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Vol. 71, No. 19 May 9, 2024

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#### **Spring Tree Tour**

Sponsored by Wethersfield Village Improvement Association. Sunday May 19, 2024 at 1pm. Join Arborist John Kehoe on this new walk in Old Wethersfield. Discover the wide collection of older and newer trees on this walk, their co-existing habits and the benefits trees give to us. This is a 1.5 hour walk so wear comfortable shoes and bring a water bottle. We will meet at the Keeney Memorial Cultural Center Parking Lot. Rain or shine, Free and open to the public. For further information: wethvia@ icloud.com

#### **Christ the King Parish Women's Club**

The Women's Club of Christ the King Parish will hold its General Meeting on Tuesday, May 21, 2024 at 2:00 pm. at the Church of the Incarnation, 544 Prospect Street, Wethersfield. Welcome club members, friends and guests to an afternoon of musical memories of America's popular patriotic songs as we celebrate Memorial Day in Christ the King Parish. Patty Carver is a singer, actress and writer of international credits. She will present a delightful and entertaining tribute to the music of America as she sings these uniquely American favorites celebrating some of the greatest patriotic songs of all times. The program is Irving Berlin, A Patriotic Tribute. Patty shares some of Irving Berlin's popular hits, patriotic favorites and stories of his life, celebrating one of the greatest songwriters of all time.

#### **Arts & Crafts Festival**

The Wethersfield United Methodist Church will be holding their 4th annual Arts & Crafts Festival on Saturday, October 12, 2024, from 10am to 3 pm at 150 Prospect Street in Wethersfield. Crafters are welcome to submit their applications by contacting Gary at 860-806-0609 or emailing bristolgary1@gmail. com. The cost of the booth is \$30 per space and each space is \$30. We will have a limited number of indoor spaces on a 1st come 1st serve basis for \$40 per space. Each outdoor space is 10x10. For any questions, please call or email the church.

#### Comedy Show Fundraiser

We invite you to join us on Saturday, May 4, 2024 for a family friendly evening featuring three professional comedians. The Comedy Show will be held at Holy Spirit Church Hall, 183 Church Street, Newington. Doors open at 6PM, and showtime is 7PM. Please feel free to bring your own food and drinks to enjoy. The evening also includes raffle prizes and complimentary popcorn, and water. The ticket price is \$25. Please contact Jay Dumais at (860)-836-8243 for tickets or any questions.

#### Wethersfield Art League Free Demo

May 2 – Chris Ivers - We are honored to welcome international award-winning pastel artist Chris Ivers who has won numerous awards including being one of eight finalists worldwide in two of the IAPS cover competitions and placed First in Pastels in the Richeson 75 Landscape Show, WI. Two of her paintings were chosen as in the Pastel Journal's Top 100. Most recently she was awarded Best in Show at New Britain Museum of American Art and received her Medal of Honor from Audubon Artists. 6pm. May 2 at the William Pitkin Community Center.

#### **Help Our Concert Series!**

Concerts at Church of Christ, Congregational are free admission, but we fund them through donations by the audiences and generous annual donors. You may send a check to the church (Church of Christ, Congregational, 1075 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111) or leave it in the offering plate. Please make a note on your check ("concert series"). You can also donate at newingtonucc.org.

#### 2024 Spring Book Sale

The Friends of the Lucy Robbins Welles Library is having their annual Spring Book Sale the 1st weekend of May at the Newington Senior & Disabled Center, 120 Cedar Street, Newington, CT. Thousands of hardcover, softcover, paperback books, teen and children's books will be on sale, along with a selection of CDs, audio books, and DVDs, as well as other special priced items. Preview: Friday May 3, 5:00 pm – 8:30 pm - \$10 admission. General Sale: Saturday, May 4, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm - Free Sunday Bag Sale: Noon – 3:00 pm. Buy a Friends green bag for \$12.00 and fill it with books for free! Re-

#### Mother's Day Weekend Plant Sale

fills are \$10.00. Stock up and save!!

