. We have other events planned but are waiting on returns from their sponsors.

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The Meeting House Players

The Meeting House Players are excited to announce open auditions for their October 2011 production to be directed by Debbie Alldredge. Auditions will take place on Wednesday, August 31 and Thursday, September 1 at 7 p.m. Under consideration is Steven Dietz's new comedy, *Becky's New Car*. The performance dates are currently scheduled for October 28 & 29 and November 4, 5, 11 & 12 at the Meeting House, located at 4 Liberty Street in Chester. The curtain will rise each evening at 8 p.m. Look for future announcements to get updates and additional details regarding the production.

The Meeting House Players is a local, not-for-profit community theatre organization that has been presenting

comedies and dramas on the Chester Meeting House stage since the 1970s. We pursue the theatre arts with the talents and the interests of people throughout Connecticut. We are currently looking for an individual or individuals who would be interested in volunteering to assist with set design as well as overseeing the set construction. Please contact Debbie Alldredge at 860-526-3684 for more information. We invite area residents with an interest in theatre to join us, and we encourage those who want to act to audition for us.

— Debbie Alldredge

Social Services

Two Important SNAP (Food Stamp) Changes

As of April 1, 2011, some SNAP benefits have decreased. Why? The USDA is lowering the Standard Utility Allowance (SUA), which is used to calculate a household's benefit amount. In the winter of 2009 the USDA allowed Connecticut to increase the SUA to \$720 due to the high cost of heat the previous winter. Last fall, DDS worked the USDA to delay the decrease until April 1, and a coalition of antihunger groups in the Northeast worked with our Congressional teams to urge

the USDA to hold off on the decrease. On April 1, the SUA changed to \$622 or an average of a \$10-\$20 drop in benefits for some people—not all.

There is a good chance that the SUA will be increase again in the future, but for now, this is the harsh reality for many. Please visit EHC's online benefit calculator www.ctfoodstamps.org to verify SNAP benefits for anyone currently receiving them who has a change due to the UA decrease.



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From the Chief's Desk:

As we welcome the warm summer months, we remind you to use extra caution in the Cedar Lake area of town when driving. Summer campers and Cedar Lake sunbathers create increased pedestrian traffic. Please stop at the crosswalks.

Warm weather also brings the possibility of heat stroke. Be mindful when working or playing outside. Seek periods of shade and stay hydrated.

Look for us at the Rotary's Four on the Fourth Road Race and the Chester Fair, both longstanding traditions in Chester.

We are pleased to be co-hosting the First Annual Chester Air Land Festival along with Chester Pilots Group, Chester Rotary, and Whelen Engineering. Come join us at Chester Airport October 1, 2011 10:00 to 4:00 for a fun-filled day (rain date October 2).

Join us at the Firehouse Monday evenings at 7 p.m. to join our department and "volunteer to help a neighbor in need."

— Chief Charles F. Greeney, Jr.,
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Chester-Based First Niagara Bank Receives Honors at United Way Campaign Awards

On Tuesday, May 3, 2011 hundreds gathered at the Crowne Plaza in Cromwell to honor more than eighty companies and organizations, their employees, and community leaders who contributed \$1,925,723 to the 2010-11 Middlesex United Way 75th Anniversary Campaign. This amount is about 3% over the campaign goal of \$1,875,000.

“Every year around the world, thousands of coordinators and volunteers are mobilized to raise resources on behalf of United Way,” said Gary Simonsen of PrimePay, President of the Middlesex United Way Board of Directors. “That cumulative effort results in a total of four billion dollars raised across the globe. You are part of this worldwide movement to advance the common good for all.

“Your efforts are changing lives and moving the needle on community conditions,” Mr. Simonsen continued. “And it’s working...we are getting results and creating real, lasting change in the areas of education, income, health and housing.”

Middlesex United Way’s Director of Development, Andy Heuer, presented First Niagara Bank with an award for topping \$10,000 in total giving as well as an award for 5 + years of campaign growth.



First Niagara Employees; Martha Burgess, John Delgadillo & Marlene Piche accept the companies award for topping \$10,000 in total giving as well as an award for 5+ years of campaign growth.

Other local awards included:

- 10% or more increase in employee participation awards to: Wells Fargo of Old Saybrook, Stop & Shop Supermarket Co. of Old Saybrook & Clinton, and AAA Allied Group of Old Saybrook.

continued on page 19

Pequot Sherwood Day Camp
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Killingworth Family Pharmacy

After nearly 20 years Killingworth is now able to enjoy the convenience of having their own locally owned and operated pharmacy. Killingworth Family Pharmacy, located at 183 Route 81 (across from the Copper Skillet), opened its doors in January 2011. They are a full service pharmacy with health and beauty aids, vitamins, gifts cards, school supplies, candy, etc. Owners/Pharmacists Keith Lyke Rph and Steve Vegliante Rph with their staff provide the friendly courteous service that you expect from a family owned pharmacy. With over 40 years combined experience, Keith and Steve are available to assist you with your medications from timely, accurate prescription filling to counseling about medications or illnesses. Free local delivery is available to those who need it. As part of the national network of Healthmart Pharmacies, Killingworth Family Pharmacy has the ability to be competitive with the



Owners/Pharmacists Keith Lyke Rph
and Steve Vegliante Rph

larger chain stores. They accept ALL major insurances including CVS/Caremark.

