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### First Selectman's Corner

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

The cool fall temperatures are settling in, the foliage has peeked, and winter is just around the corner. After the hot, dry summer we experienced this year the cooler temperatures are welcome relief. There are a lot of events happening in town this fall and winter. Please take some time to enjoy them. As always, I encourage you to support our local events, businesses and organizations.

Over the summer we completed several projects in Town as part of the \$8 million Capital Improvement Plan. The parking lot and both driveways at Essex Elementary School were repaved and new sidewalks installed along the front of the school. The offices of the Land Use Department were gutted and redesigned to improve customer service and overall departmental operations. Renovations were successfully completed and department reopened in the newly renovated offices on Monday, Oct. 17th. In addition, construction on a new four bay garage at the Public Works Department is moving along and we expect that to be completed before the winter weather arrives. The ability to provide indoor storage space for major equipment will extend the life of the equipment and improve security.

Also included in the Capital Improvement Plan is the Ivory Street Reconstruction Project. This work is underway and we anticipate the road to reopen by mid-November. The project involves grinding and reclamation of the existing pavement, and the removal of existing sidewalks and bridges. The road will be repaved, new sidewalks installed and the two Ivory Street bridges replaced.



Norm Needleman, First Selectman

I'm pleased to report that the new sidewalk project on Main Street from Essex Elementary School all the way down to Bracket Lane is complete and looks fantastic. This was achieved through a Safe Routes to School Grant recently awarded to the Town. I'd like to thank the many people involved that kept this project on schedule. In addition, we have decided to continue the sidewalk replacement on Main Street all the way down to Ivory Street and anticipate the work to be completed in the near future.

continued on page 4





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# The Secrets to Staging

Highlighting a residence's most positive attributes through the power of home staging is an essential step in the home selling process. Whether it involves reorganizing, adding new furniture and decorations, or even making repairs and renovations, staging can make a powerful impression on a prospective buyer. Here are some basic guidelines to help you get started.







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Make a strong first impression with your home's exterior and lawn.



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### FIRST SELECTMAN'S CORNER... continued from page 1

The Plan of Conservation and Development, which is updated every ten years, has been completed. In this update, the focus has been on development and redevelopment in the three Village commercial areas while safeguarding the unique characteristics of the Town. Thank you to all involved in this process and we look forward to working more cohesively among the Planning, Zoning, and Economic Development Commissions.

This summer was the warmest on record for Connecticut and precipitation along our coastal towns was 4.5 inches below normal. The utility companies across the state are encouraging residents to continue to conserve water to lessen

the impact on our natural resources. Please go to www.ctwater.com for tips on water conservation.

Lastly, I'd like to extend my sincere gratitude to all the residents in Town that give their time so generously and passionately while serving the community we cherish. So many of our successes are as a result of volunteers who serve tirelessly on Town Boards and Commissions, join the Volunteer Fire Department or Ambulance Service, lend a hand to care for plantings along roadways, participate in our parade coordination(whether on land or water), and more. We couldn't do it without you!

All the Best, Norm Needleman

### **Essex Garden Club Announces Officers for 2016-2017**

Officers for the Essex Garden Club for 2016-2017 are Barbara Burgess, President, Augie Pampel, 1st Vice President, Barbara Muhlfelder, 2nd Vice President and Assistant Treasurer, Betsy Godsman, Recording Secretary, Judy Greene,

Corresponding Secretary, and Patricia Mather, Treasurer.

In Barbara Burgess's opening remarks, at the September meeting, she described the club's agenda and activities for the upcoming year ahead and introduced the theme for the year, "Partnering for Success." She shared how The Essex Garden Club has partnered with the Land Trust in sponsoring a conservation program, this

continued on page 6



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173 Essex Street, Deep River Overlooking Pratt and Post Coves out to Money Creek and the CT River, this direct waterfront home was built by Yankee Barn. mls N10147758 Offered at \$775,000



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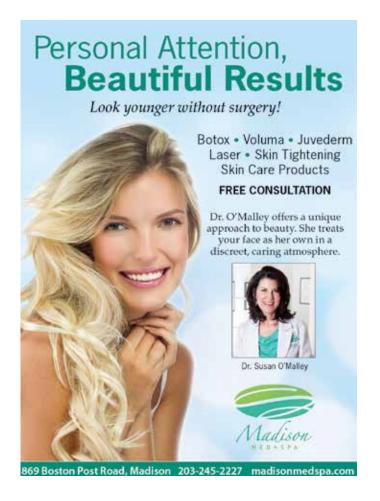


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### ESSEX GARDEN CLUB... continued from page 4



From left to right: Pat Mather, Betsy Godsman, Augie Pampel, Barbara Burgess, Barbara Muhlfelder, Judy Greene.

year on the topic of Native Pollinators. In addition, the Essex Garden club provides resources to the libraries and schools to partner in educating both adults and children in our community.

For many years the Club has partnered with the Town of Essex to keep our parks and community looking beautiful. These strong partnerships continue benefiting both our organizations and the community.

# First Annual Tri-Town Veteran's Day Parade

Please bring your families and join us for the First Annual Tri-Town Veteran's Day Parade. It will be Saturday, November 5, 2016 from 1:00 pm-3:00 pm.

#### THE PARADE ROUTE:

The parade will begin at Devitt's Field and end at Memorial Green, Deep River, CT

### TRANSPORT VEHICLES:

Veterans who cannot march will be provided vehicles for transportation.

### **DRESS CODE:**

Please wear your uniform or khaki pants, white shirt or a shirt with your armed forces emblem.

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# Don't Miss Your Chance to Collect a Piece of Local History!



Just a few of the many street signs up for auction on eBay to benefit the Essex Community Fund. Visit: www.essexcommunityfund.org for more information and link to their eBay auction

With the new blue street signs in place around town, many residents wondered what would happen to the old signs. Wonder no more. Now's your once-in-alifetime chance to own a piece of Essex history while supporting Essex Community Fund!

Signs are being auctioned on eBay in waves lasting 10 ten days only. While the first

wave took place in September, it's not too late to get your own piece of history. One more wave is planned in the coming months:

### WAVE 3 (SIGNS N-Z)

November 5-15 Pick up Saturday, December 3 @ Essex Stroll

And if you can't be in town to pick up your sign, they can be shipped to you for an additional \$18.

Bidding starts at only \$50. These make great birthday and holiday gifts for family and friends or yourself!

### VISIT:

www.essexcommunityfund.org/auction/ for more details, a link to the eBay page, and a full list of available signs.

### AND THE FINE PRINT:

No pre-bids accepted. You must have an eBay account to bid, and conditions

of signs vary and may not always match pictures.

Special thanks to First Selectman Norm Needleman and Selectmen Stacia Libby and Bruce Glowac for making the signs available to ECF for this auction. Our thanks also to David Caroline for helping to move the signs to their temporary home. What a great way to treasure our local history while helping our neighbors in need!



One of these signs could be yours & support Essex Community Fund.



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ESSEX • \$480,000 N10129369
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### FISH - Friends in Service Here

FISH was founded locally in 1970 to provide free rides to medical appointments for residents of Essex, Deep River and Chester. The FISH logo originated during the World War II bombings in London. A London household with available food and a place to sleep would place a fish symbol, a reference from the Bible, in the house's front window to let displaced people know that free food and a place to sleep were available.

Residents of our three towns wanting rides and having no other means of transportation may call 860-388-2693 up to noon the day before their appointment (Friday noon for a Monday ride) to schedule a ride for the following day. The destinations are within

the triangle of Middletown to the north, Guilford to the west and New London to the east.

In the 1st 8 months of 2015, FISH provided 304 round-trip rides to Essex residents. Of our 51 drivers, 40 are residents of Essex.

The modest budget for FISH is funded by grants from the Essex Community Fund, the Community Foundation of Middlesex County, the Essex Rotary, the Essex Savings Bank, the Deep River Community Health Committee and other organizations, as well as by contributions from our drivers and riders.



