

Nominee #1: Jonathan Godbout

HERO NAME : JONATHAN FRANCIS GODBOUT (18 years old)
15 Schermerhorn drive , New Fairfield
(203) 746-9111

For my husband and I we are very proud and emotional to tell about our son Jonathan , for us and for many people he touch the hearts. He is Our Hero because :

Jonathan when he was 12 years old he found by himself his first job , the job was help one elder lady ,(she almost 90 years old) and she leave by himself . Jonathan for many years was help her in small little things (mail, kitty, yard etc) but the most important job was give her a attention and many times she just like to talk and Jonathan was always there to listen.. At the day with that terrible storm for our Town of New Fairfield , Jonathan went to do his training in Brookfield , He signed to be a USA MARINE and he went to training and the storm come and hit us so badly , we was in panic because he was not home(any mother and father at that situation will be in panic) , finally when he come home we was so happy , and after all the kisses and hugs Jonathan first think he did was going to check the lady . After he went to her house and saw all the damage with trees and wires out in her driveway , Jonathan went under the trees to go at her front door , soon he saw she was ok he was so happy and call her son (he live in Maine) .He was very thankful for Jonathan think in his mother at that day where so many people have a damage in the houses our in the yard .

After few weeks the storm Jonathan went to a concert at XFINITY in Hartford and was a hot day and was to many people , one person a male (50 years old) passed out and Jonathan hold the man an run to found a help , When he found a fireman all paramedics thank him for help and bring the man to treatment . Jonathan was working at D.Donuts and Stop&Shop , many people know him can tell how sweet and care he is, at Stop Shop he raised more the \$1.500,00 for Cancer .

THIS IS OUR SON , always there to help others .

On 08/20/18 Our son left to be a USA MARINE , he is at Boot Camp , Parris Island, SC for 13 weeks. For us, my husband and I , we wished Jonathan be in college he just graduate from NFHS class 2018, but He went to serve our country, this is what he wish to do . This is Our Son Jonathan .

Thank You !

Maria Godbout

Nominee #2: Mark Vara

To Whom it may concern, please consider this unsung hero, Mark Vara.

Mark was a true hero after our May storm. He removed dozens of fallen trees that blocked driveways and roadways all through our Red Fox community. He also helped clear parts of devastated Shortwoods and neighboring homes. Using his own equipment, Mark risked his safety to remove trees that were endangering our children and our neighborhood. Without his help we would have been stranded in our homes and neighborhood for much longer. Going above and beyond to help others truly make me feel Mark is a hometown hero.

Thank you for your consideration,

Kathy Cook

Nominee #3: Thea Murray-Martin

Thea Murray-Martin without a doubt must be the neighborhood hero because she rescheduled her own personal vacation to go to my house to help my mom, in a mental crisis, at my home while I was away on vacation. What other person would do this for anyone? Thea Martin has always volunteered at the schools for all sorts of organizations, her daughters' teachers and the PTO's of all 4 schools that benefited the children of New Fairfield, including well after her girls graduated from NFHS. Thea is a volunteer at Pawsafe Rescue – which is a volunteer rescue organization for homeless dogs. Thea is a professional painter by trade and has donated her professional time, supplies and talent to beautify buildings inside & outside in the town of New Fairfield. She will help people within New Fairfield that she does not know to find their lost or injured animal. Thea also assisted, watched over, checked on a daily basis one (who knows I'm sure she's done this for several people) of her elderly neighbors for several years until the family got involved and moved her neighbor across the USA. Thea Murray-Martin has a heart of gold, is a kind and above and beyond generous person.

I could easily write a short story of all the generous deeds Thea has done.

Kim A. Holczinger

Nominee #4: Marcel Belenger

After such devastating storm damage, there was a ton of work to be done on houses & buildings. Marcel Belenger worked tirelessly to repair roofs & houses. He was always a hard worker but the aftermath took its toll on him. He had a heart attack and passed away on August 20, 2018. I am sure New Fairfield townspeople remember him – such a wonderful man. He deserves to be a Town Hero!

Karen Lovequist

Nominee #5: Kevin Yoraschek

Mr. Yoraschek's house on the other side of New Fairfield did not sustain much damage from the May 15 macroburst so he headed over to Hollywyle where his friends and family live. He, like many others, couldn't get through from Wood Creek (road to Bear Mtn./road to Hollywyle).

Mr. Yoraschek using a chainsaw which he had in the car, hashed his way through the fallen trees & cleared a path for people to get through to walk or get their cars as far as they could into Hollywyle.

He made it possible for fire trucks or ambulances to go to us if needed. He made it possible, too, for my daughter to get home after traveling three hours from Carmel to here & checked on our 90-year old neighbor. Other people finally joined Kevin, moving the brush he cut but Kevin was the real hero of the neighborhood, and we are most grateful for his aid.

Grace Scalera

Nominee #6: Dave Sousa

The Rita drive neighborhood was hit particularly hard with several families displaced. However, on the day of the storm, neighbors were immediately out checking on each other and beginning the cleanup process. The primary force behind this was Dave Sousa, who rushed home and quickly began clearing trees to make the road safe before dark. Early the next morning, he brought equipment from his plumbing company and also had his workers helping out. Between this heavy equipment and Dave's tireless attitude, we were able to get a driving path through the full neighborhood by the end of the first day.

Jim Keller

Nominee #7: Selectman Patricia Del Monaco

Pat Del Monaco was faced with a storm our town never experienced before, and she had only been in office about 6 months. Her "Alert Now" phone calls were really appreciated. She put the welfare of our town before her son's graduation. That is dedication!

Linda & Lloyd Decker

Nominee #8: Jacques Proteau

During the day of the storm, Jacques was on our road, clearing the way for residents on our street to drive home. He also helped clear our driveway which was covered by fallen trees. Jacques reached out to his neighbors so that they could get home even though he had a tree fall on his roof. He deserves some recognition.

Arleen Jacobs

Nominee #9: Bill Chard, Sammy Hong, John Elertson, Joe Galanti, Tim Krompinger, Claude Silkman, Anil Malik**Nominating Our Heroes**

In 5 minutes, those of us living on Oak Tree Lane were cut off from the world. After a restless night's sleep, at 6:30 a.m, we were awakened by the sweet sound of chainsaws! Bill Chard (14), Sammy Hong (13), and John Elertson (9), were already out with a goal to free every driveway on our street. Shortly they were joined by Joe Galanti (17), Tim Krompinger (12), Claude Silkman (22), Anil Malik (15), and assorted kids. The goal was met! All driveways (some littered with as many as 15-20 trees) and the street itself were passable.

Our gratitude cannot be expressed more deeply; these folks are absolutely our heroes.

Sadly, Cladue passed away a few weeks ago. One of his last heroic acts was to remove a power line straddling the street (stranding 4 houses) from its broken pole.

(Ironically, once we got off Oak Tree Lane, we couldn't go anywhere because Beaver Bog Road was blocked on both ends! But we certainly felt free to be able to walk down our driveways and up and down the street.)

These are our heroes and we're sure we speak for everyone on Oak Tree Lane! Thank you! The true community spirit came out in New Fairfield once again. The numbers in () are their respective Oak Tree Lane house #.

Marilyn Galanti (17) and Truus Teeuwissen (16)