

# The Post Road Review



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## ELHS Top Scholar-Athletes

By Josh Howard

East Lyme High School seniors Gracie Lloyd and Tanner O'Brien were honored as the school's CAS-CIAC Scholar-Athletes for the 2024-2025 school year. The pair of seniors were recognized at the Connecticut High School Scholar-Athlete Awards banquet on May 2 at the Aqua Turf in Southington.

The Scholar-Athlete Program annually recognizes two high school seniors from each member school whose academic and athletic careers have been exemplary, whose personal standards and achievements are a model to others, and who possess high levels of integrity, self-discipline and courage.

Along with thriving in athletic competition, both Lloyd and O'Brien excelled in the classroom and in the community.

Lloyd is a two-season athlete, competing in field hockey in the fall and softball in the spring. In field hockey, she earned All-Eastern Connecticut Conference (ECC) and All-State honors the past three years. She also received the ECC Sportsmanship Award on the softball fields in 2024.

This past fall, she was named the ECC Most Valuable Player in field hockey after leading her team to the ECC tournament championship. Over her four years, she set a new program-record for assists (55) for the Vikings. She also volunteers with the youth field hockey programs in town.

Outside of athletics, Lloyd is involved in the Class Act Leadership Council, Peers Reaching Out, and the Best Buddies program at the high school. She will continue her field hockey journey at Merrimack College in Massachusetts where she plans on studying nursing.

O'Brien is a three-season athlete, participating in soccer, basketball, and baseball. This past fall on the soccer fields, he earned All-ECC honors for a Vikings team that won their third straight conference championship. He is also the Scholar-Athlete recipient on the hardwood this winter.

Outside of competing, O'Brien is a member of the National Honor Society, French National Honor Society, and Student Senate at the high school. He will next study biochemistry at the University of Miami with the long term goal of attending medical school.



Tanner O'Brien and Gracie Lloyd were named at East Lyme High School's top scholar-athletes for the 2024-2025 school-year.

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## East Lyme Historical Society July 4th Weekend Flea Market

Saturday and Sunday July 5th and 6th from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. at 228 West Main Street, Niantic.

This is our second of three Flea Markets of the season. Free parking and no admission fee. Vendors from around the state will be setting up for the weekend with an array of Antiques, Collectables, and Hand-Crafted Items. Come discover your next treasure!

### Brookside Farm Museum Events

The Brookside Farm Museum, located at 33 Society Rd, Niantic, CT, has announced the following events and programs for 2025.

**June 14th:** Museum Open House Day 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**July 16th:** Children's Tea seating at 1 p.m. Tickets sold on line only \$15. All children must be accompanied by an adult

**July 20th:** Cicada String Band performing 1 p.m.

**August 17th:** Clan O'Leary performing 4-6 p.m.

For more information or to purchase tickets please visit [brooksidefarmmuseum.com](http://brooksidefarmmuseum.com)

### Monthly Trivia Night - HCH Library

Join the Henry Carter Hull Library, 10 Killingworth Turnpike, Clinton, on the third Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. for trivia night! Come show off your knowledge on everything from movies to history to nature. This event is for adults (18+).

Registration Required <https://events.hchlibrary.org/event/cr-trivia-36699>.

For more information email [sudie@hchlibrary.org](mailto:sudie@hchlibrary.org).



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## Stars to Stem First Friday

The STARS to STEM Regional Planetarium presents another First Friday performance on June 6th at 7 p.m. The acoustic duo, NeedTo Know, will be playing a mix of Tom Petty and more. All this happens while artistic and creative works are projected on the planetarium dome. You can find the planetarium in the rear of the East Lyme High School at 30 Chesterfield Road, East Lyme. You can get directions on how to enter and also connect to the Eventbrite link where you purchase tickets, by going to the website, [www.starstostem.org](http://www.starstostem.org). Tickets (\$10) may be purchased at the door, if seating is available.

## Save the Date: Celebrate East Lyme

This year's Celebrate East Lyme will take place on Saturday, July 19, 2025!

Join us as Niantic's Main Street transforms into a spectacular celebration by the sea, filled with food, fun and fabulous activities for everyone in the family!

Enjoy over 200 unique creative, community & business vendors, live music & performance stages and so much more! The day concludes with the spectacular Dominion fireworks display over Niantic Bay!

Don't miss this wonderfully fun-filled day for the entire family!

Vendors! – Apply now at <https://www.emailmeform.com/builder/form/uOVchFya875Q5tWewc>

## Niantic Lions Call for Artists/ Crafters and Food Truck Vendors

Planning is well underway for the 64th Niantic Lions Outdoor Juried Arts/Crafts show to be held July 5th (10 a.m. – 5 p.m.) and July 6th (10 a.m. – 4 p.m.) on the East Lyme Town Hall grounds. Art Show Chairman, Craig Woody, expects another well-attended show with several thousand visitors viewing an expanded number of exhibits this year. Artists, Crafters and Food Truck Vendors interested in participating in this juried show are invited to apply at [www.nianticartsandcraftshow.com](http://www.nianticartsandcraftshow.com)

This popular Niantic Lions Club sponsored annual summer event is counted on for raising much needed funds that support local charities, community projects and much more. Club President, Mark Peng, along with other Lions Club members, have been working through the winter months to assure the success of this Southeastern Connecticut summer tradition. The Lions will also coordinate a Food Court, featuring a variety of food trucks serving delectable summer delights that will satisfy the most finicky of pallets. Of course, the Lions' famous Kettlecorn will be sold during the Arts/Crafts Event.

## The Post Road Review

Serving the communities of East Lyme,  
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## Lyme Disease and Co-Infection – Myths, Truths & Treatments

**Part II:** Taking oral remedies as preventive and immediate treatment for potential lyme and co-infection.

Last month's article was about strong, immediate and persistent treatment of a tick bite site with a variety of holistic remedies as well as several myths, do's and don'ts regarding tick bites which you can find on [NianticAcupuncture.com/blog](http://NianticAcupuncture.com/blog). In this article I present several oral remedies I suggest taking once bitten as well as suggestions of how to save and send the tick for testing if you do start feeling ill after the bite. If you begin having symptoms of any kind, you do need to be seen by a doctor that takes tick bites, lyme disease and its coinfections seriously for appropriate treatment which most often is doxycycline.

These are things I will do immediately if I find a tick has bitten to treat any possible potential infection. These recommendations are for people 40 pounds and up.

Colloidal silver (500 PPM) – Take 1/4 teaspoon twice a day by mouth or (250 PPM) take ½ Teaspoon twice a day. I would continue this for two weeks and if there are no symptoms of disease, you can stop.

Ledum palustre homeopathic remedy by Boiron (30c) – Take 2-3 pellets under tongue, every 4 hours. Allow to melt on clean mucus membranes (no water or food 15 minutes before and after taking). Continue taking ledum twice a day for 3 days.

A Comprehensive mushroom formula either tincture, capsules or powder and double the dose recommended on whatever brand you buy. I tend to use Host Defense Comprehensive Immunity, also known as Mycommunity. Often mushroom formulas in powder are more powerful than the tincture form. I suggest taking this for quite a few months to assist in strengthening your immune system.

A Japanese knotweed formula or just plain Japanese knotweed in tincture or capsule form. At my clinic I recommend, Green Dragon Botanicals LB CORE Protocol Liquid (contains alcohol) – The day of the bite, take up to 1 teaspoon twice a day. If any symptoms develop, increase the dose up to 1 teaspoon 4 times a day. Stop LB CORE Protocol if you begin antibiotics. I highly recommend you restart when your course of antibiotics are completed whether or not you have if you still have symptoms. This formula can also be taken as a preventive during the tick season 1 teaspoon daily.

There are times, despite having symptoms you may not be able to have antibiotics re-prescribed in which case I recommend the above protocol for a month or two and checking in with a holistic practitioner who specializes in treating Acute and Chronic Lyme and co-infections.

As with any oral remedy, for adults or children, do your research and check in with a medical practitioner you trust about taking any of these oral remedies. This is not an FDA approved treatment protocol. Stop taking anything you think is causing you an allergic reaction.

### TICK TESTING OPTIONS

Connecticut Dept. of Public Health Tick Testing Laboratory (CAES)  
There is no fee but testing of the tick is not guaranteed (especially if it is not engorged) and they may not test for multiple coinfections. Link and instructions: <https://portal.ct.gov/caes>

TickCheck: Tick testing costs about \$50 for the basic Lyme test and most frequently occurring co-infections. There are two other tiers of testing that increase in cost.

Link and information: [www.tickcheck.com](http://www.tickcheck.com)

All these remedies, topical and oral, along with tick removal tools, vial and envelope to send the tick, as well as some preventive tools are included in Maggie's Comprehensive Tick and Lyme Kit. My treatment instructions that go with the kit are also available on my website for anyone to read.

Feel free to email me anytime with any questions to [Maggie@nianticacupuncture.com](mailto:Maggie@nianticacupuncture.com)



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## 2025 Connecticut Sea Music Festival

The 2025 Connecticut Sea Music Festival will take place in Essex, CT on June 6-9. We're a traditional maritime folk festival, partnering with the town as well as with individual venues to bring you the music. The daytime events are free, with donations accepted. Evening Concerts are ticketed.

### This Year's Festival will Feature:

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Janie Meneely & Rob van Sante  
Jeff Warner  
The Johnson Girls  
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Steve Turner  
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### Weekend Schedule

The weekend starts with our famous Symposium on the Music of the Sea, on Friday (with a special presentation Saturday morning). The festival continues with the Evening Concerts and music throughout the town!

The music starts throughout town at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, and continues until 4:00 p.m. for the start of the open chanter sing! Sunday, as always, starts with our "tent revival" hymn sing, then music throughout town from 12:00 to 3:00. The final concert on Sunday is free, from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. There is also an opportunity to sail on the Connecticut River Museum's sailing vessel Onrust with music on board. (separate ticket required, purchase from the museum).

We are reconfiguring some things with our current schedule – check back soon for an updated grid!

### Calling All Volunteers!

A successful festival depends on its volunteers! If interested in joining the crew, meeting lots of people, and having fun during Festival weekend, we would love to have you join us. Indicate your interest by filling in the form below. For questions, email our volunteer coordinators at [volunteering@ctseamusicfest.org](mailto:volunteering@ctseamusicfest.org).

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## Connecticut, Color and the Civil War: A Lecture by Johns Mills

WATERFORD, Conn. – On Wednesday, June 11 at 6:30 p.m., in commemoration of Juneteenth, the Waterford Public Library is pleased to present John Mill's illustrated lecture: Connecticut, Color and the Civil War.

The Militia Act of 1862 made it legal for African American men to enlist in state militias, ultimately leading to the creation of Connecticut's 29th and 30th Colored Infantry Regiments. Join John Mills as he delves into the lives and experiences of some of the men who enlisted in Connecticut's Colored Regiments during the Civil War, what drove them to enlist and the perspective of Connecticut at the time. John will also discuss his research into past-enslaved individuals in Connecticut, highlighting their experiences and his work to acknowledge them.

John Mills is a trained Genealogist, Independent Scholar, descendant of the enslaved and founder of the Alex Breanne Corporation, a Connecticut-based non-profit. His organization focuses on promoting social Clarity and informed Context regarding the African-American experience through non-profit equity advocacy.

Registration, through the library's event calendar, is recommended for this program. This lecture is free and open to the public.

The Waterford Public Library is located at 49 Rope Ferry Road, Waterford, CT 06385. For more information on the library's activities and services, please visit the library website at [www.waterfordpubliclibrary.org](http://www.waterfordpubliclibrary.org), or follow us on Facebook and Instagram, and sign-up for our monthly e-newsletter.

## Scott Mingus to Present at Shoreline Civil War Roundtable

Civil War Historian and notable author, Scott Mingus, will be doing a presentation for the Shoreline Civil War Roundtable on Tuesday, June 3, at 6:15 p.m. at the Acton Library in Old Saybrook. Topic will be "Extra Billy Smith." Billy Smith was one of the oldest and most controversial Confederate Generals on the field at Gettysburg. All are welcome. No registration is required. For further information contact 860-395-1124.

## Connecticut's Open House Day 2025

The East Lyme Historical Society will open the doors to the historic Thomas Lee House, 228 West Main Street, Niantic, with free guided tours on Saturday, June 14th from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The Lee house is one of the oldest homes in Connecticut maintained in its primitive state. The family arrived well before the Revolutionary War and the house dates to the later 1600s. Explore how life was and what was expected in order to survive the new landscapes on a new continent.

This is a free event sponsored by the East Lyme Historical Society. Donations are kindly accepted.

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Sixteen East Lyme High School fall and winter student athletes signed their letters of intent on April 29 to play sports in college. Pictured are: (Cross-Country) Maya D'Aquila – Eastern Connecticut State University, Andrew Carrier – Central Connecticut State University, Dylan Johnson – Bridgewater State, Sean McCauley – Iona University; (Field Hockey) Lily Gibson – Nichols College, Gracie Lloyd – Merrimack College; (Soccer) Acadia Evans – Hilbert College, Maya Pitruzzello – University of New England, Ryan Wargo – Albertus Magnus College; (Volleyball) Abby Parulis – Endicott College; (Basketball) Oliver Hibbard – Worcester Polytechnic Institute; (Cheer) Lily Daley – Bryant University, Grace Sullivan – Nichols College; (Wrestling) Lincoln Carlson – The Citadel, Jonathan Harms – United States Merchant Marine Academy, Brayden Soleau – Johnson and Wales.

## Vikings Student Athletes Commit

By Josh Howard

East Lyme High School had 25 student athletes sign letters of intent to play sports at the next level.

The school had a pair of ceremonies to recognize college bound athletes, with 16 fall and winter athletes signing commitments on April 29 and another 9 spring athletes making it official on May 2.

ELHS Athletic Director Kevin Marcoux called the signing ceremonies two of his "favorite days of the year."

"Today is a symbolic event that is the culmination of, for some of these student-athletes, a lifetime of work," added Marcoux. "It's the ending of one chapter and the beginning of another."

The departing Class of 2025 student-athletes covered 11 different sports and the group has been part of several Eastern Connecticut Conference (CCC) divisional and tournament championships, as well as seven state championships with boys cross-country taking home three titles, while boys soccer, boys indoor track and field, girls crew, and cheerleading each won a state title.

Cross-country/track produced four college athletes in Maya D'Aquila (Eastern Connecticut State University), Andrew Carrier (Central Connecticut State University), Dylan Johnson (Bridgewater State), and Sean McCauley (Iona University). Additionally, Mark Gendron (Eastern Connecticut State University) and Tom Matlock (Mississippi State University) will head to college for track and field.

Lincoln Carlson (The Citadel), Jonathan Harms (United States Merchant Marine Academy), and Brayden Soleau (Johnson and Wales) will wrestle in college.

Acadia Evans (Hilbert College), Maya Pitruzzello (University of New England), and Ryan Wargo (Albertus Magnus College) will play soccer at the next level.

Headed for field hockey are Lily Gibson (Nichols College) and Gracie Lloyd (Merrimack College), while Lily Daley (Bryant University) and Grace Sullivan (Nichols College) will cheer in college.

Dylan Joyce (UConn Avery Point) and Liam Joyce (UConn





Nine more ELHS student-athletes from spring sports signed to play at the next level on May 2. Pictured are: (Baseball) Dylan Joyce – UConn Avery Point, Liam Joyce – UConn Avery Point; (Crew) Dalynn Jackson – Sacred Heart University; (Lacrosse) Brielle Rheume – Stonehill College, Jake Correia – Eastern Connecticut State University; (Softball) Grace DuBrava – University of Bridgeport, Avery Stadler – Trinity College; (Track & Field) Mark Gendron – Eastern Connecticut State University, Tom Matlock – Mississippi State University.

Avery Point) will play baseball, and Grace DuBrava (University of Bridgeport) and Avery Stadler (Trinity College) will play softball.

Playing lacrosse are Brielle Rheume (Stonehill College) and Jake Correia (Eastern Connecticut State University).

Abby Parulis (Endicott College) will play volleyball, Oliver Hibbard (Worcester Polytechnic Institute) will play basketball, and Dalynn Jackson (Sacred Heart University) is headed to college for crew.

Marcoux noted that all 25 athletes have left an indelible mark at the high school.

“They have thrived in the classroom and in their sport, and most notably they have represented East Lyme High School exactly how we want them to - with dedication, respect, commitment, hard work and a strong desire to compete at the highest level all while demonstrating sportsmanship and character,” added Marcoux. “The East Lyme High School Athletic Department thanks each of them and their families for their contributions during their four years at East Lyme High School.”

**Do you have sports news or events  
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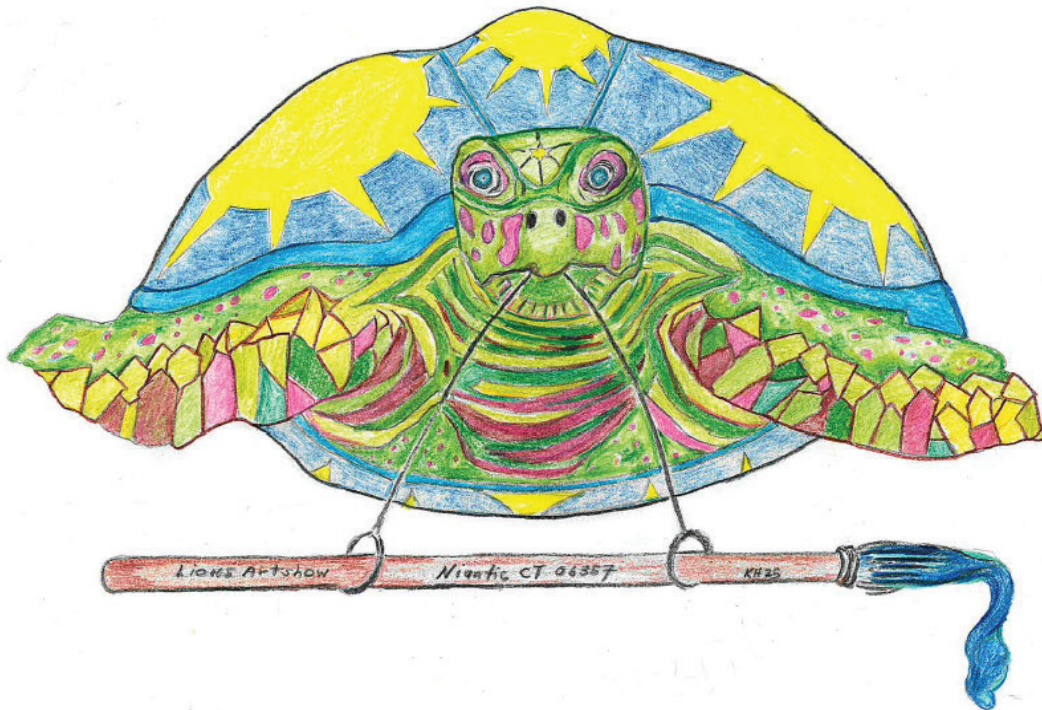
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## June through September Happenings at Lyme Art Association

Old Lyme, CT: Kicking off with Expanding Visions in June and wrapping up with Red Hot, Lyme Art Association (LAA) is showcasing exceptional art on its walls this summer with several dynamic shows. Families will find fun art activities at Family Day on June 21 and can view the talent of young artists in WET: A World of Water. Lastly, artists will find stimulating and enjoyable plein air and portrait workshops.

