

Clamdigging around Rowayton

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From the Fire Marshall

Firework Safety: Fireworks in CT are ILLEGAL (with the exception of Sparklers and Fountains). Any type of firework that is explosive or aerial is ILLEGAL. Sparklers are to be used with caution as their temperature can reach 1000 degrees! Please, leave the shooting of fireworks to the certified professionals. There are firework displays scheduled for this holiday weekend and that is the best way (and safest way) to enjoy them. The [Rowayton Volunteer Fire Department](#) wishes all residents a safe and happy Fourth of July!

The 2010 RCA Summer Music Festival brings [KING FOR A DAY](#) (rock) to Bayley Beach on Sunday, July 4 at 5:30 p.m. Following the concert, Rowayton Fireworks will light up the sky offshore from Bayley Beach. The fireworks, sponsored by the RCA, will be launched from a barge beginning at 9:15 p.m. The performance will last approximately 30 minutes. The best vantage points for the fireworks will be from the mouth of Five Mile River to Rocky Point, including Bayley Beach and the shoreline clubs. Access to parking at Bayley Beach will be according to daytime rules: vehicles with a Bayley Beach sticker will be admitted, a nominal charge will be collected from vehicles without a sticker. The parking lot is expected to fill up early. If you want the use of one of the picnic tables at Bayley Beach for that Sunday evening, the night of the Rowayton Fireworks, please enter the lottery that will be held. Interested parties should come and sign up for the lottery between 12:30 and 1 p.m. on Sunday at Bayley with Don Wilson (Beach Manager). The winning numbers will be picked at 1 p.m. sharp. Rowaytonites are encouraged to walk to the beach if possible. Parking regulations south of McKinley Street will be stringent, with posted signage in effect through Sunday. Beginning at 6 p.m., Norwalk Police checkpoints will commence at Rowayton Avenue and McKinley Street, Roton Avenue and McKinley Street, and Bluff Avenue and Sammis Street. For information, visit the RCA website at www.rowaytonct.com.

The summer issue of the ROWAYTON Rambler is now available at newsstands at 101, the Rowayton Market, [Wine Shop](#), [Fairfield County Bank](#), the [Rowayton Library](#) and the Rowayton Barbershop or just check out our local website at www.rowaytonrambler.com. This paper is published five times a year and is written by students from [Rowayton Elementary School](#) and [Roton Middle School](#). If you are interested in learning more about the program for your child next fall, or in advertising in the paper, contact Lisa Thomson lisa109@optonline.net.

If you missed this year's Shakespeare on the Sound "Othello" at Pinkney Park, don't despair... you can catch it at Baldwin Park in Greenwich, July 2 through July 11. Performances begin at 7:30 p.m. (no Monday performances) and the admission is FREE (suggested donation: \$20 Adults, \$10 Children). For information and parking directions, visit www.ShakespeareontheSound.org.

From the Rowayton Gardeners

If you look around Rowayton, you might spy a Rowayton Gardener or two working on their Civic Beautification Projects. New plantings can be seen at the Flag Pole at the [Community Center](#), which include zinnias, cosmos, and cannas. In the courtyard you will find a new planter and plantings (thanks to Lily Langotsky) of the Library staff's favorite herbs: Sage, Rosemary, Lemon Thyme, Fennel, Tarragon and Nasturtium. The Rowayton Library invites everyone to come and take a pinch or two for your evening meal.

The [Rowayton Arts Center](#) is currently showing an all media exhibit: "Our Town" at the Rowayton Arts Center Gallery at 145 Rowayton Ave.. Award winners are Acrylic: [Susan O'Neill](#) (Norwalk) first; Oil: [Mary Morant](#) (Darien) -- first, [Tony D'Amico](#) (Fairfield) second, Lily Langotsky (Rowayton) third; Photography: [Robert Sachs](#) (Norwalk) first, Andrea Letters (Rowayton) second, [Jeanette Pertz](#) (Rowayton) third, Susan Bokos (Norwalk) honorable mention; Sculpture: [Deborah Rauh](#) (Westport) first, [Mary Ellen Pastore](#) (Norwalk) second; Watercolor: Hanneke Goedkoop Rowayton) first, [Stuart Pertz](#) (Rowayton) second; [Judith Katz](#) (Westport) third, [Stan Pastore](#) (Norwalk) honorable mention. The exhibit continues through July 11. 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.

