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First Selectman's Corner

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Now that summer is here it's nice to see so many people enjoying the civic campus, marinas, shops, restaurants, and attractions that make Essex a unique place to live, work and play. I'd like to welcome the new residents as well as the new restaurants and businesses in Town. I encourage everyone to take advantage of all there is to do in our three villages at this time of year.

I thank the Essex residents for unanimously supporting the annual budget. The \$26,042,584 combined Town and Board of Education budget plan for fiscal year 2022-2023 was approved by voters at our Annual Town Budget Meeting held May 9th. The total spending package, which reflects a 1.52% increase, includes the Town government budget, an appropriation for Essex Elementary School, and the Town's share of the Region 4 education budget. I would like to give thanks to Finance Director Tracey Celentano, Selectmen Stacia Libby and Bruce Glowac, and the Board of Finance.

The values of used cars were inflated at the time of our 2021 Grand List. To alleviate the burden of this artificial increase in value on our taxpayers, the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance have elected to adopt a separate lower mill rate of

19.50 for our 2021 motor vehicle grand list. The tax bills received for cars in July will reflect this separate lower mill rate.

I would like to remind residents that the Town does not have an ordinance on the hours of operation in which a contractor or landscaper may work at a property in our community. We would expect such hours to be 7:00 am - 5:00 pm on weekdays with more limited



Norm Needleman First Selectman

work on the weekends. We rely on residents to be neighborly and considerate by ensuring that construction and the use of power tools and landscaping equipment be used only during these times. We have avoided both noise and blight ordinances, but we do get complaints, so please be mindful of your neighbor's right to enjoy their property.

Please remember to be diligent in making sure your trees and shrubs are not infringing on the Town sidewalks or roads. Overgrown plants may impact people's ability to use the roads or the sidewalks. There are numerous areas in Town

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Detail of black-eyed Susans blooming in a field. By A.C. Proctor

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First Selectman... continued from page 3

where you can't walk on a sidewalk with a wheelchair or a baby carriage because the plants have invaded the space. If necessary, the Town will trim the overgrowth, but we prefer that residents and businesses manage their own property to keep the sidewalks passable and safe.

The Town's Traffic Authority unveiled the new stop sign at the intersection of Main St. and Summit St. near the Ivoryton Playhouse. This intersection is now a three-way stop which will be much safer for traffic speed and pedestrians. The Resident State Trooper's Office reminds motorists to come to a full and complete stop at or before the painted white stop lines and only proceed ahead when safe to do so. Police will be enforcing the new stop sign. I thank the community, commuters, and guests of the Town for their cooperation.

CT Water has been working since the beginning of April replacing approximately 1.2 miles of 60-year-old water main on Main Street (Route 604) in Centerbrook and Ivoryton. We anticipate completion of this project in July followed by the State DOT repaying the entire roadway in August. Please consider rerouting to Route 153 when possible, to help reduce traffic. Water main work on New City and North Main streets in Essex will also be completed in July. The restoration of these capital projects will conclude with repaying Maple Ave, Riverview, New City St., and a section of Foxboro Rd. in August. We appreciate your patience during these necessary disruptions.

Hurricane season has arrived. Hurricane season is June 1st - November 30th each year, although storms can occur outside these dates. The Town of Essex has an Emergency Preparedness Guidebook and you may want to refer to these guidelines to help you plan.

The Summer Concert Series, sponsored by the Park and Recreation Department, runs through the middle of August at our Town greens in Essex and Ivoryton. Concerts are Tuesday evenings in Ivoryton and Wednesday evenings in Essex from 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm. For other Town events, take a look at the Board of Trade's website at: www.essexct.com.

The Essex Valley Railroad, Connecticut River Museum and **Ivoryton Playhouse** all have schedules for the summer season. Please support them!

Finally, congratulations to the Valley Regional High School Class of 2022!

All the Best, Norm Needleman. First Selectman



2022 SEASON *****

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Essex Board of Trade Promotes Alfresco Essex!



Essex Board of Trade (EBOT) is delighted to launch its Alfresco Essex promotional campaign for Summer 2022!

Susan Dee, President of the EBOT says, "Alfresco Essex is an evolution of our Alfresco

Thursday's event which EBOT sponsored for the past three summers. Alfresco Essex offers a broader description of the open-air experience that is central to our Experience Essex brand. It reinforces the fact that alfresco vibes are prominent every day in Essex, and in all three villages – Centerbrook, Essex and Ivoryton."



This summer, Essex will once again be buzzing with alfresco energy as restaurant diners spill onto patios,

terraces, and decks. In fact, Essex now boasts eleven outdoor dining spots including Olive Oyl's, The Griswold Inn, Carlson's Landing, Privateer's Pizza, Dockside at Dauntless, Scotch Plains Tavern, Surfridge Brewery, Los Charros Cantina, Savour Café, Brickside Pizza, and The Blue Hound. Many of these venues will occasionally offer live music to heighten the Alfresco Essex experience.

Alfresco Your Way, Every Day in Essex!

Susan continues, "Alfresco Essex is an invitation for residents and visitors alike to Experience Essex in all its open-air vibrancy: outdoor dining, boating, specialty shopping, biking, walking, sightseeing our historic and waterfront villages, picnicking in our beautiful parks, etc. We want to encourage family and friends to come outdoors and enjoy all that Essex has to offer. In other words, alfresco your way, every day in Essex!"



Alfresco lunch on the patio of The Griswold Inn.

EBOT members will ramp up the outdoor merriment with special highlights:

- **Connecticut River Museum** is hosting their weekly, free to the public concert series, "Thursdays on the Dock." Beer, wine, snacks, and dinner are available for purchase. Just bring a blanket and lawn chair to enjoy the music and spectacular waterfront views! Reservations for 5:30 pm at: https://ctrivermuseum.org/events/.
- Essex Park & Recreation's weekly "Yoga in the Park" will take place Thursday evenings, from 5:30 to 6:30 pm at the Essex Park. Pre-registration required at: https://essexct.recdesk.com/Community/Program.

FISH (Friends in Service Here)

FISH was founded locally in 1970 to provide free rides to medical appointments for residents of Essex, Deep River and Chester. The officers for 2022 are Henry May, President; Stuart Warner, Vice President; Mary Samburg, Secretary; Barbara Ryan, Treasurer and Jack Frost, Driver Recruitment. Dispatchers are John Heiser and Tony Carrano.

FISH restarted driving this April

2022 after not driving because of the COVID-19 pandemic January through March 2022. Our early volume of riders is low so we are contacting former riders, retirement homes and medical facilities to tell them we are again driving. FISH drivers and riders continue to be required to be vaccinated and to wear masks.

The modest FISH budget is funded by grants from the Essex Community

Fund, the Community Foundation of Middlesex County, the Essex Rotary Club, the Essex Savings Bank, the Deep River Community Health Committee, the Town of Chester, the Town of Essex, and other organizations, as well as by contributions from our drivers, riders and friends. We did not ask for donations for 2021.

Henry May, Driver and President



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21 NEPONSET AVENUE
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12 RIVER ROAD
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15 NOVELTY LANE
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277 OLD KELSY POINT ROAD
Westbrook • \$1.350,000 • Under Contract



73 FERRY ROAD

Lyme • \$1,185,000 • Under Contract



69 MOHICAN ROAD
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Source to Sea Cleanup

For the 25th straight year, volunteers scoured riverbanks, boat launches, trails, and more to get their feet wet and hands dirty for cleaner rivers. The Source to Sea Cleanup has grown from a few hundred to thousands of volunteers. Since its inception, more than 1,245 tons of trash have been collected. The Essex Land Trust along with over 50 town residents participated in the 2001 Source to Sea Cleanup held on October 2nd.

