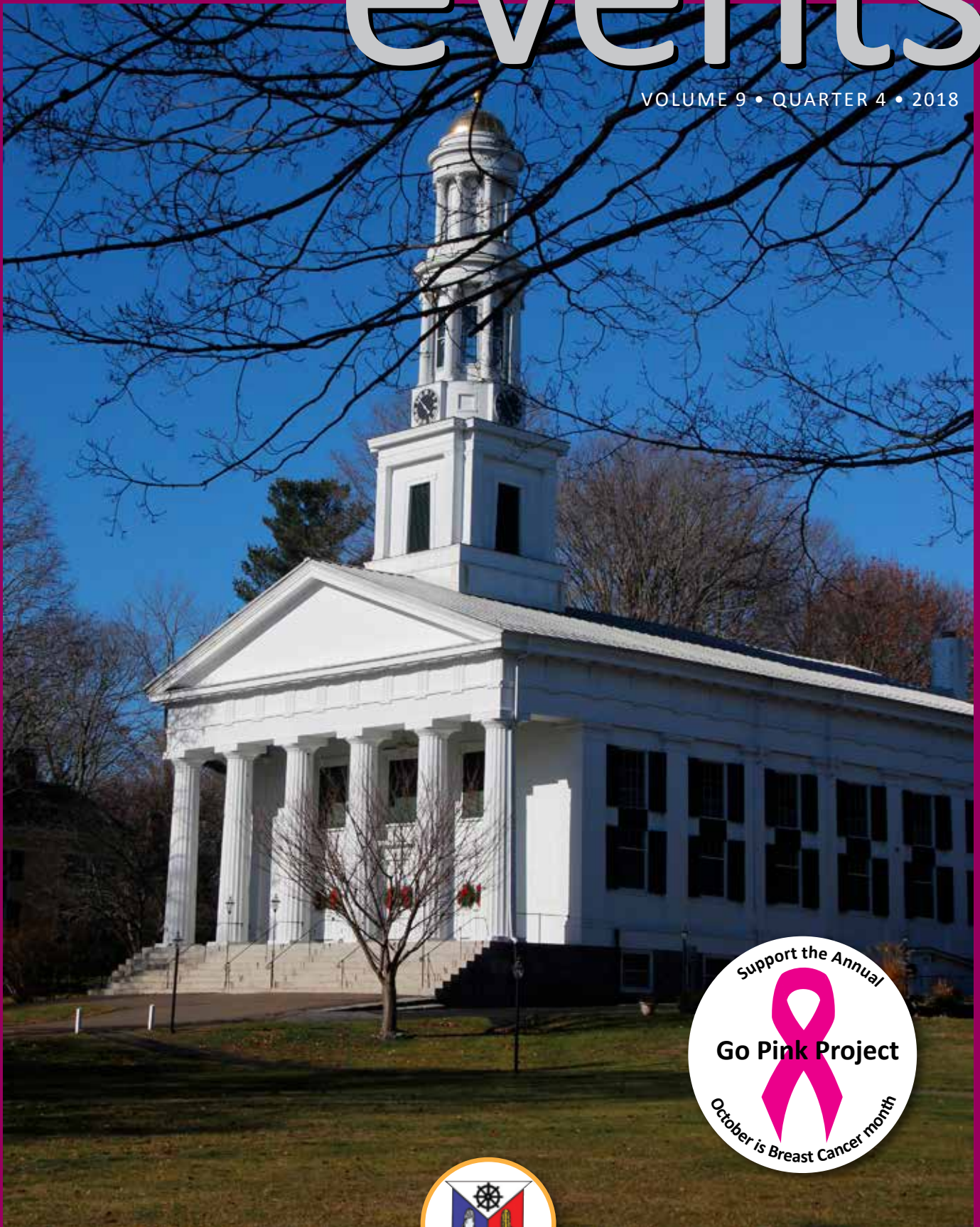


# Madison events

VOLUME 9 • QUARTER 4 • 2018



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# The First Selectman's Corner

## Trunk or Treat

Madison's annual Trunk or Treat will take place on Halloween - Wednesday, October 31 from 4:00 – 6:00 pm on the Madison Green (no rain date). Sponsored by the Town of Madison, the Department of Police Services, and the Madison Chamber of Commerce, this annual event is anticipated by children and adults alike. Decorated car trunks are welcome, and hundreds of costumed children are expected.

Residents or businesses planning to bring a vehicle to hand out treats **MUST** be in place on the Green no later than 3:45. Please enter from the Meetinghouse Lane side (NOT the Post Road side), and feel free to decorate your trunk/vehicle for Halloween. Trick or treaters may arrive any time after 4:00. All children at the Trunk or Treat must be accompanied by an adult.

The winner of the Chamber of Commerce's "Scarecrows Invade Madison" Contest will be announced at Trunk or Treat!