Peggy Tuttle

# **Friends of Essex Library**

### FALL & HOLIDAY BOOK SALES UPDATE

Peggy Tuttle, Book Sales Coordinator for Friends of Essex Library, thanks all who contributed to the success of the October Book Sale. "The folks to acknowledge and appreciate are numerous," said Tuttle. "Donors of books, back room volunteers

who sort, categorize and price the donations, cashiers, floaters and greeters, and of course, the book sales patrons. The sale would not be a success without each and every one of you."

Tuttle went on to announce two special continued on page 11

# **ALL INVENTORY MUST GO!**



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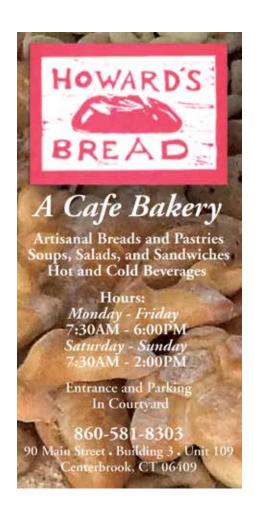
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### FRIENDS OF ESSEX LIBRARY... continued from page 10



Left to Right: Judy Taylor, Lumie Han, Lois Thomsen

book sales. The first will be a "Cooking Sale," featuring numerous cookbooks and related items just in time for the holidays. This sale will run from November 1st through November 21st during regular library hours.

The second special sale will be the Holiday Sale, which will run from November 21st through December 31st, also during regular library hours. This sale will feature many books in pristine condition, music CD's, movies, and activities for all ages. All of these will be attractively priced and perfect for holiday giving.

Proceeds from all sales support the Friends' ongoing projects, special programs, and activities.

## **Essex Library Programs and Events**

The Essex Library has outstanding programs and events for all ages scheduled during the coming months. As usual, our ongoing slate of offerings includes meetings of the First Thursday, Historical Fiction and American History book clubs, bridge on Thursdays and Fridays, Bereavement Counseling, and a knitters group that meets each Tuesday afternoon. We're expanding that list to include regular programs for knitters and those who are interested in genealogy on Saturdays. Check our website: www.youressexlibrary.org for more information. While we're on

the subject of digital information we are not only on Facebook, but now have a Snapchat account, as well.

Several special adult programs will also be held this fall. They include Black Holes and the Origin of the Universe on November 5, Letters From Italy on November 12, and the return of Jeffrey Engel, who will give a talk about classical music on November 30. Again, check our website for details.





The Children's Department will run weekly story times from September 23rd - December 8th. Those with little ones (aged newborn - 2) are welcome to drop in on Fridays at 10 am. Preschool story time meets weekly on Thursday mornings for stories, movement, music and exploration centers. We'll host our annual Nutcracker program with a visit from the Eastern CT Ballet Company in late November. Join us during your winter vacation week for gaming, art, and yoga. Stay

tuned for fabulous reading programs and events for all ages! For more information or to register for any of these programs, please call the Essex Library at 860-767-1560.

Finally, now that the holidays will soon be upon us be sure to stop by the Essex Library to check out our extensive collections of home decorating and cookbooks. You're sure to find a great new idea for those special occasions!

# **Ivoryton Library**

### TRIVIA NIGHT RETURNS!

The Ivoryton Library will host WhatTrivia at the Centerbrook Meeting House on Saturday, November 5, 7:00 pm. Teams of up to 8 players are invited to compete for prizes in 4 rounds, one bonus half-time round, then wager all your points (if you dare) on one final question. Tickets are on sale now at the Ivoryton library for \$25. \$30 at the door. Snacks and a cash bar.

### TOY DONATIONS.

Once again, the Ivoryton Library will be collecting toys for the children during this holiday season. This year, we keep it local by partnering with Child and Family Agency who will receive all the donations and will distribute them to area families. The boxes will be up November 1 and we will be collecting well into December. Bring new, unwrapped toys any time during library hours or visit

continued on page 14



### **IVORYTON LIBRARY...** continued from page 13

the library during Ivoryton Illuminations on Saturday, December 3 from 5-8 pm. While you're here, write a letter to Santa or send a card to our troops.

IMMIGRATION IN IVORYTON.

The latest in our series, "An Intimate History of Ivoryton" will look at immigration in the village of Ivoryton. Comstock, Cheney and Co. attracted large numbers of immigrants from Sweden, Italy, Poland, Hungary, even France and Ireland in the late 18th and early 19th century. Were your relatives among them?

We'd love to hear their story, showcase your memorabilia. Please contact Elizabeth Alvord at the library and look for our exhibit opening in February, 2017.

A REMINDER: The Ivoryton Library has a notary on staff. Please call the library for availability and to set up an appointment.

### **CONTACT US AT:**

860-767-1252, staff@ivoryton.com, www.ivoryton.com and Facebook.

### **Essex Land Trust Calendar of Events**



### CROSS LOTS PRESERVE AUTUMN CLEAN-UP

Saturday, November 19, - 9 am to noon 40 West Avenue, Essex

Help put this Land Trust's preserve to bed for the

winter, get a mild workout, and connect with your neighbors in a beautiful setting. Refreshments will be served. Please bring rakes, blowers, etc. Families, dogs welcome.

Rain date: Saturday, Nov. 26 at 9 am. Park on West Avenue or at Essex Town Hall.



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### **CANFIELD WOODS HIKE**

Saturday, December 10, 9 am
Book Hill Woods Rd. entrance, off Book Hill Rd, Essex
Hike the Land Trust's largest preserve and explore its trails.
Shared by Deep River and Essex, Canfield/Meadow Woods

Nature Preserve is made up of more than 300 acres of hilly, forested land with a wide variety of terrain. Seventeen trails wind through mixed old and new growth forest, and the preserve's many rocky outcroppings are a highlight. Moderate hike of up to 1 1/2 hours. All welcome. Bad weather cancels.

## **Essex Land Trust - Being Bear Aware**

Editor's Note:

This article has been extracted from the Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection website. To access the full article and other useful wildlife information, use the following link: http://www.ct.gov/deep/wildlife.

Since July 31, 2015, there have been 5,235 Black Bear sightings in the State of Connecticut. Reports of bear sightings, even in heavily populated residential areas, have been on the rise. The Wildlife Division has also seen an increase in the number of reported problems with black

bears. The primary contributing factor to bear nuisance problems is the presence of easily accessible food sources near homes and businesses. Fed bears can become habituated and lose their fear of humans. Bears should NEVER be fed, either intentionally or accidentally.

Black bears are impressive animals. Even a long-distance glimpse of one foraging in woodland is an unforgettable experience for most outdoor enthusiasts. However, glimpsing a bear in Connecticut was once unlikely because bears were extirpated from the state by the mid-1800s. Since

then, bears have made a comeback. Their return is due, in part, to the regrowth of forestland throughout the region following the abandonment of farms during the late 1800s. Beginning in the 1980s, the DEP Wildlife Division had evidence of a resident black bear population. Since then, annual sighting reports have increased dramatically, indicating a rapid increase in the bear population. With the number of bears increasing in the state, it is important for residents to learn the facts about black bears and how to coexist with them.

continued on page 16





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### ESSEX LAND TRUST - BEAR AWARE.. continued from page 14

The black bear is a stocky animal with short, thick legs. It is the smallest North American bear. In Connecticut, adult males, or boars, normally weigh from 150 to 450 pounds, while females, or sows, weigh from 110 to 250 pounds. Yearlings weigh 45 to 100 pounds. Adults are 5 to 6 feet long.

### INTERESTING FACTS

- The black bear is an intelligent animal with keen senses of smell and hearing. It can detect the slightest aroma of food, which may lead the bear to campsites and near homes. Odor from carelessly stored food and garbage can lure bears long distances. Black bears travel and feed primarily at night, but can be active any time of the day.
- Females with cubs tend to have restricted home ranges, which average 5 to 7 square miles in Connecticut, while males move about widely in home ranges of 12 to 60 square miles. The size of a home range varies geographically and often depends on the quality of habitat geographically and often depends on the quality of habitat.
- Black bears are not classified as true hibernators but their body temperature is lowered and heart rate slowed during winter denning. Denning enables bears to overcome unfavorable weather conditions and lack of food during winter.
- Black bear habitat is forestland, usually with deciduous and coniferous trees, as well as streams, swamps, and rock ledges. Bears prefer areas with thick understory vegetation and abundant food resources. Mature forests provide soft and hard mast (e.g., acorns) in late summer and fall. Wetlands are particularly important in spring when emerging plants are one of the few available foods. Bears are omnivorous.

