

**FREE**

# SHELTON *Life*

COMMUNITY & BUSINESS NEWS

NOVEMBER 2018  
VOLUME 25, ISSUE 3



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# SHELTON COMMUNITY & BUSINESS NEWS

## Welcome from the Editor



Greetings!

This issue of Shelton Life was difficult. Our idea was to bring out an explosion of Fall colors and interesting articles. It was like squeezing toothpaste out of a tube. But, our team did the job! The front and back cover highlights Shelton Day with a splash of color and interesting cameos of our citizens. We also feature an article about pre-World War One military war games, held within the Shelton area, that explores some of our history. Enjoy reading the other articles.

*Fred Ruggio, Editor*



Dear Shelton Residents and Businesses:

Welcome to the fall 2018 edition of the Shelton Life newsletter. Truly there is nothing like a New England fall, and this year in particular showcases the season beautifully in our city.

On behalf of the City of Shelton, I want to publicly thank Al Sabetta for his many years of service to our community. This past September

the Sutter Terlizzi American Legion Post 16 dedicated a beautiful bench in Mr. Sabetta's honor for his continued service to the community, state and nation. You can find the story on page two.

The city continues to provide support to many not for profits and worthwhile organizations. In fact, the Council of Italian-American Societies chose Shelton to host their 110th Columbus Day Parade. The parade was a success as thousands of people were able to enjoy this historic event. Also of note, the former St. Joseph's School on Coram Avenue is now home to three of our city's nonprofit organizations, including the Echo Hose Ambulance Training Center, Center Stage Theatre's Education Center and Community Addiction & Recovery Education and Support Group (C.A.R.E.S.).

This issue is filled with community news, environmental updates and historical revelations dating back to the 18th Century. The article written by Jane Bakker of the Housatonic Valley Association provides important information regarding climate change and how everyone, through their daily lives, can improve our own local environment. Also, do not skip over the story of the ceremonial stonework discovered on the George Cam homestead.

Finally, members of our community strive to thrive economically and there is no better place to view these endeavors than in the small businesses scattered throughout town. Please take the time to read the many local business stories in this edition. Be inspired and patronize the small businesses in your community.

As in the past, please share this information with your family and friends to keep them informed of our activities. This edition will be posted on the city's website [www.cityofshelton.org](http://www.cityofshelton.org). And last but not least, hats off to our Shelton Life editorial team and community volunteers always striving for excellence.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Lauretti  
Mayor, City of Shelton



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In Memory

Fred Musante, Sr., (1922-2009)

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**The Balanced Plan for Shelton's Future**  
*Vision to See, Faith to Believe, Courage to Do...*

© Michael Connolly, "The Closers"

## Al Sabetta Honored for Service to Community, State and Nation

*Represented with the kind permission of the Shelton Herald*

Shelton's Al Sabetta was recently recognized during a bench dedication ceremony at Riverwalk Park.

Shelton Board of Aldermen President John Anglace, along with Sutter-Terlizzi American Legion Post 16 Commander Dave Gallagher, spoke as a



Al Sabetta and his wife Eleanor at the bench dedication ceremony

crowd of Shelton residents, dignitaries and Legionaries from across that state, gathered to honor Sabetta on September 16, 2018. Members of Post 16 raised funds to purchase a park bench to recognize Sabetta for his good works in the community.

"Al Sabetta has served our country in the Korean War," said Post 16 Commander, Dave Gallagher. "To most men that is more than enough service, but Al continued to serve community, state and nation as a legionnaire in the City of Shelton. Gallagher explained that Sabetta went through the chairs at Post 16 through his more than 35-year tenure."

"He settled in as Post 16 adjutant after the turn of the century, where, for the past 15 years, he has been the backbone of the post and mentor to most of our current Post 16 officers," Gallagher said. "He also acted as the post liaison to the City of Shelton, served on the Derby-Shelton Memorial Day Committee, City of Shelton Permanent War Memorial Committee, Oratorical Contest Coordinator, Boys State Coordinator, and Shelton Registrar of Veterans' Graves.

"Al personifies the words Dedication to God and Country and has helped Sutter-Terlizzi American Legion Post 16 start our secondary century of veterans still serving America on a firm foundation," Gallagher said. "For that reason, today, we dedicate this bench

at Veterans Park on the Riverwalk in Shelton in most sincere appreciation to Al Sabetta for his continued service to the community, state and nation."

During the bench dedication John Anglace spoke of Sabetta's service.

"Al has participated unselfishly in the American Legion through his leadership as Post Adjutant for

many years where he has amassed untold volunteer hours to bring credit to our veterans, helping veterans in need and honoring our many deceased Veterans," Anglace said. "His work was exhaustive but nevertheless a labor of love. As with all veterans, Al had the support of his spouse and his family throughout his active military service and his service as a Legionnaire. Consequently, this bench also recognizes the Sabetta immediate family, as well as his extended legionnaire family," Anglace continued. "Al coordinated many Post 16 activities and organizations as well as accepting City leadership in the refurbishment and management of the Permanent War Memorial Building." Anglace added, "This is not just an outstanding beautiful bench. It symbolizes the hard work of all legionnaires who are dedicated to the principle of working to be sure that our veterans are never forgotten. This bench bears the name of Korea Veteran Alphonse Sabetta who, by his example throughout our community and state has changed the lives and given hope to many a Veteran who just needed a helping hand to start life anew. Al was there for them and now we are dedicating his work in lasting perpetuity to ensure that our veterans are truly never forgotten."

The bench is located on the Riverwalk, facing the memorials at Veterans Park. ♦

### Echo Hose Ambulance Relocates Training Center

The Echo Hose Ambulance Community Education Center has relocated from 286 Howe Avenue to the home of the former St. Joseph’s School at 430 Coram Avenue. The new location will allow for a “true classroom setting” along with convenient off-street parking. The center will offer more programming and multiple classes to be conducted simultaneously. The additional classroom space allows the organization to run more programs while partnering with other not-for-profit organizations who may be interested in presenting their outreach programs and classes to the community.

Echo Hose Ambulance is a not-for-profit organization that serves the City of Shelton. This organization has the responsibility of responding to over 5,000 emergency calls each year.

In addition to responding to emergency calls, Echo Hose Ambulance is committed to providing community outreach and educational programs that focus on safety, preparedness and health and wellness education. Their team of instructors come from all over the State of Connecticut and across the country to provide unique training opportunities. Their goal is to ensure all students have a positive learning experience and are better prepared if they are ever called upon to help in an emergency. Over the last ten years, thousands of people have gone through many different training programs coordinated by this organization. Each year the organization provides free CPR, First Aid, AED, Narcan, and Bleeding Control training to hundreds of residents, businesses, school children, teachers, coaches and City of Shelton employees. Earlier this year the organization trained over 100 elementary school children in First Aid and trained every 8th grade student in “Hands Only” CPR.

In addition to the community training, Echo Hose Ambulance provides initial Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) courses to those that are interested in becoming certified with the State of Connecticut. Emergency Medical Technician classes are offered every January, June and September. Echo Hose



Ambulance also works with the State of Connecticut’s Office of Emergency Medical Services and coordinates EMT state certification exams for new candidates who are looking to obtain certification as a basic Emergency Medical Technician. Over 100 students from all over the State of Connecticut visit the City of Shelton each month as they work toward certification.

Along with initial training, they also provide ongoing continuing educational programs for Public Safety providers from all disciplines. The organization has partnered with the State of Connecticut Department of Homeland Security to host a number of high level, federally funded training opportunities to First Responders from all over Connecticut and the entire Northeast Region.

The Echo Hose Ambulance Community Educational Center will also be sharing space with Center Stage’s Education Center. This will allow Echo Hose Ambulance to work with many community partners to offer additional programs that support a positive community health initiative. BHcare, the Naugatuck Valley Health District, Shelton Youth Service Bureau, Shelton Emergency Management, TEAM Inc. and the C.A.R.E.S Group will be using the new facility as well to host various programs throughout the year.

For further information about classes or to subscribe to their upcoming class mailing list, please visit their website at [www.echohose.com](http://www.echohose.com). ♦



# Center Stage Theatre Opens Satellite Location

*Excerpts reprinted with the kind permission of the Shelton Herald August 23, 2018*

Recently, Shelton's Center Stage Theatre opened a satellite location for its education program at the former St. Joseph's School at 430 Coram Avenue in Shelton.

"The new space will be known as the Center Stage Education Center (CSEC)," said Center Stage Artistic Director, Gary Scarpa. "Our education program is flourishing, and with an enrollment of over 100 children, we needed more space than we currently have available at our Grove Street location."

Gina Scarpa, the theater's Education Director added, "We are super excited about our new education center. We are leasing one complete wing of the building, which offers us four classrooms and an office. And we

are planning many new programs for children, teens, and even adults."

CSEC will offer classes, camps, workshops and special programs for people of all ages who are interested in the performing arts. Programs will run Monday-Thursday afternoons and Saturday mornings with a special class program for adults in the evenings.

"We're also excited about a new performance series for our education students," said Gina Scarpa. "We're calling it our 'Broadway at Center Stage' series, which kicked off on Monday, September 17 with Barrett Wilbert Weed of Mean Girls. Following Barrett with Broadway's Aladdin and Telly Leung, in October. Other big stars to be announced in the near future."

CSEC is also happy to be sharing the Coram Avenue building with Shelton EMTs, who are training Center Stage teachers in basic first aid and CPR (see previous page).

