

# Old Saybrook events

VOLUME 20 • QUARTER 2 • 2019



DELIVERING TOWN NEWS



TO EVERYONE IN TOWN

A photograph of two hikers, a man and a woman, crossing a stream by stepping on large, smooth rocks. The man is on the left, wearing an orange jacket and white shorts, with a backpack. The woman is on the right, wearing a red jacket and blue backpack, reaching out to help the man. The background is a dense forest with sunlight filtering through the trees.

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## The Selectmen's Corner

Happy summer from the The Board of Selectmen, which consists of First Selectman Carl P. Fortuna, Jr., and Selectmen Scott Giegerich and Carol Conklin. The summer season seems to come and go quickly so make the most of it. I hope you enjoy the season. We thank you for entrusting us with running your local government.

2019 has been busy in town. As mandated by the State of Connecticut every five years, the town's revaluation of all properties concluded with values being set as of October 1, 2018. This process routinely leads to several hundred appeals. Many readers may not be aware that there is a Board of Assessment Appeals (BAA), a municipal committee of three that is elected every two years. As you can imagine, it is a bit of an "under the radar" thankless but necessary position. We are lucky to have Peter Gallagher, Jeffrey Gibson and Ruth Fitzgerald sitting on this board. Over the course of late winter and spring, they devoted countless hours in hearings from property owners. Once the hearings were concluded, the BAA must determine whether adjustments are warranted. The old adage in life is "you cannot make everybody happy" and this is one board that knows this more than most. A special thank you to Ruth Fitzgerald who has been a member of this board since... well, maybe we won't go there but a very long time. Anyone who has appealed their tax assessment in the last two decades has come before Ruth on the Assessment

Appeals Board. Ruth is fair minded and serious but also the first one to crack a joke. Thank you Ruth for your dedication to the Town of Old Saybrook.



First Selectman Carl P. Fortuna, Jr.

The Town's budget went before the voters by referendum on May 14 and both the Board of Education budget and town budget were affirmatively voted by our taxpayers. There is usually a small turnout on the budget-just several hundred voters- and the question inevitably arises as why we spend the funds to hold a referendum when other towns around us still pass their budget via town meeting. There are two reasons: First, when we did a charter revision for the town 8 years ago, we codified that the town would always go to referendum. Second, no matter how many or how few people vote in a referendum, the number of voters will always exceed, by hundreds, those that would attend, or even be able to attend, a town meeting. It is a far more democratic process and worth the effort in my opinion. Preparing a budget is at least a six month process from start to finish culminating in a referendum. There are countless public meetings which are recorded for our residents to view at their **continued on page 3**



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# events

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## CONTENTS

The Selectmen's Corner.....	1
Motor Vehicle Taxes 101.....	6
Town Clerk's Office.....	8
Reminder: Dog Licenses - Renewal.....	9
Saint John's Eagles Thank You.....	9
2019 Excellence in Business Awards.....	10
Old Saybrook Chamber of Commerce.....	12
"Electrify Your Drive!" A Free Electric Vehicle Car Show & Information Session.....	15
Old Saybrook Parks and Recreation Department.....	16
Old Saybrook's Annual Community Day.....	20
Growing Vascular Program Uses the Latest Technology.....	22
Connecticut River Area Health District.....	22
Ensuring Beachgoers have Safe Water Quality.....	23
THE BEACON.....	24 - 25
Here's Something Awesome.....	24
Eats and Beats Come to Old Saybrook High School.....	24
Old Saybrook Middle School Students Learn about Survival and Adaptive Technology.....	25
Goodwin Teachers & Acton Library Team Up for Summer Reading.....	25
Acton Public Library.....	26
Friends of Acton Library.....	30
Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA) Update.....	30
Conservation Commission: Plastic Film Recycling.....	31
Old Saybrook Lions Club.....	32
Old Saybrook Historical Society.....	33
Municipal Cemetery of Old Saybrook.....	37
Social Services - ALICE Saves.....	38
Old Saybrook Garden Club Summer Happenings.....	40
Swallow Cruise to Support Land Trust Scholarship.....	41
Saving Pollinators.....	42
Red Wines for the Summer.....	46
Cappella Registration / Rehearsal for Bach's 'Christmas Oratorio'.....	47
The Last Word... Jacques Pépin: Simple ingredients, extraordinary results.....	48



## Selectmen's Corner... continued from page 1

leisure. There are so many town workers and volunteers that spend a lot of time and energy creating the budget, too many to thank. The Town's budget this year increased by 1% while the school budget increased 2.75%. All in all the dollar increase to property owners will be modest due to some new revenues as a result of revaluation. Over the last two budget cycles, the mill rate has gone up a total of one tenth of a mill.

### MEANWHILE, UP AT THE STATE CAPITOL

At deadline for this publication, the State of Connecticut was still working on its biennial budget. However, legislation that did pass includes the minimum wage which will increase to \$11 on October 1, 2019, \$12 on September 1, 2020, \$13 on August 1, 2021, \$14 on July 1, 2022 and \$15 on October 25, 2023. The minimum wage for 16 and 17 year olds who work less than 90 days is 85% of the minimum wage and there is also a carve-out for restaurant servers and bartenders.

Still to be decided is final legislation on tolls, paid family medical leave and recreational marijuana legalization.

Those of you who come across my writings know that I have an opinion on how the state legislature conducts its business. As the Chief Executive Officer of the Town of Old Saybrook, I seek to protect the town's interests by opposing legislation that I believe will hurt our town and favoring legislation that assists our town. I am able to voice my opinion at the state level through two organizations that lobby for our town and most municipalities. The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) boasts every town in the state as a member and holds frequent meetings at the capitol and all over the state. I attend monthly meetings to express my concerns representing Old Saybrook and have testified at the capitol both in person and in written testimony. It is important that municipal voices be heard loudly and clearly. The fact that every municipality is represented by CCM allows for direct discussion with the Governor's office and legislative leaders. A second organization that advocates for our town is the Connecticut Council of Small Towns (COST). COST represents towns of 30,000 or less, which comprises the vast majority of towns in Connecticut. Through both these organizations, Old Saybrook's voice is heard in Hartford.

### THE TOWN PENSION


As many of you know, the State of Connecticut never properly funded its teachers' or state workers' pension plans. I do not want the same for Old Saybrook. Several years ago, I made it a priority to end the town's traditional pension plan and place new employees in a defined contribution plan (DC or 401a plan), similar to a 401k plan in the private sector, which was accomplished in July of 2017. The town has approximately

continued on page 4



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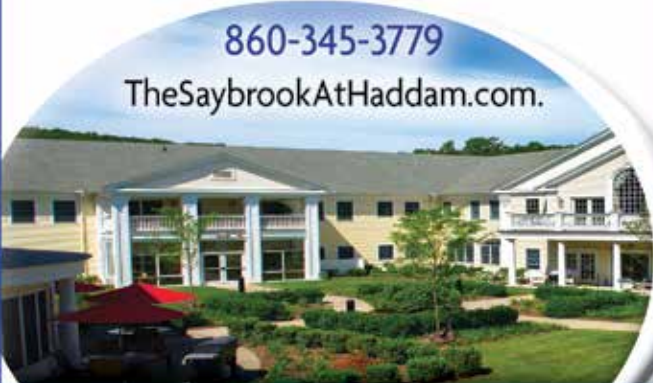


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## Selectmen's Corner... continued from page 3

\$22.5 million dollars under management which consists of funds in the legacy pension plan as well as the new DC plan. About a year ago, the Pension & Benefits Board, on which the First Selectman is a full voting member, undertook a risk analysis of our traditional pension plan. Based on the input of the seven board members, a risk profile was developed. The next logical step after this was an Investment Policy Statement (IPS). The purpose of the IPS is to define the goals and investment objectives of Town of Old Saybrook Defined Benefit Plan ("The Plan.") Since the IPS is intended to provide guidance for the PBB and the investment managers responsible for managing the Plans' assets, it outlines certain specific investment policies which govern how to seek to achieve those goals and objectives. This IPS

- Describes a risk posture for the investment of the Plans' assets;
- Specifies the target asset allocation policy for those assets;
- Establishes investment guidelines regarding the selection of investment manager(s), permissible securities and diversification of assets;
- Specifies the criteria for evaluating the performance of the Plan's investment manager(s) and of the Plans' investment portfolio as a whole; and
- Defines certain responsibilities of the PBB, the investment advisor, the investment managers, and other specified parties.

The entire process encompassed over a year of monthly meetings. The pension board members-Rowena Moffett, Darrell Pataska, Lynn Dallas, Suzanne Taylor, Ray Muratori (since retired) and Paul Tracey gave their time and wise insight to a comprehensive and thorough review of a what a well-funded and well managed pension plan should look like. This work could not have been done without the expertise of the Town's Finance Director, Lee Ann Palladino, former Chief Investment Officer for the Connecticut State Pension Plan. Lee Ann's expert knowledge of the investment world is an asset to the Town and was critical to the success of this process. The long and short of it: Your town pension plan is a well-funded pension plan that has recently undergone a much needed analysis of its overall strategy moving forward.

### THE KATE AND CHAMBER PROJECTS

By the time this article is read, two town projects will be complete, or nearly so. The Katherine Hepburn Cultural Arts Center (The Kate) is undergoing a pillar and pedestal fix. The base of the six pillars is rotting and the cement pedestal on which the pillars sit is cracking in various places. The fix involves completely replacing much of the cement façade as well as the wooden bases at the bottom of the pillars and parts of the pillars themselves. Many of you may know that this year is The Kate's 10th anniversary. The town-owned theatre is



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undergoing an extensive interior refresh, from carpets to wall painting. Much of the exterior will also be painted so that this downtown gem can continue to shine for Old Saybrook.

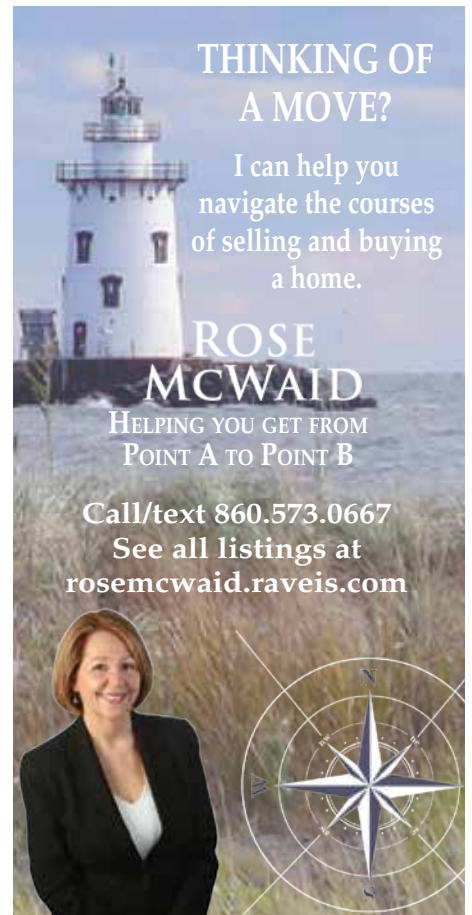
The Old Saybrook Chamber Building is another town-owned building (which is leased to the Old Saybrook Chamber of Commerce) having its roof, cupola and gutter system replaced. This building will once again be the positive gateway entrance that it was intended to be.

### PLANTING TREES

Unfortunately, the Town has had to take down many trees over the past few years due to disease or just plain old age. I am committed to replant as much as possible this coming fall. If you have a favorite location where you would like to see a tree, please let me know. There are limitations to what we can plant and where. If there are wires above, we will not plant elms or oaks but can plant a variety of other midsize trees. Many municipalities are facing a financial crisis with the volume of tree die-off and the expense of tree takedowns. And while we always have trees to take down, it is now time to green up again.

There are always exciting and fun events happening in our beautiful town, no matter the season. Have a happy and safe summer.

Carl P. Fortuna, Jr.,  
Old Saybrook's First Selectman




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# Motor Vehicle Taxes 101

If you've ever bought, sold or otherwise disposed of a car, you may have experienced some confusion about the time period you owned the vehicle versus the timing of your tax bill related to that vehicle. You may also have wondered why the Town always knows when you have a new vehicle to be taxed on, yet does not always know when you should no longer be taxed on a vehicle. You are not alone! Fortunately, the staff at the Town of Old Saybrook Assessor's Office is here to help you understand the process of motor vehicle taxation in Connecticut.

Tax bills are based on the Grand List of the previous year in which the bills are issued. For example, the current Grand List is for 2018 and has a mill rate of 19.75. You will receive your tax bill for this Grand List in July of 2019. The bill will include taxes for any motor vehicle that the DMV shows as being registered to you in the Town of Old Saybrook on October 1, 2018. If you notified the Assessor's Office that you sold or otherwise disposed of a vehicle after October 1, 2018 but before the bills were prepared and sent, you will receive a prorated bill. If you did not notify the Assessor's Office, then you must provide documentation to prove that you no longer own the vehicle in order to have your tax bill adjusted.