### Black Bear Do's & Don'ts

Black bear attacks on humans are exceptionally rare. In residential areas, bird feeders, garbage, outdoor pet food, compost piles, fruit trees, and berry producing shrubs attract black bears. In most hiking areas, bears normally leave once they have sensed a human. However, at campsites and campgrounds bears can be attracted by poorly stored food and garbage.

### BEARS NEAR YOUR HOME

Bears are attracted to the garbage, pet food, compost piles, fruit trees, and birdfeeders.

DO remove birdfeeders and bird food from late March through November.

DO eliminate food attractants by placing garbage cans inside a garage or shed.

Add ammonia to trash to make it unpalatable.

DO clean and store grills in a garage or shed after use.

DON'T intentionally feed bears. Bears that become accustomed to finding food near your home may become "problem" bears.

DON'T approach or try to get closer to a bear to get a photo or video.

DON'T leave pet food outside overnight.

DON'T add meat or sweets to a compost pile.

### BEARS SEEN WHEN HIKING OR CAMPING

Bears normally leave an area once they have sensed a human. If you see a bear, enjoy it from a distance. Aggression by bears towards humans is exceptionally rare.

DO make your presence known by making noise while hiking. Hike in groups. If you see a bear, make enough noise and wave your arms so the bear is aware of your presence.

DO keep dogs on a leash and under control. A roaming dog might be perceived as a threat to a bear or its cubs.

DO back away slowly if you surprise a bear nearby.

DON'T approach or try to get closer to a bear to get a photo or video.

DON'T run or climb a tree. If possible, wait in a vehicle or building until the bear leaves the area.

DO be offensive if the bear approaches you. Make more noise, wave your arms, and throw objects at the bear. Black bears rarely attack humans. If you are attacked, do not play dead. Fight back with anything available.

DON'T cook food near your tent or store food inside your tent. Instead, keep food in a secure vehicle or use rope to suspend it between two trees.

# **Family Friendly Events at Essex Historical Society**



Join your friends and neighbors to enjoy your community's rich history at these indoor/outdoor public events, courtesy of Essex Historical Society:

October 31, 6 pm-8 pm Trick or Treat at Pratt House, 19 West Ave., Essex "Witch Hazel" flies in to give treats to good little boys and girls. Free.

November 6, 4pm EHS Annual Meeting, Essex Veterans Memorial Hall, 3 Westbrook Road, Centerbrook. Public welcome to pay tribute to our vets. Refreshments. Free.

November 25 & 26, 11 am – 2 pm Holiday Hours at Pratt House, Thanksgiving Weekend. 19 West Ave., Essex. Skip the malls, deck the halls!

Revisit the Pratt House with continued on page 16







Pratt House decorated for the holidays. Courtesy of Essex Historical Society

### ESSEX HISTORICAL SOCIETY... continued from page 15

new seasonal décor. Children's workshop to make "tin" lanterns for parade. Free. Visit the Museum Shop for holiday gifts.

November 27, 4:30 pm Trees in the Rigging Parade Land parade kicks off at Essex Town Hall, 29 West Ave., Essex. Free.

December 4, 2-4 pm EHS Annual Holiday Party, Pratt House, 19 West Ave., Essex. Public welcome. Free.

January 15, 22 & 29, 2017, 3 pm, "Planes, Train & Automobiles" Annual Lecture Series at: Essex Meadows, 30 Bokum Road, Essex. Free. Learn how transportation innovations affected CT, the Valley/Shore region and Essex!

For more information, please visit www.essexhistory.org

or call (860) 767-0681.

All events are free and open to the public. We hope to see you soon!



Board Book from the Museum Shop. Courtesy of Essex Historical Society

# **Planning Commission Update**

The Essex Planning Commission has recently completed its comprehensive update of the Town Plan of Conservation & Development (Plan), a master plan that defines the guiding principles for the next decade of Essex's growth. A copy of this Plan can be purchased at the Land Use Office at Town Hall or downloaded at www.essexct.gov/planning. The Commission

has begun the work of implementing the many recommended action items contained within the Plan, and is seeking public involvement in this effort.

Specifically, the Commission is seeking ways to increase the range and type of housing opportunities in Essex.





This effort could include making Accessory Apartments easier to create, adding higher density residential developments in the center of our historic villages, incentivizing the creation of more workforce housing, and creating mixed-use districts that allow apartments above office and retail uses. The Commission will be holding public meetings to conduct these conversations and

move projects forward. Please join the Planning Commission at its meetings the second Thursday of every month at 7:30 pm at Town Hall.

You can contact Town Planner John Guszkowski for more information at: planner@essexct.gov.

# Winter is on its way...

### TO ALL TOWN OF ESSEX RESIDENTS

It is the primary goal of the Public Works Department to make the town roads passable during storm events, minimize the hazards caused by slippery road conditions, and help restore safe traveling conditions throughout the Town as soon as possible after each winter storm. This often involves drivers working long hours in hazardous driving conditions to ensure our safety on the roadways. We ask for your cooperation and patience during these times in order to have a safe season for all.

Residents should keep in mind that snow plows are designed to remove snow from the roadway to the edge of the road. It is likely that the plow will leave behind a windrow of snow in front of driveways. Residents are responsible for removing this snow.

### PRIVATE PLOWING

Depositing of any snow from private driveways into the public streets is prohibited. This practice is dangerous and impedes the Town's snow removal process. This includes piles pushed across the street and the windrows that are created in the street. Homeowners are responsible for the actions of their contractors.

### MAILBOX DAMAGE

During the winter season it is inevitable that some mailboxes will fall victim to winter's forces. Residents are advised of the importance of proper placement and anchoring of mailboxes and support posts to prevent damage from snow removal operations. Mailboxes should be securely fastened to a sturdy post which is sufficiently anchored in the ground to resist the impact of plowed snow.

If a mailbox or post is pushed over or damaged as a result of snow or slush coming off a snowplow it is considered a winter hazard. The Town will not replace the mailbox or post.

If it is determined a mailbox is struck by a Town snow plow, not the snow coming off the plow, the Town will reimburse the owner for a basic support post and a basic mailbox up to seventy-five dollars (\$75.00). Payment will not include costs other than materials and will not cover the cost of decorative wood or metal posts or decorative mailboxes. The Town will do its best to assist residents with the replacement of mailboxes deemed to have been struck by a Town snow plow as time and circumstances allow.

The First Selectman or his designated representative is authorized to use reasonable discretion in resolving disputes involving unusual circumstances.

Residents are responsible for keeping their mailboxes clear for mail to be delivered.

### TRASH CANS AND RECYCLING BINS

These receptacles should never be placed in the road. If a plow truck hits them because they are in the road the Town will not be held responsible for replacing them.

### ANY AND ALL PLANTINGS

Plantings within the Town's right of way are not the Town's responsibility if they

continued on page 20



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### ESSEX PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT - WINTER.. continued from page 19

are damaged during snow plowing or any other kind of removal of snow from roads.

ANY AND ALL FENCES, WALLS, ETC.

If these are within the Town's right of way they are not the Town's responsibility if they are damaged during snow plowing or any other kind of removal of snow from roads.

### **INVISIBLE DOG FENCE LINES**

Invisible dog fence lines within the Town's right of way are not the Town's

responsibility if they are damaged during snow plowing or any other kind of removal of snow from roads.

# ANY SORT OF SPRINKLER HEADS, ETC.

If sprinkler heads, etc. within the Town's right of way are not the Town's responsibility if they are damaged during snow plowing or any other kind of removal of snow from roads.