Center Stage Theatre, Inc. is a non-profit, 501-(c)3, organization founded in 2005 by artistic directors Gary and Francesca Scarpa. Center Stage's purpose is to enhance the cultural environment within its community; to present high quality theatrical productions at affordable prices; to encourage growth and education through the performing arts; and to provide a means for interested adults and children to experience and participate in various aspects of live theater. The theatre is located at 54 Grove Street. For further information about the Center Stage Education Center, contact Gina Scarpa, Education Director, at 203-331-7596. For further information about the theater, call 203-225-6079 or visit [centerstageshelton.org](http://centerstageshelton.org). ♦





# THE C.A.R.E.S. GROUP

COMMUNITY ADDICTION & RECOVERY EDUCATION & SUPPORT

Shelton and surrounding communities have experienced more than their fair share of tragedy over the past few years with distressing substance related overdoses and deaths. To address this critical situation the new Echo Hose Ambulance Community Center's Education and Paramedic Director, Pat Lahaza, partnered with The Community Addiction & Recovery Education & Support (C.A.R.E.S.) Group to help families and friends deal with issues surrounding a loved one's confirmed or suspected abuse of drugs or alcohol. Mr. Lahaza took a bold stand by offering his training center and beginning an uncomfortable conversation. The stigma that accompanies substance use disorder often keeps families from speaking out or reaching out for help. On the other hand, joining the conversation most often promotes healing – for everyone.

**Shelton C.A.R.E.S. offers a free, weekly hope & support group every Thursday night from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Echo Hose Community Educational Center, 430 Coram Avenue (Former St. Joseph School building – first floor, Room 105).**

This drop-in group provides ongoing education, support services, and assistance in accessing treatment resources for the individual, parents, families, and community members addressing issues related

to substance use disorder. It is open to anyone who is concerned about a family member or friend and wants to become educated and empowered. By connecting individuals with one another through skilled facilitation and mentorship, participants find the means to address the myriad of issues that accompany substance use disorder. C.A.R.E.S. group guidance helps its members cope with feelings of guilt, shame, fear, denial, anger, and frustration that are most often prevalent when dealing with the disease of addiction. The peer-to-peer support model used by The C.A.R.E.S. Hope & Support Group has proven to be one of the most effective and powerful means of promoting resilience and assists individuals and families in finding solutions within a safe, confidential, supportive community.

C.A.R.E.S. Group meetings are open to Shelton residents and those from surrounding towns.

In 2015 Donna and Matt DeLuca, a mother and son whose lives were affected by substance use disorder and wanted to make a positive difference, founded C.A.R.E.S.

*Currently there are six C.A.R.E.S. Hope & Support Groups offered weekly in Connecticut. For more information, visit the C.A.R.E.S. website: [www.thecaresgroup.org](http://www.thecaresgroup.org), Facebook page, or call: 855-406-0246. ♦*



The former Saint Joseph's School at 430 Coram Avenue



The C.A.R.E.S. Group now shares space with Echo Hose and Center Stage in the former Saint Joseph's School

## LOCAL BUSINESSES

## Vic's Guac Shop Offering Options to Healthy Eating

Shelton High School sweethearts, Victoria Demetri and Gutierres DeSouza, co-owners of Vic's Guac Shop, knew they both wanted more than a 9-5 job. After graduating high school and college, Victoria with a degree in Nutrition and Dietetics and Gutierres with a degree in Accounting, put their skills together and decided to create their own business.

Why Vic's Guac Shop? They both knew they had an awesome product which was their recipe for guacamole. They not only appreciate the many health benefits derived from the avocado but also find it can be delicious at the same time. Offering great quality and nutritious foods to families and supporting the area's local farming community, was a goal they wanted to pursue.

Their guacamole can be found at Shelton's Farm and Public Market as well as other local markets.



VICSGUACSHOP.COM

Their initial product was guacamole but they have found other recipes to offer containing the nutrients of the avocado. Victoria and Gutierres will be launching "Avocado Pudding" in flavors such as chocolate, peanut butter chocolate and banana chocolate. They

are looking to expand into local grocery markets and stores in the state so when the outdoor farmers' markets close for the season, their products will still be available for purchase.

Vic's Guac Shop also offers party platters of guacamole with fresh farm vegetables and/or homemade chips.

Why Shelton? They both chose to build their business and brand in Shelton since they grew up in the city and appreciate the many opportunities the city has to offer. As Victoria stated "Shelton's community has shown them awesome support, and the ability to showcase their product at the city's Farmers' Market was a great way to get the word out and create new relationships."

Victoria and Gutierres hope you will consider Vic's Guac Shop. They currently offer their products exclusively at farmers' markets.

For further information please visit their website at [www.vicsguacshop.com](http://www.vicsguacshop.com); [facebook.com/vicsguacshop](https://facebook.com/vicsguacshop) or email [vgs@vicsguacshop.com](mailto:vgs@vicsguacshop.com). ♦



Victoria Demetri and Gutierres DeSouza

# SHELTON COMMUNITY & BUSINESS NEWS

## LOCAL BUSINESSES

### Cammisa's Garage



344 River Road - Shelton, CT 06484  
Phone: 203-924-9210 - Fax: 203-924-2463

"Family owned & operated for over 60 years."

Complete Automotive Service

Quality Used Cars

When Joe and Pat Cammisa decided to open a garage in the late 40's, the City of Shelton had a little over 18,000 residents. Today over 40,000 reside in Shelton. Almost 70 years later, Shelton is no longer a sleepy little town but a major presence in Fairfield County and the lower Naugatuck Valley. Over the years business has been good to the Cammisa family and continues to grow.



Cammisa's Garage located at 344 River Road

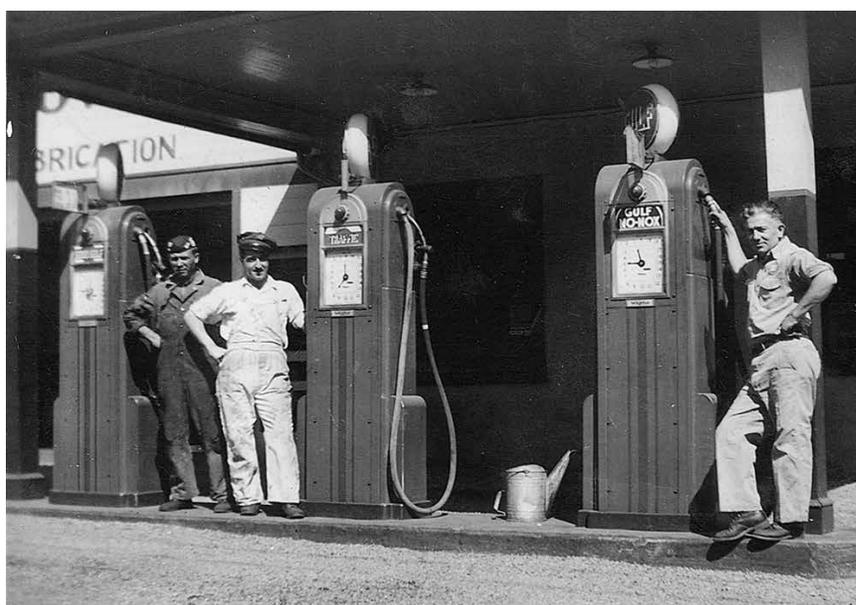


(L to R) Gary Cammisa, Kathie and Bob Cammisa

decided to open his own business with son Patrick Cammisa. They found the perfect facility located on Bridgeport Avenue and started Joe's Service Station and Gulf Oil. After many years in business there, they moved to Route 110 and reopened as Cammisa's Garage.

Through almost seventy years of business in Shelton, three generations of the Cammisa family  
*continued on next page*

In the 20's, Joseph and Antonette Cammisa moved to Shelton from Tarrytown, New York, where Joe worked on the assembly line at the General Motors plant. They chose Shelton to be closer to relatives that were enjoying a scenic and prospering community. Joe took up work for Vincent Tisi at Tisi Oil Company in Shelton. Antonette and her brother, Al Baviello, found careers at the Chromium Process factory in downtown Shelton. In those days the work week and work hours were long. Through all economic conditions they worked hard, formed strong community ties, bought homes and raised families here in Shelton. In 1949 Joe



(L to R) Walt Bokowski, Tommy Vicdomino, and Joe Cammisa

# Huntington Fire Company Memorial Buy a Brick



The Huntington Fire Co. #3, an all-volunteer fire company, is excited to announce the building of a brick memorial in front of their fire station to honor those who have served past, present and future. Anyone can be part of this project when you "Buy a Brick" engraved with a personal message and it will be placed in the patio for all to see.

This is a great opportunity to remember a loved one, or honor a special person, friend or family member, possibly for a group or organization, a special anniversary or to demonstrate support on behalf of a business.

For just \$100 you can have a personalized message laser engraved on a brick as part of the Huntington Fire Co. #3 Inc. fundraising program (Huntington Fire Co. #3 is a 501(c)(3).

For further information please visit:  
[www.polarengraving.com/huntingtonfirecompany](http://www.polarengraving.com/huntingtonfirecompany). ♦



*Cammissa, continued from pg. 7*

have built their lives and families proudly serving their community with Complete Automotive Service and Quality Used Cars.

Today Cammissa's Garage remains in the south end of the city at 344 River Road. There you can find brothers Gary and Bob Cammissa running the family business with their staff of trained technical professionals providing full-service with five repair bays. Cammissa's Garage also provides a dynamic inventory of quality used cars managed by dedicated operations staff.

Whether it's factory scheduled maintenance or a breakdown repair, Cammissa's can fulfill your needs. The garage services foreign and domestic cars and trucks. They offer rides, pick up, delivery and towing. Their ALLDATA computerized information system

has the latest factory service data, technical service bulletins and recall information for your vehicle.

With auto service and repair "Trust is a Must." Owner Bob Cammissa stated "I am proud to be able to grow our business in a business-friendly community dealing with some of the nicest people here in Shelton and the surrounding communities. Shelton has been good to our business and we look forward to another 60-plus years."

Cammissa's Garage can be contacted at (203) 924-9210 or you can visit their website at [www.cammissasgarage.net](http://www.cammissasgarage.net). The garage is open five days a week from 7:30 AM until 5:30 PM with the service department closed Saturday and Sunday. Used Car Sales are open Monday through Saturday. ♦

# What You Can Do About Climate Change

By Jane Bakker, Housatonic Valley Association Communications Manager



### What are global warming and climate change?

*Global warming* refers to the rise in global temperatures due mainly to the increasing concentrations of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

*Climate change* refers to the increasing changes in the measures of climate over a long period of time – including precipitation, temperature, and wind patterns.