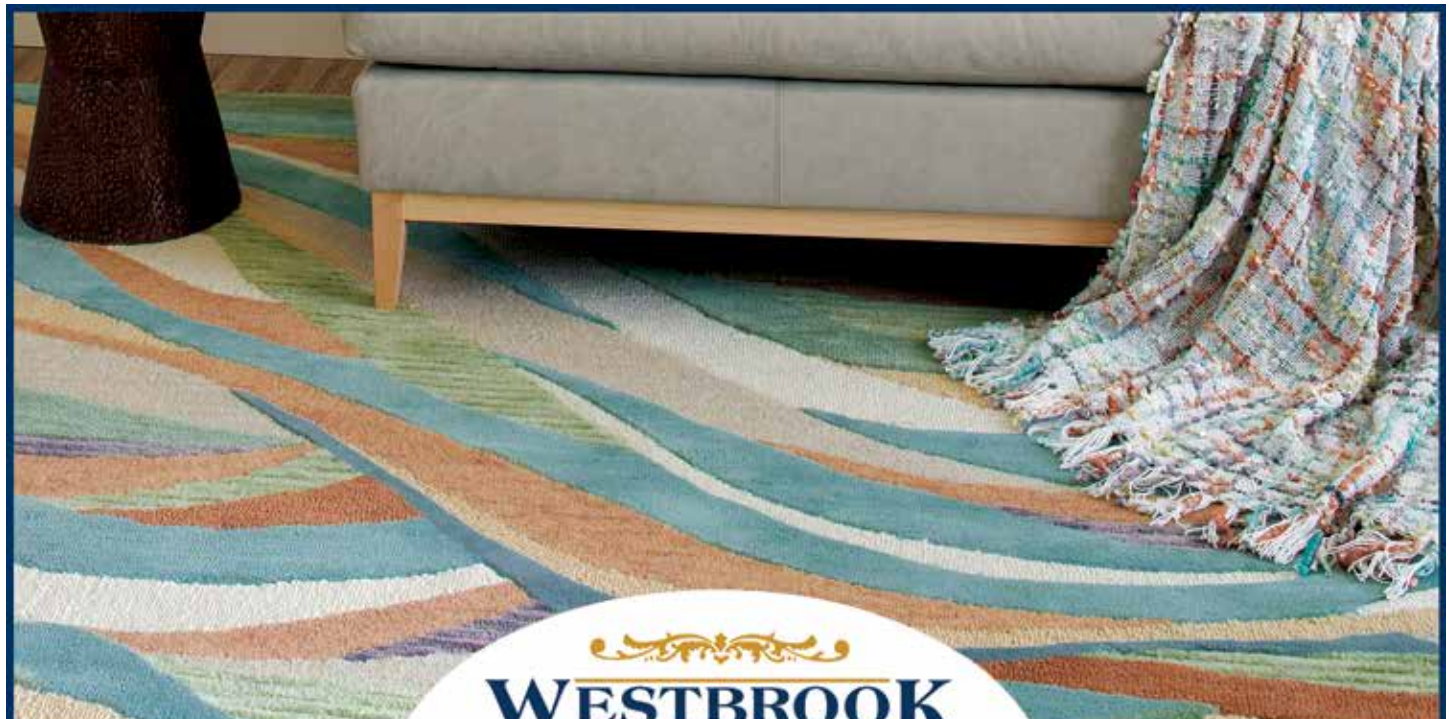
Except in the case of a transfer of a license plate from one vehicle to another during a vehicle sale, the DMV will not notify the Assessor's Office that you no longer own a vehicle. It is your

responsibility to provide proof that you are no longer the owner whether you have sold the car, junked it, donated it, transferred it to another owner, or it has been totaled, repossessed or moved out of state. You can cancel your registration online at [www.ct.gov/dmv](http://www.ct.gov/dmv), in person, or by mail. If you use the online option be sure to print a receipt for your records.

Acceptable proof for the Assessor's Office that you no longer own a vehicle consists of one of the following: a marker plate/registration cancellation receipt from the Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles; bill of sale; transfer of title; purchase agreement showing the vehicle as a trade-in; police report of a stolen vehicle which was not recovered; insurance statement of cancellation which must include the date cancelled, year, make, model, and VIN#; receipt from the junk yard; donation receipt; or out-of-state registration. Any form of proof you submit should contain the vehicle's VIN# as well as its year, make and model.

Please note that per CGS § 12-71c any application for a tax adjustment must be submitted by December 31st following the end of the next assessment year in which the disposal occurred. For example, if you have a vehicle on the 10/01/2017 Grand List that was sold some time prior to September of 2018, you must ask for an adjustment before December 31, 2019.

**continued on page 8**



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549 Maple Avenue, Old Saybrook | A Fenwick Gem - Architecturally designed and built in 2003. Offered at \$3,575,000



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25 Pettipaug Avenue, Old Saybrook | Classic Fenwick cottage has been in the Grant-Hepburn family for four generations. Offered at \$3,375,000



1 Foxboro Road, Essex | A total renovation of the 1870 Victorian style house has beautiful architectural details inside and out. Offered at \$2,995,000



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\* Source: SmartMLS closed sales for residential single family homes in Middlesex County 1/1/17-12/31/18

## Motor Vehicle Taxes 101... continued from page 6

In some cases, you may receive a tax bill for your motor vehicle in January. This will occur if you purchased a vehicle after October 1 in the Grand List year. The DMV provides the Town with a supplemental list and the Town prepares a prorated bill based on the month you purchased the vehicle.

If you have any questions about your motor vehicle taxes, please contact the Assessor's Office at: 860-395-3137 or visit the webpage at [www.oldsaybrookct.gov](http://www.oldsaybrookct.gov) by clicking on Departments and then Assessor.

## Town Clerk's Office

Sarah V. Becker, Town Clerk  
Christina Antolino, Assistant Town Clerk  
Cindy Kane, Assistant Town Clerk

Office Hours: M-F, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm  
Phone Number: 860-395-3135  
Town Website: [www.oldsaybrookct.gov](http://www.oldsaybrookct.gov)

### CONGRATULATIONS!

Christopher Chaison and Bobbi-Jo Rutkis  
February 28th

Joshua Rubock and Melissa Rischall  
April 13th

Kevin Moll and Elizabeth Homes  
May 11th

### WITH SYMPATHY

Frances Alberini	Lorraine Daviau	Joyce Grey	Barbara Johnston	Dorothy Magoon	Allen Oberg, Jr.	Leigh Slobodzian
Patricia Alexa	Muriel David	Margaret Halyburton	Ernest Kahl	Marilyn Mapes	George Olson	Carol Sullivan
Pam Antolino	Lynn Douglas	Robert Harris	John Kramer	Earl Maxfield, Jr.	Barbara Peterson	James Troyn
Carmen Baldi	Lancelot Flott	Phyllia Hansen	Milton	Viola Maxfield	Stacy Reed	Seraphine
Edward Barry, Sr.	Ronald	Robert Hennessey	LaPlace, Sr.	Cyrus Merritt, Jr.	Karl Richter	Viator Jr.
Donald Bouchard	Fredrickson, Sr.	Holly Herrick	Jeffrey Lefebvre	Marilyn Milliken	John Rolli	Grace
Paul Bowker	William Fritts	George Hunt, Jr.	Bertram Lenz	Kathleen Mills	Virginia Ruck	Winsborrow
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## Reminder: Dog Licenses - Renewal

Dog licenses - renewal is during JUNE of each year. Be sure each dog's rabies vaccination is up-to-date.

NEUTERED / SPAYED dogs cost \$8.00/dog

MALE / FEMALE dogs cost \$19.00/dog.

We mailed notices at the end of May. Call the office if you no longer have the dog so we can remove the information from our list. If you have any questions don't hesitate to email, phone or drop in for assistance.

## Saint John's Eagles Thank You

On April 27, the Saint John's Eagles held their gala auction at the Westbrook Elks. Members of both the school and church community came to celebrate. The night included both silent and live auction items along with a warm atmosphere, great food, and friends. The event raised a significant amount for the Saint John School, with proceeds directly benefitting students of Saint John School. The Gala committee would like to thank all the businesses and families who supported the event by donating items and sponsoring the night. Mother Elaine (principal of Saint John School) and Father Greg (pastor of Saint John Church) kicked off the evening with a prayer, thanking God for the opportunity to help the school. It was a great celebration of the faith-filled community that is Saint John! Thank you to everyone who came out to support the event and please save the date for next year - May 2, 2020 at the Westbrook Elks.



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# 2019 Excellence in Business Awards



From Left to Right: Bob Hansen (Owner, Johnny Ads), Tenzin Lama (Owner, Johnny Ads), Brian Toolan (Manager, Saybrook Hardware), Jessica May (Owner, Saybrook Hardware), Tsultim Lama (Owner, Johnny Ads), Caren Appleby (Associate, Nyman Jewelers/Alicia Winalski Design), Alicia Winalski (Owner, Nyman Jewelers/Alicia Winalski Design), Matthew Pugliese (Chair, Old Saybrook EDC), Chuck Adelman (Owner, Adelman Service), Mike Westkamper (Owner, WEI, Inc.).

Five Old Saybrook businesses were recognized with the Excellence in Business Award from the Old Saybrook Economic Development Commission (EDC) on May 23 in a ceremony at Old Saybrook Town Hall.

## THE 2019 EXCELLENCE IN BUSINESS AWARD RECIPIENTS:

- 1 Saybrook Hardware (in business since 1928), owner Jessica May;

- 2 Johnny Ad's (in business since 1956), owners Bob Hansen and Tenzin Lama;
- 3 Nyman Jewelers/Alicia Winalski Design (in business since 1978), owner Alicia Winalski;
- 4 Adelman's Service, Inc. (in business since 1984), owners Charles Adelman and Kenneth Adelman;
- 5 WEI, Inc. (in business since 1989 and the 2019 Small Business Administration Veteran-Owned Business of the Year in Connecticut), owner Michael Westkamper.

## The Excellence in Business Award is given based on the following criteria:

- Practicing professional business conduct contributing to a sense of fellowship among local businesses that helps promote Old Saybrook as a good place to do business;
- Providing innovative products and valuable services that have kept pace with the times and needs of the community; and
- Participating in civic and community service at a level that exceeds typical contributions creating a lasting and beneficial impact for the community.

Old Saybrook First Selectman Carl P. Fortuna, Jr., congratulated the business owners and thanked them. "This Award recognizes your significant contributions to the economic vitality and continued on page 12



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## 2019 Business Awards... continued from page 10

quality of life in our community for many decades. Old Saybrook thrives because of what you do and your long history of success demonstrates that our town is a great place to live and to locate a business.”

“The Excellence in Business Award was created by the commission to recognize the value of your businesses for longevity in

our community and all the ‘trickle down’ affects you contribute,” said Matthew Pugliese, EDC Chair, at the ceremony. “Your businesses have supported the community through good economic periods and bad by creating jobs, providing goods and services, and supporting community activities. You should feel honored. Your businesses were selected from a long list of businesses considered by the EDC for this award.”

## Old Saybrook Chamber of Commerce



### C. WILFRED HUNTER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS OF 2019

Each spring the Old Saybrook Chamber of Commerce awards academic scholarships to graduating high school students who will be pursuing their education beyond high school. The scholarship is funded by proceeds raised at the Chamber’s annual Chili Fest. The scholarship committee carefully considers academic achievement

Left to Right: Old Saybrook High School recipients: Patrick Sirisoukh, Caroline Potter, Luke Duffy, Olivia Gaidry and Valley Regional High School recipient: Sean Patterson. Photo courtesy Old Saybrook Chamber of Commerce.



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and community service, as well as other factors. This year's recipients: Luke Duffy, Olivia Gaidry, Caroline Potter and Patrick Sirisoukh of Old Saybrook High School and Sean Patterson of Valley Regional High School. Recipients were recognized at a May 29 reception at the Chamber office.

**“SAYBROOK SUMMER SIDEWALK SALE,” COME SHOP LOCAL!**

The Old Saybrook Chamber is turning a spotlight on the “Shop Local” movement the weekend of June 28, 29, and 30 during an area-wide sales event. Various sales and promotions will be happening throughout Old Saybrook and neighboring towns as part of the Saybrook Summer Sidewalk Sales Event, encouraging everyone to “shop, dine, and explore!”

Participating merchants will set their own promotion, for example, some shops are offering discounts, while others are offering a giveaway with purchase. The Sidewalk Sale extends beyond Old



Jeanette Vertentes, shown with her acrylics paintings, was one of 145 artists at last year's festival

Saybrook to include merchants in Old Lyme, Westbrook and Essex. For a list of participants, times, and specific offers, visit: [oldsaybrookchamber.com/sidewalksale](http://oldsaybrookchamber.com/sidewalksale).