While this event connects people to each other across the four Connecticut River states, it also connects us to something much larger. Picking up trash here at home keeps it from traveling to the already massive garbage patches that are present in every ocean on the planet. The Source to Sea Cleanup is helping to keep our planet a cleaner place.

There is also real impact right in our own backyards. We all enjoy local rivers and

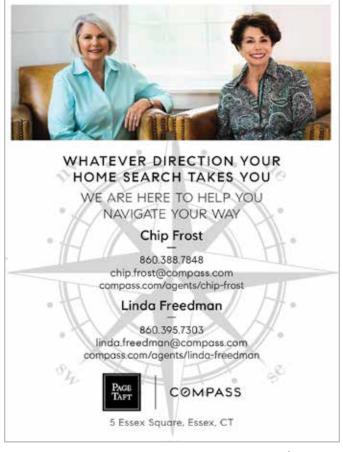
our favorite river spots more when they aren't polluted with trash. And our communities are stronger when residents work together toward a common goal. It's those connections, growing and strengthening over time, bringing in new people and engaging the next generation, that instill

hope for a brighter (cleaner!) river future.

As this event has grown, so too has our understanding of the waste systems that produce this litter. Our current reliance on disposable products is another example of inequity in our economy. It benefits some







at the expense of others, where our current manufacturing system was designed to profit the producers while blaming us, the consumers, for the resulting waste. Sure, we need to stop littering, but it's bigger than that. Holding producers responsible for better design and recycling creates new markets, economic opportunity, and LESS WASTE in rivers and landfills.

A detailed report of the Essex event along with pictures is available at: https://sustain-ableessex.com/source-to-sea-cleanup/.

For more information on the Connecticut River Conservancy go to: https://www.ctriver.org/.



Essex Land Trust Coming Events

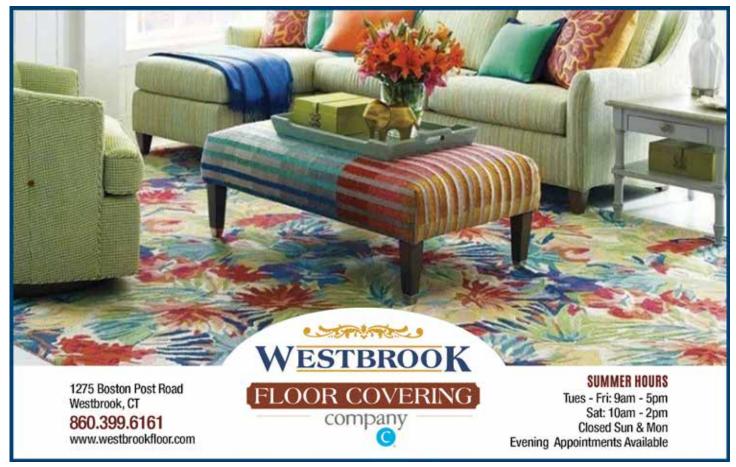


August 13, 11:00 am Kayak / Canoe Essex's North Cove and Falls River Cove

Launch at Bushnell Street launch landing at foot of Bushnell Street (best access off North Main Street,) Essex.

Explore Essex's North Cove and Falls River Cove with avid kayaker and Essex Land Trust Board member, Jeff Croyle. Enjoy expansive views of Essex's Great Meadow, largely preserved by the Essex Land Trust, and learn about the industry, including shipbuilding, located in Falls River Cove during then 18th and 19th centuries. Plan to arrive early to sign a waiver and launch your kayak/canoe for a timely departure. A safety boat will accompany.

continued on page 10







Essex Land Trust... continued from page 9

September 15, 5:30 pm

Fern Ledge Hike followed by Happy Hour at Surfridge Brewery

Meet at the parking area alongside the Middlesex Hospital Occupational Medicine facility, off Route 153, Westbrook Road.

This 20-acre preserve sits astride the Essex-Westbrook town line and, after the recent purchase of 3 acres, now connects to Farm Hill Estates, 4-acre plot in Ivoryton and Westbrook deeded to the land trust when a housing development was established along Carol Drive. With its steep terrain and high ledge overlooking a working farmer's field, Fern Ledge has a unique place among Essex preserves. Trails wind through woodlands and among old stone walls, offering glimpses of Birch Millpond below. The planned hike will be followed by a drive to Surfridge Brewery for socializing (*located at the former Witch Hazel factory, next to the Essex Steam Train.*)

September 24th
Connecticut Conservancy's
26th Annual Source to Sea Cleanup
Save the date.

The Essex Land Trust is proud to be a part of the Connecticut River Conservancy's Annual Source to Sea Cleanup. The event involves hundreds of volunteers in small groups across all four Connecticut River states. Groups will cover nearly the entire length of the Connecticut River from Stratford, NH all the way to Old Saybrook, CT and included many tributaries along the way. The land trust will be announcing more details including locations closer to the date.



Sustainable Essex collaborated with Sustainable Deep River and Sustainable Chester to host an Earth Day Event/Repair Cafe at the Bushy Hill Nature Center on April 30th. Volunteers at the family-oriented event helped repair items that needed mending, thereby keeping them from the waste stream, and saving resources needed for their replacement. A future repair café is planned.

Volunteers also taught attendees about plastic thin film recycling, composting, and the Town of Essex food scrap collection program. Children and adults participated in seed-planting and animal visits at the farm. Thank you to all our volunteers!

Speaking of food scraps, free food scrap collection for town residents is available at the Essex Transfer Station. As our food goes to the landfill and rots, it produces methane—a greenhouse gas even more potent than carbon dioxide.



Essex has chosen Blue Earth Compost to collect food scraps and deliver them to Quantum Biopower in Southington, CT. There, an anaerobic digester uses our food scraps to create methane to generate electricity. Collect your food scraps in a bucket or compostable bag and drop them off at the Transfer Station. Summer challenge! Let's increase our numbers for August and September.

Electric Vehicle (EV) charging use is up at the EV charging station behind the Essex Post Office. Discussions are underway for the placement of an additional charging station in town.

Essex residents of all three villages are welcome to participate for the second year in the Connecticut River Conservancy's "Source to the Sea" clean-up. Mark your calendars now for a fun and rewarding few hours on September 24th, 2022. Information on how to participate will be forthcoming. We had a great turn out last fall, made lots of new friends, and prevented lots of trash from reaching our waterways, the Connecticut River, and Long Island Sound.

Tri-Town Youth Services is **Looking for Volunteers**



Mission and Vision

Tri-Town Youth Services was founded in 1984 to coordinate, develop and provide services that promote

the positive growth and development of youth and families in Chester, Deep River and Essex. We are currently recruiting volunteers to serve on the following committees in the 2022-23 year. If you would like more information, please reach out to Executive Director, Allison Abramson at: Allison@ttysb.org or 860-526-3600. Visit: www.tritownys. org to learn more about the organization.

