

The Simsbury Scoop



July 2015 www.simsbury-ct.gov on Twitter @TownofSimsbury

New bank opening on corner of Bushy Hill and Rte. 44

The Simsbury Zoning Commission has approved a new development (actually a redevelopment) of the property at the corner of Bushy Hill Road and Route 44, 16 Albany Turnpike.

The site was formerly occupied by a gas station, but that use was removed years ago after a fuel spill at the site. Since that

time, the State of Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (now the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection) has worked diligently with the property to clean the site.

The new use of the site is a small Berkshire Bank branch office. It is

important for residents to know that no new curb cuts were permitted as part of the zoning approval.

Only existing curb cuts will be permitted to be used. The

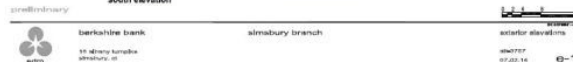
cooperation between McDonald's and the bank property owner and the bank itself allowed the

building to be sited as is currently being done.

The site has also been reviewed and approved by the state Department of Transportation.

For any questions, please call the land use department at 860-658-3228.

The new use of the site is a small Berkshire Bank branch office.



Simsbury retains Aaa rating from Moody's for bond sale

Moody's Investors Service has reaffirmed the Town of Simsbury's Aaa bond rating — Moody's highest rating.

Moody's highest long-term rating reflects the town's affluent and moderately-sized tax base, which is favorably located outside of the state capital.

The Aaa rating further factors the town's professional management team, which has maintained historically stable finan-

cial operations and healthy reserve levels which are supported by a formal policy. Further, the rating incorporates modest long-term liabilities for debt service, pension, and OPEB.

"I'm pleased but not surprised. This is the result of a long-standing commitment to responsible fiscal management," said First Selectman Lisa Heavner. "We understand that the money we spend comes from our residents' pockets and work very hard to

get it right."

"I am pleased that the town was able to

maintain the Aaa bond rating," said Board of Finance Chairman Peter Askham. "This rating validates the town's policies of debt management, reserves, pension and OPEB funding. The town has been, and will always be, committed to sound conservative fiscal management."

MOODY'S
INVESTORS SERVICE

**The Simsbury
Farmers' Market
is open!**

**The Simsbury Farmers' Market runs every
Thursday through September 10, 2015 from
3 to 6 p.m. on the Green at Simsmore
Square, 540 Hopmeadow Street,
www.simsburyfarmersmarket.com.**



Join the community discussion of *Boys in the Boat* with SHS crew team

What is it like to be part of "the boat"? Learn firsthand July 28 at the Simsbury Public Library when members of Simsbury High School's men's and women's crew teams and their coaches share their experiences participating in a top-notch rowing program and what it means to each of them to be part of "the boat". This will be followed by a facilitated discussion with crew members, coaches and audience members of Daniel James Brown's bestselling book *The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics*.

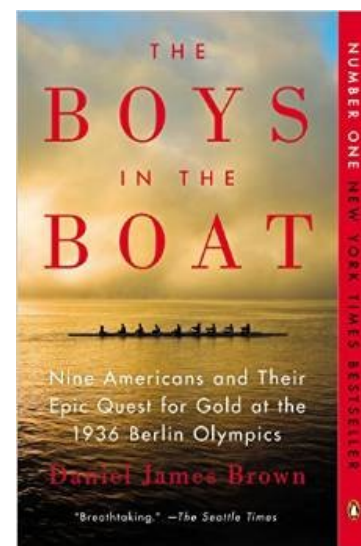
The discussion, from 7 to 8:30 p.m., will be led by local historian and author, Mary Jane Springman.

"Having members of the crew team with us will add a special dimension to the



discussion of this captivating and inspiring true story," she said.

Extra copies of the book are available to check out at the library reference desk. Come and be part of the discussion. Registration is suggested at 860-658-7663 x2200 or www.simsburylibrary.info.



**Tuesday, July 28
7 to 8:30 p.m.
Simsbury Public Library
program room.
To register, [click here](#).
Free and open to all.**

Survey says: residents give town high marks for quality of life



Survey results released by research firm GreatBlue show that 97.3 percent of residents give the Town of Simsbury a high rating for quality of life with a 10 percent increase in the number of residents rating quality of life as "excellent" as compared with a similar town-wide survey conducted in 2008.

"We have worked hard as a community in the face of some very tough economic challenges to make sure that Simsbury remains a wonderful place to live and work," said First Selectman Lisa Heavner. "This survey validates priorities established by the board of selectmen, particularly in areas such as open space, the development of opportunities for outdoor activities such as biking and walking, and maintaining Simsbury's historic charm."

Selectman Sean Askham concurred, stating that "these results give us some good

insight into where we should be focusing our efforts in the future."

According to the report, preservation of open space and areas dedicated to pedestrian use were top priorities for residents with 92.3 percent of residents viewing the town's activities in this area "very positively."