**CELEBRATING 56 YEARS OF CREATIVITY!**

The 56th Annual Old Saybrook Arts & Crafts Festival, presented by Liberty Bank,

is a summer tradition that returns to the Town Green the weekend of July 27 & 28. Visitors to the festival will find many of their favorite artists, while also discovering first-time exhibitors across a range of mediums, like Westbrook photographer Roger Charbonneau, mixed media artist Carol Taggart, who creates hand-painted

**continued on page 14**



**TICKETS ON SALE NOW!**

 <p><b>GODSPELL</b>          Conceived and Originally Directed by John-Michael Tebelak          Music and New Lyrics by Stephen Schwartz  <b>MAY 22ND – JUNE 16TH</b></p>	 <p><b>MAMMA MIA!</b>          Music and Lyrics by Benny Andersson and Bjorn Ulvaeus and some songs with Stig Anderson,          Book by Catherine Johnson          Originally Conceived by Judy Craymer  <b>JUNE 26TH – JULY 28TH</b></p>	 <p><b>CABARET</b>          Music by John Kander, Lyrics by Fred Ebb,          Book by Joe Masteroff  <b>AUGUST 7TH – SEPTEMBER 1ST</b></p>
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## Chamber of Commerce... continued from page 13

gourdes, or Bridget Marshall of Higganum, creator of "O Fudge & More" in the consumables category.

The annual Arts & Crafts Festival is a signature summer event where visitors will find exceptional fine art and hand-crafted work from 145 artists. This is a juried show and is popular with exhibitors as well, many of whom have exhibited for more than twenty years and who travel from all the New England states, and beyond, including South Carolina, Pennsylvania and Florida to name a few.

Food is available for purchase from local civic organizations, and admission and parking is free. Saturday, July 27, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm; Sunday, July 28, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm.

Each year the Arts & Crafts Festival relies on volunteers to assist with setting up on the Green, directing visitors, and helping out in every which way. If you would like to be involved with this signature community event please contact the Chamber office at: 860-388-3266. You'll find that the time is greatly rewarding!

In addition to volunteers, the Festival also relies on monetary donations from "Friends of the Festival." A "friendship" sponsorship is \$100. "Friends" have their name, or name of their business printed on the Festival map-thousands of which are distributed throughout town and to visitors on the Green. Please call the office if you would like to reserve your sponsorship: 860-388-3266.

Visit Our Town at: [www.oldsaybrookct.gov](http://www.oldsaybrookct.gov)

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# SUMMERTIME



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# “Electrify Your Drive!” A Free Electric Vehicle Car Show & Information Session

Meet EV drivers and enthusiasts for an informative event showcasing electric vehicles (EVs) on Saturday, September 21, from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm, at Saybrook Point. The show will highlight the clean-air and cost-savings advantages of these now widely available vehicles. The Old Saybrook event is part of the ninth annual National Drive Electric Week (NDEW) and is one of more than 300 local events nationwide. Last year’s event at Saybrook Point was well attended with over 100 participants, including 23 EV drivers who brought their own vehicles to display.

At this year’s event, experienced EV owners will bring their own cars and will discuss why they like driving electric. The drivers will explain how they use their EVs on their daily commutes and longer distance drives, as well as how they charge their cars’ batteries. Participants will learn about the differences between electric vehicles and conventional gas-powered cars (including why electric vehicles are much less expensive to operate and maintain), the widespread locations and different types of charging stations, the wide range of EV models available now, and the benefits of electric vehicles for the environment and for public health. We will have a Question-and-Answer session inside the Pavilion,

including a panel of EV owners/drivers and EV experts from local auto dealers.

Attendees will learn about special savings programs for Connecticut EV drivers, including state rebates and federal tax credits, for purchasing and leasing electric vehicles.

High performance sports cars, sedans, SUVs, and even pickup trucks are now or soon to be available in EV format, many with longer ranges. Among the many plug-in vehicles, models by Nissan (Leaf), Chevrolet (Bolt and Volt), Mercedes Benz (C 350e), Toyota (Prius Prime), Honda (Clarity), Tesla (Models S, 3, and Roadster), BMW (i3), and other auto-makers, as well as EV chargers, will be displayed. Local auto dealers will provide vehicles for test drives.

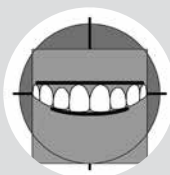
National sponsors of National Drive Electric Week include Plug In America, the Sierra Club, and the Electric Auto Association.

First Selectman Carl Fortuna will present a proclamation naming September 16-21 as “2019 Old Saybrook Drive Electric Week.”

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# Old Saybrook Parks and Recreation Department



## Summer 2019 Edition SUMMER FUN WITH OSPR

With summer upon us OSPR is in full steam with great programs and facilities for

you to join and share with your friends and family. We have some great programs highlighted below and many more that can be found on our website, [www.OldSaybrookRec.com](http://www.OldSaybrookRec.com). Just a few reminders as you use the properties and facilities this year. All of our parks are open sunrise to sundown. The use of alcohol and tobacco is prohibited on ALL of our properties. Please be courteous to others and nature and please remove all objects you may bring into the parks and properties. For a full list of our parks and facilities, please visit our website at: [www.oldsaybrookrec.com](http://www.oldsaybrookrec.com) or call us at 860-395-3152.

### SUMMER CAMPS

We're gearing up for a fun-filled summer at Old Saybrook Parks & Recreation! This year, we will be offering a variety of camps for the youth of Old Saybrook, ranging from our signature day camps to weekly sports camps.

Our signature camps will run for a total of 9 weeks - starting the 17th of June and ending August 16th. Registration is done in

weekly increments and space is limited. For those age 4 to Kindergarten, we will once again be offering our Junior Playground Camp Mondays -Thursdays from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm. During this time, junior campers will take part in a variety of activities ranging from art projects, outdoor games and even trips to the splash pad!

For our 1st-5th graders, we have our Parks & Rec Camp which runs Monday - Friday, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm. Each week has a different theme and campers take weekly visits to Harvey's Beach, mini golf and a special trip each Thursday! Before and after care is also available to accommodate parents' work schedules.

For those entering the 6th-8th grades, we have our weekly Teen Camp. This camp meets Monday, Wednesday and Friday's from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm. Mondays will include walks down Main Street, Wednesdays will feature visits to both mini golf & Town Beach and Fridays will be reserved for some exciting field trips! Hurry up and register, because you are not going to want to miss out on the fun!

### SPORTS CAMPS

No matter what the sport, we've got a camp for you! Throughout the summer OSPR will be holding different sports camps to help



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your child get that extra edge for the sports season. Each camp will be held for one week during the summer, with some during the day and even some evening options. Soccer, tennis, lacrosse, softball, dance, golf and basketball are all represented - please visit our website at: [www.oldsaybrookrec.com](http://www.oldsaybrookrec.com) or stop by to get more detailed information and registration forms.

Also, returning again this year is Adventure Day Camp. Campers will work on team building exercises, ice breakers and high and low rope stations. This will be a challenge by choice camp. Camp will meet in OSMS Gym and will be instructed by Katey Flanagan, OSMS PE teacher. This is an exciting opportunity for Old Saybrook 6th-9th graders.

### SUMMER STOCK COMMUNITY THEATER



Now being offered with OSPR and working with OS Youth and Family Services, we are keeping this great program alive

in 2019 with a production of Disney's Frozen Jr. This program is for those students in 6th-9th grade and is a two week camp, Monday - Friday, July 22nd - August 2nd, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. We will only have one show this summer at 5:00 pm at Old Saybrook Middle School. Tickets are \$5.00 for kids/seniors and \$10.00 for adults and can be purchased online at [www.oldsaybrookrec.com](http://www.oldsaybrookrec.com).

### TEEN TRIPS

Returning once again this summer will be our popular teen trips. These trips will be open to those students entering 7th-12th grade. All trips will depart and return to OSPR. Trips will primarily take place on Tuesdays or Fridays, but please be sure to visit our site for complete trip information. A few trips include Six Flags, Hartford Yards Goats, tubing the Farmington River, Lake Compounce, and so much more!

### SUMMER TEEN CENTER

The Teen Center is open throughout the summer on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. The hours are from 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm. Teen Center members can use the game room and black top area to hang out with friends under the supervision of our Teen Center staff. During the summer months, the Teen Center is for anyone entering grades 6th -9th. For more information, please email Kyle Bohonowicz@oldsaybrookCT.gov or see Kyle at the Rec!

### Saybrook Point



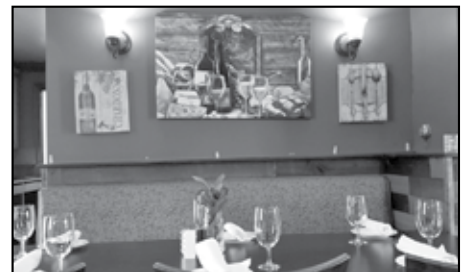
continued on page 18

### SAYBROOK POINT MINIATURE GOLF

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## SELECTMEN'S OFFICE

Carl P. Fortuna, Jr., First Selectman	395-3123	Carl.Fortuna@OldSaybrookCT.gov
Georgiann Neri, Administrative Secretary		Georgiann.Neri@OldSaybrookCT.gov
Lee Ann Palladino, Finance Director	395-3127	leeann.palladino@OldSaybrookCT.gov
Larry Hayden, IT Manager	510-5000	Larry.Hayden@OldSaybrookCT.gov

## ACCOUNTING

395-3132

## ASSESSOR

Norman Wood, Assessor	395-3137	Norman.Wood@OldSaybrookCT.gov
Bridget Riordan, Administrative Clerk		Bridget.Riordan@OldSaybrookCT.gov

## BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Tom Makowicki, Building Official	395-3130	Tom.Makowicki@OldSaybrookCT.gov
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## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Susan Beckman, Executive Director	395-3139	Susan.Beckman@OldSaybrookCT.gov
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## FIRE MARSHAL

Pete Terenzi	395-3133	Pete.Terenzi@OldSaybrookCT.gov
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## LAND USE

Christine Nelson, Town Planner	395-3131	Christine.Nelson@OldSaybrookCT.gov
Christina Costa, Enforcement Officer		Christina.Costa@OldSaybrookCT.gov
Sarah Lyons, Administrative Assistant		Sarah.Lyons@OldSaybrookCT.gov
Patrick Hegge, Environmental Planner		Patrick.Hegge@OldSaybrookCT.gov

## PARKS AND RECREATION

Ray Allen, Director		Ray.Allen@OldSaybrookCT.gov
Jonathan Paradis, Assistant Director	395-3152	Jonathan.Paradis@OldSaybrookCT.gov
Rick Pine, Office Manager		Rick.Pine@OldSaybrookCT.gov

## PUBLIC WORKS

Larry Bonin, Director	395-3123	Larry.Bonin@OldSaybrookCT.gov
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## REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

Joan Broadhurst	395-3134	Registrar@OldSaybrookCT.gov
Joan Strickland		Registrar@OldSaybrookCT.gov

## TAX COLLECTOR

Barry E. Maynard	395-3138	Barry.Maynard@OldSaybrookCT.gov
Wendy Morison		Wendy.Morison@OldSaybrookCT.gov

## TOWN CLERK

Sarah Becker, Town Clerk	395-3135	Sarah.Becker@OldSaybrookCT.gov
Christina Antolino, Assistant Town Clerk		Christina.Antolino@OldSaybrookCT.gov

## TREASURER

Robert Fish	395-3073	Robert.Fish@OldSaybrookCT.gov
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## WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

Stephen Mongillo, Program Administrator	510-5001	Stephen.Mongillo@OldSaybrookCT.gov
Robbie Marshall, Coordinator	395-2876	Robbie.Marshall@OldSaybrookCT.gov
Gratia Lewis, Financial Manager	510-5076	Gratia.Lewis@OldSaybrookCT.gov

## OTHER TOWN DEPARTMENTS

### Acton Public Library - 60 Old Boston Post Road

Amanda Brouwer, Director	395-3184	abrouwer@actonlibrary.org
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### Police Department - 6 Custom Drive

Non-emergency	395-3142	
Michael A. Spera, Chief of Police	395-3142	mspera@oldsaybrookpolice.com

### Probate Court - 302 Main Street

Jeannine Lewis, Judge of Probate	510-5028	
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### Social Services - 322 Main Street

Susan Consoli, Social Services Coordinator	395-3188	Susan.Consoli@OldSaybrookCT.gov
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### Transfer Station

499 Middlesex Turnpike	395-3187	
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### Youth & Family Services - 322 Main Street

Heather McNeil, Executive Director	395-3190	Heather.McNeil@OldSaybrookCT.gov
Angela Gaidry, Administrative Assistant		Angela.Gaidry@OldSaybrookCT.gov

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

## Parks and Recreation... continued from page 17

per round. On Mondays, 11:00 am - 4:30 pm, we have kids day, 12 years and under play for just \$3.00 per round and on Wednesdays, 11:00 am - 4:30 pm, we have senior day, where 60 and older can play for \$3.00 per round. We have a full concession offering, hot dogs, chips, soda, water and ice cream available for purchase. Birthday parties or reservations can be booked at OSPR's Main Office at 308 Main St. Hours of Operation (weather permitting)

- June 15th to Labor Day  
Monday - Sunday 11:00 am - 10:00 pm
- Sunday - Thursday - 11:00 am - 8:00 pm
- Friday and Saturday - 11:00 am - 10:00 pm

For more information please visit our website at:  
[www.oldsaybrookrec.com](http://www.oldsaybrookrec.com)

154 College St. Old Saybrook (Saybrook Point)  
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Phone: 860-388-2407

## BEACHES AND PARKING PASSES

Beach Parking Passes are available online or in person at the Rec. Center. Parking passes will be required Memorial Day through Labor Day. The new 2019 stickers will need to be affixed to the lower, left-hand side of your windshield. You are allowed up to two passes per household, the 1st pass is \$20.00 and the 2nd pass is \$30.00. Senior and military discounts are available.