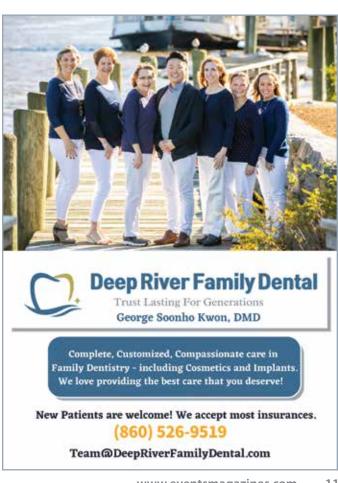
Early Childhood Council

Heighten awareness of the developmental, social-emotional and academic needs of children from birth to five. Provide resources and support to parents, early childhood educators and caregivers. Strengthen partnerships, promote developmental screenings, ensure that preschool is accessible and affordable, and support seamless transitions to kindergarten.

2022-23 objectives: expand ECC to include home daycare providers, provide SEL education for early childhood professionals and parents, promote developmental screenings

continued on page 12





Tri-Town Youth... continued from page 11

and preschool scholarship fund, support Region 4 exploration of expanded pre-K program and aftercare programming to meet needs of children and families.

Friends of Tri-Town

Support the agency's community outreach and marketing by spreading the word about programs, services and new initiatives. Engage with residents, businesses, clubs and organizations regularly to strengthen relationships and communication. Plan and execute volunteer recruitment events and fundraisers to support TTYSB and its active committees. Fundraising ideas include community talent show, battle of bands, youth circus, dinner & auction. New ideas are welcome!

2022-23 objectives: plan + implement a Fall Talent Show fundraiser and launch a fund to provide need-based scholarships for extracurricular activities for children.

Prevention & Wellness Coalition Work Groups

• Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Help organize and/or join community conversations about race. Plan and participate in antiracism initiatives which

may include hosting antibias training for youth and community members, expanding the local Diversity Equity and Inclusion library book club and actively supporting Region 4 DEI initiatives.



Clinical Mental Health Counseling Intern ELIZABETH KEYES, MT-BC,

New Addition to TTYSB Clinical Team

Elizabeth Keyes, MT-BC, a Clinical Mental Health Counseling intern is joining the TTYS clinical team through April 2023.

She is also a board-certified Music Therapist and enjoys complementing talk therapy with musical interventions

and activities. Call 860-526-3600 x101 or email: melanie@ttysbb.org to schedule an appointment.

Tri-Town Youth and Family Services

Tips & Resources For Families In Chester, Deep River And Essex
56 High Street, Deep River, CT 06417
860-526-3600 | tritownys.org



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Essex Garden Club Awards Scholarships

The Essex Garden Club is pleased to announce the recipients of its 2022 college scholarships. The scholarships are awarded to students who are pursuing studies related to the environment.

Tabitha Hardgrove, a 2020 graduate of Valley Regional High School, and a sophomore at Rochester Institute of Technology, is pursuing a degree in biology. Tabitha would like to become a research scientist, evaluating sources and cures for viruses and infectious diseases, many of which are found in the environment.

Nathaniel Hill, a 2021 graduate of Valley Regional High School, and a freshman at University of Vermont's Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources is pursuing a degree in natural resources. Nathaniel is interested in species conservation and biodiversity initiatives.

In addition, the garden club will provide scholarships to help 17 children from the Essex communities attend area environmental camps offered by The Incarnation Center.

The proceeds from the club's annual May Market make these



Thank you all in advance for sharing the Essex Garden Scholarship awards. From left to right, Tabitha Hardgrove, Deb Carreau, Essex Garden Club and Nathaniel Hill.

scholarships possible along with a grant received from Essex Savings Bank. The club thanks all who supported this endeavor. For more information please visit us at: essexgardenclub.org.



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IMMACULATE VICTORIAN Water views, manicured lot, 2-car garage. 8 rooms, 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths \$1,375,000



1842 GEORGE STARKEY HOMESTEAD 1.5 acres in Essex Village, water views. 7 rooms, 3 bedrooms, 3 baths. \$875,000



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HISTORIC CHESTER HOME 1820 Countryside, 3.4 ac, barn/garage. 8 rooms, 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. \$549,000



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Town Programs & Services

CHESTER FOOD PROGRAM

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4:00 - 6:00 pm

Fresh local produce, eggs, meat and dairy, pantry staples, Toiletries & Diaper Bank



CHESTER SOCIAL SERVICES

Town Hall, 2nd Floor 203 Middlesex Ave.

Mon, Wed, Thurs 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Contact Rosie Bininger at:

860-526-0013 x 213

Receive: Pre-bagged food available for residents Gift cards, emergency financial assistance.

DEEP RIVER FOOD PANTRY

56 High Street

Tue 9:00 am - 12:00 pm; Thur 1:00 - 4:00 pm **Call Rosie:** 860-526-6033

Receive: Food, Gift cards, emergency

financial assistance.

ESSEX SOCIAL SERVICES

29 West Ave, Essex By appointment only.

Call Mary Ellen: 860-767-4340 x 201 **Receive:** *Grocery gift cards, emergency*

financial assistance.



SSKP Food Pantries:

Curb Side Pick Up

ST. MARK'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

222 McVeagh Road, Westbrook **Tuesdays** 11:30 am - 2:15 pm

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST IN SAYBROOK

366 Main Street, Old Saybrook **Tuesdays** 2:00 - 4:00 pm

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL

55 Church Road, Clinton **Wednesdays** 3:30 - 6:00 pm

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

400 Main Street, Niantic **Thursdays** 2:30 - 4:30 pm

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF OLD LYME

2 Ferry Road, Old Lyme **Saturdays** 9:00 - 11:00 am





SSKP Meal Sites:

Curb Side Pick Up

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

Mondays 5:00 - 6:00 pm

The First Baptist Church in Essex, 10 Prospect Street, Essex

Tuesdays 5:00 - 6:00 pm

St. John's Episcopal Church, 23 Main Street, Essex

Wednesdays 12:00 - 1:00 pm

Grace Episcopal Church, 336 Main Street, Old Saybrook

Thursdays 5:00 - 6:00 pm

Deep River Congregational Church, 1 Church Street

Fridays 12:00 - 1:00 pm

Trinity Lutheran Church, 109 Main St., Centerbrook

Fridays 6:00 - 7:00 pm

Westbrook Congregational Church, 1166 Boston Post Road,



Welcome to Essex

Essex consists of three unique villages and is ideally located on the Connecticut River a few short miles from Long Island Sound. Well-known for its beautiful landscapes, majestic trees and gardens, fascinating architecture, and cultural and historical attractions, we are a boating and sailing destination as well. Essex is famous for hosting a multitude of parades throughout the year and offers an outstanding culinary and shopping experience to our residents and visitors. Come experience, explore and enjoy the small-town enchantment of Essex. Connecticut.

Visit our website at: www.essexct.gov





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A Focus your camera here for more information about Tammy



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Essex Elementary School Foundation Funds Grant to Unite Students with the Connecticut River Museum



Continuing the mission to connect the students at Essex Elementary School (EES) to the deep, rich history of the town and the importance of the Connecticut River, The Essex Elementary School Foundation

(EESF) funded a new grant this year in partnership with the Connecticut River Museum. Offered to students grades 4-6, The River Dwellers traveling educational program presented by the Connecticut River Museum was held in early June, providing students of EES a fun and engaging learning opportunity. The River Dwellers lesson included hands-on activities, use of a large floor map, and interactive discussion on how different groups of people lived, worked, and played along the Connecticut River.

