

# Old Lyme



# Events

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Volume 2 • Quarter 4 • 2011



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**and more!**



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## Selectman's Corner

The big event during the last three months was Tropical Storm Irene which occurred on Sunday August 28th. We were warned about the storm days before it hit us and it was big: some 600 miles across. It affected states ranging from Maryland to New York to Maine. It caused over 750,000 power outages across the State of Connecticut and the Town of Old Lyme had power outages of up to 95%. Because utility crews from nearby states had their hands full, Connecticut Light & Power could not muster sufficient crews initially to deal with the problems. Accordingly, Old Lyme had significant outages from Sunday through Wednesday, but most houses were restored by Saturday.

Our Emergency Management team, led by Director David Roberge, responded quickly and effectively. Days before the storm, we worked with the Town of East Lyme to establish a regional emergency shelter in the East Lyme Middle School on Society Rd. This facility had the capability to accommodate up to 3,500 people from the towns of East Lyme, Lyme, Old Lyme and Waterford. We worked with the beach association presidents to urge evacuation of the beach areas where 95 mile per hour winds and an incoming tide were predicted as the storm came ashore. Our volunteer ambulance and fire personnel, along with our police, public works and town hall employees participated in several pre-storm planning sessions to prepare

us for the worst. The ambulance staff contacted over 140 "special needs" registrants, offering to transport them to the emergency shelter. Fire and police personnel drove throughout the beach communities urging everyone to evacuate.

As the storm hit, we experienced winds of 70 MPH and less—not 95 MPH. Accordingly, the damage to beachfront structures was slight but the beach erosion was severe in some locations. Because we have not had a significant storm since 1992 (Hurricane Bob), there was extensive tree damage and resulting damage to power and phone lines. Without power, people could not communicate properly and, in some cases, were trapped by downed trees and power lines. The recovery operation was hampered by a lack of CL&P crews and our public works crews could only perform limited work due to the threat of potentially live downed power lines.

Our main focus was to restore the primary electric lines first, which would provide power to Halls Rd., Lyme St., Route



First Selectman Timothy Griswold

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

1 and Route 156. After that, we could focus on the secondary circuits. Concurrently, we wanted to establish communications with people who had no electricity or phone service. We used a variety of methods: the reverse 911 system, Facebook, Twitter, single sheet updates left at businesses and simple signs. On Monday, we were able to make bottled water and meals-ready-to-eat (MREs) available to the public and people could come to any of the three firehouses or the Senior Center for flush water. Once electricity was restored to the Senior Center and Lyme St., we offered limited meal service and showers to people. Ice was the one commodity that was in short supply statewide. We were finally able to secure a supply and Old Lyme Seafood was kind enough to store and dispense it for free.


Another challenge was the removal of the storm debris, primarily branches and tree trunks. Once we assessed the magnitude of the problem, we decided to allow residents to bring their wood debris to the Transfer Station at no cost. We also decided that the Town would pick up wood debris from Town roads at no cost during the month of October. While frustrating to citizens living on private roads, FEMA regulations do not allow municipal collection of wood debris from private roads.

There have been several post-storm critique meetings with the responders and with the public. While the Town response was excellent overall, there are some areas that we want to

improve upon. Most significant is the area of communications. With no electricity and therefore no phone, computer, cell phone and the like, it is hard to communicate. We encourage all residents to register their phones, e-mail addresses and alternative phone numbers with [www.ctalert.gov](http://www.ctalert.gov) so that you have a better chance of receiving information.

The Board of Selectmen has been working with the beach association representatives on important issues including snow plowing of the private roads within certain associations, Town funding of the associations, zoning enforcement, flooding and sewer avoidance. The Town has a long history of plowing private beach association roads. Originally, this was important because so few people lived there in the winter and the Town wanted limited access in case of an emergency. Also, the associations' properties paid and still pay a significant percentage of town taxes but did and do not consume the same proportion of services as a year-round property. Today, a larger percentage of the associations have year-round residents and the Town plows nearly all their roads (except for Point O'Woods). The Selectmen must soon decide on a policy for the plowing of private roads. While there are about 13 miles of beach association private roads (excluding Point O'Woods), there are another 10 miles of subdivision private roads to consider. In addition, one must define what a private road is because there are numerous private unimproved or dirt roads that could be called private roads. The Selectmen will form a committee comprised of representatives from the



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• *Selectman's Corner continued from page 3* •

associations, the private subdivisions and a representative living on a Town road to study this matter. The Committee will attempt to make a recommendation to the Board of Selectmen before the end of the year.

At present, Old Lyme is a member of the Lower CT Valley Selectmen's Association (LCVSA), consisting of 9 towns, and the CT River Council of Elected Officials (CRVCEO), consisting of 17 towns. The State of CT seeks to reduce the number of regional planning agencies from 15 to 5, or perhaps as many as 8. The 17 towns in the CRVCEO have two planning agencies: CT River Estuary Regional Planning Agency (CRERPA)(9 towns) and the Mid-State Planning Agency (8 towns). Each member town appoints or elects two representatives to serve on the planning agency. It has been suggested that the 17 towns voluntarily form a Council of Governments (COG) before the State of CT decides to place the 17 towns in COGs of its choosing. A COG is a grouping of towns that work together to pool their resources and knowledge. The Chief Elected Officials of the participating towns would be the governing body of the COG. At an earlier meeting of the CRVCEO, about two-thirds of the CEOs present voted to request the State's Office of Policy and Management (OPM) to designate the two planning agencies a COG. In May, the Secretary of OPM re-designated the two planning agencies as the Lower CT River Valley Planning Agency. Linda Krause, the Director of our planning agency, discussed

the formation of the COG and her support for it at a Board of Selectmen's meeting and again at a meeting of the Land Use board and commission members. While many of us believe "smaller is better", most understand that designing a COG of our own choosing is better than having the State assign us to one. If the Selectmen agree, it would be necessary to obtain Town Meeting approval to have Old Lyme join the COG.

The repair of the Duck River culvert under McCurdy Rd. has been completed. We thought doing this work during the month of August would provide us with dry conditions, but we did not plan on a hurricane and days of rain. Even so, our contractor and engineer worked hard to complete the task and many have commented that they like being able to see the river and the marshes, now that the vegetation is gone.

Much to our amazement, the Harbor Management Commission's application to the State of CT Dept. of Transportation for a Harbor Improvement Grant in the amount of \$30,000 was not only approved, it was approved in the amount of \$200,000. This grant will be used to pay for dredging design work for the Black Hall and Four Mile Rivers. Both rivers provide public access to Long Island Sound and attract recreational users from a wide geography. There are two State boat launch ramps and three marinas on these rivers. Shoaling in these rivers has limited the access for boaters and has created safety concerns. The Commission will oversee the use of the grant that will fund surveying and testing which should, in turn, lead to a dredging program. We thank Ned Farman of the

*continued on page 6*

*The Restaurant at Water's Edge*



**WEEKLY DINNER SPECIALS**

<p><b>Monday</b>  <b>Prix-Fixe Dinner Menu</b>                  Includes choice of soup or salad, entrée and dessert                  \$26.00 per Person                  (Available Every Monday Evening)</p>	<p><b>Thursday</b>  <b>'Wine and Dine' Special</b>                  Three Course Dinner for Two and a bottle of House Red or White Wine                  \$54.95 per Couple                  (Available Every Thursday Evening)</p>
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# Events

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### • *Selectman's Corner continued from page 5* •

Commission for his work on the grant and we thank the State of CT for approving this significant grant.

The Town has hired Randi Frank Consulting, LLC of Wallingford, CT to perform an Employee Classification and Compensation Study. In 1999, the Town hired Personnel Management Associates (William Swords) to perform a similar function and we used that firm for about nine years before Mr. Swords retired. So that we may be sure our job descriptions are accurate and our compensation is fair, Ms. Frank will interview all non-union staff members, survey comparable towns and provide a report with recommendations. This will be accomplished before budget deliberations with the Board of Finance begin.

Our green single stream recycling carts continue to work out very well since their introduction in May. The statistics for the period June through September show recycling volume increased 94 tons or 21%. This means the Town has already saved about \$4,700 because it costs less to dispose of a ton of recycling than it does to dispose of a ton of refuse. Let's try even harder to recycle more because it costs less and is better for the environment!

Our new electronics recycling effort is also working well. You can now bring your electronics to our Transfer Station during regular working hours – it is no longer necessary to wait for a special collection day. Since being introduced in June, we have collected 18,200 pounds of electronics that will be disassembled in the USA and diverted from our refuse stream; all at no cost to the Town. A large percentage of the electronics has been televisions.

The Town retained the services of *Critical Skills Education and Training* (Colleen Atkinson and Doug Lo Presti) to train 22 Town employees in CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) and AED (automated external defibrillator) use. Old Lyme has recently been designated a HEARTSafe Community by the State Dept. of Public Health because we meet the requirements for the public placement of AED devices, trained community residents and trained emergency responders. This training increases the Town's preparedness and we encourage other employers to train their employees as well. The more our residents are trained, the better the chances for one of our citizens to survive a cardiac event.

Students from the Life Skills program at our Lyme-Old Lyme High School have been working with us over the past year on the transition of our paper files into electronic records. We are most grateful for the assistance of these students and encourage you to contact the High School if you'd like more information on how you can work with these special Life Skills students.