## HOURS OF OPERATIONS AT TOWN BEACH AND HARVEY'S BEACH

### Lifeguard and Bathhouse Hours

Monday-Friday 10:00 am - 5:00 pm  
Saturday & Sunday 10:00 am - 5:30 pm

## SPLASH PAD AT KAVANAGH PARK

The Splash Pad is ready to cool you down at Kavanagh Park this summer. Located on Trask Rd., the splash pad has a variety of elements to keep your young ones cool this summer. The splash pad is open to Old Saybrook toddlers to third graders with adult supervision. Hours of operation are located below (weather permitting).

Hours of Operation: Starting June 14th

- Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 11:00 am - 3:00 pm
- Wednesday 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm
- Saturday & Sunday 11:00 am - 4:00 pm

## THE PRESERVE

The interim trails have been set and are ready for your use this year. There are trail maps available on our website as well as the towns at [www.oldsaybrookct.org](http://www.oldsaybrookct.org) and in our offices. While there is limited parking in Old Saybrook, the main



parking lot on the Essex Road (RT154) in Westbrook. There is room for several cars in the small parking lot on the Ingham Hill Road in Old Saybrook.

year. We will have 11 shows on the Town Green, every Wednesday at 6:30 pm and this year we are **continued on page 20**



**SUMMER CONCERTS**

OSPR has a summer full of outdoor music at two locations this

Date	Venue	Band	Genre	Sponsor
6/12	Town Green	Timmy Maia	Modern R&B	Yale OS Medical Center
6/19	Town Green	Dan Stevens	Blues	Middlesex Health Primary
6/21	Harvey's Beach	Branded Country	Modern Country	OSPR
6/26	Town Green	Rock Solid Alibi	Cover Band	Grossman Chevy & Nissan
7/3	Town Green	The Meadows Brothers	Folk Rock	OSPR
7/5	Harvey's Beach	Black n White	Cover Band	Yale OS Medical Center
7/10	Town Green	Les Julian	Family Show	OSYFS & OSPR
7/17	Town Green	The Kenn Morr Band	Folk Rock	Dana Gibson & Karen Ursini of Coldwell Banker
7/19	Harvey's Beach	Caribbean Vibe Steel Drum	Calypso	Saybrook Republicans
7/24	Town Green	Jeff Burnham & The Insiders	Folk Rock	Sharon Linder & Mark Patterson Berkshire Hathaway NE Properties
7/31	Town Green	Gold Rush	Country	JM Realty
8/2	Harvey's Beach	Acoustic Marshpit	90's Covers	Denali
8/7	Town Green	Gracie Day	Country Folk	Yale OS Medical Center
8/14	Town Green	Long Island Sound	Big Band	Cloutier & Cassella Attorneys and Penny Lane Pub
8/16	Harvey's Beach	Among the Acres	Folk Rock	Saybrook Republicans
8/21	Town Green	The Larry Bonin Band	Classic Rock	TJ's Pizza & OSPR



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## Parks and Recreation... continued from page 19

offering 5 shows at Harvey's Beach, which will be Friday nights at 7:00 pm. On the previous page is the full summer line up which is brought to you by: Guilford Savings Bank.

### SUMMER MOVIE NIGHTS

OSPR is happy to announce that back for our second year is our family fun, Summer Movie Nights. We have 4 movies this season at three locations. We would like to thank lead sponsor Yale New Haven Health for their support.

- 1 Friday, June 28th, 8:30 pm on Town Green  
- The Peanuts Movie
- 2 Friday, July 12th, 8:30 pm at Fort Saybrook Park  
- Christopher Robin sponsored by Child and Adult Orthodontics
- 3 Friday, July 26th, 8:15 pm at Town Green  
- Mary Poppins Returns sponsored by HR Block of Old Saybrook
- 4 Friday, August 9th, 8:00 pm at Harvey's Beach  
- Small Foot sponsored by Sharon Linder of Berkshire Hathaway

### FALL SOCCER 2019

For those families with children entering Kindergarten through 3rd grade, OPSR will begin Fall Soccer registration on July 15th. The league will last 8 weeks and will be \$30.00. We will have a co-ed Kindergarten League, co-ed 1st grade league and a girls 2nd-3rd and boy's 2nd-3rd grade league. Each team will have one practice per week. Registration will end on Wednesday, August 20th and our first games will be played on September 14th. Please do not miss the deadline and visit our website to enjoy on the fall fun!! For more information on fall soccer or any program with OPSR, please email: Jonathan.Paradis@oldsaybrookct.gov.

## Old Saybrook's Annual Community Day



Mark your calendars for Old Saybrook's annual Community Day 2019 on Saturday, September 21st from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm on the Old Saybrook town green! Rain date is the following day, Sunday, September 22nd, 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Community Day is a statewide recognized celebration of the importance of the family in shaping the future of our children. Locally, Old Saybrook

Youth and Family services has adopted Community Day as its annual opportunity to promote positive activities and intergenerational fun for all ages to enjoy. This much anticipated community event celebrates our families as well as this fabulous community in which we live. Gather your family and friends for a day of FUN!

Old Saybrook's Community Day has grown significantly since its initial inception and now regularly attracts over 1000 participants - enjoying music, food, games, dancing and other fun-filled activities. Local businesses, civic organizations, clubs, community groups and performers of all ages are invited to join us in this year's festivities by sponsoring a booth, offering a family activity or sharing your talents on our event stage. Further information, including registration forms can be found on Youth and Family Services' website at: [www.yfs.org](http://www.yfs.org).

Should you have any questions or wish to discuss specific sponsorship opportunities, please contact Wendy Mill, Program Coordinator directly at: 860-510-5050 or by email to: [wendy.mill@OldSaybrookCT.gov](mailto:wendy.mill@OldSaybrookCT.gov).



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## Growing Vascular Program Uses the Latest Technology

Surgeons from The Vascular Experts practice at the Middlesex Health Center for Advanced Surgery are led by Dr. Bart Muhs. The Vascular Experts team is comprised of capable board-certified surgeons who are solely dedicated to vascular care and who can tackle simple or complicated cases.

They use the latest technology provided by Middlesex Health to best help patients. A recently renovated, state-of-the-art Diagnostic & Interventional Suite at Middlesex Hospital includes a hybrid catheterization laboratory designed to meet the needs of patients requiring heart, vascular and other interventional procedures. The suite also features intravascular ultrasound equipment that enables surgeons to view images from inside blood vessels in real time to identify blockages or ruptures.

This cutting-edge technology gives surgeons the tools needed to perform complicated procedures at Middlesex Health. For example, surgeons are able to perform fenestrated grafts, a vascular procedure that's generally performed only at larger tertiary care centers.

Middlesex Health vascular surgeons also perform a number of more common vascular procedures, including abdominal aortic aneurysm repair, carotid endarterectomy, leg angioplasty and stenting, and peripheral bypass surgery.

At Middlesex Health, vascular surgeons pioneer minimally invasive techniques and they're committed to providing personalized care. They take the time to develop a unique care plan for each patient to ensure the best possible outcome.

The Vascular Experts has offices in Middletown and Old Saybrook and can be reached at 844-482-7285.

## Connecticut River Area Health District

We all enjoy the sun. It provides us warmth and light, which is beneficial to our overall health. Upwards of 90% of our vitamin D comes from the sun, however too much of a good thing is not so good, as the sun can burn your skin, cause skin cancer, premature aging of the skin, cataracts, eye damage, and immune system suppression. For most people, 15 minutes of sun per day will not have adverse effects on the skin and will provide you with enough Vitamin D. Skin cancer, although preventable, is the most common cancer in the United States. Approximately 3.5 million new cases of skin cancer are diagnosed every year.

The USEPA and CRAHD recommends the following to protect yourself:

- **Avoid recurrent sun tanning and tanning beds:** Dangerous (Ultra Violet) UV radiation from tanning beds and direct exposure to the sun for prolonged periods of time can cause skin cancer and premature wrinkling.
- **Apply lots of sunscreen:** Use at least one ounce of sunscreen to cover all exposed skin 15 minutes before going outside. Use a Sun Protection Factor (SPF) of at least 15 with broad spectrum protection from both Ultraviolet A (UVA) Ultraviolet B (UVB) sun rays. Reapply sunscreen generously every two hours, even on cloudy or overcast days and after swimming or sweating.
- **Wear protective clothing:** Long shirts, pants, hats, and sunglasses should be worn when outdoors.



- Spend time in shaded areas: Seek areas of shade, especially between the hours of 10-4 when the UV rays are most powerful. Avoid sunburn.
- Check the UV index prior to outdoor activities: Another way to limit sun overexposure is to pay close attention to the UV index. The UV index has an Exposure Category of low to extreme. Less than 2 on the index is considered low, and 11+ is considered extreme. The UV index forecast is issued by both by the National Weather Service and EPA.

## Ensuring Beachgoers have Safe Water Quality

Summer is here with hot days with plenty of outdoor activities, like swimming in our beautiful Long Island Sound. Old Saybrook beaches are sought by many from far and near.

Ensuring beachgoers have safe water quality is a top priority for the Connecticut River Area Health District (CRAHD). Every week, from Memorial Day to Labor Day, CRAHD samples bathing water at Old Saybrook's public beaches including Old Saybrook Town Beach and Harvey's Beach. Samples are then transported at temperature control and analyzed for water quality at the laboratory. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has established bacterial standards that are used for marine beaches. If standards are exceeded, the beach is closed until re-sampling shows improved water quality that is below the EPA standard. Although rare, if a closure does occur, CRAHD will post a sign at the beach indicating its closure and notify the appropriate Town of Old Saybrook departments. Once testing shows that water quality has improved, the beach may reopen.

Bathing water quality can be affected by a number of environmental concerns, including point source and nonpoint source pollution. Point source pollution occurs from an identifiable source, such as a pipe, drain, or confirmed faulty septic system. Non-point source pollution does not originate from a single, identifiable source. Non-point source pollution mostly includes runoff from rainfall, which can transport contaminants across impervious surfaces such as driveways, sidewalks, streets, and parking lots, which ultimately lead into our waterways. Old Saybrook residents can help minimize non-point source pollution. A rain garden is a depression in the ground that can collect storm water from a driveway, roadway, or parking lot and allow the storm water to infiltrate into the ground. By building a rain garden at your home, you can reduce the amount of pollutants that leave your property and enter nearby waterways.

If residents have any questions, please call the CT River Area Health District at 860-661-3300.

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## THE OLD SAYBROOK PUBLIC SCHOOLS NEWSLETTER

### Here's Something Awesome

The Old Saybrook Public Schools' Public Relations Team has worked to develop new ways to bring the entire community into our District celebrations and successes. The team also works to keep the everyone informed about what is taking place at our schools in general. The team strongly believes that the relationship between the District and the community is an important partnership. An overarching goal of all our Public Relations initiatives is to make all Old Saybrook residents feel the same sense of Ram Pride that we feel in the hallways and classrooms of our three schools. To that end, two new Public Relations video segments have been developed and launched on the District's website and YouTube channel. They have also been shared with realtors in the area.

The first video series is called, "Here's Something Awesome." This video series is all about students and staff members who are doing incredible things outside of the regularly established curriculum. These videos will be released approximately every six to eight weeks. The first episode features Old Saybrook High School Junior Bella Carlo and her project called, "The Orthopedic Effects of Overweight Backpacks on Students."

This video is currently on the District News Page of: [oldsaybrookschools.org](http://oldsaybrookschools.org) and on the District YouTube page, as well.

The second video segment is a new series called, "Sixty Super Seconds." In this segment, a sixty second clock will run while we share an exciting bit of news about something taking place districtwide or at one of our schools. These videos will be released on a monthly basis. The first episode of this series is about Old Saybrook Middle School and its recent designation as a Positive Climate School from the Connecticut Association of Schools. To view this video, please visit the District's YouTube Page. You will also be able to view the video on the District website, [www.oldsaybrookschools.org](http://www.oldsaybrookschools.org) under the District News Page.

It is our hope that these new video segments will provide you with quick hits of information about our schools, our staff, and our students that you didn't already know. We also want these videos to serve as a window into our schools and into the passions of our students and staff who are using what they have learned to improve the community, the state, and the nation.

### Eats and Beats Come to Old Saybrook High School



Four Old Saybrook High School students; Isabella Donohue, Alice Gadon, Kristina McNeish, and Jewelia Taylor, recently held their Senior Capstone Project, Eats & Beats: Music & Food Truck Festival. The event took place on the grounds of Old Saybrook High School, serving as a benefit to raise money for the California Wildfire Relief fund. Students chose this cause after learning that thousands of families remain displaced because of last year's fires, and the recovery process is still far from complete.