## Holiday Festivities

There are lots of things to do during the upcoming holiday season. On Friday evening, November 30, we will have the Tree Lighting on the Madison Green, sponsored by the

Madison Beach and Recreation Dept. Starting at dusk, there will be caroling and holiday songs with summertime favorite Larry Stevens.

We can count on a "surprise" visit from Santa, who will join in the fun.

Speaking of Santa, he'll be back again on Sunday, December 2 from 2:00 pm until everyone has had the chance to talk to him. He'll be at the porch of Café Allegre in downtown Madison. Activities downtown begin at noon and the fun lasts all afternoon with hayrides, Santa visits, storytelling and displays of gingerbread houses. Later that afternoon is the ABC Annual Concert starting at 4:30 pm at the First Congregational Church on the Green.

Tom Banisch  
First Selectman



Tom Banisch, First Selectman

An advertisement for Saybrook Home. The background is a photograph of a man and a woman sitting on a dark blue sofa in a living room. They are both smiling and looking at a magazine or book together. The man is wearing a blue jacket and jeans, and the woman is wearing a grey top and blue jeans. There are white coffee cups on a coffee table in front of them. In the background, there is a framed picture on the wall and a round clock. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

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# events

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email: [print@essexprinting.com](mailto:print@essexprinting.com)  
[www.essexprinting.com](http://www.essexprinting.com)

### PUBLISHER

William E. McMinn

### LAYOUT & AD DESIGN

Kathy Alsop  
Lynne Hardt

### COVER EDITOR

AC Proctor 860-767-9087

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## Go Pink Project

You can support women facing breast cancer in our community this October through the goPINK Project! Since 2010, local businesses, salons, schools and teams have raised over \$185,000 to help cover the costs of integrative medicine therapy for over 1,000 patients at Middlesex Hospital Cancer Center. Integrative medicine is a complement to conventional cancer treatment that focuses on the whole person – mind, body and spirit. Patients choose from yoga, Reiki, massage, reflexology, meditation and more, which are available at Middlesex Hospital Cancer Center in Middletown and Westbrook. And don't forget the goPINK Shoreline Party, taking place at the Scotch Plains Tavern in Essex (October 23) from 5:00 to 7:00 pm (tickets sold at Scotch Plains Tavern). To learn more visit [gopinkproject.com](http://gopinkproject.com).

## Attention Madison Veterans & Families

The Town of Madison has established a Veterans' Advisory Committee, which is now available to you as a resource for questions and concerns. This is a result of a requirement by the State of Connecticut. You can contact The Veterans' Advisory Committee through the Madison Town Clerk's office. Please call 203-245-5672 for any needed assistance. Your request will then be referred to a committee member who will contact you. (If you have an emergency situation, please contact 911.) All communications are confidential. Thank you for your service. We look forward to working with you.

## Annual WALK for Vista

The annual WALK for Vista fundraising event hosted by Vista Life Innovations - a post-secondary program supporting the personal success of individuals with disabilities - returns to Madison Oct. 28. Open to people of all ages and abilities, the walk takes participants through Madison's beautiful downtown and coastal neighborhoods. This dog-friendly event also features raffle giveaways, team prizes and entertainment. Members of the community are invited to participate in this impactful event benefitting Vista's programs and services, as well as the Ed Gallant Scholarship Fund, which provides scholarship opportunities to Vista students and members. To register for the WALK, visit [www.vistalifeinnovations.org/walk](http://www.vistalifeinnovations.org/walk). All participants receive a WALK for Vista T-shirt. For questions about the event, contact Malley O'Shea at 860-399-8080 ext. 227 or [moshea@vistalifeinnovations.org](mailto:moshea@vistalifeinnovations.org).





12 Holly Park Rd, Madison \$995,000



875 Boston Post Rd, Madison \$619,000



820 Green Hill Rd, Madison \$325,000



64 Lee Way, Madison \$569,000



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14 Sylvan Rd, Madison \$449,000



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103 Nursery Ln, Madison \$510,000



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## Madison Land Conservation Trust

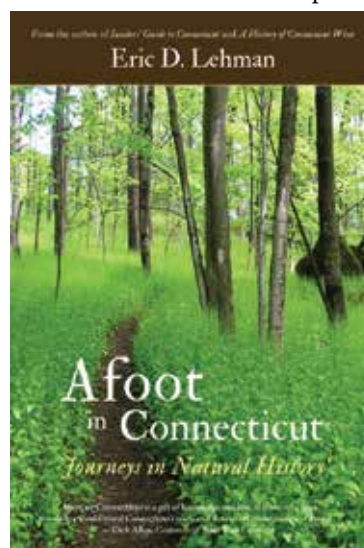
Friday, November 9, 7:00 pm - MLCT Annual Meeting,  
North Madison Congregational Church

### "Afoot in Connecticut"

Guest speaker Eric D. Lehman, an Associate Professor of English at the University of Bridgeport, is the author of eleven books about Connecticut, including the "Insiders' Guide to Connecticut," and "Connecticut Vanguard." His book, "Afoot in Connecticut" is a love letter to our often overlooked state, an inspirational story that will have you taking to the trails and the greenways, along the beaches and mountaintops,



Eric Lehman will speak about his book at the Madison Land Trust annual meeting.



and into a land full of transformation, of beauty, and of strength. In his talk he will discuss how he fell in love with the natural beauty of our state by walking the paths and trails, and share some of his most interesting adventures. He will also discuss ideas about using our small size and trail network to our advantage, and how local groups like the Madison Land Trust can help.

