

Essex



Events

[www.eventsmagazines.com](http://www.eventsmagazines.com)

Volume 18 • Quarter 2 • 2014



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Resident Shirley Cannon with daughter Melinda Kingsbury pruning flowers in the courtyard.

## There's no place like home. And now my home is at The Saybrook at Haddam.

Life at The Saybrook at Haddam reminds Shirley of the home and garden she enjoyed in Kansas. Now, she still has an active lifestyle, but no longer worries about maintaining a house, preparing meals, or being alone. With her daughter nearby in Essex, Shirley can relax, knowing there truly is no place like home.

**For independent residents,** we offer gracious retirement living at an unmatched value.

**For residents who need more assistance** with daily living, the staff is ready to meet their needs.

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An Assisted Living Retirement Community  
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My experience with Polito & Quinn was very positive – especially under some difficult circumstances regarding our son's personal injury case. I would not hesitate to recommend their services to friends and family.

– Paige D. –

I want to thank Polito & Quinn and staff for the amazing work. Thank you for being so understanding and caring. I am very happy with your service.

– Erika S. –

If you need a personal injury lawyer they are the ones to call. If I had a question about anything they would give me the truth and if they didn't have the answer they would get it within days. Everyone in this office cares about the injured as well as family. They were very knowledgeable about all aspects of the wellbeing of my family and they actually made my family feel like a part of theirs.

– Graham H. –

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INTERNATIONAL REALTY



**Essex:** Striking Contemporary overlooks the Connecticut River and hills of Lyme. Centerbrook Architects designed this home with quality and function and views from every room.

MLS: M9146402 \$985,000  
Linda Hicks 860.391.1269



**Essex:** C.1844 village Colonial with views of marina. Two car garage with apartment above, three bedrooms, two baths, second level enclosed sun porch, wood floors, workshop.

MLS: M9142398 \$775,000  
Leslie Sullivan 860.391.3337



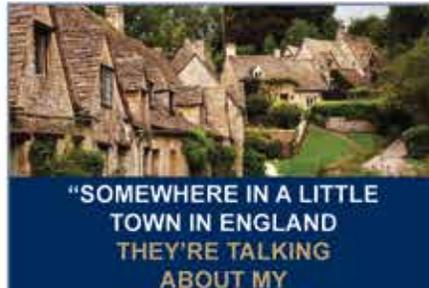
**Essex:** Ebenezer Hayden Homestead c.1760 Saltbox. Original floors, chestnut walls, four fireplaces. Includes studio with office, sleeping loft and full bath. Across from library, tennis courts/new Playscape Park.

MLS: M9145266 \$768,000  
Kathy Shannehan 203.247.0020  
Don Shannehan 860.575.6583



**Essex:** Ca.1800 Phoebe and George Harrington House in the heart of Essex Village. The glory of yesteryear with a traditional floor plan, hemlock floors and refreshed with historical paint.

MLS: M9145110 \$695,000  
Mariette Woolfson 860.883.3667  
Kristin Donlan 860.883.3667



"SOMEWHERE IN A LITTLE  
TOWN IN ENGLAND  
THEY'RE TALKING  
ABOUT MY  
HOUSE IN ESSEX."



**Ivoryton:** A magnificent waterfront home conveniently located on prestigious "Victorian Row". Set back on a 1.18 acre landscaped lot with pond. High ceilings, period details, fabulous flow for entertaining.

MLS: M9145590 \$599,900  
Rick Weiner 860.227.3191



**Essex:** Spacious new first floor ranch in Essex Village with two bedrooms, two baths plus hardwood floors and an open great room. Easy walk to the village shops and waterfront.

MLS: M9134387 \$539,000  
Donn Holland 860.227.4737

williampitt.com

**ESSEX BROKERAGE | 13 MAIN STREET | 860.767.7488**  
**OLD LYME BROKERAGE | 103 HALLS ROAD | 860.434.2400**



**Essex:** A short distance to Essex Village, this picture perfect gambrel exudes charm, comfort and attention to detail. Enjoy cooking in the newly renovated eat-in kitchen opening to the family room and entertain guests in the lovely living and dining rooms.

MLS: M9145144 \$475,000  
Jennifer & Jane Associates 860.227.6634



**Essex:** Beautifully remodeled, private townhouse end unit with views of the CT River from living room and master bedroom. Bamboo floors throughout and California closets. Living room fireplace and updated kitchen with granite counters.

MLS: M9144909 \$265,000  
Sydney Anderson 860.510.3449



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## First Selectman's Corner

Essex Friends & Neighbors,

We hope that this mailing of the Essex Events Magazine finds you well and recovered from our long, cold, and arduous winter. We made it, spring has arrived with its warmer weather and green landscapes. As usual, it's easy to enjoy springtime in Essex with all the community events that are scheduled. Of particular note this year is the British Raid on Essex Bicentennial celebration including the annual "Burning of the Ships Day" Parade and Re-enactment on May 10th. I encourage you to visit their website, [www.battlesiteessex.org](http://www.battlesiteessex.org), for full events information. The Essex Steam Train, Ivoryton Playhouse, Our Libraries, and Park & Recreation Department have a lot to offer residents and visitors. Lastly, it's always nice to see our young baseball, softball and lacrosse players competing and having fun in our parks this time of year.

At the time of this mailing, the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 budget preparation process will be nearly complete. All budget meetings are public meetings and as taxpayers of the Town, I encourage you to attend. The Board of Finance has overall responsibility for the budget process and will submit a final budget to a Town Meeting on May 12, 7:30pm, at Town Hall. Please refer to our "Citizens' Guide to the Essex Town Budget," for a full summary of the town budget, available in Town Hall and on our website [www.essexct.gov/finance-department](http://www.essexct.gov/finance-department).

Credit cards are now accepted at our Transfer Station and Recycling Center. We have a new brochure detailing our new fee schedule and transfer station information effective July 1, available in Town Hall and on our website.

Centerbrook was recently awarded a grant from the Connecticut Main Street Center under its 2014 Preservation of Place Program. Funds were used



First Selectman Norm Needleman

*continued on page 5*

### Stay Informed

Signing up for the Essex News e-mail list will provide you with information and updates on events from the First Selectman's Office. (Your address will be used solely for this purpose.) To add yourself to the list, email your contact information to [essexnews@essexct.gov](mailto:essexnews@essexct.gov) with the subject **Town Email List**.

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Page Taft

RealLiving



Wonderful Essex Village Cape with views of the Ct. River. 1<sup>st</sup> flr. MBR, EI Kitchen w/ isle and gas cook-top. Gorgeous yard and gardens, outbuilding with power and water.  
**NEW PRICE: \$825,000**  
Chip Frost, x12



Beautifully maintained Essex Contemporary. 3 bedrooms 2.1 baths, first floor Master, Living Room with vaulted ceilings, skylights, gable-end windows w/ever changing light patterns.  
**NEW PRICE: \$529,000**  
Barbie Bryant, x22



Bubbling Great Brook beckons from this enchanting 2 BR Colonial, c1913, in Chester. Restaurants, shops and galleries are only steps away. Excellent condition, beautifully landscaped.  
**NEW LISTING: \$275,000**  
Linda Freedman, x19



Quaint Cape set on .36 acres in Deep River. Spacious open living spaces with character and charm. Remodeled Kitchen and baths. Newly refinished HW floors throughout. 2 BRS, 1.1 baths.  
**NEW LISTING: \$259,900**  
Gigi Giordano Taylor, x13

35 Main Street, Essex, CT 06426

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PageTaft.com



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**East Haddam:** Year-round Home w/Direct Waterfront on Bashan Lake located in picturesque setting. Views from almost every room. Screened porch, patio, deck all overlooking lake. MBR w/BA, balcony. \$699,000 DeeHasuly.com 860-214-1864



**East Haddam:** Year round vacation, enjoy the CT River! Commute to Middletown-20 min., Hartford-35 min. 3614 SF, 4BRs, 3.5BAs. 2-story foyer & FR. Private deck. 3C gar & full unfin bsmt. Priced to sell! \$384,900 PeterDepatie.com 860-424-1332



**Essex:** Quality & Detail throughout this outstanding Georgian Colonial. Cherry floors, cook's kitchen w/granite. 1st fl master suite w/ tray ceiling & tumbled marble bath. Near village. \$1,019,000 Joel-Lucas.com 860-304-9150



**Essex:** 3BR Contemporary, 3C gar, 2BR guest house, gourmet KT, granite counters, FP's in formal LR, DR, MBR. MBR ste w/ balcony & riverviews, deck w/outdoor KT, beautiful landscaping. \$649,000 JamesLeo.com 860-227-5975



**Essex:** Essex Village Great Location! Unique & Charming 1788 Colonial steps to Main St, library, new playground & tennis. Updated kitchen, 4 bedrooms, 2 fireplaces. \$425,000 LaurelPeters.net 860-306-2812



**Essex:** Walk to village for shopping, restaurants, etc. c.1852 Deborah Brockway House, a charming, well designed Architect/Artist's cottage. 1st fl MBR, cathedral ceilings, HW flrs & more. \$395,000 Joanne-Ryan.com 860-581-3066