**June 6 – July 17:** Expanding Visions celebrates the variety of its members' styles with artwork that includes everything from hyperrealism to abstract. LAA is proud to announce the return of the Hudson Valley Art Association to our galleries for their 92nd Annual Juried Exhibition. Opening Reception: June 14 from 5 – 7 p.m.

**June 6 – July 17:** Young artists, ages 5 – 18, created art inspired by water for LAA's annual young artists' show; this year's theme is WET: A World of Water. The award ceremony is June 21 at 11 a.m. during LAA's Family Day event.

**June 21:** From 10am – 1pm on Saturday, June 21, come to LAA for Family Day and enjoy fun & creative art and outdoor activities for kids and families.

**July 25 – September 4:** 104th Elected Artist Exhibition, this annual show celebrates the artistry of the LAA's Elected Artists, our most accomplished artists, and the torch-bearers of the American representational tradition. Running concurrently, Red Hot is a juried exhibition that celebrates the power and moving nature of the color red. Finally, the New Haven Paint & Clay Club Select Members Exhibition returns with the art of Aspasia Anos, Jill Abele Butcher, William Butcher, Frank Bruckmann and Heidi Harrington. Opening Reception: August 2 from 5 – 7 p.m.

Enjoy painting this summer with a workshop at LAA, which is offering portrait and plein air workshops for artists of all levels.

• **June 10 – 12:** Eileen Eder's Plein Air Landscape Painting Foundations

• **June 7 – 8:** Hollis Dunlap's Portrait/Figure Painting from Life

• **June 27 – June 29:** Jacqueline Jones' Painting the Connecticut Shore

• **July 17 – July 20:** T.J. Cunningham's The Oil Painter's Guide: From Idea to Finished Landscape

• **August 9 – 10:** Mike Laiuppa's Painting Light!

### About the Lyme Art Association

Founded in 1914 by the American Impressionists of Old Lyme, the Lyme Art Association is a vibrant nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing representational art through exhibitions, educational programs, and community engagement. The LAA gallery is free and open to the public.

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## Strawberry Festival at Olde Mistick Village

Come celebrate the Second Annual Strawberry Festival at Olde Mistick Village, 27 Coogan Blvd. Mystic, on June 21st and 22nd from 11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. This festive event is all about strawberries—fresh berries, jams, pies, and more!

Enjoy a taste of late spring and early summer in New England with a variety of delicious strawberry-themed treats. Indulge in strawberry wine, chocolate-covered strawberries, strawberry shortcake blondies, and plenty of other sweet surprises!

### 2025 Exhibitors:

- Wake Up Waggin (Kombucha & Iced Coffee)
- Chocolate Boutique (Gourmet Chocolate Dipped Strawberries, Chocolate Dipped Baked Goods)
- Yankee Cider Company (Hard Cider, Wine with Strawberry Flavors)
- Whisktopia (Strawberry Cupcakes, Stuffed Cookies, Baked Goods)
- Wilkenson Farm (Strawberry Cotton Candy, Maple Syrup, Maple Sugar)
- MarnaRoons (Coconut Macaroons, Strawberries & Cream, Lemon Blueberry, Strawberry Rhubarb)
- Oronoque Farms (Pies, Cookies, Cider)
- Dondero Farms (Strawberries, Pies, Crumbles, Cookies, Hanging Strawberry Baskets)
- The Caramel Apple Lady (Carmel Apples, Candy Apples, Dipped Baked Goods)
- Cora's Cakes (Berry Trifle, Strawberry Cupcake, Strawberry Shortcake, Straw Cinnamon Roll)
- I Want Pig Candy (Candied Bacon)
- BIG D'S Hot Sauce (Hot Sauces, Jellies, Mild Strawberry Jelly, Raspberry Honey Mustard)
- Off the Vine (Strawberry Jelly, Strawberry Topping, Strawberry Cranberry Jam)
- Colossal Kielbasa LLC (Kielbasa, Perogies, Stuffed Cabbage, Polish Strawberry Cookies)
- Miss Mollies Brownies (Strawberry Shortcake Blondies, Raspberry Brownies, Dark Chocolate Strawberry Cookies)
- Cerella's Sweet Teas (Strawberry Lemonade, Raspberry Tea, Blue Raspberry Lemonade)
- Flour Patch Bakery, Baked Strawberry Goods, Vegan and Gluten Free)
- Del's B (Strawberry Del's)
- Divinely Sweet (Strawberry Shortcake Trifles, Strawberry Blondies, Organic Vegan Sweet Rolls, Whoopie Pies, Cookies)
- Annie's Ginger Elixir (Ginger Tea Wellness Elixir)
- Carnival Craze (Strawberry Shortcake)
- Abundance by Ashlyn (Berry Cake Pops, Strawberry Shaped Sugar Cookies, Cookies, Brownies)
- J Lee Bakery (Strawberry Shortcake Cupcakes, Chocolate Raspberry Cupcakes, Strawberry Shaped Macarons, Cake Pops)
- We Be Jammin (Sweet & Savory Jams, Salsa & Salad Dressings)
- Low and Slow Catering (Pulled Pork & Chicken with Strawberry Slaw)
- Flavors Food Truck (Latino Foods and Drinks)
- Supreme Hot Dogs (Gourmet Hot Dogs, Sausage w/ Peppers & Onions, Strawberry Lemonade)
- Issa Catering (Middle Eastern Foods, Strawberry Hummus)
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- JGA Creations (Quilled Paper Art with Strawberry Themes, Magnets, Pins)
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## Fitch High School Student Receives Scholarship

The North Stonington Garden Club announces Marco Ursini as the 2025 winner of the \$3,000 Anna Coit/Nita Kincaid Memorial Scholarship. Formal presentation of the award will take place at the North Stonington Garden Club's June 17th General Meeting.

Marco is a senior at Robert E. Fitch High School where he is a member of the National Honor Society, Captain of the wrestling and golf teams and a Peer tutor. He has volunteered for Unified Sports, Sneakers for Funds, Holiday drives, and beach clean ups. Marco also works part time as a recreation assistant and beach maintenance worker. Marco will be attending Worcester Polytechnic Institute where he will study Environmental Engineering. His goal is to pursue a Ph.D. with a specialty in renewable energy sources.

The North Stonington Garden Club awards a Memorial Scholarship each year to a candidate pursuing a higher degree in agriculture, conservation, environmental studies, horticulture, landscape design/architecture plant science or a related field.



**Marco Ursini, winner of  
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## Gallery One CT Presents “Artful Alchemy” Exhibition

The artists of Gallery One are pleased to present the Artful Alchemy exhibition celebrating the fusion of styles, techniques, and artistic traditions. Each artist channels their inner alchemist, blending materials, experiences, and ideas to create rich visual narratives.

Exhibiting artists include: Rosemary Cotnoir (Westbrook), Victor Filepp (New London), Karen Israel (West Hartford), Michael Fanelli (Clinton), Ann Knickerbocker (Old Saybrook), Brian McClear (West Hartford), T. Willie Raney (Ivoryton), Diana Rogers (Clinton), Rick Silberberg (Ivoryton), and Jill Vaughn (Ivoryton).

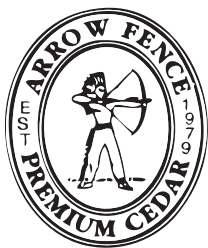
“Artists are like modern-day alchemists, transforming diverse materials and emotions into works that are beautiful, innovative and thought-provoking,” said Michael Fanelli.

“Each stroke of paint and color interacts and mingles, and that is the alchemy that brings a painting to life,” said Diana Rogers. “Using pure pigments and color is ideal for honoring nature and the vibrant hues of life along the shoreline.”

The exhibit is on view through July 2 at the La Grua Center located at 32 Water Street in Stonington, CT. Gallery hours are Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. and other times by appointment through La Grua Center at 860-535-2300.

For more information, visit the Gallery One website at [www.galleryonect.com](http://www.galleryonect.com) or contact us at [gallerionect@gmail.com](mailto:gallerionect@gmail.com).

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## Regional Attraction Roaring Strong for 25 Years

Oakdale, CT – The Dinosaur Place at Nature's Art Village, eastern Connecticut's premier dinosaur-themed adventure park, is celebrating 25 years of prehistoric fun and family memories this June. The media and public are invited to join in the commemoration of this remarkable journey through time.

### Event Details:

- Date - Wednesday, June 11, 2025
- Time – 10:00-11:00 a.m.; Ribbon cutting takes place at 10:30 a.m. Event ends with raffle at 11 a.m.
- Location - 1650 Hartford-New London Turnpike, Oakdale, CT 06370
- Collaborators
- Chamber of Commerce of Eastern CT
- Greater Mystic Chamber of Commerce
- Greater Norwich Area Chamber of Commerce
- Ocean Community Chamber of Commerce
- Highlights
- Networking Opportunity – Meet lead park staff, local business owners, southeastern CT residents, and dignitaries.
- Exclusive Gifts – Enter for the chance to win Dino Place swag. All attendees get a free anniversary park magnet.

Patrons after the ceremony may also enjoy a dino meet-and-greet, where they'll explore 100+ life-sized, animatronic dinos along a 1.5-mile nature trail and family-fun activities, including attractions like: A-MAZE-asaurus, T-Rex Tower, Melody Magic, Lapilli Landing, and Splash Pad plus exhibits. Note: Chamber members receive 20% off admission.

RSVPs are not required but encouraged at [info.chamberect.com/events](http://info.chamberect.com/events).

### About The Dinosaur Place:

Nestled in Oakdale, Connecticut, The Dinosaur Place is New England's largest dinosaur-themed adventure park. Spanning 60 acres, the park offers a unique blend of entertainment and education, featuring life-sized dinosaur replicas, interactive exhibits, and a variety of family-friendly attractions. Since its inception, The Dinosaur Place has been dedicated to providing an immersive experience that brings the prehistoric world to life for visitors of all ages to enjoy.

### About the Chamber of Commerce of Eastern Connecticut

The Chamber of Commerce of Eastern Connecticut is dedicated to advancing a vibrant, sustainable business community. Through thoughtful advocacy, innovative programming, and collaboration, we meet the needs of our members while shaping the region's future. Explore more about our vision and programming by visiting [ChamberECT.com](http://ChamberECT.com).

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## The Stages of Dying

Presented by Dying Matters, LLC

What is it like to die? I want to discuss it because our culture has medicalized death to the extent that we don't experience it as we once did. In the past, it was considered a natural part of living, and caring for the dying was a tradition passed down through generations. Now, our loved ones often die in hospitals or nursing homes, and we are frequently distanced from the process. It's nothing to fear, and I want to normalize it again, so here's what it looks like.

As death approaches, everyone will eventually lose their ability to swallow. This is normal, but when it happens, you must refrain from offering food or fluids, as the person could choke and aspirate due to their inability to swallow. It is incredibly difficult to avoid feeding your family member at this point, but it's necessary. This is one of the first signs that someone is beginning their transition to death.

Eventually, changes in breathing and heart rate will occur, and the body's temperature may fluctuate. As this happens, the extremities may become mottled. At some point, the person enters what appears to be a deep sleep, mainly characterized by unresponsiveness. This stage may be preceded by confusion, fidgeting with the bedsheets, or calling out. Some believe these behaviors are an adverse reaction to medications, but they likely result from the physiological changes as organs shut down. This is all normal and not a cause for alarm. In this situation, the best thing you can do is speak softly and reassure them that they are not alone.

I want to discuss something that may or may not occur, but I want you to be aware of it in case it does, as it can be confusing. It is called terminal lucidity, and it happens when a person who has been unresponsive for a long time suddenly becomes clear-headed, coherent, and communicative shortly before death.

This can last anywhere from a few minutes to several hours, but it typically occurs shortly before death. It should not be mistaken for the person getting better. Although not fully understood by science, it is a natural part of the dying process. Again, not everyone experiences this. If this occurs when your loved one is dying, it is an appropriate time to share love, express gratitude, or say goodbye. Ask if there is anything else you can do for your loved one. You may view this as a significant gift, as it can bring comfort to everyone.

It is also common for those who are dying to experience something called near-death awareness. In this state, they may see or hear loved ones or pets who have previously died. I have witnessed this many times. Often, the dying can be observed reaching out with their arms as if attempting to touch or embrace someone only they can see, or gazing into the distance, perceiving what only they can perceive.

Finally, hearing is one of the last senses to go. During this time, you can still talk to them, hold their hand, read to them, and play their favorite music. It's an excellent opportunity to share your cherished memories and express your love. If a loved one cannot be there in person, have them call and put them on speakerphone.

Remember, this is a sacred moment. Turn off the television, silence your phone, and ask people to move their conversations outside the room unless they are expressing love or sharing memories. Respect this moment. Be fully present and don't rush it. You will never get this time back, so take as long as you need to process what just happened.

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## Ask the Landscape Professional

By Linda K. Lillie

Linda K. Lillie has been President of Sprigs & Twigs, Inc. for the last 29 years. She is a graduate of Connecticut College in Botany, an accredited NOFA Organic Land Care Professional, a Connecticut Master Gardener and a national award winning landscape designer for her design and installation projects.

### Question:

Dear Linda, Thanks for all of your helpful advice. I have a clematis growing on my lamp post. Every year it looks great and has many flower buds. Then all of a sudden, just when the buds get big, they droop and the vine wilts. It is very disappointing and frustrating. Is there anything I can do to prevent this from happening? Thank you, - Jeff, Mystic.

### Linda's Answer:

Hi Jeff,

Your clematis in the photo looks very happy and healthy. I have three possibilities why some of the flower buds are hanging down:

1. Your plant is going to produce large flowers and large flowers will weigh down the vine and droop.

2. It may be a sign that the vine needs water. The flowers are just forming and need water to produce strong, supple flowers and stems. Watering will help the bud stems to stiffen and hold up the flower. If there's a lack of natural rainfall, I recommend you add (1) 5 gallon bucket of water to the roots per week. Do not water the leaves and only water in the morning to allow the plant to dry out during the day. Don't over-water. Overwatering can cause Clematis Wilt, a fungal disease that is detrimental to the Clematis. There's no need to supplement with additional water if we get a good soaking of natural rainfall on a regular basis (at least once/week). If you are unsure about whether to water, use your finger to check the soil moisture around the Clematis roots by inserting your finger into the soil. If the soil is moist all the way down to the roots (2"-6" down), then there's no need to water. If the soil is moist only on the surface... you need to water.

3. Finally, I don't know the cultivar of your Clematis, but some Clematis naturally have drooping flower buds.

**You can send your own gardening questions to:**

**Email:** info@sprigsandtwigs.net, or

**Mail:** Linda Lillie, Sprigs & Twigs Inc, PO Box 245, Gales Ferry, CT 06335

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## Grace Ferman Receives Competitive P.E.O. STAR Award

Grace Ferman, a senior at Lyme-Old Lyme High School, has been selected to receive a \$2,500 STAR Scholarship from the P.E.O. Sisterhood. She was recommended by P.E.O. Chapter AH of East Lyme. From a nationwide pool of 2,343 applicants, the organization had funds to select 1,233 scholarships this year. P.E.O. chapters such as AH raise money for the scholarships in addition to interviewing and recommending candidates for the STAR award.



The P.E.O. STAR Scholarship was established in **Grace Ferman** 2009 to provide scholarships for exceptional women in their final year of high school to attend an accredited postsecondary educational institution in the U.S. or Canada in the next academic year. The competitive STAR Scholarship is for women who exhibit excellence in leadership, academic, extracurricular activities, community service and potential for future success.

A member of Student Leaders club, Ferman won a slot at the Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership conference in Connecticut. She is a three-year member of the school's math team, a member of Chinese Honor and National Honor Societies, and maintains a high grade point average. Her participation in soccer, basketball, lacrosse and cross country has been recognized by the Coaches Award in basketball and Scholar Athlete Award in cross country. She shares her love of sports with others through the Unified Sports team that works with peers having physical challenges.

Ferman plans to attend the University of South Carolina nursing program this fall.

P.E.O. (Philanthropic Educational Organization) has been helping women reach for the stars since 1869. The nonprofit organization has provided more than \$432 million in grants, scholarships, awards and loans since its inception. The Sisterhood also owns and supports Cottey College.

Chapter AH, organized in 2003, is one of nearly 5,500 P.E.O. chapters in North America supporting education while enjoying friendships with like-minded women.

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## Niantic Bay 10k: Charlie's Run

The Niantic Bay 10k is an out and back course, that begins at McCook Point Park and makes its way through the Crescent Beach neighborhood, then into Old Black Point. This scenic route is mostly flat and includes beautiful views of the Niantic Bay and local beaches, a great run to kick off the summer!

Our friend and East Lyme Parks and Recreation commission member Charlie Fenick passed away in 2020. Charlie had run this race every year of its existence and we felt it is right to honor Charlie by making this "Charlie's Run". Those of us who knew Charlie know he was a gentle soul with a huge heart, while being a fierce competitor on every race course he ran on. Cheers to our friend Charlie!

### Event Details and Schedule

Cost: \$35

Date: June 7th at 6 p.m.

Location: Registration and start at McCook Point Park, 8 Atlantic Street, Niantic, CT 06357.

Registration and Bib pickup: Race day beginning at 4:30 p.m. at McCook Park, Niantic

\*Race day registration payment will be credit card only

5:30 p.m. 5k Walk begins

6:00 p.m. 10k Race Begins

Registration: online only

\*First 100 patrons to register are guaranteed a special edition race pint glass.

No refunds will be offered.