United States Geological Survey (USGS)

According to the Climate Reality Project (CRP) and the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) climate change is happening because of global warming.



Greenhouse gas emissions come from carbon-based fuels burned to heat a home, drive a car, and produce goods and services. Landfills and power plants are sources too.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) notes that since 1901, the planet's surface has warmed by 0.7–0.9° Celsius (1.3–1.6° Fahrenheit) per century, but the rate of warming has nearly doubled since 1975 to 1.5–1.8° Celsius (2.7–3.2° Fahrenheit) per century. The 10 warmest years on record have all occurred since 1998, and the four warmest years on record have all occurred since 2014.

By 2020, models project that global surface temperature will be more than 0.5°C (0.9°F) warmer than the 1986-2005 average, regardless of which carbon dioxide emissions pathway the world follows.

### What is the impact of climate change?

Climate change leads to more intense droughts but also more flooding. Here's why:

As the planet gets hotter, ice caps melt and oceans rise, causing coastal flooding. Air patterns slow, and pick up more evaporated moisture, causing more rainfall in places like New England. Slow storms travelling over more heat on the ocean's surface pick up more energy which means more hurricanes and intense storms. That leads to more runoff and flooding. It also means more polluted runoff entering our waters.

*continued next page*



## COMMUNITY NEWS

*HVA, continued from pg. 9*

The same heat that is making weather more extreme can also dry out the ground, leading to more intense droughts. As temperatures rise, more precipitation falls as rain instead of snow; with less snowpack there's less water to replenish reservoirs, lakes and rivers in the summer. In other words, because of climate change the world's wet areas are getting wetter and the dry areas are getting drier. These are climate facts.

### Climate change is bad for our health

As temperatures climb, we expect to see more heat waves. Extreme heat can "overpower the human body" and cause dehydration, heatstroke, and major organ damage especially in the elderly, children and the poor.

Climate change impacts air quality, too. It also is linked to more wildfires.

The Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS) notes that in the Western U.S., the number of large wildfires is increasing and wildfire season is now two months longer than it was 40 years ago. Winter snowpack is melting earlier in the year, creating hotter, drier conditions that are primed for wildfires to ignite and spread.

And as our climate becomes warmer geographic ranges will expand for mosquitoes, fleas, mites and ticks – bringing Lyme disease and West Nile or Zika viruses to new regions.

On July 17, 2018 the Connecticut State Mosquito Management Program urged residents to protect themselves from mosquito bites and mosquito-



ASIAN TIGER MOSQUITO

borne diseases. The warning comes as the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES) identified West Nile Virus (WNV) infected

mosquitoes in five towns: Bridgeport, Easton, New Canaan, Stratford and Waterbury. The invasive and aggressive Asian tiger mosquito, capable of infecting people with rare diseases like the Zika virus and dengue fever, is expected to spread through almost all of Connecticut by 2040, according to a the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES).

### Water supplies and the economy are threatened

Climate change poses a huge threat to something humans need above all else – water. We need it for

drinking, of course, but also for growing food.

The largest reservoir in the U.S. – Lake Mead in Nevada – contained less than half the amount of water in 2015 as it did in 2000.

Everyone needs water to survive and crops need water to flourish and provide good quality, nutritious food for everyone. Crops do not need intense downpours that wash away seeds and soil.

And as for the economy, the federal government spent an estimated \$350 billion responding to extreme weather and fires linked to climate change.

### Rising sea levels

According to the UCS, sea levels are rising much faster along the Northeast and mid-Atlantic coast than globally, steadily increasing the risk of destructive coastal flooding events.

Since 1880, sea level has increased 13 inches in Boston, Massachusetts; 14 inches in New York City; and 20 inches in Atlantic City, New Jersey. Sea level rise is also accelerating, steadily increasing the risk of destructive coastal flooding events.

"We're anticipating dramatic changes in sea level with a rise of approximately four feet or more by 2100," says Dr. Adam Whelchel, the Nature Conservancy's director of conservation programs in Connecticut. "And some coastal towns are already experiencing the impacts."

Since 1960, sea level in Long Island Sound has risen almost six inches, according to data released in June 2018 from the NOAA.

That added water has been blamed for making Superstorm Sandy such a devastating storm. Experts say that added water makes smaller storms, including Nor'easters, even more destructive, and that increased flooding from these storms will carry a hefty price tag.

"If you're on the shoreline and you get flooded once a year now," said James O'Donnell, executive director of the Connecticut Institute for Resilience

*continued on page 11*



*HVA, continued from pg. 10*

and Climate Adaptation (CIRCA), “it may change to three or four times a year depending on how much sea level rise we get.”

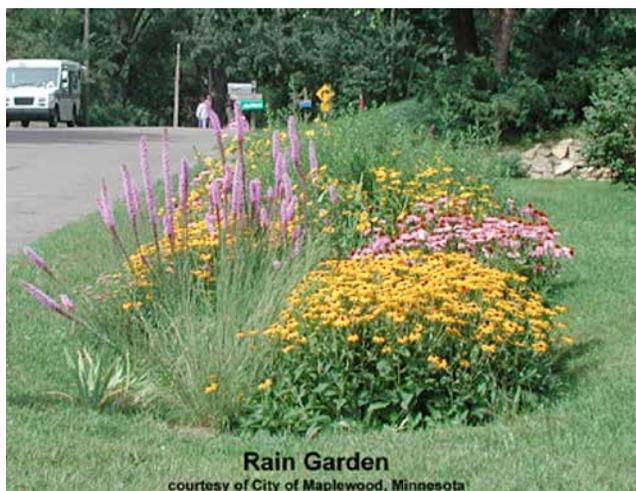
### Wildlife habitats threatened

Earth’s temperatures in 2015 were the hottest ever recorded (source: NASA). Why does this matter? Because a change of even one degree Fahrenheit – which may sound small – can upset the delicate balance of ecosystems, and affect plants and animals that inhabit them.

As landscapes and habitats literally shift, wildlife must quickly adjust. Experts predict that one-fourth of Earth’s species will be headed for extinction by 2050 if the warming trend continues at its current rate.

### Here’s what you can do

It may feel overwhelming, but there are steps you can take at home, on the road, and at the office to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. For example:



### Around your home

- Plant trees to create natural air filters in our neighborhoods that use carbon dioxide.
- Plant buffers along your backyard streams and ponds; this will also help stop polluted runoff from reaching the water.
- Plant a rain garden or bioswale to allow rain water to slowly filter back into the ground.
- Plant an edible garden or shop at your farm market. Rely as little as possible on food that is trucked into your community from far away.
- Create a backyard habitat for birds and wildlife.

- Use push or electric mowers.
- Mow high and let it lie. Avoid watering your lawn; if you must, water during the coolest part of the day.
- Use mulch around planting beds.
- Compost and recycle to reduce waste going to landfills.
- Create a rooftop garden to absorb stormwater and reduce runoff.
- Replace pavement, concrete and hardscapes with pervious materials to allow rain to penetrate the ground.
- Capture rainwater in a rain barrel and use that for gardens.

### Reduce your emissions

- Turn down your heat setting in the winter and turn up your air conditioning setting in the summer.
- Eliminate drafts to reduce overall energy use.
- Buy the highest energy efficient fridges, washing machines, dishwashers you can find.
- Install energy saving bulbs.

### Increase your vehicle’s fuel efficiency

- Change your air filter regularly, and get a tune up.
- Don’t speed.
- Use cruise control.
- Don’t idle your car engine.
- Inflate tires properly.
- Drive a fuel-efficient, hybrid or electric vehicle.
- If you can, walk or bike instead of driving.
- Car pool and use mass transit.

### Reduce your office paper trail (and save a tree)

- Copy on both sides of the paper.
- Reduce documents to fit two pages onto one.
- Use lighter weight paper.
- Use email, voice mail and faxes instead of mail.
- Eliminate unnecessary subscriptions.
- Recycle.

### Get involved

Join local or state efforts to champion energy efficiency, smart transportation and clean energy programs. Ask your town to get climate change ready by:

- Retrofitting stream crossing culverts to handle more water and enable fish and wildlife to pass.
- Becoming more fuel and energy efficient across all departments.

*continued next page*

## COMMUNITY NEWS

*HVA, continued from pg. 11*



Shelton Trail

parcs and lawns, and are more resilient to climate change, too.

You can also join or start a community group to enhance or maintain healthy, diverse natural areas in your town. Those green, natural spaces clean air and water, help reduce flooding, provide habitat for native plants and animals and retain carbon. They provide more ecosystem services per acre than

### Keep up with what's happening in Hartford

Upon reviewing a variety of mitigation scenarios that drive down greenhouse gas emissions in the electric, building, and transportation sectors, the Governor's Council on Climate Change (GC3), through consensus, recommends adopting an economy-wide mid-term greenhouse gas emission reduction target of 45 percent below 2001 levels by 2030. This target was adopted by the General Assembly in 2018 and signed into law as Public Act 18-82.

### What HVA is doing

HVA is working to help riverfront communities manage the impacts of climate change and explore steps we can take locally to manage climate change impacts such as stormwater runoff and erosion.

The increased amount of rain in the last century has created a problem for culverts. During heavy rains, huge volumes of water fill the systems quickly and can overwhelm the culverts.

The water then backs up on the upstream side causing localized flooding and may overflow across the roadway, increasing erosion that can wash out the culvert. Even small-scale flooding at undersized culverts can degrade water quality, erode stream banks, block access to habitat for aquatic organisms, and damage private and municipal property. Culverts that were an adequate size when they were installed years ago may now be prone to flooding and failure.

A well-designed crossing provides a size suitable for handling flows such as an open-arch or an open-bottomed culvert. It is also greater than the stream width to maintain dry banks for wildlife passage, has water depth and velocity to match conditions of the natural stream channel upstream, has a natural river bottom to create good conditions for stream-dwelling animals and creates no noticeable change in the river. Effective crossings include bridges, open bottom arches and culverts that span, and are sunk into, the streambed.