**Ivoryton:** Exceptionally well cared for 3-4BR Colonial in Farm Hill Estates. Custom kitchen, central air, generator system, built-ins, custom window treatments, fenced yard, welcome brick walkway. \$510,000 ShaneBonanno.com 860-227-7353, PeterBonanno.com 860-227-9798



**Ivoryton:** Stately 4 bedroom Colonial on cul-de-sac backs up to open space. New granite counters & vanities, new stainless appliances. Open floor plan, private patio, lots of closet space. \$495,000 ShaneBonanno.com 860-227-7353, PeterBonanno.com 860-227-9798



**Ivoryton:** Beautiful Cape w/Architect designed FR addition. KT w/granite opens to sitting area w/FP. 1st fl MBR for one floor living if desired. Neighborhood setting near Falls River for kayaking. \$365,000 Joanne-Ryan.com 860-581-3066



**Lyme:** Year round house @ Old Lyme Shores, short walk to beautiful sandy beach. 4BRs, LR w/FP, hardwood flrs, enclosed porch. Private yard, deck, playscape, detached garage. Views. \$599,000 MargueriteMattison.com 860-510-2848



**Madison:** Beautiful waterfront estate w/private sandy beach being sold totally furnished. Large master bedroom w/deck & incredible views. 1st floor bedroom, 2 full baths & open floor plan. \$1,550,000 PeterBonanno.com 860-227-9798, ShaneBonanno.com 860-227-7353



**Norwichtown:** Michael Darrow Homestead, c.1748...a flawlessly classic, lovingly preserved pre-revolutionary home restored to its original beauty. Carriage house w/3 rooms & office suite. \$384,000 BarbaraMcBrideDoyen.com "Bobbi" 860-662-0271



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

to conduct a visioning exercise through a series of public workshops to hold an honest discussion about what kind of village Centerbrook is today and what it could be in the future. A stakeholder group will guide the community input and visioning for Centerbrook Village. Contact the Essex Planning Department at 860-767-4340 ext. 149 or the Economic Development Commission at 860-767-4340 ext. 220 for more information.

Selectman Bruce Glowac is leading a capital committee focus group for the Town as we are examining a number of capital projects that may go out to bond this year. The projects are mostly for repairs to the school and Town Hall buildings, as well as necessary bridge repairs. The Town of Essex is currently seeking an engineering firm to provide engineering services for the preparation of construction contract plans and documents for the Rehabilitation of Walnut Street Bridge over the Falls River in Ivoryton, Connecticut.

Selectwoman Stacia Libby is chairing a committee who will oversee the work related to grant a recently awarded to the Village of Ivoryton. A \$435,000 Main Street Investment Fund (MSIF) grant for project work to enhance a shared "Village Center" around Main, Ivory Summit Streets in Ivoryton. The grant funds will be used for intersection improvements at Summit Street and Main Street; installing new cross walks, renovating existing crosswalks, and other improvements to help in the continued renewal of Ivoryton as a robust economic center.

As a Clean Energy Community, Essex is excited to have been selected to participate in the Solarize Connecticut program. This is a great opportunity for our residents to take advantage of group pricing on solar array purchases or leases. The Town continues to seek and provide residents with opportunities for reducing energy costs and switching to cleaner energy options. This program helps to improve the environment while saving residents' money and promoting local jobs in such areas as project planning, site prep and installation.

Work on the Civic Campus Enhancement Project will be completed soon. This project, funded by a Small Town Economic Assistance Grant, has expanded the Town Hall parking area, replaced the Grove Street Park playscape, and improved pedestrian safety while connecting the campuses of the library and Town Hall. We will soon finish the rebuild of the tennis courts and all project landscaping.

The Town of Essex Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is accepting applications for volunteers under the Essex Emergency Volunteer (EEV) Program for 2014/15. The Town needs organized and skilled volunteers to respond to or recover from the impacts of large emergencies or disasters in our community. Special events and training dates will be held as needed. To register as a volunteer please print and fill out the registration form available at Town Hall and on our

*continued on page 8*



 <p><b>Kathy Schellens</b> 860.395.4441 kschellens@wpsir.com</p>	 <p><b>Historic Essex Village:</b> Lovingly renovated 1867 Federal style. 4BR, 3 baths lovely kitchen. Price includes additional home on separate lot. Perfect guest house or rental. See photo below. Immaculate! \$1,100,000</p>	 <p><b>Old Saybrook Waterfront Estate:</b> Panoramic vistas across CT River. Grand LR bow ceilings, large fireplace and wall of windows perfect for entertaining. Pool, 3 stall barn, deep water dock on 6 Acres. \$4,250,000</p>	 <p><b>Essex Village Waterfront:</b> Impeccable 1845 Greek Revival. Three bedroom, 3 1/2 baths, Gourmet kitchen, elevator, wine cellar, 3 car garage, guesthouse, boathouse, davits on Middle Cove. \$2,750,000</p>	 <p><b>River Road, Deep River:</b> Exceptional one floor living. Superb construction. Six rooms, 3 BR, 2 1/2 baths, full basement. Attached garage, screened porch. Beautiful private setting. \$695,000</p>	
<p>Please call me for a free Market Evaluation of your property.</p>	 <p><b>Essex Antique Cape:</b> Exceptional Village Cape. Sold with restored Federal shown above. Perfect guesthouse or income producing property. 5 rms, 2 BR, fp. Short walk to town &amp; CT River. Both properties \$1,100,000</p>	 <p><b>Westbrook Colonial C.1830:</b> Professionally dismantled and reassembled in 1988 restoring its warmth and charm with all the modern amenities. Two park-like acres. Gorgeous renovation and fenced yard. \$679,000</p>	 <p><b>Live in Fabulous Indian Town, Old Saybrook:</b> Deeded beach rights. 2 beaches, clubhouse and marina. Pretty ranch home w/furnishings. Spacious kitchen, LR w/fpl. Home is also a perfect rental. \$575,000</p>	 <p><b>Spacious Essex Village Colonial:</b> Almost new! Wonderful home, 10 rms, 4 BR, granite &amp; stainless kitchen, office, fireplace, lower level walkout, deck, 3car garage, circular drive. Fabulous price. \$524,500</p>	
<p>williampitt.com  <b>ESSEX BROKERAGE</b>   13 MAIN STREET   860.767.7488  <b>OLD LYME BROKERAGE</b>   103 HALLS ROAD   860.434.2400</p> <p><small>Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated</small></p>					<p>MORTGAGE FINANCING AVAILABLE 1.855.298.5650</p> 



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**Fenwick Masterpiece** This private waterfront property with a 100ft dock embodies everything that one could wish for, all within the unique Fenwick lifestyle. Overlooking the famed links course, South Cove, the Connecticut River and Long Island Sound, the 5,174 sq ft residence has been meticulously renovated to the pinnacle of finest standards. An elevator serves the four levels of the beautiful white shingle home of 4 to 5 bedrooms and 5 and 1/2 marble bathrooms. The property with 130 ft of waterfront is set high and protected by a 22ft high seawall. The residence is designed with quality, elegance, comfort and ease to entertain with gracious living. Price Available Upon Request



**Old Saybrook:** On the CT River set high for panoramic vistas. First floor master open to its own patio. A second floor master with its own balcony. Grand living room for entertaining and gathering. Swimming pool & deep water dock. Offered at \$4,250,000



**Essex:** Foxboro 4,500 sf historic waterfront home, renovated top to bottom: Marvin Ultimate windows, geothermal heat, new plumbing & roof. Chef's kit, overlooks open plan dining/ living areas, wine cellar and historic carriage house. Offered at \$3,480,000



**Old Lyme:** Stately Colonial on two private acres abutting the golf course. Beautifully renovated with elegance and comfort. Wood floors throughout and tray ceilings. State of the art eat-in kitchen. Wine cellar. Offered at \$1,495,000



**Old Lyme:** Private & set high on 3.5+ acres to meld into the terrain & designed to bring the outside in. This modern house has views of winding water ways from every room. Heated pool. Offered at \$1,290,000



**Essex:** 1850 Federal on a village street of historic homes. Wide pine floors, four fireplaces, First floor master bedroom suite. Pristine condition, updated interiors. Views of the Connecticut River. Offered at \$855,900



**Old Saybrook:** Spectacular views from this approved building lot overlooking the mouth of the CT River & North Cove. 12.64 Acres total. 1.68 is an approved building lot. 11+ acres are wetlands with fully permitted dock. Offered at \$699,900



**Deep River:** Water views of the CT River. Circa 1790 Cape and guest house. Beautifully restored, keeping the original while incorporating modern conveniences. Water access across the street. Offered at \$699,000



**Old Lyme:** This charming antique home set high on Sill Lane with original wide wood floors, has great potential. Dining room with French doors leading to a stone patio. This home has four fireplaces. Offered at \$495,000

Colette Harron  
860.304.2391  
charron@wpsir.com



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Essex Waterview offered at \$1,998,888



Lyme Waterfront offered at \$2,652,688



Deep River Waterfront offered at \$2,600,000



Lyme Waterfront offered at \$1,925,000



Essex offered at \$475,000



Essex Waterview offered at \$1,260,000



Essex Waterfront offered at \$1,950,000



Essex offered at \$595,000



Essex Waterview offered at \$935,000



Chester offered at \$649,000

## JENNIFER & JANE ASSOCIATES

Jennifer Caulfield  
860.388.7710

Jane Pfeffer  
860.227.6634

[jenniferandjane@wpsir.com](mailto:jenniferandjane@wpsir.com)

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

website. Registration forms can be mailed or delivered to the First Selectman's Office.

