

Around Clamdigging Rowayton

Clamdigging *Around* Rowayton

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Farm Creek Sightings:

At high tide, three juvenile Yellow Crowned Night Herons were seen standing statue-like on the concrete dock. At low tide, they forage for crabs, slowly, necks extended, on the mud flats of the Creek. Jeanette Young-Pertz was able to photograph one sitting on her porch railing that overlooks the marsh. She also noticed a Black Crowned Night Heron crouched close by. The Black Crowned is stocky, large headed and rarely extends its neck. The bill is heavy, but sharply pointed in contrast to the dark thick bill of the Yellow Crowned.

PHOTO ID: Juvenile Yellow Crowned Night Heron perched on railing. PHOTO CREDIT: Kathy Siever.

PHOTO ID: Black Crowned Night Heron fishing. PHOT CREDIT: Kathy Siever.

Around Rowayton:

On **Saturday, July 31st from 7-9 p.m.**, Brendan's 101 will be hosting the opening reception for photographer Kate Kuhner's new exhibition. Kate is a second generation photographer who is based in Palm Beach in the winter and Connecticut

in the summer. She grew up in Westport, Connecticut with her family Russell and Elizabeth Kuhner and twin brothers Craig and Scott (who now live in Rowayton). In her early adult years Kate spent much time learning the family photography business from her parents - with her father in the darkroom and with her mother traveling to photograph families in Greenwich, Newport, Palm Beach and many other social meccas all over the country. In 1992, Kate took on the Kuhner tradition of photography working in much the same style as her mother, and in all the same locations with many of the same families – capturing the Kuhner view of family love for the next generation. Kate Kuhner’s Photography exhibition will run **through August 18th**. For more information, go to Brendan’s 101 at 101 Rowayton Avenue or visit their website at www.brendans101.com.

The 2010 RCA Summer Music Festival moves to Pinkney Park bringing you JYPSI (country bluegrass) and LIQUOR CAKES (rock), **Sunday, August 1st at 5:30 p.m.** Everyone is invited. This program is free and open to the public. A *thank you* goes out to the Rowayton Civic Association for this summer’s music by the water (in this case the water being the Five Mile River).

In the News:

Dana Gorman, fours (4s) teacher and Education Director at the Community Cooperative Nursery School (CCNS) in Rowayton was Stepping Stones Museum for Children’s first *Playful Practices in Teaching Award* winner. The award was created as way to highlight some of the playful work being done in Westchester and Fairfield County schools.

Stepping Stones created the award to honor an outstanding educator or educators, and to acknowledge them for making a difference in young children’s lives.

Nominations were open to all preschool through fourth grade teachers in Connecticut and Westchester County. Nominees were required to meet all of the following criteria: currently teaching in Connecticut or Westchester County (elementary school or state licensed preschool); taught for a minimum of one year; and nominated by a person affiliated with the school (e.g. colleague, administrator, parent of a student, self).

Other finalists included: Clara Cohen, threes (3s) teacher at the Community Cooperative Nursery School, Angela Loomis and Jill Kozieradzki, PE teachers at Maple Hill Elementary School in Naugatuck, and Diane Marino, teacher at Kid's Castle Child Care Learning Center in Brookfield .

Stepping Stones Museum for Children is an award-winning children's museum committed to broadening and enriching the lives of children. Now nearing its completion, Stepping Stones \$17 million expansion will include the addition of 22,000 square feet providing new exhibits and innovative programming. Additions include a multi-media gallery, an expanded infant and toddler area, art and science labs, a traveling exhibit gallery, an expanded café and Community Garden. The expanded facility will be Gold LEED Certified and include solar panels, a wind turbine, a green-planted roof and Community Garden, making the museum itself an important energy teaching tool.

The Community Cooperative Nursery School was founded in 1953 as a place to involve parents in the preschool education experience. It is one of the last truly cooperative schools in Connecticut; a place where parents manage every aspect of the school, from governing to facility maintenance. Parents also serve as assistants to the certified teaching professionals in each classroom. CCNS provides students with an environment where they can learn from their classmates, develop positive social skills, explore the world around them and express themselves creatively.

CCNS is now offering a new twos (2s) program in the Fall in addition to their regular pre-school programs. This is a one day drop off Friday program that meets from 9:30 a.m. -12 noon. The twos (2s) program is a time for the very young child to explore new materials, broaden their environment and be part of a social situation, all with the comfortable feeling of being part of a small, nurturing class community. Children must be two years old by September 1. For more information and a tour, please call 203-866-2184.

PHOTO ID: (CCNS Award Final) Dana Gorman (right) and Clara Cohen (left).

From the Rowayton Arts Center:

“Go Fish with Art” workshops from the RAC 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 registration fee. Parents may choose from these dates – **Monday, August 9 or 16.** 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.

From the Sixth Taxing District

Don't panic if you see the fence in front of Old School Field come down... the City of Norwalk's Director of Parks and Recreation, Mike Moccia, in consultation with the Commissioners of the Sixth Taxing District (and at the expense of the City – not the District) has put into motion the replacement of the old chain-link fence at

Old School Field with a new cedar wood lattice fence. There is a long history to this field, once the site of The Five Mile River School shared by Rowayton and the Tokeneke section of Darien. The school was closed with the opening of Rowayton School in 1940. The title of this property has been in question but the City of Norwalk has asserted jurisdiction. The new fence should still allow for the hanging of signs and one of Rowaytonites primary means of communication will continue. The plan also includes a new walk-in entrance to the field and new plantings to enhance the park's curbside appeal. Never fear... the "communication hub" of Rowayton will be standing again shortly and the local signage will return – posting upcoming events to the community.