"We pride ourselves on fast, accurate and friendly service. We will take the time to meet one-on-one with you to answer all your questions and concerns about your medication," says Vegliante.

Transferring prescriptions from another pharmacy is easy, just call them or stop by and they will take care of the rest. Look for their Grand Opening in early May. Visit Killingworth Family Pharmacy on Facebook for updates.

"We wanted to bring the local/hometown pharmacy and personal service that many of us grew up with back into the community and provide an alternative to the currently available options," says Lyke.

You can reach Killingworth Family Pharmacy at 860-452-4275. See their ad in this bulletin.

• United Way continued from page 18 •

- First Step Award, which honors businesses and organizations that have taken that first step towards Living United, was awarded to Clinton's Henry Carter Hull Library.
- Awards for campaigns that have topped \$10,000 in Total Giving went to Stop & Shop Supermarket Co. of Old Saybrook & Clinton, Clinton Public Schools, and First Niagara Bank of Old Saybrook & Clinton.

The event brought to a close Middlesex United Way's 75th Anniversary Campaign, and the three co-chairs who oversaw the fundraising effort were acknowledged for their outstanding leadership and advocacy on behalf of United Way. The co-chairs were: Chandler Howard, President and CEO of Liberty Bank; Larry McHugh, President of the Middlesex Chamber of Commerce; and Michael Roth, President of Wesleyan University.


McHugh introduced the co-chairs of the 2011-12 Middlesex United Way Campaign who will be Harry Eben Burr of McCutcheon Burr & Sons and Arthur "Buddy" McDowell of Middlesex Hospital.

Middlesex United Way is advancing the common good by creating opportunities for a better life for all. Our focus is on education, income, health, and housing – the building blocks for a good quality of life. United Way recruits people and organizations that bring the passion, expertise, and resources needed to get things done. You are invited to be part of the change by giving, advocating, and volunteering. That's what it means to Live United.

In the town of Chester, Middlesex United Way is working with Regional School District #4 at supporting an early childhood mental health initiative aimed at identifying and serving preschool children with behavioral, emotional, and social problems and supporting parents in their roles as their children's first best teachers.

Middlesex United Way is a locally based organization serving the towns of Chester, Clinton, Cromwell, Deep River,

Durham, East Haddam, East Hampton, Essex, Haddam, Killingworth, Middlefield, Middletown, Old Saybrook, Portland, and Westbrook.



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Chester Parks and Recreation

Summer Announcements with a Preview of Programs for Next School Year

Children's Summer Program Day Camp! See the schedules following this page, filled with a variety of camp experiences run by our qualified staff.

Our traditional camp program is better than ever! It is open to children entering grades 1 through 7 and the hours have been extended to meet from 8:30 am until 3:30 pm, the weeks of July 11, July 18, August 1, and August 8, at Chester Elementary School on Mondays and Wednesdays and Cedar Lake on Tuesdays and Fridays. The children take field trips on Thursdays. The fee is \$95 per child, per week.

NEW THIS SUMMER! For those who want something in-between we are offering a new mid-summer camp experience this year, the week of July 25. This program is designed for children entering Kindergarten through grade 6. By popular request we will meet at Chester Elementary School on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and Cedar Lake on Tuesday and Thursday, with no field trip. Program hours have been modified to 8:45 am until 2:15 pm, and the number of children accepted will be limited to a smaller group than our traditional camp. The fee is \$75 for the week.

Chester Parks and Recreation Swimming Lesson. The swimming lessons offered by the Park and Recreation Commission

are open to Chester residents and current park pass holders. Children must be at least three years of age and able to attend the classes independent of their parents. The small group classes meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays during session 1, on June 28, 30, July 5, and 7 and Monday through Thursday during session 2, on July 25, 26, 27, and 28. The fee is \$25 per session. Severe weather makeup days will be held on July 12 for session 1 and July 29 for session 2. The classes currently available for session 1 are: Nonswimmer 12:45-1:10, Nonswimmer 1:15-1:40, Swimmer 3:05-3:40 and for session 2 are: Swimmer 4:35-5:10.

Beach Party. The Annual Town Picnic and Beach Party, to celebrate the beginning of summer, will be held Sunday, June 26, at Pelletier Park on Cedar Lake. The event will begin at 4:00pm and lifeguards will remain on duty until 7:45 pm. There will be music, dancing, a sand castle building contest, s'mores, and a craft for the children.

Comedy Magic Show. A comedy magic show will be held at the Chester Elementary School, free of charge, on Wednesday, July 27, at 1:30 pm. Children not registered in the Children's Summer Program Day Camp, the week of the show, must be accompanied by an adult.

Zumba Fitness. It's fun! It's different! It's easy! It's effective! Zumba is offered by Chester Parks and Recreation at the Chester Town Hall, with Instructor Rana Bananno, on Wednesdays, from 6:00 to 7:00pm and Thursdays, 5:30 to 6:30 pm. The fee is \$20 for 3 classes, \$25 for 4 classes, \$30 for 5, and \$10 for a single class.

SPECIAL FALL ACTIVITIES

I SPY CHESTER...more than meets the eye! The Chester Public Library and Chester Parks and Recreation present a FAMILY activity for all ages! It's a scavenger hunt. No! Wait!!! There are puzzles and word games. Oh, it's a walking tour of Chester. There's a treat at the Sunday market on September 18 for those who complete the challenge (and you may just learn something, too!). Maps and clues will be available at the Chester Library and Cedar Lake beginning August 12 and at Chester Elementary school in September.