Online Registration: <https://elpr.recdesk.com/Community/Program>, log in/create an account and find "Niantic Bay 10k" under program list

### Race Results and timing

• SNERRO Chip-Timing

• Results will be posted on their website the evening of the race

Awards: Post Race at McCook Point Park

• First Female Overall, First Male Overall

• 15 & Under, 16-24, 25-34, 35-44, 45-54, 55-64, 65-69, 70-74, 75-79, 80+

### Organizer Info

The Niantic Bay 10K is hosted by East Lyme Youth Services and Parks and Recreation. All proceeds from the event go toward supporting the Open Center After-school program which is available to all middle school students daily throughout the school year at no cost. Contact us at 860-739-6788 or [parkinfo@eltownhall.com](mailto:parkinfo@eltownhall.com) with questions.

## Clinton Art Society Presents Spring Members Exhibition

The Clinton Art Society (CAS) is pleased to present the Spring Members Exhibition on view through June 19, 2025.

"This exhibition honors the return of spring and celebrates the lively and creative energy of the season. We are delighted to have renowned artist Howard Park serve as our awards judge," said CAS President Robin Hammeal-Urban.

The exhibition is at the Andrews Memorial Town Hall, 54 E. Main Street in Clinton, CT and is open during regular Town Hall hours.

CAS is a vibrant arts community with members from across the state and beyond working in all fine art media. The organization sponsors exhibitions, plein air events, and critique sessions. New members are always welcome. For more information, contact CAS at [casclinton@gmail.com](mailto:casclinton@gmail.com) or visit [clintonartsocietyct.org](http://clintonartsocietyct.org).



## How Should you Respond to Tariffs?

The Trump Administration has announced tariffs on trade with other countries. While there has been a lot of uncertainty as to how these policies will evolve, it's generally agreed that tariffs can be inflationary, and they have also sparked volatility in the financial markets. How should you respond to tariffs — as a consumer and an investor?

### As a consumer...

- *Review your budget.* If you're worried that higher prices will put stress on your cash flow, look for ways to cut costs, perhaps by eating out less often or eliminating streaming services you no longer use. Look for items that could easily be swapped for cheaper alternatives, like generics for brand names. You may even be able to get a better deal from your cable or internet providers, just by asking.

- *Build or replenish an emergency fund.* It's typically a good idea to have an emergency fund containing three to six months' worth of living expenses in a liquid, low-risk account. Usually, you'd want this fund available to meet large, unexpected expenses, such as a medical bill or a new furnace. But with the possibility of tariffs causing inflation in some sectors, you might also want your emergency fund ready to handle price increases in items such as car parts.

- *Accelerate large purchases susceptible to tariffs.* If you're already planning on making a large purchase, and you think the price may be affected by tariffs, you might want to act now, if you can afford to do so. Some items that may be susceptible to tariffs include automobiles, smartphones and computers.

### As an investor...

- *Diversify.* Tariffs may affect some industries, such as automobiles and consumer electronics, more than others, such as healthcare and pharmaceuticals. But rather than making hasty "buy" and "sell" decisions based on tariffs and their possible effects, try to build and maintain a diversified portfolio containing a mix of stocks, bonds and other securities. Diversification is the best defense against the market volatility caused by tariffs — or, for that matter, caused by any other factor. While diversification cannot guarantee a profit or protect against a loss, but at any given time, some asset classes may be up, or not hit as hard as others. And if your portfolio is heavily invested in an asset going through a downturn, you'll likely take a much bigger hit than if your dollars were spread across the wide array of available investment types.

- *Keep following a long-term strategy.* Right now, tariffs are certainly in the headlines as a potentially disruptive force in the financial markets. But there have always been such forces — wars, natural disasters, political turmoil, and so on — and while they have caused volatility for a while, the markets regained its footing, sooner or later. And the most successful investors were the ones who stayed the course throughout the disruptive events, rather than jumping out of the market until things cooled down. This doesn't mean you should never make changes in response to market conditions — at times, you may need to adjust your portfolio somewhat. But by following a long-term strategy based on your risk tolerance, time horizon and financial goals, you'll be better equipped to cope with market gyrations.

Tariffs can lead to uncertainties in the financial world. But by thinking carefully about how you might respond, you can bring more clarity to your own situation.

*This article was written by Edward Jones for use by Jesse Perrault, your Edward Jones Financial Advisor at 51 Pennsylvania Ave, Niantic. Edward Jones, Member SIPC*

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## Should your portfolio shift when the market does?



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## Niantic Lions Club Presents the 64th Arts and Craft Show

Mark your calendars! The Annual Niantic Arts and Craft Show will take place on July 5th and 6th on the East Lyme Town Hall Green. Hosted by the Niantic Lions Club, this juried show features displays from some of New England's finest artists and crafters. More than just a celebration of creativity, this event is the Niantic Lions Club's primary fundraiser, supporting a variety of charitable programs and community initiatives. Your attendance helps make a difference!

### The Niantic Lions Club: A Tradition of Giving

In 1925, Helen Keller, one of the most well-known advocates for the deaf and blind, challenged the Lions to be her "Knights of the Blind." Since then, Lions Clubs worldwide have dedicated themselves to aiding the visually impaired. Continuing this tradition, the Niantic Lions provide vision-related grants to organizations such as the Center for the Blind CT, Lions Eye Research Foundation, Freedom Guide Dog Foundation, and the CT Radio Information Center (CRIS). They also sponsor eye exams, glasses for those in need, and pediatric eye screenings to help detect early vision issues.

Beyond vision-related support, the Niantic Lions are deeply committed to the local community. They award scholarships to East Lyme students in recognition of their academic achievements and support local youth programs such as the Shoreline Leos Club, East Lyme Little League, Viking Cheerleaders, and local Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Venture Scout Troops. Their charitable contributions extend to organizations including Camp Rising Sun, a camp for children with cancer, as well as Hope in Focus, the CT National Guard Foundation, Center for Hospice Care, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, Special Olympics, and United Cerebral Palsy. They also contribute to local cultural and historical organizations, including the Brookside Farm Museum, Smith-Harris House, and the East Lyme Public Library.

The Niantic Lions are active year-round in community service. They decorate the town green for the holidays, provide free transportation to medical appointments through the "Driving Miss Daisy" program, prepare and deliver meals to East Lyme seniors, and help direct traffic at the Niantic Bay 10K. They also make regular donations to Care and Share, which provides food to local families in need.

### Support the Cause!

Last year, the Niantic Lions distributed over \$48,000 to charitable initiatives, with a major portion of funding coming from this very event—the Niantic Arts and Craft Show. This year, attendees can also enjoy delicious offerings from local food trucks, including Captain Scott's, Dude's Donuts, Beach Buns, Sweet Chilli Tai Cuisine, and Giovannis Brick Oven Pizza.

Admission and parking are free! While service dogs are welcome, please note that pets are not allowed. For more details, visit [nianticartsandcraftshow.com](http://nianticartsandcraftshow.com).

Interested in making an even greater impact? Consider joining the Niantic Lions Club. Learn more at [nianticlions.org](http://nianticlions.org)—it's a great way to give back to your community!

## Lion King Jr at the Niantic Bay Playhouse

Lion King Jr  
June 13-15, 20-22  
Niantic Bay Playhouse  
279 Main Street, Niantic, CT

The Lion King Jr. is a youth-friendly version of Disney's classic musical, following Simba's journey to overcome loss and embrace his destiny as king. With iconic songs and vibrant characters, it's a heartwarming tale of courage, friendship, and self-discovery.





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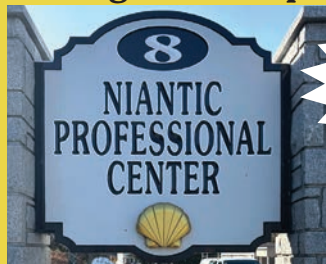
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**CT River Museum June Events**

The Connecticut River Museum 67 Main Street, Essex, CT has announced the following schedule. For more information please call 860-767-8269, visit <https://ctrivermuseum.org/> or email [astromberger@ctrivermuseum.org](mailto:astromberger@ctrivermuseum.org).

**Shanties & Sails: Johnson Girls**

Tuesday, June 3, 2025

5:30-6:30 p.m. Shanties: FREE

7:00-8:00 p.m. Onrust: \$25. Sail aboard the Onrust with the performers!

Shanties & Sails are back! Enjoy an evening of Sea Shanties. Hear talented shanty and sea-song musicians for a FREE one-hour live performance. Add onto your evening to continue the fun. Book a trip on the Onrust!

This music series is generously supported by Privé Swiss Wellness.

**The Johnson Girls**

Internationally acclaimed, The Johnson Girls have been a force on the folk and maritime music scene for the past 28 years as the leading all-woman, a cappella maritime group in the world. Believing that sea chanteys and sea songs were the first real "World Music," Joy Bennett, Alison Kelley, Bonnie Milner, and Deirdre Murtha each bring a special influence to their music. Whether performing chanteys with hair-raising harmonies or sharing tender ballads at intimate venues, folk clubs, or packed international folk festivals in the US, Canada, the UK, Ireland, and Europe, The Johnson Girls remain true to their mission of keeping chantey singing alive, bringing women's voices to the fore, and sweeping their audiences along in a tidal fervor.

**ONRUST**

Onrust is a re-creation of the vessel Adriaen Block built in 1614. Built over several years in upstate New York using traditional plans and means, the Onrust is a wholly unique ship that serves to educate and entertain visitors curious about the age of exploration, the fur trade, and our early colonial history. She is available for public cruises as well as private charters.

**Save the Date: Connecticut Sea Music Festival**

June 6 – 9, 2025

The Connecticut Sea Music Festival is an event put on by the Maritime Music & Tradition Society to enact its mission of preserving and encouraging maritime and traditional music through education, research, performance, and community. Through the festival they aim to share and teach stories, roots, and culture behind the wonderful and expansive world of maritime music, from deepwater sailing to inland waterways.

Interested in hearing sea music out on the water? The festival will be providing performers on several cruises over the course of the weekend.

Event details can be found on the Sea Music Festival website.

The CT Sea Music Festival is a project of the Maritime Music & Tradition Society Corp., a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. It receives major sponsorship from Privé-Swiss, sponsorships from The Connecticut Office of the Arts (COA), The Folk Music Society of New York, Inc., 4Imprint, and support from The Paul Foundation, The Griswold Inn, and The Essex Corinthian Yacht Club.

**River Tales: The Rhythm of the Rain**

Saturday, June 7, 2025

11 a.m. – 12 p.m. and 1 – 2 p.m.

Non-members: \$3 per learner

Members: FREE!

Museum admission is not included with ticket purchase.

Swing by the Connecticut River Museum for take-home craft activities that engage kids with the Connecticut River's stunning wildlife and rich history! Crafts will take place in the Museum's Boathouse. A program just for kids 4+ and their caregivers, River

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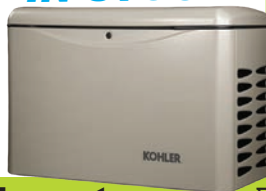
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Tales includes a story and craft activity themed around nature.

As rain starts to fall, Isaac empties his little jar of water into a pool. Water races the sparkling streams as they tumble over waterfalls, rush through swollen rivers and burst out into the vast open sea.

In June, we'll read *The Rhythm of the Rain*, a picture book from Greenaway medal-winner, Grahame Baker-Smith that celebrates the water cycle and captures the remarkable movement of water across the earth in all its majesty.

Questions? Email [astromberger@ctrivermuseum.org](mailto:astromberger@ctrivermuseum.org).

The Connecticut River Museum may photograph this event. By participating, you agree to allow photos to be posted on the Connecticut River Museum's website, Facebook page, Instagram feed, and other media.

#### **Shanties & Sails: Rick Spencer and Dawn Indermuehle**

Tuesday, June 10, 2025

5:30-6:30 p.m. Shanties: FREE

7:00-8:00 p.m. Onrust: \$25. Sail aboard the Onrust with the performers!

Shanties & Sails are back! Enjoy an evening of Sea Shanties. Hear talented shanty and sea-song musicians for a FREE one-hour live performance. Add onto your evening to continue the fun. Book a trip on the Onrust!

This music series is generously supported by Privé Swiss Wellness.

#### **Rick Spencer and Dawn Indermuehle**

Rick Spencer and Dawn Indermuehle develop and present theme-based music and history programs, performing songs that give cultural insight into interesting times, places and events in American history. Rick and Dawn carefully craft their vocals and accompaniment to sound as true to a song's era or style as possible. Their vast repertoire includes music from the Colonial era to the present day. Rick and Dawn use these songs to illustrate the evolution of our nation's culture and history in an informative and entertaining way.

#### **Shanties & Sails: My Druthers**

Tuesday, June 17, 2025

5:30-6:30 p.m. Shanties: FREE

7:00-8:00 p.m. Onrust: \$25. Sail aboard the Onrust with the performers!

Shanties & Sails are back! Enjoy an evening of Sea Shanties. Hear talented shanty and sea-song musicians for a FREE one-hour live performance. Add onto your evening to continue the fun. Book a trip on the Onrust!

This music series is generously supported by Privé Swiss Wellness.

#### **My Druthers**

Rebel songs of Ireland & the Sea! Consisting of a rotating lineup of all-stars from the Connecticut music scene, My Druthers has been hitting it hard these past few years with shows throughout New England, the Midwest & Southeastern US, as well as Thailand, Singapore, Laos, Cambodia, and Vietnam.

The Druthers brothers haul to the fore a lifetime spent in outlaw country, maritime, and rebel folk scenes, and they bring that energy and aggression to the stage in the form of shanty nights, pub sings, & festival stages both at home and abroad. Renowned for their raucous & rowdy take on the age-old tradition, it's hard not to raise a pint, stomp your feet, and sing along with these salty rebels and CT shantymen!

#### **Lectures Underway: The British Raid on Essex**

June 19, 2025

6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Members: \$30

Non-Members: \$35

Join author and historian Jerry Roberts aboard Onrust for a trip



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back in time to 1814! On this special cruise, passengers will trace the path of the British Raid on Essex during the War of 1812, which saw 27 ships set aflame in the single greatest loss of American shipping of the entire war. Explore the real-world locations of this dramatic chapter in Connecticut history alongside the author of *The British Raid on Essex: The Forgotten Battle of the War of 1812*.

Jerry Roberts has been in the history business for over 30 years. He has served as Vice President in charge of Exhibits at the Intrepid Sea Air Space Museum in New York City, and as Executive Director of the National Lighthouse Museum project in NYC, the Connecticut River Museum in Essex CT, and the New England Air Museum in Windsor Locks CT. He has designed and built over fifty exhibits, designed and project managed several major museum expansion and infrastructure projects. He has written several books and other historic publications and has co-written and appeared in a number

of documentaries.

The Connecticut River Museum may record this event, including all questions, comments, etc. by the audience. By participating, you agree to allow the recording to be posted on the Connecticut River Museum's website, Facebook page, Instagram feed, and other media. Please consider a donation to support CRM. If you have already donated, thank you for your support.

#### **RiverQuest Kid's Cruise**

June 21, July 19, August 2

10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

\$10 – \$20

On select Saturday mornings 10:00 a.m., we offer a special cruise, designed for young children and their parents, grandparents, etc., aboard RiverQuest. On this cruise, we will show young children how to use binoculars, teach them about the birds we see, nautical terms, river ecology and other points of interest including. This is a fun cruise to introduce young children to the fragile beauty of the Connecticut River and the unique area we live in. And, it allows kids to be kids!

All kids ages 2 to 12 ticket price will be only \$10, ages 12 to 100 only \$20. Online booking only.

#### **Shanties & Sails: Littlefield and Morneault**

Tuesday, June 24, 2025

5:30-6:30 p.m. Shanties: FREE

7:00-8:00 p.m. Onrust: \$25. Sail aboard the Onrust with the performers!

Shanties & Sails are back! Enjoy an evening of Sea Shanties. Hear talented shanty and sea-song musicians for a FREE one-hour live performance. Add onto your evening to continue the fun. Book a trip on the Onrust!

This music series is generously supported by Privé Swiss Wellness.

#### **Littlefield and Morneault**

Joseph Morneault, performing with David Littlefield as Littlefield and Morneault: A duo of folk music presenting ballads, the sea, and songs of local historical interest.

David Littlefield is a lifetime resident of Old Lyme and had worked many years at Mystic Seaport. He is known for his scholarship on whaling and the history of the whaling ship the Morgan, as well as his songs about local businesses that supported or was supported by the shipping trades. Joseph Morneault is the president of the Maritime Music & Tradition Society which features as its primary event the annual CT Sea Music Festival held in Essex, CT. Jos is a social historian and author with a focus on the late 18th century, and can be regularly heard performing every Monday night at the Griswold Inn in Essex.

#### **Summer Camp: Summer Days at Bushnell Farm**

June 30, July 1, 2 & 3

9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

To Register visit: <https://course.veevart-apps.com/ctrivermuseum/catalog/summer-camp-days-at-bushnell-farm-2025>

Kick-off your summer with a unique, historical experience at Bushnell Farm in Old Saybrook. Travel back in time to glimpse what life was like for kids during the colonial era. Try your hand at farming activities, woodworking projects, and cooking on an open hearth. You may even get to spin your own yarn! We'll also play games and explore the surrounding forested grounds.

Can't commit to a full week of summer camp? Then this week is for you! You can sign up for one day or all four!

Questions? Email our Camp Director, Lauren Bennett-Dionne [lb Dionne@ctrivermuseum.org](mailto:lb Dionne@ctrivermuseum.org).

Register for each day of Camp separately. Camp runs daily, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

\$77 for Non-Members | \$70 for Members.

Camp is open to adventurers aged 6-11.