On Saturday, May 18, hundreds of people of all ages gathered to enjoy live music performed by seven different artists/bands while sampling food and drinks

From left to right: Jewelia Taylor, Alice Gadon, Isabella Donohue and Kristina McNeish.



from six different food trucks/vendors. While dancing and enjoying the scene, people also participated in tie-dying t-shirts and playing a choice of field games including volleyball, corn hole, hula-hoops and much, much more.

The students' event raised over \$3,000 to aid California Wildfire Relief.

The students spent considerable time researching, planning and organizing the event to complete the Capstone Project,

and its undertaking incorporated skills such as critical thinking, problem solving, collaboration and leadership. "I'm hoping this now becomes an annual event," said one resident in attendance. "It's great for building community."

## Old Saybrook Middle School Students Learn about Survival and Adaptive Technology



Thanks to a generous grant from the Old Saybrook Education Foundation and the support of the Old Saybrook Board of Education, Geoff Krill (accompanied by his friend and fellow wheelchair athlete, Mikayla Briere) recently spoke to Old Saybrook Middle School 6th graders as part of the Language Arts Survival unit. During his motivational and educational presentation, Geoff shared his story about becoming paralyzed, overcoming his injury, and still living an active, fulfilling, adventurous life. Students learned about his different experiences with adaptive technology and saw, firsthand, how Geoff's many pieces of equipment enable him to ski, cycle, mountain bike, hike, surf, race cars, fly airplanes--and, even more importantly, share that journey with his family. Through Geoff's service dog, Emerson, students also learned about the role of a service dog in the lives of people who are differently abled.

## Goodwin Teachers & Acton Library Team Up for Summer Reading

Did you know that many students' reading skills decline over the summer? The decline, known as the "summer slide," is well founded in research. In order to combat this dreadful statistic, Acton Library and Goodwin Elementary School have teamed up for the third year to offer summer read-alouds for children of all ages.

Teachers volunteer their time and Acton provides the space. Each week, Goodwin teachers greet children upstairs in the library and engage them with their favorite books. Students enjoy free pizza and drinks. After the read aloud, children can choose to participate in a crafty activity downstairs in the children's library.

The Goodwin office will send weekly emails to share who the mystery teacher readers are for the week! Children will be able to login to their weekly reading minutes at the library (or from

home at: <http://www.actonlibrary.org>) and earn "Acton Bucks."

This year, students will earn a "BEAD CHAIN" and a "BRAG TAG," including many colorful, special beads to add each time they complete a book. The more they read, the more beads and brag tags they will get! Children will also receive an extra bead for EVERY Acton event they attend!

Please join us again this year for SUMMER READING at the ACTON LIBRARY on Mondays at 6:00 pm. The dates are:

June	24th,
July	1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th,
August	5th, 12th

**ALL CHILDREN ARE WELCOME!!!!**

Children don't need to be enrolled in Old Saybrook Schools to attend.



# Acton Public Library

Amanda Brouwer  
Director,  
860-395-3184  
abrouwer@actonlibrary.org

## New Study Room

We are pleased to let you know that the library has just finished the construction of a new study room. Unlike our other rooms; this room is a small, quiet space that is first come, first served. It only seats up to 4 people. Since we have finished construction the space has been a great place for high school children to work on end of the year projects and also a great place to study for exams.

If you are in need of a quiet space for up to 2 hours you can use the study room, just by presenting your library card at the circulation desk.

## Language Learning for Kids

The Acton Library already offers language learning for elementary-to-adult level learners in Transparent Language Online. We're happy to announce that now includes KidSpeak, a fun, age-appropriate online language course designed for ages 6 and up!

All you need is a library card to introduce your children to English, Spanish, French, Italian, and Mandarin Chinese. The program teaches words and phrases suitable for learners' age, needs, and interests. More than 40 activities, puzzles, and songs guide young learners through the basics, along with a cartoon "friend" who speaks the language.

Using the successful immersion approach preferred for young children, KidSpeak introduces the alphabet and word recognition, simple sentences, how to use plural and singular, how to distinguish between words that look and sound similar, simple addition and subtraction, how to tell time, number recognition (matching numbers to written words,) and correct pronunciation. Best of all, your child can learn from anywhere (once you've signed up at the library, of course!) KidSpeak works on computers, tablets, and phones so your little ones can learn on the go, at home, or in the library.

To learn more about KidSpeak or Transparent Language Online, give us a call at 860-395-3184 or swing by the library to get started. If you are ready to try now, visit <https://library.transparent.com/actonct/game/ng/#/dashboard>. You will just need your Acton Library cards and the fourteen digits on the back to set up your account.

## Children's Programs

SUMMER 2019

### IT'S THEATER TIME! WITH JUDY POTTER

**Tuesdays, July 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 from 11:00 am to 11:30 am.**

Listen to a story and learn how to act it out. Best for ages 3 - 7. Please register.

### READ WITH ELLA

**Saturdays, July 13 and August 17 from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm.**

Kids! Ella loves to be read to! Call to reserve a 15 minute session to READ with Ella the therapy dog.

### GOODWIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHERS' READING & PIZZA NIGHTS AT ACTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

**Mondays all summer, from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm.**

Listen to a story read by Goodwin Elementary School teachers and enjoy free pizza. No registration required.

### GET CRAFTY AT YOUR LIBRARY!

**Fridays, July 12 & August 2 from 10:00 am to 8:00 pm.**

Drop in to make a fun craft to take home. Supplies are on us.

### ABC AMIGOS

**From 10:30 am to 11:00 am.**

Free and drop-in preschool bilingual story time. Sing songs and listen to stories. For children ages 3-5 and siblings.

### CHILDREN'S SUMMER READING PROGRAM AT ACTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

**Mondays, June 17 - August 17**

**For infants and children through grade 5.**

Go to [actonlibrary.org](http://actonlibrary.org) to sign up and track your reading time. Earn an ACTON READING BUCK for every 20 minutes of reading. Collect beads in our new Read to Bead program! Get a brag tag, chain, and bead when you sign up and then spend your Acton Reading Bucks on special beads to create your own unique design! The more you read, the better your chain becomes. Trade up for special beads and additional brag tags! Get a bead for every library program you attend. Toddlers and infants can choose prizes from a special Prize Box. You can also "spend" your Reading Bucks on pet food for animals at the Valley Shore Animal Welfare League. All Summer Reading and Family Night programs are sponsored by The Friends of Acton Public Library.



### FAMILY NIGHT: NAPPY'S PUPPETS: SING-A-LONG

**Thursday, June 20 from 6:30 pm to 7:15 pm.**

Nappy's Puppets is dedicated to presenting quality shadow-puppet theater. No registration is required.





**FAMILY NIGHT:  
SCIENCE TELLERS:  
ALIENS, ESCAPE  
FROM EARTH**  
Thursday, June 27  
from 6:30 pm to  
7:15 pm.

Science Tellers combines high-energy storytelling with interactive science. No registration required.



**FAMILY NIGHT: DIMENSIONAL  
DANCE: DANCE HISTORY  
LIVE FROM BALLET TO  
BREAKDANCING**  
Thursday, July 11 from 6:30 to 7:15 pm.

Professional dancers will perform and explain how we went from dancing on our toes to dancing on our heads! No registration required.

**FAMILY NIGHT: NEATO THE MAGICIAN**  
Thursday, July 18 from 6:30 pm to 7:15 pm.

Kids! NEATO the Magician will dazzle you with his Reading is Magic Show. No registration required.

**FAMILY NIGHT: CREATURE TEACHERS**  
Thursday, July 25 from 6:30 to 7:15 pm.



Come and meet a variety of animals and learn about their habitats. No registration required.



**BUBBLEOLOGY, WITH  
KEITH JOHNSON**  
Thursday, August 1 from  
6:30 to 7:15 pm.

Keith Johnson will reveal the secret world of bubbles. You can learn a lot from a bubble! No registration required.

**ANIMAL EMBASSY: ALIEN INVADERS!**  
Thursday, August 8 from 6:30 to 7:15 pm.

Meet several live alien invaders - a Monk Parakeet, Burmese Python, Cane Toads, and a Green Iguana. No registration required.

continued on page 28

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## Acton Library... continued from page 27



### HIGH ENERGY JUGGLING WITH JASON TARDY!

Thursday, August 15 from 6:30 to 7:15 pm.

A heady mix of high-energy juggling and crazy offbeat comedy. No registration required.

Fall Story Times begin on September 11; check our website for more details!

## Teen Programs

JULY



### STARRY NIGHT: PASTEL PAINTING VAN GOGH'S MASTERPIECE

Tuesday, July 30, 5:00 pm at Acton Public Library.

This program for adults and young adults (ages 14+) is a hands-on pastel painting workshop designed for beginners to experienced artists. Gregory Maichack, an award-winning artist, shares insights and anecdotes from the

life of van Gogh, who painted many evocative night scenes. By painting his "Starry Night," participants will learn all the essentials of painting in pastel, using professional grade pastels, paper, and pencils.

Free and open to all. Registration is suggested as seating is limited and is available one month prior to the event. This program is sponsored by The Friends of the Acton Library.

## TEEN SUMMER READING PROGRAMS AT ACTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Monday, June 17 - Saturday, August 17, 2019

For teens in grades 6-12

Welcome to READSquared, the statewide online summer reading log! Follow the link on our website at [www.actonlibrary.org](http://www.actonlibrary.org) to track books read, write book reviews and claim prizes. Remember, all reading counts, including audiobooks! Earn Acton Teen Reading Bucks to "spend" in the Teen Prize Locker while supplies last.



The library is participating in the Read to Feed program again this year, and teaming up with the Valley Shore Animal Welfare League to turn reading into food for rescued pets. You can "spend" your Acton Teen Reading Bucks on pet food to help feed the animals.

## Adult Programs

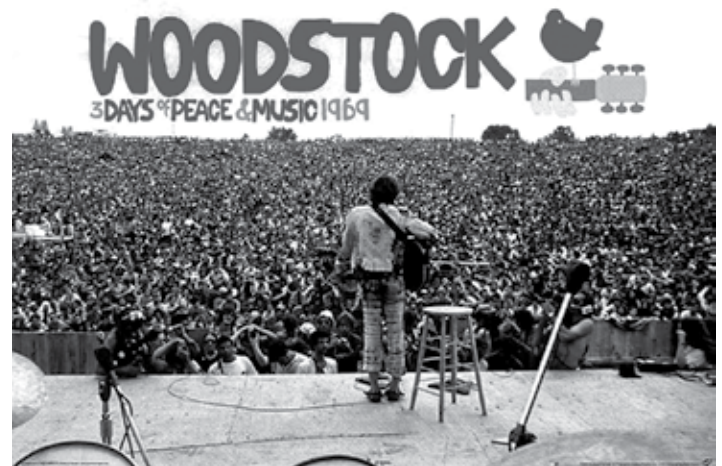
JULY

### WOODSTOCK: A 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Saturday, July 27, 2:00 pm at Acton Public Library.

Combining rare audio, archival film, captivating stories, songs, and guided music-making, master percussionist, author, educator, and radio host Craig Harris will be leading a multimedia, participatory, and fun-filled 50th anniversary celebration of the culturally groundbreaking Woodstock Music and Art Festival. Sponsored by the Friends of Acton Public Library. Free and open to all.

Registration is suggested as seating is limited and is available one month prior to the event.



AUGUST



### JAMILAH HENNA CREATIONS

Saturday, August 3 at 2:00 pm at Acton Public Library.

This program includes a Power-Point presentation detailing the history, origin and traditions of henna. Henna is a natural dye derived from a plant. The leaves of the henna plant are dried and sifted into a fine powder. The henna powder is mixed with lemon juice, cajeput and lavender oil to create a dark-staining paste.

Each participant will get a professionally applied henna design. Sponsored by the Friends of Acton Public Library. Free and open to all ages 14+. Registration is suggested as seating is limited and is available one month prior to the event.

### MICK & VIC CONCERT

Saturday, August 24, 2:00 pm at Acton Public Library.

Performing together for many years, Mick and Vic have a sound that will make you smile! From their melodic harmonies to





their guitar and bass rhythms, they will keep you tapping your feet and singing along all day long! Free and open to all. Registration is suggested as seating is limited and is available one month prior to the event.

Registration is suggested as seating is limited and is available one month prior to the event.



**AUTHOR VISIT & BOOK SIGNING:  
YOU ARE NOT ALONE: OUR LOVED ONES ARE HERE... YOU'RE JUST NOT LISTENING**

**Saturday, September 28, 2:00 pm  
at Acton Public Library.**

Sydney Sherman, Connecticut author, medium, and paranormal investigator, will share her life experiences and her book,

*You Are Not Alone: Our Loved Ones Are Here... You're Just Not Listening.* Sherman's book outlines her passage from confusion to acceptance of her relationships with the many spirits who inhabit her everyday world. Books will be available for purchase. Free and open to all. Registration is suggested as seating is limited and is available one month prior to the event.