As you can see, Town staff and elected officials are working diligently to improve Town services and infrastructure while leveraging a number of revenue sources as we strive to keep budget increases to a minimum for our taxpayers. As the First Selectman, I am continuing in my efforts to professionalize and modernize the operating systems of Town Hall departments. I am proud to say that we have an outstanding

collection of staff, officials, and board members who are striving to continually improve the Town.

Remember that you can keep further informed on "what's happening" in Essex by signing up to receive our e-newsletter Essex News. To register for Essex News, send an email request to [raudet@essexct.gov](mailto:raudet@essexct.gov), or fill out a card at Town Hall.

As even warmer weather approaches, Make Water Safety Your Priority in swimming and boating in Essex. And speaking of warmer weather, enjoy.

All my best,

*Norman Needleman, First Selectman*

## Registrars of Voters

**Notice for publication:** In Connecticut you must belong to a political party in order to vote in that party's primary. If you are registered as unaffiliated, you may switch to a party up to the day before that party's primary. If you are registered in a party, but want to vote in another party's primary, you must switch to that party at least 90 days before that party's scheduled primary.

In 2014 the scheduled date for statewide primaries is August 12. So, to switch party in order to vote in a different party primary, you must switch prior to May 14. Any questions please call us at 860-767-4340 ext. 142.



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INTERNATIONAL REALTY



**Lyme:** Masterfully designed and constructed, this exceptional Post & Beam Contemporary is majestically sited on a magnificent 6.36 acre lot with commanding views over the CT River to Essex. Loaded with custom features, this one of a kind home is a must see. \$1,250,000



**Niantic:** Perfectly sited on a double lot in one of CT's most beautiful beach communities, this delightful 4 bedroom, year-round ranch offers wonderful lake and ocean views. Steps away from Giants Neck Beach Assoc. beaches, clubhouse, playground, & tennis courts. \$630,000



**Old Lyme:** Enjoy care-free living in this custom Colonial sited on a 3.25 acre lot in an area of upscale homes. Featuring an open floor plan with large light filled rooms, 9' ceilings, third floor media/playroom, and a walk-out basement. Fabulous! \$519,000



**East Haddam:** Sited on a beautifully landscaped 3.76 acre lot, this picturesque 1760's Center Chimney Colonial is loaded with character and charm. Features include five fireplaces, high ceilings, amazing gardens and patios. Separate studio provides additional 1500 sq. ft. \$369,000

*For additional information or to schedule a private showing, please call John Garufi.*



**John Garufi**  
860.510.6804  
[jgarufi@wpsir.com](mailto:jgarufi@wpsir.com)

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## Renter's Rebate Program

### Department of Social Services

Program starts April 1 and runs through October 1.

To qualify you must be 65 years or older or 100% totally disabled through Social Security and your income must have been less than \$41,600 for a married couple \$34,100 for a single person.

The following information is needed to complete the application for the 2013 Calendar Year.

**EXPENSES:** Rent receipts, letter from landlord stating what you paid for rent in the year 2013. Utility (Electric, water, oil and/or gas) receipts or statement from utility company. You can call CL&P for a printout at 1-800-286-2000 (have account number ready)

**INCOME:** Social Security SSA-1099 statement or print-out from the Social Security Office, bank interest, pensions, VA benefits or any other sources of income. If you file a federal income tax return, a copy of your return is required.

If you are filing as 100% disabled, proof of disability is required every year by the State of Connecticut. A statement from social security STATING TOTALLY DISABLED OR A TPQY FROM SOCIAL SECURITY DATED FOR CURRENT YEAR stating that you were disabled the previous year.

You must have all information to file your application. Filing period is from April 1, 2014 through October 1, 2014.

Please call the Town of Essex Department of Social Services for an appointment, office hours are Tues-Thurs 9 am-12 pm. 860-767-4340 x110.

Income Over To		Maximum Credit Married/Single		Minimum Credit Married/Single	
\$ -0-	\$17,000	\$900	\$700	\$400	\$300
17,000	22,900	700	500	300	200
22,900	28,600	500	250	200	100
28,600	34,100	250	150	100	50



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# Events

MAGAZINES



## Essex Events

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Welcome to Centerbrook, Essex and Ivoryton

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**Geoffrey P. Jones**, 2 Prospect Street, Essex  
**Frank Bannon**, 89 Book Hill Road, Essex  
**Paul R. Budney**, 47 Melody Lane, Ivoryton  
**Richard & Catherine Millard**, 10 Hannah Lane, Essex  
**Thomas & Carmen Suedmeier**, 28 River Road Drive, Essex  
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**Sandra & Jeffrey Rogers**, 85 River Road, Essex  
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**Robert & Kimberly Whitty**, 27 Old Deep River Road, Centerbrook  
**Robert Grill**, 51 River Road, Essex  
**Jason Roy & Kristen Jodoin**, 24 Oakledge Drive, Ivoryton  
**Douglas Kneeland & Susannah Stewart**, 36 Pond Meadow Road, Ivoryton  
**David Shiling**, 8 South Cove Lane, Essex  
**Robert Ingraham**, 18 Bushnell Street, Essex  
**James Eckerle & James Renfrow**, 104 River Road, Essex  
**Kellyanne Walsh**, 12 Harborview Drive, Essex  
**Daniel & Kristine Charles**, 13 Nutmeg Lane, Essex  
**Daniel McCurdy & Robert Anderson**, 22 West Avenue, Essex

Loss of our Residents and Friends

**December**  
 Paul Lilius  
 Deborah Ryan

**January**  
 Mary C. Burke  
 Frank Stevens  
 William Owen LaPlace  
 Bernadette LaPlace  
 Winifred Bidden Reeser  
 John R. Fitzgerald

**February**  
 Pasquale DiMeo  
 Frank Barbaresio  
 Ralph Clark, Jr.  
 Theresa Dombkowski  
**March**  
 Jean Wasburn Hernandez  
 Robert Lizotte

## Help Wanted

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# The Ivoryton Library

The Ivoryton Library's first annual Local Voices was so well received last year that we are happy to announce its return. Our second annual Local Voices will be on Sunday, May 18, at 3:00 pm. This event of selected readings, musings and poetry will again be held at the beautiful Ivoryton Congregational Church, and feature: Lary Bloom, Jonathan Gilman, Alexandra Johnson, Suzanne Levine, Pamela Nomura.

Suggested donation for this event is \$10. Tickets will be available at the door or may be picked up in advance at the library. Please join us for this exciting afternoon.

Our annual Mother's Day Sale will be, as always, the day before Mother's Day: Saturday, May 10 from 9:00 – 12:00. Plants, baked goods and the big used book sale. We happily accept donations of books, DVDs and audiobooks year-round. Labeled plants can be dropped off in the two weeks prior to the sale (we have pots and labels here at the library.) Baked goods Friday afternoon and Saturday morning. Thanks for the support both in donations and in coming to the sale.

Coming this summer to the Children's Room: FIZZ BOOM READ! We're planning another summer packed with fun programs for the kids. Keep an eye out for information at the library, on our website and to come home with the kids at Essex Elementary. We're also excited to be working with Mrs. Wasley at John Winthrop in support of the Middle School Summer Reading projects.

Seeds are being planted indoors and out as we prepare our Children's Garden for another season. Watch for information on the children's gardening programs we have planned. Be sure to visit and check out the progress and, remember, produce will be for sale as it ripens!

Did you miss the chance to buy a brick last time? We're offering another chance to buy an inscribed brick to be placed in the front patio or the walkway leading to the Children's Room. \$50 per brick, forms are available at the library or online at [www.ivoryton.com](http://www.ivoryton.com). Orders must be in by June 30.

Wishlist: The library is planning computer classes for children and adults. We are asking for donations of old laptops and iPads. Our IT staff will re-configure the hard drives.

For more information on any of this, please call us at 860-767-1252 or visit us: Tuesday and Thursday: 10-6; Wednesday: 10-8; Friday: 2-6; Saturday: 9-12; Sunday: 1-4.

