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# First Selectman's Corner

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

As fall settles in there are a lot of events happening in Town. Coming up is the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Pumpkin Festival in Ivoryton on Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup>. Visit the Essex Board of Trade website (esssexct.com) or the Ivoryton Village Alliance website (ivorytonalliance.org) for more information on local happenings. I encourage you to support our local events, businesses and organizations.

Over the summer we continued to work toward completion of the \$6 million Capital Improvement Plan. The First Selectman's office renovation was completed. The Essex Town Hall now has air conditioning throughout the building. Renovations to the rear entrance to Town Hall and lavatories will bring the building into compliance with the ADA.

As of this date, the Town has issued bonds in the amount of \$6 million dollars at a 2.42% rate of interest. We obtained that excellent rate as a result of the Town's improved credit rating, which went from AA2 to AA+. That was made possible as a result of the excellent fiscal management of the Town and the help of Finance Director Kelly Sterner, Town Treasurer Jim Francis, the Board of Finance and the Board of Selectmen. A copy of the Standard and Poor's Report is posted on the website.

I'm pleased to report the Walnut Street Bridge project is underway as scheduled. We anticipate the bridge being passable during the winter months and then closing down again in the spring to complete the job. Please use caution and drive slowly when following the detour signs. The streets being impact-



Norm Needleman First Selectman

ed, especially Comstock Avenue, are not accustomed to high traffic flows and there are often children at play.

In order to assist our first responders, the Town is requesting that all residents post house numbers on their mailboxes. Our first responders want to get to those in need as quickly as possible. Valuable time could be wasted if our first responders cannot easily locate an address. Many addresses in Town are difficult to find even when using GPS. As we all know, time is of the essence in an emergency situation. Compliance is voluntary, but strongly suggested, as we do not have an ordinance requiring numbers on mailboxes.

continued on page 3



# events

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#### First Selectman's Corner... continued from page 1

We are all saddened by the loss of former First Selectman John Johns and his wife Betty, lifelong residents who gave so much to our community. We will miss them both.

Congratulations to Keith Nolin, Fire Marshal, on his recent retirement. Thank you for your years of service to the Town of Essex.

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

Lastly, we have seen some of the most significant storms in history hit the southern states, Puerto Rico and islands in the Caribbean area this year. All those affected have a long road ahead of them. Much help is still needed. Please do research before volunteering services or money to be sure it's legitimate. Check FEMA.GOV for more information on how to help.

All the Best, Norm

# **FISH (Friends in Service Here)**

FISH was founded locally in 1970 to provide free rides to medical appointments for residents of Essex, Deep River and Chester. The officers for 2017 are: Henry May, President; Stuart Warner, Vice President; Ali Nichols, Secretary; Barbara Ryan, Treasurer and Dana Hill, Driver Recruitment. Dispatchers are John Heiser and Tony Carrano. Through August of 2017, FISH drivers provided over 500 free rides, of which 200 were for residents of Essex.

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

Henry May, Driver and President

#### Senior Solutions Educational Series for Dementia



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Call 860-345-3779 to Reserve Your Spot Today!



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

All these events, with the exception of the Geology Cruise planned for October 25, are free and open to the general public.

#### Saturday, October 21, 7:30 am, Register at Ivoryton Village Green

**8th Annual Ivoryton Pumpkin Chase:** Co-sponsored in part by the Essex Land Trust, the Ivoryton Pumpkin Chase will benefit the Library and its programs. The 5K race course winds through Ivoryton Village and the Essex Land Trust's Falls River Preserve. 5K prizes awarded in 10 age groups. Runners 8 and under running in the Kids' Fun Run will be given medals and invited to stay for craft and story time. Registration begins at the Ivoryton Village Green at 7:30 am. Race starts at 8:45 am for children and at 9:15 am for adults. Parking is available in designated lots. Rain or shine.

Wednesday, October 25, 1:30 pm Eagle Landing State Park, Haddam Ct. Geology Cruise on the Connecticut River: Enjoy a fall cruise with Ralph Lewis, former CT state geologist, who will lead our trip down the CT River to explore ancient geological formations. BYO picnic/beverage. Reservations required: \$30/person. Limited spaces available. Save your seat by emailing Judy Saunders: judith.saunders@comcast.net. Bad weather cancels.

#### Thursday, November 2, 7 pm

#### Carriage House, Deep River Historical Society Connecticut River Valley Native Americans:

Nicholas Bellantoni, former CT State Archaeologist, will be our guide to Native Indian sites and cultures over the last 11,000 years in the Lower Connecticut River Valley. The evening will include Indian artifact identification and demonstrations of Native Indian lifeways. This second lecture on early Native Indian life in our area is co-sponsored by the Deep River Historical Society, the Essex Historical Society and the Deep River Land Trust.

continued on page 6



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Essex \$770,000 A new price makes this treasure of a home an incredible value! This village Victorian was thoughtfully renovated.



# Welcome to the Pieper family!

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### **Essex Vet Hospital**

Our general practice in Essex, CT provides a full range of veterinary services including preventative wellness care, comprehensive medical care and surgical care in a modern and welcoming facility.

We are local, veterinarian-owned, and we understand that you expect nothing but the highest quality medical and personal attention.

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> Essex Vet Hospital 114 Westbrook Rd Essex, CT 860-767-7976





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#### Essex Land Trust ... continued from page 4

Saturday, December 2, 9 am (NEW DATE) West Parking Lot off Ingham Hill Rd., Essex Archaeology Hike in The Preserve: Explore The Preserve from the perspective of archeologists Nicholas Bellantoni, and Lucianne Lavin. Learn the secrets of past lifeways and land use. Bad weather cancels.

#### Saturday, November 18, 9 am Cross Lots Preserve, 40 West Ave.

**Cross Lots Preserve Autumn Clean-up:** Cross Lots lovers come help us put this land trust preserve to bed for the winter, get a mild work out and connect with your neighbors in a beautiful setting. Refreshments will be served. Please bring rakes, blowers, etc. Families are welcome. Dogs too. Rain date: Sunday, November 19.

#### Saturday, December 9, 9 am End of Navy Lane, Essex Hike Doanes' Woods and James Glen Preserves. The Doanes' Woods Preserve is a large flat wooded

area, which drops steeply to the east and adjoins the James Glen Preserve. These preserves include a wooded ravine with creek, rock outcroppings and spectacular tulip trees as well as other deciduous trees. A great winter hike to explore some local geological features with our stewards. Access is at the end of Navy Lane, off of Book Hill Road, Essex.

