

Around Clamdigging Rowayton

Clamdigging *Around* Rowayton

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Farm Creek Sightings:

Four Great Egrets were sighted in the marsh at high tide still-fishing for food. The Great Egret is second only to the Great Blue Heron in size. A slim, statuesque heron, it has a long yellow bill and black legs and feet. During breeding season, the bill turns orange, and lacy white feathers extend from the breast to tail and back. These long nuptial plumes, or aigrettes, were sought after for women's hats and elegant fans in eras past. Faced with extinction by plume hunters, they have made a significant comeback and are now common to wetlands like Farm Creek. Unlike the smaller Snowy Egret, which has yellow feet, the Great Egret assumes a forward leaning pose with neck extended while stalking fish and crabs. Watching this slow motion dance reflected in the water is breathtaking. *(Sightings by Susan Edwards)*

Giant Egret Caption: At Farm Creek.

Saturday, July 17th is the Second Annual “Customer Appreciation Day” at Rowayton Pizza. **From 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.** (weather permitting), Rowayton Pizza will be serving up free pizza and Italian ice and many other delicious treats. There will be live music and family entertainment and even a bouncy castle. Everyone is invited. Rowayton Pizza is located at 104 Rowayton Avenue. You can always visit them (and see their menu) on the web at www.rowaytonpizza.com.

The 2010 RCA Summer Music Festival brings THE DANKS (indie rock) and THE WOULD A COULDA SHOULDAS (indie rock), **Sunday, July 18th at 5:30 p.m.** at Bayley Beach. A *thank you* goes out to the Rowayton Civic Association for this summer’s music by the water.

The opening reception for the Rowayton Arts Center’s all media show *Alternative Visions: Abstract and Abstractions* will be held on **Sunday, July 18th from 4 - 6 p.m.** at RAC. The exhibition will be up through August 8th. The Rowayton Arts Center gallery is open from **12 - 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday** and from **1 - 4 p.m. on Sundays**. Admission is free.

And, as a reminder, if you haven’t signed up, there is still space in this summer’s Maritime Aquarium workshop for kids: “Go Fish with Art” at the Aquarium in partnership with the Rowayton Arts Center. Registrants in two age groups will participate in a three-hour workshop that includes a guided tour of exhibits at The

Maritime Aquarium and age-appropriate art activities with Rowayton Arts Center educators. The “Go Fish with Art” workshops will be held from **1 - 4 p.m.** at The Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk, 10 N. Water Street, Norwalk, CT 06854. Advance registration is required and there is a \$5.00 registration fee. Parents may choose from one of four dates – **Monday July 19 or 26 or August 9 or 16.** Each workshop is limited to 25 participants per age group (entering 3rd – 5th grades and 6th – 8th grades). For questions call the Rowayton Arts Center at 203-866-2744 or email joannroy@optonline.net. This program is made possible – in part – through a grant from the Fairfield County Community Foundation.

If you didn't get a chance to mark your calendar, on **Wednesday, July 19th @ 7:30 p.m.**, the Rowayton/Darien Sail & Power Squadron and the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary will present the seminar *Watching Out for America's Waterways*. Andrew Bernstein, Flotilla Commander, Flotilla 74, of Stamford CT and Russ Gasdia, Flotilla Staff Officer, Recreational Boating Safety (also in Flotilla 74, Stamford) will be speaking. Lecture and reception will be held at the Rowayton Community Center, 33 Highland Avenue. Come and hear what these Coast Guard Auxiliary volunteers are doing to help keep us safe, and learn how you can assist them in their efforts. Please R.S.V.P. or for more information, email slandington@optimun.net.

From the Sixth Taxing District

At the June 9th meeting of the Sixth Taxing District Commissioners, the Commissioners approved a proposed donation of a teak bench and picnic table to be placed in Pinkney Park with plaques indicating that they were gifts of the Rowayton Power and Sail Squadron. They also approved affixing an historical plaque to the Community Center building noting that it is the birthplace of the first business computer. To view a copy of the draft minutes and approved actions of the Sixth Taxing District, visit www.rowayton.org. To view more information on the history of the birthplace of the business computer, visit www.rowaytonhistoricalsociety.org.

Saluting the Moose Picture Caption: Work went on 12 hours a day under the watchful eyes of the Moose in "The Barn," Rowayton. At its peak, more than 185 people worked in this facility – source: www.RowaytonHistoricalSociety.org

Sixth Taxing District Administrator, Jack Robson, has been fielding many inquiries from local residents about the 27 newly planted Dogwood trees along Highland Avenue and the 6 Red Oaks and 2 Sugar Maples at the Community Center. Will they survive this heat? This is a concern shared by the District Commissioners as well. As these trees were ordered, paid for, and planted through the City of Norwalk and the State of Connecticut (the Sixth Taxing District bought and planted an additional 7 Red Oaks on the Community Center property), they have been under DPW's care. Hal Alvord, the Director for the Department of Public Works, understands this concern and arranged for Almstead Tree & Shrub Care, Inc. to water the Dogwoods regularly as well as the Red Oaks and Sugar Maples on the inside perimeter of the Community Center property.