"Part of our primary goal at the foundation is to provide the students at EES enhanced learning experiences and enrichment programs proposed by the EES administration. Without the support of our community and this foundation, these programs would otherwise not be available through traditional funding by the school system and budget," says Bill Jacaruso, President of The Essex Elementary School

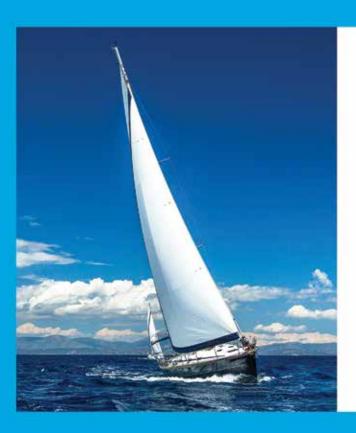


Students at Essex Elementary School engage in hands-on learning about the early settlement along the Connecticut River.

Foundation. "We believe in connecting our students to the town they live in; programs like this and other programs we support with the Essex Historical Society truly enrich the learning experience for our students."

During their recent visit from the Connecticut River Museum, students participated in a special focused

lesson on the importance of shipbuilding, mills, and trade to the development of Essex and the impact these industries had on those living locally and across the world.





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Sister Cities Essex Haiti

Groups Collaborate for the Residents of Deschapelles, Haiti

Sister Cities Essex Haiti (SCEH) has a goal of providing opportunities to further education for the residents of Deschapelles, Haiti. Did you know that we have a goal partner that is right across the Connecticut River? It is the Crosby Fund for Haitian Education in Old Lyme. The Crosby Fund focuses on scholarships for talented and needy children located in Artibonite Valley. They have recently added literacy classes for adults who have never learned to read and, more recently, for children who cannot attend school. The courses are Haiti government approved and are taught over three years.

A new SCEH project creates partnerships at our library with graduates from both Crosby Fund groups. Our librarians, as well as users of our library, create relationships with the new readers and read carefully chosen books.

This partnership will help the individuals feel comfortable using the library and keep their new skills alive. The program has proven successful. One of the library's young aficionados recently reflected; "If the Library did not exist there would be stories that I would not know." These stories are found in the books inside the library.





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Essex Historical Society Late Summer Events

HISTORY HITS THE STREETS!

EHS's popular walking tours return this summer and fall, thanks to a grant from the Community Foundation of

Middlesex County (CFMC.) With personal audio devices, EHS offers safe, social-distanced walking tours to enjoy a little exercise with your history. Stay tuned for dates, times, and topics through EHS's website and social media. Registration recommended at: mjosefiak@essexhistory.org.

Essex Village Walking Tour

July 24 5:00 pm August 28 5:00 pm September 25 5:00 pm

Prospect Street & West Ave., Essex, Walking Tour

July 15 6:00 pm Centerbrook Walking Tour

August 19 6:00 pm

Ivoryton Walking Tour TBD

River View Cemetery ToursStay tuned in October.



EHS's Walking Tours return this summer and fall; check our website and social media for updated dates and times.

PRATT HOUSE

Saturdays and Sundays through September, 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm, 19 West Avenue, Essex

Visit Pratt House, Essex's only historic house museum this summer! Learn from your knowledgeable guides about early American life in a Connecticut River seaport town. The well-preserved 18th century home served the same family for 200 years, many of them sharing in the family blacksmith



The collaborative Indigenous Connecticut River Celebration on September 17 features Native drum groups, dancers, storytelling and more.

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business. Visit our beautiful grounds, Historic Kitchen and Pollinator Gardens, reconstructed barn with history timeline and museum shop. Free.

INDIGENOUS CONNECTICUT RIVER CELEBRATION

Saturday, September 17, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm Connecticut River Museum, 67 Main Street, Essex.

EHS invites you to connect with the Indigenous Peoples of the Connecticut River Valley in this full day event in partnership with the Connecticut River Museum and the Nehantic and Abenaki Peoples. The event includes Indigenous dancers, drum group, storytelling, speakers, artisans, family activities and more. Free.

For the latest information, please visit EHS's website at: www.essexhistory.org or follow us on Facebook and Instagram. See you soon!



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Visit the website for more information at: http://www.211.org/#



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John Robert & Brenda Bernardi	44 River Road	Essex
Peggy Sawyer	7 Pratt Street	Essex
Elizabeth Kaftan &		
Thomas F. McMorrow	12 Winthrop Hill Rd.	Ivoryton
Garrett & Susanne F. Cook	112 North Main St.	Essex
Rhonda Dillon & Shelly S. Delaney	20 Comstock Ave., #1B	Ivoryton
Brent & Nicki Dalton	17 Blake Street	Ivoryton
Susan Walker	27 So. Main St., Unit 15	Essex
Diane P. Davis	85 River Rd., Unit K2	Essex
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Matthew Burton & Lindsay Tomsheck	14 Blake Street	Ivoryton
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April

Deborah T. Parunak Lorraine B. Woodford

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Essex Community Fund - Summer 2022

About Us

Created in 1949, Essex Community Fund is one of the oldest and most unique programs in the Essex Community that raises and distributes funds to our local non-profit organizations that focus on: food and meal programs, health services, education, supporting our senior citizens, fuel assistance, public safety, arts and culture.

Thank you to our donors. With your donations we are able to continue to support these vital organizations that help to keep our community healthy and thriving.

2022 Grant Recipients

ESSEX COMMUNITY FUND IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE OUR 2022 GRANT RECIPIENTS

We held our Evening of Giving at Scotch Plains Tavern. We enjoyed reconnecting with our grantees and learning about how they are doing along with new projects.

Little Compassion Inc./The Nest

Bikes for Kids

Camp Hazen YMCA

Community Music School

Essex Boy Scouts

Essex Eagle Scouts

Essex Elementary School Camperships

Essex Fire Engine

Essex Fuel Assistance Program

Essex Housing Authority

Essex Veterans Memorial Hall

Estuary Council of Seniors, Inc.

F.I.S.H Gilead

Incarnation Camp/Bushy Hill

Ivoryton Library

Ivoryton Playhouse Foundation

Literacy Volunteers Valley Shore

Region 4 Foundation

Shoreline Soup Kitchen and Pantries

Tri-Town Youth Services Bureau

Valley Shore YMCA

VRHS Photo Club

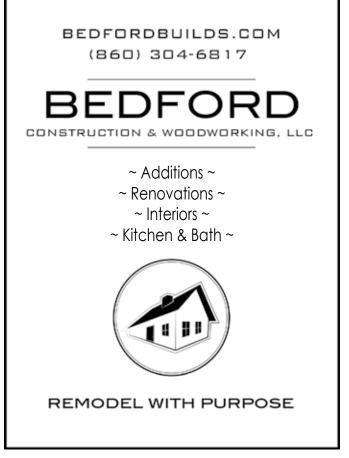
VNA of Lower Valley, Inc.

Consider Becoming A Volunteer

Volunteering with ECF is a great way to learn more about your community's needs and how you can help improve it for you, your family, your neighbors, and even future generations; plus, it's a great way to give back to your community. ECF has many opportunities to volunteer. Please contact us to learn more; we welcome your time and talent.







Emergency Management - Power Outages

Eversource - Electricity Transmission & Distribution Company

Electricity to your property comes from Eversource not the Town of Essex. If you lose power, report the outage directly to Eversource - even if you think a neighbor already reported it. Eversource will calculate how many customers are without power in an area, assign a priority level and repair crew, and will provide customers with an estimated time for restoration.