The Town will not be held responsible for

any damage that is in the Town owned portion of your property. Questions and concerns during snow and ice storms should be directed to the Department of Public Works at 860-767-0715. After hours calls may be directed to voicemail and will be checked periodically. All emergency calls should be made to Emergency Services at 911.

Sincerely,

Dave Caroline, Public Works Director dcaroline@essexct.gov

### **Town Clerk's Office**

29 West Avenue, Essex, CT

### Welcome to Centerbrook, Essex and Ivoryton

James W. Kane Jeffrey Croyle & Pamela Peters Corey McQuade Douglas & Candice Dopp 7 Nutmeg Lane, Essex 38 West Ave., Essex 39 Melody Lane, Ivoryton 6 Dogwood Dr., Centerbrook Robert & Cynthia Walsh Kelsey Muir-Tewart James Gabinetti & Christine Senerchia Justin & Sara Hardy 27 So. Main St. #1, Essex 2 Nutmeg Lane, Essex 29 Bushy Hill Road, Ivoryton 31 Dennison Road, Essex







Ross Heise & Alexandria Bruno

Ivo

Gregory Hawkins & Melissa Lee

Melanie Carr

Clay B. Hardmann Jr.

Leonard P. Blair

Thomas & Tara Belcher Suzanne & Vincent Baum

Hillyn Natter & Steven Schmelzer 84 Lynn Road, Ivoryton

27 Mitchel Terrace,

Ivoryton

13 Hudson Lane, Essex26 Maple Avenue, Essex

3 Chord Lane, Ivoryton 85 River Rd, Unit J8,

Essex

26 Lynn Road, Ivoryton

116 River Road, Essex

D. Samuel & Marguerite

D'aprile Quigley Keith & Jane Bolles

Robert & Maggie Feldman

Rubenstein

Zachary Newton & Amy Cordner

David Miller

Linda Tosti

33 Foxboro Road, Essex

1 Spinnaker Lane, Essex

25 River Road, Essex

2 Oak Street, Essex

30 Meadow Woods Rd.,

Essex

82 Main Street,

Ivoryton

### Loss of Residents and Friends

MAY

Anne J. Dougherty (late submission and

missed last printing)

JUNE

Elizabeth K. Brown

Priscilla N. Lexa

Clarence S. Lovelace

Stephen Sokolowski Mildred J.D. Cook

IULY

Edward P. Sullivan Jean T. Sargent Eleasnor E. Harper

Mary Duncan

Parker D. Handy III

Elizabeth Glendinning

John DeWaal

Elizabeth Schellens

Howard Brody

**AUGUST** 

Anders A. W. Krall

Stephen S. Markesky

Sally W. Handy

Otto M. Bonaparte

Marilyn Rinek

Elisabeth L. Esty Elizabeth W. Brennan

SEPTEMBER

Marie A. Daudt

John R. Cordsen

Shirley B. Baker

Anne T. Comstock

Elizabeth Fagan Moore

Timothy S. Miller

Respectfully submitted,

Yvonne Roziak

Assistant Town Clerk

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### Tax Assessor's Office



Assessor's Office Town of Essex 29 West Avenue Essex, CT 06426 Phone 860.767.4340 Fax 860.767.8509

It's that time of year again. Business Personal Property Declaration Forms are due to the Assessor's Office on or before November 1st.

If you have received a form from our office and you believe it is in error, please do not ignore it. Contact our office and we can discuss your specific situation. If you have not received a form from our office, they are available on the Town Website under Forms & Documents http://www.essexct.gov/files.

Failure to file a declaration will result in a tax bill with a 25% penalty added onto it.

# CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTE 12-41 STATES IN PART:

The annual declaration of the tangible personal property owned by such person (or entity) on the assessment date, shall include, but is not limited to, the following property: Machinery used in mills and factories, cables, wires, poles, underground mains, conduits, pipes and other fixtures of water, gas, electric and heating companies, leasehold improvements classified as other than real property and furniture and fixtures of stores, offices, hotels, restaurants, taverns, halls, factories and manufacturers. Commercial or financial information in any declaration filed under this section shall not be open for public inspection but may be disclosed to municipal officers for tax collection purposes.

#### PENALTY.

(1) Any person who fails to file a declaration of personal property on or before the first day of November, or on or before the extended filing date as granted by the assessor pursuant to section 12-42 shall be subject to a penalty equal to twenty-five per cent of the assessment of such property; (2) any person who files a declaration of personal property in a timely manner, but has omitted property, as defined in section 12-53, shall be subject to a penalty equal to twenty-five per cent of the assessment of such omitted property. The penalty shall be added to the grand list by the assessor of the town in which such property is taxable; and (3) any declaration received by the municipality to which it is due that is in an envelope bearing a postmark, as defined in section 1-2a, showing a date within the allowed filing period shall not be deemed to be delinquent.

# Essex - Community Listings

CHURCHES	
All Saints Episcopal Church (860) 767-1698	Essex Historical Society
First Baptist Church(860) 767-8623	Essex Land Trust(860) 767-7355
First Congregational Church(860) 767-8097	Essex Little Leaguewww.essexlittleleague.org
Ivoryton Congregational Church (860) 767-1004	Ivoryton Company of Fifers & Drummers(860) 767-2237
Our Lady of Sorrows Church(860) 767-1284	Lower Valley Visiting Nurses(860) 767-0186
St. John's Episcopal Church	Republican Town Committee(860) 510-8318
Trinity Lutheran Church(860) 767-0228	SCORE(860) 388-9508
	The Shoreline Soup Kitchens(860) 388-1988
CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS	Tri-Town Youth Services Bureau(860) 526-3600
Ancient Order of Essex Weeders(860) 767-7628	9 Town Transit
Democratic Town Committee	
Community Foundation of Middlesex County(860) 347-0025	SCHOOLS
Essex Board of Trade(860) 767-3904	Beanstalk Preschool & Childcare(860) 767-3308
Essex Boy Scouts of America (860) 767-3904	Essex Elementary School(860) 767-8215
Essex Community Fund	John Winthrop Middle School(860) 526-9546
Essex Cub Scouts of America(860) 790-0681	Superintendent(860) 526-2417
Essex Garden Club(860) 767-2860	Valley Regional High School(860) 526-5328

### **Essex Social Services**

# **Kick Off Of 2016 Holiday Gift Program Fund Drive**

It's that time of year again when Essex Social Services asks the public and local businesses to open their hearts and make donations to help Essex children during the holiday season to ensure that it is a positive and uplifting time of year for all. Last year, the program brought holiday gifts to about 70 children.

The Holiday Gift Program is a collaborative effort between Essex Elementary School and Essex Town Social Services to collect and allocate retail and grocery gift cards to Essex's neediest families. This year we will once again be collecting monetary donations to enable us to purchase gift cards for the families (we will be supplying gift cards for items such as: Toys, Clothes, and Accessories. Electronics, Sporting Goods, Movie Passes. . . .) Or, we are happy to accept your donations already in the form of a gift card. Also, each family will be provided with a grocery store gift card to purchase their holiday meal.

We are excited about this year's program. By providing gift cards, rather than gifts, we are able to streamline and maximize our efforts, and involve all members of our Essex community. Additionally, providing parents with gift cards with which to shop gives them more independence, autonomy and choice to individualize their gift giving to their children. The bonus of this is that not only do the children get the gifts that are most meaningful to them, but we have also given the gift of joy to the parents, allowing them to do the shopping and pick out that special something they want their child to receive!