As with all new plantings, there can be some casualties. The very hot weather has not been kind to our new Dogwoods, but everything that was needed to be done -- such as watering on a more than regular basis, has been done. The Red Oaks and Sugar Maples were planted earlier than the Dogwoods and seem to be weathering the extreme heat. New trees (Dogwoods in this case) will be planted in the fall to replace any that do not survive. DPW has a contract with Almstead for the Highland Avenue trees, as does the Sixth Taxing District for the Community Center trees. The contract states that there is a one year guarantee on every tree planted. If any fail to survive, they will be replaced by Almstead Tree & Shrub, and carry the same 1 year guarantee.

From the Rowayton Gardeners

A new tip from the membership on how to help “beat the heat” for your summer garden: there are new flat fabric soaker hoses that are easy to handle and store. They are key to watering in these extremely hot days since they deliver water directly into the soil and don't wet the leaves which harbor disease. They are very efficient in watering with less waste and reduce evaporation. They actually perform best with low water pressure and are gentle, even when watering new plantings.

Also, the Rowayton Gardeners would like to thank two neighbors for use of their water hook ups to water the new plantings at the Rowayton Gardeners’ new Civic Beautification Projects on McKinley Triangle and the Rowayton Elementary School

Pond. This has been essential to the survival of these new plantings at the triangle and the Arbor Day Dogwood donated to the pond project this year.

Rowayton Elementary School Pond Project Caption: Arbor Day Dogwood

High Tide @ Bayley Beach

For the week **July 16th through July 22nd** at Bayley Beach in the afternoons, high tide will be at 3:48p on July 16, 4:43p on July 17, 5:40p on July 18, 6:39p on July 19, 7:39p on July 20, 8:38p on July 21, and 9:33p on July 22. Source: Nobeltec® Tides & Currents™ courtesy of Joyce Meurer, Bell Island Enterprises. For a complementary *summer* tide calendar, come pick one up at the Rowayton Library.

Just in case you want to start studying up for next year's Shakespeare on the Sound performance... here is the news: after this year's acclaimed OTHELLO, Artistic Director Joanna Settle has a change of pace planned for their 2011 season - MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING. Stew and Heidi Rodewald will again create music and songs. Set designer Andrew Lieberman and costume designer Tilly Grimes will also return. MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING is a hilarious whirlwind romance and rivalry between Beatrice and Benedick, who, like so many modern couples, are quick to defend themselves from love with wit and humor. As the characters undo each other through The Bard's biting and cunning language, Shakespeare on the Sound audiences will be undone alike by this intimate waterfront production. So, stay tuned for more news on next summer's production.

The Norwalk Public Schools present Mr. Lib's Summer Gym Games Camp at Rowayton Elementary School now **through August 13th** for ages 5-13 and it runs from **8 a.m. – 1 p.m. every weekday**. Mr. Lib and Mr. Tagariello are the directors and it costs \$115 per week or \$25 per day. Show up at 8 a.m. and register at the door. It's Gym Games Camp and your child can still enjoy camp this summer. Rowayton Elementary School is located at 1 Roton Avenue. For more information, call 203-899-2940.

At the Rowayton Library

Mystery Movie Night @ the Rowayton Library: as part of the Mystery Writing Workshop, a special evening is planned for kids of the community: join us on **Wednesday, July 21st at 5:30 p.m.** at the Rowayton Library for a PG rated Mystery Movie Night. For more information and movie listing, please call the library at 203-838-5038 or email the library at Movie@Rowayton.org. There is plenty of popcorn to go around. Children under the age of 8 must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver.

It's time to talk Business @ the Rowayton Library with our quarterly seminar: BusinessTalk for Adults – *Business & Bagels*. The upcoming program, “The Power of Blogs for Business: Blog Marketing,” will be held on **Thursday Morning, July 22 @ 7:30 am**. The Rowayton Library and Fairfield County SCORE co-sponsor this small

business information series. It will begin at 7:30 a.m. with a *meet and greet and bagels and coffee*, so bring a lot of business cards (a great opportunity to network). At 7:45 a.m., Linda KupperSmith, President of CMIT Solutions of Stamford will present “Blog Marketing” covering: What is a Blog? How can Blogging help my business? And 5 easy steps to starting a blog. SCORE, Counselors to America's Small Business, is a resource partner with the U. S. Small Business Administration. Members are professional and business men and women who volunteer their time to provide business workshops and expert, free one-on-one counseling. A courtesy reservation would be appreciated.

Summer Workshops at the Rowayton Library: **Mondays @ 2 p.m.** Origami; **Wednesdays @ 2 p.m.** Beading; **Thursdays @ 3:30 p.m.** Knitting. StoryTime is **every weekday @ 10:30 a.m.** during the summer. Join us!

For children ages 6-9, sign up to be an Eco-Detective. This BookTalk for Kids is on **Tuesday Evenings at 5 p.m.** These programs are made possible - in part - through a grant from the Connecticut Humanities Council. And with them, comes Pizza - Pizza – Pizza!

The Rowayton Library is currently accepting donations of used-up printer ink cartridges. The Library earns \$2 for each donated cartridge through the Staples® cartridge recycling program. The money is then used towards purchasing office and

crafts supplies for the library. Don't throw away your used cartridges; donate them to the Rowayton Library. Recycling helps the planet and your local library.

***Remember, make reading time part of your summertime fun... READ READ
READ!***

For more information on Rowayton Library programs, please call (2030) 838-5038. All programs are free and open to the public. Some may require a courtesy reservation. Children under the age of 8 must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver.

*If you wish to let us know about things going on in Rowayton, please email
Clamdigging@Rowayton.org*

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