American Red Cross Babysitter's Training. American Red Cross Babysitter's Training will be offered at Chester Elementary School on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, October 19, 20, and 21, from 1:00 pm until 3:45 pm, following the early dismissal from school. The training will help participants develop skills in leadership and professionalism, basic care, safety and safe play and first aid. The program is open to participants in grade 5 through age 15. The fee is \$40.

Mystic Aquarium Field Trip. There is no school on Friday, October 7. Chester Parks and Recreation will sponsor a field trip to the Mystic Aquarium for children in grades 1 - 8. The cost is \$38. Please bring a lunch and beverage. The bus will depart from Chester Elementary School at 8:45 am and return at 3:30 pm. The activities include a class in Beluga Echolocation, a sea lion show, exhibits, and a virtual rollercoaster!

continued on page 21

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• *Parks and Recreation continued from page 20* •

After School Programming Presented by the Chester Elementary School PTO and Chester Parks and Recreation.
All programs follow the 3:00 dismissal and meet until 4:15 at Chester Elementary School.

Music Workshops. Fischer Music School presents a program to introduce children in Kindergarten through grade 3 to the basics of music such as singing in tune and performing correct rhythm through games, a variety of musical instruments, dance and songs. Students will participate in jam sessions, sing, make music with egg shakers, bongos and kazoos, hear a lot of live guitar, dance, play the tambourine, learn about music notation, watch slide presentations and have plenty of silly fun! The program meets on Mondays, September 26, October 3, 17, and 24. The fee is \$45.

Volleyball. Get your friends together for a great indoor team sport! Join experienced volleyball player Christine Perry for a fun after school activity on Tuesdays, October 4, 11, 18, and 25 in the Chester Elementary School gym. This program is open to students in grades 4 through 6. The fee is \$20.

Theatre Workshops for Children. Children in grades 1 through 6 may attend theatre workshops on Tuesdays, conducted by Elise MurphyMulligan of Tigertale Theatre. The program will meet at Chester Elementary School on September 27, October 4, 11, 18, 25 and March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3, and 12. Create a character! Dream up a play! Perform it for your family and friends! The fee is \$40 per session.

Science Fun. Children in Kindergarten through grade 6 may participate in after school science camp with the Parks and Recreation and PTO staff, at Chester Elementary School on Tuesdays November 1, 8, 15, and 22. Participate in a variety of experiments and take home some of your creations. The fee is \$25.

Karate for Children. Karate classes will be held in the multi-purpose room at Chester Elementary School by Valley Shore Martial Arts. Children who are in grades 1 through 6 will meet on Wednesdays, November 2, 9, 16, 30 and January 11, 18, 25, and February 1, with snow make-ups of February 8 and 15, to learn the Kempo style of Karate. The cost of the program is \$20 per session.

Roller Rink! The Chester Elementary School multi-purpose room will become a roller rink after school on Mondays, March 19, 26, and April 2. Skate to your favorite music! Bring your roller skates or rollerblades and a helmet. The activity is staffed by the Parks and Recreation Camp Counselors and open to students in grades 1 through 6. The price is \$5 per day.

Children's Creative Dance. Dance for children is offered on Tuesdays at Chester Elementary School for grades K-4. The program will meet in the gym on March 6, 13, 20, and 27. Help choreograph moves to your favorite music! Dance, learn basic technique, develop strength and teamwork skills, become familiar with basic choreographic phrases, explore a new style of movement and perform your dances with returning instructor Christine Perry, BFA in Dance Performance. The fee is \$25.

In addition, the Chester Elementary School PTO will be offering costume making, drawing, Fun Fitness, Leggos, jewelry, reptiles, photography, and MORE!

With the opening of Cedar Lake the Parks and Recreation Department would like to remind parents to please watch your children while they are in the water, and do not drop them off or leave them unattended at the facility. Drowning is the second leading cause of trauma deaths for ages 1-19 years old and the third leading cause of ALL deaths of children 0-4 years of age. We would like all patrons to realize that no one is permitted in the water if they are under the influence of drugs or alcohol, or while they are chewing gum or eating. Please remember that head first entries are not permitted. This includes throwing children into the water. Head-first entries are the leading cause of sports related spinal injuries. We wish you all a happy and healthy summer!

Cedar Lake. The Town Beaches on Cedar Lake are scheduled to be open for the 2011 season from June 18 through August 21, 10:30 am until 6:00 pm. Hours may vary according to staff availability, training, weather, or special programs. Access to the Town parks, including the beaches on Cedar Lake, is by permit only. Non-resident passes are available at Pelletier Park during operating hours. Chester residents may

continued on page 22



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Asian Longhorn Beetle

A new and potentially serious threat to some of Connecticut's most popular trees, forests, and even our landscapes is the Asian Longhorn Beetle, scientifically known as *Anoplophora glabripennis*. Native to Asia, it is believed that the beetle arrived here in wooden packing crates from China. The beetle has been found in New York City, Long Island, as well as in Union and Middlesex counties in New Jersey. Its closest proximity to us in Chester would be in Worcester, MA, where over 23,000 trees were removed between 2008 and 2009. In 2010 the Asian Beetle was responsible for the removal of an additional 3,304 trees.