**SEPTEMBER**



**STONED! A CRASH-COURSE ON CRYSTAL AND STONE HEALING**  
**Saturday, September 21, 2:00 pm  
at Acton Public Library.**

The history of the earth is etched on stones and crystals. Don't underestimate their healing powers. This class is presented by the Grounded Goodwife duo, Velya Jancz-Urban & Ehris Urban. Sponsored by the Friends of Acton Public Library Free and open to all ages 14+.

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# Friends of Acton Library

Spring was an active time for the Friends. We had a successful membership drive and a very good Mini Book Sale at the end of March which both added to our coffers. In our April meeting, we funded summer programs for children, young adults, and adults.

Our summer programs will be rich and varied, including many of the favorites such as the children's reading program with its store where prizes can be purchased with reading minutes and the popular Read to Feed program which helps to feed animals in the shelter who are waiting for adoption. Young Adults will also have their reading program with a Prize Locker full of prizes to be purchased with Reading Bucks. In addition to the reading incentive programs, there will be weekly family nights in July and August. Adult programming will include Drumming Spirit by Mark Zarrillo in June, a Woodstock 50th Anniversary celebration in July, and Henna Creations in August. (Henna

Creations was offered in the winter season and so many adults wanted to try it that this is a return event for adults.)

Our Annual Meeting was held on May 23 with the election of officers and annual reports. The new officers include: Sheila McPharlin, President; Roxanne Quinn, Vice President; Emily Miller, Recording Secretary; Pat Smith, Treasurer; Pat Flanagan, Membership Chair; and Nancy King, Correspondence Secretary. The business meeting was followed by "An Evening with the Gillettes" in which Harold and Theodora Nivers shared stories of their lives as William and Helen Gillette.

We are already gearing up for our Big Summer Book Sale in the third weekend of July: Thursday, July 18 from 10:00 am to 8:00 pm; Friday from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm; July 19; and Saturday, July 20 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. This is our huge sale of thousands of books on two floors of the

library. On Friday, all day, we will be holding our popular bake sale and on Saturday, we will feature our \$10/bag sale in the large room on the second level.

Our Book and Bake sale is popular as a respite from beach frolics and also, it always coincides with the Deep River Muster. Do remember to come in out of the sun before and after whatever you are enjoying outdoors, to explore our offerings and take home some treasures. Most of our books are offered for less than \$2 each.

Our August meeting on August 22, at 10:30 am, will be the time we receive requests for autumn and winter programming. And so the story goes. Our meetings are open to the public and you are invited to join us.

Sheila McPharlin,  
President, Friends of Action Library  
860-304-4668  
sheilamcp@gmail.com

# Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA) Update

The WPCA has been working throughout the spring to complete the Wastewater Management District restorations for septic systems installed in the fall and winter.

Benefit Assessment public hearings continue to be scheduled to address the last Cornfield Point contracts.

Financial accounting for Phase II is being completed as planning for Phase III begins. Phase III encompasses: Plum Bank, Great Hammock Beach, Saybrook Manor, Indiantown and Chalker Beach.

Wright-Pierce completed an engineering study developed for the Phase III planning purposes. The resulting report has been accepted by the WPCA and is posted on our website.

The WPCA continues with the mailing of quarterly postcard reminders, requiring residents to pump out their septic tanks every 5 years per Ordinance #75. Although the ordinance mandates 5 year pumpouts, the WPCA and Department of Public

Health recommend tanks be cleaned as often as necessary (based on usage and results of prior pumpouts.)

Pumpout service providers must record the information in the online "Septic Search" system ([www.septicsearch.com](http://www.septicsearch.com)). Residents are advised to ensure their service providers input their pumpout data in Carmody's Septic Search database, to avoid further reminders and enforcement issues. This database can be accessed by residents to determine their last pumpout and view the report as well.

We welcome new alternate, Frederick Strickhart, to the Board.

Included in this issue is an article about pollinators. We hope you find it informative and helpful.

For further information about any of our programs, we encourage residents to call: 395-2876, stop into our office in Town Hall or attend our monthly WPCA meetings held on the 2nd Monday of the month in Town Hall. Or visit our website at: [www.oswpca.org](http://www.oswpca.org).

To download previous issues of Old Saybrook Events visit: [www.eventsmagazines.com](http://www.eventsmagazines.com)  
and download the issue you desire!



## Conservation Commission: Plastic Film Recycling

You probably encounter thin plastic films a handful of times every week. Thin plastic film includes the bag your bread comes in, grocery bags, your dry-cleaning bag, and the wrap around paper towels and toilet paper, just to name a few. But did you know that thin plastic films can be recycled?



Sadly most cannot be recycled in your curbside recycling bins, but they can be brought to a designated bin at a drop-off location, such as the white bins located in Stop and Shop in Old Saybrook. These items can then be recycled into composite lumber for decks and playground equipment, or transformed into pellets to make smaller items like pallets and crates. For more information and for other drop-off locations go to [plasticfilmrecycling.org](http://plasticfilmrecycling.org).

If you are interested in hearing more about how you can reduce your plastic footprint, come say hi to us at the Old Saybrook Sidewalk Sale on June 29th. The Conservation

Commission will have a table and the members will be happy to “talk trash” with you.

### A TOWN FOR ALL SEASONS

Come enjoy the natural beauty of Old Saybrook at any time of the year. Take your canoe into the hidden beauty of coves, creeks and marshes and get a close-up view of the herons and egrets feeding. If you are lucky, you will catch sight of an osprey on its nest or perched in a tree eating its latest catch.

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## Old Saybrook Lions Club



The Old Saybrook Lions Club has had a busy 2018-2019 lion year under the leadership of its President, Lion Shirley Annunziata. We served hamburgers, cheeseburgers, baked stuffed potatoes, watermelon on a stick, and dessert items, as well as bottled water and an assortment of sodas during the Chamber of Commerce Arts and Crafts Festival last July. Look for us again this July and try a new addition to our menu.

From January through April, the club worked on the Lions Club of Old Saybrook 2019 Phone Book. It was completed and mailed in time for the Memorial Day observance and the beginning of our summer season. We want to thank our new advertisers, as well as renewal advertisers, (who have been so faithful in supporting us, some for the 15 years that we have published the phone book.) It is because of these advertisers that we are able to mail the annual phone book free of charge to more than 6,000 residences and business throughout our community. We encourage you to patronize the businesses listed and advertised. Net proceeds over the cost of publishing this book are returned to the community and used to support other Lions charities.

On March 20th, The Five Guys Restaurant sponsored a "Community Night" for our club and offered a 25% discount to patrons ordering meals that afternoon and evening. It was so enjoyable and successful, we plan another fund-raiser there during the summer.

On April 13th, the club was a co-sponsor with the Old Saybrook Department of Parks and Recreation for the annual Easter Egg hunt, including a visit with the Easter bunny and our own Lion mascot.

On April 27th three of our members participated in a 5 K "Journey for Sight" walkathon up at the Rocky Neck State Park. That day, we also brought more than 1700 used eyeglasses to donate for a district "Eyeglass Extravaganza." A truckload of eyeglasses were then transported down to a collection facility in New Jersey and will eventually be refurbished and distributed both here in the USA and in third world countries to people who cannot afford to buy new glasses.

Next, we sold 40 tickets for the May 2nd 7:30 pm show, "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner" at the Ivoryton Playhouse. A portion of those ticket sales is donated back to the club. In addition, the following businesses donated Gift Certificates or basket raffle items, which were raffled off that evening. Proceeds from that fund-raiser was donated to the Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation.

We will begin a new Lion Year on July 1st with Lion Diane Pare as our President. On behalf of all of us in the Old Saybrook Lions Club, thank you for your generosity and support during the past year and we look forward to seeing you at future events, beginning with the O.S. Lions Club food booth at the Arts and Crafts Festival in July.

For more information about the Old Saybrook Lions Club, contact us by telephone: 860 924-5459 or send a note to: The Old Saybrook Lions Club, P.O. Box 21, Old Saybrook, CT 06475.

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# Old Saybrook Historical Society

*Dedicated to preserving, protecting and promoting the History of Old Saybrook*

## FORT AND WAR EXHIBIT

Under a grant from the National Park Service, American Battlefield Protection Program, the Historical Society has been working to develop resources to increase awareness and understanding of the siege and battles of Saybrook Fort and the Pequot War, 1636-1637.

Several new resources have now been developed for educators and the public, and particularly residents and visitors in the Old Saybrook area. These items, along with artifacts discovered by archaeologists working at Saybrook Point are on display at the Gen. Wm. Hart House exhibit gallery, 350 Main St., Old Saybrook.

Accompanying the objects and artifacts in the exhibit will be a large walking/biking tour map identifying and explaining several significant local Saybrook Fort and Pequot War sites.

Historic markers with information about the siege and battles at Saybrook Fort during the Pequot War have been installed and can be found at the Gen. Wm. Hart House, College Street, Saybrook Point, and Cornfield Point.

Visitors to the exhibit will be able to obtain a free map and hike or bike the roughly seven mile loop from the Old Boston Post Road, to Great Hammock Road, to Maple Avenue and Saybrook Point, returning by way of College and Main Street.

In addition to the identification of these sites, the Historical Society has developed a set of large display boards that tell the story of the Pequot War, has prepared elementary and secondary curriculums, and is preparing a publication.



The exhibit gallery will be open Saturday and Sunday, 1:00 - 3:00 pm and by appointment though the summer. Admission to the Gen. Hart House is \$5. For visitors wishing only to see the exhibit there is no charge. For further information or to schedule a group visit, contact the Historical Society at: contact @saybrookhistory.com or call: 860-395-1635.

Left: Indian couple and Colonial couple - Exhibit at Hart House exhibit gallery.

continued on page 34

## A Round of Applause for Supporting the Arts.



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**It takes a community to improve the quality of life for all** – neighbors and friends who give their time and resources to support a passion or area of interest. We applaud the good people who are working in partnership to enrich and inspire creativity through the visual, written and performing arts.

**Together, we are making a real difference.** Thanks to our donors, funds, and our nonprofit partners, the arts are flourishing in our community – both “on stage” and “behind the scenes.” Together we are teaching our young people – and people of all ages – to sing, dance, sketch, paint, and even play an instrument. We are helping performing arts organizations purchase updated sound and lighting equipment to enhance production capability and audience experience. Thanks to you, our artists are sharing their talents and receiving that wonderful “Round of Applause.”

**Thanks to you, by combining our resources, we are able to make even the smallest gift have a big impact** - through charitable funds that support not only arts and culture, but also animal welfare, health and social services, education, history, the environment, civic improvements, recreation, and economic security and opportunity.

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## Historical Society... continued from page 33

### HISTORICAL SOCIETY RECEIVES CONNECTICUT HUMANITIES GRANT

To support the establishment of an exhibit on the “Struggle for Survival: Saybrook Fort and the Pequot War,” the Historical Society recently received a \$4,500 grant awarded by Connecticut Humanities to enable the Society to obtain the services of a museum specialist and Pequot War historians along with the purchase of materials and display cases.

Historical Society president Marie McFarlin said, “the Society is grateful for this valuable support from CT Humanities. It will allow us to develop a more informative and attractive exhibit and provide a better experience for visitors.”

Connecticut Humanities, a nonprofit affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, supports cultural and historic organizations that tell the state’s stories, builds community and enriches lives.



Clockwise from upper left: US Coast Guard Dixieland Jazz performers, US Coast Guard concert goers, and US Coast Guard Dixieland Jazz Band.

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### “ALWAYS READY” TO WELCOME USCG DIXIELAND JAZZ

Lively music will fill the air once again when the U.S. Coast Guard Dixieland Jazz Band returns for a concert on the campus of the Gen. Wm. Hart House, Sunday afternoon, August 25, 4:00 pm.

continued on page 36



# Summer Living on the Shoreline



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## Historical Society... continued from page 34

This popular and widely acclaimed group of outstanding musicians offers a wide range of sparkling musical favorites. Their delightful performance has drawn a large crowd and provides an exciting and entertaining afternoon for area residents and visitors.

The USCG Dixieland Jazz Band was formed in 1969 and has entertained audiences in concerts across the U.S. and in several other countries. They have performed at many nationally important events and well-known venues including the U.S. Capitol, the Kennedy Center, Mardi Gras parades, and Preservation Hall in New Orleans. This concert is a free community event. Guests should bring chairs. Whenever the USCG Dixieland Jazz wants to perform, we're "Semper Paratus."

### TASTE OF THE TOWN COMBINES FUN, FRIENDS, & FINE FOOD

Here's a timely opportunity to treat your 'significant other' to a romantic evening of fine dining under the stars while soft melodies from violins fill the air. Add to this atmosphere a variety of fine wines and a menu featuring fabulous food from the best restaurants and specialty shops of the town.

And, what you get is an enchanted evening of fun and fabulous food which also serves the worthy purpose of raising funds for the Old Saybrook Historical Society.