Visit [www.madisonlandtrust.org](http://www.madisonlandtrust.org) for more information.

## Ski Bus Program

Madison Beach and Recreation's Ski Bus program is now taking registrations. Ski bus is open to Madison students in grades 7 through 12.

We travel to Mount Southington immediately after school dismissal on Tuesday nights beginning on January 15th for 5 weeks. There are options to ski or snowboard with lessons, rentals or both.

Cost starts at \$247 and includes lift tickets and motor coach transportation. Detailed information is available on our website. [www.madisonct.org/recreation](http://www.madisonct.org/recreation). For more questions please email Carrie at [gazdac@madisonct.org](mailto:gazdac@madisonct.org) or call 203-245-5622.

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# Exciting Happenings for the Scranton Library Friends

The Scranton Library Friends are announcing the first in a series of three concerts featuring the award-winning Sorelle Allegre duet, Claire and Aimee Chang, playing violin and piano.

Claire and Aimee are two exceptional Madison teens who are sharing their talent and love of music with our community, and with the hope of making up some of the funding removed from the Library's budget this year. A ten dollar donation is welcomed.

You don't want to miss this holiday event so mark your calendars now for the first concert featuring holiday music in this remarkable colonial setting. Sunday, December 16, 2018 at 2 pm at the First Congregational Church of Madison, 26 Meetinghouse Lane.

These concerts are sponsored by the Scranton Library Friends and will be followed by a reception and an oppor-

tunity to meet the artists. Thank you to the First Congregational Church of Madison for generously providing the venue.

Change of location and Book/Tag Sale dates. Scranton Library construction has dictated a new location and timing for the traditional "Book Sale." Donations may be left in the cabinet located at 114 A Bradley Road, Madison. Look for the signs directing you to the house behind the Tuxis Laundromat. The Friends will be accepting donations of gently used paperbacks and hard cover books, fiction and non-fiction, CDs, DVDs, and textbooks. The driveway to the left of the Laundromat leads to the collection cabinet.

Our first of three Book/Tag Sales will happen on Friday and Saturday, December 7th and 8th, between 9 am and 4 pm, at 114 A Bradley Road. Please park near the street in the area indicated and walk to the white cottage using the driveway.



Claire and Aimee Chang

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Saturday: 9:00 am-5:00 pm

## Fall Invasives

*A society grows great when old men plant trees whose shade they know they shall never sit in.* - Greek Proverb

Many years ago when I did not know better I would make an adventure out of going out to forage bittersweet for my fall decorating. Now I cringe at the thought! Why? Because even though the vines and orange berries seem like the perfect fall décor they are extremely invasive and are a serious threat to our environment.

When referring to invasive bittersweet we are talking about oriental bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*). This is a non-native species that was brought over from Asia in the mid-1800s and has become one of the most rampant invasive species in North America. Its vines can kill large trees and damage structures and fences. American bittersweet (*Celastrus scandens*) is a native species, indigenous to North America. At first glance it appears similar to its aggressive look alike. But do not be fooled. Most of the bittersweet we see overtaking fields and forests is the invasive oriental species. In fact, American bittersweet is being overtaken by the non-native oriental species and is becoming rare.

The problem with cutting oriental bittersweet and using it for decorating is that the seeds drop and spread as the vines are handled. Birds and chipmunks eat the berries you have so nicely provided in your decoration and then plain and simple those seeds are spread out the other end through poop. What should you do with these vines and berries? You should pull them if you can or cut them before the berries form or at least while they are still green. Then put them in a black plastic bag and put them in the garbage. Young seedlings can be found by the hundreds and are easy to pull. It's best to get them while you can at this stage. They are easy to distinguish with their bright orange root.

Another fall thug is burning bush (*Euonymus alatus*). Burning bush is a non-native plant that also came over from Asia in the mid-1800s. It is a woody deciduous shrub is admired for its brilliant red fall color. This is another example of a plant that was widely used by landscape designers before realizing it would later become an invasive problem. Though the versatility and habit of burning bush makes it tempting to use from a design standpoint, it is on the Connecticut invasive list and should NOT be planted. If you notice seedlings on your property the best thing to do is pull them.