What types of trees do these beetles prefer?

The beetle favors primarily maples but has also been discovered in horse chestnut, poplars, willows, elms, mulberries, and black locusts. To date, there are no known chemical or biological methods to control these beetles. In all cases of infection, the tree must be cut down and all the wood, including the stump, destroyed.

What do the beetles look like?

Mature insects are very large, 1-1/2 inches long with antennas up to 4" in length. They are shiny black beetles with white spots and long antennas and are banded white and black. The beetle has wings but can only fly short distances because of their overall size and weight.

How do the beetles harm a tree?

The beetle is extremely destructive. The damage starts when the female lays her eggs under the bark layer of the tree. When the eggs hatch, the larva burrow deep into the tree to feed in the tree's conducting vessels. The larva's continued feeding causes structural defects that kill the cambial layer by girdling the tree. When the larva mature to adults, they burrow out of the tree leaving holes large enough to insert a ballpoint pen. Heavy infestation of the beetle will kill healthy adult trees.



When is the beetle most active?

Adult beetles leave the tree from May through October, with peak emergence in July. Tree infestation can be detected by the 3/8- to 3/4-inch exit hole found in the lower branches and crown of the tree. Sometimes sap and oozing can be seen from the exit holes along with sawdust or "frass" on the ground or on lower tree branches.

How can a homeowner control the beetle?

If you think the beetle is present in a tree in your yard, you should contact the DEP, Connecticut Department of Entomology, at the Connecticut Agriculture Experiment Station in New Haven immediately so they can contain the outbreak. Unfortunately, the only way to combat the beetle's infestation is to destroy the tree. While cutting down a large tree is a tragedy, it is the only known way to stop the spread of this menacing beetle.

— Scot Mills, Town of Chester Tree Warden

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• Parks and Recreation continued from page 21 •

enter staffed facilities by showing a driver's license, or other proof of residency or taxpayer status with identification. Groups of 10 or more must make reservations in advance.

We hope you enjoy the Town properties maintained by the Chester Park and Recreation Commission. They include Pelletier Park, the Cedar Lake Road beach, L'Hommedieu Park, Chester Creek Overlook, Chester Elementary School baseball fields, North Quarter Park and Parker's Point Boat Launch. Contact us if you have a comment or a concern regarding any one of our parks! Call 526-0013 extension 223.

The Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries provides food and fellowship to those in need. Serving the towns of Essex, Chester, Clinton, Madison, Old Saybrook, East Lyme, Lyme, Old Lyme, Killingworth, Westbrook and Deep River.

Learn how you can help at:

www.shorelinesoupkitchens.org

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A Letter to our Loyal Readers from the Publisher

During the last 30 months our local area merchants have been overwhelmed by a deep recession. Many have closed, unable to weather the storm of financial uncertainty, while others are just hanging on, waiting for an improved economy.

We at Events Magazines are extremely aware of the problems facing local merchants and service providers. Closed storefronts and going out of business signs are now more the rule, rather than the exception.

It is becoming increasingly easier to order products from the internet, rather than traveling a few miles to our local store to purchase the same product. The excuse is almost always the same. . . . "I can buy it for less and I pay no sales tax."

TRUE, but when your hard-earned money goes to an out of state merchant, your local neighborhood store truly suffers as does the State of Connecticut.

Protect your local merchant. Purchase your products from your friendly store owners. If you don't they will disappear and we will be left with empty storefronts. Only you can make a difference.

*Buy Local David V. Winstead, Ph.D., Publisher,
Events Magazines*

Estuary Council

Estuary Council of Seniors, Inc. has been Serving Seniors in the nine-town Estuary region for 35 years. Call us to receive our *Gazette Newsletter* or go to www.ecsenior.org for our online newsletter, events calendar, menu, and more.

Donate Your Car or Boat to the Estuary Council! Turn your car or boat into a tax deduction by calling: 1-800-716-5868. Vehicle does not have to run! Proceeds benefit the vital services we provide in the nine town Estuary Region.

Save the Date! Our annual Autumn on the Dock Wine Tasting and Auction will happen on Sunday, September 18.

NEW! CHRONIC ILLNESS SUPPORT GROUP: Meets last Wednesday of each month. Next meeting is Weds., May 25 at 10 am. Call Eileen at 860-339-5531.

INTERESTED IN SCRABBLE? – Call Deb at 860-388-1611.

WOODCARVING CLASS: Meets 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 9 a.m. Beginners to advanced levels welcome. This group of men and women met and did their first project! Call Ed Gorman at 860-388-5737 for more information.

STAN GREIMANN ESTUARY MEDICAL OUTPATIENT TRANSPORTATION For medical appointments, to any medical



Representatives from the Florence Griswold Museum in Old Lyme speaking with potential volunteers at a previous Volunteer Open House.

location beyond the nine-town estuary region. Call Judy at 388-1611. Suggested donation of \$25. EMOTS is supported by the Senior Resources Agency on Aging with Title III funds available under the Older Americans Act.

MEALS ON WHEELS – hot meals delivered to your home. Call Diane at 388-1611. A \$2.50 donation request for those aged 60+ ; otherwise cost is \$6.25. Meals are supported by Senior Resources Agency on Aging with Title III funds available under the Older Americans Act.

CAFÉ MEAL SITES - Chester, Clinton, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, & Westbrook.