#### The Essex Land Trust Mission

The Land Trust acquires open space by gift or purchase in order to protect the environment, to preserve the small town character of Essex and to provide the community with passive recreational and educational opportunities.

The Land Trust conserves wildlife habitats, forests, fields, rivers, wetlands and scenic views by maintaining properties in a natural state now and forever.

The Essex Land Trust is an independent, non-profit organization supported by donations and managed by volunteers.



Anyone who would like to be on our volunteer roster should contact our volunteer coordinator Judy Saunders at judith.saunders@comcast.net or by calling 860-581-8108.

For more information about the Essex Land Trust and these events, please visit our website at www. essexlandtrust.org or email info@essexlandtrust.org. Essex Land Properties & Trails

Since its founding in 1968, the Land Trust has helped preserve over 1000 acres of open space, of which it

owns or holds under easement approximately 600 acres. We invite all of the community to enjoy our 23 preserves, many along the spectacular waterfronts of the Connecticut and Falls Rivers. Properties are open sunrise to sunset and we encourage everyone to enjoy these open spaces to experience the natural beauty and diversity of the Essex community.

To learn more about the Essex Land Trust, programs, properties, and to download trails maps, visit us at www.essexlandtrust.org or contact us at info@essex-landtrust.org.

# Second Annual Tri-Town Veterans Day Parade

ALL VETERANS WELCOME. PLEASE BRING YOUR FAMILIES AND JOIN US SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2017. KICKOFF AT 1:00 PM

Parade Route: Deep River Elementary School parking log, down High Street to Main Street to the Memorial Green, Deep River, CT. Transport Vehicles for veterans who cannot march will be provided. Dress code: Uniform or khaki pants, white shirt or a shirt with your armed forces emblem. Call Jane (Deuse) Cable (USN 1968-1971) at 860-204-9473, text 602-622-5946 or email cable\_jane@yahoo.com for any questions.



# **Essex Library**





The Essex Library has a multitude of programs to offer this fall.

Wild turtle rehabilitator Pam Meier will introduce you to some of our most beloved, least understood neighbors on October 19. Director Emeritus of Emergency Medicine at Middlesex Hospital, Dr. Michael Saxe will speak about the nation's opioid epidemic on October 26, and a talk on Cyber Security At Sea will be presented by Coast Guard Captain Andrew Tucci and Dr. Joseph DiRenzo on October 28.

Music History Professor Jeffrey Engel will give part 2 of a talk on the life of Antonin Dvorcak "Dvorcak Comes to America" on November 6. On November 14 Librarian Norma Wright presents: Genealogy and DNA: Just the Basics.

The Centerbrook Architects Lecture Series begins its tenth season on November 9 with a talk by the company's partners about their latest inspirations and their

newest book "Centerbrook 4." Stay tuned for dates and times of upcoming Centerbrook lectures, as well as for a program series on Garden Photography Tips by garden photographer and writer Karen Bussolini. Master Wildlife Conservationist Paul Coburn will give a talk on Eastern Coyotes in Connecticut on January 16.

The Children's Department weekly story times continue through December 7th. Those with little ones (aged newborn - 2) are welcome to drop in on Fridays at 10 am. Preschool story time meets weekly on Thursday mornings for stories, movement, music and exploration centers. Stop by for Halloween programs during the month of October and meet up with us for our annual gift making workshop in December. We hope to see your family during winter vacation week for gaming, art, and yoga. Stayed tuned for fabulous reading programs and events for all ages! For more information or to register for any of these programs, please call the Essex Library at 860-767-1560.

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## Park and Recreation 17th Annual Ivoryton Pumpkin Festival





Saturday, October 21, 2017 marks the date for the 17th Annual Ivoryton Pumpkin Festival to be held in Historic Downtown Ivoryton. The festival brings more than 1500 visitors to the village green. The Pumpkin Festival takes the very best traditions of the autumn season and offers them all for FREE!

Activities will be taking place all day!

Join the Ivoryton Library's Pumpkin Chase a 5k Walk, Run or Relay through the Historic Village of Ivoryton. The Library will also host a Kids Fun Run. Registration starts at 7:30 at the Ivoryton Green with the Fun Run at 8:45 and Chase at 9:15.

Then Join Essex Park and Recreation starting at 9 am at the Ivoryton Town Green for our Pumpkin Carving Party. We will have pumpkins to carve, while supplies last for you to display at the festivals lighted Pumpkin Stroll. (All pumpkins must be picked up by 7:30 that evening).

Starting at 5 pm – Essex Park and Recreation will host Halloween inspired face painting by Bohemian Body Art.

Enjoy a not so scary horse drawn hayride with Allegra Farms - Rides will leave from the Village Green from 4 pm-7 pm. Don't miss the Haunted Happenings at the Ivoryton Library starting at 5 pm, also from 6-7 pm enjoy the antics of Casper the Friendly Ghost on the Big Screen presented by Ivoryton Library and Essex Park and Rec next to Elephants Crossing.

Check out the entertainment: "Federation" is back with live music in the Gazebo from 5 pm-7 pm.

Enjoy free refreshments, courtesy of The Essex Lions Club, All Saints Church, Essex Park and Recreation Commission and "Be a Voice" while they last @The Ivoryton Playhouse patio. Take a stroll around the village and take in the sights of the beautifully carved pumpkins on display. Pumpkin Lighting begins at 5 pm.

For more information please contact Essex Park and Recreation 860-767-4340 x110/148 or visit www.essexct.gov.

Mary Ellen Barnes, CPRP Town of Essex, Park and Recreation Director Social Services & Municipal Agent mbarnes@essexct.gov

## Real Estate Statistics\* for Essex

#### Current Active Listings

\$399,999 and under	22
\$400,000-\$599,999	25
\$600,000-\$799,999	16
\$800,000-\$999,999	2
\$1,000,000 and up	20

Pending and Sold Properties

Number of Pending Properties	34
Sold Properties - YTD Comparison:	
January 1, 2016-September 28, 2016	73
January 1, 2017-September 28, 2017	77

(\*Statistical information is from CTMLS for single family homes as of 8/31/2017)





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- · How long will it take to sell your home?

