

Chester events

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First Selectwoman's Corner

Welcome to summer in Chester. As usual, there is something going on almost every few days in every corner of town. The Chester Merchants are their usual creative selves with First Friday activities, the Chester Farmer's Market is in full swing, The Cedar Lake Snack Shack is sponsoring Sunday night concerts, the Historical Society Museum has beautiful new (and free) exhibits, and the Cedar Lake lifeguards are on duty and the Chester Fair is still to come. The Triserries mini-triathlon continues this summer, but with some adjustments for safety due to its increased popularity over the past few years. We have limited the number of participants and added requirements for an ambulance and police boat on scene. I hope you will have many chances to enjoy the activities and natural beauty of our amazing town!

BUDGET

On May 25, 2017, at the annual town budget meeting, the residents of Chester approved the fiscal year 2017-2018 budget. On June 7th, the Board of Finance set the new mil rate at 26.36, a .79 increase. Throughout all of this, the revenue projections from the state changed on almost a weekly basis. As of this date, no budget has been passed by the State. The Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance have worked extremely hard to use all of the information available to make sound fiscal planning decisions for the benefit of Chester and its taxpayers, even without the benefit of solid numbers from Hartford. Thanks to everyone for your hard work.

LIBRARY UPDATE

Thanks to everyone who attended the two Library Building Committee presentations last month. Thank you to the Library Building Committee for your years of hard work planning and designing the revitalization of North Quarter Park including a new library building, playground, parking lot and fields. The presentations were very informative and many questions were asked by residents. The conversations about the need for a new or expanded library have been ongoing for more than ten years. The North Quarter Park and Library Building Committees were formed to plan for a new library in a revitalized park after a design for expanding the current library building was rejected as too expensive for not enough benefit/ space gained. Ultimately, when Chester gets a new library, what it looks like, where it is and how much it costs is a decision for the residents of Chester. It will not be an easy decision, no matter what side of the issue you come down on. Thank you for your patience and your thoughtful consideration of all of the issues involved.



Lauren Gister,
First Selectwoman

SOLAR AND STREETLIGHTS

Chester's Energy Team is on fire! Two major projects are in the works:
continued on page 3



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Household Hazardous Waste Collections 2017

9 am - 1 pm	August	12	For more information: www.rivercog.org info@rivercog.org 860-581-8554
Essex HHW Facility	September	9	
Route 9, Exit 4	October	7	
Dump Road, Essex	October	28	

First Selectwoman's Corner... continued from page 1

1. The LED streetlight conversion is in the reconciliation and preliminary design phase and, by the time you receive this magazine, our new lights may be on order. I expect the installation of the new lights to occur sometime in September if all goes well.
2. We are working with Greenskies, LLC to place 385 new solar panels on the roof of the Chester Elementary School during this summer.

These two projects alone will save hundreds of thousands of dollars in the next ten years. I know that saving on energy costs is only one aspect of keeping taxes down, but every little bit helps!

These are just a few of the projects and other exciting happenings in Chester this summer. We also have a Request for Proposals out for the update of the Plan of Conservation and Development, are expecting bids for the replacement of the Prospect Street culvert, working on updates of insulation and the heating system in the Meeting House, energizing the new lights on Main Street, expanding opportunities for new businesses in Chester, planning for the protection of the watershed and cleanup of invasive weeds in Cedar Lake, and many other things. It is a busy and exciting time. Have a safe and happy summer!

Lauren

Attention All Taxpayers!!!

This was an unusual year in the sense of first... a warm February... then a wet April, May and the beginning of June. During this time, the State of Connecticut was having a very difficult time with its budget and what they were going to share with the towns as far as money. So it left many towns pondering how they were going to pay their bills. As of right now the State still has not settled on numbers for its upcoming fiscal year 2017-2018.

This has made it extremely difficult for towns to set their own budgets. Many towns foresee having to have a supplemental bill midyear to solve the money issue and allow them to pay their bills.

This acts as a reminder to all taxpayers that they should be looking at their own budgets, and making sure they have enough set aside to pay their taxes - Real Estate, PP

and MV. Also, approximately 80 property owners should remember to save for their usage bill and their benefit assessment bill. These come out in October and April, and need to be paid in order to avoid interest and additional liens on their property. We, in Chester, have been lucky to have a great head to the WPCA who has worked hard, to try to keep the usage EDU number down as low as possible over the past 6 **continued on page 4**



The poster for Old Lyme's Midsummer Festival features a blue top section with a large yellow sunflower on the left. The text 'Old Lyme's MIDSUMMER FESTIVAL' is written in yellow, with 'MIDSUMMER FESTIVAL' in a larger, bold font. Below this, 'Saturday, July 29, 2017' is written in white. An orange diagonal banner in the top right corner says 'Save the Date!'. A yellow starburst on the right side contains the text 'DONT MISS: Friday Night Free Concert Saturday Morning 5K'. The bottom left section is orange and contains the text 'Celebrating Art, Music, Food and Family Fun!' and 'Pre-plan your visit at OldLymeMidsummerFestival.com'. The bottom of the poster features a row of logos: Essex Savings Bank, PASTA VITA, Essex Printing events, The Day theday.com, Lymelinc.com, and ValleyNewsNow.com. On the right side, there is a photograph of a young child with colorful face paint.

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Tax Office... continued from page 3

years or so. I want to personally thank Bert Armington for his great job as the head of WPCA and how organized and efficient he has been providing the Tax Office with updated information in a very timely manner. It has been a pleasure to work with Bert, and I will miss his helpfulness and friendliness, since I hear he is not running for office again this coming November. A big thank you to Bert from the Tax Collector and it should be from all the taxpayers in town. Here's wishing Bert the best in his "retirement."

So in summary, please be sure to pay your bills on time during July and then January and for the few on Benefit Assessment and Usage, pay those bills when they are due in October and April. Each time you are late, you add to your bill by having to pay the town 1.5% interest or 18% per year. That would hurt anyone. First half RE, PP or MV bills are due anytime in July, so be sure

to have them in to our office or postmarked on time, so you do not incur that interest. MV bills that are late will prevent you from registering your MVs and then you have to hurry in and pay with cash to get cleared through the DMV computer system... so don't be late! If you have not already, give us your email address or phone number so we can remind you to pay the second half of your bill, since no bills get mailed out for January. Enjoy the summer! But also remember, to pay your bills on time and work on a budget for your own personal financial wellbeing. And lastly, thank Bert Armington, whenever you see him, for a great job well done!

Take care!