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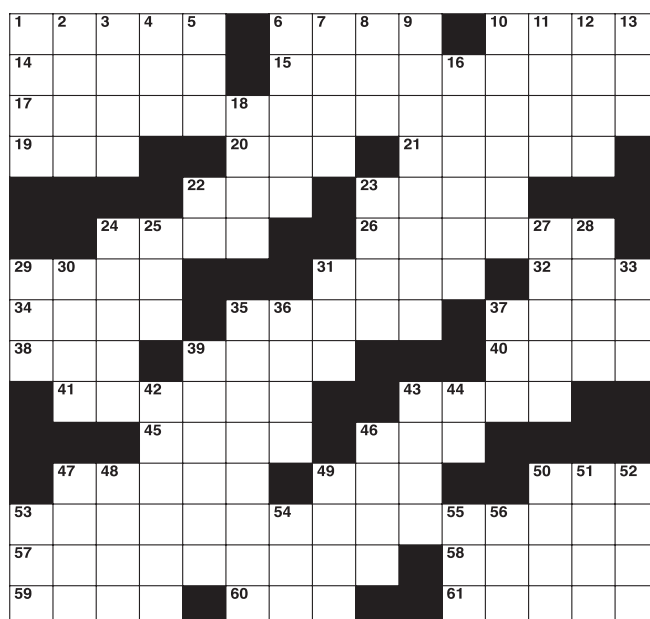


## CLUES ACROSS

1. Marsh plant
6. Southern constellation ("The Peacock")
10. Fogginess
14. Home to Fools' Day
15. Absence of the sense of pain
17. Popular November holiday
19. Consume food
20. Buddy
21. Long-haired goat-antelope
22. Japanese honorific
23. Actor Malek
24. One point south of southeast
26. Illegal acts
29. As fast as can be done
31. Prevents harm to young
32. Exclamation of satisfaction
34. African nation
35. Slow-moving animal
37. Oh, goodness!
38. A team's best pitcher
39. Cleanser
40. Radioactivity units
41. Expectorated matter
43. Cover a wide range
45. The central area of a church
46. California capital (abbr.)
47. Dutch painter Klaver
49. 007's creator
50. Impression of dishonesty
53. Northeastern sports rivalry
57. Cloths
58. Stalin's police chief
59. Hostelrys
60. Bitterly regret
61. Anwar \_\_\_, Egyptian statesman

## CLUES DOWN

1. Satisfy
2. European health advocate
3. Expression of annoyance
4. Strong liquor
5. Large red deer
6. Holder of less common religious beliefs
7. West Indian shrub
8. Family of proteins
9. Wealthy, influential business leader
10. Low spirits
11. Approves food
12. Monetary unit of Iran and Oman
13. Mary \_\_\_, cosmetics
16. Expressed in pithy maxims
18. Relaxing spaces
22. The NFL's big game
23. Proof of payment (abbr.)
24. Starchy preparation of dried orchid tubers
25. Indicates near
27. Minneapolis suburb
28. Herring-like fish
29. Doctors' group
30. Pouches
31. Bread dipping in sauce
33. Commercial
35. A reminder of past events
36. Affected by injury
37. Geological time
39. Stationary part of a motor
42. Bringer together
43. Of sound mind
44. Personal computer
46. Without (French)
47. A bank might give you one
48. Agricultural testing organization
49. A small island
50. Type of gene
51. Murres
52. Card game
53. A measure of human health
54. Australian airline (abbr.)
55. One point south of due west
56. Affirmative

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## TVCCA Chooses New CFO

JEWETT CITY— TVCCA is pleased to announce that Max Logan, former Senior Director of Budgeting and Accounting with the agency, has accepted the position of Chief Financial Officer. Replacing former CFO Brian Vanasse, who retired from TVCCA after 31 years on April 28, 2025, Mr. Logan will oversee the day-to-day operations of the agency's finance and payroll departments. "I was fortunate to have a wonderful mentor in Brian," said Mr. Logan. "I'm looking forward to working with our entire team as we address new funding strategies and streamline workflows to help reduce the administrative burden on all the programs that TVCCA supports." Over the past year, both the former CFO and Mr. Logan have invested in developing scalable financial systems to support TVCCA's continued growth. "I'm excited to be a part of driving the financial policy of the agency," he added.

**Max Logan**

For more information on TVCCA and its programs supporting people in eastern Connecticut, visit [www.tvcca.org](http://www.tvcca.org).

## TVCCA Receives Grant from Dime Bank for Emergency Assistance

NORWICH, CT May 19, 2025—Dime Bank has awarded Thames Valley Council for Community Action \$3,500 to maintain its Emergency Client Assistance Fund, which allows case managers to quickly resolve an array of financial setbacks faced by low-income households. "We're so grateful for Dime Bank's support of this fund each year," said Jason Martin, TVCCA's Director of Community Services. "Many of the people we support are suddenly confronted with financial emergency, and a single unanticipated expense can be disastrous to an individual's or a family's security."

The grant will provide emergency assistance for approximately ten struggling households (25-30 individuals) over the next 12 months. "The purpose of this fund is to furnish just enough assistance at just the right time to help people maintain momentum and continue their progress towards economic independence," noted Martin. "Dime Bank's support of this program is crucial to the success that many families achieve because of that extra assistance."

For more information about TVCCA's programs helping our neighbors throughout eastern Connecticut, please call Community Services at (860) 889-1365 or visit [tvcca.org](http://tvcca.org).

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25.02



**Get Posted...** Lisa Snietka brought her copy of *The Post Road Review* on a recent trip to Punta Cana in the Dominican Republic. She stayed at the Majestic Mirage resort.



**Get Posted...** Jason Baran, *Post Road Review* Account Executive, and his wife, Robin traveled to the Cliffs of Moher in Ireland on a recent vacation and brought their copy of *The Post Road Review* along with them.





Cast from top left to right: William Colon (Groton); Josh Cooper (East Lyme); Karl Victorino (Mystic); Xavier Gonzalez (Madison); Breanna Tregelles (Clinton) Middle Row left to right: Miles Reese (Mystic); Eliza Sweeney (Branford); Kylee Fake (Mystic); Faye Staschke (Madison) Bottom Row left to right: Grace McMillian (Madison); Kate Ethier (Guilford); Kiera Flannigan (Clinton); Yasmine Oumay (Clinton); Adeline Burnett (New London)

## The Shoreline Theater Academy Presents Phantom of the Opera

The Shoreline Theater Academy's advanced musical performance troupe proudly presents the beloved classic, Phantom of the Opera on Friday, June 6 at 6:00 p.m. Music by Andrew Lloyd Webber, lyrics by Charles Hart, additional lyrics by Richard Stilgoe. The Phantom of the Opera follows a gifted and beautiful young singer at the Paris Opéra, Christine Daaé, who is both haunted and mentored by a secretive music teacher she calls her "Angel of Music." In actuality, Christine's tutor is the titular "Phantom," who nurtures a dangerous obsession with his protégée. The Advanced Level Musical Theater Troupe at the Shoreline Theater Academy features rising opera stars, Karl Victorino as The Phantom and Kylee Fake as Christine from Mystic, and including William Colon as Viscount Raoul de Chagny from Groton, along with some shoreline favorites, Morgan Cheslock of Branford, Faye Staschke of Madison, and Keira Flannigan of Clinton rounding out the general cast and will be accompanied by an adult choir of local singers that perform with Yale Camerata and Con Brio among other performing groups. Tickets can be purchased at ETIX.COM; \$18 for Adults, \$15 for students/seniors, and \$20 at the door. For more information, visit <https://shorelinetheateracademy.org/> or call 860-227-2363/email shorelinetheateracademy@gmail.com.

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Niantic Community Church  
**Bobby Jo Valentine**  
in concert at Niantic Community Church

Friday, June 6 at 7:00 PM  
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## Bobby Jo Valentine in Concert

Join Niantic Community Church to kick off PRIDE month with a free concert by queer folk/pop songwriter Bobby Jo Valentine. Valentine's music exists outside the lines of any genre, but the music's thoughtful, spirit focused lyrics and catchy melodies reach listeners across all walks of life. He's found a voice with original, hopeful songs about the gentle everyday spiritual awakenings of an openhearted life.

His music has won Song of the Year twice at West Coast Songwriter's Association, and his work has appeared on radio, TV, and feature films. He has performed artist residencies, hosted songwriting workshops, and been involved in helping communities of all types use their spaces and voice in more creative and powerful ways.

Take a listen at Bobby Jo Valentine - Music and realize this is one concert you don't want to miss!

The concert will be held in Niantic Community Church's sanctuary – the building is handicapped accessible. For additional details call the church office 860-739-6208 or visit the church website at: [www.nianticcommunitychurch.org](http://www.nianticcommunitychurch.org)

## TVCCA Awarded Homelessness Prevention Grant

NEW LONDON—The Frank Loomis Palmer Fund has awarded Thames Valley Council for Community Action \$35,000 for its Homelessness Prevention program. The grant will provide monetary assistance to 55 New London residents in danger of eviction, positioning them to move forward in their quest for greater autonomy and economic security.

"Preventing homelessness has been central to TVCCA's Housing Services for 35 years," notes Director of Housing Ida Parker. "Each year our prevention and diversion program supports over 60 low-income households; half of these families live in New London." The Palmer Fund's grant will assist with rent and utility payments, security deposits, and related housing expenses. All funds are distributed by TVCCA to verified landlords and service providers on behalf of clients.


"By providing clients in housing crises with assistance, we're helping avert the trauma of eviction and the long-term financial repercussions evictions can have on low-income households," said Ms. Parker. "The Palmer Fund's partnership is crucial to TVCCA's effort to stop homelessness before it starts."

For more information on TVCCA's Housing and Homelessness Prevention programs, visit [tvcca.org/housing](http://tvcca.org/housing).

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## Chamber of Commerce of Eastern CT Foundation Awards Over \$106,000 in Annual Grants



**(Right) Tony Sheridan, Chamber of Commerce of Eastern CT President & CEO presents to Always Home.**

New London, CT – On Friday, April 25, the Chamber of Commerce of Eastern CT Foundation awarded a total of \$106,169 in grants to 46 organizations to expand regional programs in support of children, families, and community economic development.

The celebration took place at the Chamber office/Regional Innovation Center in the form of check presentations.

“We are immensely grateful to the volunteers who make our fund-raising possible, and to the funded organizations for delivering such impactful services across our region”, states Foundation Vice Chair and Chamber Vice President, Megan Gilbert.

“The need remains great, but the Foundation is proud to contribute to a wide variety of educational and economic programs that reduce and remove barriers to success for thousands of community neighbors in need.”

The 2025 recipients and their respective allocations are as follows:

- Always Home, Inc., \$2,000, to support families displaced with housing through emergency financial assistance and supportive case management services.
- Anchor of Hope, \$1,000, to purchase car seats for families impacted by trauma and domestic violence, helping ensure their children's current and future safety during times of crisis.
- Care and Share of East Lyme, Inc., \$3,060, to cover summer day camp for children of low-income families, giving them access to a safe, structured, and enriching recreational experience.
- Child & Family Agency of Southeastern Connecticut, Inc., \$2,500, to furnish classrooms in its Early Childhood Development Center in New London with educational supplies to support early childhood learning.
- Covenant to Care for Children, Inc., \$2,000, to provide state-mandated essential items—like beds, cribs, and clothing—to prevent neglect and abuse by reducing stress on families with young children.
- Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center, \$2,000, to provide scholarships for their summer camps, including day care and after-school programs for children from low-income families, where they will experience hands-on environmental education and closer connection to nature.
- Eastern Connecticut Ballet, \$1,000, to expand exposure to the arts through providing hundreds of elementary and middle school students complimentary admission to a live performance of their adaption of “The Nutcracker” hosted at the Garde Arts Center.



**(Right) Tony Sheridan, Chamber of Commerce of Eastern CT President & CEO presents to Health Education Center.**

- Eastern Connecticut Workforce Investment Board, \$5,000, to support wages and staff for a five-week summer employment program that serves income-eligible youth providing participants with the opportunity to learn about various workplaces in a real-world, hands-on setting.

- Friends of the Canterbury Public Library, \$1,000, to fund a new children's center computer with educational programs to support safe, offline learning.

- Goodspeed Opera House Foundation, Inc., DBA Goodspeed Musicals, \$1,000, to host an immersive, multi-day Arts Education Collaboration with professional artists for 525 students in New London and Windham Counties.

- Goodwill of Southern New England, \$1,000, to provide transportation and job readiness support to individuals with disabilities, helping them pursue education, training, and employment through the Individual Placement and Support model.

- The Granite Theatre, \$1,000, to sponsor transportation and tickets for high school students to attend a performance of The Laramie Project, creating space for artistic engagement and meaningful conversation.

- Groton Community Meals, \$2,500, to hire two chefs to prepare and serve free, nutritious meals twice a week, and to support its new mobile meals service program to support food-insecure residents in Groton.

- Health Education Center, \$2,500, to purchase clinical supplies for its interprofessional health clinics, which leverages partnerships between social service centers, healthcare providers, and community volunteers to deliver coordinated care to patients in underserved communities.

- High Hopes Therapeutic Riding, Inc., \$2,000, to fund herd expansion, increasing the number of service horses to further develop their Parkinson's Program.

- Higher Edge, \$2,000, to support their student-centered Decision Day and luncheon, celebrating first-generation College Access Program students for their scholastic achievements.

- Horizons, Inc., \$2,400 to expand its previous pond revitalization project through the repair and upgrade of their dock, further expanding water accessibility to campers with developmental disabilities.

- Hygienic Art, Inc., \$750, to fund an 8-week summer enrichment program for students grades K-8, providing them with art education,



cultural and recreational activities.

- Junior Achievement of Southwest New England, \$2,500, to deliver financial literacy and career readiness programming to students across southeastern Connecticut, encouraging students to explore careers, prepare for careers, and develop financially capable mind-sets.

- La Grua Center, \$1,500, to provide affordable and accessible art experiences for children and young adults through free, quarterly Youth Art Workshops for Pre-K to 8th grade students.

- Lyman Allyn Art Museum, \$1,500, to support the Museum's Free First Saturday program, a monthly artmaking program that provides free, hands-on creative activities inspired by artworks on view at the Museum.

- Madonna Place, Inc., \$3,000, to support major programs including Community Outreach Plus Education, Family Support Center, Great Beginnings, and Fatherhood Initiative.

- National Coast Guard Museum Association, \$5,000, to develop hands-on STEM education programs and curriculum tailored for elementary grade students to enrich the visitor experience at the future Museum in downtown New London, set to open next year.

- New England Science & Sailing Foundation, \$2,500, to deliver experiential STEM programs to youth and families in the classroom and out on the water to educate them about the local and global environment and provide resources to become positive stewards of our environment and community.

- New London Homeless Hospitality Center, \$2,500, to support its Ready to Work employment training program, which provides targeted support that helps individuals experiencing homelessness overcome barriers to employment.

- New London Youth Affairs, \$2,000, to support their Diaper Bank, which addresses access to diapers and early childhood basic needs support items. The Bouvier Brigade, made up of team members from Bouvier Insurance, has collected diapers and baby wipes through their Casual for a Cause program, nearly doubling the Foundation's donation. Staff member of Bouvier, Melissa Yuchniuk, also serves on the Foundation Board.

- Noank Community Support Services, Inc., \$1,500, to provide girls in their shelters with access to proper hair care resources, professional services, and educational opportunities, empowering them to develop positive self-care habits and improve their overall well-being.

- Norwich Rotary Foundation, \$1,000, to support their annual coat project, providing new warm winter coats to low income children in the greater Norwich area.

- Public Library of New London, \$1,459, to increase accessibility and engage local youth with immersive education materials, through the expansion of its Library of Things collection with non-traditional items including: a mobile device charging station and virtual reality sets for the teen room.

- The Riverfront Children's Center, Inc., \$2,250, to defray the cost of essential communication devices (FCC-registered long-distance walkie-talkies) for their nonprofit early learning center, which serves low-income families from greater Groton-New London.

- S.T.E.P.S. Inc., \$1,500, to support year-round leadership and self-empowerment programming for middle- and high-school girls in southeastern Connecticut through after-school programs, a Summer Enrichment/Leadership program, and more.

- Safe Futures, Inc., \$3,500, to support Camp HOPE America, a trauma-informed summer camp that supports youth exposed to domestic violence and abuse, through providing subsidized program supplies and admission fees for participants.

- Southeastern CT Robotics, Inc., \$1,000, to support the expansion of its hands-on STEM education programs, supporting general operating expenses, instruction materials and program development.

- Stonington Community Center, \$1,750, to ensure free access for

girls to participate in the Her Time to Play program, which delivers a comprehensive curriculum designed to use basketball as a tool to build life skills and address the societal challenges faced by girls.

- Thames River Community Service, Inc., \$3,000, to provide safe housing and support services to individuals and families aged 18-24 experiencing homelessness in eastern Connecticut. Support will enhance employability skills, temporary housing options, and year-round shelter capacity, aiming to empower this vulnerable demographic and facilitate their transition to permanent housing within a year.

- The Center: A Drop-In Community Learning and Resource Center, Inc., \$2,500, to offer programs that foster academic enrichment and provide opportunities for students to contribute to their communities along with mentors of similar cultural backgrounds.

- The Light House Voc-Education Center Inc., \$2,500, to provide free and low-cost access to assistive devices and technology, supporting students with the tools and confidence they need to learn and succeed.

- The Salvation Army, \$2,500, to fund the Back to School program, providing new shoes to New London children from low-income households.

- The Samaritan House Inc., \$2,000, to launch Amplify Voices, a 10-month mentorship program that empowers youth creativity through the cultivation of self-expression using technology and communication.

- The Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries, \$1,000, to purchase non-perishable foods for distribution to families facing food insecurity across Lyme and Old Lyme.

- Thompson Ecumenical Empowerment Group, Inc., \$1,500, to support the All-Star Teen Leadership Program, offering enriching and exciting summer experiences for children with emotional and behavioral health needs staffed with clinically trained professionals. Outcomes of this program foster entertainment, experiential learning, and social connections in a safe and supportive environment that ensures student success.

- UCFS United Community and Family Services, \$5,000, to purchase fresh food and personal care items for the Rosalyn Allen Food Pantry and mobile delivery service, benefiting over 10,000 patients and families in the region – which is all volunteer run by UCFS.

- United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) of Eastern Connecticut, \$2,000, to implement a disability training program in 13 elementary schools across New London County from June this year into next summer. This initiative will increase students' awareness of DEI and respective languages. Funding will support program preparation, oversight, marketing materials for staff and students, and travel expenses.

- United Way of Southeastern CT – Gemma E. Moran United Way/Labor Food Center, \$5,000, to purchase fresh produce, dairy products, and meats/proteins to provide fresh, healthy foods needed for the 65 different feeding programs for low-income families in southeastern CT.

- United Way of Southeastern CT – Tommy Toy Fund, \$10,000, to deliver literacy and play resources through books and toys to the region's children and families.

To date, the Foundation has distributed over \$2.1 million in grants to eastern Connecticut nonprofits.

The enrollment period for the annual grants cycle begins in the winter.

#### About the Chamber's Foundation:

The mission of the Foundation, a 501(c)3 overseen by a volunteer board with support from the Chamber of Commerce of Eastern CT, is to enhance and enrich education and economic opportunities, especially for children and families, in the Chamber's service area. The Foundation provides local nonprofits with crucial resources, including funds for pilot programs, research, and program expansion, that improve the region's overall quality of life. To learn more about our leadership and impact, please visit [ChamberECT.com/Chamber-Foundation/](http://ChamberECT.com/Chamber-Foundation/).