Top: Rhode Island Fiddlers perform during the Taste of the Town.  
Bottom left: Donna DiBella, Historical Society chairperson for Taste of Town fundraising event.

This "Taste of the Town," featuring some of the top local restaurants and fine food shops, along with a wine tasting will take place on the campus of the Gen. Wm. Hart House, 350 Main Street, Old Saybrook, September 7, 2019 from 5:00 - 8:00 pm.

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Music will be provided by the ever-popular Rhode Island Fiddlers. Sponsors include Guilford Savings Bank, Hadass and Matthew

Rubin, and Shore Publishing, LLC. For more information or to purchase tickets call the Historical Society at: 860-395-1635.

The Old Saybrook Historical Society welcomes volunteers to support its programs and activities. For membership and other information, contact the Society at: [contact@saybrookhistory.org](mailto:contact@saybrookhistory.org) or call 860-395-1635.

## Municipal Cemetery of Old Saybrook

The Municipal Cemetery of Old Saybrook, also called the "Upper Cemetery" is located on North Main Street in Old Saybrook, Connecticut.

The Cemetery is owned by the Town of Old Saybrook and overseen by the Municipal Cemetery Committee, appointed by the Board of Selectman. There are seven members of this committee, and one alternate member. The Chairman of the Committee is Dana Cosgrove and the Committee has asked member Scott Carson to be the Sexton of the Cemetery.

Mr. Carson, in his role as a Committee member, undertook the task of creating two documents about the Municipal Cemetery; an Upper Cemetery Alpha Listing and an Upper Cemetery Survey. These two headstone documents are on file with the Old Saybrook Historical Society and the Old Saybrook Library for the public to utilize in any search for the persons or families in whom they might have an interest.

These documents contain the names and information on 921 persons who are buried or memorialized. The earliest burial is

recorded in 1787 with the last burial being in June 2017. Included in this number are 48 identified veterans, serving through six periods of war.

The Committee has been fortunate to receive gifts from members of the public toward the upkeep and repair of the Cemetery; the latest being an anonymous donation toward the Headstone Repair Project of \$ 4,500.00 which repaired 18 headstones by Nia Nalenz of Gravestone Service of New England located in New Hampshire. The Town of Old Saybrook **continued on page 38**

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## Municipal Cemetery... continued from page 37

has been helpful in having trees removed which were dead or dying along the perimeter of the property.

Each year, about one week prior to Memorial Day, the Cemetery Committee holds a "clean up day" in which the public is invited to volunteer and help prepare the grounds for the Memorial Day celebration so that American Flags may be placed at the appropriate gravestones.

Scott Carson, through the sponsorship of the Old Saybrook Historical Society, has also held walking lectures about the cemetery; the last being in May of 2019. Please contact Dana Cosgrove at: [drcosgrove@comcast.net](mailto:drcosgrove@comcast.net) if you have any questions or thoughts about the cemetery or the Committee.

## Social Services - ALICE Saves

OLD SAYBROOK SOCIAL SERVICES AT LIBERTY BANK

Friday, July 12th, 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Old Saybrook Social Services is sponsoring this United Way initiative at Liberty Bank on Friday, July 12th from 11:00 am - 3:00 pm. Anyone age 18 and over can sign up for a savings account that can be linked online to receive up to \$60 in additional savings, access to a financial advisor and more through this program encouraging people to save.

Four years ago, United Way introduced ALICE, which represents the population of individuals and families who are working, but have difficulty affording the basic necessities of housing, food, child care, health care, transportation and may be living pay check to paycheck.

In response, Connecticut's United Ways have joined together to promote financial stability for working families statewide by launching ALICE Saves, a new initiative designed to help families develop a lifelong habit of saving and other positive financial behaviors.

This initiative combines SaverLife, a proven savings product from the California-based nonprofit EARN, and Trusted Advisor, a successful financial counseling program operated by the New York-based Neighborhood Trust Financial Partners.

Savings is a core component of financial health. A savings habit - and the stability it brings - is as important as income. Savings address financial instability by providing a way for families to save for short term emergencies and long term assets, like a college education or a home.

In its 2018 ALICE Report, a study of financial hardship, United Way found that 40% of Connecticut households cannot afford basic living expenses while 46% do not have enough savings to cover expenses for 3 months. While 37% of CT residents did not set aside any money for emergencies last year, research shows that families with a savings of just \$250 are less likely to be evicted or miss a housing or utility payment. To sign up online with your existing savings account go to [www.ctalicesaves.org](http://www.ctalicesaves.org) or for more information on signing up at this event please contact Susan Consoli, MA. LPC, Social Services Coordinator at [susan.consoli@oldsaybrookct.gov](mailto:susan.consoli@oldsaybrookct.gov) or 860-395-3188.



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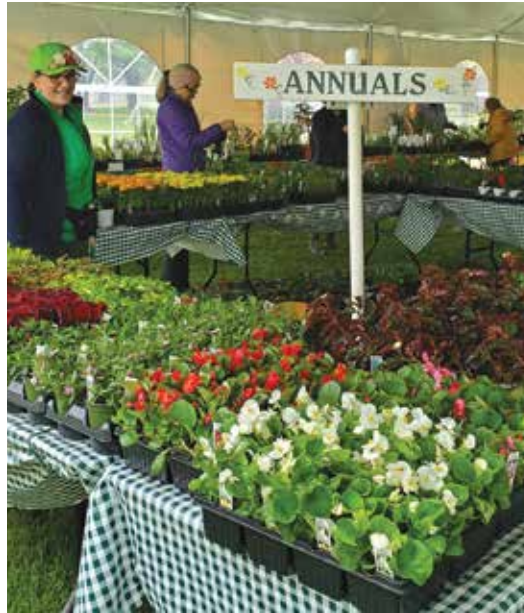
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## Old Saybrook Garden Club Summer Happenings



Summer is finally here! After a long, cold, rainy spring and winter, the Garden Club's May Market was held May 10-11th and was a tremendous success. What a delight to see all the flowers and plants! The May Market (left) is the Club's only fundraiser and without the support of our community, local vendors and all our members, we would not be able to provide our beautification programs around town. Thank you to everyone who made this event a success. Make sure to visit our May Market next year which will be held May 8-9th, 2020.



The Great Plant of 2019 was held May 28, 2019. Commencing at 8:00 am (left) the Old Saybrook Police department shut down one northbound and one southbound lane of Main Street while our members planted flowers in the medians. This is a wonderful joint effort between our Club, the Old Saybrook Police Department and Old Saybrook Public Works Department. We thank them for all the support in keeping all our members safe in the beautification of Main Street.

A special shout out to Old Saybrook WalMart for their very generous donation of \$20.00 for each planter on Main Street. The Main Street median gardens are meticulously tended to by members of our Club all summer, so please be on the lookout for member's wearing orange vests. Safety is our number one priority.

The Old Saybrook Garden Club's beautification projects can be seen throughout town as summer is a glorious time of year. Whether you live in town or are visiting, be sure to stop by the Acton library, Constitution Garden in front of Saybrook Home, the Old Saybrook Fire Department and the Old Saybrook Police Department.

The Street Garden Recognition Program Committee has been very busy, starting in March and continuing through summer and September. This is an annual program which encourages local businesses to work together to help beautify Old Saybrook for citizens and visitors alike. This program is in its 10th year and there are approximate 80 participating stores, restaurants and various other businesses around town who will be creating beautiful garden spaces in front of their business whether it be

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hanging plants, around-a-tree garden, in-ground gardens or containers. Look for this year's participants by finding the program's markers in the gardens on Main Street and Post Road.

Do you have any interest in participating in any of our programs? Please contact our Membership Chair at 860-395-1268. Follow the Old Saybrook Garden Club's activities on Facebook, [www.facebook.com/oldsaybrookgardenclub](http://www.facebook.com/oldsaybrookgardenclub) and "like" us.

## Swallow Cruise to Support Land Trust Scholarship

On Friday, September 13, the Old Saybrook Land Trust (OSLT) will sponsor an evening on the Connecticut River to view the amazing sunset gathering of the swallows. Net proceeds from the event help support OSLT's \$1,000 scholarship for a worthy college-bound Old Saybrook High School senior student.

The cruise is aboard RiverQuest's two-level river boat "Adventure." Take in the sights of the lower Connecticut River valley and enjoy incisive narrations from the crew's expert naturalists. Watch hundreds of thousands of swallows (below) gather at sunset to rest in the reeds on an island across the river from Old Saybrook.



The cruise is from 5:00 to 8:00 pm. The cost can be found on our website. Guests may bring their own dinner and beverages. OSLT board members will provide free appetizers for everyone. For more information or to make reservations, visit the land trust's website at: [www.oslt.org](http://www.oslt.org).

### LAND TRUST SEEKS NEW BOARD MEMBERS

OSLT is always on the lookout for people who would like to join their board of directors. Currently there are 10 board members. More are always welcome to bring the fresh energy and new ideas for preserving and protecting open space in Old Saybrook. If interested, send an email to [oldsaybrooklandtrust@oslt.org](mailto:oldsaybrooklandtrust@oslt.org) or phone/text Mike Urban at: 860-227-4258.



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# Saving Pollinators

In the pursuit of perfect gardens, backyard growers often resort to insecticides to defend their plants against real or imaginary invasions from harmful insects. While this is an effective way to combat bad bugs, collateral damage occurs. Harmless insects like butterflies often get caught in the chemical crosshairs.

Broad-spectrum insecticides, that eliminate many plant-damaging bugs, are also dangerous to butterflies. When these chemicals are sprayed indiscriminately, just about all insect activity, both bad and good, ceases. Many gardeners forget that systemic insecticides make all plant parts poisonous to insects; they put both leaf-munching butterfly caterpillars and nectar-sipping adults at risk.

If one patrols their garden — they can catch most potential problems with commercial insecticidal soap. This direct contact killer leaves no harmful residue, allowing gardeners to selectively dispatch nuisances like leafhoppers, aphids, whiteflies, mealybugs, thrips and spider mites. Bigger bugs like hornworms and Japanese beetles, can be picked off plants and tossed in a bucket of soapy water. Bag-a-bug Japanese beetle traps may be another solution.

Insects, like grubs, that have come in contact with insecticide are eaten by birds, which are poisoned as well. For grub treatment there are natural products like nematodes and milky spore, which

will also help reduce the subsequent moles that feast on the grubs. Contacting a specialist at the Uconn Extension program is the best way to get specific questions answered.

An easy way to deter bad bugs and lessen the need for insecticides, is to make plants more insect-resistant; by keeping them healthy. Plants in prime condition are less attractive to hungry insects, and even if they are attacked, can weather damage better than plants that are weak or stressed.

Another natural way to fortify your landscape against insect invasions is to use store-bought native plants. Due to their evolved nature, indigenous species have thrived in the wild, despite bad bugs, without pesticides.



## MONARCH BUTTERFLIES ARE IN TROUBLE

As spring settles firmly into place - with more sunshine and plants blooming - monarchs make their journey back north. Monarch

butterflies are a hallmark of springtime. Our country wouldn't

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be the same without them. But each year, monarch populations are plummeting -- there are 16 million fewer monarchs than just a year ago. A 2017 report, funded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, found that the western monarch population has a 63% chance of going extinct in 20 years. Scientists say that the steep decline of monarch populations is linked to development. Deforestation of their winter homes, extreme weather events fueled by climate change, and the increase in use of pesticides, all contribute to our monarchs vanishing.

To make plants safe for monarchs, you should avoid spraying herbicides like glyphosate, found in Roundup, which kills milkweed plants [that sustain their caterpillars], and insecticides with neonicotinoids.

Change is powerful at a local level. Environmental groups suggest residents ask garden stores to offer butterfly-friendly alternatives and milkweeds. We can all act to save monarchs in our communities by planting milkweed.

**Milkweed Impact:** You'll create places for monarch butterflies to lay eggs and for caterpillars to grow. You'll see more monarchs and provide a place for other important pollinators -- and it'll look great in your yard!

**Habitat:** Monarchs need a diverse garden of native milkweed

and nectar plants for breeding in spring and summer, and nectar plants for their migration. Three species of milkweed are recommended: common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*), swamp milkweed (*A. incarnata*), and butterflyweed (*A. tuberosa*). Local nurseries sell the lovely orange butterflyweed plants.

Creating a more favorable environment for butterflies benefits bees and other pollinators, as well as bug predators like: lady beetles, fireflies, lacewings and parasitic wasps.



#### NATIVE SOLITARY BEES

Another option is to add native bees to your garden. Summer leafcutter bees are best suited to Connecticut seasons and temperature range. They can be bought online and installed in

bee houses, and are great for pollinating a variety of flowers and vegetable gardens. These gentle little solitary bees are native to the U.S., as opposed to the honey bees that were brought over from Europe. Solitary bees do not live in hives, but in holes. A female bee claims a nesting hole and builds nesting chambers. Leafcutter bees emerge in early summer when the weather is above 70°F.