Reservations required by calling 860-388-1611 by 11 a.m., 24 hours in advance.

CLASSES AND ACTIVITIES: Billiards, Ping Pong, Yoga, Exercise Classes, Mah Jongg, Wii, Tai Chi, Cribbage, Writer's Group, Book Club, Quilter's Group, Dominoes, Needlecrafters, Hand and Foot, and more!

ESTUARY THRIFT SHOP: Hours are from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Mon. – Fri. and 9 a.m. – 1 pm on Saturdays. Clothes (men, women, and children), kitchen items, crafts, and more available! Donations are accepted and volunteers always needed!



Provides Public Transportation to portions of Chester, Clinton, Deep River, Essex, Killingworth, Lyme, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook & Westbrook

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CHESTER NEWCOMERS' GUIDE

Welcome to Chester!

On behalf of *Events Magazines*, welcome to Chester. Whether you are new to Connecticut or just new to Chester you will find wonderful people and places to visit in town. From the Winter Carnival to the Chester Fair, Chester has something for everyone. Below are important phone numbers. Please tear out this page and keep it for future reference. We at *Events Magazines* and Essex Printing support local businesses.

Please use this guide and "Buy Local" – we do!

BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

CHESTER LAND TRUST (860) 526-4037
 CHESTER FAIR (860) 526-5947
 CHESTER DEMOCRATIC TOWN
 COMMITTEE WWW.CHESTERCTDEMS.COM
 CHESTER GARDEN CLUB (860) 526-3459
 CHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY (860) 526-5781
 CHESTER MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION
 WWW.VISIT-CHESTER.COM
 LIONS CLUB DEEPRIVERCHESTERCT.LIONWAP.ORG
 DEEP RIVER AND CHESTER VFW (860) 526-3521
 TRI TOWN YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU (860) 526-3600
 CHESTER MEETING HOUSE (860) 526-0013

LIBRARY

CHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY (860) 526-0018

POST OFFICES

CHESTER POST OFFICE (860) 526-2780

SCHOOLS

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
 DISTRICT 4 (860) 526-2417
 CHESTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (860) 526-5797
 JOHN WINTHROP MIDDLE SCHOOL (860) 526-9546
 VALLEY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL (860) 526-5328

USEFUL NUMBERS

CONSUMER PROTECTION (860) 566-2294
 MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY FOUNDATION (860) 347-0025

WORSHIP SERVICES

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 CONGREGATION BETH SHALOM - TEMPLE (860) 526-8920
 UNITED CHURCH OF CHESTER (860) 526-2697

ARBORIST

BOMBACI TREE EXPERTS (860) 767-1752

AUTO SERVICE STATION

WEST MAIN STREET SERVICES (860) 526-4004

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 YPI - CREATIVE ARTS (860) 918-3155

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RIVER QUEST (860) 662-0577

THEATRES

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Want to be listed on the Newcomers' page?

Call Ward Feirer at (914) 806-5500

From the Tax Collector

Here we are at tax time again, and we hope that you all will be able to pay your taxes on time. If a payment has not come in by mid-July, do not be surprised if we start to make phone calls or emails as reminders. We don't want to charge interest on any account, so we do whatever we can to remind tax payers. Please take the call or email as a gentle reminder. It costs the Town of Chester more money if a person is late, even by a few days, because we are required to mail out delinquent statements for any bill that has a balance due. So that means paper is used, envelopes are used, and postage.

Try to avoid the interest and the extra costs to the town and to yourself!

Our collection rate was very good this past year, so thank you to one and all. We still do have people in town who are struggling, but most of them are on a payment plan and are doing well sticking to the payment schedule. If anyone is still struggling that we do not know about, be sure to call or better yet, drop a note to our office at PO Box 314 and let us know what your plan is to get the taxes paid. We do not want to send anyone to a collection agency or worse yet, to a TAX SALE process. We are willing to work with each and everyone of you to see that the taxes are paid with no additional fees or pressure from a marshal or collection agency, but I have had to send a few accounts to a new agency that adds their own commission fee, which just adds to the bill and adds to the hassle of

the whole thing. Don't let that happen. Write that note. Start a payment plan!

For those who use the online payment system, where you set the Tax Collector as a company that must be paid, once or twice a year, be sure to put pertinent information on the account, so that when the check arrives from the bank, it tells us accurately and easily what account is being paid. An old MV bill number does not help us post the account quickly or efficiently. What would help would be the full name of the person who is paying and maybe the plate number, which usually stays the same for a long time. In the case of a real estate bill or personal property bill, then the full address is a good item to be put on the check. Since the portion of the bill that is supposed to come to us is never included in with the bank check, we really need something definite to know how to apply the money, especially if there is more than one person with your last name living in town. If you are paying for someone with a different last name, be sure to include that name on the account. You might know who you are paying for, but we don't have any idea, unless their name appears somewhere on the check also.

We have slightly different hours than other years: For July & January, we will be in the office on MONDAY, TUESDAY and THURSDAY from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. and 1-4 pm. The schedule for WEDNESDAY is just 9 a.m.-12 p.m. this year and also we will be closed on most Fridays. We will attempt to be here on Friday, July 1 and Friday, July 29 but not the Fridays in between, which tend to be very slow collection days.

