

Around Clamdigging Rowayton

Clamdigging *Around* Rowayton

By Cynthia F. Johnson

Clamdigging@Rowayton.org

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203-838-5038

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Farm Creek Sightings:

'Tis the season for jellyfish, and both Moon and Red Lion Mane Jellyfish have been washing ashore on beaches of Rowayton for several weeks now. A few have been sighted in Farm Creek, as well. These jelly fish concentrations or “blooms” travel on wind and currents. They do not use their tentacles or tiny muscles to swim distances. Jellyfish have no bones and are made up of only a stomach. The “jelly” is almost entirely sea water. Scientists believe they appeared long before the dinosaurs.

The transparent moon jelly fish found here are small and harmless. You can scoop one up and hold it. Their umbrella bodies can grow up to 10 inches across, and they have tiny tentacles around the edges of their disk shaped bodies. You can see the outline of a four leaf clover in their centers if you look carefully.

The Red Lion Mane or Sun Jellyfish are beautiful to watch floating in the currents, but can be a significant nuisance to swimmers and may sting. Red Lion Mane Jellyfish get to be enormous. Out in the North Atlantic, they can grow up to 8 feet across and their tentacles can reach a length of 200 feet. Fortunately, those sighted in Farm Creek are not more than 12 inches across. They do have predators and one is turtles who like to eat them. A terrapin was sighted digging a hole and

laying eggs by Farm Creek neighbors, so when these hatch, there will be fewer jellyfish in Farm Creek. (*Sightings by Susan Edwards*)

PHOTO ID: (Moon Jellyfish), (Sun Jellyfish). PHOTO CREDIT: Jeanette Young-Pertz.

Around Rowayton:

The 2010 RCA Summer Music Festival is again at Pinkney Park bringing you THE FRANK VIGNOLA TRIO (gypsy jazz), **Sunday, August 15th 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).

We hope you have been enjoying the Rowayton Farmers Market in Pinkney Park, **Fridays from 12 noon – 5 p.m.** Please come and experience all the wonderful goods from your favorite farmers, producers and artisans. For a list of the 2010 Rowayton Farmer's Market vendors, please visit www.rowaytonct.com/farmersmarket.html.

The Rowayton United Methodist Church invites everyone to come and enjoy a day at the races for their first Steeple Chase (hopefully to become an annual event), **Saturday, August 28th at 5 p.m.** at Pinkney Park; dress: "Halcyon" Derby Day Elegance. "Ride with Sir Archibald and Lady Westerley and their friends over hill and dale to bag the Rowayton fox!" Also, there will be badminton, lawn croquet, horse shoes and a bean bag toss. Run for the Golden Goblet (6 heats-2 qualifiers per heat).

Final event of 12 riders go twice around the “Pinkney Witness Tree Course.” Light Fare/Light Drinks. For more information, contact RUMC at (203) 838-0049.

PHOTO ID: (RUMC Steeple Chase Flyer). PHOTO CREDIT: Brian Kammerer.

Register now for 2010 Rowayton Soccer, online at www.rowaytonct.com. Rowayton Youth Soccer is a recreational community soccer program run by volunteers for children from 4-14 years old and will run for 10 weeks **from September 4 through November 6** this year. We have four age groups: 4-5 year olds; 6-7 year olds; 8-11 year olds; and Middle School. While games are certainly competitive, recreation is our priority: the time commitment is limited to two days and a couple of hours per week; all play occurs locally in Rowayton (except for middle-schoolers); practices are run as clinics by a professional trainer and referees. Scoring and team standings are limited to the older age groups, beginning with the 8-11 year olds. Registrations received after August 20 will incur a late-fee of \$25 (in addition to the registration fee) and will be accepted on a space-available basis only. Also, as a volunteer-based organization, we are always looking for parents willing to coach. Most of the information about the program can be found on the Rowayton Civic Association website at www.rowaytonct.com, but if you have any additional questions please contact Dan Scovel at dscovel@tokenekeresearch.com or Andy Schadt at andrew.schadt@soluxe.com.

On **Friday, August 20th from 6-8 p.m.**, Brendan’s 101 will be hosting the opening reception for artist Lynn Stephens Massey’s new exhibition “Summer Treats.” Lynn Stephens Massey is a watercolor artist whose style and theme are ever evolving. She has been a Rowayton resident for more than 10 years. Currently, Lynn

is in her “paper bag” period, combining her artist’s eye with an eco/recycling ethic to bring beauty to her latest works on brown paper bags and recycled papers. Also, using her unique style, Lynn brings life to found objects from coastal artifacts to bugs and insects. Her adept use of color and design make her pieces both dramatic and unusual. Everyone is invited to the reception. The show will run through September 8th. For more information, go to Brendan’s 101 at 101 Rowayton Avenue or visit their website at www.brendans101.com.

PHOTO ID: (Summer Treats). PHOTO/ARTIST CREDIT: Lynn Stephens Massey.

From the Rowayton Arts Center:

The Rowayton Arts Center will present awards for paintings by some of Fairfield County’s finest artists during an opening reception for its “Just Paint: Oil and Acrylic Art” exhibit from **4-6p.m. on Sunday, August 15** (Susan O’Shea, exhibit chair). The award winners will be selected by artist Wendy Nylen of Westport. The RAC gallery at 145 Rowayton Avenue is open from Noon-5 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays and from 1: -4 p.m. on Sundays. Admission is free. The exhibit will continue through September 6.