**Essex Town Hall**

**29 West Avenue, Essex, CT 06426**

**Ph: 860-767-4340 • Fx: 860-767-8509**

## ESSEX TOWN HALL

767-4340 (Unless otherwise noted)

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# New Connecticut Residential Building Code

## Some Notable Code Changes in 2009 IRC (Effective Feb. 28, 2014)

- Now exempt from permit: repairs limited to 25% of roofing or siding within one calendar year, sheds 200 sq. ft. or less in size. (R105.2)
- Where required by the Building Official, all braced wall lines shall be identified on the construction documents. (R106.1.1)
- Guards now required when walking surface is more than 30" to grade at any point within 36" horizontally from the edge of the open side. (R312.1)
- Now requires the height of guard rails to be measured from the walkway surface as well as from adjacent fixed seating. (R312.2)
- All smoke alarms must be listed in accordance with UL 217, (R314.1) OR,
- A household fire alarm system must be installed in accordance with NFPA 72. (R314.2)
- Drainage nuisances onto public way or adjoining property shall be a code violation. (R401.3.1)
- Minimum of two 1500# lateral load hold down tension devices required per deck. (R502.2.2.3)
- Window sills more than 72" above grade must be 24" above finished floor or operable window parts cannot allow the passage of a 4" diameter sphere. (R612.2)
- Water resistant gypsum board is not allowed as a tile backer in tub and shower areas. (R702.4.2)
- Foam insulation installer shall sign, date, and post on job certificate of R value & thickness. (N1101.4)
- Energy efficiency certificate required posted at electrical panel prior to C.O. (R1101.9)
- Access doors to unheated spaces weather-stripped & insulate same as surrounding area. (N1102.2.3)
- Areas required to be sealed to limit air infiltration must demonstrate compliance by a blower door test or visual inspection by approved independent party. (N1102.4)
- First 10 ft. of service hot water piping and first 5 ft. of cold water pipes from water heating tanks shall have minimum insulation value of R-2 installed. (R1103.4.1)
- Duct sealing tightness required to be verified by testing at rough-in or post construction. (N1103.2.2)
- Equipment and appliances supported from ground must be on a level slab or approved material at a minimum of 3" above adjoining ground. (M1305.1.4.1)
- Where space for a clothes dryer is provided, an exhaust duct system to the outdoors must be provided. (M1502.4.6)
- Shower liner test with 2" of standing water now required. (P2503.6)
- All 15a and 20a outlets shall be listed tamper resistant receptacles. (E4002.14)

David R. DeLeeuw, Town of Essex Building Official

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1,250 -1,500 SF	3	6,100.00
1,500 -1,750 SF	3.5	6,700.00
1,750 -2,000 SF	4	6,900.00
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## 2014 Is An Exciting Year for Essex Historical Society

With a little over half 2014 left, Essex Historical Society has exciting times ahead! Please mark your calendars and set reminders on your computers and phones for all of the exciting programs and events we have scheduled.

April 8, 2014 was the Bicentennial of the British Raid on Essex, or the Burning of the Ships. EHS partnered with the Connecticut River Museum, the Essex Library, the Griswold Inn and Jerry Roberts to bring to light the entire story of the British attack on the town of Essex in 1814. Hopefully, you attended one of the 3 bonfires on April 8th for "Light up the Night" which was a commemoration of the lost ships of the war. British sailors and marines rowed up the river under cover of darkness to burn 27 vessels in Essex harbor. The entire Essex Battlesite reaches from the mouth of the Connecticut River at Old Saybrook to North Cove in Essex. One of EHS's contributions to the bicentennial is the creation of four graphic panels to be located at the sites of some of the most significant phases of the battle. The first will be at Gardner's Landing on Saybrook Point in Old Saybrook, marking the site of the old fort where the British first landed. The second panel will be found at the Foot of Main Street in Essex, where the British landed in force. With collaboration from the Essex Land Trust, the third panel will be located in Osage Trails Park at Falls River Cove where the British burned the largest ship built in Essex, the Osage.

The final panel will be located at Ferry Landing in Old Lyme, where you can view the gauntlet from the D.E.E.P. boardwalk.

On behalf of EHS, the Archival Angels regularly maintain two display cases at the Essex Library. In honor of the Bicentennial of the British Raid on Essex, Jerry Roberts worked with the Archival Angels to design an exhibit which offers visitors an overview of the battle, its significance in State and National history, and where different events took place along the river. There are photos, artifacts and graphics in the display, so make sure not to miss this snapshot of our history.

May 10th will be the Annual Commemoration Day Parade, the Burning of the Ships, in Essex. In addition to the parade, there will be tons of activities for families and friends in town to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the British Raid. The Pratt House will be open from 10 am to 3 pm for tours. We will also provide walking maps of town and additional information on all of the activities of the day. EHS will have a special guest at Pratt House, Lynn Rankin, proprietress of the Polite Society's Traveling Tea Room. Come by and have tea and conversation with Lynn and learn more about life in Essex at the time of the Raid.

In addition to helping to plan all of the special events surrounding this bicentennial year for Essex, EHS has been hard at work developing other programs and events for the

*continued on page 15*

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B# 1997 Commercial and Residential

• *Historical Society continued from page 14* •

community. On May 28th and 29th, three classes of Essex Elementary 4th graders will spend the mornings learning about spinning and weaving at the Pratt House and what it was like to be a student in 1900 at Hills Academy. This is a very interactive educational program for the children. On June 22nd, from 1pm to 4pm, we will host our Annual Strawberry Social on the grounds of the Pratt House. We will have old time games for children, as well as period music. Of course, we will be serving up our amazing strawberry shortcake. In addition, we will present our 4th Annual Preservation Award. Past years' winners have been the Ivoryton Library (2011), the Centerbrook Meetinghouse (2012) and the Ivoryton Playhouse (2013). If you know of a building that has been renovated or preserved you can nominate it for the Preservation Award. We will have more information about how to submit your votes soon.

As our final summer event, EHS will again host the Second Annual Ivoryton Base Ball Classic. The vintage game of base ball (original spelling) will be played at Comstock Field in Ivoryton by the rules of the 1860s. This will be an exciting event as we coordinate our efforts with the 100th Anniversary of Comstock Field. We are planning many more events for the Fall as you can see in the event listings below, so watch for our posters around the villages and articles in the papers.

With all of our events, EHS tries to infuse a little history with the merriment. We strive to preserve and promote awareness of the people, places and things that have shaped the 3 Villages of Essex: Centerbrook, Essex and Ivoryton. For more information about EHS, becoming a member or our events, please visit our website at [www.essexhistory.org](http://www.essexhistory.org) or call 860-767-0681.

### 2014 EHS EVENTS

- June 22 **Strawberry Social and Annual Preservation Award Presentation.**  
Pratt House Grounds, Essex. 1 - 4 pm
- July 4 **Second Annual Ivoryton Base Ball Game**  
Comstock Field, Ivoryton - 4 pm
- Sept 21 **Essex Historical Society Open House**  
Pratt House Barn, Essex - 1 pm to 4 pm
- Oct 19 **Annual Antique Auto Show with Belltown Auto Club.** Pratt House Grounds, Essex  
9:30 am to 3 pm
- Nov 7 **EHS Annual Meeting**  
Location to be determined - 7pm to 9pm
- Nov 30 **Trees in the Rigging**

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## Bicentennial Commemoration of British Raid Begins in 2014

### War of 1812 Celebratory Events are Planned

On Saturday, May 10th, a full roster of activities is planned to commemorate the 200-year anniversary of a significant event in Connecticut's history: the British raid on Essex during the War of 1812. All are welcome to participate.

Professional re-enactors from Maryland will present a historically accurate portrayal of British officers, soldiers and marines attacking and patrolling the town, while a regional re-enactment group will play the parts of the "local militia" attempting to defend the town. Additionally, there will be narrated boating excursions tracing the events that occurred along the Connecticut River, historic walking tours, special exhibits, period dining and musical events and even an 1814 Commemoration Ball. These events will surround the Commemoration Day Parade, also known as the Burning of the Ships Parade, hosted and led by the Sailing Masters of 1812, a fife and drum corps. This year will mark the Parade's 46th year!

In addition to the May 10 commemoration, Jerry Roberts, author and historian, has brought the event to life through storytelling and a dynamic written account which sheds light on this significant chapter in American maritime history. *The British Raid on Essex: The Forgotten Battle of the War of 1812*



A portion of the 23 ft. mural installed at the Connecticut River Museum, painted by noted painter and muralist Russell Buckingham. Captain Coote is in foreground brandishing his sword.

was recently released, coinciding with the actual anniversary date of the skirmish.

*continued on page 17*

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• *Bicentennial continued from page 16* •

"It was a brief but dynamic moment in our nation's maritime history yet this story has been virtually left out of the history books" Roberts declares, "- the forgotten battle of the forgotten war." Roberts and the British Raid on Essex Bicentennial Committee intend that the 1814 British attack – and the incredible story behind it - is forgotten no more.

Essex is recognized by the State Register of Historic Places as a War of 1812 Battle Site District. Designation as a Battle Site by the National Register of Historic Places is anticipated imminently.

For more information and continual updates of 2014 commemoration activities visit [www.battlesitesessex.org](http://www.battlesitesessex.org).

*Submitted by The British Raid  
on Essex Bicentennial Committee*

## Essex Land Trust Events

**May 13, 7 pm at Essex Library. Lecture: Our Changing Landscapes.** Presentation by Robert Rocks on "Our Changing Landscape: the past, present and future of Connecticut's forests and fields." Rocks brings 30 years of experience as Service Forester for CT DEEP. He will describe the historical evolution of our landscapes from forests to field, and back to forests. He will speak about the great die-offs of elm/chestnuts/hemlocks, and help us envision how climate change, invasive species, and land use practices will determine our forests of the future.