The Sennheiser Electronic Corporation (SEC) in Old Lyme recently celebrated its 20th anniversary in the U.S. Established in 1945 in Wedemark, Germany, Sennheiser is the acknowledged world leader in microphone technology, RF-wireless and infrared sound transmission, headphone transducer technology, and in the development of active noise-cancellation. SEC is the U.S. wholly-owned subsidiary, with headquarters in Old Lyme. The Selectmen agreed that the Town is fortunate to have the headquarters located here and congratulated Sennheiser on its 20th anniversary.

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• *Selectman's Corner continued from page 6* •

On August 24th, the towns of Old Lyme and Old Saybrook celebrated the 100th year anniversary of the 1911 Automobile Bridge, which ran over the Connecticut River between Old Lyme and Old Saybrook. There was an auto parade held with pre-1976 automobiles, an auto show and a luncheon at Dock and Dine in Old Saybrook. According to local historian Tedd Levy, the 1911 parade was a remarkable event featuring some 500 decorated automobiles. Levy noted that this was an extraordinary number, considering there were only a total of 21,371 cars registered in the entire state of Connecticut at that time. In 1911, the number of cars in Old Saybrook (pop. 1,516) was 17, Old Lyme had 31, Deep River 45, Essex 30, Westbrook 21, and Chester 24. Thousands of people on both sides of the river attended this event in 1911. The 1911 bridge was replaced in 1948 by the first Raymond E. Baldwin Bridge. That bridge was later replaced, but kept the same name, in 1993.

On October 2nd, the Library dedicated the Constance and William Pike Children's Room to honor them. The Pikes were well known for their philanthropy and dedicated volunteerism. We note, with sadness, that Bea McLean, the Town Treasurer for 51 years, passed away on July 26th. We believe her incredible length of service is a record!

I congratulate those who were elected to Town boards and the Regional School District Board of Education on Election Day, including First Selectwoman-elect Bonnie Reemsnyder. I know the people of Old Lyme will extend to Bonnie the same courtesy and support they have shown me during my 14 years as First Selectman.

It has been an honor to serve the people of Old Lyme. On behalf of the outgoing Board of Selectmen, I wish you all a wonderful holiday season.

— *First Selectman Timothy C. Griswold*

**Dear Citizens of Old Lyme,**

Thank you for your vote of confidence in the November election and I welcome the opportunity to work for and with you. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Tim Griswold for his many years of service to our community – fifteen years on the Board of Finance and fourteen years as First Selectman. I know he has given a great deal to the town and I wish him continued success. Working together on the Board of Selectmen over the last eight years, we accomplished some essential projects. As we transition to a new administration,

we will strive to: continue the good work that has been started; provide improved communication; and begin to research new ideas for our future. I congratulate and welcome our newest Selectwoman, Mary Jo Nosal, and welcome back Selectman Arthur "Skip" Sibley to the Board. On behalf of the entire Board of Selectmen, I wish you all a Happy Holiday Season and a healthy, prosperous New Year.

— *Bonnie Reemsnyder, First Selectwoman-elect*



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# Election Results

Old Lyme voters cast their ballots on Tuesday, November 7. Votes were cast as follows:

**First Selectman**

1412 Bonnie Reemsnyder (D)  
1178 Timothy Griswold (R)

**Selectman**

1336 Mary Jo Nosal (D)  
1224 Skip Sibley(R)

**Treasurer**

1632 John Bysko (R)

**Tax Collector**

1725 Judy Tooker (R)

**Board of Finance**

1448 Wayne Devoe (D)  
1403 H. Perry Garvin (R)

**Board of Finance alternate**

1538 Anne Coburn (D)  
1288 Robert Jose (R)  
1495 J. David Kelsey (R)

**Board of Assessment Appeals**

1353 Scott Chester (D)  
1078 Roderick White (R)

**Planning Commission**

(5 year term begins 2011)  
1573 Christopher Kerr (R)

**Planning Commission**

(5 year term begins 2012)  
1641 Robert McCarthy (D)

**Planning Commission**

(to fill vacancy for two years)  
1252 Edgar Butcher (D)  
1093 Harry Plaut (R)

**Zoning Commission**

(5 year term begins 2011)  
1618 Jane Marsh (R)

**Zoning Commission**

(5 year term begins 2012)  
1657 Patrick Looney (D)

**Zoning Board of Appeals**

(5 year term begins 2012)  
1705 Kip Kotzan (D)

**Zoning Board of Appeals**

(5 year term begins 2012)  
1560 Judy McQuade (R)

**Zoning Board of Appeals Alternates**

1524 Mary Stone (D)  
1176 Martha Rumskas (R)  
14 Richard Smith (U) – write-in

**Regional Board of Education**

1465 Paul Fuchs (D)  
1164 David Griswold (R)  
1456 Michelle Roche (D)  
1318 Judy Read (R)  
1163 Albert Enman (R)

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**Old Lyme Municipal Departments**

Department	Contact	Phone
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Assessor	Walter Kent	434-1605 x218
Board of Selectmen	Timothy C. Griswold, First Selectman	434-1605 x211
Board of Selectmen	Skip Sibley	434-1605 x212
Board of Selectmen	Bonnie Reemsnyder	434-1121
Building	Ron Rose	434-1605 x230
Emergency Management	David Roberge	434-1605 x231
Finance	Doris Johnson	434-1605 x215
Finance Director	Nicole Stajduhar	434-1605 x232
Fire Marshal	David Roberge	434-1605 x231
First Selectman	Timothy C. Griswold	434-1605 x211
Harbormaster	Michael Moran	434-1605 x212
Health	Vijay Sikand, M.D.	434-1605 x214
Town Historian	John Pfeiffer	434-8829
Land Use	Kim Groves, Kim Barrows	434-1605 x236
Parks and Recreation	Don Bugbee	434-1605 x235
Police	TFC Scott O'Donnell	434-7080
Probate Court	Hon. Jeffrey McNamara	739-6052
Public Works	Ed Adanti	434-2461
Registrar of Voters	Patricia McCarthy & Don Tapper	434-1605 x226
School District #18	Superintendent of Schools	434-7238
Senior Center	Sherry Meyer	434-4127
Social Services	Sherry Meyer	434-4127
Tax Collection	Judith Tooker	434-1605 x216
Town Clerk	Eileen Coffee	434-1605 x221
Treasurer	John Bysko	434-3632
Zoning Enforcement	Ann Brown	434-1605 x225
<b>Other Agencies</b>		
Library	Mary Fiorelli, Director	434-1684
Youth Services Bureau	Mary Seidner, Director	434-7208

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# Suggestions from the Old Lyme Conservation Commission

## Protect Your Family's Health And Keep Old Lyme Safe

Reduce your use of lawn fertilizers and chemicals. On your lawn = In your water! Plant more grass seed. Improve and stabilize the health of your lawn and reduce its reliance on a cycle of chemicals.

Using lawn fertilizers and herbicides creates a lawn dependent on chemicals, a costly and never-ending cycle. These chemicals filter into our wells and continue on into the underlying aquifer for the towns of Lyme and Old Lyme. All homes and businesses in Lyme and Old Lyme receive water through wells, which are fed by an underground aquifer of only one watershed of lakes, rivers, and streams. We are all connected by water.

We, our children, our pets, and our neighbors are at risk for absorbing these chemicals.

## STOP putting fertilizers and pesticides on your lawn

Fertilizers and chemicals wash into your well and into the underlying aquifer of the towns of Lyme and Old Lyme. As they wash into both fresh and salt water, they weaken resistance of native plants and encourage weed growth. Take a look at the waving feathery seed heads of the highly invasive phragmites that clog the Connecticut Estuary, local coves, and even Hains Park at Rogers Lake. Many pesticides are toxic to fish, aquatic insects, and waterfowl. Pets easily absorb these chemicals, too.

## GET INFORMED

READ LABELS of the products you are using on your lawn. RESEARCH the chemicals.

(Visit [www.oldlyme-ct.gov/Pages/OldLymeCT\\_BComm/conservation](http://www.oldlyme-ct.gov/Pages/OldLymeCT_BComm/conservation) for a link to a Pesticide Fact Sheet)

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# Duck River Garden Club: Events for the Year Ahead!

**Monday, Feb. 6, 7p.m. Lymes Senior Center.** The Duck River Garden Club presents "Herbes de Provence," a unique program by Joy Molloy. As a member of the Herb Society of America, she has studied in Europe to learn the herbs of Provence (Mediterranean herbs) and has encouraged members of many clubs including her own Mystic Garden Club to grow and dry their own herbs.

**Monday, March 12, 7p.m. Lymes Senior Center.** The Duck River Garden Club presents "Getting Ready for Spring," a humorous and fact-filled program by Pamela Weil.

Pamela, founder of Connecticut Gardener magazine, is a Master Gardener certified by UConn's Cooperative Extension

System. She served as President of the Connecticut Master Gardner Association from 1996-1998. Aside from using her backyard in Westport as a laboratory and playground, she enjoys lecturing - the Connecticut Flower and Garden Show in Hartford being one of many - and instructing Master Gardner classes for the state of Connecticut.