The contact person for the 2016 holiday season is Mary Ellen Barnes, of Essex Social Services. Please mail your donation gift card or check payable to "Town of Essex Social Services Assistance Fund," 29 West Avenue, Essex, CT. 06426 ATT: Mary Ellen Barnes

continued on page 24



### **ESSEX TOWN HALL**

860-767-4340 (Unless otherwise noted)

THE ESSEX TOWN HALL
is open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday
THE LANDFILL AND RECYCLING CENTER
is open Mondays, Thursdays, Fridays & Saturdays, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

is open Mondays, Thursdays, Frid	ays & Satu	rdays, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.
SELECTMEN'S OFFICE Norman Needleman, First Selectman Maria Lucarelli, Assistant Betsy D'Amico	x114 x112 x145	nneedleman@essexct.gov mlucarelli@essexct.gov bdamico@essexct.gov
ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER Jae Wolf	860-388-	7082 jwolf@essexct.gov
ASSESSOR Jessica Sypher, Assessor Nancy Berryman	x124 x123	jsypher@essexct.gov nberryman@essexct.gov
BUILDING DEPARTMENT & FIRE MARSH Dave DeLeeuw, Building Official Darcy Roper Keith Nolin, Fire Marshal	AL x117 x144 x146	ddeleeuw@essexct.gov droper@essexct.gov knolin@essexct.gov
FINANCE DEPARTMENT Kelly Sterner, Director of Finance Dana Novorio, Assistant James Francis, Treasurer	x122 x116 x127	ksterner@essexct.gov dnovorio@essexct.gov jfrancis@essexct.gov
HEALTH DEPARTMENT Lisa Fasulo, Director of Health Kerry Berardinelli	x118 x119	lfasulo@essexct.gov kberardinelli@essexct.gov
LANDFILL/RECYCLING CENTER Mike Birner, Supervisor Bill Armstead	860-767-	1926
PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION Mary Ellen Barnes, Director Tim LaChance Kaiulani Recchia	x110 x148 x148	mbarnes@essexct.gov tlachance@essexct.gov krecchia@essex.gov
PUBLIC WORKS David Caroline, Director William Angier, Boris Churyk, Richard Gallacher, Ryan Welch	860-767- x161	0715 dcaroline@essexct.gov
REGISTRARS OF VOTERS Lois Ely John Heiser	x142 x142	registrar@essexct.gov lely@essexct.gov jheiser@essexct.gov
RESIDENT STATE TROOPER ESSEX POLICE David Tretter, Resident State Trooper Paul Kenefick Todd Belcourt Karen Reilly Christopher McCarthy	860-767-	dtretter@essexct.gov jkenefick@essexct.gov tbelcourt@essexct.gov kreilly@essexct.gov cmccarthy@essexct.gov
SOCIAL SERVICES Mary Ellen Barnes	x201	mbarnes@essexct.gov
TAX COLLECTOR Megan Haskins, Tax Collector Lynne Skinner, Assistant	x120 x121	mhaskins@essexct.gov lskinner@essexct.gov
TOWN CLERK Joel Marzi, Town Clerk Yvonne Roziak, Assistant	x129 x128	jmarzi@essexct.gov yroziak@essexct.gov
TOWN HALL OPERATIONS Mark Hiatt	x136	maintenance@essexct.gov
ZONING ENFORCEMENT Joe Budrow, Enforcement Agent Kerry Berardinelli	x115 x119	jbudrow@essexct.gov kberardinelli@essexct.gov

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### SOCIAL SERVICES... continued from page 21

Submit your donation by December 2nd. Donations will be put together to purchase the gift cards for our 40+ identified families to help make their holidays bright!

Your group's generosity and spirit truly makes a difference. Thank you, in advance, for your continued goodwill - for giving time, energy, resources and support in the present for the common good of our collective future. May this holiday season find each of you happy, healthy, warm, and at peace.

### **Connecticut Energy Assistance Program**

The Connecticut Energy Assistance Program is now accepting applications for the 2016/2017 heating program.

### **GENERAL INFORMATION:**

On behalf of eligible households, the winter heating assistance pays for such heating sources as oil, natural gas, electricity, propane, kerosene, coal, wood and wood pellets. Homeowners and renters may apply. Households eligible for the winter heating program may also be eligible to receive weatherization assistance. This can help conserve energy and lower heating bills. The Connecticut Energy Assistance Program is administered by the Department of Social Services, and coordinated by regional Community Action Agencies, in cooperation with municipal and other non-profit human service agencies. Essex Social Services intake services are by appointment only. Our local community actions group, CRT accepts applications as well at their Middletown Office. This program is based on your income, family size and liquid assets. Contact Essex Social Services at 860-767-4340 x201 or CRT at 860-347-4465.

### **ENERGY ASSISTANCE DOCUMENT REQUIREMENTS**

Please be sure you bring copies of all Documents Requested to be submitted with all pages. Please bring all information listed below that applies to your household. The processing of your application will be delayed if you do not bring all necessary information to your appointment. New documentation is required each year.

Previously submitted documents cannot be used for your application. To apply on someone's behalf written permission or power of attorney documentation must be provided.

# ALL STATEMENTS MUST INCLUDE ALL PAGES, THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS

Required information needed for your appointment:

- Social Security numbers for ALL household members.
- Birth dates of ALL household members.
- A current active utility bill. The bill must be in a listed household member's name that is age 18 or older. ALL Pages!!
- Current copy of lease, mortgage statement or rent receipt

with all landlord information including; name, address and phone number. If you receive Section 8, bring your Section 8 letter. ALL Pages!!

 Current and complete statements of ALL liquid assets for every household member (e.g., savings and checking accounts, bonds, stocks/shares, Certificates of Deposit, Annuities and Individual Retirement Accounts). You will be required to fill out an Asset Declaration Form for all household members over 17 years old. ALL Pages!!

# CURRENT INCOME DOCUMENTATION FOR EVERY HOUSEHOLD MEMBER

- The last four (4) consecutive week's pay stubs (1 pay stub if paid monthly, 2 pay stubs if paid bi-weekly or 4 pay stubs if paid weekly) and/or workman's compensation benefits for the four (4) weeks prior to your appointment date; showing gross income, tips, commissions and bonuses.
- Current MONTHLY Social Security, SSI and/or Veteran's benefit income.
- Pension or annuity check stubs, or a letter from the payer on their letterhead stating the gross amount.
- All bank interest and dividend payments for the past month (if more than \$10.00 per month).
- Unemployment Statement from the website www.ctdol.state.ct.us or unemployment History Printout (within 24 hours prior to appointment) showing the last four (4) consecutive weeks or fill out an Unemployment Compensation Form and bring to your appointment.
- Income from alimony and/or child support from Child Support Enforcement (letter or printout), a bank statement if payment goes directly into a bank account or fill out the Affidavit Certifying Non-Receipt of Child Support Payments.
- Rental Income: Current Documentation verifying the amount of rent you collect from your tenant(s).
- Self-employment will be required to fill out the Self-Employment Worksheet, have it notarized and bring your most recent tax return with all schedules attached.
- DSS Cash Assistance award letter Showing current income for household.
- A signed statement indicating the amount and frequency of payments from friends and relatives who are contributing toward your household's support that includes the name, address and telephone number of the contributing person.

# Department of Parks & Recreation - Who We Are

The Department of Park and Recreation manages the Towns' Parks and Recreation System. Residents and visitors are offered approximately 90 acres of parkland that includes: 9 park areas, a state of the art playground, eco-friendly restrooms, 3 park shelters, a walking path, 2 fishing piers, basketball court, tennis court, 3 baseball and softball fields, a dog park, and swimming hole. The department provides many recreation programs for people of all ages. These programs are offered in a wide range of interests including; youth sports, youth camps, adult sports, fitness, special interest, and community special events. In addition, activities are also provided by the department indirectly through partnerships with various organizations (Essex Little League Baseball, Valley Soccer Club, Ticks Lacrosse, Essex Land Trust, Essex Board of Trade, Ivoryton Alliance, and many other community groups). Furthermore, many local organizations are scheduled and issued Park Use Permits for various park and facility usage each year.