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5 Book Hill Road, Essex Offered at \$419,000



15 Fox Hollow Drive, Old Saybrook Offered at \$409,000



7 Prospect Street, Essex Listed by K. Schellens - Sold by Shannehans Offered at \$299,000



132 River Road, Essex Offered at \$1,245,000



13 Crosstrees Hill Road, Essex Offered at \$529,000

The Sh Annehans

TheShannehans@williampitt.com 860.575.6583 Don 203.247.0020 Kathy



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82-3 Mt. Archer Road, Lyme Listed by M.Mattson,- Sold by K.Shannehan Offered at \$625,000

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# **Ivoryton Playhouse**

Ivoryton is the place to be this autumn with plenty of events and entertainment throughout the fall months and into the holidays. With lots to see and do, we look forward to welcoming you to Ivoryton where you'll find great shops, restaurants, entertainment and great people, too!

Don't be afraid to check out spooky fun for the whole family at the annual **Ivoryton Village Pumpkin Festival** on Saturday, October 21. Jack-o-lanterns will line the Green and lots of ghostly and ghoulish goings-on can be discovered throughout the village. Event starts at 5:00 pm.



At the Ivoryton Playhouse, don't miss the glittering whodunit *Ken Ludwig's The Game's Afoot!* opening Wednesday, November 1st – 19th. It's December 1936 and Broadway star William Gillette, admired the world over for his

leading role in the play Sherlock Holmes, has invited his fellow cast members to his Connecticut castle for a weekend of revelry. But when one of the guests is stabbed to death, the festivities in this isolated house of tricks and mirrors quickly turn dangerous. Then it's up to Gillette himself, as he assumes the persona of his beloved Holmes, to track down the killer before the next victim appears. A murderously funny thriller where the danger and hilarity are non-stop. Winner 2012 Mystery Writers of America Edgar Allen Poe Awards – Best Play!

Fall quickly turns into the holiday season – the brightest and merriest time of the year for Ivoryton! Save the Date of Saturday, December 2nd (from 5:00 pm) for the eighth annual Ivoryton Illuminations. Santa arrives and 350,000 lights are switched on throughout the village. Come and marvel at the tallest living Christmas tree in the state. Tune your radio to 101.5FM and watch the lights dance to holiday music. The lights are on throughout the month of December.



To celebrate the season of goodwill, bring the whole family to the Ivoryton Playhouse for a very special holiday production *It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play.* Inspired by the classic American film, *It's a Wonderful Life: A Live* 

*Radio Play* is performed as a 1940s live radio broadcast in front of a studio audience. Five actors perform the dozens of characters in the radio play as well as produce the sound effects. Make the Playhouse part of your holiday tradition with this great family fun. Open December 7th – 17th with matinee and evening performances.

Visit www.ivorytonplayhouse.org for more information or call our box office at 860.767.7318 to purchase tickets.



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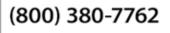
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# **Community Foundation of Middlesex County**

#### Community Foundation of Middlesex County Rallies For Respect, Kindness and Positive Change

The Council of Business Partners at The Community Foundation of Middlesex County (CFMC) has ramped up its ongoing Campaign For Bully-Free Communities in recognition of National Bullying Prevention Month in October. Several years ago, with the help of Rushford, a Hartford Healthcare Partner, they developed the "No Bully Zone" program, a training curriculum to help school personnel create healthy and positive learning environments. To date, No Bully Zone Program has been implemented in Keigwin Middle and Woodrow Wilson Middle schools in Middletown; in the Haddam-Killingworth school district; in Oddfellows Playhouse and Ivoryton Playhouse projects; The Country School; and in conjunction with The First Tee of Connecticut youth programs. The program was also adapted for school bus drivers with over 470 M & J Bus company drivers receiving training. It is now being implemented in the East Hampton school system with support from the Shulman Family Fund and the East Hampton Rotary Club Foundation.

Expansion of the bullying prevention initiative expanded with the creation of the Campaign for Bully-Free Communities in partnership with the Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS); EMPOWER Leadership Sports; The First Tee of Connecticut; Rushford, A Hartford Healthcare Partner; iCRV Radio; DATTCO and former NBA and UCONN basketball player Donny Marshall. The Campaign rallies everyone in Middlesex County, and beyond, to take a pledge to stand together against all mean-spirited behavior and stand up for respect, kindness, and positive action. Highlights include an annual Rally for Bully-Free Communities for elementary, middle and high school students to participate in empowering, team building activities; and the presentation of the Bully-Free Communities Spotlight award to an individual, school or organization that has made positive things happen in a real and meaningful way. For more information on the Campaign for Bully-Free Communities, go to bullyfreemiddlesexcountycf.org or call the Community Foundation of Middlesex County at 860-347-0025.



## **Town Clerk**

Town Clerk's Office Submitted by Yvonne Roziak, Assistant Town Clerk

#### Welcome to Centerbrook, Essex and Ivoryton

85 River Road L-6	Essex
9 Farm Lane	Essex
30 Hemlock Drive	Essex
48 Foxboro Road	Essex
55 South Main Street	Essex
76 Mares Hill Road	Ivoryton
11 Orchard Heights Rd.	Essex
108 Bushy Hill Rd.	Ivoryton
	Ivoryton
28 Blake St.	Ivoryton
85 River Rd., M-8	Essex
20 Bushy Hill Road	Ivoryton
194 Saybrook Road	Essex
23 Laurel Road	Essex
1 Primrose Ledge	Essex
73 Book Hill Road	Essex
10 Heron Pond Road	Essex
38 Dennison Road	Essex
42 Falls River Drive	Ivoryton
	_
85 River Road, Unit H7	Essex
	г
	Essex
U	Essex
27 Partridge Lane	Essex
11 Maale Lana	Esser
	Essex
•	Ivoryton
31 Mares Hill Road	Essex
	<ul> <li>9 Farm Lane</li> <li>30 Hemlock Drive</li> <li>48 Foxboro Road</li> <li>55 South Main Street</li> <li>76 Mares Hill Road</li> <li>11 Orchard Heights Rd.</li> <li>108 Bushy Hill Rd.</li> <li>2 Bushy Hill Rd.</li> <li>28 Blake St.</li> <li>85 River Rd., M-8</li> <li>20 Bushy Hill Road</li> <li>194 Saybrook Road</li> <li>23 Laurel Road</li> <li>1 Primrose Ledge</li> <li>73 Book Hill Road</li> <li>10 Heron Pond Road</li> </ul>

#### Loss of Residents and Friends

June

Ronald Tripoli Kenneth A. Benjamin Helmet Bieber Philip G. Putnam Joanne J. Helchowski Alfred Klicka

#### July

Patricia M. Foster Liesa Bing Allen Gavin Alden Collins Burton Jay Karp Thomas P. Gerhart August Varick D. Harrison Jeanne Murphy William Scott Sneath Helen C. Patrick

**September** Wilson Itnyre Ann Watson







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## Essex Harbor Management Commission

On October 1, 2017, the Essex Harbor Management Commission began working exclusively with Online Mooring LLC for automating the Mooring Permit Application process, including renewals, Bushnell access storage permits and wait list requests. The new system will make the process "paperless" and more efficient.