# New London Adult Education Spring/Summer Enrichment Programs

## New London Adult Education Center

### Day Trips

|                                                        |                                    |          |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------|
| Historic Castles and Railroad of Bucks County PA ..... | Wednesday, September 3, 2025 ...   | \$745.00 |
| Maple Madness – Robb Family Farm .....                 | Saturday, September 13, 2025 ..... | \$152.00 |
| Cranberry Farm Tour .....                              | Sunday, October 19, 2025 .....     | \$155.00 |

### National & International Trips

|                                                                  |                                  |            |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------|
| Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Park.....                        | Wednesday, October 1, 2025 ..... | \$5,029.00 |
| Shades of Ireland.....                                           | Sunday, October 5, 2025 .....    | \$4,329.00 |
| Exploring South Africa, Victoria Falls & Botswana.....           | Monday, January 12, 2026.....    | \$8,529.00 |
| Sunny Portugal.....                                              | Sunday, March 22, 2026 .....     | \$3,829.00 |
| Northern Italy featuring Venice, Verona & the Dolomites .....    | Thursday, May 7, 2026.....       | \$4,779.00 |
| Canadian Maritimes Coastal Wonders featuring the Cabot Trail.... | Saturday, July 18, 2026.....     | \$4,729.00 |
| Tropical Costa Rica.....                                         | Thursday, November 5, 2026 ..... | \$3,329.00 |

|                                                     |            |                  |                       |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Bartending with SMART Certification DAYTIME.....    | 6/2 .....  | \$255.00 .....   | NLAE                  |
| Estate Planning.....                                | 6/4 .....  | \$19.00 .....    | NLAE                  |
| Summer Daytime Italic Calligraphy Basics .....      | 6/6 .....  | \$54.00 .....    | NLAE                  |
| Amazing U-Pick Peonies .....                        | 6/7 .....  | \$59.00 .....    | Best Buds Flower Farm |
| Certified Nursing Assistant Training DAYTIME.....   | 6/9 .....  | \$1,099.00 ..... | NLAE                  |
| Amazing U-Pick Peonies .....                        | 6/12 ..... | \$59.00 .....    | Best Buds Flower Farm |
| Arranging Peonies Workshop .....                    | 6/13 ..... | \$84.00 .....    | Best Buds Flower Farm |
| Arranging Peonies Workshop .....                    | 6/14 ..... | \$84.00 .....    | Best Buds Flower Farm |
| Emergency Medical Technician Initial Basic Training |            |                  |                       |
| Summer Daytime.....                                 | 6/16.....  | \$1,200.00 ..... | NLAE                  |
| Amazing U-Pick Peonies .....                        | 6/21 ..... | \$59.00 .....    | Best Buds Flower Farm |
| Week Long Painting Intensive.....                   | 6/23 ..... | \$179.00 .....   | NLAE                  |
| Amazing U-Pick Peonies .....                        | 6/24.....  | \$59.00 .....    | Best Buds Flower Farm |
| Certified Nursing Assistant Training DAYTIME.....   | 6/30.....  | \$1,099.00 ..... | NLAE                  |
| Patriotic Desserts.....                             | 7/1 .....  | \$59.00 .....    | NLAE                  |
| French 2 .....                                      | 7/3 .....  | \$149.00 .....   | NLAE                  |
| French for the Beginner .....                       | 7/3 .....  | \$149.00 .....   | NLAE                  |
| Dessert Decorations .....                           | 7/10.....  | \$54.00 .....    | NLAE                  |
| Certified Nursing Assistant Training DAYTIME.....   | 7/30.....  | \$1,099.00 ..... | NLAE                  |
| Fondant .....                                       | 8/12.....  | \$49.00 .....    | NLAE                  |
| Arranging Dahlias Workshop .....                    | 8/13 ..... | \$84.00 .....    | Best Buds Flower Farm |
| Dessert Decorations .....                           | 8/21 ..... | \$54.00 .....    | NLAE                  |

**New London Adult Education  
Has Something For Everyone!**

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For a  
Full  
Listing of  
Classes



Residents of the following towns receive a \$5 discount on some classes: Groton, Lyme, Old Lyme, Mystic, New London, Oakdale, Quaker Hill, Uncasville & Waterford



## David Ruggles: Standing In The Breach

By **Tom Schuch, Local Archival Historian**

In the mid-1830's there was no more fearless, more fearsome or more fierce an advocate for abolition and freedom in America than David Ruggles. Yet few people are aware of his accomplishments, courageously standing in the breach against the forces of slavery. And fewer still know that he was a New London County native. David Ruggles, whose 'firsts' are numerous, is an American hero of the First Rank, and deserving of national recognition.

David Ruggles was born on March 15, 1810. Although there are no extant vital records in any local towns that officially record his birth, Ruggles himself stated, in sworn testimony at trial in 1838, that he was born in Lyme Connecticut. Since it likely true that he was born in Lyme, he was probably born on land that was owned by his formerly enslaved grandfather, Prince Brown, located in North Lyme between Baker Lane and Old Salem Turnpike. Shortly after he was born, his family moved to what would become their family homestead near Bean Hill Green in Norwich, CT, where he spent the formative years of his childhood. He left home at age 15 to become a mariner. By age 18, he had opened a free trade grocery store in New York City, where he would not sell any goods made by slave labor. That store was attacked and burned by a mob.

Ruggles became a subscription agent for two anti-slavery newspapers: first, *The Emancipator* in 1833, and then, later, *William Lloyd Garrison's The Liberator*. This job required extensive travel throughout the Northeast, giving anti-slavery lectures to attract subscribers, which, for a Black man traveling alone, was very dangerous work in the 1830s. This travel did enable him to develop a network of sympathetic contacts that would later become the basis for *The Underground Railroad*.

In May 1834, he opened the first documented Black-owned bookstore and reading room in America, which he filled with abolitionist literature. Both his grocery store and bookstore were attacked and burned by pro-slavery forces.

In November, 1835 Ruggles became the founding Secretary of the New York Committee of Vigilance for the Protection of Colored People. The Committee of Vigilance practiced 'practical abolitionism': active resistance to the activities of the 'Kidnapping Club', which was an unholy alliance of slave-catchers, bounty-hunters, police and city officials who were literally kidnapping Blacks off of the streets one New York, and quickly selling them into slavery in the South. Although they theoretically targeted self-emancipated freedom seekers (fugitives), their victims actually included many free persons and innocent children. The Vigilance Committee, the first of its kind in America, stood in the breach, pro-actively resisting these pro-slavery forces by printing broadsheets and pamphlets warning of the danger posed by the kidnappers, by mounting legal challenges against the kidnappers in court, and by engaging in sometimes armed physical confrontations in the streets and on the wharves of New York. Ruggles obtained warrants for the arrest of ship captains who were engaging in this illegal trafficking by hiding captured Blacks in their holds. He created many enemies in the pro-slavery community, and he narrowly avoided a kidnapping attempt himself in December, 1836. Benjamin Quarles considered the New York Committee of Vigilance the 'greatest Black self-defense organization of the antebellum era'.

David Ruggles was prolific as a writer and publisher of anti-slavery pamphlets, speeches and letters to the editor. He owned his own printing press and, in July, 1838, he wrote and published the first Black-owned journal, *The Mirror of Liberty*, thereby becoming one of the first Black professional journalists in America. By his repeated, defiant challenges to the 'Jim Crow' seating regulations aboard trains, ferries and stagecoaches, he was a pioneering forerunner and inspiration for Rosa Parks and Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. over 100 years later. His assertion that 'self-defense is the first right' made him a bold precursor of later militant freedom fighters like Malcolm X in the 1960s.

And he was also an outspoken advocate for the rights of women, which garnered him their consistent support

Ruggles is credited with helping over 600 persons gain their freedom from bondage over a period of three years, including, most notably, Frederick Washington Bailey. Enslaved in Maryland, Bailey liberated himself in September, 1838, arriving as a freedom-seeker New York where David Ruggles took him into his home. Bailey changed his name to Frederick Johnson at Ruggles' suggestion, and married his fiancée, Anna Murray, in Ruggles' living room with Ruggles as a witness. Miss Murray had been instrumental in facilitating his escape by providing him with sailor's papers and a sailor's uniform. Then, with Ruggles help, the newlyweds proceeded to New Bedford, MA, where Frederick changed his name again, this time to Frederick Douglass. Three years later, Frederick Douglass was 'discovered' by William Lloyd Garrison, and he went on to become one of the most prominent and influential abolitionists of the 19th Century. Without David Ruggles' crucial help, however, we may never have known about Frederick Douglass.

As noted above, David Ruggles' radical views engendered many pro-slavery enemies, and he endured repeated threats, abuse, beatings, jailings and an attempted kidnapping from a racist political structure and a populace that vehemently opposed him. He even generated opposition within the movement from the more conservative abolitionists who were concerned about his often confrontational style, his arrogance and uncompromising advocacy, and careless record-keeping. This constant stress, pressure and danger took a toll on him, and, undoubtedly contributed to the deterioration his health. By age thirty, he was nearly blind, and he had developed severe liver, kidney and bowel issues. Despite his status as a founding member, and despite the fact that he had become the Vigilance Committee's foremost advocate and public face, the combination of continuous external confrontation, relentless internal opposition, and failing health finally forced him to resign from the New York Committee of Vigilance on February 12, 1839.

In the fall of 1842, with the support of the noted author and abolitionist, Lydia Maria Child, he removed to Florence, Massachusetts, a suburb of Northampton. Northampton was the home of a radical commune known as the Northampton Association of Education and Industry (NAEI). He was accepted as part of this progressive community, and continued his anti-slavery activity on a limited basis, dictating his letters and pamphlets, due to his poor health. He underwent 'The Water Cure', a form of hydrotherapy that improved his eyesight and his health to some extent. He became a believer in, and a practitioner of, hydrotherapy, and he established the first hydrotherapy clinic in America in Northampton, where he became known as Dr. Ruggles. He was a gifted and successful practitioner, and his clients included Sojourner Truth, William Lloyd Garrison and Mary Brown, the wife of abolitionist John Brown.

However, his health problems recurred, rendering him effectively blind. He finally succumbed to those health issues on December 16, 1849 at age 39.

David Ruggles is buried in an unmarked grave in the Ruggles family plot at Yantic Cemetery in Norwich, Connecticut. In an effort to help David Ruggles gain some of the recognition he deserves, Norwich created the David Ruggles Courtyard at City Hall in his honor a few years ago. Old Lyme Connecticut issued a Proclamation this year declaring his birthday, March 15, 2025, David Ruggles Day in Old Lyme. The Lyme Free Library is sponsoring an upcoming event: 'David Ruggles Week' June 23-28, 2025 in his honor, featuring a series of lectures about David Ruggles and his local family roots by Ruggles' biographer, Dr. Graham Hodges, Dr. Jonathan Wells, author of *The Kidnapping Club*, as well as talks by other local historians, and a child-oriented arts program. For anyone interested in this history, this event may represent an attractive opportunity to learn more about this authentic, homegrown hero, David Ruggles.

## Music Matters: Mozart on His Own Piano

The La Grua Center located at 32 Water St., Stonington, will host Artem Belogurov for Music Matters: Mozart on His Own Piano on Saturday, June 7 at 5 p.m.. For more information call (860) 535-2300 or visit <https://lagruacenter.org>.

Viennese Classical piano after Joh. Andreas Stein (1783),  
copy by Gerard Tuinman, Utrecht, NL (2023)

Mozart on his own Piano

Sonata in F, K.280

Variations on Ah, vous dirai-je, Maman, K. 265

Duport Variations in C, K.573

Fantasia in c, K.475 & Sonata in c, K.457

Pianist Artem Belogurov's sixth Music Matters appearance celebrates a handful of Mozart's most endearing piano works. It's also the North American debut of a magnificent new Mozart-era piano, built recently by one of the great Dutch instrument makers. This Stein piano has two interchangeable keyboard actions. Artem will play one half of his recital on the action with cherry wood hammers, as Mozart did in the early 1780s. He'll play the other half on the revolutionary leather-covered hammers that took Vienna by storm in 1783. Mozart's music is compelling on its own merit, but hearing the very sounds he wrote for takes it to a visceral, memorable level. Please join us for Artem Belogurov's return, and for Mozart at his most moving!

Advance tickets \$25 online ONLY at [LaGruaCenter.org](https://LaGruaCenter.org). A limited number of tickets may be available at the door on a first come, first served basis. Doors open at 4:30 p.m.

All seating is unreserved. To ensure a good seat, please arrive early!

## Public Library of New London June Events

The Public Library of New London, 63 Huntington St, New London, has announced the following events for June. For more information and registration call (860) 447-1411 or visit <https://plnl.org>.

### Adult Events

**6/3/2025: Digital Navigator at the Senior Center:** 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., 10 Brainard St, New London; Join our Digital Navigator for help with technology at the Senior Center this month!

**6/3/2025: The Birdcage Screening:** 4-6 p.m., Come to the Community Room to watch the classic comedy The Birdcage (1996)!

**6/10/2025: Fly Your Flag:** 4-5 p.m., Learn how to craft beaded flags out of safety pins to represent your identity!

**6/11/2025: Author Talk with Christopher Shaw Myers:** 5-6 p.m., Just in time for the 50th anniversary of Jaws! Join us for a talk by Christopher Shaw Myers, nephew of Robert Myers (of Jaws fame!), as he discusses his narrative biography of his uncle's life as an actor on the stage and big screen!

**6/12/2025: Exploration of Influential English Literature:** 4-5 p.m., Join former English teacher Thomas Kelly for a three part series as he explores three different eras of literature and their influence on books today.

**6/16/2025: Paint the Zodiac: Gemini:** 4-5 p.m., Make your own watercolor painting of June's dominant Zodiac constellation, Gemini. Registration required; adults and teens; free; (860) 447-1411.

**6/18/2025: Juneteenth: Faith and Freedom Screening:** 4:30-5:30 p.m., The documentary Juneteenth: On faith and Freedom from PBS sends viewers on a journey through Texas to explore the holiday's importance at the time of its original inception, and how it still empowers today.

**6/20/2025: Summer Reading Kickoff: LibraryCon:** 2-4:30 p.m., Join us to kick off our summer reading program with local businesses, artists, and activities!

**6/20/2025: Game Demo with The Citadel:** 2-4:30 p.m., Have fun at a live tabletop game demo with staff from Groton gaming and hobby store The Citadel!

**6/21/2025: Make Music Day with Llama Tsunami:** 9:45-12:45 p.m., Celebrate Make Music Day with local ska band Llama Tsunami!

**6/24/2025: Nintendo Meetup:** 4-5 p.m., Are you looking to fill up your Pokedexes, get some Streetpass, or meet your Animal Crossing goals? Bring your Nintendo Switches, 3DSs, or even Gameboys to the Board Room to game with your fellow adults!

**6/25/2025: Classics Book Club:** 4-5 p.m., Join us for a book club focused on all those classics that we feel like we should have read by now but haven't! This month's book is The Picture of Dorian Gray by Oscar Wilde. Copies are available at the circulation desk.

**6/25/2025: Finnegans Wake Book Discussion:** 5-6 p.m., Join Joyce enthusiast John O'Connor for a discussion about James Joyce's epic, Finnegans Wake!

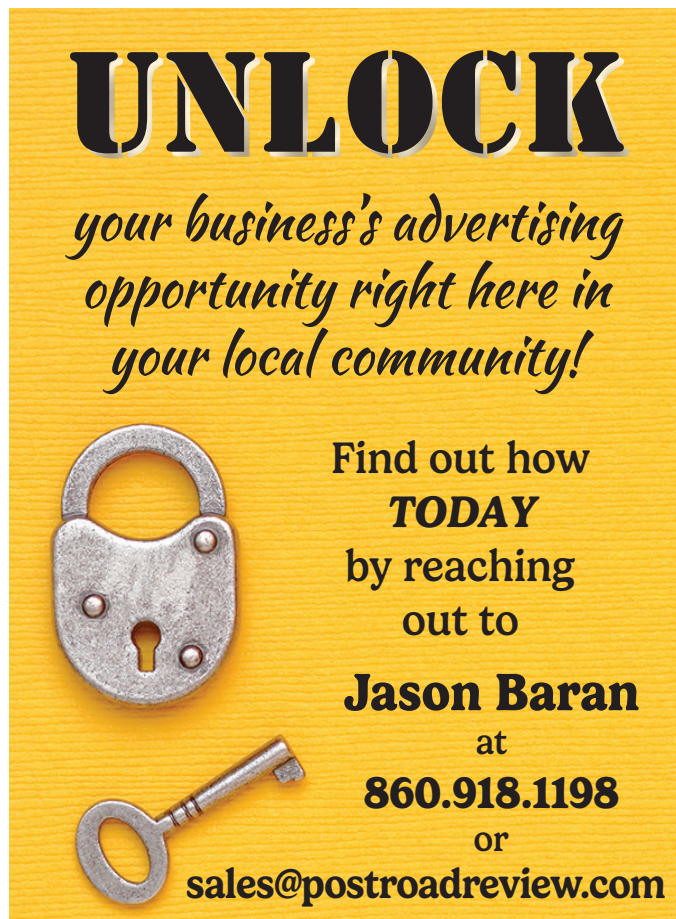
**6/26/2025: Lawyers in Libraries:** 4-6 p.m., One-on-one 20-minute sessions with an attorney to answer your legal questions. Registration required; adults; free. Call (860) 447-1411 to register.

**6/30/2025: Perler Bead Pixel Art:** 3:30-5 p.m., Adults, are you ready to get crafty this summer? Create your own artifacts from videogames or try your hand at creating a favorite 8-bit hero!

**Library of Things:** Stop by the Adult Reading Room to check out items from our Library of Things! There are 47 items available, such as DVD players, air fryers, fishing rods, binoculars, telescopes, and more!

**Community Knit:** Thursdays, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Bring your project materials and socialize with others. All are welcome, from beginners to advanced.

**New London Chess Club:** Saturdays, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Join a



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casual group of chess players meeting every Saturday at the PLNL. Players of all abilities are welcome.

### Teen Events

**Teen Movie Series:** Fridays, 3-4:30 p.m., Join us in the Teen Room and enjoy classic and contemporary films over popcorn!

**6/2/2025: Teen Advisory Board:** 4-5 p.m., Come share your opinions on fun possible activities for the Teen Room!

**6/4/2025: Teen Cooking with Food For Your Soul LLC:** 4-5 p.m., Learn to cook easy and delicious meals in the Teen Activity Room!

**6/9/2025: Pixel Art Perler Beads for Teens:** 4-6 p.m., Create your own designs using perler beads!

**6/10/2025: Pride Bracelets for Teens:** 4-5 p.m., Craft your own friendship bracelets with pride-inspired designs in the Teen Room!