Broken Pole / Downed Power Line

The Town of Essex cannot repair a broken pole or reconnect a downed power line - only Eversource crews can perform this work. Town crews will only clear branches and debris from roadways if there are no wires or other safety hazards. Eversource crews must first verify downed wires are de-energized before the Town crew can work safely and clear roads. This takes time. Always be situationally aware of the dangers associated with downed wires and be prepared for prolonged outages. Know alternate routes to and from your home.

Report all power outages directly to Eversource

- 1. https://www.eversource.com/cg/customer/reportoutage
- 2. Call 1-800-286-2000
- 3. Download the mobile app from Google Play or App Store

4. Sign up to receive outage alerts via text, email, phone. https://www.eversource.com/security/account/login ?ReturnUrl=/cg/customer/alerts

Safety is your responsibility

- 1. Stay far away from fallen tree limbs and electrical wires; assume all downed wires are "live".
- 2. NEVER drive over fallen wires or around a barricade and NEVER move or relocate a barricade. Barricades are intentionally placed for your protection and signify danger ahead. Use an alternate route to get to your destination
- 3. Operate power generators outside of the home and adhere to all safety procedures
- 4. Refer to www.Eversource.com for Storm Preparedness and Restoration Processes.

Stay safe, Lisa Fasulo, Emergency Management Director





We salute our founders and early donors, the visionaries who pooled resources to provide immediate and future support to local nonprofit programs.

We value all of you who establish funds supporting animal welfare, arts and culture, health and social services, the environment, history, education, economic security, civic improvements, recreation, and so much more.

We honor every donor, volunteer, nonprofit, friend, and neighbor. You help us respond to rising and changing community needs... building a better today and brighter tomorrow for all.

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Hurricane Season is Here! How Prepared are YOU?



The 2022 Atlantic Hurricane Season is here, and NOAA predicts up to 21 named storms with 6 to 10 of them becoming hurricanes. Last year, there were 21 named storms 7 of which became

hurricanes. The severe weather trend continues and its never too early to be prepared for them.

Tropical storms and hurricanes don't need to make direct landfall near Essex to have a severe and lasting impact. Recall that Hurricane Irene (Aug 2011) and Hurricane Sandy (Oct 2012) both made landfall near New York City, Tropical Storm Isaias (Aug 2020) made landfall in West Haven, Storm Henri (Aug 2021) made landfall in Westerly, RI and Storm Ida (Sept 2021) landed in Stamford. Every one of these storms brought torrential rain, caused significant flooding, downed trees, blocked roads, and thousands of power outages that lasted multiple days in Essex. If this were to happen today, or next week, are you prepared?

Now is the perfect time, to prepare yourself, your family, your pets, and your property for WHEN (not if) damages and impacts of severe weather hit our community.

NOW IS THE PERFECT TIME, TO PREPARE

1. Prepare to shelter in your home and be without electricity for up to 7 days. This means having a 7-day supply of everything essential to each member of your household's health and safety including non-perishable food, potable water, prescription medications, over-the-counter medicine, and alternate fuel source (such as gasoline, propane, solar) to operate generators for refrigeration, water, and medical devices.



2. Know primary and secondary evacuation routes to the local shelter at John Winthrop Middle School in Deep River. Consider further evacuation routes and lodging in towns located farther north and

northwest from shoreline communities where storm's impact will likely be more severe.

- 3. Know where streams and rivers are located in your neighborhood and know if they are prone to flooding even in moderate storms. Know how to exit your neighborhood if your primary road is flooded or partially blocked by fallen trees.
- 4. Cell phone and internet communications will

likely be disrupted for several days (or weeks) from downed trees & wires and prolonged power outages. Plan (and have realistic expectations) for being off-line for an extended time.

5. Stock up on the essentials BEFORE a storm is forecasted. Avoid the last-minute rush and pick up times when they go on sale. Batteries, flashlights, bottled water, diapers, personal hygiene products, first aid supplies, paper plates/cups/ utensils, candles, hand sanitizer, canned & non-perishable food, etc.

PREPAREDNESS GUIDEBOOK

Town of Essex Emergency Preparedness Guidebook is located on the Town of Essex website under Emergency Management. Use the checklists and ideas to begin planning and preparing today.

Lisa Fasulo, Emergency Management Director

Busy 2021-2022 Musical Year Continues at Community Music School

Thanks to the amazing support of friends and neighbors, the Community Music School has continued to play a major musical role in the lives and educations of its community members. The non-profit school continues to offer in-person lessons on all instruments (and virtual lessons upon request) as well as ensemble opportunities in its String Ensemble, New Horizons Band (for senior citizens), Acoustic Classic Rock Ensemble, and Studio 24 Vocal Performance Class.

The school is deeply appreciative to the Clark Group/Centerbrook Properties, Trinity Lutheran Church, and Essex Town Hall for the kind hospitality in hosting the school's large ensembles!

Registration is underway for 2022 summer music theatre programs, which provide great opportunities for students to develop skills in singing, acting, auditions, and choreography, while providing a full production for friends and family on the last day.

Additionally, the Community Music School was proud to recently welcome Todd Ellison to its board of directors. A classically trained pianist, Steinway artist, veteran Broadway Music Director of 17 Broadway shows, symphony conductor, and award-winning composer, Todd's credits include An

continued on page 26





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Community Music School.. continued from page 25

American in Paris, Annie, La Cage aux Folles, Once Upon a Mattress (starring Sarah Jessica Parker,) and How to Succeed... (starring Matthew Broderick.) He has conducted major Pops orchestras around the world, and over 20 albums including Grammy award winning cast albums of his shows.

Raised on Melody Lane in Ivoryton, Ellison began his piano lessons at age 6 with Beverly Astles of Ivoryton, was the organist for the First Congregational Church of Essex during high school, made his professional music debut at the Ivoryton Playhouse and is a graduate of Boston University School of Music.





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Connecticut River Museum News

The weather is warming up and so has the activity at the end of Main Street where the road meets the Connecticut River!

As the seasons change from wet to warm, we are beginning to see more people emerge into public; whether on the water enjoying a sail aboard either the Onrust or the RiverQuest or in the evening at our Shanties and Sails series. It is so nice to have people roaming our campus.

RiverFare

We already kicked off summer with our staple event, RiverFare, where we enjoyed cuisine and drink from local businesses. We are not done yet... we have a lineup of events both ongoing and annual that we are excited to host!

Thursdays on the Dock began on July 7 and runs through August 25.

Our lineup can't be beat! Our concerts run from 5:30 – 7:30 pm each Thursday evening. Porky Pete's is always on-hand to serve you a delicious picnic dinner. And while we pass a hat, we are thankful that Prive Swiss Wellness has been a major support to us throughout the years. Be sure to check our website or social channels for the latest information.



Marker 37 preparing tasty treats at RiverFare 2022.

Don't miss out on what's to come!

Summer Fun Days for Kids July 11 - August 19, Ages 6 - 12
Conquer the Current Paddle Regatta August 6 (registration is open!)
Speed: Hydroplane Racing on the Connecticut River Through October 9
Swallow Tours Late August on both the RiverQuest and Onrust.



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SWALLOW CRUISE THIS SEPTEMBER

Join us September 15th for the ever-popular Swallow Cruise aboard Riverquest. The cruise will depart from the Connecticut River Museum dock at 6:00 pm and returns around 8:00 pm. This is a great opportunity to

witness the phenomenon of the swallow ballet at the mouth of the CT river as they begin their migration to warmer temperatures.