### continued on page 26



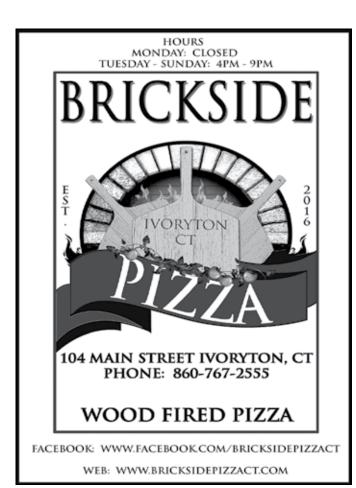




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### PARKS & RECREATION... continued from page 25

# Meet Our Team MARY ELLEN BARNES - DIRECTOR



Mary Ellen has been with the Essex Park and Recreation Department since September 2007, taking over as Director in January of 2015. She has a B.A. Degree in Psychology from Central Connecticut State University with a concentration in political science. She received her

Certification as a Park and Recreation Professional from the National Recreation and Park Association this past March. Starting as the Park and Recreation Program Manager, she developed after school programming, specialty camps, community events and activities for all ages. A local Ivoryton resident, Mary Ellen enjoys serving her community, hiking, gardening, and traveling - especially to Washington, DC & Northern Michigan where her children attend college.

# TIM LACHANCE - RECREATION AIDE & YOUTH BASKETBALL LEAGUE COORDINATOR



Tim joined the Parks and Recreation Department in April of 2015. Tim graduated from Valley Regional High School in 2012. Prior to joining Essex Park and Recreation he worked at Waters Edge as an activity coordinator. Tim has worked

with many different coaches from his time playing sports and coaching them himself. He is a Chester resident, who loves to be involved in his small community. His hobbies include playing softball and boating.

### KAI RECCHIA - RECREATION AIDE



Kai is a Georgia transplant who has lived in Deep River since 2003. She joined the Parks and Recreation Department in early 2016. She comes to Park and Recreation with an IT software background and her own small business in Centerbrook. Kai has a great

affinity for the tri-town area, its history and events. She enjoys maintaining the small farm that she lives on with her husband and their two young sons. You can catch her at almost every Deep River Elementary School event with her active first and second grade boys.

### **Our Other Programs**

### ESSEX YOUTH BASKETBALL LEAGUE

Park and Recreation will offer the Essex Youth Basketball League (EYBL). Our program focuses on fun, skill development, and sportsmanship. The EYBL runs from November 16-March 5. Ivoryton, Centerbrook and Essex children in grades 2-6 are eligible to participate. The registration deadline is November 2. Our 2nd - 6th grade divisions play organized games and meet twice per week. Volunteer coaches are needed.

Our youth basketball league programs depend completely on volunteer coaches. This is rewarding opportunity to work with children and give back to your community, please consider helping by coaching a team this year. It is valuable for the kids to have their parents and guardians involved and to have positive role models. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact the Essex Park and Recreation Department at 860-767-4340 x110 or mbarnes@essexct.gov. We will hold a mandatory coaches meeting on Wednesday November 2, 5:30 pm in the Town Hall Auditorium. All first time coaches are required to fill out a Coaching Application and background check form. Contact the Park and Recreation Department for an application.

### **SCHEDULE REQUESTS**

We really do appreciate your offer to coach, however please note we cannot accommodate any special requests regarding schedules. If you are coaching another team or have other commitments during the season we ask that you volunteer to help as a team parent or assistant coach and allow someone with a more flexible schedule to be the head coach.

Practices will begin November 14th. Games will begin on January 6th and end on March 3rd. Coaches: Please be aware games will be scheduled Fridays 5:20-6:20, 6:30-7:30 and 7:40-8:40; Saturday games will be played between 8 am and 1 pm. Please send me any feedback you have throughout the season. Thank you for your past and future volunteer time.

### KINDERGARTEN BASKETBALL

Our Kindergarten Basketball program is the perfect way to introduce your child to the game of basketball in a safe and fun setting. We will use a variety of confidence-building games and drills to teach the basics of the sport. The registration deadline is December 17. Volunteer coaches are needed. Be sure to include the player's shirt size on the form. This program is held at Essex Elementary School, beginning Wednesday January 11–February 8 from 3:15 -4 pm. Tim LaChance – Instructor.





# **Zoning Commission is as Busy as Ever!**

On Monday, September 19, the Essex Zoning Commission approved the site development for three luxury apartment buildings, known as Essex Station, on the northeast end of Plains Road. The development will have an affordable housing aspect for moderate income residents.

The Zoning Commission recently approved an application for a new restaurant to be known as The Essex, at 30 Main Street in Centerbrook. The new owner is hard at work converting the interior into a contemporary gathering place that will serve lunch and dinner. A deck will be located to the front of the

building for outdoor dining. Prepare to be amazed.

The Commission has a working group that has been reformatting the zoning regulations and making minor changes. The monthly meetings are open to the public. Please check the monthly calendar on the Town website or call the Zoning Enforcement Official for date and time.

Off the west side of Bokum Road there has been an approved over-55 residential development called Essex Glen waiting to be started. That day may be close as site developers are about to begin the con-

struction of the road that will lead up to the 26 detached homes to be located on a single parcel. This road will start just south of the railroad crossing.

New businesses have recently opened in town. They include Howard's Breads, Savour Café, Connecticut River Artisans, Independence Solar, and White Mountain Puzzles. That's The Spirit Shoppe will be moving from Essex Village to a new location at 18 Plains Road. Finally, work is going strong at the former Oliver's Tavern where the new owner hopes to open The Scotch Plains Tavern before the end of 2016.

# **Regional Mental Health Awareness**

As a member of the state's Regional Mental Health Board, Catchment Area Council #10 (CAC10), I welcome you to my publication initiative to reduce the stigma around mental health while providing information and resources to the county

residents. The goal is to broaden both conversation and awareness here in our community. A quick internet search to define what exactly mental health is will return multiple options. A 'little' agency called The World Health Organization (WHO) explains



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that mental health is: "A state of complete physical, mental and social well-being, and not merely the absence of disease." The WHO clarifies that mental health is "the promotion of well-being, the prevention of mental disorders, and the treatment and rehabilitation of people affected by mental disorders."

So, if the definition is positive, why does the term mental health resonate in such a negative way for so many? What is it about owning an association to mental health that we are ashamed to claim? We keep our experiences hidden as if it's a bad thing to admit. In fact, the term behavioral health is often now substituted for mental health, presumably in an attempt to soften perception.

People exhibit great pride about exercising or eating healthy to care for their physical selves and yet keep silent efforts taken to care for their mental health. Social media is filled with images of friends buying new sneakers and eating low-carb meals, which is awesome. But, I think others would be ok knowing they are caring for their inner self as well.

Together we can bring discussions about mental health out of the shadows. Through open communication we may realize that our experiences can help others. Who knows, perhaps someday we'll even see selfies posted on social media with one's therapist or support group!

http://www.who.int/topics/mental\_health/en/ Jackie Boudinot, LMFT, NCC, CDM Middlesex Wellness & Mediation, LLC Connecticut Regional Mental Health Board – CAC10



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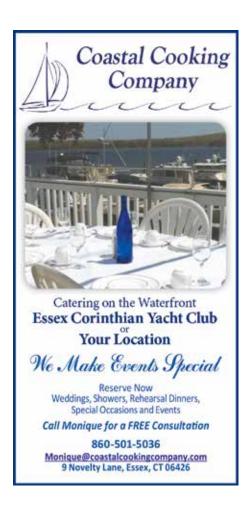
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# Estuary Council Regional Senior Center

220 Main Street, Old Saybrook 860-388-1611

The Estuary Council of Seniors, Inc. is a community center for the region's residents over 50 years old providing meals, transportation, health services, educational classes, exercise programs, and socialization activities. We have been promoting healthy and active lifestyles through quality programs and services in the nine-town Estuary region for over 40 years. Please visit us at www.ecsenior.org for additional information or call us at 860.388,1611.