Links to the new web based system will be available October 1 through an email blast, through the Town's web site or by connecting at onlinemooring.com, then going to Town of Essex, CT. Current permit holder information has been stored with Online Mooring to make the renewal process easier and faster. Permit holders will simply verify and/or update the information on file.

The system will handle all boat and contact information, including your state registration (or documentation) without requiring you to send in a paper copy. Insurance certificates will also be handled electronically. Payment will be available through credit/debit card in a secure transaction.

The process has been tested by members of the Commission. Online Mooring LLC is a well-established operation working with numerous harbors in the northeast.

The startup date of October 1 is the normal renewal/application start for the coming year and provides a good point to initiate the simple paperless process. An eblast to current mooring permit holders initiated the process.

Applicants for new mooring permits, as well as for Bushnell access storage permits will be placed on a wait list, pending the availability of space and review by the Harbor Master and Harbor Commission. Bushnell storage permit renewals will join the system with their eblast on March 1, 2018. Wait list renewals will join the program on April 1, 2018, following the completion of the other permit plans.

For renewing a current permit, you will receive an email on or after Oct.1 or you may go to my.onlinemooring.com/EssexCT and enter your email. The system will provide you with the current information on file. Correct or update the information, filling in any necessary blocks.

For new application, go to onlinemooring.com, Town of Essex, CT and choose whether you want to apply for a mooring permit or Bushnell storage permit.

Complete the application - red checked items must be completed. Double check your information and make sure your email address is accurate. Your insurance certificate can either be downloaded or photocopied and included with your application.

Questions may be directed to the Essex Harbor Management Commission or the Harbor Master. You should make sure that your email is correctly listed with your other information in the Harbor Commission/Harbor Master records.

Wait lists and permit holder lists are maintained by the Harbor Commission and are posted by the EHMC on the Town's website and at the Town Hall.

harbormanagementcommission@essexct.gov or harbormaster@essexct.gov.

# **Child & Family Agency's Holiday House Tour**



SAVE THE DATE! DECEMBER 9, 2017 The Essex River Valley Auxiliary of Child & Family Agency of Southeastern CT announces its 14th biennial Essex Holiday House Tour on Saturday, December 9, from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. The tour will feature several beautiful village homes, all decorated for the holidays and within walking distance from the Town Hall for easy access to village shops and restaurants as well.

Essex Historical Society's Pratt House and the Connecticut River Museum will also be open free to ticket holders. The John Pratt II Homestead is a fully furnished historic home that was started in 1701 and finished in 1732. The Connecticut River Museum will feature, for the 24th year in a row, its remarkable model railroad exhibit created by noted artist and railroad buff, Steve Cryan, who usually makes annual changes to his delightful work. Enticing boutique wares for everyone's shopping list and a small café at Essex Town Hall will also merit exploring.

For more information about the tour or the Agency, and to purchase tickets online, please visit www.childandfamilyagency.org or call 860-443-2896 x1403.

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Traditional 2-dimensional mammograms combine all the overlapping layers of breast tissue into a single flat image—which can make it difficult to detect potential cancers while they're still small and most treatable. But, with state-of-the-art 3D Breast Tomosynthesis, radiologists at Middlesex Hospital can now examine each layer of tissue more closely and from angles previously unavailable, resulting in a 40% increase in invasive breast cancer detection. And Middlesex Hospital is also the first in the state with dual-head Molecular Breast Imaging, one of the most powerful new tools for taking a better look at any problem spots that need closer examination. When combined, these brand new technologies deliver the earliest possible detection and the best possible outcomes—with the least amount of stress and discomfort for the patient. To learn more, visit middlesexhospital.org/breastcare.



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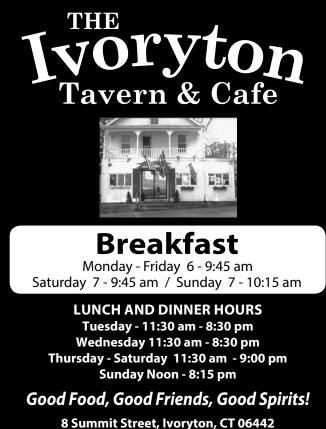
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# **Essex Community Fund**

We'd like to familiarize you with our hard-working and dedicated Board of Directors:

#### LAUREN CAIZZO

Lauren is the long-serving secretary for ECF. She followed in her father's footstep who was a Board member for many years. A Manager for Ann Taylor in Westbrook, she organizes our twice annual Stuff-A-Cruiser events with the Essex Police Department. She lives in Essex with her husband, Rob. They have three sons and are expecting their first grandchild later this year.

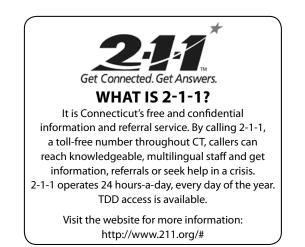
#### ANNE BISHOP

Anne and her husband moved full time to Centerbrook five years ago when she retired from her position as CEO of the YWCA of the City of New York. With more than 30 years of experience in strategic planning, business development, marketing, branding and management for both non-profits and corporations, we have been very fortunate to have Anne's expertise with our strategic planning and our current branding and donor relations efforts. In addition to ECF, Anne is a member of the Ivoryton Alliance. When not busy volunteering, Anne spends time in her gardens and her love of drawing, reading and movies.

#### PAM VISEL

Pam joined ECF three years ago and focuses on writing for our group. She works as an Account Manager for PowerPhone in Madison, working with the 911 community. She has been very involved with her church over the years, including leading teen mission trips to Providence, Pittsburgh and twice to El Salvador and doing Midnight Runs into NYC. She and her husband, Tim, have lived in Ivoryton for 27 years. They have two children, both married, and two wonderful grandsons. She enjoys scrapbooking, quilting and traveling.