Sincerely,
 Madaline Meyer, Tax Collector
 and Kristie Valentino, Tax Clerk



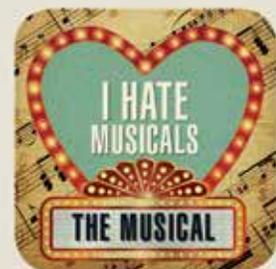
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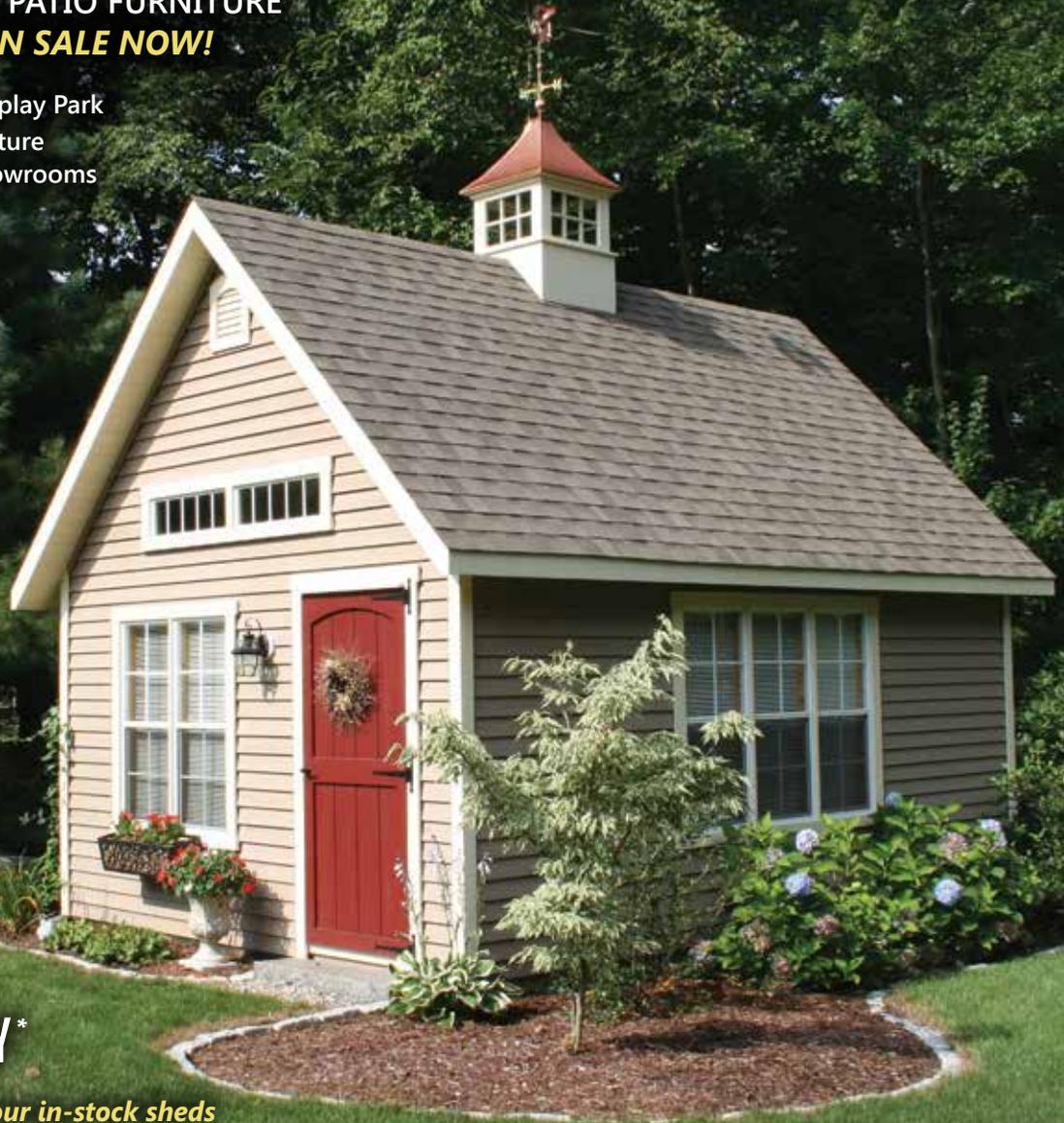
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Chester Harbor Management Commission

We have submitted a grant request, to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) for funding to prepare a request for the dredging of the mouth of Chester Creek. This area, from the Overlook to the River channel, silts in over time with material from upstream. We need to dredge every ten to fifteen years.

We collect mooring fees from boat owners that keep their boats on moorings off our shores. Traditionally we use these funds for water quality testing of Chester Creek. We will again be sampling different areas of the Creek this year.

WE MANAGE THE LOWER CONNECTICUT RIVER PUMPOUT BOAT PROGRAM.

During the boating season, the pumpout boats patrol the river providing holding tank pumpout services, free of charge. The service is for recreational boats for the seven municipalities from the East Haddam Bridge to Long Island Sound (But, not into the Sound). We have three boats; providing 7-day a week service. The boats are kept at Essex Island Marina.



During the 2016 boating season, we removed 110,000 gallons of material from boats in the marinas, yacht clubs and on moorings. This was up 26.6% over the year before. We are helping keep the river, its tributaries and boat basin waters clean.

Joel P. Severance, Chm

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9 Town Transit Partners with Google Maps for Online Trip Planning

Finding Chester local bus route information just got a whole lot easier. In fact, you probably already have it available on your smartphone. Google Maps now includes local bus routes and schedules in its directions feature.

Riders no longer have to read timetables. They simply enter the date and time that they hope to arrive at their destination and the trip planner will provide up to 3 options, showing the amount of time and number of transfers for each option, letting you easily select the most convenient trip. Google Maps can even provide walking directions, so you can find out exactly how to get to the nearest transit stop or station, and how to get to your destination once you leave the train/bus. For extra convenience, Google Maps has most locations already stored, so you only need the location name or just a category, such as fast food.

“We are pleased to welcome 9 Town Transit to Google Maps,” says Ryan Poscharsky, Strategic Partner Manager at Google.

“This partnership shows 9 Town Transit’s commitment to innovating, as well as serving and attracting new riders. Together we can provide useful and accurate information to help people quickly get to where they want to go.”

Another important feature is the ability to plan trips across agencies and modes. CT Transit New Haven and Hartford, CT Transit Express, Shoreline East and Metro North are all available in Google Maps, so it is easy to plan your trip from Water Street to Middlesex Community College, from Manhattan to Main Street, or from Castle View to Walmart. Google Maps tells you all transfers required along with the connecting agency name and contact information.

“We hope this tool makes it easier than ever to plan your trip by bus or train in our region,” says Joseph Comerford, Executive Director of 9 Town Transit.