Wendy Nylen is a portrait and landscape artist working in pastel, watercolor, acrylic and oils. Her works have been shown at Paint and Clay Club in New Haven, Faber Birren Color Show in Stamford, The Quick Center at Fairfield University, The Discovery Museum and City Lights Gallery in Bridgeport, and the Friends of Hall-Brooke Annual Mother’s Day Show in Westport. Nylen, an artist and Westport native with an art history degree from Harvard University, owns Picture This/Nylen Gallery in Westport. She managed Picture This from 1990 to 1999 and returned as gallery owner in December 2007. During the interim, she worked in digital printing at Image

Works of Westport with Don Sigovich and Mark Bunger making fine art giclées. She also studied with Jakki Kouffman and David Dunlop at Silvermine Guild Arts Center, where she received a scholarship from the Pastel Society of America. The reception at RAC on August 15 is free and open to the public.

In the News

Ever consider fostering a dog? *Leader of the Rescue Pack* is a group of Rowayton women determined to help as many dogs as they can. They find them on the road, lonely and scared and lost, or they help save them from euthanasia at the shelters. Sometimes they also receive owner surrenders, who for whatever reason, can no longer care for their pet -- they might have had to move away, or can't afford the pet or lost their homes, etc, through no fault of the dog. They believe that a pet deserves to have a second chance in life, and *Leader of the Rescue Pack* helps to make that happen. They are in need of foster homes, to take in ONE dog at a time. It can be anywhere from 2 to 4 weeks. If you have a desire to work and help animals, but can't really have one long term, or your lifestyle doesn't allow time for a dog, then maybe you can still help by fostering one.....you will be a HUGE part of helping rescue dogs that are waiting for their future homes, and then helping to make room to save more!! Call to find out more at (203) 854-9896.

From the Rowayton Historical Society

Are you interested in our local cemeteries? Ever wonder about who's buried in the old Raymond Cemetery next to the United Church? The RHS is putting together a special exhibit which will open this September featuring the cemetery which was

founded in 1782 and hosts many important names from Rowayton's past, including veterans of the Revolutionary War. The show will feature the Raymond Cemetery and will also include information on the Hoyt-Bouton, Union, and Brookside cemeteries. A walking tour of Raymond, located on Rowayton Avenue next to the United Church, will be available with historical information signs set up in the graveyard. So, stay tuned for more information....

PHOTO ID: (Raymond Cemetery). PHOTO CREDIT: Dana Laird.

Volunteering in Rowayton

If you are interested in volunteering in Rowayton, the Rowayton United Methodist Church is looking for volunteers for their first “Steeple Chase” event on Saturday, August 28th. Please email LauristonAvery@gmail.com or call 203) 838-0049 if you can help with food, set up, inspiration, etc... thanking you in advance for your support.

High Tide @ Bayley Beach

For the week **August 13th through August 19th** at Bayley Beach in the afternoons, high tide will be at 2:29p on August 13, 3:22p on August 14, 4:16p on August 15, 5:15p on August 16, 6:16p on August 17, 7:18p on August 18, and 8:18p on August 19. Source: Nobeltec® Tides & Currents TM 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

On Tuesday, **August 31st from 10 a.m. to 12 Noon**, the Goodwives Quilters and the Rowayton Library will bring to the Rowayton community ***Peace by Piece: The Norwalk Community Quilt Project***. Everyone in the community is invited to add quilting stitches to this fabulous community quilt. This quilt has been a work in progress for many months and Norwalk citizens have come together at public places to help create this quilt. When the quilt is completed (hopefully in September), it will be installed at Stepping Stones Museum for Children, along with the long list of collaborators which will commemorate the 10th anniversary of the museum. The theme for this quilt is “Growing Together.” This project was conceived in 2007 as a way to enhance the lives of young people and elders in the city of Norwalk by bringing them together in a common endeavor. ***Peace by Piece*** is generously supported by The Norwalk Children's Foundation. Quilt making offers unique social and emotional benefits in the form of team-work, artistic expression, cultural literacy, stress reduction, skill development, and friendship. Collaborative projects involving children and adults have incorporated design and craft input from throughout the greater Norwalk community. All works are designed and crafted by the members of Peace by Piece. They are machine pieced, or appliquéd by hand from many small patches of fabric, then hand quilted on a frame with thousands of tiny stitches. The Goodwives Quilters are happy to join in this collaboration and invite the Rowayton children and adults to share in this project. Take a moment on Tuesday, August 31st and put in your 6 stitches. The finished quilt is a metaphor for the community that produced it, showing that good things happen when many come together as one. For more information on Peace by Piece, you can contact Lizzy Rockwell at (203) 434-2469 email: lizzyrockwell@mac.com.

The Summer Reading Challenge prizes for **the week of August 16th** are ***Yellow/Red/Orange Crazy Bands*** for every 5 books read. And don't forget about the ***Read to Achieve*** T-Shirt courtesy of the New York Knicks. All shirts are "size-large". Just bring your "Starred Notebook" with 25 or more stars and collect your shirt (while supplies last).

And, if you can spare an extra jar of peanut butter and jelly, the Christian Community Action Food Center Food Pantry in Norwalk could really use them. So far, we have collection about 20% of our goal of 500 jars and only a few weeks left in our food drive. Let's help our neighbors.

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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