Our two annual Stuff-A-Cruiser events happen in November and December, held in conjunction with the Essex Police Department they benefit the Shoreline Soup Kitchen and Pantries. Our goal is to collect over 1 ton of food at both events. Please help us achieve it!



# **Tri-Town Youth Services**

Tri-Town Youth Services and the Tri-Town Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition are excited to announce six new coalition work groups forming this fall. If you are interested in the quality of life in our community, please consider getting involved! We are seeking fresh perspectives, new ideas and short-term projects are available. Please call Allison Abramson for more information at 860-526-3600.

#### Parent Advisory Group

The Parent Advisory Group will listen to parent concerns and plan local talks and events to address our needs. Topics we may address include social media, healthy boundaries; anxiety and depression; and substance use prevention. Parents will also take a deep dive into the 40 Developmental Assets: what they are, how to build them, and which are most commonly lacking among youth in our community.

#### Youth Action Council

We cannot prevent teen substance use, bullying or youth suicide without input from the young people in our community! We invite John Winthrop and Valley students to join our coalition. Share your stories of teen life: what you love about our community and what you wish were better. Receive leadership training, learn about the 40 Developmental Assets and work side-by-side with community leaders to solve some of our area's biggest challenges. Find your voice, share your ideas and help make our schools and our neighborhoods even better.

#### **Community Wellness Group**

Can we address the concept of "wellness" as a community? That is the challenge for the Community Wellness Group! This team will look at the community through a holistic lens, with concern for the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of our neighbors. The Community Wellness Group will develop new programs that promote and support stress management, self-care and overall good health.

#### **School Partnership Team**

Tri-Town's great work with Region 4 continues! Support our schools as they develop an incredible calendar of classroom lessons, special assemblies, and family events centered on positive climate, self-confidence, coping skills, and drug and alcohol awareness. Help us expand our mentoring programs to support more young people.

#### **Policy Task Force**

The Policy Task Force thinks creatively about how state and local laws or ordinances, or school policies can be used to reduce the risk of substance use among residents of Chester, Deep River and Essex. Developing laws or ordinances to limit availability of drugs or alcohol to youth is one part of this work. Connecting teens to early intervention and treatment is another.





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# Valley Seniors Teach Robotics to Kids in Haiti



Valley Regional High School seniors: (I-r) Patrick, Rocket and Sam teaching a robotics workshop, this past summer, to children at the Deschapelles Community Library, Haiti. Photo by Michelle Parr Paulson

How is it that three local boys come to know that no matter your background or culture, kids everywhere share the same emotions and creative spirit? By venturing to Haiti to teach their passion for robotics to children.

Valley Regional High School Seniors Sam Paulson, Nick (Rocket) Otte, and Patrick Myslik from Chester, traveled to Deschapelles, Haiti this past summer to teach a workshop in robotics to thirty kids, ages 8 to 14. The one week workshop was held at the new Deschapelles Community Library in cooperation with the Sister Cities Essex Haiti (SCEH) Lego project – one of several ongoing SCEH projects in Deschapelles, Haiti.

On the first workshop day, Sam, Rocket and Patrick, with help from an interpreter, demonstrated the components of the robot and the operating software. By week's end, the kids advanced to a fully operating robot with grabber mechanisms, so the robot could pick things up.

"Patrick, Rocket and I all thought it was awesome to share something we are passionate about. We felt immense gratification knowing when we leave, these kids will have skills to further their own robotics abilities and teach themselves," Sam wrote in their blog about their experience, Deschapelles Robotics Initiative –for full account: www.robodeschapelles.com.

Sister Cities Essex Haiti is a nonprofit organization based in Essex. Essex has a Sister City relationship with Deschapelles which formed in 2010 and collaborates with the people of Deschapelles on projects that expand educational and cultural opportunities. For more information about SCEH: www.sistercitiesessexhaiti.org.

By Brenda Floyd



www.eventsmagazines.com



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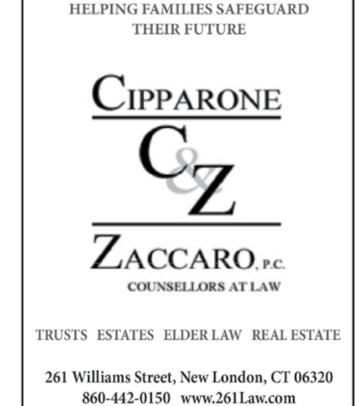
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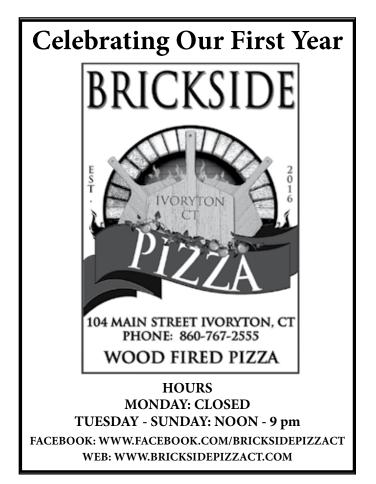
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#### FEBRUARY 18

#### Vince Giordano and the Nighthawks

Vince and his exciting band of all-stars return for an unforgettable afternoon of early twentieth-century hot jazz.

#### MARCH 4

#### David Pittsinger, bass-baritone

A favorite among EWS audiences, David Pittsinger performs music by Bach, Mendelssohn, Brahms, Handel, and selections from the American Songbook.

#### APRIL 8

#### The Quodlibet Ensemble

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# **Regional Mental Health**

#### Addiction is a Chronic Disease

Addiction. When this word is heard it can bring forth a variety of thoughts and feelings depending on which side of this word you are standing. One of the primary arguments about addiction is whether or not it is a disease. According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse (https://www.drugabuse.gov/publications/drugfacts/understanding-drug-use-addiction) 'addiction is chronic disease highlighted by lack of control, impulsivity and a failure to resist urges to continue to use.'

While it's true that initial use is a choice, once the addiction takes over it is not simply resolved by choosing not to use. The act of stopping requires much more effort than strong will, loving from others or good intentions.