**Monday, April 9, 7p.m. Lymes Senior Center.** The Duck River Garden Club presents "Compost Happens," just in time for spring planting, by Carol Quish from the UConn Home and Garden Education Center. Her credentials are many, including Advanced Master Gardner, Master Composter, CT nursery and Landscape Association Professional. Compost is essential so come and learn from a pro.

## MAY 11 & 12 – ANNUAL PLANT SALE & GARDEN FAIR.

**Tuesday, May 15, 7p.m. Lymes Senior Center.** The Duck River Garden Club presents "A Year 'Round Cutting Garden" by Carol King Platt, a freelance garden and lifestyle writer and a former contributing editor at *House & Garden*, plus she was voted one of People, Places and Plants' top ten New England garden writers. She lectures regularly about garden design and designs gardens throughout Connecticut, New York and Rhode Island.

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## Deck the Walls - Lyme Art Association

The Lyme Art Association's most festive art exhibition and sale is their annual "Deck the Walls" holiday show, on view November 18, 2011 through January 7, 2012. More than 200 original works of art by member artists will be on display and priced to sell as holiday gifts. Artwork by newly inducted Elected Artists will be featured in their own exhibition in the Goodman Gallery. The opening reception on Friday, December 2, from 5 – 7 p.m. is free to the public and will feature live music.

Once again the Lyme Art Association will assist the Shoreline Soup Kitchens and Pantries by donating 10% of gallery sales from the opening night of "Deck the Walls." "We hope that the community will help us support the Soup Kitchen during their busy holiday season by purchasing artwork on opening night and by bringing a canned good donation to our opening reception," states Susan Ballek, Director of the Lyme Art Association.

In conjunction with "Deck the Walls," the Association will host the second annual "Holiday Festival of Trees and Music," on view in their historic galleries from Nov. 25 – Dec. 4. This special display of designer trees is sponsored by the nonprofit organization Bring Our Music Back. Please visit [bringourmusicback.org](http://bringourmusicback.org) for more information on special activities planned during this holiday extravaganza, which include breakfasts with Santa and live music events by local artists.

The Lyme Art Association is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Sunday from 1 – 5 p.m. and is located at 90 Lyme Street in Old Lyme, at the corner of Halls Road.

Please call (860) 434-7802 for more information, or visit [www.lymeartassociation.org](http://www.lymeartassociation.org).

**About the Lyme Art Association.** Founded in 1914 by the American Impressionists and it continues the tradition of exhibiting and selling representational artwork by its members and invited artists, as well as offering art instruction and lectures to the community. The Lyme Art Association is in a building designed by Charles Adams Platt and located within an historic district. Admission is free with contributions appreciated. For more information on exhibitions, purchase of art, art classes, or becoming a member, call 860-434-7802.



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# Old Lyme Historical Society

*The Charm of the Place: Old Lyme in the 1920s*, is the latest book published by the Old Lyme Historical Society. Meticulously researched and written by Carolyn Wakeman, Ph.D., a native of Old Lyme and a recently retired professor from the Graduate School of Journalism at U.C. Berkeley, this book describes the economic expansion that took place in the 1920s, as electricity, indoor plumbing, automobiles, and paved roads were introduced. In her introduction to the book, the author relates how "local history thrives on chance discoveries, like the unfurling of a cumbersome canvas screen that for years had remained rolled up and undisturbed at the back of the Grange." The discovery of this mural in 2007 by members of the Historical Society led to the desire to know more about the 1920s and the businesses that paid for advertisements depicted as part of the mural. Most of these businesses were clustered near Lyme Street but a few were located in nearby towns. The author explores the early commercial life of Old Lyme by taking a look at each of the advertisers in the painting and how changes in the population, income, taste, and technology in the 1920s impacted the look and lifestyle of the community. The book also recounts the organization of the Old Lyme Grange No. 162 in 1905, when Old Lyme was largely a farming community. The Grange served as a fraternal

organization, provided information and assistance to farmers, and organized social events and entertainment open to all town residents.



*Painted canvas stage backdrop rediscovered at the Grange Hall that inspired the Old Lyme Historical Society's latest book.*

This delightful book, designed by James Meehan and edited by Alison Mitchell, is lavishly illustrated with prints of paintings, photographs, postcards, programs, and maps. It is the sixth book of a series devoted to recording the early

*continued on page 13*






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**Old Lyme, CT 06371**  
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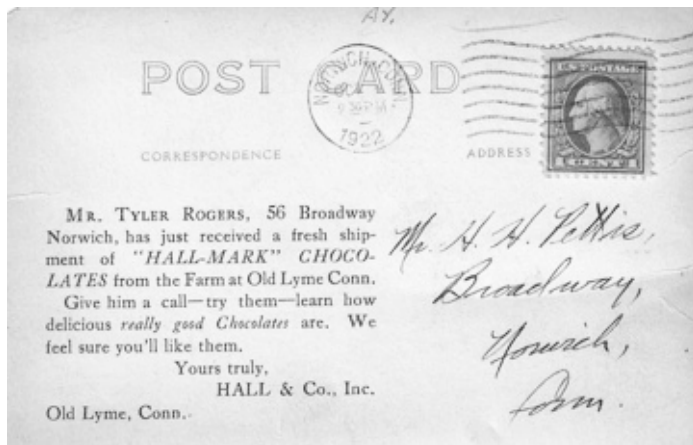
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• *Old Lyme Historical Society continued from page 12* •

histories of Old Lyme. Other books published by the Old Lyme Historical Society include *Poverty Island, This Ancient and Interesting Town, The Hurricane of 1938, The Land Savers, and Rum Runners, Governors, Beachcombers, & Socialists*. The Old Lyme Historical Society also just published limited edition reproductions of a fascinating historic map of Old Lyme. All of the publications are available through the Historical Society's web site [www.oldlymehistoricalsociety.org](http://www.oldlymehistoricalsociety.org), at the Florence Griswold Museum, or at the Old Lyme-Phoebe Griffin Noyes Library.



*Hall-Mark post card dated 1922. One of a number of illustrations of Old Lyme from the 1920s included in the Historical Society's publication The Charm of the Place.*

To find out more about the Old Lyme Historical Society and its interesting activities, explore the web site [www.oldlymehistoricalsociety.org](http://www.oldlymehistoricalsociety.org) or stop by its office in the Genealogy Room at the Old Lyme-Phoebe Griffin Noyes Library. Hours are Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

*For town updates & information:*  
**[www.oldlyme-ct.gov](http://www.oldlyme-ct.gov)**

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[oldlymelaw@sbcglobal.net](mailto:oldlymelaw@sbcglobal.net)  
[www.oldlymelaw.net](http://www.oldlymelaw.net)

## December at the Florence Griswold House

December is particularly delight-filled at the Florence Griswold Museum. Visitors of all ages can enjoy "The Magic of Christmas, A Holiday Tradition" through January 8, 2012. Miss Florence's Artist Tree has become a holiday icon for the region. In addition, elaborate Fantasy Trees adorn the galleries while the Florence Griswold House evokes a 1910 Christmas with historically accurate decorations that reveal homespun creativity and the use of surprising materials.

In the museum's Kriebel Gallery, elaborate Fantasy Trees evoke the theme of the current exhibition, "The Exacting Eye of Walker Evans." Artists and designers work their "magic" by taking an intriguing theme to dynamic heights. You never quite know what to expect!

Miss Florence's Artist Tree is back for its eighth year. This year's additions bring the count to over 120 painted palettes by artists from across the country who have donated works to this one-of-a-kind tradition. The idea of artists painting on palettes relates directly to the museum's history as the center for the Lyme Art Colony and alludes to the doors and wooden wall panels the artists painted throughout



*Lambing Snow, Oil on canvas by  
LAA Elected Artist Kim Muller-Thym*

Miss Florence's boardinghouse over a hundred years ago. The palette artists' styles and subject matter are as varied as the individuals. Oils, acrylics, watercolors, ceramics, and collage are used to transform the palettes into traditional holiday scenes, delightful landscapes, and more than a few surprises!

In the historic rooms of the Griswold House, visitors can see how families celebrated Christmas in 1910, as historically accurate decorations reveal homespun creativity and the use of surprising materials. The 1910 time period was an important era for the Griswold House, as it was the heyday of its use as boardinghouse for the artists of the Lyme Art Colony. Christmas was also Miss Florence's birthday! She was 60 years old in 1910.

### SPECIAL EVENTS

#### The Handmade Ornament: A Sewing Workshop for Kids.

Saturday, December 10, 2 p.m. Presented by Linda Zimmerman, Master Teaching Artist. Tickets are \$12 per person and must be purchased in advance by calling 860-434-5542, x 111 or online at [FlorenceGriswoldMuseum.org](http://FlorenceGriswoldMuseum.org). Join fiber artist Zimmerman for a creative hands-on workshop to design your own soft bird sculpture made from felt and embellished with buttons, beads, and ribbon.

**Oh By Gosh, By Golly Teddy Bear Tea Party.** Monday, December 12, 11 a.m. or 2 p.m. Tickets are \$14 per pair (child and adult); additional guests \$7 and must be purchased in advance by calling 860-434-5542, x 111 or online at [FlorenceGriswoldMuseum.org](http://FlorenceGriswoldMuseum.org). Share the excitement of the holidays with your little ones at this fun teddy bear tea party. Enjoy stories and crafts, yummy FUNwiches and treats. Children can bring their favorite stuffed animals.