Tickets are on sale beginning August 1st in the Library at 33 West Avenue. There is a limited number of seats so get your tickets early.



BOOK SALE NEWS

Mark your calendars for the fall book sale on Saturday, October 15th and Monday, October 17th. Saturday will feature our regular sale and Monday is the Bag of Books sale. Fill your bag with books for just \$10.

There would be no sales without your generous donations. Please drop off your gently used books, puzzles and games during library hours. Remember that donations need to be in good condition. Think resale! Visit: www.youressex library.org/friends/friends-book-sale/ for a detailed description of donation "please's" and "no thank you's".

As always, thank you for supporting the library and remember to check the website at: www.youressexlibrary.org often to see what's new at the library and with the Friends!

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Your Community Center for Lifelong Learning and Cultural Enrichment

By the time you read this, Essex Library will be knee-deep in Summer Reading events and activities for kids and teens.

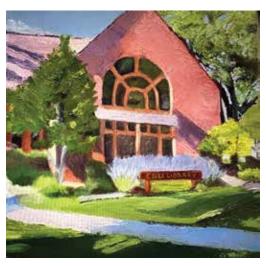
Teens will build a video game from scratch in the **Coding Camp**. In the **Culinary Camp** they'll learn the science behind the chemical and physical reactions that help create foods like ice cream and rock candy.

The **Manga Art Camp** is perfect for budding artists in grades 3-8. **Harry Potter Week** starts Monday August 1 and offers daily lessons for wizards-in-training.

STEM Space Camp events in August include building rockets and making galaxy slime while learning about color in outer space. Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center will

teach kids, Pre-K through 6th grade about tree identification as part of their **Animal Adventure Camp**. There are Spirit Days each week through August 16 offering prizes for those dressed in that week's theme.

Essex Library offers a comfortable, air-conditioned space 6 days-a-week (Monday – Saturday) for folks who want to come in and read a newspaper or magazine, browse our



Essex Library by Donna Richard.

Essex - Community Listings

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First Baptist Church	(860) 767-8623
First Congregational Church	(860) 767-8097
St. Teresa of Calcutta Church	(860) 767-1284
St. John's Episcopal Church	(860) 767-8095
Trinity Lutheran Church	(860) 767-0228
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Community Foundation of Middlesex County (860) 347-0025
Tri-Town Cub Scout Pack 13(860)-558-2121
tritownpack13@gmail
Essex Board of Trade(860) 767-3904
Essex Boy Scouts of America(860) 304-9027
Essex Community Fund(860) 304-2751
Essex Cub Scouts of America (860) 790-0681
Essex Garden Club(973) 809-6832
Essex Historical Society (860) 767-0681

Essex Lion's Club	(860) 767-8072
Essex Land Trust	info@essexlandtrust.org
Essex Little League	www.essexlittleleague.org
Essex Veterans Memorial Hall	(860) 767-8892
F.I.S.H	(860) 388-2693
Ivoryton Company of Fifers & Drum	mers (860) 767-2237
Ivoryton Village Alliance	info@ivorytonalliance.org
Lower Valley Visiting Nurses	(860) 767-0186
Republican Town Committee	(860) 262-0226
SCORE Mentors	(860) 388-9508
The Shoreline Soup Kitchens	(860) 388-1988
Tri-Town Youth Services Bureau	(860) 526-3600
9 Town Transit	(860) 510-0429

SCHOOLS

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

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Essex residents have 24/7 access to thousands of eBooks, digital audiobooks, eMagazines as well as IndieFlix and Qello concert films for free with the Libby app from OverDrive. You'll need your Essex Library card to create an account.

DON'T HAVE A CARD?

You can register for a card online or stop in and get one Monday - Saturday. Missed one of our programs on Zoom? You can view many of those at your leisure on the Library's YouTube channel. If you want to learn how to explore or access any of the Library's online services, just drop in!

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For the Children

THE VALLEY LIBRARIES PRESENT...
ACROBAT LI LIU

Thursday, July 28, 3:30 - 4:30 pm at the Deep River Library*

Presented by the four Tri-Town libraries: Born in China, Li Liu has wowed audiences with her acrobatic feats all over the world. This can't miss, family-friendly show will wow you!

SINK OR FLOAT?

Tuesday August 2nd, 3:30 - 4:30 pm

Be sure to wear your swimsuits as we will be having a great time splashing various items in our kiddie pool! Watermelon: sink or float? Let's find out!

BIOLUMINESCENCE WITH THE OCEAN CONSERVANCY & MONTEREY BAY AQUARIUM.

Tuesday August 16th, 3:30 - 4:30 pm

This program examines creatures that glow, the causes and effects of bioluminescence, and the ways in which understanding it can benefit us.

TALES UNDER THE TREE WITH JEANETTE HARRIS.

Thursday August 18, 3:30 - 4:30* pm

Children of all ages are invited to join African-American storyteller, Momma J, for an afternoon of stories that will allow you to smile, laugh, and wonder.

WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN PARTY Tuesday, August 23, 3:30 - 4:30 pm

Friends entering Kindergarten (and their families) are invited to join us for a special party celebrating their next adventure! Special guests from the community will join us, and there will be a special treat!

*Ivoryton Library requests registration, as most programs are weather permitting. Email ebartlett@ ivorytonlibrary.org or call Elizabeth Bartlett at: 860-767-1252.

For the Adults

A new source of digital materials for our patrons: Download The Palace Project app and search for

continued on page 34

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28 BEACH ROAD WEST Old Saybrook | \$970,000



821 MILLBROOK ROAD Middletown | \$845,000



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♠ Focus your camera here for more information about Teri





Ivoryton Library... continued from page 32

Ivoryton Library. You will find all the materials from the CT State Library. More eBooks and audiobooks for you, for free.

Join us Sunday, September 18 at 4:00 pm on Zoom for an examination of the film: Just Mercy.

Discussion will be led by Bob Kagan, Communications and Film Studies professor at CCSU. Visit our website at: ivorytonlibrary.org, for more information and to register. Copies of the film are available at the library and also for streaming on Hoopla and Netflix.*

ARE YOU TRAINING FOR OUR ANNUAL PUMPKIN CHASE 5K?

The race will be held this year on Saturday, October 22 at 9:00 am. Link for online registration is on our website!



The ANNUAL PUMPKIN FESTIVAL is held the same day from 5:00 - 7:00 pm.

Fingers crossed that we will be able to open our Haunted Library this year!

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT SUMMER?

Swimming, boating, reading in the shade, road construction? This roadwork in Centerbroook and Ivoryton has not impacted Library operations too badly this summer but there may be a few days when we have to close when they are paving directly in front of the library. Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram (@ivorytonlibrary) for the latest news on library closings.

* These programs are brought to you by a generous donation from The Peach Pit Foundation and the Community Foundation of Middlesex County.

For more information, contact us at:

Ivoryton Library

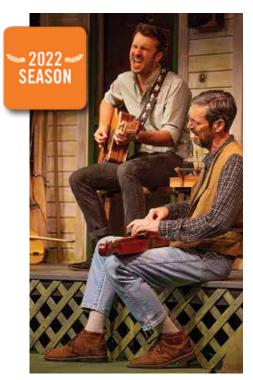
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Ivoryton is Back!