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DEPARTMENT	EXTENSION / NUMBER	CONTACT INFO
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT Jenny Watrous	202	AdminAsst@chesterct.org
ANIMAL CONTROL Jae Wolf	860-388-7082	jwolf@essexct.gov
ASSESSOR Loreta Zdanys	512	Assessor@chesterct.org
ASSISTANT ASSESSOR Darlene Pollock	512	
BUILDING Ron Rose	207	BldgOfficial@chesterct.org
FINANCE Peter Evankow	215	Finance@chesterct.org
ACCOUNTS CLERK Sharon Echtman	216	
FIRE MARSHAL Richard Leighton	212	FireMarshal@chesterct.org
FIRST SELECTWOMAN Lauren Gister	202	FirstSelectman@chesterct.org
HUMAN SERVICES Rosie Binger	213	HumanServices@chesterct.org
INFORMATION	202	Info@chesterct.org
INLAND WETLANDS Anna Sweeney	860-526-2220	InlandWetlands@chesterct.org
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PLANNING AND ZONING Judy Brown	208	ZoningOfficial@chesterct.org
POLICE SERVICES Trooper Matt Ewing	860-526-3605	PoliceServices@chesterct.org
PUBLIC LIBRARY Stephanie Romano, Library Director	860-526-0018	
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT John Divis, Foreman	860-526-0020	
REGISTRARS OF VOTERS Tracey Ohaus & Leslie Holbrook	211	ChesterRegistrar@chesterct.org
SANITATION Lee Vito	206	Sanitarian@chesterct.org
TAX COLLECTOR Madaline Meyer	513	TaxCollector@chesterct.org
TAX CLERK Kristie Valentino	513	
TOWN CLERK Debra Germini Calamari	511	TownClerk@chesterct.org
ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK Sharon Echtman	511	
TREASURER Elizabeth Netsch	214	Treasurer@chesterct.org
WPCA		wpca@chesterct.org

www.chesterct.org

Tri-Town Youth Services



BECOME A MENTOR

Tri-Town Youth Services has been talking with local residents, school staff, business leaders, clergy and young people, to get a better sense of what families need right now, so that we may offer the best programs and services to our neighbors. During these conversations, something became clear: we need more mentors! An overwhelming amount of research shows that the key to a young person's success, achievement and resiliency is the presence of at least one caring adult in their lives. More than anything, it is the consistent, positive, supportive adult relationships that help young people overcome life's challenges and thrive.

As a small community - with a large adult and retiree population - we have the capacity to ensure that every child in need of a mentor in the Tri-Town area is paired with one. With support from the CT Mentoring Partnership and Nutmeg Big Brothers Big Sisters, Tri-Town Youth Services is developing a system for recruiting, training and pairing mentors with local kids. Whether you are interested in a short-term project working side-by-side with youth, or a longer-term commitment to support one young person in need of some extra care and attention, we would like to hear from you.

We have new opportunities for teens to become mentors, too. Tri-Town's Reach out! Program pairs Valley girls with elementary school girls. They meet after school weekly for snacks, games, crafts and conversation. The participants, their families and school social workers are thrilled with the program, but there is a need for more! We would like to expand to create a Reach out! for boys. We are looking for at least five male Valley students who can help us design and pilot this new program next school year.

If you are interested in mentoring a child or teen, please contact Allison Abramson, Executive Director at 860-526-3600.



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Office of Emergency Management

The Town of Chester continues to take advantage of as many and as much as we can of available grants to improve our capabilities of planning for, responding to and recovering from local emergencies.

This year we have been focusing on many areas of improvement of our existing Local Emergency Operations Plan. Those garnering the most attention are based on workshops attended for Best Practices.

One area of work has been, and is currently being, worked on is improving our capabilities for the notification and providing assistance for those residents requiring help during emergencies where power failures will pose a "problem" for them. Another area of plan improvements is a complete rewrite of our River Response Protocol. Our focus is on

managing the complications during a mass casualty incident. We regularly have three Passenger Carrying Vessels passing by our shores, and during the Eagle Watching Season there are five. Key challenges are who is in charge and the command and control of the multiple agencies responding to "help." If a disaster were to strike one of these vessels or an airliner (think Miracle on the Hudson), we would have local, neighbor (mutual aid), regional, State, and Federal agencies responding - each having its own command and control guidelines. Plus, on a vessel the Captain has, under maritime law, the responsibility for his/her vessel and its passengers and crew. The same is true for the First Officer on an aircraft. A Properly Prepared Plan Prevents a Poor Performance. Oh, did I mention, that under State statutes the highest ranking fire officer on scene is "In Charge."



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Chester - Community Listings

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 Chester Fair (860) 526-5947
 Chester Democratic Town Committee ... www.chesterctdems.com
 Chester Republican Town Committee (860) 398-0690
 Chester Garden Club (860) 526-2998
 Chester Historical Society..... (860) 526-5781
 Chester Merchants Association..... www.visitchester.com
 Lions Club..... deepriverchesterct.lionwap.org
 Deep River and Chester VFW..... (860) 526-3521
 Tri Town Youth Services Bureau (860) 526-3600
 Chester Meeting House..... (860) 526-0013

USEFUL NUMBERS

Consumer Protection..... (860) 566-2294
 Community Foundation of Middlesex County (860) 347-0025

LIBRARY

Chester Public Library (860) 526-0018

POST OFFICE

Chester Post Office (860) 526-2780

SCHOOLS

Superintendent of Schools District 4 (860) 526-2417
 Chester Elementary School (860) 526-5797
 John Winthrop Middle School..... (860) 526-9546
 Valley Regional High School (860) 526-5328

WORSHIP SERVICES

St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church (860) 526-5495
 Congregation Beth Shalom - Temple (860) 526-8920
 United Church of Chester..... (860) 526-2697

News from Chester Merchants

The town of Chester continues to be a destination for excellent restaurants, galleries, theater and shopping. The Chester Merchants Group pools talents and resources to organize, plan and execute activities and events that keep the downtown of Chester vibrant and in the forefront of people's minds.

Among these events are the monthly First Fridays, when stores and galleries stay

open until 8 pm with drink, food and special offers.

Adding to the festivity, on Aug. 4, there will be live music throughout the center by local musicians, so bring your dancing shoes for "A Little Night Music." Friday, Sept. 1, is "Cork and Fork," when restaurants, package stores, food and beverage purveyors, caterers, and chefs will offer tastings and sips for free or a nominal

fee. And on Oct. 6, it's "Come Home to Chester."

For ideas, information and networking in a casual atmosphere of like-minded business owners and other lovers of Chester, join the group at our meetings the first Wednesday of each month at 8:30 am. All are welcome! For more details, email chestermerchants@gmail.com.

Our Boys, Our Community

It's easy to see that we live in a culturally rich and beautiful community. It's not as easy to see that our communities are also home to boys and young men who are in at-risk situations.

That's why the At-Risk Boys Fund at the Community Foundation of Middlesex County is so important. Through the Community Foundation, the At-Risk Boys Fund has provided grants that have helped

sixth-grade boys find their self-worth and success in school. The fund helped teenage boys and police build positive interaction instead of skills confrontation. The fund has even provided temporary shelter for boys and their families.

These are just some examples of how the At-Risk Boys Fund and the people who support it have improved the lives of boys and young men throughout Middlesex County.

You too can help at-risk boys when you attend the At-Risk Boys Fund's biggest fundraising event of the year – the third annual Cruise Blues & Brews Festival on Saturday, September 30th from 10 am to 4 pm at the Chester Fair Grounds.

You and your family will enjoy a great fall festival and you will be helping the At-Risk Boys Fund do its incredible work assisting boys and young men to achieve a better life.



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Bill Guerra, Volunteer Chair
At-Risk Boys Fundraising Committee

FESTIVAL DETAILS:
3rd Annual Cruise Blues & Brews,

Saturday September 30 at the Chester Fair Grounds from 10 am to 4 pm (rain date October 1st). A fun-filled family event featuring antique and unique cars, the area's top blues bands, craft beer, up-scale food trucks, marketplace of vendors, kids play area, games, prizes

and surprises. For additional information and to purchase tickets at \$5 (kids under 12 free) go to www.atriskboysfund.org.