**Open-House Event.** Wednesday, December 14, 6 p.m. Exchange a nonperishable food item to be donated to the Shoreline Soup Kitchen for your admission ticket. Tour the galleries to see the decorated trees and hear a reading of 'Twas the Night Before Christmas before joining Steve Elci for a community sing-along and a festive lighting of The Rambles outdoor sculpture.

**Happy Birthday Miss Florence: A Hands-On Creative Birthday Party.** Wednesday, December 28, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. FREE with Museum Admission, drop-in, no reservations required. Celebrate Miss Florence's birthday with this day-long party. Come for cake and stay for a variety of hands-on creative projects that celebrate the woman who started it all. Miss Florence was born on Christmas Day in 1850. Harp music featured in the Florence Griswold House from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Christmastime Teas at the Museum.** Tuesday through Saturday December 2 - 23, 3 p.m. Tickets are \$35 per person

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continued on page 15

# Town News Briefs

## Town Hall will be closed.

In observance of the following holidays: Mon., Dec. 26 - Christmas; Mon., Jan. 2 - New Year's; Mon., Jan. 16 - Martin Luther King, Jr.; Mon., Feb. 20 - President's Day; Fri., Apr. 6 - Good Friday

**Curbside trash removal** is performed by Shoreline Sanitation (434-0052). There is no trash pick-up on the following holidays: Christmas (Dec. 26), New Year's (Jan. 2), Memorial Day (last Monday in May), July 4<sup>th</sup>, Labor Day (first Monday in Sept.), Thanksgiving Day (fourth Thursday in Nov.). Trash that would normally be collected on Thanksgiving will be picked up the next day, along with the regular Friday pickup. For Monday holidays, garbage pickup will move up a day, except on Thursday and Friday, which will remain on schedule. This does not affect the curbside recycling program. Please have trash container out at curbside by 6 a.m. on your assigned day, three feet away from any other objects, such as mailboxes, cars, other containers, planters, etc. When positioning your container not to block break-down/emergency lane or obstruct walkers and/or cyclists. Thank you!

**Single stream curbside recycling** pick-up is provided for clean bottles, cans, #1 - 7, plastics and paper products co-mingled in the green recycling carts every other week. Corrugated cardboard boxes need to be flattened for recycling. A complete list of acceptable single stream recyclables is available on the town's website ([www.oldlyme-ct.gov](http://www.oldlyme-ct.gov)), trash and recycling link on both the Selectman's and Public Works pages, as well as on Shoreline Sanitation's website ([www.shorelinesanitation.com](http://www.shorelinesanitation.com)) and in the Selectman's Office at Memorial Town Hall on Lyme Street, or at the Landfill/Transfer Station. Please phone Michele Hayes-Finn (860-434-1605, ext. 212) with questions. There is **no recycling pick-up on the following holidays**: Christmas Day (Dec. 26, 2011), New Year's (Jan. 2, 2012), Memorial Day (last Monday in May), July 4<sup>th</sup>, Labor Day (first Monday in Sept.), and Thanksgiving Day (fourth Thursday in Nov.). Recycling that would normally be collected on Thanksgiving will be picked up the next day, along with the regular Friday pickup. **For Monday holidays**, recycling pickup will move up a day, **except for Friday**, which will remain on schedule. Recycling information is available on the Town's website ([www.oldlyme-ct.gov](http://www.oldlyme-ct.gov)), in the Selectman's Office at the Memorial Town Hall on Lyme Street, at Shoreline Sanitation's website, or at the Landfill

/Transfer Station. Please phone Michele Hayes-Finn (434-1605, ext. 212) with questions.

**Additional automated trash and recycling containers** should be ordered through Michele Hayes-Finn; the cost is \$80.

## Electronics now accepted at Four Mile

**River Road Transfer Station:** computers (personal computers, mainframes, med-range computers, laptops); networking equipment (hubs, switches, control cards, etc.); computer monitors; televisions; printers; keyboards; mice; adaptors; stereos; speakers; VCRs; scanners; fax machines; copiers; telephones and telephone systems; computer wire and cable, drives, and storage devices (floppy drives, CD ROMs, hard drives); power supplies; circuit boards; microwaves; scrap copper (cable, pipe, etc.) and aluminum (machine and machine parts, cable extrusions, etc.); fluorescent lightbulbs; UPA (uninterrupted power supply) batteries; and related computer and electronic equipment. **Transfer Station /Landfill Hours:** Tuesday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-3:45 p.m., and Saturday, 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Closed Sunday and Monday.

**Bulky Waste and Demolition:** Vehicles are charged by weight at a \$110/ton rate. Recyclables should not be mixed in the same load with Bulky Waste or Demolition debris. Load of less than 100 lbs. will be charged a minimum fee of \$5.00.

**Phone Michele Hayes-Finn in the Selectman's Office** at the Town Hall (860-434-1605, ext. 212) to report a streetlight outage and/or trash or recycling problem. When reporting a streetlight, please make note of the pole location and pole number. Thank you!

## TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

### Congratulations to the following on their recent marriages:

Brendan Whitmore Yester – Christina Ann Marandino  
July 30  
Chris Wilhelm Bleeker – Rebecca Nieves  
August 7  
Timothy W. Fredericksen – Cheryl Lynn Rutt  
August 13  
Terrance Eugene Chamberlin – Stephanie Anne Harris / August 14  
Justin Sebastian Krol – Nicole Madonna Goss  
August 27  
Nicholas Anthony DiRobbio – Francesca Helen Nixon  
September 3



Peter Warren Garvin – Martha Jefferson Colburn  
September 10  
Duane Benjamin Yuhas – Karen Ann Saunders  
September 10  
Robert Emmett Dean – Kathleen Hague Fritch  
September 11  
William Leslie Dill – Deborah Joan Andreson  
September 17  
Martin Joseph Gatto – Jessica Ann Sedita  
September 17  
Andrew Earle Green – Lauren Claire Medbery  
September 24  
Diane Carolyn Blackwell – Kim Allison Hale  
October 9

**With Sympathy: Condolences to the families of recently deceased residents:**

Ruth Stanton Barrett, Marjorie E. Moon,  
Todd Blumenkopf, Werneth Wilson Noyes,  
Richard C. Bugbee, Bernice Piersa,  
Burnham Carter, Jr., Virginia C. Stewart,  
John F. Collins, Brian Mark Stomberg,  
Belton Allyn Copp IV, Mary Bowman Symonds,  
Corinne Eaton, Richard George Willis,  
Robert L. Jones,  
Margaret M. Zipp, Robert George McLean

*Eileen K. Coffee, Town Clerk  
Vicki Urbowicz, Assistant Town Clerk*

**ALERTING AND NOTIFICATION SYSTEM**

One way the town communicated with residents following Hurricane Irene was through the *Connecticut Alerting and Notification System*. Messages about available town services were phoned to all home telephones in Old Lyme. But because of power outages, many were unable to receive them. First Selectman Griswold and Mr. Roberge encourage people to register additional contact numbers through the *Connecticut Emergency Alerting and Notification System*. Visit [www.ctalert.gov](http://www.ctalert.gov) to register a cell phone, work phone, e-mail address, or other contact number. Please assist the town's efforts by passing this information along to your family, friends, co-workers, and neighbors.

**TAX COLLECTOR'S NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given to the Taxpayers of the Town of Old Lyme that the second installment of a tax of 18.8 mills on the dollar laid on the grand list of October 1, 2010 is due January 1, 2012. Also due on that date are the supplement Motor Vehicle tax bills. Payments must be made on or before February 1, 2012 to avoid penalty. Any payment made after that date will be charged interest at the rate of 1 ½% per month going back to the due date. (February interest is 3%.) Payments may be made at the

Old Lyme Town Hall, 52 Lyme St. or mailed to the Old Lyme Tax Office, P.O. Box 482, Old Lyme, CT 06371.

*Judith A. Tooker, Tax Collector*

**THE OLD LYME TOWN POLICE AND RESIDENT STATE TROOPER** conducted a **Holiday Food Drive** at the Old Lyme Shopping Center on Halls Road. All food donated was forwarded to the Lymes Youth Service Bureau and Lymes' Senior Center.

**November 17 - January 7 at The Cooley Gallery: "Dear Santa, I Want All Paintings Great and Small."**

This special 30th anniversary holiday exhibition combines two favorite shows: All Paintings Great and Small, started 25 years ago, with Dear Santa, featuring variety and visual discoveries. Regular gallery hours are Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Cooley Gallery, 25 Lyme Street. (860)434-8807; [www.cooleygallery.com](http://www.cooleygallery.com)

**OLD LYME PHOEBE GRIFFIN NOYES LIBRARY**

2 Library Lane, Old Lyme, CT 06371  
*Mary Fiorelli, Librarian - Please consult our website at [www.oldlyme.lioninc.org](http://www.oldlyme.lioninc.org) monthly for more details and up-to-date program offerings!*

**Connecticut River Film Forum Movie Series**

**Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.**

**October 2011 – April 2012**

Welcome to the 7<sup>th</sup> year of screenings that deliver a mix of genres, including classics and award-winning films presented with enticing introductions as well as discussion and socializing afterwards! Formed by a local contingent of avid cinema aficionados and partnering with the library, the series brings acclaimed and thought-provoking films to the public. Featuring groundbreaking works or movies that "made" an actor's or director's career have been part of our winning formula! Refreshments provided. Membership fee is \$25 per person for the series of six films or \$5 per showing. To register, send your name(s), address, phone, and email address to Stanford Brainerd, Treasurer, CT River Film Forum, 6 Lyme Street, Old Lyme, CT 06371.