The Ivoryton Playhouse opened the summer season with a jumpin' and jivin' SMOKEY JOE'S CAFÉ which played to packed houses and felt like old times!

The summer beat continues on August 11th, when the Man in Black returns for an encore performance. RING OF FIRE: THE MUSIC OF JOHN-NY CASH was a smash hit for the Playhouse in 2011 but Hurricane Irene cut the run short. Now, the cast is back and ready to roll! From the celebrated songbook of Johnny Cash comes this unique musical about love and faith, struggle and success, rowdiness and redemption, and the healing power of home and family. More than two dozen classic



Morgan Morse and David Lutken.

hits – including " I Walk the Line" and "A Boy Named Sue", "Folsom Prison Blues" and the title tune – performed by a multi- talented cast, paint a



Ivoryton Playhouse.

musical portrait that is a foot-stompin, crowd-pleasin' salute to an All American musical legend!

More exciting events will be happening in the Playhouse in the fall, including F. Scott Fitzgerald's **THE GREAT GATS-BY** – a beautifully crafted interpretation of the 1925 novel which defined the

Jazz Age. Simon Levy's play captures the breathtaking glamour and decadent excess of the 1920s. Running from September 29th – October 23rd.

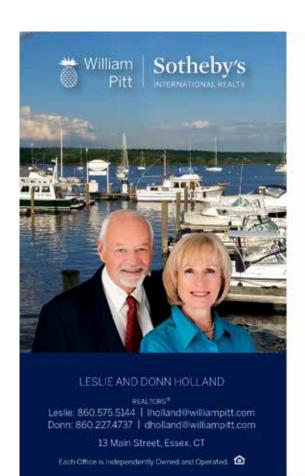
THE WOMAN PLAY-WRIGHTS FESTIVAL returns on Saturday, October 29th - a festival of staged readings of oneact plays by women writers.

Finally, 2022 season closes with the holiday celebration, **WINTER WONDERETTES**.

The girls are back with their 60s versions of classic holiday songs. This funny and glittering holiday package is guaranteed to delight audiences of all ages.

Information

For more information and to purchase tickets – check our website at: www. ivorytonplayhouse.org.



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The History and Spirit of Essex



Welcome to Essex! As a very good friend once told me: "If you know someone who has never been to the Northeast, Essex is the perfect town to introduce them to 'Everything New England!'"

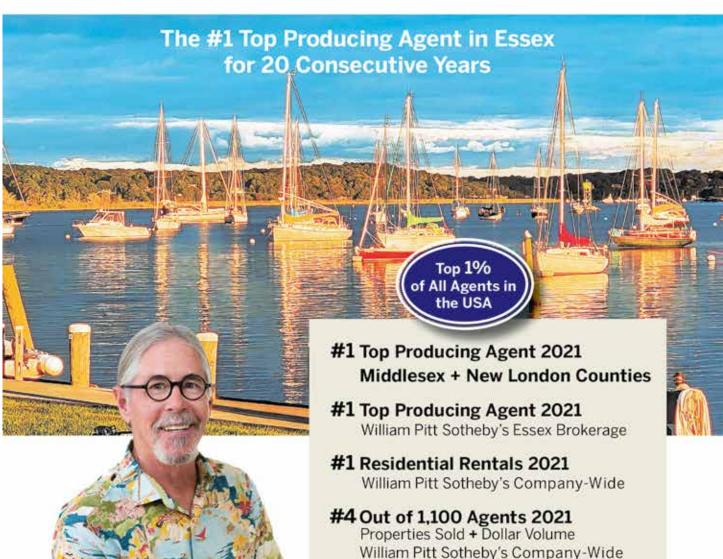
Essex has over 300 years of history. And its history is alive and well today. From the scenic Connecticut River Valley, to the colonial homes sitting right off the sidewalks, to the quaint restaurants and shops, to the shady Town Green, to the boat yards, and right down to the historic town cemetery (which may or may not be haunted...we think it is more fun to believe it is haunted...The local ghosts tell us they agree) overlooking a peaceful cove. Essex is "Everything New England" all in one town. And every season brings a different facet of Essex to appreciate; whether the summer sunshine bouncing off the river balanced by the cool breezes off the water, to the gorgeous fall colors along the CT River Valley, or the scenic holiday lights and snow (yes; we even appreciate snow) as you gaze down Main Street in December.

But Essex has something no other New England town has - The Sailing Masters of 1812 Fife & Drum Corps! The Sailing Masters of 1812, looking sharp in their War of 1812 "USS CONSTITUTION" Navy uniforms, embody the history and spirit of Essex. With each season the Sailing Masters help bring alive the streets of town by leading each of the distinctive parades that celebrate the "Spirit of Essex."



continued on page 38





Rick Weiner Broker Associate 860.227.3191 rweiner@wpsir.com

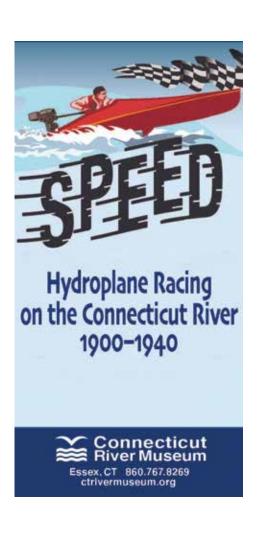
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ANDRIA ALEX



Sailing Masters... continued from page 36

Each February, where else but in Essex will you find the Sailing Masters of 1812 marching down Main Street with groundhog caps adorning their heads - escorting our favorite Groundhog, Essex Ed? Throngs pack the sidewalk wearing their preferred groundhog apparel, and banging pots and pans to welcome Ed, then follow to watch as he settles into his esteemed place at the head of Main Street to greet all visitors to town.

In March, brightly colored Irish flags are flying in the Sailing Masters' Color Guard as they are trailed by the Irish-Hearted folk of Essex, promenading down the street to hail "The Wearing of the Green" in the "Essex-Go-Bragh" Parade.

Annually in May, you will spy a colorful brigade of Fife and Drum Corps, led by the Sailing Masters, proudly marching down Main Street with flags flapping in the breeze and musicians playing music from days of yore. Each year, the Essex "Burning of the Ships Commemoration Day Parade" kicks off the Essex summer season by memorializing the British raid on Essex during the War of 1812, when the Royal Navy burned all of the ships in the harbor, the sail lofts in town, and worst of all... the town's rum supply!



Every Memorial Day, the Sailing Masters have the honor and privilege of joining in the town's Memorial Day Parade and Ceremonies to help pay tribute to those citizens of Essex who, over the past three centuries, have made the sacrifice to serve and defend our country.

After the autumn leaves change color and fall from

the trees, watch for pirates, and jesters, and clowns (oh my!) trooping down Main Street in the Essex Halloween Parade! But even in costume, you know who is heading the parade... The Sailing Masters! Following in their wake, and lining the streets are adults and children (and dogs!) masquerading as vampires, superheroes & princesses. And you can detect the warm aroma of the popcorn and cider waiting for everyone at the end of the parade.

To signal the start of the Essex holiday season, the Sailing Masters wend their way down the streets of town in November for the year's finale - the "Trees in the Rigging" parade - playing festive holiday music. Spectators and marchers carry lanterns, while musicians and singers who follow, charm onlookers with carols in the warm glow of colorful lights and evergreen boughs. All follow the parade down to the CT River to be treated to a procession of boats, blazing with multi-colored lights, accompanied by the Sailing Masters' holiday refrains.