**May 17, 9 am, Essex Meadows. Essex Meadows Birding and Trail Walk.** ELT President and birder Jim Denham will lead an easy 1-2 hour walk through Essex Meadows' gardens, fields and woods. The timing will coincide with the peak bird migration and breeding season. All levels of skill and knowledge are welcome. Bring binoculars. Signs will direct to parking at the facility, which is at 30 Bokum Road. Bad weather cancels.

**June 1, 2:30 & 5:30 pm at Main Street Park, Essex. Kayak/Canoe Trip, Concert and Picnic.** Early-summer Kayak, Concert, and Picnic. Join us for an afternoon of activities at the Essex Main Street Park. Naturalists will host a kayak trip into Essex's beautiful Middle and South Coves. Kayak/canoe participants should register and launch their boats prior to the 2:30 departure time. A safety boat will accompany. Non-kayakers and all others are invited to join us in the Park at 5:30 pm for a BYO picnic and concert by the Essex Corinthian Jazz Band. Bad weather cancels. Co-sponsored by Essex Outdoors.

**July 15, 4 pm at Falls River Landing, Ivoryton. Family Canoe and Kayak Trip in Falls River Pond.** Explore Falls River Pond, the site of an ELT preserve from your canoe or kayak. A two-hour naturalist-led paddle in calm waters will allow us to see abundant wildlife, including an active egret rookery and one of CT's few purple martin colonies. Encourage your family and friends to come. A stop will be made at an ELT member's pond-side home for cookies and lemonade. Launch your boats from the small public park on Falls River Drive, just off of Main St. in Ivoryton.

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**Essex Park & Recreation Department Mission Statement:** Creating the Essex Community through People, Parks, and Programs.

The Essex Park and Recreation Department looks forward to a spring and summer filled with recreation programs and special events for the community. Full program info is available in the 2014 Spring & Summer Programs Brochure which may be viewed on our website at <http://www.essexct.gov/park-and-recreation>.

**Spotlight on a Park.** Many residents have taken advantage of the 104 acres of passive and active recreational opportunities that Viney Hill Brook Park offers. Coming soon to the park will be a new covered picnic area and new benches and agility features in the dog park. Viney Hill Brook is a great place for families and nature lovers alike, featuring: beach and swimming hole, walking trails, wide variety of native plants and animals, picnic tables and grills area, swing set, and dog park. Directions: from the intersection of routes 153 and 154 at the Essex Fire Station, head towards Old Saybrook on Rte. 154 (Saybrook Road) for just over half a mile. Bear right onto Gates Road. Turn right onto Cedar Grove Terrace. Follow the road up the hill and turn right onto Hillside Drive. Park entrance will be on your right.

**Summer Concerts Schedule:** **Wednesday, July 9:** Long Island Sound, Essex Main Street. **Tuesday, July 15:** Wes & Boomer, Ivoryton Green. **Wednesday, July 23:** Middletown Symphonic Band, Essex Main Street. **Tuesday, July 29:** Shiny Lapel Trio, Ivoryton Green. **Wednesday, August 6:** Blues on the Rocks, Essex Main Street. **Tuesday, August 12:** Beatles Forever, Ivoryton Green.

- All shows are 6:30-8 pm.
- Our July 15 Concert is **Family Night**. We will hold a special performance for kids from 5:45 – 6:30 pm.
- Visit our website for weather related announcements...[www.essexct.gov](http://www.essexct.gov).

**Sound Steps Walking Program Sponsored by Middlesex Hospital Shoreline Medical Center.** Our new fitness program increases physical activity and social connection in a community walking program that is accessible and welcoming to all.

- Participants will register for free with Park and Recreation, and then create a free account with MyWALKS.com: The Online Walking Fitness Log.
- Upon registering, participants will receive a programmable pedometer to track their daily walking exercise and track their walks on mywalks.
- Certificates or small prizes will be awarded as participants reach certain walking milestones.

**Functional Fitness.** A strength and conditioning program utilizing constantly varied, high intensity and functional movements. It combines many traditional movements such as squats, pushups and sit-ups, with more dynamic and functional activities. Our instructors will make sure you get a great work out and have a ton of fun in a positive environment that is appropriate for all levels of fitness. This class will push you to your limits. Four sessions will be offered over the summer.

**Geocaching Clinic.** As part of the Essex Outdoors program, Geocaching Clinic for children and adults will be held Sunday, May 18, 3 pm, at Viney Hill Brook Park. Geocaching is an outdoor recreational activity, in which the participants use a Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver or mobile device and other navigational techniques to hide and seek containers, called "geocaches" or "caches," anywhere in the world. Geocaching is an increasingly popular, inclusive, fun and healthy pastime for individuals of all ages. Pre-registration is not required, clinic is free of charge.

**Newport Flower Show Trip.** Essex Park & Recreation Department will offer a Newport Flower Show trip this summer. The program will include a visit to the Newport Flower Show on the grounds of the Rosecliff Mansion followed by time

*continued on page 19*

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• *Park and Recreation continued from page 18* •

on your own in downtown Newport. The trip is for Friday, June 27, depart 9:30 am from Essex Town Hall and return at 5:00 pm. Cost is \$70 per person, seats are limited, pre-registration is required.

**Essex Summer Camp.** Essex Summer Camp is the most affordable, professionally run summer camp option in Town. Our nine-week program is for children entering Grades K-7 in the fall, meets daily from 8:30 am-3:30 pm, with pick up between 3:30-4 pm, at Essex Elementary School. Before Care is available from 8-8:30 am. We feature classic summer camp group games and activities tied to our weekly themes as well as a weekly field trip (with the exception of week 4). Register for any one or all nine weeks. To register, complete the summer camp registration form and mail or drop it off to Park & Recreation.

**Summer Youth Programs.** Essex Park & Recreation Department will offer a variety of youth sports clinics and camps this summer. Please see our brochure for full program details. Programs will include: SNAG Golf, Running Rams Track & Field Camp, Girls Lacrosse Camp, Gymnastics Clinic, Summer Tennis Clinics, Slammas Jamma Basketball Camp, Made in the Summer Girls Basketball Camp, Baseball Camp, Softball Camp, Field Hockey Camp, Skyhawks Multi-Sport (Soccer & Flag Football), Skyhawks Mini-Hawk (Soccer, Basketball & Baseball).

**Park and Recreation Commission.** The Park and Recreation Commission welcome the opportunity to help you with issues

involving the Department and our Community. The public is invited to attend our meetings, held the first Wednesday of every month at 7pm at the Town Hall. Our members include:

Bob Russo (Chair), Tony Mosa, Jim Rawn, Doug Senn, Cathy Bishop, Ed Bureson, Tom Clerkin, Ginny Willets, John Bauman, Peter Sarner.

**Contact Information: Director:** Rick Audet, CPRP, (860) 767-4340 x148, raudet@essexct.gov

**Recreation Program Manager:** Mary Ellen Barnes, (860) 767-4340 x110, mbarnes@essexct.gov

**Email:** recreation@essexct.gov

**Website:** www.essexct.gov/park-and-recreation  
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# Child & Family Agency's Annual Sale

*The Largest "Tag Sale" in Southeastern CT*



*If you are looking for great finds in everything from furniture to clothing to household items, come to Child & Family Agency's 60th Annual Sale at the New London Armory, May 1st, 2nd, and 3rd.*

For 60 years Child & Family Agency of Southeastern CT has held the largest tag sale in its region – its "Annual Sale." Proceeds from this fundraiser support the many services and programs offered by Child & Family Agency to children and families.

This year the Annual Sale will be at the New London Armory, 249 Bayonet Street, New London on Thursday, May 1st from 9-5, Friday, May 2nd from 9-5, and Saturday, May 3rd from 9-3. First sale day will be "Premium Day" – cost plus 25% and last sale day everything will be half price.

Furniture, household items, books, toys, clothing, jewelry and such can be dropped off at designated locations on "Intake Day." These items will be received by Child & Family Auxiliary Volunteers and transported to the New London Armory.

"Intake Day" for Chester residents will be on Tuesday, April 22nd, at the Old Lyme Congregation Church between 10:00 and 4:00 and on Wednesday, April 23rd, at the Essex Town Hall between 9:00 and 5:00. Tax donation letters will be available when items are dropped off.

Last year 17,000 children and their families, from 79 towns, were helped by Child & Family Agency's staff of 175 dedicated professionals through their many services and programs. To learn more about Child & Family Agency of Southeastern CT visit: [www.childandfamilyagency.org](http://www.childandfamilyagency.org).

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## Trash and the Connecticut River

In general, Essex is not one of those communities where trash in public places is a problem. Along the length of our Connecticut River shoreline, however, it is another matter. The amount of debris that accumulates along our shores is nothing short of amazing. Unfortunately, there seems to be a never-ending supply of debris along the riverbanks.

The Connecticut River's steady flow towards its mouth brings with it logs, branches and other organic material that are swept into the river by storms, high tides and occasional flooding. It also brings with it an incredible array of items that have clearly been carelessly allowed to be swept away or dumped outright into the river.

For the past two years the Essex Land Trust has tried to do its part by focusing on cleaning up Essex's Great Meadow. This past Fall, on a bright and sunny Saturday morning, 65 volunteers dedicated three hours to gathering all kinds of trash including, significant quantities of Styrofoam, bottles, cans, car tires and more.