**January 19, 2012, Rules of the Game (1939).** Directed by Jean Renoir. A large party at a French country estate is the backdrop for a modern fable that may help to explain the start of World War II. We'll provide a program with a cast of characters to help you sort out the upstairs/downstairs personnel.

**February 16, My Darling Clementine (1946).** Directed by John Ford. Henry Fonda plays Wyatt Earp in Tombstone, Arizona. A western with a very different take on law enforcement as compared to the *French Connection*. Also starring Victor Mature and Linda Darnell.

*continued on next page*

Town News Briefs ... continued from previous page

**March 22, Nashville** (1975). Directed by Robert Altman. Expect a huge cast including Lilly Tomlin and Ned Beatty, lots of country music, some politicians and recording studio executives, and the whole Nashville scene. A giant satire recognized for the pioneering technique of overlapping dialogue.

**April 19, Chariots of Fire** (1981). Retelling the events of the 1924 Olympics running competition. Outstanding performances by Ian Charleston as a devout Protestant Divinity student and Ben Cross as a Cambridge University Jewish student facing hurdles of class prejudice and anti-Semitism while training for an historic athletic contest.

**2012 Literature for a Lifetime Book Discussion Series:**

**A Lighthearted Look at Life.** All programs are at 7 p.m. Facilitated by Marsha Bansavage. Co-sponsored by the Connecticut Humanities Council.

"Great literature is ... boring ... too heavy ... so depressing." In this four-part series a rebuttal will be offered to these observations by demonstrating that great writers can indeed see the amusing side of life and write about it well! The plays are the following:

January 9 - Noel Coward, *Blithe Spirit*

February 6 - Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman, *You Can't Take It With You*

March 5 - William Shakespeare, *Taming of the Shrew*

April - George Bernard Shaw, *Pygmalion*

**Expressions of the Artistic and Authentic Self,**

**February – June**

In collaboration with the Florence Griswold Museum, the library and museum will present a series of literary and artistic programs exploring the interrelationship between art forms created during distinct artistic movements. To coincide with the museum's exhibit: "...isms: Unlocking Art's Secrets." Dates to be announced.

**February – March Art Exhibit: Images of Old Lyme**

by students of Steve Nadler's digital photography class.

**OLD LYME PHOEBE GRIFFIN NOYES LIBRARY**

**TEEN SCENE EVENTS**

**DECEMBER**

**Teen Scene Winter Break Vacation Series:**

**Tuesday, December 27 / 2:00-4:00 p.m.**

**Teen Scene Make Your Own Candy Wreath.** Come to the Old Lyme Phoebe Griffin Noyes Library for some holiday fun! Make a holiday wreath out of candy that you can eat! Registration is required. Grades 6 and up are welcome to attend. Materials provided and snacks served.

Register online at [www.oldlyme.lioninc.org](http://www.oldlyme.lioninc.org) or by phone at 860-434-1684.

**Wednesday, December 28 / 2:00-4:00 p.m.**

**Teen Scene Movie Matinee: *The Nightmare Before Christmas*.** Rated PG. (Although it is after Christmas, we are still celebrating! For those who never thought Disney would release a film in which Santa Claus is kidnapped and tortured, well, here it is! The full title is *Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas*, which should give you an idea of the tone of this stop-action animated musical/fantasy/horror/comedy. Registration is required. Grades 6 and up are welcome to attend. Bring your own movie Snacks! Popcorn provided. Register online at [www.oldlyme.lioninc.org](http://www.oldlyme.lioninc.org) or by phone at 860-434-1684.

**Thursday, December 29 / 2:00-4:00 p.m.**

**Teen Scene Game Day!** Various board games will be available to play including many favorites such as Charades, Scategories, and HedBanz!! Come hang out with your friends and get your game on! Registration is required. Grades 6 and up are welcome to attend. Snacks will be served. Register online at [www.oldlyme.lioninc.org](http://www.oldlyme.lioninc.org) or by phone at 860-434-1684.

**JANUARY**

**Friday, January 6 7:00-9:00 p.m.**

**Teen Scene Movie Night**

Come to the library to watch a movie on the Big Screen. Check the library website for movie showings. Bring your favorite movie snacks. Popcorn provided. Grades 6 and up are welcome to attend. Registration is required. Register at [www.oldlyme.lioninc.org](http://www.oldlyme.lioninc.org) or call the library at 860-434-1684.

**Wednesday, January 11 / 2:30-4:30 p.m.**

**Teen Scene Candle Magic!**

Create a unique candle using the art of decoupage. Glue images from cards or magazine pictures onto a candle hurricane use various decorative items to make your design truly unique. Materials provided. Snacks will be served. Grades 6 and up are welcome to attend. Register online at [www.oldlyme.lioninc.org](http://www.oldlyme.lioninc.org) or call the library at 860-434-1684.

**FEBRUARY**

**Monday, February 20 / 4:00-6:00 p.m.**

**Teen Scene Movie Night**

Come to the library to watch a movie on the Big Screen. Check the library website for movie showings. Bring your favorite movie snacks. Popcorn will be provided. Grades 6 and up are welcome to attend. Registration is required. Register at [www.oldlyme.lioninc.org](http://www.oldlyme.lioninc.org) or call the library at 860-434-1684.

**Tuesday, February 21 / 2:30-4:30 p.m.**

**Teen Scene Duct Tape Madness!**

Come in to make a project of your choice with duct tape! What will you create? A cell phone case? A wallet? A headband? Materials will be provided. Grades 6 and up are welcome to attend. Snacks will be served. Registration is required. Register at [www.oldlyme.lioninc.org](http://www.oldlyme.lioninc.org) or call the library at 860-434-1684.

**Holiday Crafts and Music**

**Thursdays in December @ 10:30 a.m.**

Get out of the cold and warm yourself with music and fun crafts. Create crafts representing the winter season and various December celebrations. The program will be geared toward children ages 3-5, but younger children will be welcomed.

Registration is not required.

**Toddler Time, Jan. 9 - March 12**

**Mondays @ 10:30 - 11:00 a.m.**

Calling all toddlers...Two and three year olds will delight in listening to stories, singing songs, and making crafts. All this free fun takes place in the Community Room. Each program will last for approximately 30 minutes. Registration will enable us to contact you of any changes in the program.

**Babytime, Jan 12 - March 15**

**Thursdays @ 10:15 - 10:45 a.m.**

Introduce your baby to the library and meet new people! Activities include sharing books, singing some songs and finger-plays, and then playtime and exploration. Each program lasts approximately 30 minutes. Registration will enable us to contact you of any changes in the program.

**Pajama storytime/Lullaby Nights**

Coming this winter, details TBA.

**Fun at the Library**

After School Activities for kids in grades 3-5.

**Lego Building Contest**

**Thursday, January 12 @ 3:15 p.m.**

**Capri Sun Purses and Wallets**

**Thursday, January 26 @ 3:15 p.m.**

**Duct Tape Roses**

**Thursday, February 2, @ 3:15 p.m.**

**Game Day**

**Thursday, February 23 @ 3:15 p.m.**

For all Fun at the Library programs – Please Register. Materials will be provided. Snacks will be available. Please give information about any food intolerances.

**Other Programs:**

**Lego Mania – One Saturday a month**

**Jan. – May @ 10:00 a.m. – Noon.**

Dive into plastic containers filled with colorful building blocks and create a work of art. Have fun with our expanded Lego collection of over 3,000 Legos and 10 building mats! No registration needed. For children in kindergarten and up. Choking hazard for younger children - must have parent/guardian supervision.

**Morning Movie – Cars 2**

**Tuesday, February 21 @ 10:30 a.m.**

Recommended for ages 5 and up. Popcorn and drink will be available.

**Old Lyme Visiting Nurse Association News**

Town Nurse Linda Camarra has free influenza vaccinations available for residents age 18 and older. Her office is located in the Lymes' Senior Center at 26 Town Woods Road, Old Lyme, hours Monday and Wednesday 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday noon to 1 p.m. For residents unable to travel to the office, the nurse will make a free house call; just call 860-434-7808 to arrange a visit or with any questions. When in-home nursing or rehabilitation services are needed at the time of hospital discharge, please remember to ask for the Old Lyme Visiting Nurse Association through Interim Healthcare, the source for our accredited and licensed health care personnel for the past 25 plus years.

The Association would like to thank all the volunteers and doctors, nurses, therapists, local police personnel, and allied health professionals who participated in our annual Health & Wellness Day November 5. The event offered free screenings for vision, feet, balance, and blood pressure plus low-cost comprehensive blood tests and flu immunizations. In addition, there were informative displays and advice from practitioners concerning diet and nutrition, asthma, Lyme disease, environmental issues, emergency preparation, and other health and safety issues. Demonstrations were given for CPR and cardiac defibrillation and the Old Lyme Ambulance Association offered tours of their newest vehicle. Attendees also enjoyed Jazzercise, Karate, Reiki, and Yoga demonstrations. We present this event offering an array of public health services on the first Saturday every November. Every year we experience an increase in the members of the local community who take advantage of the services, advice, and information made available.