### **HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR**

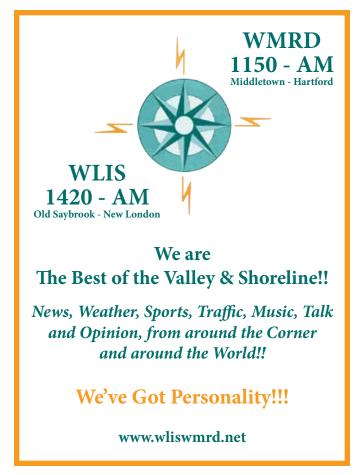
Our annual HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR is Saturday, November 19. Local crafters display an incredible array of hand crafted items for sale. In addition, the wonderful "Bake Shop" is filled with homemade desserts and candy. NEW this year – breakfast will be served! The Fair will be open from 8 am until 1 pm. All ages are welcome to come and get their holiday shopping done! Contact Judy for more information, 860.388.1611 extension 203.

### **BINGO AT THE ESTUARY!**

Every Thursday evening at the Estuary! Games begin at 6:30 pm. Doors open at

continued on page 32







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### ESTUARY COUNCIL REGIONAL SENIOR CENTER... continued from page 30

5:30 pm. Admission, including game package, is \$12 per player. Cash prizes with the progressive jackpot maximum payout of \$1,000 (increases \$100 each week). Open to all ages! Snacks and food sold during the evening.

ESTUARY GYM IS SILVER SNEAKERS APPROVED!

The Estuary Gym is a Silver Sneakers wellbeing fitness location! If you are a member of a Silver Sneaker participating health plan in CT, the Silver Sneakers plan will pay for your gym visits. Does

NOT apply to fitness classes. Check eligibility by contacting the Estuary at 860-388-1611.

### **ESTUARY THRIFT SHOP**

The Estuary Thrift Shop offers the best bargains on the shoreline! Clothing, furniture housewares, decorations, and jewelry are just a few of the things you will find. Every day is different! All ages are welcome to come in and shop. Open Saturdays! New Daily Specials!

# **Visiting Nurses of the Lower Valley**

### **CELEBRATE FRUITS & VEGGIES!**

There are over 200 varieties of fresh, ripe, juicy and delicious fruits and vegetables to choose from. They include all the colors of the rainbow! All the wonderful colors provide natural vitamins and minerals along with essential fiber which improves health. Eating fruits and vegetables can be easy to do. Try fresh, frozen and canned varieties. Children and adults alike benefit from a crunchy, craving satisfying carrot or celery stick dipped in light ranch dressing or peanut butter. Surprise your loved one with plain yogurt and diced fruit for breakfast or lunch. Make them guess what fruit is hiding in the yogurt. It helps to take a little bit

of time weekly to pre-cut fruits and vegetables so they are handy when you get home from work and feel those hunger pangs. Remember the simple rule of thumb; make fruits and veggies half of what you put on your plate and you will improve your health day by day.

Find helpful recipes to add more fruits and vegetables to your diet at www.fruitsandveggiesmorematters.org.

A healthy diet can also help prevent illness. So, as the kids go back continued on page 34



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# STAND UP TO MEAN-SPIRITED BEHAVIOR.

Did you know that one out of seven students are either a bully or a victim of bullying? And that an estimated 160,000 children miss school each day for fear of intimidation or attack? Mean-spirited behavior is everywhere - the playground, school hallways, the workplace, and more often, online. It is up to each and every one of us to put an end to bullying by learning more about the issues, and the available resources for empowering individuals to stand up for themselves and others.

### Help make Middlesex County a bully-free community.

Join us as we work together to make each and every community a positive place for change. For more information, call us at the Community Foundation of Middlesex County at 860-347-0025 or go to www.bullyfreemiddlesexcountycf.org.

# TAKE THE PLEDGE.

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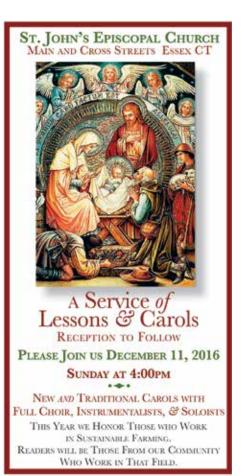
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### **VISITING NURSES...** continued from page 30

to school and viruses start to appear, eat all the colors of the rainbow and wash your hands often to stay fit and healthy.

Prevent flu this season, get your flu shot. Local flu shot clinics will be posted at www.visitingnurses.org. For more information call Deborah Ringen RN, MSN, FCN at 860-767-0186.

### ABOUT VISITING NURSES OF THE LOWER VALLEY

Visiting Nurses of the Lower Valley, Inc. is a not-for-profit, Medicare and Medicaid home health care organization serving Deep River, Essex, Chester and the Lower Valley region. Please check their website (www.visitingnurses.org) or call 860-767-0186 for service information.

# Thinking about your financial plan?

### SPEND 30 MINUTES THINKING ABOUT THE NEXT 30 YEARS.

The best place to start the financial planning process is to consider the values and goals that are most important to you. The objective is to clearly articulate what you want and how you plan to attain it, just as you would in the to-do list you create for your day.

- 1. How do you and your family enjoy spending your time?
- 2. Where do you see yourself in the next 5 or 10 years?



- What are the five things you value most in life? 3.
- 4. What goals do you have for your life?
- What does it mean to you to be wealthy? 5.
- What's the best way for you to build your wealth? 6.
- 7. How would you like to help your community?
- 8. What would you like your legacy to be?
- 9. What do you envision your retirement to be like?
- What assets would you like to leave to your heirs?

Reviewing your long term goals can be a productive exercise for individuals and families. If, for example, a vacation home was once your goal, but now it's education for your kids, that realization may help you re-think your investment strategy. Formulating a statement of your goals requires reflection and analysis. When your family is involved, it is even more ambitious an undertaking. If the process is careful and diligent, your hard work has the potential to be well rewarded. Once you have your mission statement in place, it will serve as a useful framework directing how you move forward and highlighting the effectiveness of your strategy over time.

Maureen Zavatone, Financial Adviser Morgan Stanley Wealth Management Essex CT.

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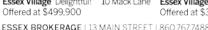


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# **Sunglasses Now or Botox Later**

We all wear sunglasses in the summer, but do you wear them all year round? When you think of wearing sunglasses, chances are you are thinking about protecting your eyes; but it's not just your eyes that will benefit from the protection. The skin around your eyes will thank you too.

Squinting is a natural reflex caused by exposure to bright light. It's the body's way of protecting your eyes until they adjust to their surroundings. However, when you squint you contract muscles around your eyes that are responsible for the development of crow's feet and also deep furrows in-between your eyebrows.

The skin around your eyes is the thinnest skin on your body and one of the first areas to show signs of aging. Also, there are no oil glands in the skin under your eyes, which hastens wrinkle formation.

Wearing sunglasses will help your aging eye skin in a few ways. First the sunglasses will protect your skin from direct exposure to sunlight which is the number one cause of premature aging. Secondly, sunglasses will prevent you from squinting and thereby overusing your muscles. And let's not forget about protecting your eyes themselves from harmful UV damage.

Because the muscles of the face are attached directly to your skin, overusing these muscles will lead directly to wrinkling, crow's feet and eyebrow furrows. But fear not if you already have crow's feet or furrows. Botox injections will temporarily reverse these problem areas, returning the skin around your eyes to a much smoother texture.

Botox is the number one non-surgical cosmetic treatment in the country. The injections are not painful and the procedure can be done on your lunch break. Results are temporary and usually last between three and four months.

So if you lost another pair of sunglasses, you can still have the look!

Dr. Susan O'Malley, owner and Medical Director of Sonas Med Spa, is dedicated to helping women look younger without surgery. To learn which non-surgical procedures are right for you, please call 203 245-2227 for a free consultation with or visit www.sonasmedspa.com.

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"Answered all my questions!"











**Middletown:** 860.347.7466

Westbrook: 860.669.5305

## Valley Regional High School Crew



In 2015 The Valley Regional High School had an insurgence of interest in Crew. Following this renewed interest in rowing, a group of parents formed a Booster Club

whose main directive is to fundraise for equipment so that Coaches John Laundon and Caroline Muhsin, can put together a rowing program that is not only competitive – but gives as many students as possible the ability to participate in this wonderful sport.