All proceeds benefit the At-Risk Boys Fund at the Community Foundation of Middlesex County.

Visiting Nurses of the Lower Valley

BE PREPARED FOR SUMMER

Summer is here and the kids are enjoying summer vacation. Many will travel and experience outdoor activities. It is a good time to make sure that your family is ready to be "Safe for Life." The National Safety Council offers many tips for improving safety in our everyday life. Focus on a different safety topic each week and be prepared to stay safe this summer!

Week 1: Stand Ready to Respond

- Learn CPR and first aid
- Check your emergency preparedness kit and restock expired supplies
- Check smoke detectors
- Design an emergency escape plan in case of fire
- Keep emergency numbers handy

Week 2: Be Healthy

- Make sure your doctor knows all the medications you take even over the counter supplements to avoid interactions.
- Eat plenty of fruits and vegetables and drink plenty of water
- Ask for alternative pain relievers to Opioid painkillers

Week 3: Watch Out for Dangers

- Stay alert: DON'T TEXT WHILE WALKING
- Prevent falls by clearing and maintaining pathways and installing adequate lighting and nightlights
- Supervise children at all times when near water or camp fires
- Store toxic substances out of reach of pets and children
- When visiting a crowded area determine a meeting place should you get separated

continued on page 12

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Visiting Nurses... continued from page 11

Week 4: Share Roads Safely

- Never use your cell phone while behind the wheel
- Designate an alcohol and drug-free driver
- Don't drive when fatigued
- Drive with your teens to give them plenty of practice even when they are licensed

HERE ARE SOME LINKS TO MORE IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY.

- Safe for Life www.nsc.org/safe4life
- <http://www.nsc.org/act/events/Pages/national-safety-month.aspx?var=hpnsm>

Call Visiting Nurses of the Lower Valley with any questions, 860-767-0186, we are here to serve!



ABOUT VISITING NURSES OF THE LOWER VALLEY

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

Summer Eye Health

Summer brings numerous eye problems such as burnt corneas, chemicals in eyes, and many more. There are studies that show that long-term exposure to bright sunlight may increase the risk of cataracts and growths on the eye, including cancer. Also, UV rays reflected off sand and water can cause eyes to sunburn, potentially resulting in temporary blindness in just a few hours. Here are a few tips to ensure eye health during the summer months:

- **Wear sunglasses with UV protection:** Most people already know to use sunscreen during the summer to protect their skin against UV rays but our eyes need the same protection. The best way to protect against harmful AVA and UVB rays is to wear sunglasses with protection from both. It's also important to note that sunglasses need to worn even on cloudy days.
- **Use goggles at pools:** The chlorine that is in most pools is designed to protect you from germs, but has the potential to be harmful for your eyes.
- **Wear eye protection doing home projects:** It is important to remember to shield your eyes even during simple home improvement and maintenance, like mowing your lawn. Rocks and other debris commonly fly up and into your eyes.
- **Use eye drops:** To soothe dry and tired eyes during the summer, it is best to use artificial tears. Despite best attempts sometimes your eyes are irritated or in discomfort
- **Give your eyes a rest.** If you spend a lot of time at the computer or focusing on any one thing, you sometimes forget to blink and your eyes can get fatigued. Try the 20-20-20 rule: Every 20 minutes, look away about 20 feet in front of you for 20 seconds. This can help reduce eyestrain.

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Poison Ivy and Other Poisonous Plants

First comes the itching, then a red rash, and then blisters. These symptoms of poison ivy, poison oak, and poison sumac can emerge any time from a few hours to several days after exposure to the plant oil found in the sap of these poisonous plants. The culprit: the urushiol oil.

RECOGNIZING POISON IVY, POISON OAK, AND POISON SUMAC

Poison Ivy: Can grow as a vine or small shrub trailing along the ground or climbing on low plants, trees and poles. Each leaf has three glossy leaflets, with smooth or toothed edges. May have greenish-white flowers and whitish-yellow berries.

Poison Oak: Grows as a low shrub with fuzzy green leaves in clusters of three are lobed or deeply toothed with rounded tips. May have yellow-white berries.

Poison Sumac: Grows as a tall shrub in bogs or swamps in the Northeast. Each leaf has clusters of seven to 13 smooth-edged leaflets. May have yellow-greenish flowers and whitish-green fruits hang in loose clusters.

POISON PLANT RASHES AREN'T CONTAGIOUS

These poison plant rashes occur throughout the year but most often in the summer. The rash can't be spread from person to person. But it is possible to pick up the rash from plant oil that may have stuck to clothing, pets, garden tools, and other items that have come in contact with these plants.

The rash will occur only where the plant oil has touched the skin, so a person with poison ivy can't spread it on the body by scratching. It may seem like the rash is spreading if it appears over time but this is because the plant oil is absorbed at different rates on different parts of the body. Even if blisters break, the fluid in the blisters is not plant oil and cannot further spread the rash.

The Chester Hose Company

On April 22, The Chester Hose Company recognized the volunteer men and women of the department as we held our annual banquet. Each year we hold our banquet as a way to say thank you for all they do to keep our community safe. Chief James Schaefer recognized the following members marking years of service and presented the following awards:

5 years: Gwen Johnson	35 years: Ed Calamari
15 years: Merry Berdensen	50 years: William Beni
20 years: Bruce Sypher	60 years: Charles "Pops" Greeney Sr.
25 years: Dennis Jacobs	

Chief's Award for providing support and generally going above and beyond what is expected of a member without being asked went to Dan Roschko.

continued on page 14

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FALL COURSE REGISTRATION

OPENS SEPTEMBER 15

UPCOMING EXHIBITION & LECTURE

Underneath Them Steady Air:

Bird Paintings by Judy Cotton & Michael DiGiorgio

Exhibition on view July 27 – August 16

JULY 27 | Opening Reception, 5 – 7 p.m.

JULY 27 | Lecture by guest curator Lowery Stokes Sims, 7 p.m.

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Chester Hose Company... continued from page 13

Member of the Year Award (voted on by the membership) was presented to Denise Sypher.

Junior Member of the Year Award (voted on by the officers and Junior advisors) was presented to Parker Divis.

Top Ten Responders (in no particular order) included: Dylan Grzybowski, Kim Tiezzi, Julian Norton, Mike Ahearn, John Ahearn, Aaron Mangan, Vin Germini, Jim Skeffington, Daniel Roschko, Brian Ahearn, and Vito Nanni.

Please note that our officers do not appear in the list of top responders. Officers are assigned duty shifts as part of their responsibilities, which require them to attend any and all calls that come in during that time. They are, in fact, almost always among the top 10 responders, however, they opt to award regular members rather than themselves the honor of this recognition.

