



Saybrook Manor Sentinel

Volume 1, Number 3

December, 2024

"There is the sea, vast and spacious, teeming with creatures without number"...Psalm 104:25

Lions and Tigers and Sharks (oh my)!!!



The shark sign on Hartford Avenue

There have been some inquiries regarding the shark poster at the Hartford Avenue Beach. It is 'Fake News'. Some prankster (probably from Cape Cod, where there are numerous sightings) thinks this is funny. The sign was removed but seems to reappear. The problem will be resolved.

There was no shark sighting. But keep in mind that this is The Sound, which is part of the ocean, which has sharks. You never know. It is just beach life.

And since we do not have a lot of material for this edition, let us explore a bit. Statistically, the odds of being

bitten by a shark vary by source, but are as high as 264 million to one. Gili Shark Conservation says that you are more likely to die from a lightning strike or a stroke. They cite some other stats (supposedly all true):

- Roughly 200,000 people per year are injured in flip-flop accidents. Yes, flip-flops.
- On average, 100 people die each year from falling icicles.
- Champagne corks kill an average of two dozen people per year.
- Getting killed by a falling coconut is 30 times more likely than a shark attack.
- Choking on a hot dog, falling out of bed, and shaking vending machines round out the "most dangerous injuries" list.

There have only been three documented shark attacks on the Connecticut shoreline since **1890**, **none** fatal. The most recent shark attack was on **August 24, 1960, 64 years ago**, at Seaside Park in Bridgeport, which is dangerous enough without the sharks.

So, turn off "Jaws" and get back out on that beach this Summer.



Saybrook Manor Sentinel

Volume 1, Number 3

December, 2024

"There is the sea, vast and spacious, teeming with creatures without number"...Psalm 104:25

Page Two



Front of a postcard to Miss Augusta Gates of Norwich, Conn. from her sister "D.W.G" Postmarked June 11, 1934. Look closely...the four people in full bathing suits in the foreground are guys!!! It looks like the Middletown Avenue Beach, with the Oyster River in the background, but could be wrong.

Postcard courtesy of Bob Sussman

Happy Holidays

Best wishes from the Board of Governors for a happy holiday season. We had a great 2024 and look forward to an even more wonderful 2025.



Didja Know???

The Connecticut River is the longest tidal river in New England. Its name (and that of the state) comes from the Mohegan word "Quinetucket" which means "long tidal river." Go figure. It was also called the Great River, the Fresh River, and the Verse River by the British, French and Dutch respectively.

The river's source is the Fourth Connecticut Lake in Pittsburg, New Hampshire, 300 yards from the Canadian border. It flows southward for 406, 407 or 410 miles, depending upon who you ask, where it ends at....well, we all know where it ends. It is one of the few US rivers that does not have a major city at its estuary.



Sunset on the beach. 4:20 p.m. Days start getting longer in only 11 days or 264 hours!! Hope springs eternal.