This fall when you are decorating and planting, make choices that will make the world a better place for future generations.

Melissa Blundon - CANP, AOLCP  
Madison Earth Care



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**Upcoming Classes at Bauer Park**  
**Madison's Agricultural and Environmental Center**  
 257 Copse Road

**DIGGING DINOSAURS**

Saturday, November 3  
 10:00-11:30 am

Become a paleontologist and dig for "fossils" along with making your own to take home. Learn some dinosaur facts like how big they might have been, how they moved, and how to tell the plant-eaters from the meat-eaters. For ages 3-5, accompanied by an adult. \$11

**LOBSTER LAB**

Thursday, November 15  
 4:00-5:30 pm

Meet a live lobster and get to know this amazing crustacean. What do lobsters eat, how do they move, and why are some blue? Class includes a story, craft and hands-on exploration. Meets at the Surf Club. For ages 6-9. \$14

**THE WONDER OF WATER**

Saturday, November 17

10:00-11:30 am

It may be too cold to go swimming outside, but discovering the wonders of water is never out of season. As we do some fun experiments and make a craft, we will learn a few interesting facts about water. For ages 3-5, accompanied by an adult. \$11

**FASCINATING FISHES**

Saturday, December 8

10:00-11:30 am

Fish have all sorts of adaptations to help them survive in their aquatic environments. Learn about some cool ways that fish eat, protect themselves and maneuver through their habitats. Make a festive holiday fish to take home. For ages 3-5, accompanied by an adult. \$11

**SQUID FOR KIDS**

Thursday, December 13

4:00-5:30 pm

Explore the mysteries of this magnificent mollusk! Discover how squid eat, move and change color, then try writing with their pen and ink. Class includes a story, craft and hands-on exploration. Meets at the Surf Club. For ages 6-9. \$14

**ELECTRIFYING ENERGY**

Thursday, January 10

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### COOL NIGHTS

Saturday, January 12  
10:00-11:30 am

The crisp, clear nights of winter are a great time for viewing the night sky. Hear how some "creatures" ended up among the stars and create your own constellation. Eat your way through the phases of the moon and make craters in the "moon sand." Entire class will take place inside. For ages 3-5, accompanied by an adult. \$11

Visit [www.madisonct.org/recreation](http://www.madisonct.org/recreation) for registration and more information. Questions? Call 203-245-5623.

Learn about upcoming events at Bauer Park at: [www.facebook.com/bauerparkmadisonct](http://www.facebook.com/bauerparkmadisonct).

Educational programs can be arranged for school, scout and community groups at Bauer Park, Rockland Preserve and the town beaches. Contact the Beach & Recreation Office at 203-245-5623 for more information.



## Madison Senior Center

Madison Senior Services offers many activities and programs including exercise classes, bocce, crafts, bridge lessons, discussion groups, concerts, safe driving courses, Shoreline Institute for Lifelong Learning, bus tours, day trips, and much more. Programs and services are available to all Madison senior citizens.

View our newsletter at [www.madisoc.org/seniors](http://www.madisoc.org/seniors) to find out all that is planned.

Here is a sampling of upcoming trips:

### CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Established in 1825, the Connecticut Historical Society is the state's official historical society and one of the oldest in the nation. The CHS houses a museum, library, and the Edgar F. Waterman Research Center that are open to the public and funded by private contributions. The CHS's collection includes more than 4 million manuscripts, graphics, books, artifacts, and other historical materials accessible at our campus and on loan at other organizations.

continued on page 10



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**Madison Senior Center... continued from page 9**

We will take the CHS Overview Guided Tour which will give us a general introduction. It includes background about the CHS, the collection, the building, and an overview of our permanent exhibitions. After our tour we will have time to visit the Museum Shop before going to lunch on your own at First and Last Tavern. Wed., October 31st, depart at 10 am. Fee \$ 12.

**AMERICA'S STORY - A JOURNEY THROUGH AMERICA'S PAST**

An interactive series of seminars about the history of the United States of America. America's story will be related in a series of hour-long seminars focused on the key events, as well as the persons whose life, work, and achievements shaped its destiny. The story will begin with the Age of Exploration and cover all important milestones in American history up to the election of 1860 (Abraham Lincoln's first term). A particular focus will be placed upon the socio-political, philosophic, economic and religious movements, both internal and external, which contributed to the cultural development of the United States.

The first semester will cover the time up to about 1700. Convener: Philip D. Restifo. Mr. Restifo has had a life-long personal interest in and passion for both American and

European history. In the storyteller's style, he brings to life historical events as part and parcel of a complex tapestry originated in the past, but which continues to be woven in contemporary times. The discussion group will meet on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month and continue through June. Friday, Oct. 26th at 10:30 am. Fee: \$15.