*We would like to thank the public for supporting our endeavors.*





## Ask the Jeweler... Wonder Gift!

My wife and I had really bad colds last week and we watched some reruns of "Wonder Years" on Netflix. We were not looking to think, especially about a lesson to be learned from each episode. One episode has stuck with us.

Young Kevin Arnold found out that Winnie Cooper, the love of his 13 year-old life, the girl who lived across the street, was moving across town. "Four miles away but seemed like the distance between New York and Paris." Kevin resolves that he will ride his bike all the way across town but also wants to give her a present, something significant.

He finds a jeweler and purchases a ring for Winnie, a gold ring with a purple stone. He spends \$9.00, a significant purchase. That purchase was important to both kids.

My parents who purchased a High School ring for me, were probably not surprised when it ended up on a chain around the neck of my high school sweetheart. The love of my life...then. Are there some of us who remember the serious business of getting or giving a Lavalier, then a Fraternity pin?

I'd like to wish you all a happy holiday season and suggest that whatever you give this year to those you care for, do what Kevin did – give something significant!

*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](mailto:dbrown@eventsmagazines.com).*

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### • Florence Griswold Museum continued from page 14 •

and must be purchased in advance by calling 860-434-5542, x 111 or online at [FlorenceGriswoldMuseum.org](http://FlorenceGriswoldMuseum.org). Celebrate the holidays in style at one of the Museum's afternoon teas prepared by Gourmet Galley, a caterer known for their delicious flavors and impeccable presentations. Teas feature a selection of signature savorys and sweets and are accompanied by "Miss Florence's Tea," a special blend from Sundial Gardens. Teas are served overlooking the picturesque Lieutenant River. The fee includes admission to the Museum and a 10% discount in the Museum Shop.

### EXHIBITIONS

Through January 29, *The Exacting Eye of Walker Evans* presents an exhibition that uses new scholarship to examine the post-Depression era work of photographer Walker Evans. Evans (1903–1975) captured a place in American social, cultural, and artistic history with his unforgettable images of the Great Depression. The photographs, particularly those of rural Southern sharecroppers, launched his career and remain among the most iconic images of American art. His work in ensuing years, however, has been largely overlooked. No other exhibition has addressed his work from the '40s through the '70s, when Evans spent in the state as a teacher at Yale and resident of Lyme.

And from February 10–June 10, ...isms: Unlocking Art's Mysteries. If you don't know your Neoclassicism from your

Impressionism, this exhibition is for you! Art historians and museums refer freely to artistic movements and styles, but do we always understand what these terms mean? This exhibition draws from the Museum's permanent collection to explain these concepts using unexpected juxtapositions across time and media.



*Breta Longacre's Still Life with Fruit Compote*

## *New Laws for Connecticut's Active-Duty Military and Veterans*

The state legislature passed quite a few bills this past session concerning Connecticut veterans and active military personnel. These laws are meant to honor their service.

This year, the legislature passed a new law (Public Act 11-3) that requires the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) to publish an informational page on its website effective July 1, 2012. The initiative is meant to be a one-stop easy reference for Connecticut veterans navigating the sometimes-confusing waters of benefits and post-service civilian life. The page must list any benefits, services, or programs that any state or federal agency, department, or institution offers for veterans or their families, including eligibility requirements.

Prior to this session, regional school boards could award high school diplomas to veterans who did not receive them because they left high school for military service, but only World War II veterans were eligible to do so. Under the new law passed this session (Public Act 11-17), they may also do so for honorably discharged veterans who served actively from June 27, 1950 to October 27, 1953 in any of the armed forces.

Another new law (Public Act 11-56) extends the Department of Motor Vehicle (DMV) commissioner's



*State Representative Marilyn Giuliano*

authority to issue special registration and veterans' license plates to active U.S. armed forces members or their surviving spouses. Current law allowed for any service member with an honorable discharge, or released under honorable

*continued on page 17*

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## LYME ART ASSOCIATION

Jan. 13 through Feb. 25th. 20th Annual Associate Artist Exhibition and A Contemporary Look. Landscape, portrait and still life paintings by Associate Artist members will be featured in the Association's front galleries. A special exhibition of contemporary representational artwork by invited artists will be on view in the Goodman Gallery. Opening reception on Friday, January 20 from 5-7 p.m. Gallery hours are Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Sunday 1-5 p.m. Admission is free but a \$5 donation is suggested. Lyme Art Association, 90 Lyme Street. (860) 434-7802; [lymeartassociation.org](http://lymeartassociation.org).

• *New Laws continued from page 16* •

conditions, to be eligible for a veteran motor vehicle license plate. This bill would extend those eligible for a veteran plate to include currently active members of the armed forces. Should the active service member be discharged in any manner that is not an honorable release, it would render him or her ineligible for the plates and require they be returned to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Also, the DMV commissioner has been given authority (Public Act 11-68) to include a person's status as a veteran on his or her state driver's license or identity card. This allows veterans to simply carry one card, their drivers' licenses or ID cards, to prove veteran status for benefits, discounts, or functions honoring veterans. Current state law allows residents 65 or older to apply for a free lifetime pass to state parks, forests, and recreational facilities. This same law extends such a benefit to veterans as well.

Veterans are not the only ones who sacrifice when they answer the call to duty. Their families are partners with them in their service. In an effort to assist families of deceased veterans, a new law (Public Act 11-49) waives the \$20 fee for one certified copy of a veteran's death certificate when the deceased veteran's spouse, child, or parent requests a copy. By law, anyone age 18 or older must pay \$20 for a copy of a death certificate from the municipality where the death occurred or from the Department of Public Health's State Office of Vital Records. Often, these death certificates could be required for family members to be eligible for certain benefits, pensions, registration, or other matters of estate relating to the deceased veteran.

If you have questions about any of these laws or about state government in general, please feel free to contact my office at 1-800-842-1423.

— State Representative Marilyn Giuliano

Rep. Giuliano represents Lyme, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook and coastal Westbrook in the Connecticut General Assembly.

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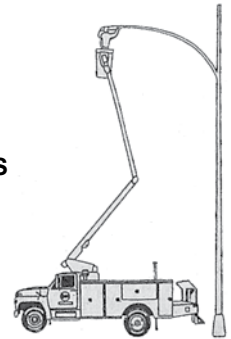
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## The Size-Up

Winter is here, and we at the Old Lyme Fire Department hope you are enjoying the season and all of the merriment that goes along with Christmas and the holidays. While there is plenty to celebrate, it is our goal to insure that you have as safe a time as possible. Here are a few reminders that will help accomplish that purpose.

### Portable Heaters

- Put at least three feet of empty space between the heater and everything else.
- Vacuum and clean the dust and lint from all heaters.
- If the cord gets hot, frayed, or cracked, have the heater serviced.
- Never use extension cords with portable electric heaters.
- Turn off portable heaters when leaving or sleeping.
- An adult should always be present when anyone is using a space heater around children.
- Make sure your portable electric heater is UL approved and has a tip-over shut-off function.

### Woodstove and Fireplace Safety

- Have a certified chimney sweep clean and inspect your fireplace.
- Place ashes outdoors in a covered metal container at least three feet away from anything that burns.
- To prevent flue fires, burn dry, well-seasoned wood.
- Always use a fireplace screen made of sturdy metal or heat-tempered glass.

### Generators

Carbon monoxide (CO) is an invisible killer. You cannot

see or smell it. A generator's exhaust contains poisonous CO, which can kill you in a matter of minutes. Follow these important generator safety tips:

- Never use a portable generator inside a home, garage, shed, or other partially enclosed space, even if doors and windows are open.
- Place portable generators outside only, far away from the home. Keep the generator away from openings to the home, including doors, windows, and vents.
- Read the label on the generator and the owner's manual, and follow the instructions.
- Install CO alarms with battery backup in the home outside each sleeping area.
- Get to fresh air immediately if you start to feel sick, weak, or dizzy. CO poisoning from exposure to generator exhaust can quickly lead to incapacitation and death.
- Be sure generator fuel is properly and safely stored.
- Always refuel the generator outdoors and away from any ignition sources.
- If you choose to have a generator permanently connected to your home's electrical system, make sure a licensed electrician installs it, and be sure to notify your electric company.

### Candles

- Place candles in sturdy, fireproof candleholders where they cannot be knocked over.
- Make sure all candles are out before going to bed or leaving the house.
- Keep candles, matches, and lighters out of children's reach.
  - Keep candles away from Christmas trees, evergreen clippings, decorations, presents, and wrapping paper.

### Smoke Alarms and Home Escape Plans

- Install smoke alarms outside each sleeping area and in each bedroom.
- Test and vacuum your smoke alarms each month to make sure they are working.
- Smoke alarms ten years old or older need to be replaced with new units.
- Know two ways out of every room.
- Practice your escape plan with your whole family at least twice a year.

Until next time, stay safe out there and we will see you in 2012!