HVA has been assessing culverts throughout the watershed, one town at a time and meeting with representatives from the Board of Selectmen, Public Works and Emergency Services as well as other key stakeholders to determine appropriate action and available funding.

With this and our RiverSmart education campaign, HVA is also helping towns meet Sustainable Connecticut goals. Visit [RiverSmart.com](http://RiverSmart.com) and [hvatoday.org](http://hvatoday.org) to find out more, or call HVA at 860-672-6678. ♦



The Housatonic Valley Association (HVA) works to protect the natural character and environmental health of communities throughout the Housatonic River Watershed including Shelton. To learn more, please visit [hvatoday.org](http://hvatoday.org) and sign up for updates. Also follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

# Shelton Going Green

### Valley Community Foundation Awards nearly \$750,000 in Single and Multi-Year Grants

The Valley Community Foundation (VCF) is pleased to announce that \$740,250 has been awarded as a result of its 2018 Responsive Grants process. This includes support for 11 new organizations as well as previous multi-year funding for 14 additional nonprofits. These grant dollars will help provide a reliable source of funding during a time of financial uncertainty.

“The VCF Board is pleased to serve as a catalyst and partner with local nonprofits to support worthwhile missions that serve our Valley communities,” said Alan Tyma, VCF Board Chair.

Grants were awarded through VCF’s Responsive Grantmaking cycle, which is done with its partner in philanthropy, The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven (TCF). The program is funded by a generous annual grant from TCF’s Gates and other field of interest funds, as well as VCF’s unrestricted and field of interest funds. Additionally, several of VCF’s donor advised fundholders contributed from their funds to help make these grants possible. Supporting donor advised funds included: Agape Fund, the Salvatore and Linda Tiano Coppola Family Fund, the Konwerski Family Fund, the Mary Fund, the Palazzi Family Fund, the Smythe Family Fund, the Sally and Dominick Thomas Fund, the John Tyma Fund, and the Warichar Family Fund.

In addition, VCF was one of the recipients of the 2017 DiMatteo Group’s Annual Charitable Foundation Golf Tournament to support the 2018 Responsive Grant process. Working with VCF staff, the DiMatteo Group selected Valley Emergency Medical Services as the recipient of these funds.

The following is a list of the 2018 VCF Responsive Grant recipients:

- BHcare:** to support a Medication Assisted Therapy program at clinics in Ansonia and Branford to address the opioid epidemic. \$70,000
- Capital for Change:** to support a program to provide technical assistance and loans to Greater New Haven nonprofit organizations for working capital, cash flow, building purchase, and/or renovations and energy efficiency improvements. \$6,250
- Derby Historical Society:** to provide general operating support to preserve, maintain and celebrate the history of Derby. \$30,000



- Griffin Hospital:** to support a 12-week education and exercise program to improve the health of individuals diagnosed with diabetes and pre-diabetes. \$25,000
  - Junior Achievement of Greater Fairfield County:** to support the Life-Prep Initiative which will provide financial education to K-12 students in Derby and Ansonia. \$80,000
  - Lincoln Senior Housing:** to support the purchase and installation of an emergency generator for its 34-apartment senior living facility to safeguard the safety and health of residents during power outages. \$10,000
  - Naugatuck Valley Health District:** to support A Matter of Balance, a fall prevention program for older adults in the Valley. \$24,000
  - Rape Crisis Center of Milford, Inc.:** to provide general operating support for educational programming to end sexual assault and for comprehensive and culturally competent sexual assault victim services. \$30,000
  - Valley Emergency Medical Services:** to support the purchase of 2 Life Pak 15 Cardiac Monitors. \$30,000
  - Wesley Heights, Inc.:** to support Mentally Engaging through Technology, a new project that will provide multi-sensory stimulation through computer technology for elderly residents with early cognitive impairment, dementia and Alzheimer’s disease. \$20,000
  - Yale-Griffin Prevention Research Center:** to support the Addressing Chronic Conditions in Elementary and Secondary Schools program which will improve the identification, management, and tracking of students with chronic health conditions in the Ansonia, Derby and Shelton public school districts. \$30,000
- For more information about VCF’s grant programs, please call 203-751-9162, or visit [www.valleyfoundation.org](http://www.valleyfoundation.org). ♦

## Modern Plastics Expanding Its 21,000 Square-foot Headquarters



Bing Carbone

President of Modern Plastics.

“Our business continues to grow in particularly over the last six to seven years, and we are now in dire need of additional space, so our landlord was able to accommodate us,” Carbone said, adding the company has experienced 15 percent year-to-year growth.

With an employee base that has doubled in a year and a half from roughly 13 to more than 30 workers, Modern Plastics will be adding 10,000 square feet to its corporate facility this year. The company will be punching a hole in an existing wall and expanding into an adjacent building, but Carbone doesn’t see that as an end.

“Distribution of medical plastic, which include implantable products and medical instruments, has become the fastest growing component for Modern Plastics over the years, Carbone said. That’s something we weren’t doing 10 years ago. The business is really changing quite a bit.”

The business started out as a family-owned company

Modern Plastics, a global plastics distributor, recently announced it will be expanding its 21,000 square foot headquarters at 88 Long Hill Cross Road. “The company has found continued success following its 2010 relocation from Bridgeport (after 65 years in Bridgeport) but the last 18 months have been especially positive,” said Bing Carbone,



in Bridgeport more than 70 years ago, as a glass product manufacturer. Carbone’s grandfather, Joseph, started the business in 1945 at 678 Howard Avenue.

Back then, the company focused on developing glass products for cars and buildings under the name Modern Glass. It wasn’t until the 1960s that the business transitioned into plastic distribution which has evolved over time.

Medical-grade plastics account for roughly 60 percent of Modern Plastic’s business while the balance consists of high-performance engineering-grade plastics and premium customer plastic fabrications.

“We do an awful lot of work in that,” Carbone said. “It’s a high-risk business for us, but it is also a very good business for us because we sell the products on a global scale.”

Carbone attributed Modern Plastic’s growing presence in the medical industry to increased numbers of baby boomers joining the senior population.

“The baby boomers are getting at an age where they’re requiring lots of surgeries, whether that’s a knee replacement, a hip replacement or spinal surgery, so medical is growing very fast and it’s expected to keep that way for the next 10 to 15 years,” Carbone said. ♦

*Excerpts reprinted with the kind permission of Hearst Media.*



### Ceremonial Stonework Discovery Sparks Cam Family Research

Shelton resident Richard Parkins was exploring off-trail in the woods near some ruins at Shelton Lakes when he took notice of the chiseled flat rock he was standing on. He brushed the leaves off of the rock to expose an engraved circle and a line leading to the center of the circle. Close by were stones arranged in patterns not typical of an old farm. Intrigued, he shared some pictures with Dr. Lucianne Lavin at the Institute of American Indian Studies in Washington, Connecticut. Dr. Lavin forwarded the photos to James and Mary Gage, experts on old stone structures of New England. A site visit was soon arranged. Thus began the exploration of the George Cam homestead and the rediscovery of an 18th century Native American family living in a world transformed by European settlers.



The Gage's walked the site and thought the stone structures looked like indigenous ceremonial structures, including a dramatic "serpent effigy" created by stones stacked around large boulders. The serpent's head was formed by a three foot long boulder. There were a number of potential niches and holes that seemed designed for ceremonies involving underground serpents or snakes, a common tradition of Northeast Indians. The circular rock discovered by Richard Parkins was not a gristmill or lye stone, but had more in common with indigenous ceremonial stones. The carving appeared to have been done crudely with a iron stone-working tool found nearby called a hand point, so it was relatively modern.

These stone structures were set amongst the ruins of a small, rather poor farm, with low stone walls



Niches were spiritual portals to the underground

defining the garden and livestock areas around the home. It seemed likely that the ceremonial structures had been created by whoever lived at the farm. Were they Native American? It seemed unlikely, but a records search was begun.

The Huntington land records showed that George Cam purchased the six-acre homestead in 1790. Both George and his wife Lilpha were identified as "free born Negroes." It was common during that era for Native Americans to be classified as "Negro."

During the 1790's, most African-Americans in Connecticut were still enslaved while the Gradual Emancipation law slowly began to take effect. George's status as "free born" in 1765 and his land purchase of 1790 was unusual. The only other comparable records in Huntington were for a Noah Blackleach Cam, four years older than George and possibly his brother. Noah built a homestead near what is now Means Brook Reservoir.

George Cam made additional property purchases at Shelton Lakes over the years, including a "woodlot" that is now the site of Eklund Garden. George and his wife Lilpha had three children who reached adulthood: Archibal, Nancy, and John. The latter purchased a 12-acre farm bounded by Long Hill Avenue and Kneen Street, then called "The Cam Road." Archibal inherited the George Cam homestead and lived there until old age. He and his wife Phillis were the last to inhabit the farm, and the property was

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1792 entry for George and Lilpha Cam

eventually purchased by the water company. This purchase allowed the stoneworks to survive to the present day.

But was the family Native-American, or African-American, or both? Census records for descendants of George Cam listed them as “mulatto,” a term used for Native Americans.

It was records pertaining to George’s grandson, John L. Cam, that finally provided a solid link with the Native American community. According to legal papers filed by the Golden Hill Paugussetts in the 1990s, tribal leader William Sherman had kept a detailed diary. In it, he described his close friendship with John L. Cam, who was Indian. After John’s first wife died, he married William’s daughter, Harriet Hulda Sherman.



John Cam’s tombstone at the Long Hill Burying Ground

John L. Cam was a successful bricklayer during the time when the brick factories of downtown Shelton were being constructed. He and his sister Kate inherited the twelve acres of land from their father John. Tragically, John L. Cam’s children, grandchildren, and first wife all perished in the late 1800s from various diseases. John and his family are buried at Long Hill Burying Ground, across the street from the old Cam farm.