If you would like to be part of the spirit, history, AND fun that is Essex all year 'round, the Sailing Masters invite you to "Come Aboard!" No previous musical experience required. You can choose from fife, snare drum, bass drum, and color guard (carry a flag.) For more information, please call Vicki at: 860-212-1606 or email: captainvicki1812@gmail.com; or call Amanda at: 860-575-8931 or email: aepfairbanks@gmail.com.

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Vista Blog Celebrates Connecting Through Art

Several years ago, the nonprofit Vista Life Innovations created a set of nine Core Values that support the organization as it impacts the lives of individuals with disabilities and the broader community. Throughout 2022, Vista has celebrated a new Core Value each month by sharing the stories of its students and members—as well as the organization—on the Vista Spotlight Blog.

For the month of June, Vista was focusing on the Core Value of Community & Human Connection. Developing meaningful relationships and a sense of belonging is what binds us together. A perfect example is Vista's Create Art Program, a unique community arts program for artists of all abilities that offers literary, performing, and visual arts classes.

Vista Arts Coordinator Katie Fogg oversees art instruction and curriculum. Katie explains, "We offer a variety of creative platforms such as drawing, painting, sculpture, and many other artistic areas. Each class



During Connect Through Art class, Vista Engage member Kelsey collaborates with her classmates on a collage art piece.

gives me the opportunity to witness students sharing their passion for the arts and teaching each other different skills through artistic expression." Katie shares more about the joy of art collaboration: "As an artist, you have strengths and weaknesses within different art skills; working collaboratively is the best way to grow." Vista art classes foster artistic expression and curiosity among all students and members, making it clear that the arts can transform Vista's

students and members, resulting in increased self-esteem and readiness to interact with their peers and community. Kelsey, an Engage member and Connect Through Art student, discusses how Vista's visual arts-based day program has influenced her even today. Kelsey shares, "I've been doing art for almost ten years, and at first, all I knew was how to draw and trace. Now I'm learning collage and painting, and I get to do it in class with my friends."

Vista also offers a performing arts program, A Shared Stage Productions, where members of the larger community can participate in an inclusive musical production that connects people of all abilities through the arts. Kelsey has appeared in five musicals. She enjoys collaborating with theater professionals. "When I'm on stage, I feel united with everyone... we're all performers performing for the audience," Kelsey says. Connections made during rehearsals and performances leave an impression not only

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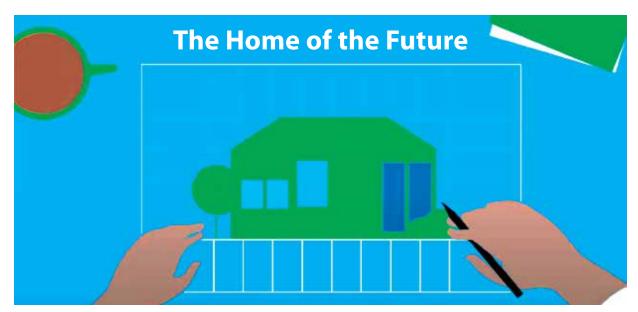
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Technological advancements are changing our built environment, from our homes to our offices and beyond. New building materials, heating and cooling systems, and smart technologies are shifting what our buildings look like. What can we expect of the home of the future?

1. RETROFITTING and NEW DESIGN

Buildings will meet new energy efficiency standards – both newly constructed homes, and longstanding homes retrofitted with updated technology. Experts will be able to direct building design from the start, but they'll also be able to find instrumental ways to improve existing building efficiency. A 1920s farmhouse and a 2024 downtown loft can use similar tools adapted for each space to be energy efficient and cost-effective.

2. Efficient Heating and Cooling, Accessible

Heat pumps – both air and ground source – will increase in popularity. The innovative heating AND cooling tools pull heat energy from outside of a building inside, warming in the winter and cooling in the summer. Air source heat pumps collect energy from the outside air, whereas larger ground source heat pumps pull energy from the ground. Heat pumps are very energy efficient and make heating and cooling simple. Clunky window unit air conditioners will be relics of the past.

3. EV CHARGING

The car of the future will connect to the home of the future. Electric vehicle infrastructure is expanding, with more and more charging sites popping up along roadways and in towns. As the infrastructure grows, EVs are becoming more popular. Homes and businesses will adapt as well to support this shift, and EV charging stations will be seen just about everywhere.

4. SMART THERMOSTATS

Many homes and buildings are already starting to use smart thermostats. These tools help heat and cool homes optimally,

minimizing energy waste. Smart thermostats can provide key insight into how you can reduce your energy usage while keeping your home comfortable – you'd be surprised what a degree or two shift in your ambient temperature can do! Smart thermostats will be a default feature in the building of the future.

5. OPTIMIZED ENERGY USE DESIGN

Designing a home for energy usage gets things started off on the right foot. Optimizing the building orientation and overall layout can ensure that a building can support clean technologies like solar panels. It can also mean designers take into account how heat is conducted throughout the home, establishing energy efficiency from the get-go.

Eversource offers programs that support all of these new energy efficient technologies and more. We're working closely with the building community to communicate code changes, and we're offering rebates from heat pumps, EV charging, smart thermostats, and more. Check out our New Homes and Renovations page on Eversource.com to learn more.

While we're not quite ready for Jetson's-style flying cars and in-home robot butlers, the future is looking exciting. New tools that make homes more comfortable and keep energy efficiency in mind are coming to market every day – and we're excited to see what happens next!.



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Vista Blog... continued from page 40

on the hearts of Vista's students and members but also on the entire community. To learn more about Vista's Core Values, visit: https://bit.ly/3F2kpMj. To follow Vista's Core Values blog series, visit: https://bit.ly/3EVOi0Q.

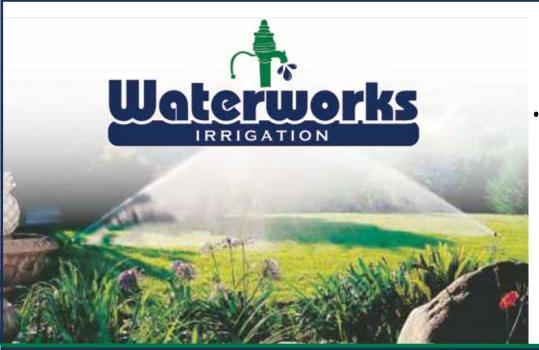
Vista Life Innovations is a 501C3 nonprofit organization with campuses in Madison and Westbrook. Vista's mission is to provide services and resources to assist individuals with disabilities achieve personal success. For more information about Vista, please visit www.vistalifeinnovations.org.



Essex Printing – Winner of Four Awards of Excellence

The Print Industry of New England (PINE) has announced that Essex Printing is the winner of four Awards of Excellence in the PINE's New England Regional Awards of Excellence competition. With these new awards, Essex Printing has won 36 Awards of Excellence in the last 9 years. "We are so pleased that we continue to be recognized for the quality of our work year after year," said Essex Printing President, William McMinn. "It is such an honor for all of us. We are especially pleased for our loyal customers, who count on us day in and day out. It is an honor to serve them."

Essex Printing earned one of the four awards for its work in printing the East Haddam Land Trust's 2022 Calendar. Essex Printing also received awards for a soft cover book, a business to consumer media campaign, and a specialty item (custom artwork identification tags).



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