— Firefighter John J. Cody,  
OLFD Public Affairs Officer

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# OLD LYME NEWCOMERS' GUIDE

## Welcome to Old Lyme!

On behalf of *Events Magazines*, welcome to Old Lyme. Whether you are new to Connecticut or just new to Old Lyme you will find wonderful people and places to visit in town. From the Old Lyme Midsummer Festival to the Holiday Tree Lighting & Carol Sing, Old Lyme 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

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 LYME MUNICIPAL AGENT FOR THE  
 ELDERLY . . . . . (860) 434-7733  
 SENIOR CENTER. . . . . (860) 434-4127  
 LYME TREE WARDEN . . . . . (860) 434-5675  
 OLD LYME VISITING NURSE. . . . . (860) 434-7808  
 OLD LYME HISTORICAL SOCIETY . . . . . (860) 434-0684  
 9 TOWN TRANSIT . . . . . (860) 510-0429  
 LYME/OLD LYME CHAMBER  
 OF COMMERCE . . . . . (860) 464-7373  
 LYME/OLD LYME JR WOMEN'S CLUB . . . . . (860) 501-9773  
 DEMOCRATIC TOWN COMMITTEE . . . . . (860) 434-2271  
 REPUBLICAN TOWN COMMITTEE . . . . . (860) 434-0740  
 LYME ART ASSOCIATION . . . . . (860) 434-7802

#### SCHOOLS

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE DISTRICT 18 . . (860) 434-7238  
 MILE CREEK SCHOOL . . . . . (860) 434-2209  
 CENTER SCHOOL . . . . . (860) 434-7838  
 MIDDLE SCHOOL . . . . . (860) 434-2568  
 LYME/OLD LYME HIGH SCHOOL . . . . . (860) 434-1651  
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 SOUTHERN EXPOSURE. . . . . (860) 399-4445

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9 TOWN TRANSIT . . . . . (860) 510-0429

Want to be listed on the Newcomers' page?

Call Diane Brown at (860) 383-6376

## Photography – My Passion!

I realized I had a passion for photography when my father gave me my first digital camera at 7 years old. Before long, I was running around the house photographing everything in sight. As might be expected for a youngster, my earliest photography work featured multiple albums of cat portraits that I gave to my parents as gifts.

Years later, my experience in animal photography paid off when I became the Animal and Event Photographer at High Hopes Therapeutic Riding Center in Old Lyme. In addition

to continuing my services to High Hopes, I am also being trained at Kate Mercer Photography in Mystic, Connecticut as a professional Wedding Photographer and volunteer at the non-profit organization B.O.M.B. Fest in Old Lyme, by photographing their events.

I am so honored that *Events Magazines* asked me to represent Old Lyme by selecting one of my photographs for the 3rd quarter cover!

— Daisy Winkel

## Chamber Update

An exciting new year for the Lyme-Old Lyme Chamber began on September 15 at Cherrystones. Old Lyme author/Smithsonian contributor Dick Conniff was our featured speaker.

Also in September, we welcomed pets & their owners (in splendid costumes) to our 3rd Annual Pet Parade. Thanks to Lynn Farrell of Help With a Heart, LLC for organizing this fun afternoon. Thanks also to all who donated time, prizes, & services to the event: All Pro Tire, Inc.; Andy's Deli & Market; Big Y; Cherrystone's; The Chocolate Shell; Lemon 'n Lyme; Florence Griswold Museum; Help with a Heart; The Hideaway; Illiano's; Lyme-Old Lyme Lions Club; Old Lyme Veterinary

Hospital, LLC; Pizzeria DaVinci; Snap Fitness; Webster Bank; Keith Campbell; Susan Fontanello; John Kashanski; Susan McCawley; Jennifer McConnelly; Chris Monday; Judith St. George; Colette & Brien Strizzi; and Rudy Wood-Miller.

October & November were packed with special events: our first-ever Business After Hours hosted by High Hopes & sponsored by Essex Printing; a Business After Hours hosted by Lemon 'n Lyme & sponsored by Sheila Wertheimer and her Connecticut Valley Camera Club; our first Business Roundtable discussion on Health Care Reform and Medicare legislation, led by Kurt Zemba of RMB Insurance; and Meet the Candidates sessions for candidates for Board of Selectmen and Board of Education.

The thousands of visitors who came to see "Of Feather & Fairy Tales" at the Florence Griswold Museum received a bonus this year – 15 businesses on Lyme Street and Halls Road created their own birdhouse displays. Participating businesses were Bee & Thistle Inn, Diane Birdsall Gallery, Bring Our Music Back, The Chocolate Shell, The Cooley Gallery, Garvin Studio, Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts, Old Lyme Ice Cream Shoppe, Vitality Spa, The Bowerbird, Bridge Gardens, The Hideaway, Lemon 'n Lyme, Pizzeria DaVinci, and The Woman's Exchange.

Olwen Logan, editor/publisher of LymeLine.com was our featured speaker at our November dinner meeting at Cherrystones. Also in November, local authors Steve Burt, James Benn, and Marilyn Nelson read from recent works at our 2nd *Literary Life in the Lymes* event, co-hosted with the Old Lyme Phoebe Griffin Noyes Library and sponsored by Essex Savings Bank and LymeLine.com.

Celebrate the holiday season with us in December: caroling & special activities at the OL Marketplace and on Lyme Street on Saturday & Sunday, December 10 & 11; and our traditional Holiday Dinner at Cherrystones on Thursday, December 15.

If you're already looking forward to the new year, please mark these dates on your calendar:

Thursday, January 19	Business After Hours at Lyme Academy College
Thursday, February 16	Dinner TBA

*continued on page 21*



**Daisy Winkel**

Freelance Photography  
Old Lyme, CT

**203-906-6146**

E-mail: Dsyflw2@Aol.com



## Thank You

The Board of Directors of the Lymes' Senior Center would like to thank the sponsors who contributed to making Thursday evenings in July at the Center the place to be for good music and entertainment by an assortment of musicians.

The sponsors who contributed to the series were Shoreline Sanitation, Reynolds Garage & Marine, All Pro Automotive, Interim Health Services, Town of Lyme, Old Lyme Democratic Town Committee and Old Lyme Republican Town Committee.

Music was provided by CT Bristol Old Tyme Fiddlers, String of Pearls, Waterford Community Band and the Old Lyme Town Band.

In addition we thank the following businesses: Hallmark Drive-In, Old Lyme Ice Cream Shoppe, South Lyme Scoop Shop and Salem Valley Farms for providing ice cream for sundaes.

A special thank you to Christy Babcock and Wayne Kopec for volunteering their time.

Thank you, music lovers, for making the series such a success. Please remember the local merchants who made Thursdays in July possible.

— Board of Directors, Lymes' Senior Center

• **Florence Griswold Museum continued from page 20** •

Thursday, March 15	Business After Hours at Florence Griswold Museum
Thursday, April 19	Dinner TBA
Thursday, May 17	Business After Hours TBA
Thursday, June 21	Annual Dinner Meeting at Cherrystones


Finally, please don't forget our CMRK clothing bins as you clean out your closets: at Shoreline Mowers on Shore Road, behind the Bowerbird, at the CVTS building at 151 Boston Post Rd- next to Oriental Café- and behind the Lyme Fire House.

Our Lyme-Old Lyme Chamber membership is diverse: both brand new & well-established businesses of all sizes & types - gift shops, galleries, restaurants, convenience stores, & more; non-profits, attorneys, contractors, physicians, retirees, etc. We need ideas, energy, and assistance from all our members. We want our Chamber to be a vibrant organization, responsive to the needs of our business community.

If you are interested in becoming more involved in Chamber activities, please let us know. And, if you are not a member yet, please consider joining us – membership is still only \$40. Applications are available online at [www.lolcc.com](http://www.lolcc.com). Don't forget: BUY LOCAL!

— Catherine Frank, Lyme Old Lyme Chamber of Commerce President

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# WARM THE CHILDREN

Providing New Winter Clothing For Needy Children

**The need is great this year. In the Valley Shore, needy children will go cold this winter without your help.** The Warm the Children Fund is neighbor helping neighbor. *Events Magazines* and the Old Saybrook Rotary Foundation are asking readers to donate to the fund, and all proceeds will be used to buy new winter clothing for needy area children. This is the 19<sup>th</sup> Warm the Children campaign. Children who benefit from the program live in Essex, Chester, Deep River, Lyme, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook and Westbrook. Social service agencies in each town will work with coordinators Walt Osborne and Jason Smith, assisted by John Donnelly, Ken Roche, Bret Taylor, Bill O’Shaughnessy and Stephen Brinkmann. The coordinators will make arrangements with Wal-Mart in Old Saybrook and assign Volunteer Shoppers to take the families shopping for their winter clothing. Shoppers are local residents who want to help out by donating their time for this worthwhile cause.

As donations are received, volunteer shoppers are asked to call a family to set up a shopping trip to Wal-Mart. Shoppers then meet the family at the store and assist in picking out approximately \$90 worth of clothing per child. All \$90 is spent on clothing whether it be coats, hats, gloves, mittens, boots or winter clothing. There are no administrative costs of any kind.

Simply complete the coupon and send it to the address on the coupon. All donations are tax deductible.



Enclosed is my donation to the  
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## 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](http://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.