"Reward circuits" within the human brain release a natural chemical called dopamine whenever a person is performing something that brings pleasure such as listening to music, eating a favorite food or enjoying time with a loved one. The person also becomes motivated to repeat doing that which brings pleasure. Using drugs results in a "high" and the release of dopamine and each subsequent use increases the need as well as the amount of dopamine that is needed to achieve the same pleasure. In order to surpass the tolerance that builds up the person increases frequency of usage and quality of product so they can realize the high they crave. The addict quickly becomes a stranger to those who love them and their actions make loving them a challenge.

If someone you know has an addiction, please seek help through Connecticut's 2-1-1 resource for substance use, the Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services at http://www.ct.gov/ dmhas/cwp/view.asp?a=2902&q=335224, or talk to your local social service office or personal doctor.



# **The Five Biggest Estate Planning Mistakes**

1. Failure to Plan for Incapacity. Sign a Durable Power of Attorney to manage your finances, an Appointment of Health Care Representative for medical decisions and a Living Will to avoid post-terminal care. Don't rely solely on joint bank accounts with children to manage incapacity.

2. Outdated Wills, Trusts and Beneficiary Designations. Review your wills, Trusts and beneficiary designations at least every five years and whenever there is a major change in your family or financial circumstances. Laws can change and people can change.

**3. Poor Choice of Agent, Trustee or Personal Representative.** Pick a person respected by other family members who has the time, ability, and willingness to serve. Appointing co-fiduciaries may make sense. If family members seldom agree with each other, are scattered geographically, or the assets are complex, consider appointing a professional trustee.

4. Overuse of Wills. Probate courts require the executor to file an Inventory of assets and a Financial Report to show all transactions in the estate. For a married couple of modest means, other devices such as life insurance, joint ownership, and payable on death arrangements can often avoid probate at considerably less expense than using a Will for those purposes. A Revocable Trust can avoid probate while saving estate taxes and keeping assets in the family.

5. Inadequate Financial Planning.

Cash flow matters after someone dies. How will your heirs pay for the funeral, administration expenses, estate or income taxes and upkeep of your home during estate administration? Establish a small joint account with a trusted family member who will pay the early administration expenses of an estate. Life insurance can provide needed liquidity to pay larger administration expenses, court costs, and taxes.

By Attorneys Joseph A. Cipparone of Old Lyme & Jack Reardon of Essex. Questions? Call them at 860-442-0150.



# The Misunderstood Red Wine "Merlot"

When people think of red wine, one of the most commonly known varietals is Merlot. This varietal is misunderstood and sometimes overlooked, due to the growing popularity in big red blends. Merlot is keeping up with the times in creating bold vibrant wines that really leave you asking for another glass!

Some of the most coveted wines in the world are made from Merlot, most notably French Bordeaux's from Pomerol and Saint Émilion. These wines are full of flavor yet are very dry in the finish. The most famous Bordeaux from Pomerol is Château Pétrus, which nowadays is priced around \$2,000.00 per bottle.

Italian Merlot is much like Merlot from Saint Emillion in France - soft, dense and drier in the finish than California. They do a lot of blending of Merlot in Tuscany with Sangiovese and Cabernet. Massetto from the Ornellaia Vineyards in Bolgheri is Italy's most famous Merlot wines.

In the mid 90s Merlot became very popular in California. It brought more red wine drinkers into the market with its light style, fruity flavors, and soft finish. The popularity became so big that the planting doubled and production increased. Many of these mass-produced Merlots were flabby and thin in the \$8-\$10 a bottle range and hurt the Merlot business. Then with the release of the acclaimed film "Sideways" in 2004 the Merlot grape was snubbed and Pinot Noir made its rich debut into the American market. Merlot sales decreased by 15% in the US and Merlot slowly became 'the forgotten' grape.

In the past few years however, Merlot has really started taking off again. With the vineyards concentrating more on the quality of the grapes these Merlots are rich and flavorful, still with a light mouth feel, but with depth. Some vineyards have Merlots that are richer and more dense than the Cabernet Sauvignon that they grow. Washington State, for example produces some excellent Merlot that is full of flavor, and still holds true to the classic dry Merlot finish.

Whether it's been weeks, months, or years, you owe it to yourself to go out and grab a bottle of Merlot. If you prefer a classic drier style, look into beautiful Bordeaux. Or if it is a fruiter, more layered Merlot you are in search of, check out the California and Washington Merlots. These wines can pair with almost any meal you could think of, so they will not fail you when entertaining guests. Cheers!

Art LiPuma General Manager, SeaSide Wine & Spirits



# 

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# How to Tell if You Will Age Well

We all do it. Compare ourselves to other women and either feel good for our age or wonder "How does she do it?" How is it that some women in their 60s and 70s still look young and vibrant and some women in their 30's look worn and tired?

While environmental and lifestyle factors play a major role in how you age, pure genetic luck also plays a part. A 2009 study of twins published in the Archives of Dermatology revealed that up to 60 percent of skin aging is due to genetics.

But don't count on your genes to save you from a poor lifestyle. Environmental damage determines the speed at which you age. You can have the best genes in the world, but if you are a smoker or a sun worshiper, you are going to look 10-15 years older.

So, how can you tell if you will age well? Here are some factors to consider.

**Your parents aged well** - First degree relatives are the best indicator of how you'll age because genes direct the cell functions that affect your appearance. The rate at which our cells turn over and how quickly damage is repaired is something that we inherit from our parents. We also inherit how much collagen we produce. **You have a baby face** - Although we glamorize angular, chiseled features, those of us with round faces actually age better. Fortunately, dermal fillers help those of us with less volume.

**You have high cheekbones** - There's a reason why everyone loves great bone structure. When we are younger, our faces have the shape of an upside-down triangle. As we age, our skin sags and jowl develop, changing our face from an upside-down triangle to bottom heavy. Higher cheekbones help support your face, keeping that triangle shape longer.

You have olive toned skin - Lighter skin burns quicker and more easily which can give you more lines and wrinkles. Also, lighter skin usually produces less oil than their darker counterparts. However, there's a catch. Because lighter skin burns faster, these individuals get a signal to come out of the sun sooner. People with darker skin don't get that signal and can be lured into a false sense of security. The bottom line is that if you don't wear sunscreen daily, your darker skin won't protect you for very long.

Dr. Susan OMalley, founder and Medical Director of Madison Med Spa is dedicated to helping women maintain their beauty without surgery. To learn more about Dr. O'Malley or Madison Med Spa, please visit www.madisonmedspa.com or call 203 245-2227 for a free consultation.