The Sixth Taxing District Commissioners' Meeting scheduled for August 11, 2010 has been cancelled. The next meeting of the Commission will be on **September 8, 2010 at 8:00 p.m.**

From the Rowayton Historical Society

The Historical Society would welcome your memories or special stories about beloved Rowaytonite Hank Gloetzner who passed away in June. If you have a memory you would like to share, please send it to info@rowaytonhistoricalsociety.org or to PO Box 106, 06853. We want to celebrate Hank's life and his contributions to Rowayton, and to preserve the stories for future generations to enjoy.

And, remember, Rowayton Historical Society has ***summer hours***. The Pinkney House Museum will be open the first **Sunday of each summer month from 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.** Also, look to see that they are open during the Rowayton Farmer's Market too, on Fridays! If you wish to "get involved" and volunteer -- become a Docent! RHS can open the house only with the support of volunteers... please help

make it happen! Call (203) 831-0136 or email (info@rowaytonhistoricalsociety.org) for more information on how you can get involved.

From the Rowayton Gardeners

Phyllis Padro, the Rowayton Gardeners' President, reports that civic beautification never takes a vacation – especially during the summer! The RG have made great progress on all of their new projects. Here are a few highlights. As you go around town, take a look at some of these beautiful areas.

Bayley Beach, *Karen Larocque, Chair* – two new planting beds were created. Preliminary plants were added just in time for July 4th. Members are taking turns watering.

McKinley Triangle, *Charlotte Gannon, Chair* – the front half was prepared and planted. Members are taking turns watering during this heat wave and a neighbor has kindly let the Rowayton Gardener members use their hose hookups. Additional plantings for the second bed are planned in the fall.

Rowayton School Pond, *Brenda Ashoob, Nancy Schlater, Dana Troy, Co-Chairs* – as part of the Rowayton Gardeners' gift to the pond, Brown Trees was contracted and has just removed dangling vines and dead branches along the pond's entrance down along the path to McKinley. You are invited to take a walk and see what a difference it makes, especially the large Oak tree at the McKinley entrance. See if you can find the Elm tree among all the Ash trees on the path! New perennials and shrubs were added, some were purchased, and others were donated by RG members. Donations from members' gardens include: Irises, 3 Hibiscus mallows, (false spirea), and Weeping Willow.

Community Center: *Phyllis Padro, Chair* – the future bed by the dog park near Highland Avenue has a *Stewartia* tree sapling which flowered this year! Some of last year's Cannas that were overwintered by Sally Tepas were planted there and are thriving. The rest of the bed will be prepared, re-designed and planted in the fall. In addition to the usual seasonal plantings (which included the rose beds, flagpole, and existing large planters), several donated containers were installed in the courtyard, one displays the library's herb garden. The RG also purchased two new watering hoses (2 x 100'), one of which was donated by the Library. This has brought great pleasure to the RG members that are volunteering to water this summer.

High Tide @ Bayley Beach

For the week **July 30th through August 5th** at Bayley Beach in the afternoons, high tide will be at 2:48p on July 30, 3:27p on July 31, 4:09p on August 1, 4:55p on August 2, 5:47p on August 3, 6:44p on August 4, and 7:44p on August 5. 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.

At the Rowayton Library

The Rowayton Library is running a special Peanut Butter & Jelly Food Drive in support of the Christian Community Action Food Center Food Pantry in Norwalk for the month of August. The goal for the month of August: collect 500 jars of peanut butter & jelly. The Christian Community Action Food Center Food Pantry has taken on the task of giving extra food to families with kids who get school meals during the

winter and really struggle during the summer. Peanut butter and jelly are two of the items of which they are running desperately low. Please – as a community, let's make a difference in the fight against hunger: bring a jar of peanut butter and a jar of jelly to the Rowayton Library. Let's help our neighbors.

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!

And, don't forget **Tuesday Iced Tea at 2 p.m.** Enjoy a cool spot in Rowayton at the Rowayton Library.

The last session for children ages 6-9 to be an Eco-Detective will be held on Tuesday August 3rd. And, the BookTalk book is none other than Dr. Seuss' "The Lorax." This program begins **at 5 p.m.** and has been made possible - in part - through a grant from the Connecticut Humanities Council. And with it comes Pizza - Pizza – Pizza! A courtesy reservation please.

The Summer Reading Program has just been enhanced to include prizes from the New York Knicks ***Read to Achieve @powertolearn.com*** presented by Kia Motors. All Summer Reading Program participants who have read 25 books or more can receive a ***Read to Achieve*** T-Shirt courtesy of the New York Knicks. All shirts are "size-large". You can pick your prize up at the Rowayton Library during regular library hours. Just bring your "Starred Notebook" with 25 or more stars and collect your shirt (while supplies last).

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

The Rowayton Library has a complete collection of the Norwalk Public Schools reading list books available. Come in do a little summer reading browsing – kindergarten through high school.

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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