Don't forget to pay your taxes in July. Try not to wait to the last day also, since like in January, there could be bad weather, power outage, or sickness in the family, and late is late no matter what the reason. Bills may be paid from July 1 on and it is best to do so sooner than later, since there is very little interest anyone is gaining keeping the money in the bank, but it is 3% interest charge if you are late even by one day, which is 1 1/2% for the month the bill was due and 1 1/2% for the new month. Take care and good luck paying your taxes on time! We look forward to continuing to work with you to get the taxes collected for the Town of Chester.

— Madaline Meyer, Tax Collector
and Deb Pagel, Tax Clerk



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Raise A Fork For Tri-Town Youth Services at Taste of The Valley 2011!

Don't miss Taste of the Valley 2011 - an evening of delicious food and toe-tapping music to benefit Tri-Town Youth Services. Circle the date - Friday, September 9, 2011 at 6:00 pm - and get your tickets TODAY!

It's no wonder Taste of the Valley is becoming a community event that we all look forward to! Each year, our community gathers on a late summer evening on the beautiful grounds of the Deep River Historical Society to sample one tasty morsel after another from local restaurants and caterers. There is a silent auction stocked with some of the most unique gifts and experiences available in the River Valley as well as a live auction. The music will be provided by the Shiny Lapel Trio.

You will also cast your ballot for the restaurant that takes home the coveted Taste of the Valley FORK! There will also be awards for Best Appetizer, Best Dessert, Best Presentation, and other categories.

Tickets are \$35 and can be purchased at Celebrations and Tri-Town Youth Services in Deep River after June 15th - or from any TTYS Board member.

TASTE OF THE VALLEY 2010 was generously sponsored by The Clark Group, Whelen Engineering, The Valley Courier,

Essex Savings Bank, Angus McDonald, Gary Sharpe, & Associates, Fio Partners, Tower Labs, and many other local businesses.

For more information or tickets, contact Gail Onofrio at Tri-Town Youth Services at (860) 526-3600 or view our website: <http://www.tasteofthevalley.blogspot.com>. If you would like to be a sponsor or donate an item for our silent auction, contact Anne at (860) 526-5895 or Kathy at (860) 526-2463 or email ttystov@gmail.com.

[TRI-TOWN YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU, INC. is a non-profit agency that coordinates, develops and provides services dedicated to promoting the positive growth and development of youth and families in Chester, Deep River and Essex, Connecticut. The Deep River Historical Society is located at 245 Main Street, Deep River, CT.]

For town updates & information:
www.chesterct.com

Ask the Jeweler

GOOD AS GOLD??????

If you really have gold...that's good. But maybe you have something like gold...that's not so good.

How do you know?

First thing, examine the piece of jewelry you are about to buy or sell. Look at it carefully! On the inside of a ring, on the back of a disc, or on the clasp of a chain it is required that a manufacturer's identifying mark and a karat weight rating mark are stamped on each piece. Many times you will find them. There are exceptions. Very old jewelry and jewelry originally sold in a foreign country may not be marked.

Assuming that you find the markings, be sure to read all of what is stamped. If, for example, the "14K" is followed by "GE," you are probably looking at a base metal with a "G" for gold and "E" for electroplated piece. "HGE" stands for "heavy gold electroplating."

Beware of folk-lore, surefire tests. For instance, it is possible for a genuine gold ring to leave a mark on your finger. Some people react differently to (possibly) the other metals in the alloy of the gold that they are wearing. Remember that "24K" or 24 karat is the designation for pure gold. The designation "10K" means that 10 of the 24 parts are pure gold and 14 parts are something else.

There are definitive tests for checking the content of gold. Tests typically compare the reaction shown by the piece being tested to a known standard when tested with acids. Many jewelers routinely perform this and other test procedures.

Unfortunately, I must mention that there are many pieces showing incorrect markings. One can only surmise that someone was trying to make something out of nothing. There is always the possibility that someone has made an honest mistake. Get professional help if there is any question.

The service could be worth its weight...in gold.

Neil Gottfried is the owner of Marc Jewelers in Old Lyme. Trained by the Gemological Institute of America, he has 25 years experience as a retail jeweler with a focus on diamonds, colored stones, pearls and appraising.

[Have a question about jewelry? Ask the Jeweler! Mr. Gottfried would be happy to answer your question in an upcoming issue. Email your question to dbrown@eventsmagazines.com.]

Why Buy Local?

For every \$100 spent in our locally owned independent stores, \$68 returns to the community through taxes, payroll and other expenditures. If you spend the same \$100 in a national chain, only \$43 stays here. Spend the \$100 online and NOTHING stays here!

START A TREND - SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL MERCHANT!

- David V. Winstead Ph.D,
Publisher, Events Magazines

Be Prepared for the 2011 Hurricane Season

June 1 marks the official start of the 2011 North Atlantic hurricane season, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has been working closely with its federal, state, local, and tribal partners, the private sector, voluntary organizations, and the entire emergency management team to ensure we are ready for the upcoming season. As part of those efforts, Department of Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano and FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate, along with other partners, briefed President Obama on the federal government's preparations for the upcoming season.

"Recent events including the deadly tornadoes in the central U.S. and southeast, flooding along the Mississippi and other emergencies serve as a reminder that we should be prepared to address all hazards, including hurricanes," said FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate. "Everyone needs to be prepared, not just those in hurricane prone states, but also areas well inland. This means having an emergency plan, storing an emergency kit and staying informed of alerts or messages from local emergency officials."