**NEWPORT PLAYHOUSE "SYLVIA" THURSDAY, NOV. 8**

Established in 1983, the Newport Playhouse, a family operated business, has been a favorite with locals and tourists ever since it opened. Enjoy a very unique experience where you will have a buffet lunch, then enter into their theatre to see "Sylvia," followed by a fun-filled cabaret. Empty nesters, Greg and Kate, have moved back to Manhattan after twenty-two years in the suburbs. Greg brings home a dog he found in the park (or that has found him) bearing only the name "Sylvia" on her name tag. A street-smart lab/poodle mix, Sylvia becomes a major bone of contention between husband and wife. Sylvia thinks Kate just doesn't understand the relationship between man and dog. Their marriage is tested as they learn to compromise through a series of hilarious and touching complications. Depart: MSC 8:30 am Estimated Return: 7:15 pm. Fee: \$106.



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## How to Avoid a Facelift

No one expects to have a face-lift one day. Unfortunately, many of us do not care for our skin when we are young and find ourselves in a bit of a predicament at a certain age. Even though aging is inevitable, there are a few things you can do to slow it down and a few tricks in the beauty bag to reverse some damage.

The most important step when you are young is to protect your skin from the sun. The sun is not your friend. It may be warm and comforting, but it is not your friend. If you didn't wear a sunscreen when you were younger, I suggest you start today. Not my moisturizer has an SPF of 15, but a separate sunscreen. If you have young girls in your life, children, grandchildren, etc. please pass along the message.

If you smoke, it's time to stop. Smoking robs your skin of oxygen and nutrients by constricting the blood vessels in your skin, resulting in skin with no vibrancy and even a grayish hue. Smoking also breaks down collagen which is the support system in your skin, leading to wrinkles and sagging. And if that wasn't enough, the physical act of puffing on a cigarette and having smoke rise up into your eyes can cause deep set wrinkles around your eyes and mouth.

If you're still slapping on a moisturizer and running out the door in the morning, it's time to re-evaluate your routine. That barely worked when you were twenty. A mature woman needs serums, eye creams, night creams and a separate sunscreen. That includes morning and night - ok not the sunscreen at night. The point is, you can't keep falling asleep on the couch with the day's make-up on your face.

Thankfully, there are a lot of non-surgical options to keep you looking your best, even when you reach that magical age where something needs to be done. There was a time when your only option was surgery. And that may be fine for you if that's your choice but if it isn't... consider Botox to relax your worry lines and forehead wrinkles; Juvederm or Voluma to fill in lost volume in your flattened cheeks or nose to mouth lines; and finally do some research on machines to help you build collagen. Radiofrequency is a favorite of mine... it's been around for a long time, there is no down time and your under eye area can be treated safely and effectively.

If you are not happy with your appearance, there are a variety of surgical and non-surgical options available but these guidelines are a great place to start. It's never too late!

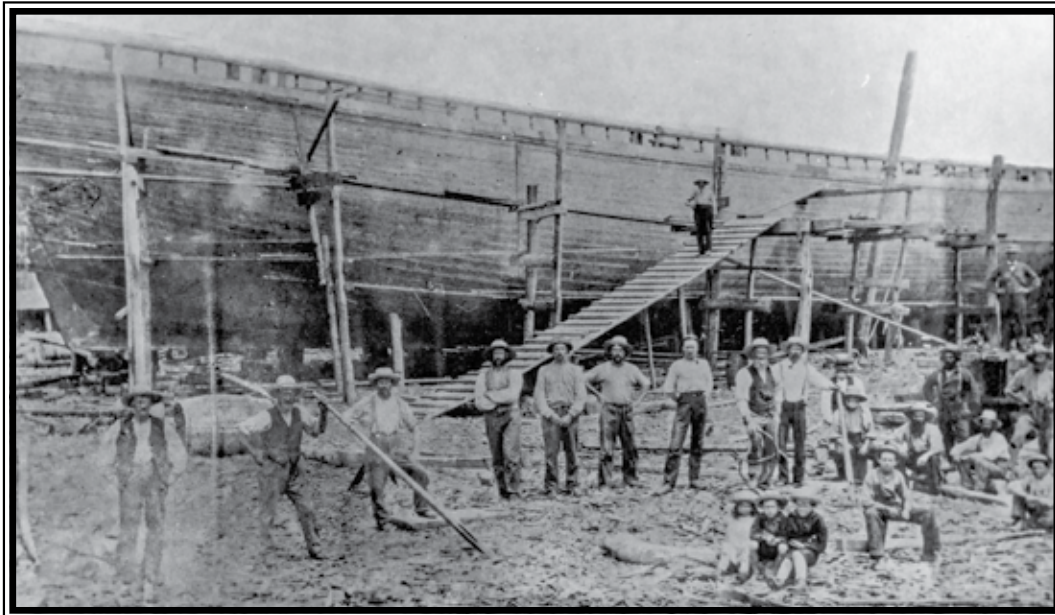
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## Madison Historical Society

Together with the Charlotte L. Evarts Memorial Archives, the Madison Historical Society will host a Veterans Day event on Sunday, November 11, at the Legion Hall on Bradley Road following the ceremony on the Madison green at 11 am. On this day, we honor the men and women who serve in the United States Armed Forces and commemorate the hundredth anniversary of the end of World War I.