**YOU'VE GOT MAIL!** - Be the first to know what is happening by getting our newsletter emailed to you. No more postal delays, winter address changes, or trying to find the newsletter to confirm a date for the great free class or seminar. Go to [www.ecsenior.org](http://www.ecsenior.org) and click on the newsletter icon to follow the link and sign up. Then email us to remove you from the mailing list.

**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.

**MASSAGE THERAPY AT THE ESTUARY:** Weds. from 10 a.m. to noon. Massage is one of the oldest forms of healing. Soothe anxiety and depression, increase joint mobility, and help with chronic pain, to name just a few of the benefits. Call

Sarah at 860-710-1330 with questions or for an appointment. Sarah has been busy, so don't wait to make your appointment.

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

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

Happy Holidays  
from  
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## Seniors Getting Fit at the Saybrook at Haddam

Walking, lifting weights, stretching, rowing, biking...the list of fun things seniors do today to stay physically fit keeps growing. In fact, "working out" is becoming a bigger part of daily life for today's senior citizen, and the benefits are piling up. Seniors who work some level of physical fitness into their routines are taking positive, proactive steps to maintain (or even improve) their quality of life. Regular exercise builds muscle -which can be accomplished at every stage of life. Stronger muscles allow seniors to be more self-sufficient and manage daily tasks on their own.

Regular exercise helps keep seniors "in balance" and flexible, which, in turn, helps them avoid falls and injuries that can lead to greater complications. It also increases endorphins, improves cardiovascular health, and helps lower blood pressure - which all contribute to improved overall wellbeing. Senior often find themselves socializing more by taking group exercise or workout classes, or by simply going on walks with friends.

Daily exercise does not have to be a formal process. Many seniors find themselves getting a lot of exercise simply by their circumstance. For instance, if they live in a community such as The Saybrook at Haddam, they walk back and forth to their dining room three times a day, and they walk to activities, to the in-house hair dresser, to meet up with friends, and for



*Residents at The Saybrook at Haddam (l-r: Bill Wassell, Harry Archambault, and Marian Marston) enjoy the new gym, where they use exercise machines to stay physically fit.*

many other purposes throughout each day. They always have the option to take stairs instead of the elevator, giving them even more of a workout. In nice weather, many residents and their guests enjoy walking outdoors.

The Saybrook at Haddam recently added a new gym so residents can really build muscle and tone their bodies. Those who would like to use the gym receive individualized training on each of the different pieces of equipment - which include

*continued on page 25*



## Unmatched Value in Senior Living is Closer Than You Think!

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## Town Hall Provides Life Skills Experience

Cathy Frank, assistant to the First Selectman, has been working with Leslie O'Connor, Special Education teacher of Lyme-Old Lyme High School, to expand the school's Life Skills Program to include a community-based vocational experience.

Kelly and Taylor have been working with Cathy to assist with the conversion of paper files to the new electronic system. The job has been in place since May and has significant advantages for both the town hall and the students. The students benefit as they are afforded the opportunity to work on essential social and communication, vocational, and executive functioning skills, which are critical to future endeavors. The town hall staff is central to the implementation and is proud and privileged to work with some of our community's most exceptional people. The Bee and Thistle Inn has also provided community-based work experiences for the Life Skills students.

To learn more or to inquire about providing opportunities to the Life Skills Program, email Leslie at the school at loconnor@Region18.org, or call 860-434-1651, ext. 1104.

• *Seniors Getting Fit continued from page 24* •

weight machines, rowing machines, and self-propelled treadmills. The walls of our gym are lined with mirrors so residents can watch their posture and be sure they are using the machines correctly. We placed treadmills facing our large windows that overlook the courtyard so everyone can take in the roses in the summer, the foliage in the fall, and the picturesque snow in the winter (while staying warm inside!). The gym is open all day long, so residents are able to create



*Marian Marston uses the rowing machine while Bill Wassell and Harry Archambault make use of weight machines.*

*Laid back nights, small plates, chilled martinis...*

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their own exercise regime into any time of day - in addition to enjoying our daily morning stretch and exercise classes.

Our residents are surprised to find themselves in better shape than they were before moving into our community. They don't realize the level of physical activity they take on each day, but they certainly notice how great they feel. That is why we encourage as much movement and engagement as possible. Their families, too, are happy to see their loved ones getting exercise and staying active.

Most important to us, we want residents to enjoy their hobbies and interests, do more with their children and grandchildren, and have the best quality of life possible. We know physically fit seniors have a more positive outlook on life, as they are able to be more independent longer. To put it simply, they are having more fun with their lives. And that is our hope for every senior!

— Kathy Ryan, Executive Director,  
The Saybrook at Haddam

### Town Hall Hours

Monday - Friday: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Ph: 860-434-1605 • Fx: 860-434-1400



## A Valley Shore YMCA Membership Saved My Life

The mission of the Valley Shore YMCA is to develop and encourage the growth of all individuals in Spirit, Mind and Body, in an atmosphere of mutual respect. This means different things to four generations of women in my family. To our six year old granddaughter, it means showing her family that she can swim independently, without a bubble. To her mother and aunt, the Y means swim and gymnastics lessons, as well as summer camp and teenage employment. To her great grandmother, the YMCA means mastering the mind-over-matter challenge of learning to swim in her 70s, despite a lifelong fear of being in water over her head.

I have enjoyed regular exercise at the Valley Shore Y for four decades, where I am a member of our local Board of Directors. I have also been influenced by the world community leadership of the YMCA, with its ability to connect people across the world and train them for community leadership and social service.

I recently experienced a health crisis which served to underscore the mutual importance of the three worlds of mind, body and spiritual health. I contracted a bacterial staphylococcal infection, for which my medical team could not find a cause. The infection rapidly spread to my heart and my brain. Treatment required three surgeries and intravenous antibiotics to stem the infection. My cardiologist informed my family that there is a 40% mortality rate

associated with endocarditis, and that the risk of three surgeries boosted that rate exponentially.

But one week after the surgeries, I was alive and lucid. Clinicians from other medical specialties (internal medicine, infectious disease, neurology, orthopedics, and ENT) joined my cardiology team and treated me over the next month. Three weeks at a rehabilitation facility followed the hospitalization. Although there are many unanswered questions about the cause of the staph infection, there was universal consensus about WHY I survived the ordeal. All agreed that my state of health enabled me to endure the surgeries and fight the infection. The recurring comment from the medical community was that "I did not look like my chart"; I seemed stronger than my records indicated.

The fitness I have acquired at the YMCA and often take for granted provided the strength to survive the surgeries and jumpstart a return to health. "Mind" and "spirit" components also formed a net that carried me through the pain and worry of losing my health. The strength of my family, friends and YMCA colleagues prevailed whenever I had doubts about recovery. I am now enjoying regular, although modified workouts at the Valley Shore YMCA. My cardiologist predicts that I will "return to baseline", eventually resuming normal activities.

My granddaughter learned to swim at the YMCA, and my daughters formed life-long connections with the Y. My mother-in-law conquered her fear of water at the Y. And I reclaimed my appreciation for the mind-body-spirit power of the YMCA. Thanks, Y colleagues, for supporting so much more than my physical recovery alone.

— Kathleen C. Laundry, PsyD, LMFT

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## Gift Wines for the Holidays

Choosing wines for the holidays can be difficult whether it be for a family meal or a present for a friend. The first thing you need to know is whether they would prefer a red, white or sparkling wine. Then you need to know their style preference; dry, fruity, sweet, acidic, soft on the palate or big and bold. Here are some basic examples for picking a wine.

Starting with white wines, if you are looking for something fruity your best bet would be a Chenin Blanc or a Riesling. When buying a Riesling you should know that the grapes are picked at different times which can alter the sweetness of the wine. For a drier Riesling choose a Kabinett which is the earliest pick. For a medium-sweet wine you should try a Spatlese, and for the sweetest Riesling choose an Auslese which stays on the vine longer and therefore has the highest residual sugar. If you are looking for a fuller white Chardonnay is the way to go. They tend to be rich and buttery since they are usually aged in oak, although some are fermented in stainless steel which allows for a cleaner more crisp Chardonnay. If you are looking for a drier and lighter white both Sauvignon Blanc and Pinot Grigio are right up that alley.

When looking for red wines French Beaujolais and California Merlots tend to have more forward fruit and have lighter finishes. The lightest reds would be Pinot Noir and Cotes-du-Rhone which have plenty of flavor but sit lightly on the tongue and have very smooth finishes. The most robust

reds would be Cabernet Sauvignon and Red Zinfandel from California, as well as French Bordeaux and Italian Barolo and Brunello. These wines are bursting with flavor and have a lot of complexity.

If you prefer sparkling wine there are many to choose from: French Champagne, Italian Prosecco or Spanish Cava to name a few. Champagne tends to be more complex and is usually priced higher than Prosecco and Cava which are usually priced under twenty dollars.

These are of course just a few generalized examples to work with. Sometimes it is difficult to know what to choose when buying for someone else. Come visit our knowledgeable staff to find the perfect dinner-pairing or gift wine. We are here to assist you in making this holiday season a success!

— Art Lipuma, Manager, SeaSide Wine & Spirits

**Deadline for the next issue of**  
**OLD LYME EVENTS**  
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