This effort is part of an annual program sponsored by the Connecticut River Watershed Council Participating. Called the Source to Sea Cleanup, each September communities along the 410-mile length of the Connecticut River dedicate themselves to cleaning up their shoreline. This past year, 2,227 volunteers collected a total haul of 45 tons, which included electrical appliances, furniture, automotive parts, and mattresses, among many other items.

The list of debris collected on the Essex Great Meadow is shown below.



fiberglass kayak, hunting tent, large float/raft, LP gas container (20 lb.), and a plastic sled.

Besides being unsightly, trash in our water bodies has a damaging effect on the environment particularly impacting wildlife and vegetation. One measure of this impact is the decomposition rate of common debris. The chart on page 23 illustrates how long items last in our environment, i.e., 200 years for aluminum cans and 450 years for plastic bottles.

The Connecticut River has come a long way from the 1950s when it was called the "best landscaped sewer in the country." The passage of the Clean Water Act and the ban on DDT in 1972 have done much to help the river recover to a Class B status, meaning that it is safe for all purposes excluding drinking. Turning to the future, our challenge is to build on the progress achieved by ensuring a cleaner and healthier river, one that would harken back to the days when the Algonquians gave it its name, the "quinetucket," the place of the long tidal river.

The Land Trust intends to repeat the Great Meadow clean up this coming September. The date has already been set: Saturday, September 27 at 9 am. So, mark your calendars!

*Jim Denham*

Item	Quantity
Glass Bottles (5 gallon buckets)	5
Plastic Bottles (30 gallon bags)	27
Plastic Items (5 gallon buckets)	3
Styrofoam (30 gallon bags)	35
Tires (number)	19
Wood (pounds)	275
Metal Items (number)	10

Other Items Include: 6' x 3' plastic tub, 50 gallon plastic and metal drums, 30 gallon plastic drum, 2' x 4' plastic float,



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# HOW LONG 'TIL IT'S GONE?

Estimated decomposition rates of common marine debris items

 AVERAGE LIFE EXPECTANCY

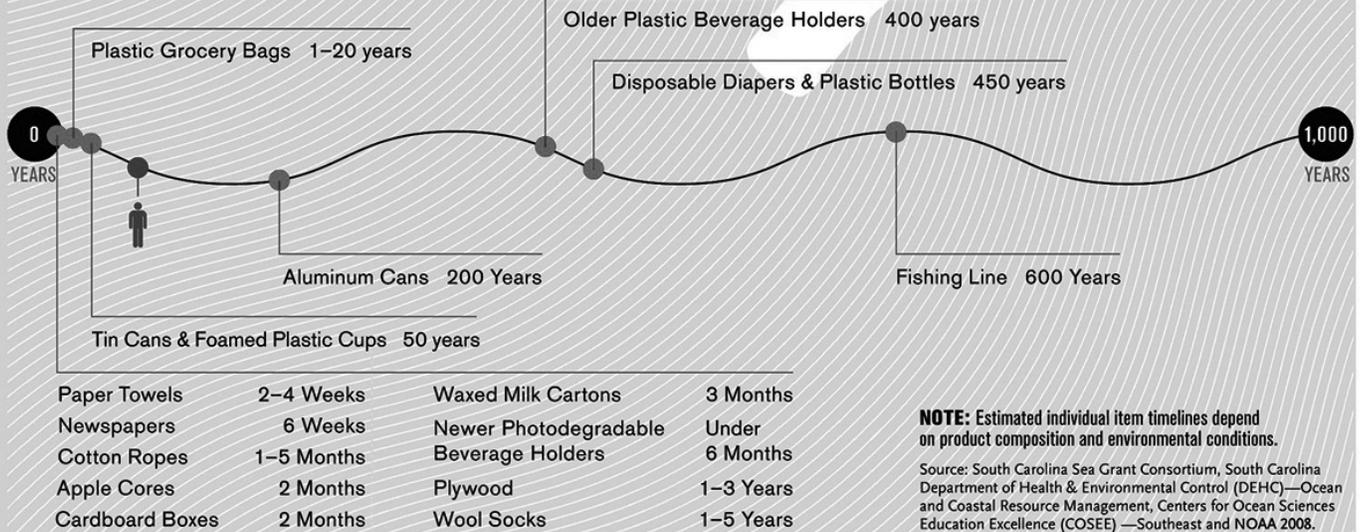


Chart illustrating how long items last in our environment from article on page 22.

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# CFMC's Carolyn Greenleaf Memorial Fund Supports Talented Young Musicians

## *With Your Support, We've Made Music*

Donald Dione, a junior at Valley Regional High School (VRHS), has been named the Spring 2014 Carolyn Greenleaf Music Award recipient. The Carolyn Greenleaf Music Award honors the memory of Carolyn Greenleaf, a resident of Essex who was passionate about music education. To ensure Carolyn's legacy, the Carolyn Greenleaf Memorial Award Committee partnered with the Community Foundation of Middlesex County in 2007 to establish the Carolyn Greenleaf Memorial Fund.

This merit-based award, open to students in Middlesex County and the Lymes, provides a semester of private instruction at the Community Music School. Donald, an oboist and member of the VRHS Concert Band and Chorus, is studying with Johanna Lamb at the Community Music School in Centerbrook. He was accepted for the CMEA Southern Region Music Festival Concert Band and subsequently the Orchestra and performed in the orchestra for the VRHS musical production of "The Secret Garden."

The Carolyn Greenleaf Memorial Award Committee accepts applications twice a year. Applications may be downloaded from the websites of the Community Music School ([www.community-music-school.org](http://www.community-music-school.org)) and the Community Foundation of Middlesex County ([www.middlesexcountycf.org](http://www.middlesexcountycf.org)) in July and December each year.



Community Foundation of Middlesex County is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life in Middlesex County. Its two-fold mission is: (1) to work with charitably-minded individuals and organizations to build permanent endowments and other charitable funds; and (2) to support local nonprofit organizations through effective grant making and multiple programs to address community needs. Since its founding in 1997, the Community Foundation has provided 1,100 grants totaling more than \$3.3 million to organizations for the arts, cultural and heritage programs, educational activities, environmental improvements, and for health and human services. We welcome conversations with good people who want to do great things. For more information, contact us at (860) 347-0025 or [info@MiddlesexCountyCF.org](mailto:info@MiddlesexCountyCF.org).

Community Music School, located in Centerbrook, provides a full range of the finest possible instruction and musical opportunities to persons of all ages and abilities, to increase appreciation of music and to encourage a sense of joy in learning and performing, thus enriching the life of the community. To learn more, contact Community Music School at (860) 767-0026 or visit their website at [www.community-music-school.org](http://www.community-music-school.org).

## *Run for Chris*



The 3rd Annual RUN for CHRIS 5K CHALLENGE will be held on Saturday, June 21 in Essex, CT. Chris was a 2005 graduate of VRHS and received his Bachelor's in History and Chinese from WVU. Chris appreciated educational opportunities that introduced him to new places, including his time

spent in China. He believed everyone should have similar opportunities to expand their own horizons. In his memory, the Chris Belfoure Memorial Fund keeps his dreams and aspirations alive by helping high school students in our area expand their horizons internationally. His fund has been established at the Community Foundation of Middlesex County (CFMC). This fund serves as a catalyst toward integrating multicultural experiences and learning foreign languages into the schools of the Lower Valley of the Middlesex County.

This year a grant was given to VRHS for their trip abroad to France and Spain, where the students lived with families and attended their schools.



New this year for the run: a certified 5K course; CB4 mile run for ages 7-14; a 2 mile walk. The kids fun run for ages 6 and under continues. Registration: 7am; Fun Run: 8:15am; CB4 mile: 8:30 am and 5K/2Mile Walk: 8:45 am. Great food and a great raffle!

Register online: [www.aratrace.com](http://www.aratrace.com). For more information: "Like" Run for Chris at [facebook.com/runforchris](https://www.facebook.com/runforchris), or contact Robin Chapin, [robinc83@gmail.com](mailto:robinc83@gmail.com); or Cathy Bishop, [cbishop56@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cbishop56@sbcglobal.net); 860-767-0354.

# CT Clean Energy Options Program – Spring Update

Under the Clean Energy Communities program, Essex signed a pledge to reduce municipal building energy consumption by 20 percent by 2018, and to attain 20 percent of municipal electricity from renewable sources by 2018. Through community-wide participation in energy-saving and renewable energy programs, including resident and business participation, the community receives points toward rewards. For every 100 points earned through participation in energy efficiency programs, the town is eligible to receive a Bright Idea Grant of \$5,000 that can be used toward a community-selected energy-saving project. Clean Energy programs that Essex is participating in include:

## 1. Solarize CT

Essex was recently chosen as one of ten communities to join the Solarize CT program ([www.solarizect.com](http://www.solarizect.com)), which is sponsored by the Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority and Smartpower. Solarize CT is a program designed to encourage the adoption of residential solar photovoltaic (PV) systems by deploying a coordinated education, marketing and outreach effort, combined with a tiered pricing structure that provides increased savings to homeowners as more people in one community go solar. The program will offer a variety of financial options to purchase or lease solar equipment.