**6/11/2025: Dungeons and Dragons for Teens:** 4-6 p.m., Come play the classic RPG in the Teen Activity Room!

**6/12/2025: Slime Night:** 4-6 p.m., Make your own slime with your friends in the Teen Activity Room!

**6/18/2025: Juneteenth Tote Bags:** 4-5 p.m., Create Juneteenth-inspired designs on a tote bag you can keep!

**6/20/2025: LibraryCon Teen Game Room with ESG:** 2-5 p.m., Join East Side Games to sign up for Summer Reading and play exciting games of Mario Kart and Super Smash Brothers!

**6/23/2025: Tiny Art Night:** 4-6 p.m., Paint on a tiny canvas in the Teen Activity Room!

**6/24/2025: Teen Book Club:** 4-5 p.m., Join us as we talk about each month's books over snacks! This month's book is Halo by Alexandra Adornetto!

**6/25/2025: Teen Magic the Gathering Club:** 4-6 p.m., Stop by the Teen Activity Room to learn how to play, how to get started, play casual games, and where to play more!

**6/26/2025: Teen Board Game Night:** 4-6:30 p.m., Get your game on over a bunch of different board games!

**6/30/2025: Teen Karaoke:** 4-6 p.m., Jam out at our karaoke night for teens!

### Children's Events

**Children's Take & Make Kits:** Stop by the Children's Room for a craft kit to go!

**Interactive Movie Kits:** This month we'll have kits for Finding Nemo and Lilo and Stitch.

**Make It Mondays: Pipe Cleaners:** 3-5 p.m., Learn a new skill and share it with your friends! Each week there will be a different tutorial for different crafts using pipe cleaners

**Storytime:** Wednesdays, 10:30-11:30 a.m., Join us for an all-ages story time and play group! We will have a short story time, sing some songs, and then take out some toys for time to socialize and play.

**Art Class with Miss Dana:** Thursdays, 5-6 p.m., Come to the library on Thursday evenings to take an art class with Miss Dana! We will work on a new project each week.

**Toy Library:** Stop by the Children's Room to check out toys from the Toy Library!

**Baby + Me Playgroup:** Fridays, 10:30-11:30 a.m., We will do a short lap story and then turn on the music and take out the toys for time to socialize. A great opportunity for new parents to meet and babies to play.

**Children's Board Game Club:** Saturdays, 12:30-3 p.m., Join in the fun playing different classic board games!

**6/2/2025: Pride Puppies:** 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Celebrate Pride Month with us by making rainbow puppy art! Inspired by the book Pride Puppy by Robin Stevenson.

**6/7/2025: Author Visit with Jaclyn Inzalaco-Angelo:** 11-12 p.m., Join us for a special storytime with author Jaclyn Inzalaco-Angelo! She will be reading her newest book, Angelo the Tangelo Celebrates His Family Tree, and will have copies available to sign.

## Groton Public Library May Events

The Groton Public Library is located at 52 Newtown Road, Groton. For more information about library programs or services, please call (860) 441-6750 or visit [grotonpl.org](http://grotonpl.org). All programs hosted by the Groton Public Library are inclusive and open to people of all ability levels. Please contact the Library for information about available accommodations.

### Youth & Family Activities

#### Children's Grab & Go

Monday, June 2, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Pick up a bag full of fun at the Groton Public Library! Bags include most of the supplies you need, plus instructions to create a craft or activity. Available while supplies last. Recommended for ages 5+

**Teen Take & Make:** Monday, June 2, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Stop by the Groton Public Library to pick up a bag of supplies to complete the mystery craft or activity, available while supplies last. For teens entering grades 6-12.

**Learn & Play:** Wednesday, June 4, at 10 a.m.

Young children and their caregivers will have the opportunity to interact with others and learn by playing in a literacy-enriched environment. Recommended for ages 0-5.

**Playgroup @ the Library:** Friday, June 6, at 10 a.m.

Children and caregivers are welcome to explore our play-based activities in this unstructured program at the Groton Public Library.

#### Teen Volunteer Orientation

- Saturday, June 7, at 3:30 p.m.

- Monday, June 16, at 3 p.m. or 6:15 p.m.

- Tuesday, June 17, at 9:30 a.m. or 2:30 p.m.

- Wednesday, June 18, at 9:30 a.m. or 2:30 p.m.

Teens entering grades 6-12 who are interested in volunteering this summer must attend one orientation session; no registration required. If you do not already have a volunteer application on file, contact the Groton Public Library or visit the Information Desk.

**All About Whales:** Saturday, June 7, at 2 p.m.

Discover how whales compare in size. Learn about the two different types of whales. Experiment with how each type of whale eats, and then examine real baleen and whale's teeth. Understand how whales see by using special goggles to find food. Feel how blubber works as an excellent insulator.

Presented by the Mystic Seaport. Recommended for grades K-8. Space is limited; registration required.

**Sing & Stomp:** Wednesday, June 11, at 10 a.m.

A song and dance party for children of all ages and their grown up! Sing & Stomp is a noisy half hour of songs, dances, and finger-plays. Cool down afterwards with toys and music. Free and open to all, no registration required.

**Bookworms Book Club:** Thursday, June 12, at 5:30 p.m.

"Wind Riders: Rescue on Turtle Beach" by Jen Marlin

Join us for our monthly book club for early readers! Meetings will include a short discussion and craft. Limited copies of the book will be available to checkout. Recommended for ages 7-9. Registration is required.

**Gratitude Garden Workshop:** Saturday, June 21, at 2 p.m.

In this workshop, you will 'grow' a garden from all the things you are grateful for, dedicating a space where you can take the time to appreciate these things, and display them for others. Presented by the PeaceLove Foundation. Recommended for ages 5+. Space is limited; registration will open on Saturday, June 14.

**Family Grab & Go: Mini Canvases:** Monday, June 23, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Help decorate the Groton Public Library with this special grab &

go craft for families!

- **Grab:** Pick up a mini canvas during regular Library hours on Monday, June 23; available while supplies last.
- **Go:** Bring your canvas home and decorate it using your own supplies and talent. Be creative! One artist will be chosen to win a Library swag bag.

• Return your completed canvas by Monday, July 7. The artwork will be on display around the Library through August to celebrate our summer reading program theme “Color Our World.”

For more information, contact the Library at (860) 441-6750 or visit [grotonpl.org](http://grotonpl.org).

**Living the Otter Life with Katherine Applegate (VIRTUAL):** Tuesday, June 24, at 4 p.m.

Join us as award-winning author Katherine Applegate talks to viewers about her enthusiastically heartwarming novel in verse, “Odder.” This event will take place via digital livestream and include a Q&A with the author. Hosted in partnership with the Library Speakers Consortium and sponsored by the Groton Public Library’s Circle of Friends. Register at [libraryc.org/grotonlibrary/77494](http://libraryc.org/grotonlibrary/77494).

**Summer Reading Kickoff:** Friday, June 27, at 10 a.m.

Join us for a cultural storytelling performance with Chris Clout! Families will enjoy a highly interactive program full of stories and music that supports children’s curiosity about our world. Sponsored by CT Humanities and the Groton Public Library’s Circle of Friends.

**The Kindergarten Countdown!:** Mondays, June 30-August 4, at 10 a.m.

Get your child ready for kindergarten in this six-week school readiness series! Children will enjoy stories & activities designed to encourage early learning & development. Designed for children entering pre-K and kindergarten. Space is limited; registration will open on Monday, June 23. We ask that this session be reserved for individual families to ensure a more personal and engaging experience for everyone.

### Events For Adults

#### Summer Supper Club

Pick Up: Monday, June 2, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Meet & Eat: Thursday, June 26, at 6 p.m.

At the beginning of each month, choose from a display of cookbooks labeled with one of four categories: appetizer, side dish, entree, or dessert. Then, bring your book and your creation to our Meet & Eat to share your culinary experiences. This program is open to cooking enthusiasts of all ages. Supplies are limited on a first-come, first-served basis.

#### Craft Supply Swap

Donate: May 27-June 2

Swap: Tuesday, June 3, from 6-8 p.m.

Between May 27-June 2, drop off one bag or box of supplies in good, usable condition. On Tuesday, June 3, stop by to pick up new-to-you crafting materials, while supplies last. You do not have to donate to attend. Any leftover items will be used by the Library, donated, or discarded.

**The Sinners All Bow: Two Authors, One Murder, and the Real Hester Prynne (VIRTUAL):** Thursday, June 5, at 6:30 p.m.

On a cold winter day in 1832, Sarah Maria Cornell was found dead in a quiet farmyard in a small New England town. When her troubled past and a secret correspondence with a charismatic minister was uncovered, more questions emerged. Was Sarah’s death a suicide...or something much darker? Acclaimed journalist, podcaster, and true-crime historian Kate Winkler Dawson tells the true story of the scandalous murder investigation that became the inspiration for both Nathaniel Hawthorne’s “The Scarlet Letter” and the first true-crime book published in America. This virtual event is hosted by the Waterford Public Library and co-sponsored by the Bill Memorial Library, Groton Public Library, Lyme Public Library,

Public Library of New London, and Otis Library.

**Getting Started with Computers:** Friday, June 6, at 10 a.m.

Curious about computers but don’t know where to start? Our beginner-friendly course will discuss the various parts of a computer, the difference between hardware and software, and explore the Windows 11 operating system. Space is limited, and registration is required. Call the Groton Public Library at (860) 441-6750 or visit the online calendar at [grotonpl.org](http://grotonpl.org) to register.

**Author Talk: Two Women, One War:** Monday, June 9, at 6:30 p.m.

Author Jane Barton Griffith will discuss her memoir, “Two Women, One War,” which is about a friendship made during the Vietnam War that has lasted over fifty years. It is a story of the insanity of war, the human capacity for resilience, the power of hope, and the strength of women. Copies of the book will be available to purchase.

**Morning Matinee:** Tuesday, June 10, at 9:30 a.m.

Join us at the Groton Public Library for a free movie, freshly-popped popcorn, and ice-cold lemonade. These early-bird showings may feature cinema classics, new releases, or documentaries. Call the Library at (860) 441-6750 or visit [grotonpl.org](http://grotonpl.org) for this month’s film title.

**Groton Public Library Book Group:** Tuesday, June 10, at 6:30 p.m.

The Groton Public Library will host a book discussion of “The Fun Habit” by Michael Rucker. This book explains how you can build having fun into an actionable and effortless habit and why doing so will help you become a healthier, more joyful, more productive person. Copies of the book are available at the library; call or reserve online.

**Introduction to Microsoft Word:** Friday, June 13, at 10 a.m.

Learn the fundamentals of Microsoft Word! By the end of the class, students will be able to navigate the Word interface, create and format documents, as well as input and edit text. Space is limited, and registration is required. Call the Groton Public Library at (860) 441-6750 or visit the online calendar at [grotonpl.org](http://grotonpl.org) to register.

**Saturday Cinema:** Saturday, June 14, at 2 p.m.

The Groton Public Library will present a showing of a recently-released blockbuster film. Enjoy the movie on the big screen with free popcorn and lemonade. Call the Library at (860) 441-6750 for this month’s film title.

**UFOs in Connecticut:** Tuesday, June 24, at 5:30 p.m.

In honor of National UFO Day, the Groton Public Library will host “A History of UFOs in Connecticut Past and Present” with Michael Panicello. This presentation will look at some of the current and historical sightings in the state as well as in the surrounding area. In addition, we will have an open forum for people to discuss any UFO sightings they would like us to document for the historical record. This intriguing and educational presentation is guaranteed to be out of this world!

Michael Panicello, a UFO researcher and investigator with over 30 years of experience in the field, is the current State Director of the Connecticut Mutual UFO Network (MUFON) and the Regional Director of New England for MUFON.

**Not Your Mother’s Book Group:** Wednesday, June 25, at 6:30 p.m.

Meet up with fellow Millennials and Gen Z-ers (ages 21-42) at the Groton Public Library to socialize, play games, and talk about books. This month’s theme is “The Arts.” Painters, playwrights, art heists—take the theme wherever you’d like!

#### Virtual Author Talks

The following events will take place via digital livestream and include a Q&A with the author. Hosted in partnership with the Library Speakers Consortium and sponsored by the Groton Public



Library Circle of Friends.

**Extinctopedia with Smithsonian Scientists (VIRTUAL):** Wednesday, June 4, at 2 p.m.

Join us as scientists highlight information found in the Smithsonian's book, "Extinctopedia." In this talk, you will discover animals that are no longer with us, endangered animals at risk of extinction, organizations that aim to protect animal life, and strategies for preserving biodiversity. Register at [library.org/grotonlibrary/76470](http://library.org/grotonlibrary/76470).

**Explore Unexpected Twists and Turns with Author Lisa Jewell (VIRTUAL):** Tuesday, June 10, at 2 p.m.

You are invited to an exclusive preview event with bestselling author Lisa Jewell as she introduces readers to her forthcoming title, "Don't Let Him In." Along with an introduction to her newest thriller, Jewell will chat about her life as a writer and her critically-acclaimed body of work. Register at [library.org/grotonlibrary/76982](http://library.org/grotonlibrary/76982).

## Lyme Land Trust June Events

### Tour de Lyme 2025

Date: Sun., June 1, 2025

Time: starting at 7 a.m.

Place: Ashlawn Farms, Bill Hill Road, Lyme CT

Contact Email: [kristina.white@lymelandtrust.org](mailto:kristina.white@lymelandtrust.org)

Presenter: Lyme Land Conservation Trust

Please join us for the annual Tour de Lyme cycling event with beautifully scenic routes for all ages and levels. We're looking forward to seeing you!

For more information, visit the Tour de Lyme webpage:

The Lyme Land Trust inaugurated Tour de Lyme in 2013 as an annual bike ride to raise funds to support its mission of preserving and protecting environmentally important land in Lyme.

**Tuesday Trek:** Banningwood Preserve – Jim

Date: Tue., June 3, 2025

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Place: Meet at parking lot on Rt. 82.

Contact Email: [Jim.arrigoni@lymelandtrust.org](mailto:Jim.arrigoni@lymelandtrust.org)

Presenter: Jim

Mostly gentle 2-mile walk through floodplain and upland forests and check out the native plant restoration project between Roaring Creek and the Red Trail.

Register: [Jim.arrigoni@lymelandtrust.org](mailto:Jim.arrigoni@lymelandtrust.org)

**Dusk Hike with Quinn – CT Trails Day**

Date: Sat., June 7, 2025

Time: 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Place: Hartman Park, Gungy Rd, Lyme CT

Contact Email: [ryan.p.quinn@gmail.com](mailto:ryan.p.quinn@gmail.com)

Presenter: Quinn

Join Quinn, Lyme Land Trust board member, for a family friendly (ages 5 and up) hike at the magical time of dusk, just before the darkness creeps in. We focus on how our perceptions change and appreciate what the coming night brings to the forests and ponds of Lyme. There will be an almost full moon. As it gets darker, we will not be using artificial light, but you are invited to bring an emergency flashlight. Dress warmly and bring a walking stick.

Registration appreciated: [ryan.p.quinn@gmail.com](mailto:ryan.p.quinn@gmail.com)

**Tuesday Trek:** Mt. Archer Woods – Quinn

Date: Tue., June 10, 2025

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Place: Meet at the Mt. Archer Woods parking lot.

Contact Email: [ryan.p.quinn@gmail.com](mailto:ryan.p.quinn@gmail.com)

Presenter: Ryan Quinn

Let's go hike around the top of Mt. Archer. This hike will be a little over 2 miles and we will have a lot of fun exploring the woods just before the start of summer.

Contact: [ryan.p.quinn@gmail.com](mailto:ryan.p.quinn@gmail.com)

**Tuesday Trek:** TBD – Kristina

Date: Tue., June 17, 2025

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Place: TBD

Contact Email: [kristina.white@lymelandtrust.org](mailto:kristina.white@lymelandtrust.org)

Presenter: Kristina

Register: [kristina.white@lymelandtrust.org](mailto:kristina.white@lymelandtrust.org)

**Take-a-Walk Wednesday:** John Lohmann CT River Preserve – Wendy

Date: Wed., June 18, 2025

Time: 10:00-11:45ish a.m.

Place: John Lohmann CT River Preserve, 33 Coult Lane, Old Lyme CT

Contact Email: [openspace@townlyme.org](mailto:openspace@townlyme.org)

Presenter: Wendy Hill

A short steep incline opens to a beautiful expanse of meadow. We will walk along the mowed path to reach our destination, Whale Rock, a spectacular outcropping with views of Lord Cove and the CT River. Bring your binoculars. 1.5 miles

Directions: Parking is along the road near 33 Coult Lane, Old Lyme. Coult Lane is a small road on the west side of Rte 156 just south of the Lyme/Old Lyme border. From Halls Rd, Old Lyme, travel 2 miles north on Rte 156. take a left onto Coult Lane. The preserve is about 1/2 mile in on the right. Look for a mailbox with 33 Coult Lane on it.

Please Reserve. Please email Caitlin Perkins at [cperkins@oldlyme-ct.gov](mailto:cperkins@oldlyme-ct.gov) or call (860)434-1605 ext. 241. Free to all.

On the 3rd Wednesday of each month (unless noted) the group will get together at various hiking areas in Lyme and Old Lyme. Hikes will be led by Wendy Hill, Lyme Open Space Coordinator and the Vice President of Lyme Land Trust. The walks are moderate, dirt paths with some uneven footing and moderate hills, unless noted. Paced to the group-two to three miles. Bring a walking stick, water bottle and dress for the weather. Inclement weather cancels.

Sponsored with the Lyme's Senior Center.

**Botanical Walk at Brockway-Hawthorne Preserve**

Date: Thu., June 19, 2025

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Place: Brockway Hawthorne Preserve, Brush Hill Rd, Lyme

Contact Email: [openspace@townlyme.org](mailto:openspace@townlyme.org)

Presenter: CT Botanical Society

Join us for an exploratory walk with the Connecticut Botanical Society at Brockway Hawthorne Preserve. This 82-acre preserve helps protect the Whalebone Cove watershed, with wetlands, vernal pools, mature forest and a healthy hemlock stand. The trail passes former pasture and an abandoned quarry.

Directions and Parking: We will meet at the main parking lot for the Brockway-Hawthorne Preserve on Brush Hill Road, Lyme, about 1/2 mile south of Hadlyme Four Corners.

Please Pre-register with Lisa or Wendy below. Raindate: June 26

Leaders: Lisa Wahle, [lcwahle@gmail.com](mailto:lcwahle@gmail.com), 860-304-6184, Wendy Hill, [openspace@townlyme.org](mailto:openspace@townlyme.org).