VRHS currently uses equipment from Old Lyme HS, and we are looking at putting together a whole new program complete with equipment. Any member of the Community or VRHS Crew Alumni that are interested in donating or participating in our fundraising can reach us at:

VRHSboostercrew@gmail.com

we would love to hear from you!

# **Chronic Dry Eyes**

Dry eye is a disease that affects millions of people. Normally, blinking helps replenish our tear film which provides the moisture eyes need to stay comfortable. A healthy cornea facilitates clear vision and a healthy tear film supplies nutrients that are necessary for corneal health. The tear film protects our eyes by fighting off

infection and removes environmental debris that can cause ocular allergies. The high usage of electronic devices has resulted in a decrease in our blink rate causing red, itchy, gritty, burning, and tired eyes.

continued on page 38

# CHRISTIE'S

# **Page Taft**

RealLiving



ESSEX: Exceptional Village Waterfront Retreat! Fully renovated residence! Dock with water and power! Au pair or in law apartment! Private location at end of cul de sac. Exquisite! \$1,695,000

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ESSEX: Unique elegance in this 4 BR, 5.1 bath luxury home. First floor Master suite w/access to patio to enjoy the views over the hills. State-of-the-art mechanical systems throughout. \$1,695,000

Maureen/John O'Grady, x3116



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> Chip Frost, x3112 Ct. River Properties



CHESTER: Privately situated and close to Chester village this 4 BR, 4.1 bath home on 2.78 acres will be your forever home. Gorgeous Kitchen, private office, FR, sunroom, pool, lovely landscaping. \$895,000

Maureen/John O'Grady x3116

5 Essex Square, Essex, CT 06426

860.767.5390

PageTaft.com

### CHRONIC DRY EYE... continued from page 37

Contrary to what people may think, excessive tearing is a sign of dry eye disease. Though dryness can be transient, it becomes problematic and potentially vision threatening when it persists into Chronic Dry Eye disease.

A poor tear film on your ocular surface can lead to inflammation of the cornea which can lead to blurry vision. In severe cases, corneal scarring may lead to permanent vision impairment.

Certain medical conditions may also cause Chronic Dry Eyes. Autoimmune diseases (e.g., Sjogrens, Rheumatoid Arthritis, Lupus, etc.), Bell's Palsy, Menopause, Skin disease (e.g., Rosacea, eczema, etc.), and thyroid disorders are only some of the more common

conditions. Medications such as anti-histamines, anti-depressants, birth control pills, tranquilizers, and certain blood pressure medications can also cause dry eyes.

Fortunately, there are many treatment options available for dry eye disease. It is important to customize and tailor these treatment options to each individual and what is best for their eyes. Regardless of the severity or cause, dry eye disease should be addressed and treated accordingly before it threatens vision.

Middlesex Eye Physicians 860-347-7466 Middlesexeye.com



# **Eastern Connecticut Ballet's** The Nutcracker

Eastern Connecticut Ballet's THE NUTCRACKER Saturday, December 10, 2016 1:30pm & 7pm Sunday December 11, 2016 | 1:30pm

Share the magic and pageantry of the world's most beloved ballet with friends and family of all ages. New York City Ballet sensation, Sara Mearns, "the great American ballerina of our time,"

continued on page 40

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203-928-8000



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15A Main St. Essex 860-767-2133 238b Main St. Old Saybrook 860-388-3411



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water-views of Falls River Cove!

Joel Lucas 860-304-9150



Essex \$995,000 Essex Village Waterfront with Dock & Guesthouse! This mint condition home offers lovely gardens & unsurpassed views of Middle Cove! Joel Lucas 860-304-9150



**Essex** \$437,500 Bow roof Colonial close to Essex Village shops, restaurants, marinas & museums. Updated KT, 1st or 2nd floor MBR option, professional landscaping. Laurel Peters 860-306-2812



Essex \$749,000
The Best of all Worlds... warm & inviting, spacious yet intimate, updated 4 bedroom, 4.5 bath Colonial perfect for entertaining both inside and out.
Laurel Peters 860-306-2812



**Essex** \$490,000 Windswept Ridge is convenient to 195, RT 9 & Bokum Center. Custom built home in excellent condition. Granite tops, spacious MBR, generous deck, patio. Peter Bonanno 860-227-9798 Shane Bonanno 860-227-7353



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Essex Village 3BR home. Remodeled & tastefully renovated inside & out. Beautiful KT w/stainless & granite, refinished HW, freshly painted interior.
Peter Bonanno 860-227-9798
Shane Bonanno 860-227-7353



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Essex \$279,500

A beautifully landscaped setting surrounds this 3BR, 2BA home. Master suite w/sitting room & bath, finished lower level w/gas FP, C/ A, CVAC & 2C garage.

Peter Bonanno 860-227-9798

Shane Bonanno 860-227-7353

Essex Office | 5 Main Street | Essex, CT 06426 | 860.767.2636

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### THE NUTCRACKER... continued from page 39

returns to the Garde Arts Center in New London for another breathtaking performance with Eastern Connecticut Ballet. New London's own "Nutcracker" is both a holiday tradition and a tour de force.

Sharing the spotlight are guest artists from NYCB and Pennsylvania Ballet and more than 100 professionally trained dancers from ECB. Thirty-five musicians from Eastern Connecticut Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Maestro Paul Polivnick, perform Tchaikovsky's masterpiece. Join Clara on her spectacular journey around the world. Applaud her brave-hearted Nutcracker, The Snow King and Snow Queen, sailors and toy soldiers, the comical Mother Ginger, waltzing flowers, dancing snowflakes, and of course, the exquisite Sugar Plum Fairy. Sail away on an enchanted ship from a seaport very much like New London in the 1850s and

watch a battle on the high seas and a snowstorm in the Arctic. Live music and classic ballet in the tradition of Balanchine make this "Nutcracker" simply unforgettable.

Performances are Saturday Dec 10th at 1:30 & 7pm and Sunday Dec 11th at 1:30pm.

Tickets are available at The Garde Box Office. Call 860-444-7373 x1 or visiting gardearts.org.



Jacqi Hubbard Photo by Peter M. Weber taken from the recent article in ASPIRE magazine

# **Ivoryton Playhouse**

### A Note from the Executive Director...

This year marks my 25th year at the Ivoryton Playhouse. I began as a Board member in 1991, then became Board President and in 1999 was hired as Artistic/Executive Director. I have watched the theatre and the community that surrounds it change and grow so much over this past quarter century. It has been an eventful 25 years with its fair share of highs

and lows and laughter and tears; with shows that tanked and shows that brought entire audiences to their feet. There were dreams that were realized and dreams that were put on a shelf for another day.

But the one thing that has remained constant through those years is the support we receive from the people of Essex and our love for our home in the village of Ivoryton. The Playhouse has a great family of actors and donors, musicians and members, sponsors, local businesses and community partners and I am so proud of what we have accomplished in encouraging growth in the village of Ivoryton and helping to bring tourism to Essex. The community we have built now supports new restaurants and businesses, a lively Farmers Market and family-friendly special events such as the Pumpkin Festival (Saturday, October 22nd) and the Ivoryton Illuminations (Saturday, December 3rd and throughout December).

So, as I celebrate my Silver Anniversary at the Playhouse, I want to thank the people of this area -the most generous, kind and supportive people I have ever met - who welcomed me into this town over 25 years ago and made me feel that this was place that I wanted to call home.

Cheers! Jacqui Hubbard

PS: Don't miss Tenderly: The Rosemary Clooney Musical opening Wednesday, October 26th until November 13th. December is the brightest time of the year for Ivoryton! Santa arrives at the Playhouse on Saturday, December 3rd and 300,000 lights are switched on throughout the village. To celebrate the season of goodwill, bring the whole family to the theatre for a very special holiday production of Bells of Dublin III: A New York Fairytale. The Bells of Dublin pub will be closed for the holidays as Paddy Bell and his family take a trip to the Big Apple for Christmas. Bells III opens on Wednesday, December 7th and runs until Sunday, December 18th with matinee and evening performances. Visit www.ivorytonplayhouse.org for more information or call our box office at 860.767.7318 to purchase tickets.



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