We'd like to close with a reminder that as the warmer weather approaches, a new year starts at the Hose Company. We will be holding our annual department elections on July 5th. With this new start, also comes the summer season and the increase of water related accidents and injuries. It marks the busy season for foot traffic at Cedar Lake and in the area of Camp Hazen so please be sure to exercise EXTRA caution while traveling through this area of town. The Chester Hose Company is prepared to respond when the call comes in, but in an effort to prevent the call we offer these water safety tips.

- Practice caution when diving into unknown waters
- Wear approved flotation device when on or around any body of water
- Follow and adhere to ALL posted signs and water-related rules/guidelines
- Always refer to the "Buddy System"

We look forward to continuing our longstanding partnership with local organizations. Look for us. We provided medical support at the Rotary's 4 on the 4th Road Race and will do so as well with the Chester Fair, both time-honored traditions here in Chester.

Chester Hose Company Scholarship

Chester Hose Company Auxiliary

P.O. Box 214

Chester, CT 06412

The Chester Hose Company Auxiliary is pleased to announce that it has awarded its 2017 scholarship to two recipients this year. Congratulations to Melissa Howley of Old Saybrook and Mihir Khunte of Higganum.

Howley is a graduating senior at Old Saybrook High School in Old Saybrook, while Khunte is a graduating senior at Xavier High School in Middletown. Melissa will be attending Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven, CT in the fall as an undecided freshman, while Mihir will pursue a career in the Biomedical Engineering field from Yale University in New Haven, CT.

The Chester Hose Company Auxiliary as well as the department members would like to congratulate both students on their hard work and dedication to the communities they serve in and wish them continued success in the future.



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"Fall Back, Spring Ahead" Arts & Craft Fair

The Chester Hose Company Incorporated invites you to join us at our "Fall Back, Spring Ahead" Arts & Craft Fair, held on Saturday October 21st, 2017 from 10 am to 3 pm, located at 6 High Street, Chester, CT. "The Fall Back, Spring Ahead" Arts & Craft Fair has become a much-anticipated event as it allows people to get a head start on their holiday shopping by purchasing one-of-a-kind gifts for friends and family as well as shop for all those fall birthdays... or pick up a little something special for themselves! We look forward to seeing you there!

If you would like to show off and sell your craft item or know someone that does, feel free to contact us at fallbackspringahead7@gmail.com or you can contact Kim Brainard at 860-790-0178.

To follow us on Facebook go to:

<https://www.facebook.com/Fall-Back-Spring-Ahead-Arts-Craft-Fair-1317217624971543>.

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We invite you to learn more about how you can support your community. Visit us at www.MiddlesexCountyCF.org or call us at 860-347-0025.



COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

of Middlesex County

Celebrating 20 years of Philanthropy, Leadership, and Legacy.

CALENDAR of Board and Commission Meeting Dates for August/September/October 2017

Reminder: Dates and times of meetings may change.

Please be sure to check the town hall bulletin board or website - www.chesterct.org - before attending.

August 1st	Democratic Town Committee	Town Hall	7:30 pm
August 2nd	Library Building Committee	Town Hall	7:00 pm
August 3rd	Conservation	Town Hall	4:30 pm
	Winter Carnivale	Town Hall	7:00 pm
August 7th	Inland Wetlands	Town Hall	7:00 pm
August 8th	Main Street Project Committee	Town Hall	7:00 pm
August 9th	Board of Selectmen	Town Hall	7:00 pm
August 14th	Energy Team	Town Hall	9:00 am
	Economic Development	Town Hall	7:15 pm
August 15th	Water Pollution Control Authority	Town Hall	7:00 pm
August 16th	Board of Fire Commissioners	Hose Company	7:30 pm
August 17th	Board of Finance	Town Hall	7:30 pm
	Citation Review Board	Town Hall	7:00 pm
August 21st	Library Board of Trustees	Library	7:30 pm
	Zoning Board of Appeals	Town Hall	7:30 pm
August 22nd	Main Street Project Committee	Town Hall	7:00 pm
August 23rd	Board of Selectwoman	Town Hall	7:00 pm
September 5th	Democratic Town Committee	Town Hall	7:30 pm
September 6th	Library Building Committee	Town Hall	7:00 pm
September 7th	Winter Carnivale	Town Hall	7:00 pm
	Conservation Commission	Town Hall	4:30 pm
September 11th	Energy Team	Town Hall	9:00 am
September 11th	Economic Development	Town Hall	7:15 pm
	Inland Wetlands	Town Hall	7:00 pm
September 12th	Main Street Project Committee	Town Hall	7:00 pm
	Workplace Safety	Town Hall	9:30 am
September 13th	Board of Selectwomen	Town Hall	7:00 pm
September 14th	Planning and Zoning	Town Hall	7:30 pm
September 18th	Library Board of Trustees	Library	7:30 pm
	Zoning Board of Appeals	Town Hall	7:30 pm
September 19th	Water Pollution Control Authority	Town Hall	7:00 pm
September 20th	Board of Fire Commissioners	Hose Company	7:30 pm
September 21st	Board of Finance	Town Hall	7:30 pm
	Citation Review Board	Town Hall	7:00 pm
September 25th	Republication Town Committee	Town Hall	7:00 pm
September 26th	Main Street Project Committee	Town Hall	7:00 pm
September 27th	Parks and Recreation Committee	Town Hall	7:00 pm
	Board of Selectwomen	Town Hall	7:00 pm
October 2nd	Inland Wetlands	Town Hall	7:00 pm
October 3rd	Democratic Town Committee	Town Hall	7:30 pm
October 4th	Library Building Committee	Town Hall	7:00 pm
October 5th	Winter Carnivale	Town Hall	7:00 pm
	Conservation Commission	Town Hall	4:30 pm
October 10th	Main Street Project Committee	Town Hall	7:00 pm
October 11th	Board of Selectwomen	Town Hall	7:00 pm
October 12th	Planning and Zoning	Town Hall	7:30 pm
October 16th	Library Board of Trustees	Library	7:30 pm
October 16th	Energy Team	Town Hall	9:00 am
	Economic Development	Town Hall	7:15 pm
October 17th	Water Pollution Control Authority	Town Hall	7:00 pm
October 18th	Board of Fire Commissioners	Hose Company	7:30 pm
October 19th	Board of Finance	Town Hall	7:30 pm
	Citation Review Board	Town Hall	7:00 pm
October 23rd	Republican Town Committee	Town Hall	7:00 pm
October 24th	Main Street Project Committee	Town Hall	7:00 pm
October 25th	Parks and Recreation	Town Hall	7:00 pm
	Board of Selectwomen	Town Hall	7:00 pm



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Chester Public Library

Children's Programs

July 19, Deep River Art Gallery and Studio, 4 pm - 6 pm for grades 4-High School. Read a book and silk screen a design with Alicia Melluzzo. Registration required.

July 20, Young Writer's Workshop with Lynn Eddy, 6 pm - 8 pm for grades 6-12. Learn what it takes to be a writer, how to get started and what it takes. Bring your ideas and be prepared to write and ask questions.

July 27, Craft night, paint on rocks with artist Amber Forrest, 6 pm - 8 pm, all ages welcome.

Aug. 3, Summer Jewelry Making with Amber Forrest, 6:30 pm - 8 pm, for grades 6-up.