**Our Annual Meeting 2025**

Date: Fri., June 20, 2025

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Place: Lyme Land Trust Conservation Center, 12-1 Town Street, Lyme

Contact Email: [info@lymelandtrust.org](mailto:info@lymelandtrust.org)

Presenter: Professor Manuel Lizarralde

Please join us for our annual meeting which will include the nomination and voting for new board members, annual financial report, and presentation of volunteer of the year. Everyone is welcome.

Following the meeting, we will have a presentation: Ethnobotany of Southern New England: Plant Knowledge of Indigenous Peoples by Manuel Lizarralde, Professor in Ethnobotany at Connecticut College. Professor Lizarralde will talk about the history and culture of the indigenous people who lived in Southern New England, and the native plants

that have provided food, medicine and everyday use for thousands of years.

Registration required: [kristina.white@lymelandtrust.org](mailto:kristina.white@lymelandtrust.org)

Directions: The Lyme Land Trust Conservation Center is at 12-1 Town Street. Park across the street in Banningwood Preserve first field. Handicapped parking on site.

#### **Astronomy Observing Session**

Date: Fri., June 20, 2025

Time: 9:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Place: Trail 53 Observatory

Contact Email: [astronomy@lymelandtrust.org](mailto:astronomy@lymelandtrust.org)

Young or old, experienced, or totally unfamiliar, we look forward to exposing you to our uniquely dark skies here in Lyme. We have several different telescopes that are on display including a 14" Schmidt-Cassegrain housed in a permanent observatory.

Registration required. Upon registration you will receive a link to directions and observing session guidelines.

For more information and to register visit <https://www.lymelandtrust.org/astronomy-events/>

#### **Family Trail Time with Tori-Pleasant Valley**

Date: Sun., June 22, 2025

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Place: Pleasant Valley Preserve, MacIntosh Rd, Lyme CT

Contact Email: [vharris1391@gmail.com](mailto:vharris1391@gmail.com)

Presenter: Tori Harris

In June, visit the Gnome trail to search for gnomes at Pleasant Valley Preserve. Meet at the parking lot on MacIntosh Rd.

Join Tori and family on the 4th Sunday of every month for a "mile-ish" hike geared towards families with children under 5, but no age limit!

Kindly email [vharris1391@gmail.com](mailto:vharris1391@gmail.com) to register.

Tori is a Mom of two littles – Kade, 4 yrs, and Quinn, 1 yr. Hiking and wandering in the local preserves, has really given her family the safe space to let Kade run loose and has a calming effect on Quinn. Working full time, volunteering in many organizations and finding time to enjoy the outdoors with the whole family, can be tough, but it is worth it!

#### **Tree Collective- Teen Hike and Steward Group Meet-up**

Date: Sun., June 22, 2025

Time: 1:00-3:30 p.m.

Place: Register to learn location

Contact Email: [reganstacey@gmail.com](mailto:reganstacey@gmail.com)

The Tree Collective is a program designed to engage young conservationists ages 14-18 in outdoor fun and education while working to maintain trails in our beautiful town of Lyme, CT. It is sponsored by the Lyme Land Trust under the leadership of environmentalist/artist Regan Stacey. Each time we meet, we offer a different topic, often with a hike and trail work in a selected preserve.

Tools and gloves provided.

For more information.

Registration required: [reganstacey@gmail.com](mailto:reganstacey@gmail.com).

#### **Insects with Katherine Dugas – Roaring Brook Preserve**

Date: Sun June 22, 2025

Time: 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Place: Roaring Brook Preserve, Day Hill Rd, Lyme, CT

Contact Email: [education@lymelandtrust.org](mailto:education@lymelandtrust.org)

Take a walk of discovery with insect expert, Katherine Dugas from the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station.

Space is limited. Registration is required. Register: [education@lymelandtrust.org](mailto:education@lymelandtrust.org)

This is part of the Wild Lyme project. Channel your inner Charles Darwin to discover species both new and familiar to you. Along with the joy and wonder of exploration and identification, you'll contribute to modern-day biology through citizen science. For more information on the Wild Lyme Project and how to install and use iNaturalist. For more information on the Bioblitz Team.

Co-sponsored with Lyme Pollinator Pathway and Town of Lyme

#### **Tuesday Trek: Johnston Preserve – Wendy**

Date: Tue., June 24, 2025

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Place: Meet at the parking area on Rt. 82.

Contact Email: [openspace@townlyme.org](mailto:openspace@townlyme.org)

Presenter: Wendy Hill

About a 2.5-mile walk, with a moderate incline to the overlooks and back. We'll check out the vegetation that has emerged after the bluff meadow restoration work that was carried out in March.

Register: [openspace@townlyme.org](mailto:openspace@townlyme.org)

#### **Imagining Lyme-Photo Submission Deadline – Spring**

Date: Mon., June 30, 2025

Time: midnight

Place: Submit photos to Imagining Lyme website

Contact Email: [education@lymelandtrust.org](mailto:education@lymelandtrust.org)

Submit up to three of your favorite spring photos to share. The Lyme Land Trust program Imagining Lyme: A Visual Exploration of Lyme's Preserves encourages everyone to expand their visual awareness and highlight the beauty of the Lyme preserves owned by the Lyme Land Trust, the Town of Lyme, The Nature Conservancy, or the State of CT by taking photographs prompted by inspiration from professional photographers and artists. Amateur photographers may submit photos. Photographers do not have to be residents of Lyme but all photos must be taken in Lyme in any of these places:

1. Lyme Preserves owned and/or managed by the Lyme Land Trust, Town of Lyme, The Nature Conservancy, and the State of CT.

2. Pollinator/wildlife habitat with native plants in Lyme – May be in a backyard, local farm, preserve or in a Lyme Pollinator Pathway garden in Lyme, CT.

3. Trail 53 – The clear sky above Lyme.

For more information and to submit photos visit <https://imagining-lyme.org/>

## **East Lyme Public Library June Events**

The East Lyme Public Library, 39 Society Rd, Niantic, has announced the following events for June. For more information and registration call (860) 739-6926 or visit <https://www.eastlymepubliclibrary.org>.

### **Special Events**

#### **East Lyme Public Library at the Submarine Force Museum Family Day in Groton, CT**

Saturday, June 14, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., 1 Crystal Lake Road Groton, Free and Open to Public

Visit the East Lyme Public Library outreach booth at the Submarine Force Library; Museum Family Day in Groton, CT on Saturday June 14th! Celebrate Summer and Connecticut History and Culture. Stop by to learn about upcoming library events, new library services and more.

East Lyme Public Library will feature a special art activity about shellfish of the Niantic Bay and Niantic River. Join us for a day of discovery!

#### **Niantic Summer Farmers Market:**

Thursday, June 26, 3:00 - 6:00 p.m. Methodist Street, Niantic

Visit the East Lyme Public Library market tent at the Niantic Farmers Market on Methodist Street, this summer! Explore a selection of our lawn games to borrow, and learn about our expanding Library of Things! Get creative with hands-on activities, and discover available services and upcoming library events.

### **Children's Events**

#### **Summer Reading Kick-Off with Comedic Juggler Bryson Lang**

Evening Show in the Library

Monday, June 16, 7:00 - 7:45 p.m.

Location: Community Center Activity Room

An exciting juggling show that will make you laugh!

Summer Reading Incentive Programs



This year's theme is Color Our World!

Read Books and Win Prizes!

June 16 through September 15

Registration is required and begins June 16 in the Library. You may opt for our online program at [eastlymelibrary.readsquared.com](https://eastlymelibrary.readsquared.com).

Kids: Earn "brag tags" and prizes each week!

Middle Schoolers: Win special prizes each week!

High School Students: To earn an entry for our prize drawing, read one book, listen to one podcast, or attend one East Lyme Public Library program. For a chance to win a \$100 Amazon gift card and other prizes to be announced. Stop by the East Lyme Public Library to pick up your reading log.

### **Tuesday Evening Family Fun Events at the McCook's Point Bandshell**

7:00 to 7:45 p.m.

Location: McCook's Point Bandshell

June 24: Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center: Birds of Prey

### **Beach Storytime with Miss Rebecca the Mermaid**

Thursdays 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at Hole in the Wall Beach June 26 - August 14

### **All Aboard! Train play in the Children's Story Room**

For ages 2 and up with an adult caregiver. Mondays and Fridays: 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. June 2, June 6, June 9, June 13, June 16, June 20, June 23, June 27

Location: Children's Story Room

### **Adult Events**

### **Brookside Farm Museum Book Discussion**

Tuesday, June 10, 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Location: Brookside Farm Museum

The Nature of Oaks: The Rich Ecology of Our Most Essential Native Trees by Douglas W. Tallamy

Meeting at the museum—designated a Homegrown National Park—we'll witness the trees in their full springtime splendor as we discuss how to foster ecological health in our own backyards. Each session in this book group begins with a presentation by a local expert on nurturing biodiversity in our region. To kick off the series, we're thrilled to host a virtual presentation by author Douglas W. Tallamy! Books are available for checkout at the library or for purchase at the event.

Please register by emailing [brooksidefarmmuseum@gmail.com](mailto:brooksidefarmmuseum@gmail.com)

### **Novel Book Group: "The Librarian of Burned Books"**

Tuesday, June 10, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

The book for this meeting is The Librarian of Burned Books by Brianna Labuskes.

A book discussion group meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Copies of the current month's book are available at the library.

No registration necessary.

This discussion will be held in the East Lyme Room.

### **Out-of-This-World Book Discussion: "Jurassic Park" and "The Lost World"**

Wednesday, June 11, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

The books for this meeting are Jurassic Park and The Lost World by Michael Crichton.

A science fiction and fantasy book discussion group meets bi-monthly on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm.

Copies of the current month's book are available at the library.

No registration necessary.

This discussion will be held in the East Lyme Room.

### **Climate Change with Bruce Dasinger**

Saturday, June 14, at 1:00 p.m.

Climate change often feels distant and abstract. Bruce Dasinger tells us stories of individuals that highlight the personal aspects of the crisis. Bruce Dasinger, a Niantic resident and retired microbiologist, spent his 32-year career with research divisions of Standard

Oil of New Jersey and Pfizer. While Bruce has no formal training in climate science, he has researched the field extensively. His last climate change talk from 2023 focused on the technical aspects and its effects. This talk will update our current status and focus more on what can be done to adapt to changes in the climate that are certain to come.

Registration required.

### **Craft Night: Watercolor Bookmarks**

Tuesday, June 17, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Add to your growing bookmark collection as we work with watercolors to create galaxy inspired bookmarks. Materials provided.

Registration required. Ages 16 and up. Limited to 12 participants.

PROGRAM IS FULL. Please visit <https://www.eastlymepubliclibrary.org> to register for the wait list.

### **My Journey to Freedom: An Evening with Holocaust Survivor, Endre Sarkany**

Wednesday, June 18, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

For the past 15 years, Endre Sarkany has presented his life story of growing up during the Holocaust, living under the brutality of the Soviet regime in Hungary, and finding a home in the United States. Born in Budapest, Hungary on October 31, 1936, Endre lived inside the Budapest Ghetto during the Holocaust.

Following the October 1956 uprising, Endre escaped Hungary and immigrated to the United States. After receiving his Bachelor's degree from Tusculum University in Tennessee and his Master of Science degree in Applied Mathematics and Computer Science from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, Endre worked for the McDonnell Douglas Corporation and IBM. Registration required.

### **Trivia Night**

Tuesday, June 24, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Looking to test your knowledge? Join the fun and pit yourself against our quiz questions for a night of trivia. Come by yourself or with family and friends. All ages welcome!

This program will be held in the East Lyme Senior Center. Registration is required.

### **Summer Solstice Concert**

Monday, June 23, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Violinist/Violist Irene Rissi will be joined by Pianist Andrew Earhart for a delightful evening of music to welcome this year's summer solstice. We hope to see you there!

No registration required. This program will be held in the East Lyme Senior Center.

### **Men's Book Discussion Group: "The Ministry of Time"**

Wednesday, June 25, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

The book for this meeting is The Ministry of Time by Kaliane Bradley.

A men's book discussion group meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm.

Copies of the current month's book are available at the library.

This discussion will be held in the East Lyme Room.

No registration necessary.

### **Mystery Book Discussion: "Blessing of the Lost Girls"**

Thursday, June 26, 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

The book for this meeting is Blessing of the Lost Girls by J. A. Jance.

A mystery book discussion group meets on the last Thursday of each month at 11:00 am.

Copies of the current month's book are available at the library.

This discussion will be held in the East Lyme Room.

No registration necessary.

### **DND: Adventure Club with Mark Hallbauer**

Saturday, June 28, 12:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Calling all adventurers! Join us for an afternoon of Dungeons and Dragons. Ages 6 and up. All skill levels welcome.

Registration required. Limited to 8 participants.

## Waterford Public Library June Events

The Waterford Public Library, located at 49 Rope Ferry Road, Waterford, has announced the following schedule for June.

For more information please call (860) 444-5805, visit <https://www.waterfordct.org/158/Library> or email [waterfordlibrary@waterfordct.org](mailto:waterfordlibrary@waterfordct.org).

### Family Programs

**Saturday, June 14, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

**Summer Reading Kickoff Event!:** All ages; free; No registration is required.

It's time to Level Up at your library! Join us for our 2025 Summer Reading Kickoff event. Stop by anytime between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. for crafts, games, activities, and to sign up for our Summer Reading Challenge. Our friends from Xen's Critters will be here with their petting zoo and Bring the Hoopla will be here with their Hooping Zone. All ages welcome, no registration required.

Thank you to M&T Bank for helping us fund our summer reading program!

**Friday, June 20, 2:30 p.m.**

**Family Movie Matinee:** all ages; free; No registration is required. Sit back, relax, and enjoy the show during our monthly Friday Family Movie Matinee. All ages welcome, no registration required. Check our website for movie information.

**Saturday, June 21, 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

**Make Music Day:** all ages; free; No registration is required. We welcome back Ukuleles by The Sea who will perform for us in the lower level meeting room!

**Monday, June 23, 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.**

**Coffee With a Cop:** all ages; free; No registration is required. Visit the main floor of the library between 10:00 and 11:30 a.m. to chat with various members of the Waterford Police Department as well as the Waterford Fire Department. This is a great opportunity to discuss any community issues or concerns and ask questions. Coffee will be provided. All ages are welcome, no registration required.

**Wednesday, June 25, 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

**Fire Safety Touch-a-Truck:** all ages; free; No registration is required.

Join us for an exciting Fire Safety Event with all kinds of emergency vehicles and an interactive inflatable house from the Waterford Fire Department. All ages are welcome, no registration required. This event will take place in the front parking lot and lawn of the library.

### Children's Programs

**Mondays, June 2, 16, 23, & 30, 10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**

**Family Storytime:** ages birth to 5; free; No registration required. Get ready to read and get your wiggles out! Join Ms. Jenna at the library for some fun stories, songs, and dancing. Recommended for ages birth to five years old with a caregiver. No registration is required.

**Saturday, June 7th to Thursday, July 3rd**

**Grab & Go Craft: Bear:** Pick up supplies to make the craft at home; for children; free.

Stop by the Children's Room Saturday, June 7th to Thursday, July 3rd to pick up supplies to make a bear at home! Check our Facebook page (@waterfordpubliclibrary) for a step-by-step video tutorial on how to make your craft. Available while supplies last.

**Saturday, June 9, 10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.**

**Special Musical Storytime;** ages birth to 5; free; No registration required.

Join us for a special live music storytime with Hilarie Samei! Families will shake their sillies out and have a chance to play with some percussion instruments and scarves. They will be moving and grooving the whole time. Recommended for ages birth to five, no registration required.

**Monday, June 16, 4:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.**

**Drop in Craft: Growing Flower Fun:** Recommended for ages 6 to 11; free; No registration required.

Join us in the Children's Room from 4:00 to 6:30 p.m. for a fun, hands-on activity where kids can create their very own interactive growing flower to celebrate the season and learn about gardening! Recommended for ages 6-11, no registration required.

**Tuesday, June 17, 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.**

**Boardgame Bonanza:** For ages 4 and up; free; No registration required.

Level up over summer break with our huge selection of boardgames! Stop by the meeting room anytime between 1:00 and 6:00 p.m. to hang out with family and friends and play some boardgames. We have all the classics along with some fun new ones to try out. Recommended for ages 4 and up, no registration required.

**Friday, June 20, 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

**Toddler Craft: Tropical Fruit Fun:** For ages 3 to 5; no registration required; free.

Mrs. Sharma will kick off the session with a short story and songs. Recommended for ages 3 to 5 years old. No registration required.

**Saturday, June 21, 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**

**Read to Scout:** All ages; free; No registration required.

We are excited to welcome another certified therapy dog to the library! Come practice your reading skills and give Scout a cuddle in the Children's Room anytime between 10:00 and 11:00 a.m.. All ages are welcome, no registration required.

**Monday, June 23, 4:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.**

**Drop In STEM Adventure: Flapping Butterfly:** Recommended for ages 5 and up; free; No registration required; 860-444-5805

Join us for a fluttering good time in our STEM adventure! Kids will explore the science behind motion and engineering as they create their very own flapping butterfly. With simple materials and hands-on fun, they'll learn about flight, mechanics, and creativity—all while bringing their butterfly to life! Perfect for curious minds and little builders! Recommended for ages 5 and up, no registration required.

**Tuesday, June 24, 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

**Art with Lyman Allyn:** Ages 6 & up; free; Registration is required.

Level up your art skills with our friends from the Lyman Allyn Art Museum! Each participant will be able to create their own masterpiece to take home. Recommended for ages 6 and up, registration is required. Thank you to M&T Bank for funding this program!

**Tuesday, June 24, 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. ONLINE**

**Virtual Author Talk with Katherine Applegate:** for K-12; free; registration required.

Join us as award-winning author and summer reading champion Katherine Applegate talks to viewers about her enthusiastically heartwarming novel in verse, *Odder*.

Everyone wants to meet *Odder*, the Queen of Play. *Odder* spends her days off the coast of central California, practicing her underwater acrobatics and spinning the quirky stories for which she's known. She's a fearless daredevil, curious to a fault. But when *Odder* comes face-to-face with a hungry great white shark, her life takes a dramatic turn, one that will challenge everything she believes about herself and about the humans who hope to save her.

Katherine Applegate's *Odder*, is inspired by the true story of a Monterey Bay Aquarium program that pairs orphaned otter pups with surrogate mothers. This poignant and humorous tale told in free verse examines bravery and healing through the eyes of one of nature's most beloved and charming animals.