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That's why it's essential for you to be sure the policy you buy provides the right coverage based on your specific needs.

# 5 things (more important than price) to consider when buying insurance:

 Be careful of auto insurance that protects only up to your state's minimum. Roughly, one in eight drivers on Connecticut's roads lack insurance. Is your coverage enough if you suffer a loss by one of them?

- 2. If you own a home, do you have extended dwelling coverage or guaranteed replacement cost in the event of a loss? What about for water or sewer back up, personal injury, or liable / slander claims from social media?
- 3. Consider optional coverage. You can add optional insurance to protect valuable, appraised items such as jewelry or fine antiques, expensive sporting gear, musical instruments, or to help cover loss or fees from identity theft.
- 4. Good service is key. Seek an independent, local agent who can be your

advocate when a claim arises and help get you up and running again ASAP.

5. Just because an ad says you can save money doesn't mean you'll get the insurance you truly need. Work with an agent who will ask the right questions and get you the best coverage for your specific needs. It just may be more affordable than you think. Isn't your family's security worth a phone call to find out?

When it comes to protecting your family, it's always better to be sure you have the right coverage.

By Jared Carillo, CIC Smith Brothers Insurance

# **Essex - Community Listings**

#### CHURCHES

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

#### **CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS**

Ancient Order of Weeders (860) 767-2700
Democratic Town Committee
Community Foundation of Middlesex County (860) 347-0025
Essex Board of Trade
Essex Boy Scouts of America (860) 304-9027
Essex Community Fund (860) 304-2751
Essex Cub Scouts of America (860) 790-0681
Essex Garden Club (860) 767-2860
Essex Historical Society (860) 767-0681

Essex Lion's Club	
Essex Land Trust	(860) 767-7355
Essex Little League	. www.essexlittleleague.org
Essex Veterans Memorial Hall	(860) 767-8892
F.I.S.H	(860) 388-2693
Ivoryton Company of Fifers & Drum	mers (860) 767-2237
Lower Valley Visiting Nurses	(860) 767-0186
Republican Town Committee	(860) 510-8318
SCORE	(860) 388-9508
The Shoreline Soup Kitchens	(860) 388-1988
Tri-Town Youth Services Bureau	(860) 526-3600
9 Town Transit	

#### SCHOOLS

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

# **Essex Historical Society, Fall & Winter Events**



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

Enjoy your community's rich history at these indoor/outdoor public events, courtesy of Essex Historical Society:

October 22, 5 pm, EHS Annual Meeting. Incarnation Camp, 253 Bushy Hill Road, Ivoryton. Public welcome to visit this historic 1880s site, the oldest co-ed camp in America. EHS launches the 2018 collaborative partnership with Essex Land Trust, "Follow the Falls," with keynote speaker, Dr. John Pfeiffer. Refreshments. Free

October 31, 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm, Trick or Treat at Pratt House, 19 West Ave., Essex. Calling all good little ghouls and goblins! "Witch Hazel" will be giving out treats in front of our not-at-all-haunted historic house. Free.

**November 2, 7 pm, Native Americans of the Connecticut River Valley,** Deep River Historical Society, 245 Main Street, Deep River. With Essex Land Trust, join Nicholas Bellantoni, former CT State Archaeologist, our guide to Native Indian sites and cultures over the last 11,000 years in the Lower Connecticut River Valley. Co-sponsored with Essex Land Trust, Deep River Historical Society, Deep River Land Trust.

November 4, 9 am, Archaeology Hike at The Preserve, West Preserve parking lot, Ingham Hill Rd., Essex. Explore The Preserve with archeologists Nicholas Bellantoni and Lucianne Lavin; led by Essex Land Trust. Bad weather cancels.

November 9, 7:00 pm, EHS Member Night at the Ivoryton Playhouse. Enjoy the new mystery play, "A murderously funny thriller set in William Gillette's Connecticut Castle – The danger and hilarity are non-stop in this glittering whodunit!" Tickets, \$50 in support of EHS. Behind the scenes tours of Ivoryton Playhouse for EHS members. Event Tickets through the Playhouse: 860-767-7318.

November 24 & 25 11 am – 2 pm, Holiday Hours at Pratt House, 19 West Ave., Essex. Got a houseful for Thanksgiving Weekend? Usher in the holidays at our beautifully decorated Pratt House. Free. Museum shop open for holiday gifts.

November 26, 4:30 pm, Trees in the Rigging Parade. Annual holiday revelry with fife and drum corps, caroling, vintage cars and more! Land parade leaves Essex Town Hall, 29 West Ave., Essex. Free.

December 9, 10 am – 4 pm, Essex Holiday House Tour. Sponsored by the Child & Family Agency of Southeastern CT, this elegant holiday tour of private Essex homes features a stop at the decorated Pratt House. Museum shop; parking on Pratt House grounds. Tour tickets: www. childandfamilyagency.org.

December 10, 2- 4 pm, EHS Annual Holiday Party, Pratt House, 19 West Ave., Essex. Celebrate our elegant yet unfussy holiday gathering with food, drink, merrymaking.

January Lecture Series, 2018, Essex Meadows, 30 Bokum Road, Essex. "Follow the Falls River".

**Jan. 14, 3 pm:** Discover how the Falls River's natural resources were ideal for settlement and early enterprise, with Phil Miller.

Jan. 21, 3 pm: Learn how the Falls River's 11 dams supported many industries in Centerbrook, Essex and Ivoryton. Jan. 28, 3 pm: Investigate the chief industry at the mouth of the Falls River, the Williams Shipyard Complex (1795-1840), with Dr. John Pfeiffer, archaeologist.

For more information, www.essexhistory. org or (860) 767-0681.



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# **Essex Garden Club**



From Left to Right Front Row: Phyllis Graf, Barbara Burgess, MyLan Sarner, Patricia Mather From Left to Right Back Row: Betsy Godsman, Augie Pampel, Barbara Muhlfelder

#### Announces Officers for 2017-2018

Officers for the Essex Garden Club for 2017-2018 are Barbara Burgess, President, 1st VP Augie Pampel, 2nd VP MyLan Sarner, Recording Secretary, Betsy Godsman, Corresponding Secretary Phyllis Graf, Treasurer, Patricia Mather and Assistant Treasurer is Barbara Muhlfelder.