There was another marriage between a George Cam descendent and the Sherman family of the Golden Hill Paugussetts: Harriet Curtis, daughter of Louisa Cam (John’s niece), married Edward Lewis Sherman, also known as Chief Blackhawk.

The oldest evidence of the Cam family’s Indian

roots dates to 1763, when a Grand Jury determined that Mary Wills, “also known as Mary Cam, an Indian Squaw,” had died of natural causes at the south end of Derby in the “Indian Field So Called.” Her death had been suspicious.

Another line of Cams descended from Noah Cam, presumably George’s brother, who lived near Means Brook Reservoir. Several of Noah’s children moved to the Woodbury/Waterbury area and the family became established there. Reverend Richard Cam of Waterbury became involved in the Cam research and has affirmed the Cam family’s Native American roots.



A secondary serpent head. Farmers did not usually perch a large rock on top of many small rocks.

The interpretation of the stones at Shelton Lakes as Native American ceremonial structures may have seemed initially far fetched. However, the subsequent discovery that the family identified as Native American validates that interpretation. The Cam family lived in a land transformed by colonists, while secretly retaining some of their indigenous cultural and spiritual traditions. They may have made offerings to a spirit serpent or snake who roamed underground. Rock niches allowed the spirit to come out of the ground and accept the offerings. Rocks arranged into serpent effigies guarded the property but were probably not recognized as such by the White community in which the Cams lived. The structures were ‘hiding in plain sight.’

*Historic sites like the George Cam homestead are vulnerable to treasure seeking, which is why metal detecting is not allowed on City Open Space properties. Please follow “Leave No Trace” etiquette when visiting our conservation areas. ♦*

### 1912 War Games Played in Shelton

The War Games of August 1912 were training exercises for soldiers and most likely the largest ever held on the East Coast. The Red Army was the foreign invader attempting to take over New York City and its water supply. The Blue Army marched into Shelton on August 10 to defend the bridges across the Housatonic River.

While the games were hard work for the participants, onlookers experienced a carnival like atmosphere. People visited the army camps, watched the battles and even saw their first airplanes, which were used by the armies as spotters.

More than 8,000 men participated in the Battle of Huntington on August 14. It was held about one mile from the Huntington Green with the armies entrenched on Walnut Tree Hill. The Blue Army held their lines but later lost the war in a battle near Danbury. ♦

*Special thanks to the Shelton Historical Society for the story and photos.*



The iron Viaduct Bridge stretched over the railroad, canal and Canal Street from its construction in 1888 until it was replaced in 1973 with the concrete bridge that is there to this day.



Someone with a sense of humor captioned this "The Toils of War."



The boys are talking to the soldier in front of the Thomas J. Finn saloon at 55 Bridge Street.



# 2018 Clean Sweep "Volunteer of the Year" Awards

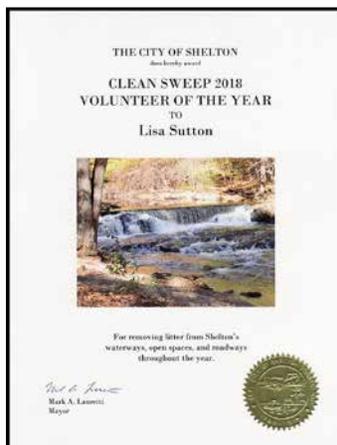


Hundreds of people participated in Shelton's annual Clean Sweep event last April by removing litter from their neighborhood streets, parks, and waterways. All participants were eligible for free custom iron-on patches, which featured the Hope Lake dam in 2018, as well as certificates of appreciation signed by the Mayor.

Each year, the City also give special recognition to a few of its most active volunteers:

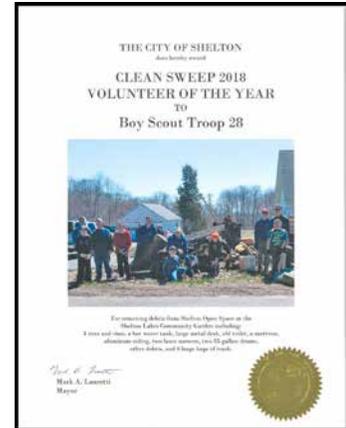
### Individual Category: Lisa Sutton

Lisa Sutton has been picking up litter around Shelton for years. One of the places she often cleans up is the Gristmill Trail area on Mill Street along the Far Mill River. The two parking areas and the fishing area around the dam are often a mess and she cleans that up. She's also picked up litter from other trailhead parking areas like the one at Eklund Garden at Shelton Lakes, from church parking lots, and from roadsides. One of Ms Sutton's pet peeves are cigarette butts, which contain plastic and are not biodegradable.



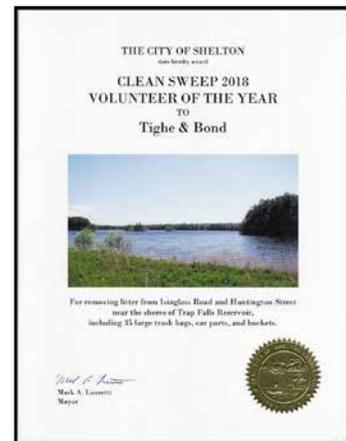
### Group Category: Boy Scout Troop 28

Troop 28 has a tradition of removing large piles of debris from Shelton's Public Open Space, and they did it again in 2018. They chose a location near the Shelton Lakes Community Garden and hiking trails where abandoned junk was scattered along an area filled with thorny brush. The debris included four tires and rims, a hot water tank, a large metal desk, an old toilet, a mattress, aluminum siding, two lawn mowers, two 55-gallon drums, 6 large bags of smaller items, and other debris. Plot holders at the nearby community garden were especially happy to see the junk removed from the woods.



### Business Category: Tighe and Bond

Employees at Tighe and Bond's Shelton office (1000 Bridgeport Avenue) once again cleaned up portions of Isinglass Road and Huntington Street that abut the land around Trap Falls Reservoir. They filled thirty-five large trash bags with litter and removed other items such as car parts and buckets. Tighe and Bond offers engineering and environmental consulting services. ♦



Shelton *Going Green*

### Thanksgiving Day Football 100 Year Rivalry Continues Between Shelton and Derby

On Saturday, October 15, 1904 about 50 Shelton High School girls sporting orange and black ribbons in their hair and the wands they swung in the wind gathered at Lake Housatonic Park in Derby (a trolley park north of the dam, it no longer exists). The girls joined a crowd of fans and Shelton parents who “were on hand to see their offspring mauled”, as the daily newspaper Evening Sentinel reported.

At 3:15 PM, a Derby boy named Sullivan kicked a low dribbling punt to the Shelton High School team, and the first Derby-Shelton football game was underway. Within 3 minutes a Shelton boy named Bond ran 75 yards, scoring the first touchdown. The game was brutal, and on the last play of the game, Derby struggled to score a touchdown only 10 yards from the goal.

Both teams struggled to push through the other, each refusing to give. The referees blew their whistles repeatedly to end the play, but no one listened. Finally one of the timekeepers declared the play over, and the cheering Shelton team started walking off the field.

However, a misunderstanding between the two timekeepers led the other one to think the game as still on, and the Derby boys pushed through the remaining players who had not begun walking off the field, scoring a touchdown. After some heated argument, the referee discounted the last play, and the score was 11-5 in Shelton’s favor. (Touchdowns were worth five points in those days).

One of the most intense football rivalries in Connecticut began that Saturday afternoon. The first game played on Thanksgiving was one hun-



In the second year of the rivalry, the 1905 Derby Team beat Shelton 27-0

dred years ago, in 1918. Derby had played Ansonia on Thanksgiving previous to that date, but the Ansonia High School team was unable to field a team that year, so Derby began playing Shelton. Despite the Shelton players being bigger, the Derby boys were faster and they won 27-0 in 1918.

In 1947 the Sidney Blumenthal Company presented the large “Shelton Loom” trophy to Shelton after the team defeated Derby, 13-6. The idea was to have the winner in possession of

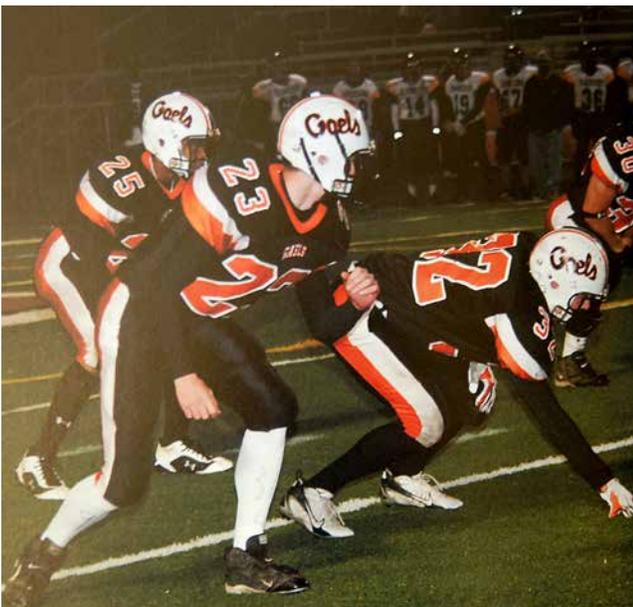
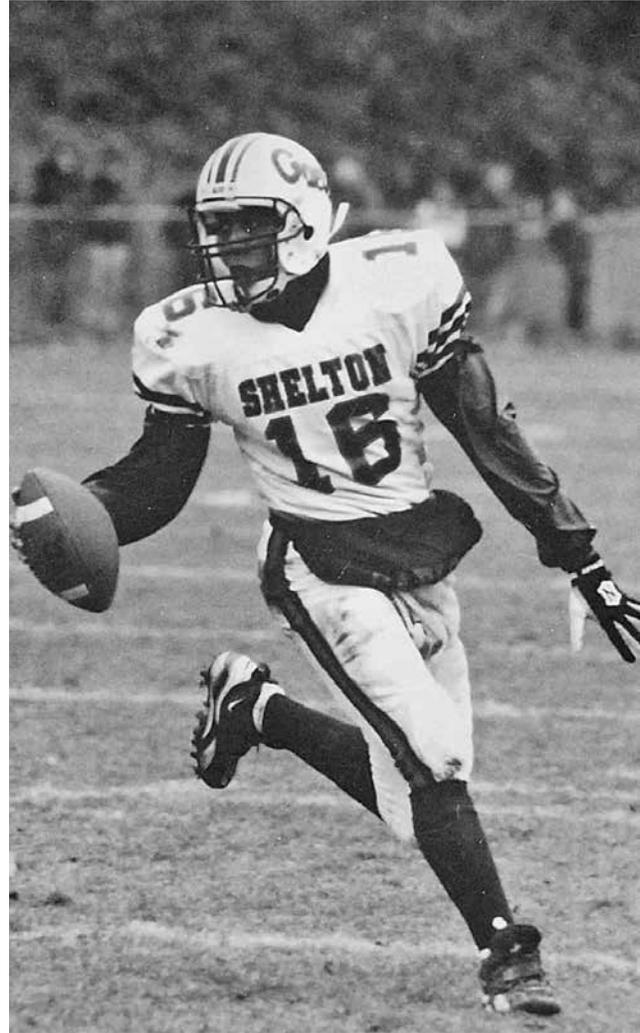