Following the ceremony, guests will be invited to tour the award-winning exhibition, *Over Here, Over There: Madison in WWI* in Lee's Academy and a companion exhibit at the Memorial Town Hall for one last time. The exhibit, which opened in July 2015, tells the story of the impact of the Great War on Madison from those who served on the front to those who volunteered at home. The compelling tales of the brave men and women who served are told through artifacts from the era, images, and recordings. A brief reception with coffee and homemade pastries will be held at the Legion Hall after the ceremony and exhibit tour.

Shipbuilding and Madison's waterfront will be the theme of the Madison Historical Society's Frederick Lee Lectures, now in their twelfth season. These engaging presentations will explore topics including the history of Madison's waterfront and local waters; farm produce shipping in the Colonial and Post Colonial era; and maritime interests and the coastal schooner trade that drove Madison's economy during this period.

Please look for announcements and additional information on this winter lecture series and other special event programming on our website at [www.madisonhistory.org](http://www.madisonhistory.org).

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# Middlesex Hospital - Detecting and Treating Breast Cancer

Middlesex Hospital is using new technology and techniques to help Connecticut women.

Early detection is very important when it comes to breast cancer, the most common cancer in women in the United States, and Middlesex has invested in technology that allows for more complete imaging.

Traditionally, women have received 2D mammograms, but it can be difficult to detect potential cancers while they're still small and most treatable using these 2D images. That's why Middlesex Hospital uses 3D mammograms. These 3D images enable Middlesex radiologists to examine each layer of tissue more closely and from angles previously unavailable, resulting in a 40 percent increase in invasive breast cancer detection.

In addition, Middlesex is the only hospital in New England to offer dual-headed molecular breast imaging, which uses a radioactive tracer to better detect breast cancer cells. Molecular breast imaging is often used in conjunction with mammograms to give patients the best possible chance at early detection. While early detection is certainly key, how breast cancer is treated is also important, and Middlesex is always looking to improve outcomes for its patients. To that end, Middlesex recently began using the Deep Inspiration Breath-Hold Technique, which helps to keep radiation away from the heart for women receiving treatment for cancer in their left breast.

For more information on Middlesex Hospital's breast program, visit <https://middlesexhospital.org/breastcare>.

## Brandy

Brandy, short for Brandywine, comes in a variety of types or flavors. Most brandies are made from grapes, but what keeps them apart from wine is that they are distilled. Distilling is vaporizing liquid by heating it until it reaches 212 degrees fahrenheit which decreases the water con-

tent, producing higher alcohol content, then catching the vapors and cooling them so they form back into liquid. The alcohol content of brandy is usually at 40% or 80 proof. The premiere brandies from France are produced in the town of Cognac. This brandy is distilled double in pot stills to

give its unique flavors. Most are then aged in wooden casks. Cognac is blended so typically there is no set age. However there are categories of quality. The first one being V.S. which means very special, contains brandy no less than 3 years old. V.S.O.P stands for very old special pale ale no less





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than 5 years old. The XO is the superior brandy of Cognac and the oldest age blended, but can vary quite a bit between brandy houses.

Armagnac is a town in the region of Gascon which is another area in France producing fine quality brandy. This style is also said to be better than a lot of Cognacs but doesn't quite get the recognition. This brandy has great depth and a touch of sweetness. Each of these brandies from France has different grape profiles according to where it comes from. While we are still in France let us discuss the region of Calvados. The brandy from here is made from apples instead of grapes, which produce a slight apple taste, more the essence of the fruit rather than the bright flavor and tartness. All the brandies above are considered brown because they get their color from the oak barrels. The clear brandy is called Eaux De Vie, considered the essence of the fruit that it's produced from. Some examples are Kirsch which is cherry brandy, Framboise – raspberry brandy and Piore – pear brandy. These brandies are not sweet but they do have intense flavors and smell. We also have these styles of brandy made here in Connecticut. California also produces some excellent quality brandies, but the bulk are more affordable because they are slightly less quality and mass produced. Many recipes call for Cognac which is the most expensive way to go, where most any brand will do. Also, instead of using Calvados for apple brandy you can substitute it for Apple Jack, a less expensive version produced in California. I hope this widens your temptation to try a brandy as an after dinner cocktail.

Continued on page 16

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## Brandy... continued from page 15

Cheers!