In her opening remarks at the September meeting, Barbara Burgess noted that this year's focus of the Essex Garden Club will be on enhancing each of the member's skills on floral design. These design principles will be applied when the Garden Club decorates the town's window boxes and planters for the holidays.

# To download previous issues of ESSEX EVENTS visit www.eventsmagazines.comand download the issue you desire!





# Visiting Nurses of the Lower Valley



The Hilltop Quartet & Chorus Performing at VNLV's "We're Almost 100 Party!"

# Visiting Nurses of the Lower Valley Celebrated Almost 100 Years and Raised Funds with Auction

Over 100 people attended Visiting Nurses of the Lower Valley's "We're Almost 100 Party!" on Wednesday, September 20th at the Copper Beech Inn in Ivoryton. In addition to celebrating nearly a century of non-profit service to the community, the event raised funds for the agency which will directly benefit VNLV's mission to provide healthcare programs and services to the whole community, including the under-insured.

"We were touched by the outpouring of support from the community. It felt good to see everyone come together to recognize the work we're doing – and to help us celebrate such a special occasion!" stated Susan Maxwell, Executive Director of Visiting Nurses of the Lower Valley.

In attendance were many of VNLV's sponsors, Board Members, prominent members of the community and staff, all coming together to join in the celebration. Highlights of the evening included emcees David and Ibby from ICRV radio, musical performances by The Hilltop Quartet & Chorus and Dr T and the Painkillers, the raffle and the live and silent auction.

A special thanks to our top sponsors:

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#### About Visiting Nurses of the Lower Valley, Inc.

Visiting Nurses of the Lower Valley, Inc. is a not-for-profit, 501(c) (3) Medicare and Medicaid certified home health care organization, ranked among the nation's best in home health quality and performance.



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# **Events Presents ~ Saybrook Country Barn**



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What started with a pioneering grandmother (Clara Zirkenbach) in the mid-1970s and her indomitable "I can do that" attitude has continued into two more spirited generations. The family has spearheaded three expansions that have broadened product offerings and catapulted showroom space from 2,000 to 42,000 square feet. This October marks the 40th anniversery of SCB.

It's a true family affair. Keith Bolles (who started with emptying waste bins when he was 4) represents the third generation. He's now in charge of marketing. Mother Jane heads up the home and apparel side. Father Keith is President and oversees everything - from executive duties to showroom upkeep.

How has the SCB family become so successful? "Customers would say I wish there were a rug shop or a curtain shop" says Bolles. "We said: 'We can do that.' We listen to our customers so that we can provide exactly what they want."

The family's customer-focus makes for an inspiring shopping experience. Customers say SCB is the most beautiful place they've ever been to. SCB displays the furniture and accessories as they'd look in customers' homes. Ninety percent of what SCB does for its customers is customized. And if that isn't enough, SCB visits customer homes for in-home design consultation. That way customers can get exactly what they want. That's the point.

Through the success, the family remains humble. "There's only so much Mom and Dad and I can do on our own," said Bolles about the SCB employees. "Without them, we'd be nothing." And as to customers? "We don't always get the chance to say 'thank you.' We are here because you want us here. We appreciate it."

Looking forward, there's no reason to change the formula. "People enjoy the experience of shopping and that person-to person experience," says Bolles. "It's where our future lies. Great products, great atmosphere, and top notch customer experience. If we do those three things, we'll be just fine."



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Mick Marsden, x3138



ESSEX: Built in 2004, this 3 BR, 2.1 BA Cottage Colonial is in pristine condition. The exterior boasts 2 bluestone patios for al fresco entertaining. Very private, beautifully landscaped 1.72 acres. Walk to village. \$695,000

Maureen O'Grady x3116 River to Shore Group



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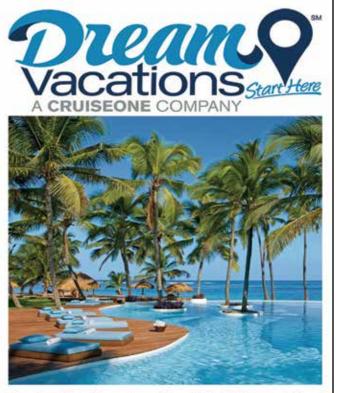
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## **Connecticut River Museum**



The Onrust spent the season at the Connecticut River Museum, bringing history to life and offering a wonderful way for people to enjoy the River. Photo by George Bekris.

Fall is here, and as the seasons change so do the programs, activities, and exhibits at the Connecticut River Museum. This past summer was filled with wonderful experiences, sailing on the *Onrust*, our first Paddle Regatta, music at Thursdays on the Dock and so much more! Thank you to everyone who participated and enjoyed the Connecticut River with us. Here are a few highlights...

The *Onrust* joined us in June for public cruises and education programs. This replica 1614 vessel was a fabulous addition to our site. Thousands of visitors enjoyed a peaceful sail on the River and many helped to haul a line and explore below deck.

Thursdays on the Dock featured an all-star roster of local musical talent! A special thanks goes out to lead sponsor Essex Wellness Center and their free massages along with additional support from Connecticut River Dock & Dredge and food vendors Porkey Pete's BBQ and Cannolis on the Run!!!

Our feature exhibits this year explored the story of Connecticut's Founding Fish and the beauty of the River Valley in the show *Long Tidal River: 4 Artists, 4 States.* 

#### **Coming Up:**

This fall we look forward to:

- Evening at the Lay House Spirits on October 27, fortune tellers, live music, a drink tasting, fabulous food and more.
- The 24th Annual Holiday Train Show, opening November 16th.
- Trees in the Rigging on November 26th There is no better way to kick off the holiday season!

#### Join the Trees in the Rigging Boat Parade

Do you have a great idea for your boat's decorations for the Trees in the Rigging Boat Parade? Don't delay, get your entry in now! Big boats, little boats, power boats, sailboats, even paddle boats, all are welcome to ring in the season on November 26th. For more information and to sign up for the Boat Parade, please contact Kendall Perkins at kperkins@ctrivermuseum.org.



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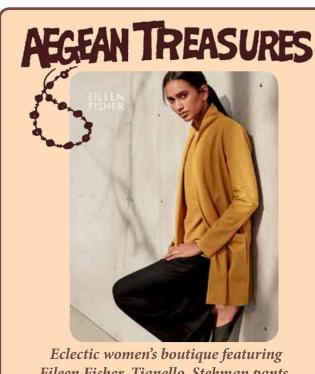


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