## COMMUNITY NEWS



the cup every year, much like hockey's Stanley Cup. "Permanent Possession by Shelton" was attained in 1958. Derby had won only a single game in that time span, while Shelton had won the State Football title in 1952.

The Sidney Blumehtal Company, better known as "Shelton Looms", began as a small textile plant on the canal in 1898, and eventually grew to encompass over a block and a half along Canal Street just above the Commodore Hull Bridge. The firm moved to North Carolina in 1953, and the buildings were taken over by the Sponge Rubber Products Company, which for much of its existence was part of B.F.



Goodrich. The buildings were firebombed in 1975.

The 1949 Thanksgiving Day game culminated three seasons of undefeated Housatonic League play for the orange and black Gaels, having not been defeated since 1946. The team's coach was the very popular Edward C. Finn. Finn became the Shelton High School football coach in 1939. Drafted into the army, he returned to Shelton after World War II, and turned the Gaels into a football powerhouse in the late 40s and 50s.

Ed Finn's contributions to the Shelton High School football program have not been forgotten. The football field behind the new Shelton High School was named after him. The first game was played on that field Thanksgiving Day, 1974. That was twenty-five years ago, and what a game it was.

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### **parker. Eatery & Bar Adds New Location in Shelton**



The restaurant, parker. Eatery & Bar, began in Oronoque Shopping plaza in 2010. Over the past eight years the restaurant has grown, adding parker. Steaks & Scotch in Trumbull and parker. Mansion in Westport.

With all the business growth and development in Shelton, the decision was made to relocate the parker. Eatery & Bar location from Stratford to a brand new building at 762 River Road. Just past the Sportscenter of Connecticut, parker. Eatery & Bar is in the rear of the new building.

On September 10th, parker. Eatery & Bar officially opened its doors revealing the newly-constructed building while offering the same fine food surrounded by an upscale but relaxed setting. Their menu con-

sistently reflects the new trend in American upscale casual dining with favorites like short rib mac-n-chz, bbq ribs, meatloaf, and famous French dip.

The new parker. location offers plenty of casual bar space, a comfortable dining room, and plenty of room for larger parties and special events. They also have an outside seating area with outdoor heaters for comfort.

Please contact parker. Eatery & Bar at (203) 513-2849 with any questions regarding luncheon or dinner parties, and any other dining requests. The restaurant is open every day from 11am-1am. Visit [parkereatery.com](http://parkereatery.com) for more information on all locations. ♦



# Honoring the Past and Looking to the Future at Plumb Memorial Library

*Submitted by Joan Stokes, Library Director*

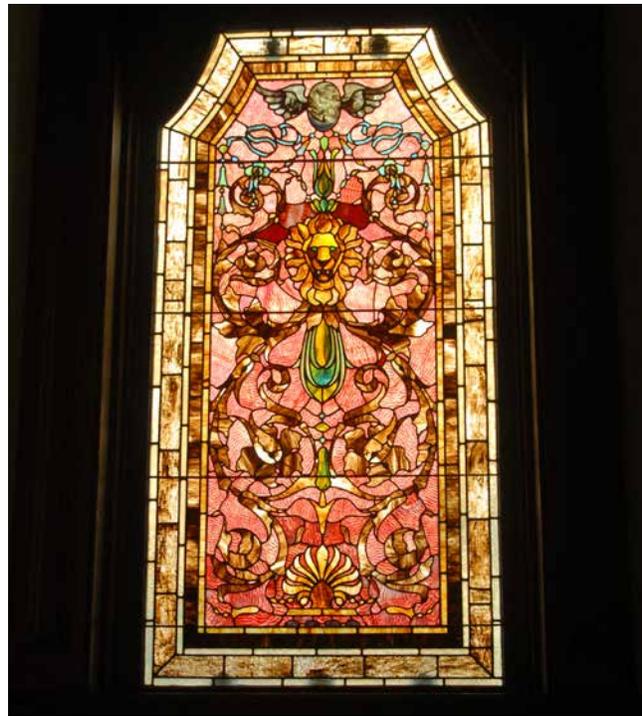
This is truly an exciting time for the Plumb Memorial Library! An extensive renovation project has begun that will, over the course of nearly the next decade, enhance, refurbish and renovate every corner of this historic building. As this joint venture among the Library Board, the City of Shelton and the Friends of the Shelton Library begins, it is also interesting to look back and see just how far we have come.

The first phase of this project is the complete renovation of the meeting room. Stop in and you will notice the changes underway immediately! Soon there will be a bright, clean, energy efficient room with state of the art equipment that will enable the library staff to offer new varieties of programming and will also enable the public an area for community events as well.

The other new addition to library is the installation of the classically beautiful Red Lion stained glass window in the Connecticut Room in the older section of the Plumb Library. This window, along with the existing two stained glass windows in the Main Reading Room, are the result of an effort spearheaded by former director Essie Lydon and the Library Board of Directors. They were painstakingly recreated by Michael Skrtic of The Glass Source with the assistance of some members of the Library Board. The Friends of the Library supplied the beautiful wood frames around the windows in the Main Reading Room built by Murzyn Workshop custom woodworking.

This is one of the reasons that the library is so unique. It is rewarding to see library patrons, both young and old, come in to the library to admire and appreciate the beauty of these pieces.

Please feel free to stop in to witness progress taking place in this venerable building. It is undoubtedly a jewel in the City of Shelton. ♦



(l to r) Current Library Director, Joan Stokes; Past Library Director, Essie Lydon and current and past board members



Meeting room renovations in progress

### Mohegan School Goes Pink

One early Wednesday morning in mid-October, Mohegan School became alive with a gentle loving energy as the children and staff filed into the gymnasium to Katy Perry's song, Roar. Pink filled the entire area from streamers, balloons, decorations, and the clothing on the audience participants to show support for the Valley Goes Pink Breast Cancer Awareness drive. On this special day the culminating activity took place with the pumpkin decorating fashion show created by each of the grades and their teachers as well as special area teachers. The judging panel consisted of Dr. Beth Smith, Principal of Shelton High School, Linda Schauwecker, Past Chair of Valley Goes Pink and Co-Owner of Real Estate Two, Jodi Dawley and Frannie Leonard, Co-Chairs of the event this year, and Dr. Darlisa Ritter and Kathleen Yolish, members of Shelton Board of Education.

Mrs. Santilli, Principal of Mohegan School, welcomed everyone, introduced the judges and explained



Patricia Rabbit Pumpkin



Staff, judges and principal



Poppy and Branch Troll Pumpkins



Principal Kristen Santilli



Frannie Leonard and Jodi Dawley Co-Chairs of Valley Goes Pink

the rubric for scoring the pumpkins which were donated by Jones' Farm. A pink paper runway centered through the gym and the pumpkins (which were all painted pink) were brought out one at a time. Some of the entries included: Patricia Rabbit Pumpkin (Peter Rabbit's wife), Flamingo Pumpkin, Survivor Pumpkin, Poppy the Troll Pumpkin, Unicorn Pumpkin, Mr. Potato Head Pumpkin, Pumpkin Bride, Wilbur the Pig Pumpkin and Poppy and Branch Troll Pumpkins. The judges had a difficult time because of the uniqueness of each one and had to break a tie between a 4th grade class and a 2nd grade class. Mrs. Dempsey's 4th

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## Humanities Milestone

Many Shelton residents may be surprised to find out that all students in the Shelton Public School System are studying Humanities. Just ask Mrs. Santilli, Principal of Mohegan School, or Mr. Colandrea, Vice Principal of Shelton High School, who co-chair the Board of Education's Humanities Committee. The Humanities Committee is one of five committees charged by the Board of Education Strategic Planning Committee to identify what we want students to achieve or master by the time they graduate from high school. The other committees include: Community, STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics), Innovation, and Career Pathways.

What is Humanities and how does the integration of Humanities into the curriculum affect students in grades K-12?

What is Humanities? In simplified terms, it is essentially how people, as human beings, appreciate values and the ability to express oneself. Topics include (but are not limited to): social justice, thematic instruction (Social Studies, Language Arts, Philosophy and Psychology), digital literacy, journalism, the arts, poetry, library media, and rigorous project based learning.

All students at Mohegan School work on projects that encourage them to be sensitive to the world around them and the history that continues to affect them. For example, Mohegan second graders have been exposed to a project-based learning activity centered

around careers. They conducted an "Author Share" at the end of the school year to celebrate writing. Students researched their humanities project by combining research, writing, technology, and social sciences into a celebration they proudly shared with their families.