Aug. 10, Readers and Eaters book discussion, *Night Circus* by Erin Morgenstern. This program is for Middle and High School students, 6:30 - 8:00 pm. This meets the summer reading requirement for One Book.

Aug. 12, Summer Reading Wrap-Up. We will have an ice cream social and draw our grand prize winners.

Sept. 5 - 9, Celebrate Grandparents Day all week! Bring your grandparent(s) to the library to read to you or help pick out book. There will be a surprise for everyone.

Sept. 14, Jewelry Making with Amber Forrest, 6:30 - 8:00 pm, for grades 6-up.

Adult Programs

July 24, "Wildlife and Connecticut's Changing Landscape." Paul Colburn will present a brief natural history of Connecticut and will address the current state of wildlife in the state. He will also include a discussion of major species, factors affecting their habitats, challenges we face in managing them, and provides suggestions for what people can do to make a difference. This program will take place at the Town Hall, 7:00 pm.

Sept. 25, "An Education in the Grotesque: The Gargoyles of Yale University." In his lecture, Mathew Duman highlights a selection of gargoyles & grotesques found throughout the buildings of Yale University's campus in New Haven, Ct.

Using original photographs from his book, "*An Education in the Grotesque*," he explores the artistic, historic, architectural & even humorous significance of these decorative sculptures & their role in communicating the identity of Yale University as a place of learning & enlightenment. This program will take place at the Town Hall, 7:00 pm.

Oct. 3, Fall book discussion facilitated by discussion leader Marsha Bansavage. This program will take place at the Library from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. The program is free, but registration is encouraged. Call 860-526-0018 for more information and to register. Books will be available at the library on a first-come, first-served basis. Book is yet to be determined.

Summer News from the Friends of the Library

Did you know that if it weren't for the Chester Library Friends, you wouldn't be able to borrow a DVD to take home to watch with your family? And your children wouldn't have a summertime reading program? And that pass that provided reduced admission for your family to Florence Griswold Museum wouldn't exist?

The Friends fund all the programs and services for the Chester Library that are not paid for in the town budget. Book

discussion groups for adults, materials and programs for children, museum and attraction passes, DVDs and the library's Netflix membership - they're all paid for by the Friends of the Chester Library (mostly through profits from the Book Sales, but also monetary donations).

Once again the Friends will run the Paperback Book Sale at the Chester Fair (you can start leaving your good-quality paperbacks at the library on Aug. 1).

If you would like to volunteer to help at the Fair, please call Diane Lindsay at 526-2443 or leave your name at the library.

Please help us make Chester Library a better place for you. Besides supporting our book sales, through book donations and purchases, please consider making a monetary tax-deductible donation in any amount, payable to The Friends of Chester Public Library.

Weighing In

Middlesex Hospital's Center for Weight Loss Surgery can help patients reduce the risk and severity of their weight-related problems and improve their quality of life.

Weight loss surgery is sometimes the best option for patients when they've tried more conservative ways to control weight and failed. Surgery options can include gastric bypass, LAP-BAND® and sleeve surgery.

Weight loss surgery is only for those diagnosed with clinically severe or morbid obesity. Doctors will review your medical history to determine if it's the best option for you.

Morbid obesity is a serious, chronic disease that affects more than 25 percent of American adults and 14 percent of American children. Every day, more than 1,000 people in the United States will die from obesity and related health conditions. People who

are obese also have an increased risk of developing diabetes, heart disease and respiratory illnesses.

Middlesex Hospital's Center for Weight Loss Surgery has earned the American Society of Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery's Center of Excellence designation for its demonstrated track record of favorable outcomes following bariatric surgery procedures, a designation that gives patients extra peace of mind.

The center recognizes that having weight loss surgery is a big decision. In addition to providing high quality medical care, the center facilitates support groups. This gives patients a chance to gain insight from a dietitian and psychologist before having surgery. It also allows them to connect with other patients after surgery.

For more information, or to find a weight loss surgeon, visit www.middlesexhospital.org or call 860-548-2394.

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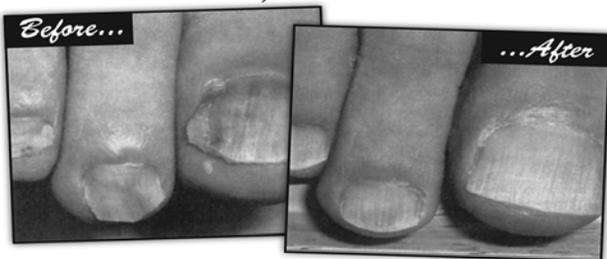
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Today is Tomorrow’s History - What’s New with Chester Historical Society

THIS SUMMER IS THE 8TH SEASON FOR THE CHESTER MUSEUM AT THE MILL.

The museum features a new first-floor exhibit curated by Keith Dauer and Sandy Senior-Dauer. The floor actually has two themes, each with high appeal. “Chester Post Cards” features more than 200 post cards, many from over a hundred years ago. The other theme, “3 Chester Notables,” is focused on photographer Hugh Spencer, Civil Rights activist and Federal Judge Constance Baker Motley, and The Leatherman, an itinerant 1880s traveler.

TO BORROW AN ADVERTISING PHRASE, ‘BUT WAIT, THERE’S MORE.’

A three-foot model of the Waterhouse Grist Mill, created by Nate Jacobson, now greets visitors in our entrance area. Our award-winning second floor exhibit now has two major enhancements — the impact of the Silliman inkwells, plus two additional full panels portraying ‘then and now’ looks of Chester’s town center. (Just wait till you see the soda fountain replica, created by Rob Miceli and Nancy Miceli Watkins, based on the one at their mother’s Chester Pharmacy.)

The museum is open on Saturdays from 1 to 4 pm and Sundays from 10 am to 4 pm until the end of October. Admission is free and the museum is air-conditioned!

NEW! Membership Now Opens Our Doors

Having a gathering of family or friends? Wish to share Chester with others? Now Chester Historical Society members can consider a visit to Chester Museum at The Mill at times other than normal museum hours (Sat. 1-4, Sun. 10-4). In season, off-season; we’ll work with you to schedule a visit tailored to your needs and times. Call Diane Lindsay 860-526-2443 to start the process.

Not a member? Stop by the museum, check it out, then download a membership form from our website, chesterhistoricalsociety.org. Annual dues are just \$30 per family, \$20 for individual.

VINTAGE BALL GAME

On Sunday, Sept. 17 at 2 pm, three teams will face off in the 4th Annual Vintage Base Ball Game presented by the Chester, Deep River and Essex Historical Societies at Devitt Field in Deep River. In this free, family-friendly event, the teams will be playing base ball by the rules of the year 1857 (when “baseball” was spelled as two words), using replica bats and balls from the 1900s and wearing reproduction uniforms. Bring a chair to supplement bleacher seating. Raindate is Sept. 24.