The 40th annual River Ramble, planned for Saturday, July 10, will be another memorable Rowayton event. This annual tradition brings the community together for a day of fun and festivity at one of our cherished landmarks, Pinkney Park. For kids and young adults, there are plenty of fun games and activities such as a the "Ducky Derby" on Five Mile River, a petting zoo, bouncy castle, water slide, obstacle course and the ever-popular dunk tank. Entertainment for the adults includes a wide variety of local vendors selling art, accessories, jewelry, gifts and Rowayton logo gear, a live and silent auction and much more. Enjoy the famous raw bar, hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken and chili by the water. Wash it down with a cold beer or soda while the music from our live band fills the air. The River Ramble is the RCA's largest fundraiser and finances many of our community events, including the Memorial Day Parade, Fireworks, Soccer, Summer Music Festival, Swim Races, Halloween Celebration and the Nativity Pageant -- to name a few.

And, a special note: Volunteers needed for River Ramble! The River Ramble needs Kids' Games Volunteers. If you want to help out, please email meganmmc@hotmail.com. Thanks!

This summer, the Rowayton Arts Center is partnering with The Maritime Aquarium with a workshop for kids: "Go Fish with Art" at the Aquarium. 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 St. Advance registration is required and there is a \$5 registration fee. Parents may choose from one of four dates -- Monday July 19 or 26 or Aug. 9 or 16. Each workshop is limited to 25 participants per age group (entering 3rd -- 5th grades and 6th -- 8th grades). "Go Fish with Art" participants and their families will then be invited to a reception and show of artwork created during the workshops. This will be held from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 17 in the Community Room at Norwalk City Hall, 125 East Ave. 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](#).

Farm Creek Sightings:

Wildflowers are proliferating. Rosa Rugosa or Wrinkled Rose is blooming beneath and along the huge boulder. Hedge Bindweed, which is a member of the Morning-Glory family, can be found along the path. And white clover abounds in the open grass area. Yellow vetchling, a member of the pea family, is beside the drive and scattered in the meadow. Reddish purple Bull Thistle is all around the steps and path just before the walkway. The stems and even the flowers of this biennial plant contain sharp prickles. John Klimas in his Wildflowers of Connecticut notes that the flower heads turn to plumed seeds in late summer and are relished by Goldfinches. (Sightings by Susan Edwards)

At the Rowayton Library

Thanks to Rowayton Library volunteers Suzanne Miller, Lynn Maginnis, Jennifer Parker, Ann Devejian, Francis Johnson, Doug Mears, Slavja Carvajal, and Library Board members Yvonne McKerrow and Cathy Nash, more than 500 Summer Reading Challenge bags were stuffed and delivered to the children of Rowayton Elementary School. These yellow bags with a black logo of the Summer Reading Challenge theme "You're the Star Detective" (designed by local artist Lori Lohstoeter) contained the summer reading list (provided by the Board of Education), a summer Tide Chart (provided by Bell Island Enterprises -- Joyce Meurer) and the Summer Reading Challenge brochure -- filled with the summer reading programs planned at the Rowayton Library... and we must also thank Tim Walsh of J.W. Allen Insurance Brokers who helped make this summer's program possible. Summer Reading Bags are still available at the Rowayton Library for children attending other area schools or who are about to enter Kindergarten. Also, all children are invited to participate in the Summer Reading Challenge and come to the Library and pick up their summer reading log book (thanks to Maggie Trujillo of Ecosystemlife.com). There are prizes, prizes, prizes for everyone making reading time part of the summer time fun.

Rowayton Library's 2010 Summer Reading Challenge: "You're the Star Detective @ the Rowayton Library is in full swing. Also, if you haven't already made a reservation for our two big summer programs: Eco-Detective BookTalk for Kids (ages 6-9) on Tuesdays beginning July 6 and Mystery Writing Workshop for Kids (ages 8-12) on Wednesdays beginning July 7, please do so. Space is limited. These programs are made possible - in part - through a grant from the Connecticut Humanities Council. And with them, comes Pizza - Pizza -- Pizza at @ 5 p.m. For a reservation, please call (203) 838- 5038 or RSVP@Rowayton.org.