To initiate this project, students researched a career of their choice. They then wrote an opinion paragraph explaining why that was the career they wanted to pursue if they were ready to join the work force today. A google slide presentation containing the researched information about their chosen career was developed by each student. An example of research might include where they would need to live and how much would they earn as an annual salary. Mrs. Tichy, the school Media Specialist, taught the children "Green Screen Technology" and videotaped each student reading their opinion paragraph. This project was accomplished over several weeks and included collaborative efforts by the second-grade team of teachers and the Media Specialist. The group was very motivated and proud in this undertaking as they commented... "We personally loved collaborating on this project because we are trying to prepare students for careers that have not even been invented yet using technology and research. It was amazing to have eight and nine-year olds identify trending careers in technology, culinary, engineering and news media."

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Liam Drury as a contractor



Keira Richmond, a future baker

### Redeem Your Self-Esteem A Leader at Shelton Intermediate School

American President, John Quincy Adams, defined a leader as one whose “actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more...” And when talking with many Shelton principals they could identify many leaders in their schools. Julia Wilkinson, a thirteen-year-old student in the School of Innovation at Shelton Intermediate School, is one fine example of a leader who took the initiative to address positive self-esteem for her peers at school. Julia is also a Girl Scout in Troop 5 who coordinated her Silver Award project with a school goal of promoting a “feel good about yourself” project entitled “Redeem Your Self-Esteem”. The Silver Award is



Julia Wilkinson

the highest award earned by a Girl Scout Cadette. She may earn it until September 30 of her ninth-grade year. The sustainable Take Action Project must be completed outside of the Girl Scout Community, address an issue's root cause and include a suggested minimum of 50 hours. It also requires council-level approval.

Julia has witnessed many of her peers as feeling “not good enough” or “not fitting in”. Some have even hidden out in a bathroom when feeling this way. Julia thought about what could be done to help make those feelings and those difficult days better. She researched and created a plan, spoke with her mother and council advisor, and then emailed her school Principal, Kenneth Saranich, with all the details. Upon receiving the necessary approvals, Julia began the preliminary work for her project. She created a team of helpers including her mother, grandmother and her good friend in her troop, Emily Ahern. She gathered needed materials and received donations of stencils, sharpies and paint from her grandmother and Huntington Paint and Wallpaper. She also researched Pinterest and Michaels for inspirational quotes that could be used in her endeavor. Her ultimate goal was to paint the girls’ bathroom in Innovation 8 with inspirational quotes that would send out positive, feel-good, upbeat messag-



es to her peers on a daily basis. She chose the location because it's the hub for many classrooms. She stated, “I did this so girls remember that they are perfect the way they are. I want them to Dream Big, Sparkle and Shine, Reach for the Stars, Find Beauty in Everything and know that they can be anything they want to be and sometimes we all need a reminder”.

The project took more than 50 + hours of personal time and Julia and her team came to SIS almost every day in August to work 4-7 hrs per day.

When students returned to school on September 4th, many commented on how awesome the bathroom looks and even asked if Julia planned on doing more of her artwork elsewhere in the school.

Principal Saranich expressed his appreciation of Julia’s effort and pride in her accomplishment. “We at SIS are very proud of Julia and her work. She has made an effort to improve the school environment as well as empower young girls with a positive message. We will cherish her work here and are committed in preserving it for future students.”

Julia certainly knows the way, goes the way and shows the way... she is a true LEADER who is sure to dream more, learn more, do more and become more! ♦

## SCHOOL NEWS

*Pink, continued from pg. 23*

grade class (substitute teacher for Mrs. Sterbach), took first place with Survivor Pumpkin in which each child painted the name of someone they knew who had cancer. Second place winner was Mrs. Maturo's 2nd grade class' creation of Wilbur the Pig Pumpkin which reflected their literary study of *Charlotte's Web* by E.B. White.

Following the voting, a survivor recognition took place honoring the several people in the audience who have battled cancer and won the fight. Jodi Dawley and Frannie Leonard then addressed the children and thanked them for their efforts to help the Valley Goes Pink. Representatives of the newly organized Student Ambassadors presented special cards, letters and pictures made by the entire school population to be distributed to cancer patients and survivors throughout the valley. Additionally, a check for nearly \$1800 was also given to the co-chairs which was money that was made from the Mohegan Goes Pink School Store and the breast cancer awareness items that stocked the store. Arrangements were made for all the beautiful pumpkins to be donated to the Smilow Cancer Center and are displayed in the hallways, patient waiting room and entrance ways.

Principal Santilli is very proud of her school community. She knows that while wearing pink represents compassion, nurturing and love, it also shows tenderness and kindness with empathy and sensitivity. Pink



Wilbur the Pig pumpkin  
2nd place winner



Hope Pumpkin

is a sign of hope and she hopes that the community will feel that hope when they see the pink pumpkins and read the cards, letters and pictures. She stated the following... "As educators, we want to instill important values in our students, to be kind and always have compassion for others. Mohegan School is a school with a heart and we always try to give back to our community in every way and whenever we can."

It has been said that those who are happiest are those who do the most for others. If you happen to visit Mohegan School you are certain to find a very happy community. ♦

*Milestone, continued from pg. 24*

Principal Santilli was equally excited to see the fruits of her Humanities Committee's goals applied within her school. She expressed this in the following statement. "The exposure to the curricula in literacy, media, and arts and humanities was quite rich, tying in the current trends in the newest technology with the green screen application was paramount for students. It was so rewarding to see even the most timid learners shine and gain confidence in this type of project-based learning as they had to dress the part, bring in props and make posters. The culmination was a living wax museum of careers whereby students made presentations to their parents and school community. This included an opportunity to not only apply their research skills, but also to learn and develop their communication skills which is imperative for 21st century learners."

As renowned physicist Stephen Hawking said, "We are very, very small, but we are profoundly capable of very, very big things." And that is exactly the pathway



Future artist Mya Spear

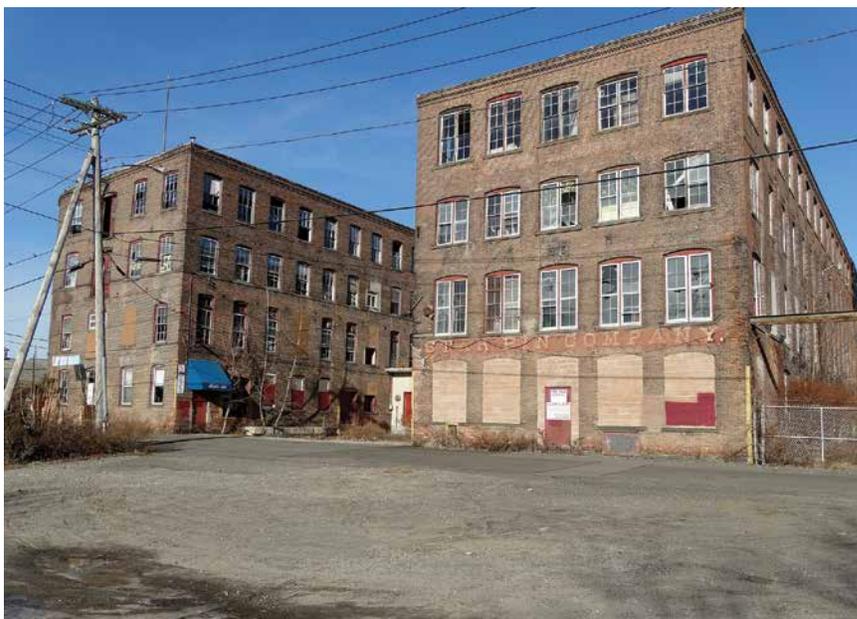
the Humanities Committee aims to lead students in their quest to be ready for the 21st century. They are well on their way! ♦

### Star Pin Factory Still Standing After 100 Years

The Star Pin Factory, located at 267 Canal Street is still standing after 100 years. And, if the City of Shelton and the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) have anything to say about it, it will be here for another 100 years.

The Star Pin Factory building, originally constructed in 1875 is located at 267 Canal Street. The property, which was taken over by the City of Shelton through tax foreclosure is in significant disrepair and becomes worse through each weather event. Beyond the poor condition, the property has significant environmental concerns within the building structure, as well as within the soil and groundwater.

The City of Shelton has marshalled its forces to remediate the environmental concerns and is also working with the Connecticut SHPO to achieve a full historic restoration of the property. A \$200,000 grant from the State of Connecticut Department of Economic & Community Development (CT/DECD) is supporting the environmental assessment of the property. AECOM, an engineering firm familiar with the property assisted with the completion of a Hazardous Building Material Survey, which found substances such as asbestos, lead, pcb's and mercury



throughout the structure. These materials were typical of industrial buildings of this era.

An environmental remediation grant request of \$860,000 was recently submitted to the State of CT DECD. If awarded, these funds will be utilized to complete the removal of these materials.

It is evident that certain industrial practices have left their mark within the building substructure, soils and groundwater, as well. As the property is further analyzed, the City will produce Phase I, II and III studies to determine what other environmental remediation efforts will be required of the property prior to its sale to a developer.

In 2008, the City of Shelton Planning and Zoning Commission approved a Master Plan of Development which includes the historic reuse of the property, which will include commercial and retail uses on the first floor and 70 residential units located on the upper three floors.