**About the Author:** Katherine Applegate is the Newbery Medal-winning and #1 New York Times bestselling author of numerous books for young readers, including *The One and Only Ivan*, *Wish-*



tree, Crenshaw, the Endling series, the Roscoe Riley Rules chapter books series, and the Animorphs series. She lives with her husband, who writes as the author Michael Grant, and their children in California.

Brought to you in partnership with the Library Speaker's Consortium and generously funded in memory of Irma Diaz-Saavedra by her family.

**Friday, June 27, 11:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.**

**Toddler Story and Sensory Play:** Ages 2 to 5 years old with a caregiver; free; No registration required.

Join Miss Ashlee for a story and then explore multiple sensory stations. Recommended for ages 2 to 5 years old with a caregiver. No registration required.

**Monday, June 30, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**STEMcation with UNH:** Ages 6 and up; free; No Registration required.

Did you know that slimy biofilms can corrode pipes, medical devices, and even spacecraft materials? Join Dr. Huan Gu, a chemical and biomedical engineering researcher at the University of New Haven, for an engaging STEM program exploring how scientists and engineers are using cutting-edge biomaterials to solve real-world problems caused by biofilm corrosion.

This interactive program will highlight:

What biofilms are and where they grow

Why they cause damage in industries from healthcare to space exploration

How new materials are being engineered to resist microbial attachment

Hands-on and demo-based activities showing real-life applications

Drop into the meeting room anytime between 2:00 and 4:00 p.m.. Recommended for ages 6 and up, no registration required.

**Monday, June 30, 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. IN PERSON**

**'Summer Adventures' Book Club:** For ages 6 to 11; free; No registration required.

Join us for a special Summer Adventure as we explore exciting stories of camping, outdoor trips, and fun in nature! We'll discuss your favorite book about summer adventures and then enjoy a fun, themed activity. Recommended for ages 6 to 11. No registration required.

### Teen Programs

**Thursday, June 5, 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**

**Pride Craft Drop In:** ages 12 and up; free; No registration is required.

Drop in to the Teen Area of the library to make a bracelet or keychain and celebrate your pride! All materials provided. Ages 12 and up. No registration required!

**Thursday, June 26, 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**

**Teen Craft Night: DIY Game:** ages 11 to 18; free; Registration is required.

Level Up with this craft night and make your own game to take home and play! Registration required. Ages 11-18. Thank you to M&T Bank for funding this program!

### Adult Programs

**Tuesday, June 3, 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

**Alzheimer's Awareness:** adults; free; No registration is required.

June is Alzheimer's & Brain Awareness Month. Join us for an Alzheimer's Awareness Presentation focusing on basic disease information and resources and also sharing compelling stories of encouragement and help. Our speaker is MaryLou Gannotti, Development Manager, Alzheimer's Association, Connecticut Chapter.

**Wednesday, June 4, 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. ONLINE**

**Virtual Author Talk with Smithsonian Scientists:** adults; free; registration required.

Extinctopedia tells a complex story, not just of those who are ex-

tinct but also of those in greatest peril, with explanations of what threatens their survival. It is also a story of hope—hopes for animals that have been rediscovered, hope in the form of newly-discovered animals, and hope that we might hear the warning call and act to preserve the amazing biodiversity of our fragile planet for future generations to come. You're invited to grab your family and friends and join us as Smithsonian scientists highlight information found in the Smithsonian's book, Extinctopedia: Discover what we have lost, what is at risk, and how we can preserve the diversity of our fragile planet. Extinctopedia provides a fascinating catalog of life on earth and encourages the reader to find ways of preserving the incredible diversity of species, so we may all thrive and life itself can endure on this amazing and beautiful planet.

About the Presenters: Brian Gratwicke is a conservation biologist and leads the amphibian conservation programs at the Smithsonian's National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute.

Dr. Gina Della Togna is a researcher and conservationist, currently serving as the Executive Director of the Amphibian Survival Alliance and a Research Associate at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute.

**Wednesday, June 4, 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.**

**Authors and their Journeys with Nick Checker:** adults; free; No registration is required.

We welcome local writer and producer Nick Checker. Nick will highlight some of his own particular journeys as a writer and the paths taken to finally attain publication and production. His intent is to especially share some of these accomplishments with the audience as a means of encouraging those also seeking paths to publication ... and afterwards to invite them to share their own experiences in the field and to express their own triumphs, hopes, and dreams for publication and production.

In addition he will be doing a dramatic presentation of his previously published short story, Hungry Headstones, a one act play. Hungry Headstones is best termed "a young man's harrowing odyssey within the walls of a neglected cemetery filled with embittered souls." Nick will also perform a very brief excerpt from his forthcoming new eBook The Duel.

Nick's previous literary achievements include four published novels: The Saga of Marathon – that premiered at the Eugene O'Neil Theater; Run to Elysia, regarding the heroics of the legendary Greek foot courier racing on a mission to save the world's first democracy in ancient Athens; The Legend of Kwi Coast – a young adult tale of a defiant young dolphin defying the mores of her strangely militant clan; and a pair of fantasy novels - Druids and Scratch

**Wednesday, June 4, 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

**Mystery Book Club:** adults; free; no registration required.

Vera Wong's Unsolicited Advice for Murderers (2023) A lonely shopkeeper takes it upon herself to solve a murder in the most peculiar way in this captivating mystery by Jesse Q. Sutanto, bestselling author of Dial A for Aunties. Vera Wong is a lonely little old lady—ah, lady of a certain age—who lives above her forgotten tea shop in the middle of San Francisco's Chinatown. Despite living alone, Vera is not needy, oh no. She likes nothing more than sipping on a good cup of Wulong and doing some healthy detective work on the Internet about what her Gen-Z son is up to. Our facilitator is Pam Bedore, Associate Professor of English, UConn.

**Thursday, June 5, 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. ONLINE**

**The Sinners All Bow: an author talk with Kate Winkler Dawson:** adults; free; Zoom event; registration required.

Kate Winkler Dawson is the author of The Sinners All Bow: two authors, one murder, and the real Hester Prynne. Sarah Maria Cornell, an unmarried 30 year old factory worker in Fall River, Massachusetts, was found hanging near a haystack on a local farm in 1832. When her troubled past and a secret correspondence with charismatic Methodist minister Reverend Ephraim Avery was un-

covered, more questions emerged. Was Sarah's death a suicide...or something much darker? Sarah Maria Cornell's mother was Lucretia Leffingwell who grew up in the Leffingwell house in Norwich, CT.

Acclaimed journalist, podcaster, and true-crime historian Kate Winkler Dawson tells the true story of the scandalous murder investigation that became the inspiration for both Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter* and the first true-crime book published in America. Kate Winkler Dawson is a seasoned documentary producer and podcaster whose hit podcasts *Tenfold More Wicked*, *Wicked Words*, and *Buried Bones* appear on the *Exactly Right* network. She is the author of *Death in the Air*, *American Sherlock*, and *All That Is Wicked*, and is a professor of journalism at The University of Texas at Austin.

This is a virtual event, therefore, registration is required.

Co-sponsored by the Groton Public, Lyme Public, Bill Memorial, Public Library of New London and the Otis Library of Norwich!

**Thursdays, June 5 & 12, 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.**

**Let's Speak English Together!:** adults; free; no registration required.

All are invited to join us for an informal conversation group where you can practice speaking English in a supportive community of new language learners. Topics will be based on real life experiences such as food, cooking, holiday traditions, the outdoors, and using the library. Attend one or attend all sessions based on your availability. In the event of inclement weather, the program will move to Zoom. Our facilitator is Jeri DeSantis, a librarian and teacher of English to Speakers of Other Languages at new London Adult Education. No registration is required for this event. Free and open to the public. This program is generously funded by the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut.

**Fridays, June 6, 13, 20, & 27, 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**

**Scrabble Club:** adults; free; no registration required.

This Scrabble Club meets every Friday from 11 to 12:30 p.m. This club is open to all ages and abilities.

**Monday, June 9, 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. ONLINE**

**Speculative Fiction Book Club:** adults; free; Zoom event; registration required.

*Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley (1932) Huxley's profoundly important classic of world literature is a searching vision of an unequal, technologically-advanced future where humans are genetically bred, socially indoctrinated, and pharmaceutically anesthetized to passively uphold an authoritarian ruling order—all at the cost of our freedom, full humanity, and perhaps also our souls. Our facilitator is Pam Bedore, Associate Professor of English, UConn.

**Tuesday, June 10, 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. ONLINE**

**Virtual Author Talk with Lisa Jewell:** adults; free; registration required.

You're invited to an exclusive preview event with New York Times bestselling author Lisa Jewell as she introduces readers to her forthcoming title *Don't Let Him In*. Along with an introduction to her newest bone-chilling, psychological thriller, Jewell will chat about her life as a writer and her critically-acclaimed body of work. In *Don't Let Him In*, three women are connected by one man in this kaleidoscopic thriller. Register now for the thrill of a lifetime!

About the Author: Lisa Jewell is the #1 New York Times bestselling author of twenty-three novels, including *None of This Is True*, *The Family Upstairs*, and *Then She Was Gone*, as well as *Invisible Girl* and *Watching You*. Her novels have sold over ten million copies internationally, and her work has also been translated into twenty-nine languages. Connect with her on X @LisaJewellUK, on Instagram @LisaJewellUK, and on Facebook @LisaJewellOfficial.

Brought to you in partnership with the Library Speaker's Consortium and generously funded in memory of Irma Diaz-Saavedra by her family.

**Wednesday, June 11, 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.**

**Connecticut, Color and the Civil War: a lecture:** adults; free; Registration is recommended.

The Militia Act of 1862 made it legal for African American men to enlist in state militias, ultimately leading to the creation of Connecticut's 29th and 30th Colored Infantry Regiments. Join John Mills as he delves into the lives and experiences of some of the men who enlisted in Connecticut's Colored Regiments during the Civil War, what drove them to enlist and the perspective of Connecticut at the time. John will also discuss his research into past-enslaved individuals in Connecticut, highlighting their experiences and his work to acknowledge them.

John Mills is a trained Genealogist, Independent Scholar, descendant of the enslaved and founder of the Alex Breanne Corporation, a Connecticut-based non-profit. His organization focuses on promoting social Clarity and informed Context regarding the African-American experience through non-profit equity advocacy.

Registration is recommended for this program. This lecture is free and open to the public.

**Thursday, June 12, 2:00 p.m.- 3:00 p.m.**

**Drop-In Tech Thursdays:** for adults; free; no registration required.

Drop in and learn a new technology each session. This session we'll go over the camera app and photos. Please bring your mobile devices.

**Friday, June 13, 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

**Book Discussion @ Senior Services:** adults; free; Registration is required by contacting Senior Services at 444-5839.

Join Jill at Waterford Senior Services as she leads the discussion of *West with Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge (2021) An emotional, rousing novel inspired by the incredible true story of two giraffes who made headlines and won the hearts of Depression-era America. "Few true friends have I known and two were giraffes..." Woodrow Wilson Nickel, age 105, feels his life ebbing away. But when he learns giraffes are going extinct, he finds himself recalling the unforgettable experience he cannot take to his grave. The facilitator for this discussion is Jill Adams from the Waterford Public Library. Registration is required by contacting Senior Services at 444-5839. Books are available at the library. This event is in partnership with Waterford Senior Services. Join us!

**Monday, June 16, 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. IN PERSON**

**Silent Book Club:** adults and teens; free; No registration is required

"Silent Book Club" is a global community of readers, with more than 1500 chapters in 54 countries around the world led by local volunteers. SBC members gather in public at bars, cafes, bookstores, libraries, and online to read together in quiet camaraderie." All readers are welcome—ebooks or audiobooks, poetry or prose, fiction or non-fiction... it's BYOBook. This book club is all about enjoying your reading, in whatever format works for you, in a laid-back, pressure-free setting!

**Tuesday, June 17, 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

**Introduction to Writing: a workshop (don't let that blank piece of paper intimidate you!):** adults; free; Registration is required.

Registration is required

**Tuesday, June 17, 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.**

**Light Pollution and Its Effects on Birds, Wildlife, and Human Health: Learn How You Can Help:** adults; free; Registration is suggested.

Millions of birds pass through Connecticut every spring and fall on their way to and from their summer nesting grounds. Because our state is located along the Atlantic Flyway, many birds use our shorelines and green spaces to rest and refuel during their trip. Light pollution also impacts other wildlife, human health, and energy waste. But light pollution has wreaked havoc on our night



sky. Artificial light emitted by our homes, buildings, streetlights, bridges, and other structures can confuse and disorient birds, causing them to land near buildings, crash into windows, and/or circle around for hours until they drop from exhaustion. The result is catastrophic: There are nearly 1 billion bird deaths in North America each year. Please come to learn about the problem and what could be done to mitigate the damage.

Our speaker is Craig Repasz of Lights Out! Connecticut. Registration is suggested. This program is suitable for all ages and is free.

**Tuesday, June 24, 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.**

**The Traitor's Homecoming: an author talk with Matthew Reardon:** adults; free; No registration is required.

A reexamination of Benedict Arnold's 1781 raid on New London, Connecticut, dispelling myths and offering a balanced military study. The Traitor's Homecoming uses dozens of newly discovered British and American primary sources to weave a balanced military study of an often forgotten and misunderstood campaign. Indeed, Reardon achieves a major reinterpretation of the battle while dismantling its myths. Thirteen original maps and numerous illustrations and modern photographs flesh out this provocative and groundbreaking study.

Matthew Reardon is a native of northeastern Connecticut. He earned his BA in history and an MA in education from Sacred Heart University. He served as executive director of the New England Civil War Museum & Research Center for more than 15 years. He currently works as a middle school teacher in Vernon, Connecticut, and serves as a command historian for the Connecticut Military Department.

**Thursday, June 26, 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

**Drop-In Tech Thursdays:** adults; free; no registration required. Drop in and learn a new technology each session. This session we'll go over interesting things you didn't know your phone could do. Please bring your mobile devices.

**Friday, June 27, 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.**

**Friday Afternoon Book Club:** adults; free; no registration required.

The Pull of the Stars by Emma Donoghue (2020) In an Ireland doubly ravaged by war and disease, Nurse Julia Power works at an understaffed hospital in the city center, where expectant mothers who have come down with the terrible new Flu are quarantined together. Into Julia's regimented world step two outsiders -- Doctor Kathleen Lynn, a rumoured Rebel on the run from the police, and a young volunteer helper, Bridie Sweeney. In the darkness and intensity of this tiny ward, over three days, these women change each other's lives in unexpected ways. They lose patients to this baffling pandemic, but they also shepherd new life into a fearful world. With tireless tenderness and humanity, carers and mothers alike somehow do their impossible work. Our facilitator is Jill Adams, Head of Adult Services, Waterford Public Library.

**June Art Wall: Waterford Historical Society:** A display of por-

traits and photos of the Perkins and Sherry families - longtime residents, farmers, founders of Waterford since 1865.

We continue to offer both virtual and in-person events. For further details about all of our programs and registration, please refer to our website [www.waterfordpubliclibrary.org](http://www.waterfordpubliclibrary.org) and then click on Programs & Events. While at our website, be sure to sign up for our monthly e-newsletter for the latest information on all library events and services. Please "like" us on Facebook too!

**Please send news and events to:**  
[communitynews@postroadreview.com](mailto:communitynews@postroadreview.com)

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The *Post Road Review* is published by KSR Publications, L.L.C. d/b/a. The *Post Road Review* is mailed to all year-round residences in East Lyme, Niantic, Flanders and parts of Waterford as well as additional distribution in other towns. Each issue features a variety of interesting articles on topics such as local history, the outdoors, dining and home, health, movies, the arts and extensive listings of regional and community events. We strive to ensure that space is allocated in each issue for local non-profit organizations to post their announcements. The *Post Road Review* is brought to you by the support of the local businesses which advertise on its pages. Please support them whenever possible with your patronage.

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\$20.00 for the first 25 words, and 50¢ per additional word. (\$20.00 minimum order)

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**BURIAL PLOTS:** Union Cemetery, Rt. 32 Quaker Hill. SGL \$900, DBL \$1600. Other options available. Call Guy Scribner, 860-884-1012.

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**WANTED TO BUY:** your sterling silverware or any object made of sterling. Fair cash paid on the spot. Not sure what you have? Contact me and we can usually determine if your items are sterling over the phone. Also buying any amount of accumulated change. I make house calls. Call/text Dominic at 860-836-5013 or email [dmbappraisal@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dmbappraisal@sbcglobal.net).

**WANTED:** Used and abused boats, cars, trucks, RVs and motorcycles. Top dollar paid. Free pick up 860-777-6314.

**WANTED:** Individual firearms, collections & estates including, military & related items. Federally licensed firearms dealer. Gunsmith, appraisal. Richard Pleines. 860-663-2214.

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**WOOD FLOORS, DRY CARPET CLEANING:** Questioning whether your wood floors really need sanding? Have existing surface finish deep cleaned, revitalized with a durable commercial floor finish. Best alternative to the mess, expense of sanding. Carpets safely deep dry cleaned. Eliminate problems associated with water. "mold, shrinkage, etc." Best method available for removal of pet stains, etc. Quick drying time. Insured, 30 plus years experience. William Agostinelli 860-704-8486.



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We reserve the right to refuse ads we deem inappropriate - include your return address in case your payment must be refunded.

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**SECOND CHANCE:** We buy neglected cars, restore them and give them new life. Join us in promoting sustainability - let your car continue it's journey! No title, no problem. 860-898-1562.

**Commercial Space For Rent:** Post Road, Waterford. Warehouse/Office/Overhead Door. \$9.75 per square foot gross. From 2000-4000 square feet. Please call Phil at 860-982-9290.

**I PAY TOP:** Cash for your Grandma's Costume & Fine Jewelry stash! Older & Newer jewelry and collectibles wanted, the good, the bad & the ugly! The more the better! Call for an appointment, I will come to you. 24 yrs exp. Call Julie Gorneault 203-443-9602.

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Mowing and trimming, Spring and Fall leaf and yard clean-ups, Snow Removal. Call 860-287-0644 Insured 5/25

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Wireless Zone Verizon – New London  
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### TEAM STONINGTON DEANS MILL SCHOOL

Nominated by:



**MYSTIC  
AQUARIUM**

#### DROP OFF LOCATIONS

Mystic Aquarium  
55 Coogan Blvd | Mystic, CT

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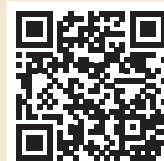
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