The Solarize CT program is based on a proven residential aggregation model designed to bring down the cost of solar PV when residents sign up for a pre-selected installer's offering. During the twenty week signup period, the more residents who sign up to install solar, the greater the cost reduction for everyone who participates. And because the installer, the technology and the exact price of PV are provided upfront, it is much easier for residents to make the decision to go solar. We are delighted that CEFIA has selected our first choice, Sunlight Solar Energy, as the installer for Essex in the Solarize CT Program. Given the depth of their experience in the solar industry, the variety of their equipment options and the good recommendations of Essex homeowners who already have solar arrays designed and

installed by Sunlight Solar, we are confident that this will be a great experience for all! Sunlight Solar's Connecticut base is in New Haven. [www.sunlightsolar.com](http://www.sunlightsolar.com).

Some of the advantages of going solar include:

- Saving money on your electric bill and helping to protect against future rate increases.
- Reducing household carbon dioxide emissions.
- Qualifying for federal and state tax credits
- Increasing the diversity of our country's energy resources and helping to reduce our dependence on foreign fossil fuels.
- Supporting our county's economy by promoting local jobs
- Reducing pollution created by coal, natural gas and oil fired power plants to generate electricity
- Helping to ensure a clean, sustainable, and cost-efficient energy future.
- Earning Clean Energy Community points for the town.

For more information about Solarize CT go to [www.solarizect.com](http://www.solarizect.com).

## 2. Renewable Energy Program

Essex is dedicating some of the points previously earned to the purchase of a Big Belly Solar Trash Compactor to be installed at the Valley Regional HS athletic field. This unique solar trash compactor has been installed throughout NYC's Times Square as well as many other cities including Philadelphia, Chicago and Boston. This will be the Connecticut's first installation and will offer school children an eye-level example of how solar panels work.

## 3. Home Energy Solutions (HES)

Participating in the HES program not only saves you energy and water costs but also helps our town earn points. For a fee of \$75 for homes that heat with natural gas or electricity or \$99 for homes that heat with oil or propane, Home Energy Solutions will perform an energy assessment, make on the spot improvements including caulking and sealing of critical air leaks, provide and install faucet aerators and energy-saving lighting and provide rebate coupons for appliances, HVAC systems and insulation. For every 100 points earned through participation in energy efficiency programs, the town is eligible to receive a Bright Idea Grant of \$5,000 that can be used toward a community-selected energy-saving project. Check out Home Energy Solutions at [www.cl-p.com](http://www.cl-p.com) or call 1-877-947-3873 for more information.

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## Estuary Council

**ESTUARY COUNCIL OF SENIORS, INC.** has been serving seniors in the nine-town Estuary region for 38 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.

**MEALS ON WHEELS** – hot meals delivered to your home. Call Peg at 860-388-1611. A \$3 donation request for those aged 60+. Meals are supported by Senior Resources Agency on Aging with Title III funds available under the Older Americans Act.

**CAFÉ MEAL SITES** - Clinton, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, Westbrook (Thursdays). Reservations required by calling 860-388-1611 by 11 am, 24 hours in advance.

**STAN GREIMANN ESTUARY MEDICAL OUTPATIENT TRANSPORTATION.** For medical appointments to any medical location beyond the nine-town estuary region. Suggested donation of \$35 for a roundtrip Doctor appointment up to 5 hours. Suggested donation of \$70 for appointments over 5 hours.

**CLASSES AND ACTIVITIES:** Board Games, Billiards, Ping Pong, Yoga, Exercise Classes, Mah Jongg, Wii, Cribbage, Writer's Group, Book Club, Quilter's Group, Needlecrafters, Hand and Foot, and more! Check the Gazette for all of our programs.

**ESTUARY THRIFT SHOP:** Open 10 am - 3:45 pm, Monday - Friday; and from 9 am - 12:45 pm on Saturdays. Clothes (men, women, and children), kitchen items, crafts, and more available. Donations are accepted and volunteers always needed.

**THE GYM AT THE ESTUARY:** Hours expanding-stop in for more information. There are seven different pieces of weight equipment and four cardio machines, including a NuStep. Member packages include a fitness assessment and three (3) training sessions on all machines (required). **Gym Membership Options:** Three months -\$50, Six months-\$90, Full year-\$150. To schedule an appointment with our Fitness Trainer, Skylar Miers, ATC, call 860-388-1611. The gym is available for use only after payment of membership fees and completion of the required fitness assessment and training sessions. Gym Hours are posted at the Estuary.

**THE MARSHVIEW GALLERY AT THE ESTUARY:** Open daily 8 am - 4 pm, and from 9 am - 1 pm Saturdays. The art on exhibit changes monthly and highlights the talents of local artists from along the shoreline. The artists donate a portion of their art sales to the Estuary Council of Seniors. An artist's reception is held the second Friday of each month from 5 - 7 pm. Refreshments are served, and a door prize is drawn each month. All ages are welcome. Call 860-388-1611 for information.

**DONATE YOUR CAR OR BOAT TO THE ESTUARY COUNCIL** - Turn your car or boat into a tax deduction by calling: 1-800-716-5868. Proceeds benefit the vital services we provide for seniors in the nine-town Estuary Region.

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:** Call Judy at 860-388-1611.

**SAVE THE DATE:** The M. Monica Eggert Senior Center turns 40 this year. Save the date and join us at The Kate to celebrate on September 20th.

## Town Clerk's Office

Just a reminder...2014 – 2015 Dog License Renewals will be due from June 3 to June 30th, 2014 (No early renewals prior to June 3rd). Up-to-date Rabies vaccine information will also be required.

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## Probate Court Update

The last 36 months have been very busy for the Probate Court. As most of you know, in 2011, the individual town courts were merged into a regional court, serving nine towns. This merger was part of a statewide effort that reduced the number of Probate Courts from 117 to 54. The Saybrook District Court serves the towns of Chester, Clinton, Deep River, Essex, Haddam, Killingworth, Lyme, Old Saybrook, and Westbrook. The total population of these towns is over 62,000 citizens. As you can imagine, merging nine courts into one was not a simple matter, but with the help and cooperation of the former Judges and the significant effort of the clerks, we were successful in completing the task. The Court is now a full time court and is open week days from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. It is located on the second floor of the Old Saybrook Town Hall, at 302 Main Street.

The statewide consolidations have been a financial success in that it has saved the taxpayers \$8.5 million dollars, over the past two fiscal years and those savings will continue. Despite the increase in files, the Saybrook Court has been able to keep its budget the same over the last three and a half years.

Most people understand that we handle all aspects of decedent's estates, however the Court also handles a variety of other matters including determining the necessity to appoint conservators, reviewing the conservator's accountings and restoring conserved persons. We also appoint guardians both for minors, if they are going to inherit, and for adults with intellectual disabilities. We oversee testamentary trusts and trust accountings, we determine custody matters including termination of parental rights and visitation. We also handle name changes and adoptions. We do not process passports, as they are handled at the Old Saybrook Post

Office which is just up the street from the Court.

We open and process approximately one thousand new matters, of all types, per year. Some of these matters require hearings and some do not. As a result I hold, on average, 15 to 20 hearings per week.

Last year the legislature adopted extensive new rules for probate court proceedings which went into effect on July 1, 2013. The purpose of these new rules is to simplify the probate process and to make it more consistent with other court procedures. Additionally, new forms, consistent with these rules, are available online at [www.ctprobate.gov](http://www.ctprobate.gov). Most of these new forms are fillable for the convenience of the public. The Court has been busy learning and implementing these new rules and forms. I will write an article about these changes shortly.

In addition to the normal duties of a Probate Judge, I was fortunate to be the only new judge elected to the Executive Committee of the Probate Court Assembly. The Executive Committee meets monthly to discuss the rules and policies of the Connecticut Probate Courts. I also joined the National College of Probate Judges, so that I can stay current with the national probate trends and procedures. In addition to attending state seminars regularly, I also attend national seminars annually.

Thanks to the efforts of the chief clerk Valerie Shickel, and the other clerks and assistant clerks, Sharon Tiezzi, Marjorie Calltharp, Stella Beaudoin, Helene Yates, Peggy Schroeder, Jackie Craco and Heather Graves, I am pleased to say the Court continues to operate smoothly and efficiently.