Art LiPuma, Manager, SeaSide Wine & Spirits

## Scranton Memorial Library

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[www.scrantonlibrary.org](http://www.scrantonlibrary.org)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### TEENS – GRADE 6-12

November 13 @ 6 pm. Book Bingo for Teens. R.J. Julia Booksellers, 768 Boston Post Rd, Madison. A fun hour of bingo featuring your favorite YA books! Prizes featuring gifts cards, books, candy, and more. This program is intended for teens in grades 6-12. Registration is preferred by visiting <http://www.scrantonlibrary.org/events/> or by calling 203-245-7365.

November 21 @ 2 pm. Owl Pellet Forensics for Teens. Meig's Point Nature Center, 1288 Boston Post Rd, Madison. Join us on your Early Dismissal Day! Owl pellets will be used to teach food webs, ecosystems, anatomy, and writing (every pellet tells a story). Teens (in groups of 3 or 4) act as detectives and fine surgeons, using forceps and probes in their exploration of pelletized "victims." This program is intended for teens in grades 6-12. Registration is required by visiting <http://www.scrantonlibrary.org/events/> or by calling 203-245-7365.

November 27 @ 5 pm. Teen Henna with Z. R.J. Julia Booksellers, 768 Boston Post Rd, Madison. Learn a little about the history of henna and leave wearing a beautiful design from Ezia 'Z' Leach of 'Z' Face & Body Art. This program is intended for teens in grades 6-12. Registration is preferred by visiting <http://www.scrantonlibrary.org/events/> or by calling 203-245-7365.

December 11 @ 6 pm. Teen Ornament Craft. R.J. Julia Booksellers, 768 Boston Post Rd, Madison. Join us to make nerdy holiday décor! This program is intended for teens in grades 6-12. Registration is preferred by visiting <http://www.scrantonlibrary.org/events/> or by calling 203-245-7365.

#### ADULTS

November 14, December 5, and January 2 @ 7 pm. Trivia Night. First Congregational Church, 26 Meeting House Ln, Madison. Trivia Night at the library is played much like your average pub trivia game, but minus the pub aspect because, well, we're a library! Prizes are awarded to each member of the night's top team. Trivia buffs of all skill levels are invited to join us. Registration is required by emailing [scrantonlibrarytrivia@gmail.com](mailto:scrantonlibrarytrivia@gmail.com). You may register as a full team of 5-6, as a smaller group, or individually. Smaller groups and individuals will be asked to join up and form full teams once they've arrived.

Continued on page 18



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## Scranton Memorial Library... continued from page 16

November 19 & 26, December 10, and January 28 @ 4 pm. Teen Tech Support. Madison Senior Center, 29 Bradley Rd, Madison. In collaboration with the Madison Senior Center and Madison Youth and Family Services, Scranton Library offers tech support for senior citizens with a teen volunteer. Registration is required by visiting <http://www.scrantonlibrary.org/events/> or by calling 203-245-7365. November 20 @ 6:30 pm. Book Talk with C. Jennings Penders. First Congregational Church, 26 Meeting House Ln, Madison. Join our very own C. Jennings Penders (Chris) at Hubley Hall as he celebrates the publication of his first two books: a short story collection of dark fantasy called *Random Acts: Stories of Redemption* and a collection of essays called *Taking Off a Coat: Ruminations on the Infinite Soul* from his spiritual blog. Registration is preferred by visiting <http://www.scrantonlibrary.org/events/> or by calling 203-245-7365.

December 18 @ 6:30 pm. Intro to Genealogy. First Congregational Church, 26 Meeting House Ln, Madison. Interested in delving into your family's past, but don't know where to start? Bryna O'Sullivan (professional genealogist, genealogy teacher, and genealogical translator) will introduce you to an information rich website and point out some of the best places to start researching your family tree. Learn where to begin with tracing your roots, where to find original records, and more. Registration is preferred by visiting <http://www.scrantonlibrary.org/events/> or by calling 203-245-7365.

## Madison Art Society Winter Studio

Beginning January 7, 2019 until March 25 the Madison Art Society will meet at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 232 Durham Road, Madison, Connecticut for Winter Studio. This is a still life painting event. Members Cheryl Sorensen of Lyme and Elena Gerard of New Haven are overseeing the twenty one MAS members who participate.

Members from many different shoreline communities take turns bringing in items to assemble into three unique displays that are put under a spotlight. The artists locate their easels around these displays from whatever vantage point they prefer. In setting up the still life the artists consider composition, color and a theme. The still life can be placed on a table or even on the floor to enjoy a variety of possibilities. A few members instead of painting a still life and who have photographed landscapes in their outdoor wanderings bring these in to turn into paintings. The artists use watercolor, pastel, oil and acrylic to produce their art. The artwork is displayed in local shows throughout the shoreline and much of it is award winning art.

After cleanup at about 2 pm the artists bring their work to the front of the room for a critique. While work is being



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displayed one by one all the artists can comment for the benefit of improving the piece being discussed.