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Essex Printing Wins Printing Competition

NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL PRINTING AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE COMPETITION

Essex Printing has been honored for the quality of its work. On April 5th, the Print Industries of New England (PINE) announced Essex Printing as an Awards of Excellence winner in PINE's Awards of Excellence competition. The announcement was made during PINE's Industry Awards Gala, held at the Mechanics Hall in Worcester, MA. The Awards of Excellence Competition attracted over 320 entries from 41 printing and imaging companies across New England competing in a variety of printing and graphic communications categories such as best annual report, direct mail campaign, labels & packaging, and more. "We are honored that PINE has again selected Essex Printing for this prestigious distinction. Consistently winning Pinnacle Awards means that the company and its employees demonstrate a deep commitment to the company's customers and the quality of work produced on a day in and day out basis," said William McMinn, President of Essex Printing. "We look forward to continuing to meet our customers' needs and objectives with top quality print and customer service." The competition marks the 5th year in a row that PINE has recognized Essex Printing with awards for the quality of the company's work, for a total of 13 awards - including an International Benny Award in 2014.

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Tickets Now Available for 44th Season of Collomore Concerts

For its 44th season, the Robbie Collomore Music Series will offer all four of its concerts in the fall, between Sept. 24 and Nov. 26. They will be on Sundays at 5 pm in the Chester Meeting House, and now is the time to buy your season subscription.

Beginning the season, on Sunday, Sept. 24, is the Claremont Trio, brought to Chester as the Barbara and Edmund Delaney Young Artists Concert. Called "one of America's finest young chamber groups," these three young women have performed worldwide to great acclaim, both as a trio and as individual soloists. One reviewer wrote, "Their exuberant performance and gutsy repertoire... was the kind of fresh approach that keeps chamber music alive." Their Chester concert will feature sonatas by Bach, Debussy, Britten and Rachmaninoff.

In recent years, Jason Vieaux and Julien Labro have thrilled Collomore Concert audiences separately - Jason playing classical guitar in a solo concert and Julien playing accordion with the Detroit Hot Club. When the Collomore committee heard they had joined forces touring, playing the guitar and bandoneon, they jumped at the opportunity to have them return to Chester on Sunday, Oct. 15. You can expect

something "entertaining, fun, exciting, virtuosic in the unusual pairing of these two instruments. The program contains some modern classical, world music from Brazil and Argentina, and even some pop music."

Latin Jazz comes to Chester on Nov. 5, with the Curtis Brothers Quartet featuring Ray Vega, percussionist. And on Nov. 26, the soulful songs of the Gullah culture will be brought to life by Ranky Tanky, a band of native South Carolinians who mix the low country traditions with large doses of jazz, gospel, funk, and R&B.

Buy a season subscription and save money, plus you'll be certain you will have a seat even when a concert is sold out. A subscription to all four concerts is just \$98. Individual concert tickets cost \$28. For students from elementary through graduate school, a subscription is \$15 (\$5 per concert).

Tickets can be purchased online at www.collomoreconcerts.org using PayPal. All ticket-holders are invited to stay for a reception after the concert to meet the performers. For more information, check the website or call 860-526-5162.



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Troop 13 – Chester/Deep River Boy Scouts

Troop 13 Boy Scouts serves the boys ages 11-18 of Chester and Deep River. The purpose of the Boy Scouts of America is to help young men develop their character and life skills all while having fun. There is much emphasis placed on assisting these young men to develop into strong healthy citizens who will lead our communities and country in the years ahead. The Boy Scout methods help to promote these ideals through the challenge of putting them into practice with the Troop Program. This is done in a way that is both challenging and fun.

A BUSY YEAR FOR TROOP 13

The Boy Scouts of Troop 13 have been actively camping and enjoying the outdoors this spring. They worked on earning merit badges in fly fishing, metal working and fire safety. Camporee held at the Haddam Neck Fairgrounds in May. In April scouts from Troop 13 also attended the Merit Badge Madness held at Xavier High School.

EAGLE SCOUTS

Troop 13 held an Eagle Scout Court of Honor Ceremony on June 11, 2017 at the St. Joseph's Parish Hall for Francis Stino and Nathaniel Luscomb.

JUNE COURT OF HONOR

Troop 13 held their June Court of Honor at the Camp Hazen Pavilion on June 14, 2017. The following boys earned Rank advancements.

Silver Eagle Scout Palm: Matthew O' Keefe, James Rutty

Bronze Eagle Scout Palm: Samuel Rutty

Life: Jacob Kateley

Star: Carter Tiezzi

Tenderfoot: James Guyer

Scout: Erik Anderson, Jr., Stephen Courcy, Cooper Edwards, Paul Knudsen, Logan Parker, Sebastian Peterlik, Aiden Stone, Lucas Welch

UPCOMING PLANS FOR SUMMER 2017

Troop 13 will attend June Norcross Webster Scout Reservation in Ashford, CT for Summer Camp in June. The boys will enjoy swimming, climbing, boating, archery, rifle & shotgun shooting, sports, ATV and camping.

This July, nine Boy Scouts from Troop 13 along with Assistant Scout Master Mike Rutty will attend the 2017 National Scout Jamboree held at the Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia. Located adjacent to West Virginia's New River Gorge National River area, The Summit is the new home of achievement, adventure, and innovation in Scouting.

SUPPORT SCOUTING IN CHESTER/DEEP RIVER

- FALL FUNDRAISER 2017

Boy Scout Troop 13 and Cub Scout Pack 13 will be taking orders for 9 inch mums this June-September. Mums are grown at a local nursery in Middletown, CT and can be ordered from any Boy Scout in Troop 13 or Cub Scout in Pack 13 or contact Lianne Rutty at LER997@aol.com. Colors available are Red, Orange, Yellow, White and Pink for \$10/per pot. The mums will be delivered October 6-8, 2017. Please consider supporting Boy Scouting in Chester and Deep River as you beautify your home and businesses.

INFORMATION

To learn more information about joining Troop 13 please contact our Scoutmaster, Steven Merola at 860-526-9262

Welcome Reverend W. Alan Froggatt!



UNITED CHURCH OF CHESTER'S NEW PASTOR BEGINS AUGUST 15TH
After almost 2 years without a settled pastor, we have chosen Rev. Froggatt as our unanimous choice to lead the UCC and serve our community here in Chester. Though currently living with his wife Debbie in Beverly, MA, they will be relocating here over the summer months, and Alan's first sermon will be on Sunday, August 20th. We hope you can join us and show him a warm welcome!

Alan is a native of CT, having grown up in Meriden. He has a B.A. in Psychology and Biblical Studies. His M.A. in Divinity was earned at Princeton. We love Alan's

presence, his spirituality, his humor, and his connection to the community, and believe he can provide transformational leadership to the UCC.

We wish to bid farewell and great THANKS to our interim pastor, Rev. Lee Ireland, whose warm and kind presence was felt and appreciated throughout her tenure. Her last day will be July 23rd for those who wish to stop by with their good wishes.

IMPORTANT

July and August Services will be held at 9:00 am to beat the heat. Special music and guest speakers featured throughout the summer. Enjoy!