A number of the survey questions focused on the future of the town's senior center and the board of selectmen's directive to fully explore development of a senior/community center at the Simsbury Meadows Performing Arts Center site on Iron Horse Boulevard. GreatBlue's "resident opinion study" concluded that "the location voted by the board of selectmen would not only retain current visitors ... but it would also attract new ones ..." Residents placed more importance on programming than on location, with a heavy focus on health, recreation and wellness activities availa-

ble to residents of all ages. With respect to the cost of a senior/community center, 58 percent of residents reported that they would be in favor of "some tax increase" to fund the project.

Questions designed to obtain resident opinion on economic development, according to GreatBlue, showed that "residents, in general, were most in favor of modest development efforts that would aid commercial development while maintaining the town character." The section entitled "considerations" identified other opportunities, including improvement of the town's website and increased use of electronic communication as well as the possible development of a high-speed fiber optic network available to residents.

To read the survey [click here](#). Results are posted on the town's website at www.simsbury-ct.gov on the front page under "Quick Links."

Summer fun with the recreation department

Join the Simsbury Recreation Department this summer! The department offers camps and programs for kids (and adults) of all ages. Visit www.simsburyrec.com for more information. Don't forget about their Summer Family Events. This year the department will be holding the 4th of July Ice Cream Social with the Simsbury Community Band on Wednesday, July 1 and Family Night on Tuesday, July 21.

Public Swim Schedule:

Simsbury Farms Pool: Mon.-Fri., 1 to 8 p.m.; Sat. & Sun., noon to 6 p.m. June 13-August 30.

Resident: \$5, Non Resident: \$7. Twilight Rate (after 6 p.m.): Resident \$2.50, Non Resident \$3.50.

Discount Cards: Resident, \$50 for 11 visits, Non Resident \$70 for 11 visits.

Memorial Pool: Mon.-Fri., 9 to 11 a.m. (Wading Pool only); 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. (both pools). June 22-August 14. Resident: \$2.50, Non-Resident: \$3.50.



Summer Library Hours

| | |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| Monday-Thursday | 9:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. |
| Friday | 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. |
| Saturday | 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. |
| Sunday | Closed |

Visit the Library 24/7 at
simsburylibrary.info
 for downloadable books, audios, music, video,
 magazines and more....



**Simsbury
Public Library**
So much happens here.



Dates to remember: July 4 is Independence Day. Town hall is closed Friday, July 3, as is the Simsbury Public Library. The library is also closed Saturday, July 4. Summer hours begin that week so the library is closed on Sunday, July 5.



Due to the holiday, the bulky waste/recycling center, 66 Wolcott Road, will be closed on Saturday, July 4 but open on Friday, July 3, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The regular hours of the center are Wednesdays and Saturdays 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. For questions, call 860-658-9481.

The annual permits are \$10 and can be purchased at the Simsbury Bulky Waste Facility.

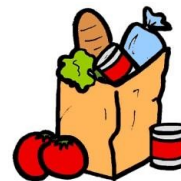


Help Stock the Shelves of the Food Closet

The Simsbury Social Services Department needs donations of non-perishable food items for the Simsbury Food Closet.

Donations can be dropped off at Eno Memorial Hall. Staff will take any and all non-perishable food items, but particular items needed are: oatmeal, cereals, tomato sauce, peanut butter, jelly, can vegetables, can fruits, juices, saltines, beef stew, coffee and toilet paper.

Financial donations are welcome also. Make the check payable to the Simsbury Food Closet and mail it to P.O. Box 495 Simsbury, CT 06070.



Lyme Disease Info

The deer tick is the primary carrier of Lyme disease in the northeast. Most humans are infected by nymphs (immature ticks). Currently there is no vaccination available.

Signs and symptoms of Lyme disease range from the 'bullseye' rash to fatigue, chills or fever, muscle or joint aches, or swollen lymph nodes. Other symptoms include Bell's palsy (loss of muscle tone on one or both sides of face), severe headaches, neck stiffness, swelling and painful large joints, and heart palpitations and dizziness. Your physician can diagnosis Lyme

disease through blood tests. Treatment is normally a course of antibiotics directed by your physician. Preventing or reducing tick exposure is the best way to prevent Lyme disease. Wear long sleeves and pants tucked into socks, avoid wooded or bushy areas, or areas of high grass. Walk in the center of the trail. Use DEET or Permethrin as directed to repel ticks. Check for ticks after you've been outdoors.

[Click here](#) to find ways to create a tick-free zone on your property. For more, go to the [Farmington Valley Health District](#) website. Or www.fvhd.org.

Be Cool @ the Pool with the Simsbury Public Library

Members of the children's staff will be at the Simsbury Farms pool to offer **stories and music** on Friday, July 10 from 2-4 p.m. and Friday, August 14 from 4-6 p.m. Drop-in! Or drop-in for **Tinker Tuesdays @ the Pool** on Tuesday, July 14 from 2-4 p.m. and Tuesday, August 4 from 4-6 p.m.