Laurel Friedman

These events are very popular among the Madison Art Society members who get access to the group on a first come first serve basis. A list of substitutes is available for members who cannot attend a meeting.



Randie Kahrl



## Madison Beach and Recreation Tree Lighting Ceremony

**Friday, November 30, 2018** - Festivities begin at 6:00 pm at the Memorial Town Hall by the green. Enjoy music from Larry Stevens and Company, our annual candle lighting ceremony, a visit from Santa and Friends, hot cocoa from Troop 490 in Madison and lots of music and good cheer! Event is free.

Did you know that Madison Beach and Recreation Offers programs for all ages including sports, outdoor/educational programs and trips? For more information go to [madisonct.org](http://madisonct.org) and check out Beach and Recreation or call us at 203-245-5623.

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## Connecticut Cancer Foundation - John & Jane Ellis by Sigrid Kun

### An enduring promise to help Connecticut cancer patients and their families.

The story of John and Jane Ellis is one of love, inspiration and dedication. She says he had the vision. He says she's the angel who does everything. Together, they are strong individuals who never wavered since John made a most solemn promise.

Born in New London, John was a high school standout in football and baseball. He went on to a 13-year major league baseball career. The catcher debuted in 1969 with the New York Yankees (1969-1972), hitting a home run in his first at bat. He also played for the Cleveland Indians (1973-1975) and Texas Rangers (1976-1981).

A routine life insurance examination revealed a spot. He had been a picture of health - jogging 10 miles a day. At age 38, the 1971 Topps All-Star Rookie had Hodgkin's lymphoma. He had already lost a brother, sister and sister-in-law, each to cancer. "Sitting there in the hole, getting your juice, and breaking it down. I made a deal," explains John. "If you let me live, I'm going to do this. I said I'd dedicate my whole life to the needs of the needy."

That was 1987. Together, the couple started a foundation whose mission has remained steadfast - to provide financial assistance to Connecticut cancer patients and their families and to fund cancer research. He is the Chairman/Founder. She is the President and Executive Director. The formula is simple. Many individuals affected by cancer struggle with basic living necessities. The foundation is there to help.

Oncology social workers in Connecticut provide referrals to the foundation. Applications are reviewed each Monday, with grants made within a week - an unheard of turnaround. If there is an emergency, they will do what they can right away. "It's all local. "You know where the money is going and that makes us unique," notes Jane. To date, the foundation has provided almost \$6 million in financial assistance to CT families and over \$2 million to lymphoma research. A \$7 million endowment ensures its future.

Their signature fundraiser is an annual celebrity dinner first held in 1988 at the Groton Motor Inn. Mickey Mantle, Whitey Ford and Billy Martin were there. "It was like a group of friends, getting together and telling stories," relates Jane. "It was special." The event raised \$100,000. At the end of the evening, Mickey observed "I hope this foundation goes on forever."

The event has grown markedly and is now hosted by a key corporate partner, Mohegan Sun. The next celebrity dinner will be held on February 8, 2019. The list of attendees are a testament to the relationships/trust that the couple forged over the years: Don Zimmer (who once released John), Yogi Berra, Derek Jeter, David Ortiz, Hank Aaron, Carl Yastrzemski, Joe Torre, Reggie Jackson, Mariano Rivera, and Roger



Left, John and Jane Ellis. Below, from the left, Derek Jeter, Didi Gregorius, Tommy Kahnle and David Robertson attending the 2018 Celebrity Dinner at Mohegan Sun.



New location, right, at 15 North Main Street in Old Saybrook.



Clemens. There are new fundraising initiatives: Cycle Against Cancer, the Fishing Against Cancer tournament, and a Speakers Program. And there is assistance for ILROG - the International Lymphoma Radiation Oncology Group. "We're global in nature but local in giving," observes John.

The foundation recently (July 2017) opened its new location at 15 North Main Street in Old Saybrook. Every aspect of the new facility focuses on the foundation's mission. There is a Hall of Fame. "It's a museum piece," says John. "A tribute to some of the wonderful baseball players who helped literally to build the foundation." There is an art gallery to hold exhibits benefitting the foundation.

John and Jane have assembled plenty of stories. John laughs over that second celebrity dinner when Joe DiMaggio wouldn't sign memorabilia Whitey Ford brought along for him to sign. Yogi Berra successfully intervened. And then there was a single mother whose child was suffering from a rare cancer. "I'll never forget that for the rest of my life," recounts Jane. "They were homeless. She didn't know how to feed her children that evening. We gave her \$2,000. That gave her hope. We continued to help her. We got furniture... I had John schlep it all in his truck."

Thirty years ago, the couple wondered if they'd still be needed. Surely, cancer would be beaten already. "Our mission is more relevant today than 30 years ago," explains Jane. "Everyday expenses... it's so much more expensive to live. Our help is needed more than ever." "There's plenty of work here," adds John. "We look forward to making sure the foundation goes on and on."



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