*Terrance D. Lomme, Judge, Saybrook Probate Court*

### Essex - Community Listings

#### CHURCHES

- First Baptist Church . . . . . (860) 767-8623
- ST. John's Episcopal Church . . . . . (860) 767-8095
- First Congregational Church . . . . . (860) 767-8097
- Our Lady of Sorrows Church . . . . . (860) 767-1284
- Ivoryton Congregational Church . . . . . (860) 767-1004
- All Saints Episcopal Church . . . . . (860) 767-1698
- Trinity Lutheran Church . . . . . (860) 767-0228

#### CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

- Essex Cub Scouts of America . . . . . (860) 790-0681
- Essex Land Trust . . . . . (860) 767-7355
- Tri-Town Youth Services Bureau . . . . . (860) 526-3600
- Essex Garden Club . . . . . (860) 767-2860
- Essex Boy Scouts of America . . . . . (860) 767-3904
- Essex Community Fund . . . . . (860) 304-2751
- Essex Historical Society . . . . . (860) 767-0681
- Ivoryton Company of Fifers & Drummers . . . (860) 767-2237

#### Clubs and Organizations Continued

- The Shoreline Soup Kitchens . . . . . (860) 388-1988
- SCORE . . . . . (860) 388-9508
- Essex Board of Trade . . . . . (860) 767-3904
- Democratic Town Committee . . . . . (860) 767-7665
- Republican Town Committee . . . . . (860) 767-3388
- Essex Little League . . . . . [www.essexlittleleague.org](http://www.essexlittleleague.org)
- Ancient Order of Essex Weeders . . . . . (860) 767-7628
- 9 Town Transit . . . . . (860) 510-0429
- Lower Valley Visiting Nurses . . . . . (860) 767-0186

#### SCHOOLS

- Essex Elementary School . . . . . (860) 767-8215
- John Winthrop Middle School . . . . . (860) 526-9546
- Valley Regional High School . . . . . (860) 526-5328
- Superintendent . . . . . (860) 526-2417
- Beanstalk Preschool & Childcare . . . . . (860) 767-3308

## Trees on Mares Hill Road

In an effort to promote greater collaboration within the community, Augie Pampel, Essex Tree Warden, called a public hearing on March 19, in accordance with Chapter 451, Section 23-59 of the Connecticut General Statutes and in response to public complaints about the planned removal/pruning of approximately 40 trees on Town owned land adjacent to Mares Hill Road, Ivoryton, CT between #5 and #72 address locations. CL&P requested the removal of these trees to satisfy the trimming/removal specifications they follow on the road.

The hearing gave members of the public a chance to voice their concerns and CL&P a chance to provide an understanding of the specifications that are used for "Enhanced Tree Trimming ("ETT"). ETT is a severe form of trimming calling for an eight foot clearance zone on either side of the conductors and ground to sky.

Susan Stotts, the CL&P representative, presented slides of the various trees under consideration, indicating those she thought should be removed and those that could remain.

Augie Pampel reported at the hearing that he was authorized to make a decision about the trees within three days following the hearing, considering the public's input and after a walk-through of the trees with Susan Stotts. His decision would be based on the health of the trees including diseases as well as structural issues. He initially estimated that 20-25 of the trees might stay but each tree would need to be examined to make the final determination. He noted that the Town owns 20 feet on both sides of the road and that all the trees designated for removal are on Town property.

People raised concerns about the ground to sky regulation which was considered extreme and worried that the result would be the same as on route 153. Also some expressed concern about the impact of tree removal on the soil environment, water runoff and possible flooding if the soil becomes less absorbent. Other questions about a plan to plant new trees and the payment of the tree removal were raised.

Augie noted that the Town tries to replace as much as is possible and that CL&P pays for the tree work, leaving the wood for people to collect. The contractor for CL&P will follow CL&P specifications. Nonetheless, Augie and Susan Stotts will consider the residents' wishes to maintain the country road appearance when examining the trees. Augie clarified that the tree work done on Melody Lane and Hickory Lane was done on private property with the consent of the property owners.

Augie informed the public that there are no other Essex streets being considered for tree removal at this time. CL&P looks at streets with 40 or more customers and considers liability issues.

The general consensus at the hearing was that as many trees as possible should be preserved to maintain the country road affect while keeping in mind the necessity to avoid power loss and maintain access due to fallen trees.

Since the hearing, Augie Pampel, as Tree Warden examined the trees and posted the final decision on March 21, regarding



the tree removal on Mares Hill Road. Based on a review of all trees posted for removal, 17 will stay. The remaining trees will be removed because "they either have defects sufficient to warrant removal, or the CL&P ETT specification requires that they be removed." Augie will issue a removal permit to the CL&P contractor with this decision detail.

Though this is the final decision of the Essex Tree Warden, it should be noted that Chapter 451, Section 23-59 of the

*continued on page 30*

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• *Mare Hill Road continued from page 29* •

Connecticut General Statutes states ‘...the Tree Warden shall render his decision granting or denying the application, and the party aggrieved by such a decision may, within ten days, appeal therefrom to the superior court or the judicial district within which such town or borough is located.’”

The Essex residents, and especially those on Mares Hill

Road will still enjoy a full canopy of trees despite the loss of 23 trees. That 17 were saved is a testament to the efforts of citizens, CL&P and the Tree Warden to work together to come to the best resolution.

If anyone has further concerns or questions about this decision or wishes to contact Augie Pampel about other concerns related to town trees (trees not on state roads), please contact him at [augiepampel@att.net](mailto:augiepampel@att.net).



## Ivoryton Playhouse

**Next on stage...a Neil Simon Classic: *I Ought To Be In Pictures*.** What’s a daughter to do when she wants to get in touch with her father who she hasn’t seen in 16 years and who lives 3,000 miles away? Well, if you’re Libby Tucker you hitch hike and bus your way across country with nothing but a backpack full of dreams and spare socks. Libby travels from Brooklyn to Los Angeles ostensibly to break into movies but mostly because she needs to find out why her dad left and does he still love her.

*I Ought To Be in Pictures* opens at the Ivoryton Playhouse on April 23rd and runs through May 11th. This is Neil Simon at his best – poignant and funny. For dads and daughters everywhere, make this a memory to treasure.

For more information, or to purchase tickets, please phone (860) 767-7318 or visit [www.ivorytonplayhouse.org](http://www.ivorytonplayhouse.org).



**DID YOU KNOW?** *The Ivoryton Playhouse offers half price tickets on Thursday nights? Through our SixTix program, tickets are only available when purchased at the theatre box office after 6:00 pm on Thursday nights during a show. Limit four per person.*



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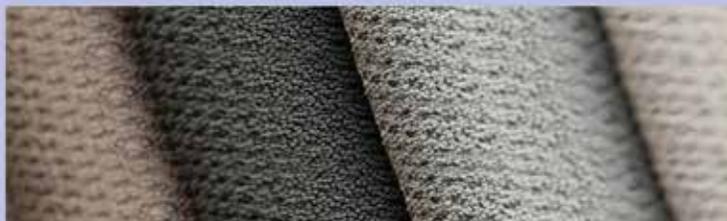
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# Essex Garden Club's May Market

**DID YOU KNOW...**that the Essex Garden Club's MAY MARKET will be on Saturday May 10th, 9 to 2 pm, rain or shine in the Essex Town Park located in the center of town.

The special feature of the Market will be Members' Plants, including prized perennials, ground cover, grasses and shrubs dug and potted from the Essex Garden Club's members' own gardens. Did you know that these plants are proven winners in a microclimate and soil similar to that in our gardens? This means the chances for success in your gardens are much higher than plants originating in different climates and soils.

Did you know...there will be three hundred tomato plants including many heirloom varieties guaranteed to grow in our climate. What a boon for local vegetable lovers!

Did you know that Annual Plants will be packed with colorful assortments of your favorite plants, hanging baskets and planters? Succulents including Aeoniums, Crassulas, and Echeverias, plus other unusual plants have been ordered. Knowledgeable club members will be available to assist you in choosing just the right plants for your containers or garden.

*continued on page 33*



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• *May Market continued from page 32* •

Did you know that Herb gift creations for Mother's Day gifts will be available at the Herbs and Garlic Salt booth along with a great assortment of wonderful herbs essential to your kitchen. Essex Garden Club's famous Garlic Salt, made from a closely guarded recipe since 1953 will also be on sale.

Did you know that Essex Garden Club also sells Treasures in the Gazebo? Gently used home and garden items and jewelry will be for sale. Included will be garden accent pieces, planters, urns, gardening equipment, practical household items, decorative accents, linens, clothing accessories, cook books, horticulture/gardening books, children's items as well as an assortment of other odds and ends.

Did you know that the bidding at the Silent Auction is competitive because of the unique offerings by a select group of area merchants? These offerings will include tickets to performances at local theaters and musical groups, cases of wine, cheese, antiques, garden items, jewelry, specimen shrubs and a private visit to a club member's fabulous garden and more. Intense bidding will be from morning until early afternoon.

Did you know that The May Market Café is a welcoming gathering place to replenish yourself and chat with friends after an exciting morning of purchases? There will be assorted refreshments, donuts and coffee starting bright and early in the morning and a light lunch fare at midday.

Did you know that once again Bushy Hill Nature Center of Ivoryton will be bringing some of their animals to May Market.

The staff of Bushy Hill will also demonstrate some primitive living skills for all naturalists young and old.

Did you know that May Market is the Garden Club's only annual fundraising event? The proceeds from your purchases are used to support the Club's educational and civic improvement projects. With these funds the Club is able to beautify the landscapes of our town parks and traffic islands in the villages of Essex, Centerbrook and Ivoryton. Plantings are also purchased for the Essex Town Hall, Town Park and for the public schools serving Essex students. Finally, May Market funds provide scholarships for high school seniors and college students, summer camperships for young students and educational programs for students at Essex Elementary School and John Winthrop Middle School.

You do know May Market is a special event. If you come and join the fun you will undoubtedly find something special for your garden or the special gardener in your life. See you May 10th.

*For town updates & information:*

**[www.essexct.gov](http://www.essexct.gov)**

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