In the past few months, FEMA has been coordinating with all of the coastal states as they prepare for the season. All of this planning and coordination has been built around the agency's approach that we are just one part of the nation's emergency management team, and we have to work with the entire team to plan for the needs of the entire community when disasters strike. This larger team includes our federal partners, state, local and tribal leaders, the private sector, nongovernmental organizations, faith-based and community organizations, and, most importantly, the general public. It will take every member of the team working together for us to be fully prepared for this hurricane season.

To help demonstrate how the team can work together to prepare for and respond to hurricanes, President Obama invited other members of the team to join Napolitano and Fugate for that briefing, including North Carolina Governor Beverly Perdue and members of her emergency management team, American Red Cross President Gail McGovern, National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (NVOAD) Chair Mickey Caison, and Verizon Wireless CEO Dan Mead.

To see a video message from Administrator Fugate about this hurricane season, visit [TBP](#).

Background on Preparing for Hurricanes

When preparing for hurricane season and potential emergencies, the needs of all members of a household should be considered. If a household includes a young child, senior citizen, or person with a disability or severe illness, special steps to assist them may be necessary and should be incorporated into all emergency planning. Pets require special handling. Pet owners should research pet boarding facilities now within a

certain radius of where they may evacuate, since animals may not be welcome in all shelters or hotels.

Equally important, businesses should be prepared with emergency plans in place to stay afloat. Putting a disaster plan in motion will improve the likelihood that your company may recover from a disaster. Ready Business (www.ready.gov/business) outlines measures business owners and managers can take now to start getting ready.

The start of hurricane season is also the time to consider flood insurance coverage - most homeowners insurance does not cover flood damage. Not only are homes and businesses in hurricane-prone states at risk for flooding, but inland flooding is common in nearby states. To assess flood risk for a home or find a local agent selling national flood insurance, visit www.floodsmart.gov or call toll-free at 1-888-379-9531.

As the season kicks off, knowing the four terms that meteorologists use when forecasting tropical weather may also help you navigate to safety.

- A hurricane watch is an announcement that hurricane conditions (sustained winds of 74 mph or higher) are possible within the specified coastal area. Because hurricane preparedness activities become difficult once winds reach tropical storm force, the hurricane watch is issued 48 hours in advance of the anticipated onset of tropical-storm-force winds.

- A hurricane warning is an announcement that hurricane conditions (sustained winds of 74 mph or higher) are expected somewhere within the specified coastal area. Because hurricane preparedness activities become difficult once winds reach tropical storm force, the hurricane warning is issued 36 hours in advance of the anticipated onset of tropical-storm-force winds.

- A tropical storm watch is an announcement that tropical storm conditions (sustained winds of 39 to 73 mph) are possible within the specified coastal area within 48 hours.

- A tropical storm warning is an announcement that tropical storm conditions (sustained winds of 39 to 73 mph) are expected somewhere within the specified coastal area within 36 hours.

With the ongoing recovery efforts from the tornadoes and response to areas with flooding, we are reminded that everyone should be prepared to address all hazards, including hurricanes, tornadoes, and inland flooding.

For more preparedness information, please visit www.fema.gov and www.Ready.gov. For the latest information on weather, <http://www.noaawatch.gov/themes/tropical.php>

Follow FEMA online at <http://blog.fema.gov>, www.twitter.com/fema, www.facebook.com/fema, and www.youtube.com/fema. Also, follow Administrator Craig Fugate's activities at www.twitter.com/craigatfema and the Ready Campaign at www.twitter.com/readydotgov.

Middlesex Hospital Opens New Primary Care Office in Old Saybrook



Middlesex Hospital has opened a new physician practice at 154 Main Street in Old Saybrook as part of its primary care network.

Middlesex Hospital has opened a new physician practice at 154 Main Street in Old Saybrook (the former location of CVS) as part of its primary care network.

Many people find that there is no doctor more important to them than their primary care physician, and the physicians that make up the Middlesex Hospital Primary Care network are no exception. Serving towns throughout Connecticut, these primary care doctors see patients of all ages, and many of those patients are patients for life.

Middlesex Hospital Primary Care doctors are caring and compassionate healthcare providers, and each and every one of them takes great pride in establishing special connections with patients. Our doctors are often the cornerstone of care for patients as they help them seek out specialists, coordinate services, monitor chronic diseases and generally follow a lifetime of care for patients.

Physicians at the new Old Saybrook office are Adam Perrin, M.D., who is board-certified in Family Medicine and Sports Medicine and has special interests in asthma and alternative medicine; and Lucinda Hautaniemi, who is also certified in Family Medicine with special interests in asthma, adolescent care, pediatrics, women's health and geriatrics. There is also a physician assistant on staff available to see patients.

Middlesex Hospital Primary Care has offices in other shoreline locations, including Chester, Essex, Madison and Westbrook.

To contact Middlesex Hospital Primary Care in Old Saybrook, call (860) 395-1212. For information about

Middlesex Hospital's other primary care practices, or to sign up to receive an electronic newsletter with the latest information about other services at Middlesex Hospital, go to www.middlesexhospital.org.

PUBLIC WORKS SAFETY MESSAGE

Now that the good weather is here, roadwork and repair will begin and continue throughout the summer months. Road construction will occur during July and August. Drainage, reclaiming, and paving is planned to be done on High Street and Story Hill Road.