#### ENSURE YOUR GARDEN'S POLLINATION

Leafcutter bees help grow a greater number of improved fruit and **continued on page 44**



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## Saving Pollinators... continued from page 43

vegetables. Many flowers need to be visited repeatedly to grow fruit. For example, a pear flower needs to be pollinated 30 times! A flower that is properly pollinated will grow fruit that is rounder, fuller, and healthier. Because they don't have a colony, honey, or pollen to protect, solitary bees are typically much less aggressive and don't mind being watched as they enter and exit their nesting house. Adding a different bee species to a garden or farm can increase yield by 24%!

### LEAFCUTTER BEES ARE SUPERIOR POLLINATORS

Honey bees carry pollen on their hind legs. Leafcutter bees carry pollen dry and loose on the large surface area of their bellies. It falls off easily at every flower they visit. Leafcutter bees have a short flying range from their nests to flowers: only 300 feet and are not picky about the flowers they visit. Every bee has a life span of 4 to 6 weeks. Each female bee is determined to get its parenting duties done. So they wake up earlier, stay out later, and fly in worse weather. One leafcutter bee can carry out the pollination action of 100 to 200 honeybees!

### BUMBLE BEE CONSERVATION

Bumble bees are important pollinators of wild flowering plants and agricultural crops. They can fly in cooler temperatures and lower light levels, making them excellent pollinators! They also perform "buzz pollination," in which the bee grabs the flower in her jaws and vibrates her wing muscles to dislodge pollen from the flower. Many plants including wildflowers and crops like tomatoes and peppers, benefit from buzz pollination.

Because they are essential pollinators, loss of bumble bees can have far ranging ecological consequences. Alarming, recent work by the Xerces Society, indicates that some species have experienced rapid and dramatic declines. 28% of all North American bumble bees are facing extinction, via habitat loss, disease, pesticide use, and climate change. Unlike honeybees which have large (>10,000 individuals) perennial hives, bumble bees produce smaller colonies (50-1,500 individuals). Due to their smaller annual population sizes, life cycle, and genetic makeup, they are uniquely susceptible to extinction.

### YOU CAN HELP

Whether you live in town, near the beach, in the woods, or in a more suburban setting, you can make a difference for pollinators. Encouraging students to conduct a habitat survey – looking for pollinators, insects, and other wildlife – in their school garden is an effective way to teach conservation.

### THREE WAYS TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF POLLINATORS THAT APPLY ANYWHERE:

**Start a vegetable garden.** The health effects of growing your own produce are obvious, as is the benefit of eating less tomatoes grown in a hothouse thousands of miles away and shipped to your grocery store.

**Choose plants wisely.** Before you buy a rose bush or plant that lavender this season, consider this. It's possible cultivated or grafted roses, while colorful and aromatic, don't actually have pollen. And some types of lavender might not be shaped for ideal pollinator access. Pollen-sterile sunflowers offer little to nothing for pollinators. But if you're looking for beautiful flowers that also create pollinator habitat, use resources such as the Xerces Society to find those that will offer your pollinators the most food. Also consider staggering your flowers to include early, mid- and late-season bloomers. In this way, your garden offers nutrients for as long a period as possible to the widest variety of species.



**Be a little messy.** Do you like to mow every 3 or 4 days in the peak of growing season? Maybe consider mowing once a week or less to allow flowers to grow among the grass.

**Be a touch more wild.** If you have an area that you can allow to grow naturally with native plants, let it be a little natural.

But that doesn't mean if you want bees you can't have a formal garden. Carefully planned gardens and messy yards can be surprisingly beneficial to many critical species of pollinators, from bees and butterflies to hummingbirds. The same advice goes for parks, roadside ditches and even street medians. The longer the grass, the more opportunity for growing species that help pollinators. Encourage the town, and local gardeners and commissions to consider planting more flowers in public spaces or converting park land to native species.

The world's pollinator species - bees, flies, beetles and butterflies - are required by more than 85% of flowering plants for reproduction. More than 100 crops need or benefit from pollinators, adding up to \$3 billion a year in economic value. It would be difficult to overstate the part these littlest of creatures play in our everyday lives from the food we eat - to the flowers that bring us joy. It is not an exaggeration to say that their future hangs in the balance due to habitat loss, pesticide use, diseases, and climate change. Although some researchers are referring to "insectageddon" where insect numbers plunge so low it causes ecological collapse, there is hope!



#### FINAL NOTE

Have you seen these caterpillars? They spring orange horns from their head when threatened. They love parsley, [as well as dill and carrot greens]... and turn into these beautiful black swallowtails. So if you see them, don't discourage them! Plant some more parsley!



#### RESOURCES:

**Bumble Bee Conservation:** <https://xerces.org/bumblebee-threats/>

**Crown Bees:** <https://crownbees.com/>

**Environmental Action:** <https://environmental-action.org/>

**Uconn Extension:** <http://extension.uconn.edu/>

**US Fish & Wildlife: Save the Monarch:** <https://www.fws.gov/savethemonarch/>

**Wild Seed Project: Buy Seeds:** <https://shop.wildseedproject.net/>

**Xerces Society:** <https://xerces.org/pollinator-conservation/plant-lists/pollinator-plants-northeast-region/>

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## Red Wines for the Summer

With many barbecues going on and parties for the summer this calls for a lighter red than you would have with a heavy winter meal. There are quite a number of wines from all over the world that will go with your tasty summer dishes.

One of the lighter and more refreshing wines is made from the Gamay grape, which partakes the flavors of red fruits such as cherries, strawberry and raspberry. Most of these style wines come from Beaujolais, France. Typically they are light in body with bright fruit and a light finish.

For a higher quality one there are 10 villages and each one has own unique taste. The ten villages are: Brouilly, Chénas, Chiroubles, Côte de Brouilly, Fleurie, Juliéna, Morgon, Moulin-à-vent, Régnié, and St-Amour. These are called Cru Beaujolais. They pair well with grilled chicken and light salads. The next light wine to examine is Pinot Noir. This red is usually drier than the previously mentioned. The Pinot Noir grape is grown all over the world. It originated in Burgundy, France and has flavors of red fruit and a dry, slightly earthy finish. The California Pinot Noirs have a different taste profile. They have less of an earthy taste and are a bit softer in the finish. The fruit flavors can vary from bright cherry to dark fruit such as blackberry and cassis but is still light in body.

Oregon Pinot Noir, due to its similar climate, tends to resemble the wines from Burundy, rather than California. For wine Oregon is known best for their Pinot Noirs. They are also available from Argentina, Chile, New Zealand, and many other parts of the world. When they are produced in Italy they are called Pinot Nero. Pinot Noir pairs best with heavier seafood dishes, swordfish and light meat dishes like barbecue pork ribs.

One type of wine that pairs well with any barbecue dish is a Cote du Rhone. Coming from the southern Rhone area in France, it is a light to medium bodied wine with a good amount of fruit with a spicy dry finish, but not tannic or too heavy. Most Rhone wines are a blend of Grenach and Syrah. They can also include grapes such as; Mourvédre, Cinsaut, and Carignan. A few other reds to try this summer are Malbec, Petit Sirah and Zinfandel.

Have a fun time experimenting with these summer reds! Enjoy the summer with friends, family and great wine, at your barbecues and picnics.

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The concert will feature Parts I and II of Bach's "Christmas Oratorio" and will be performed December 15 with professional soloists and orchestra. Simon Holt of the Salt Marsh Opera will direct. Late registration is the following Monday, September 16, same time and place. For more information, monetary fees or to register, visit: [www.CappellaCantorum.org](http://www.CappellaCantorum.org) or call: 860-739-3194.

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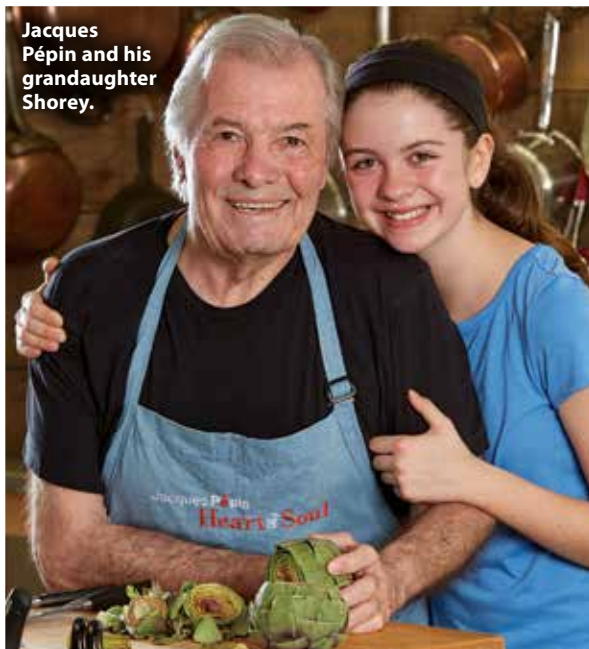
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Jacques Pépin and his granddaughter Shorey.

## Jacques Pépin: Simple ingredients, extraordinary results

by Sigrid Kun



Jacques Pépin strolling along the beach in Madison with one of his poodles.



Above, cooking with Julia Child on PBS's show "The Joy of Cooking."

All photographs by Tom Hopkins

A career that began in his family's kitchen continues in the family kitchen today. Whether preparing a lovely scallop or a veal chop with mashed potatoes, dinner is Jacques Pépin's "culmination of the day." The piano, he says, is the nickname for the stove. That makes Pépin a master musician.

### DESTINED FOR THE KITCHEN

Pépin's skills were honed early. Home was working in his parents' restaurant near Lyon, France. A Paris apprenticeship began in 1949 at the age of 13 (interestingly, Julia Child was working in Paris at the same time). His military service in France (1956-58) found him as the personal chef to 3 heads of state (including Charles De Gaulle) at a time when chefs toiled in anonymity. There was no such thing as a celebrity chef. If commanded to the dining room, things had gone awry. "Now, [being a chef], all of a sudden, you are a genius," he quips. "It is a very different world. I am lucky to be a part of it."

A year after coming to the US in 1958, he was working at New York's finest French restaurant, Le Pavillon. He turned down the position of chef to the Kennedy White House. He opted to develop food lines for Howard Johnson. It all worked out. A NY Times food editor connected Pépin with Helen McCully, a food industry icon. She introduced Pépin to then unknown Julia Child. The delightful cooking duo went on to win a daytime television Emmy Award in 2001. Yes, the friends would often argue. "On the whole we agreed on what was important," he recalls. "Quality, simplicity."

"Extraordinary," he reminisces. "Nothing was planned. I am very existentialist that way. You do something and it projects you somewhere else. You do that and it projects you elsewhere." One thing has always led to another for Pépin. Trips to the Catskills in the early 1960s led to his catching the "painting bug." His paintings are now a new business line. This June and

July his works will be on display at the Guilford Art Center. At the Catskills, he became a ski instructor. And on those slopes he met his wife of 53 years, Gloria. He calls his daughter (Claudine) and granddaughter (Shorey) his greatest accomplishments. During the 1960s he also earned bachelor's and master's degrees from Columbia University.

### A LIFE OF EVOLUTION

No life is without hardship. A 1974 car accident nearly claimed Pépin's life. He could no longer withstand the rigors of 7 days a week, 10-14 hours in the kitchen. His life transformed into "teaching, writing, and just cooking." Since 1975, he has written 30 books. He also became and remains a beloved fixture on television. He isn't a fan of today's harsh reality cooking shows. "You are asked to put a lot of yourself in your food. Love is a very important component. Yelling at you? There is no way you can teach with that approach... Cooking is interactive. You follow your taste. You taste and adjust. You taste and adjust."

At 83, he recognizes his own progression. "For many people in the country, I was known as the quintessential French chef... If you look at my books, there is the soup and cilantro with banana on one page, then the salad and fried chicken, and then the lobster roll. After half a century in the US, I am probably the quintessential American chef." Pépin's life/career has been profiled on the PBS series "American Masters." "I am probably the first cook to have an American Masters," he notes.

The Madison, CT resident continues to teach, paint, and enjoy life. Whether it is a game of boule, mushrooming, or walking his poodles along the beach, food still remains center stage. He is currently the Dean of Special Programs at the International Culinary Institute of New York and continues a 37-year teaching stint at Boston University. He performs countless cooking demonstrations across the country. In 2016, the Jacques Pépin Foundation was formed. His books/manuals of cooking techniques form the curriculum for soup kitchens from Boston to Seattle. The idea is to take what Pépin has created over so many decades to assist disenfranchised individuals - those who may be coming out of jail, are homeless, or are recovering from addictions.

### JACQUES PÉPIN...NOT INVINCIBLE?

"Yes, yes," he relates. "One time. It was 30 years ago or more. It was in the early 70s, a 3-hour show with dancing and singing. I did a cheese soufflé." Pépin came on the stage two hours into the show to put the soufflé in the oven. There was no way of checking on the controls so he did not know the oven was set on self-cleaning mode. He went back on stage for the unveiling. "I have never seen anything so burned." He laughs heartily. "It was crust on the outside and still liquid on the inside... There was no recovery on that one. But it was the biggest standing ovation I ever had."





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