

Clamdigging around Rowayton

Cynthia F. Johnson

Published: 01:06 a.m., Friday, June 18, 2010

Annual renewal for the currently held Rowayton Railroad Parking Permits will be held this Saturday, June 19, from 8 a.m. - noon at the [Rowayton Community Center](#). This is the only opportunity to renew current parking permits. Failure to do so will result in the space being offered to the next person on the permit waiting list. For information, contact [Andrea Woodworth](#), Sixth Taxing District Clerk at 203-854-5066.

Bring out the whole family to participate in the 31st annual RCA Rowayton Fun Run, which will be held on Father's Day, June 20 at 9:30 a.m. at the Rowayton Community Center. Choose the 2.2 mile short course or the 4.4 mile long course. Divisions include 10 & under, 11-15, Open, Masters (45-59), Senior (60+), and Single, Double and Triple Jogger. Children under 15 may only run the short course, and children under 7 must be accompanied by an adult. T-shirts designed by local artist [Lynn Stephens Massey](#) will be awarded to the top five finishers in each division and to all runners as supplies last. Registration runs from 9-9:25 a.m. on race day. The fee is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. For additional information, contact [Erica Merrill](#) at 853-7977 or ammetm@optonline.net, or [Gail Jaques](#) at 286-7858 or gailjaques@gmail.com.

The Campaign for Farm Creek will be getting national attention in June in the prestigious [FORBES magazine](#). An article on the difficulties of fundraising in these economic times features the success of our local Farm Creek project. Look for it in the June 28 issue of FORBES or online after July 9 at [Forbes.com](#). Only \$114,000 in new funds are needed to complete the purchase of Farm Creek. Please help if you can. Contact [Pete Scull](#) of the [Norwalk Land Trust](#) at pinpoint18@aol.com for more information.

You are cordially invited to a gathering of "writing women." Come to [Drew Lamm's](#) Women's Writing Workshop's Open House June 21 at 7 p.m. Listen to women who wield pens read short pieces. This event is fashioned after last year's success down at Brendan's 101. Due to the expected crowd we're moving it to Drew's house where there's room to spread out and you can see where the classes take place, wander the English Country Garden, check out the quotes in the "Writer's Restroom" and enjoy a delightful evening with women of all ages. Tea will be served. BYOW. Women ages 17 and older are welcome. Please email or call Drew for directions. For information email yaydrew@aol.com or call 203 838-1692.

Registration for the 2010 Rowayton Youth Soccer program is now available online via the RCA website! The Rowayton program consists of four different age groups - ranging from age 4 to 14 - and will run for 10 weeks from Sept. 4 through Nov. 6. Registrations received after Aug. 20 will incur a late-fee and will be accepted on a space-available basis only -- so register now. Visit www.rowaytonct.com for more details and click the link for "Youth Soccer" to register online today!

It's summertime, and our thoughts turn to outdoors and water-related activities. The 2010 Long Island Sound Tide Calendar is on sale at The Bait Shop, Rowayton Hardware, Darien News Store and Barrett Bookstore. The Tide Calendar is a favorite with boaters, fishermen and coastal residents. Nautical information includes the time of daily high and low tides and height of high tides at the mouth of Five Mile River in Rowayton. Tidal information at other Connecticut and New York harbors also is included plus times of sunrise and sunset, moon phases, apogee and perigee, and holidays. This charming, informative calendar is celebrating its 24th anniversary.

And, don't forget that Shakespeare on the Sound's production of Othello has begun at Pinkney Park. Shakespeare's thriller and a picnic on the waterfront...what a great summer night! -- now through June 26 at Pinkney Park and then July 2-11 at Roger Sherman Baldwin Park in Greenwich, CT. Performances begin at 7:30 p.m. No show on Mondays. Admission is free. Suggested donation is \$20 adults \$10 children. For information, go to www.shakespeareonthesound.com or call 203-299-1300.

Rowayton area pets go online

Leader of the Rescue Pack, Rowayton, recently has joined other animal welfare organizations in the area that list their homeless pets on [Petfinder.com](http://www.petfinder.com), the oldest and largest database of adoptable animals on the Internet. The site currently has more than 323,800 homeless pets listed, and it is updated continuously.

More than 13,300 animal welfare organizations in the U.S., Canada, and other countries post their pets on the site. Leader of the Rescue Pack pets may be viewed at <http://www.petfinder.com/shelters/CT423.html>. A potential adopter enters search criteria for the kind of pet he or she wants, and a list is returned that ranks the pets in proximity to the zip code entered. Adoptions are handled by the animal placement group where the pet is housed, and each group has its own policies.

[Petfinder.com](http://www.petfinder.com) was created in early 1996 as a grassroots project by Jared and [Betsy Saul](#) to end the euthanasia of adoptable pets. Since its inception, the site has facilitated approximately 20 million adoptions, making it the most life-saving initiative in animal welfare.

Farm Creek Sightings:

Two Yellow Crowned Night Herons were seen building their thatched nest of sticks in an Oak Tree branch that overhangs Sammis Street just west of the entrance to Farm Creek Sanctuary. Look for the white droppings on the street under the nest. These fairly numerous birds have a loud "Kowp!" call when startled. They compact their bodies and sit hunched up unless startled, when they stretch their long necks out. They have yellow/orange legs and distinctive heads. They forage alone, stalking slowly in the marsh looking for fish and crustaceans like Fiddler Crabs -- a very dramatic addition to our marsh scene (sightings by [Susan Edwards](#)).

At the Rowayton Library

Come celebrate the first day of summer with [Dre Towey](#) and friends at the [Rowayton Library](#), Monday Evening, June 21 @ 7 p.m.: Summer Solstice Celebration. Summer Solstice celebrations date back to ancient times. Here in Rowayton we are going to create our own tradition with music and stories from award winning musician Dre Towey, the African drums and rhythms of [Kwame Henry Jones](#), and the shakuhachi flute music of [Stephen Maye](#). Everyone is invited. There will be refreshments, crafts, music, song, dance and fun for kids (and their families) of all ages.

Join your neighbors for a good game of Scrabble at a special time, Monday Afternoon, June 28 from 1:30-5 p.m. Six tables will be set up for Scrabble. All materials are provided. There will also be two tables set up for Scrabble Junior for our younger players. Players will be seated on a first-come/first-serve basis. Players of all ages are welcome.

The library's local bookgroup - BookTalk for Adults: THE READER, THE WRITER, AND THE DETECTIVE: THE ETERNAL TRIANGLE, will meet again Wednesday at 7 p.m., June 30 to discuss Tony Hillerman's "Dance Hall of the Dead." Multiple copies of the book are available at the library. Dessert and discussion with leader Marsha Bonsavage. This program is made possible in part through a grant from the Connecticut Humanities Council.