Please obey the work zone safety laws so we can all be safe and enjoy the summer.

Save the Date for Sound and Spirit!

On Saturday, Sept. 17, the United Church of Chester Sound and Spirit Concert Committee will present the Maranatha Band performing at Valley Regional High School.

The band consists of six members from the Dominican Republic dedicated to raising funds for aid and assistance in their country. The music will be lively and uplifting, with a variety of instruments and percussion.

This is the seventh Sound and Sprit Concert. The first concert in 1996 supported churches destroyed by fire in South Carolina. Other benefits sponsored a family from Sierra Leone, our new synagogue in Chester, tsunami victims in Indonesia and more. Sound and Spirit is an interfaith, community-wide

committee welcoming to all who feel music can make a difference by transcending all boundaries of race, religion,, and culture.

This benefit concert will support the work of the Good Samaritan Hospital in the Dominican Republic and scholarships to individuals wishing to participate in mission trips. The hospital provides basic health care for the poor in the La Romana region, which borders on Haiti. The recent earthquake has caused in increase in the number of Haitians crossing the border and needing assistance.

The scholarship fund is in the name of the late Reverend MJ Hinchliff, who led several volunteer trips to La Romana. The United Church of Chester and the Deep River Congregational Church have continued to sponsor the trips. This summer, 26 volunteers will spend a week providing health care, food, and clothing to Dominicans and Haitians in the area.

The concert begins at 7 p.m., with an introductory reading by Regina Mercedes, followed by lead-in groups, the Valley Regional jazz band, and Cantico. Peter Walker is the emcee.

Tickets are \$25 for adults; \$15 for students and seniors; \$30 at the door. They are available at Ceramica and Simons in Chester; Celebrations in Deep River; Provisions in Essex; and Gather in Ivoryton. Call 860-526-2697, or unitedchester@sbcglobal.net for more information.






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Roses for Autism

Roses for Autism is the first business endeavor for Growing Possibilities - a nonprofit social enterprise founded by Ability Beyond Disability that is dedicated to growing independence in the business world for individuals with autism and other disabilities.

Our Roots: Jim Lyman’s dream was to improve the quality of life for his son Eli, through meaningful work and continued opportunities to grow as an individual. Jim’s search brought him together with Pinchbeck’s Rose Farm, Connecticut Autism Spectrum Resource Center, and then to Ability Beyond Disability. Collectively, they planted the seed that would bloom into Growing Possibilities.

Did you know? Adults on the Autism Spectrum hold many talents...yet today only 12% of adults with ASD are employed.

Our Mission: To grow independence in the business world.

How We Grow: In 50,000 square feet of heated glass greenhouse, our premium roses and lilies are cut and packaged daily. Working with young adults on the autism spectrum we strive to:

- Build transferable job skills
- Build social independence
- Build generalization of learning

Call us today to plan for your next recognition event. We will customize...so call us with whatever you can dream up! We personally deliver to CT, NY, NJ, MA and we ship ANYWHERE in the United States!

continued on page 31

Rotary Looking for Past Years' T-shirts

Do you know where your Chester Rotary Road Race tee shirts are? Check the bottom dresser drawer, the rag pile under the sink, or the shirt you are wearing right now!

The Chester Rotary is trying to locate past Road Race tee shirts to display at the upcoming race on Monday, July 4, 2011. If you have any shirts from the years 1979 to 1985, let us know by contacting Ron Woodward, this year's chairman, at 860.322.4012. It does not matter the condition of the shirt, as long as we can vaguely see the front logo. A few holes or rips just add character.

There are a few changes to this year's Road Race, with the major one being the



new start time, 9:00 a.m. This is an hour earlier than in past years, so registration starts at 7:00 a.m. at St. Joseph's Parish Hall. The Rotary will be selling beer and the Side Doors will provide music until 12:30 or so. As always, the Hose Company will be selling hot dogs, hamburgers, and soda. So come on down and check it out.

This event is one of our major fundraisers, with the proceeds going to support many local charities and some international projects. For more information go to www.chesterrotary.org.

• *Roses continued from page 30* •

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continued on page 32

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Horses & Kids - A Match Made In Heaven

Is your child drawn to horses – maybe even obsessed with them? You may want to give them a chance to give riding a try.

Horses teach self-confidence and improve balance and body control. Riding is hard work – the horse doesn't do everything all on it's own. When your child can get an animal that outweighs her/him by ten times to walk, trot, canter and maneuver small jumps, all the while by making it look effortless, he/she will have accomplished something. Riding will help a timid and shy child turn into a confident and capable young person. In the horse/rider relationship, the rider needs to be dominant. They need to lead, take control, trust their

instincts and make decisions quickly. As the child gets older and progresses in their riding, watch their confidence grow. And, watch him/her blossom: riding is both athletically challenging and physically strengthening.

Horses teach responsibility. A rider soon learns that horses require care and hard labor on a daily basis. The horse is dependent on you for its health and well-being. Your child will learn to groom, saddle and bridle the horse – activities that enhance the relationship.

Becoming a part of the "culture" of the barn broadens a child's social experience. Being with other riders of different ages and levels of skill expands their world.

• *Roses continued from page 31* •

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brilliant

[bril-yuhnt] adjective - shining brightly; distinguished; vivid; bright; splendid or magnificent.

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