The Chester Land Trust

The **Third Huckleberry Adventure** for kids from four to four hundred will be held in August. Please watch for date and time. This is a wonderful 45 minutes spent learning about and viewing our new Osprey family in Chester Creek. Sandy Sanstrom, brings his love of wild-life and knowledge of Ospreys to share with the friends, families and members of the Chester Land Trust. Please email probinson02@snet.net for further information.

THE CHESTER LAND TRUST ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting will be held in late October. Please check the web-site and watch for information about our guest speakers and venue for this year's meeting.



The Deep River State Farm Office
will be hosting
Community Seminars
at the
Deep River Public Library
on the last Tuesday
of every month,
5:00 pm to 5:45 pm.

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Chester Fife and Drum Corps

CELEBRATING 149TH ANNIVERSARY

Welcome to the summer of 2017. If you're like me, you've had enough of continuous rain, although we need it. It's time to think of more pleasurable outside activities. We, the members of the Chester Fife and Drum Corps, look forward to the parade and muster season. As you may know by now, Chester Drum Corps was established in 1867 and went "on the road" in 1868. This Corps has been playing our music continuously since the beginning with no time taken off for any reason (good, bad, or otherwise!). We have performed in many different uniforms, and are now wearing our fourth (or fifth) uniform in 149 years. Our new look is more colonial.



Update on new uniforms. We are almost there with uniform upgrades. We are still working on getting bits and pieces to finish off the whole look. Just think old Chester and add a little flair of modern.



Now Under
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TUESDAY
Trivia 7:30 pm

WEDNESDAY
Acoustic Open Mic

THURSDAY
Open Mic 9:00 pm

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We are also in the process of making plans for our 150th Anniversary Celebration/Muster to be held September 22, 2018. So, keep looking for more information as we finalize our plans.

Memorial Day weekend was a busy weekend for the Corps. We did 6 events in 3 days. Chester Town Wide Tag sale on Saturday, Parade in Cheshire on Sunday, followed by a shortened parade in Chester on Monday. We also decided to do a short parade to downtown Chester and after that a concert at the Chester Village West. That was followed by a picnic at the Ruffino residence and then another concert at the Veterans Club in Essex. What a great way to honor our fallen. THANK YOU, Chester, CT, for your support.

Our drum line is well staffed. However, our fife line needs more players. If you are interested in joining us, but do not wish to play an instrument, we also need members for the Color Guard to march at the front of our Corps and carry our Colors. We provide drum and fife lessons free of charge and teach our members the ins and outs of marching in unison. We practice at the Chester Elementary School in the fall, winter, and early spring. Summer practices are at North Quarter Park and Cedar Lake. So please come and see what we are about, do and play. Our tentative 2017 schedule is noted below.

- Aug. 12 Buell Jam II
- Aug. 13 VJ Day Parade Moosup CT
- Aug. 26 Chester Fair (Play at 1900-1945) (B Uniform)
- Aug. 27 Chester Fair (Play at 1500-1545) (Full Uniform)
- Aug. 25-26 Westbrook Muster

- Sept. 16 Guilford Citizens Day Parade

- Oct. 8 108th Bridgeport Columbus Day Parade
- Oct. 9 Florence Griswold Museum
- Oct. 14 Moodus Muster

- Nov. 11 Tri-Town Veterans Day Parade

- Sept. 22 Chester F&DC 150th Celebration 2018

If you are interested in becoming part of history and joining our corps, please feel free to call me at 860-691-1735. We are on Facebook, the Town of Chester website and our email address is chester1868@gmail.com.

Just as a reminder, we are neither a Junior nor Senior Corps. We are a family oriented organization and intend on remaining so. Better yet, come on down and see what we are about. We practice from 6:30 until 8:00 p.m. Hope you have a most enjoyable summer. Hope to see you at a muster or at a parade.

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Business Manager and Drum Major



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Shoreline "Stuff-the-Ambulance" Drive Collects Over 3,200 lbs of Food



"Stuff-an-Ambulance" food drive companies included Chester Ambulance and Deep River Ambulance (pictured together, bottom left and right), Essex Ambulance (upper right), and Madison Ambulance (upper left).

Four shoreline ambulance companies held "Stuff-an-Ambulance" food drives at local supermarkets on Saturday, June 10th for Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries. Shoppers responded generously, and in total they collected over 3,200 pounds of non-perishable food. Supporters also donated over \$650, which will provide enough food for over 2,000 meals.

Held at Colonial Market in Essex, Adams Hometown Market in Deep River and Roberts Food Center in Madison, the dedicated volunteers from each ambulance company worked together to make the drive a huge success. Participating ambulance companies included Chester, Essex, Deep River, and Madison, delivering much-needed food to SSKP's food pantries.

The Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries

Meal Site - Chester
Sundays 5:00 - 6:00 pm
United Church of Chester
29 West Main Street

WMRD
1150 - AM
Middletown - Hartford

WLIS
1420 - AM
Old Saybrook - New London

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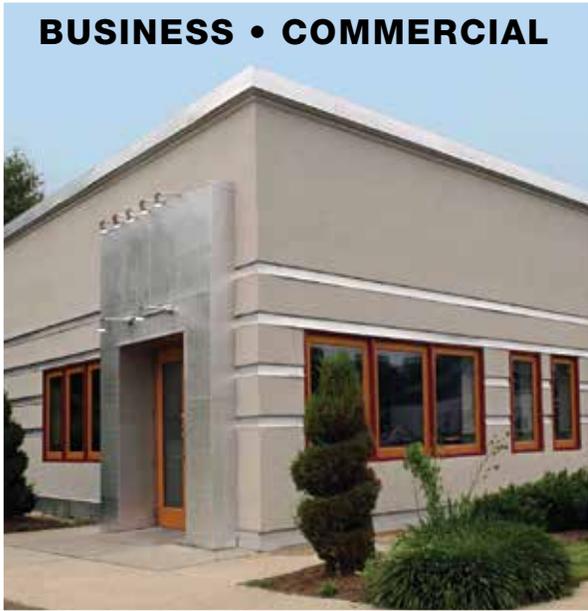
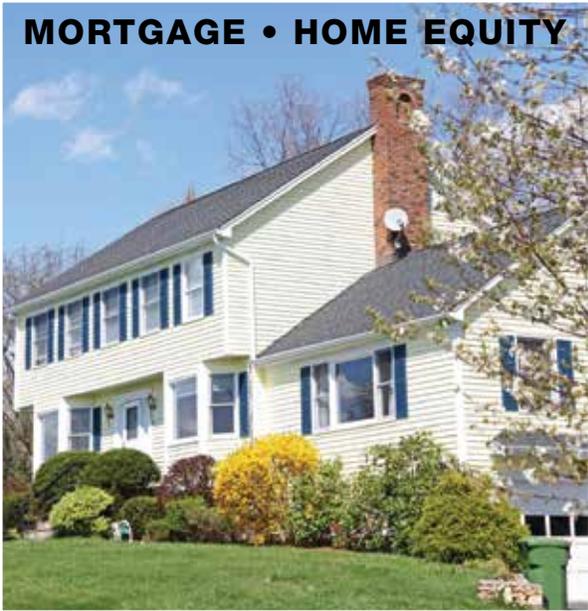
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