While work is performed to remediate the buildings and the soil, the city will work with the State Historic Preservation Office to make available historic preservation grants and tax credits to support the historic revitalization of the property, which will breathe new life to this tired old property. ♦



## COMMUNITY NEWS

### *Football, continued from pg. 20*

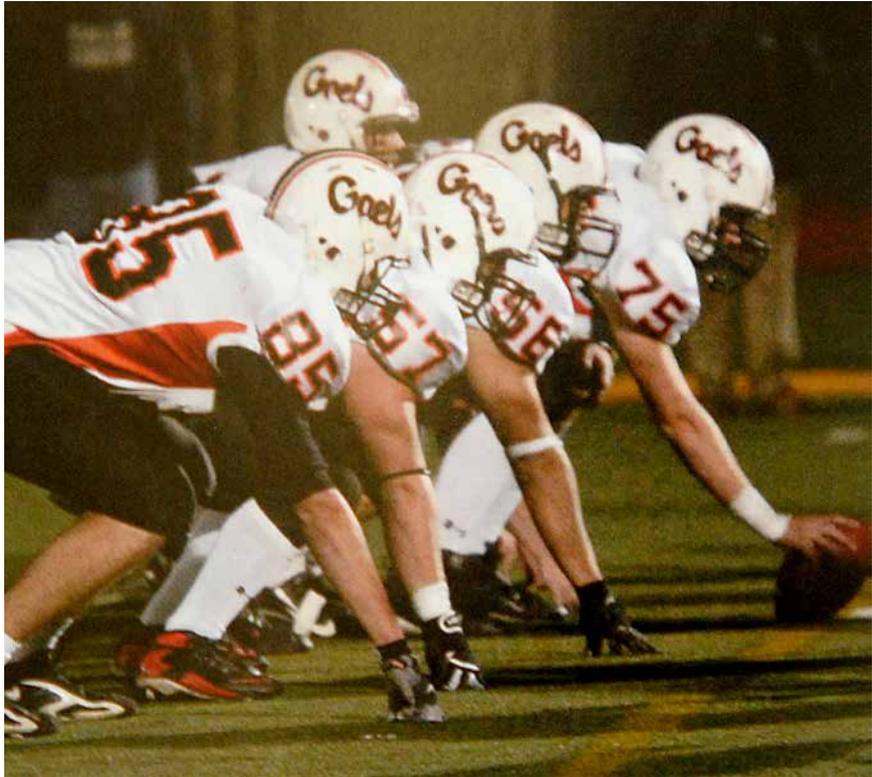
The powerhouse football team of the 40s and 50s had been eclipsed by Derby. Derby had not lost a single Housatonic league game since 1971, and Shelton had not won a Thanksgiving game since 1964. And now, as if to add insult to injury, Derby was in Shelton, at Finn stadium's inaugural game, expecting to cream the Gaels.

A record 13,000 people came out to watch the game. Not unexpectedly, Derby took an early lead. Then something amazing happened. Shelton came from behind in the third quarter to score two touchdowns. The shocked Derby squad never recovered. Derby's streak ended in a major upset, as Shelton won the day 18-16. Ed Finn would have been proud.

Many memorable games have been played between Derby and Shelton on Thanksgiving Day, including the first ever played at the current Shelton High School field in 1974. The Derby team, which had not lost a game in the Housatonic League since 1971, was greeted by a huge sign on the new high school that read "Beware Derby."

The 1980 Thanksgiving game was different for a different reason. The game was in Derby, but the Derby-Shelton Bridge was closed, and a longtime Shelton landmark since the early 20th century was conspicuously absent. Rapp's Restaurant, on Howe Avenue had burned down early that morning. Several hundred people with reservations for Thanksgiving dinner had to change their plans. The Sentinel reporter commented, "They had better hurry and rebuild Rapp's Restaurant. Shelton will not be the same without it". They didn't rebuild Rapp's. But the void that once contained Rapp's was filled about thirteen years ago by an open patio from the adjacent restaurant Danny-O's, now called The Pub. By the way, Derby won the game 12-0.

Over the years, the game was played at Lafayette Field, behind Lafayette School on Grove Street, and Finn Stadium at the current High School. Derby locations included Housatonic Park off today's Roosevelt Drive, Island Park on today's O'Sullivan's Island, and



Coon Hollow Park, which is today's Ryan Field near the present Derby High School. The teams tended to have 10-12 year winning streaks, but the series was reasonably even until the 1980s, when Shelton's population began to swell due to suburbanization, resulting in a deeper bench which often overwhelmed the Derby team. As of 2017, the series stands at 56 wins for Shelton versus 43 for Derby, with Shelton's last loss in 2002. ♦

*Contributed by Rob Novak, Historian*



### Valley Shakespeare Festival Presents:



Valley Shakespeare Festival (VSF), a 501(c)(3) non-profit theatre company based in Shelton and dedicated to bringing free theater to the communities of the lower Naugatuck Valley and beyond, will present its fifth annual script-in-hand dramatic reading of Charles Dickens' immortal classic, "A Christmas Carol" at Shelton's Plumb Memorial Library (65 Wooster Street) on Friday, December 7, 2018, at 7:00 PM and Saturday, December 8, 2018, at 1:00 PM. Valley Shakespeare Festival is known throughout the Valley as the company which performs free full-length production of Shakespeare plays in Shelton's Riverwalk/Veterans Memorial Park in July along with its infamous Shakespeare in the Bar series which runs twice yearly in local eating establishments.

The production will be held upstairs in the library's elegant 1895 Romanesque Revival-style Reading Room which features a soaring cathedral ceiling, Victorian wing chairs and a massive fireplace.

Performances are being presented to the public free of charge with a suggested donation of \$10 per person.

A Christmas Carol, adapted for the event by VSF's

Executive/Artistic Director Tom Simonetti, will be performed with minimal props and costuming and a cast of professional actors, many of whom returning audience members will recognize from previous VSF productions.

Audience members will have an opportunity to mix and mingle with the cast and crew over refreshments provided by Plumb Library after both performances. For more information or to make reservations, please call Valley Shakespeare Festival at 203-513-9446 or visit their website at [www.vsfestival.org](http://www.vsfestival.org). ♦



### Christmas Tree Lighting

Join "Celebrate Shelton" for our 5th Annual Community Tree Lighting with free hot cocoa & cookies, caroling and a special visit from SANTA!

Friday, November 30 from 6pm-8pm at Veteran's Memorial Park in Shelton.

We welcome the Keystone Club of Boys & Girls Club of LNV as they bring joy and cheer every year to our event!

# Community Calendar

## PARKS & RECREATION

### Bus trip to 2018 Christmas

**Spectacular** on December 2nd at 2pm.

The Shelton Community Center offers pool, fitness, basketball, and pickleball memberships to all residents and non residents.

**Children:** HappyFeet Soccer, Jump Bunch, Kids Pottery, Lil' Dragons Karate, Little Kickers Soccer, Music and Movement, Tab & Ballet, Tumbletrain and Swim Lessons (both group & Private)

**Adults:** Body Sculpting, Cardio Lite, Pilates, Pottery, Move it 2 lose it, Step, Sculpt & Abs, Stretch & Tone, Tai Chi, Numerous Yoga classes including adaptive yoga and gentle yoga, Zumba, various water classes and private swim lessons for adults

### Community Center Hours:

Monday-Friday 6:30 am - 9:30 pm

Saturday 7:30 am - 3:30 pm

### Pool Hours:

Monday-Friday 6:00 am - 8:45 pm

Sunday 8:00 am - 3:30 pm

Saturday 7:30 am - 3:30 pm

Information is posted on the city website: [www.cityofshelton.org](http://www.cityofshelton.org),

Information/Cancellation Hotline 203-331-4120.

## SHELTON LIBRARY SYSTEM

### Plumb Memorial Library

65 Wooster St. 203-924-9461

### Huntington Branch Library

In the Community Center,  
41 Church St. 203-926-0111

## SHELTON YOUTH SERVICE BUREAU

The Youth Service Bureau was established in 1988 by the City of Shelton for the purpose of developing, planning and coordinating services for the youth of the city and their families. The Youth Service Bureau works

cooperatively with the schools, police, youth, parents and other community resources to encourage our youth to strive for their full potential. The Bureau provides programs for both youth and parents on issues of importance in today's society, such as social media, bullying, alcohol and drug facts and mental health issues. It also provides information and referrals for parents and youth in need. For more information on our programs and services, please call the Youth Service Bureau at 203-924-7614 or email [SYSB@cityofshelton.org](mailto:SYSB@cityofshelton.org)

**Spotlight on Youth** – If you know a Shelton student, between the ages of 12 and 18, who has given back to his/her school or community through volunteer hours or acts of kindness, nominate that student for Spotlight on Youth. Forms are available at the libraries and the Shelton Community Center or call the Youth Service Bureau at 203-924-7614.

## SHELTON SENIOR CENTER

The Center provides a wide range of social, educational, health, financial, and recreational programs for residents 55 years of age and older. The Center's goal is to keep members active and involved through various programs. The Center sponsors parties, BBQ's, special events, day/overnight trips and casino trips.

Transportation to the Center is provided for Shelton residents (FREE MWF) including free shopping bus to local stores for members on Wednesdays. For more information regarding any of these programs please call the Center at (203) 924-9324.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Shelton City Hall (203) 924-1555

Shelton Board of Education  
(203) 924-1023

Shelton Community Center  
(203) 925-8422

Shelton Highways and Bridges  
(203) 924-9277

Shelton Animal Control  
(203) 924-2501

Shelton Libraries:

Plumb Library (203) 924-1580

Branch Library (203) 926-0111

Shelton Police Dept. (203) 924-1544

Shelton Probate Court  
(203) 924-8462

Shelton Registrar of Voters  
(203) 924-2533

### 1ST WARD ALDERMEN

Anthony Simonetti (203) 926-0922

David Gidwani (203) 450-8223

### 2ND WARD ALDERMEN

Stan Kudej (203) 924-2403

Eric McPherson (203) 924-5862

### 3rd WARD ALDERMEN

John Anglace (203) 929-1515

Cris Balamaci (203) 450-0227

### 4th WARD ALDERMEN

Noreen McGorty (203) 926-1638

Jim Capra (203) 925-0758

### STATE LEGISLATORS

State Senator Kevin Kelly  
(860) 240-8826

State Representative Ben McGorty  
(800) 842-1423

State Representative Jason Perillo  
(800) 842-1423

### CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATION

Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro

(New Haven office) (203) 562-3718

Congressman Jim Himes

(Bridgeport office) (866) 453-0028

### U.S. SENATORS

Senator Richard Blumenthal

(Bridgeport office) (203) 330-0598

Senator Chris Murphy

(Hartford office) (860) 549-8463

# Shelton Day ♦ Columbus Day Parade 2018

## Another Derby-Shelton Rotary Event – “Service Above Self”