The Annunciation Womens Guild will hold their Annual Mother's Day Weekend Plant Sale on Friday May 10th and Saturday May 11th, 2024. It will be held at Holy Spirit Church hall, 183 Church St. Newington, from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. Plants include geraniums, herbs, some vegetables, annuals, hanging baskets and planters. Please contact Jackie Gilligan at 860-667-1441 or Jeran Fuzie at 860-667-0690 for any questions. This fundraiser allows us to use the profits to benefit our parish and community through our many purchases, donations and events that we provide. This is a perfect opportunity to buy a Mothers Day flower basket and gifts, or to obtain quality plants to start your garden.

#### **Meals on Wheels Seeks Volunteers**

You can help deliver meals to shut in seniors by donating your time for as little as two hours per week; or even per month. We are in dire need of senior volunteers to help deliver to our local sites in Cromwell, Portland, and East Hampton. Volunteer slots are 10:30 AM-12:30 PM. Contact Yahaira Santiago at santiagoya@crtct.org or 860-539-6233 for more info.



## MOTHER I NEED YOU! WE NEED YOU!

Because the House needs to be a HOME Because our Mother needs to be OUR MOTHER

**Today,** we are being pressured to disregard the erosion of **historic marriage** and family principles and practice. ENCOURAGEMENT to be a normal, healthy family is noted by its absence in the media, government, etc. which presents even that which is contrary. Determination to try to rightly steer straight faces many and varied opponents. These opponents are **determined to eliminate** mother, father, husband, wife-anything and everything that opposes the pursuit of their agenda **no matter the** consequences. Even today's social violence and unrest has at its root the absence of a father and mother. We are finding the wrong road signs and the wrong roads, calling wrong right and right wrong, calling evil good and good evil (Isaiah 5:20). We face the ABSENCE of MORAL and MENTAL STANDARDS, to be caught up along with the crowd, trying to belong, to become, to find oneself, to find peace, to find love, to find worth, to find values which inspire and overcome a society that has abandoned such. There is little to no recovery of the normal and natural God-created family setting. The FAMILY needs the MOTHER; the NATION needs the FAMILY.

#### God's Pattern is Set:

"HONOR thy father and thy mother, as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee" (Deut. 5:16; Eph. 6:2). "Whoever CURSES his father or his mother, his lamp shall be put out in obscure [utter] darkness" (Prov. 20:20). "My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and FORSAKE NOT the law of thy mother" (Prov. 1:8). "A wise son maketh a glad father: but a foolish man DESPISETH his mother" (Prov. 15:20).

#### God's Provision is Needed:

"This know also, that in the last days perilous [difficult] times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves...DISOBEDIENT TO PARENTS, unthankful, unholy" (2 Tim. 3:1-2). "There is a generation that CURSETH their father, and doth not bless their mother. There is a generation that are pure IN THEIR OWN EYES" (Prov. 30:11-12). This is promoted by the age old "every man did that which was RIGHT IN HIS OWN EYES" (Judges 21:25). And "let us eat and drink; for tomorrow we shall die" (Isaiah 22:13). Take heart and know.

#### God's Person is Found:

"I will LIFT UP MINE EYES unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. MY HELP COMETH FROM THE LORD, who made heaven and earth" (Psalm 121:1-2). "And YE SHALL SEEK ME, AND FIND ME, when ye shall search for Me with ALL YOUR HEART, and I WILL BE FOUND BY you, saith the LORD" (Jeremiah 29:13-14). "COME UNTO ME, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light" (Matthew 11:28-30). The Nation, the Family and YOU need God and His sure and certain Word, the BIBLE.

The Lord Jesus Christ is waiting to provide for you the right and real relationship that God's RIGHTEOUSNESS requires and in which God's LIFE is found. This makes for life that is worth the living. You can find God's HELP and HOPE and ENCOURAGEMENT today. Why not begin RIGHT NOW and receive Him as your personal Saviour and Lord (John 1:10-13)! "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved" (Act 16:31).

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# What's Happening

Send us your community news! E-mail editor@rarereminder.com or call 860-563-9386 to submit news, photos,

announcements or any upcoming events. Rocky Hill & Cromwell?

## **Local Non-Profit Facility Receives \$350k State Grant**

CROMWELL -Gov. Ned Lamont has that his administration is awarding approximately \$35.5 million in state funding to nonprofit providers across the state for capital improvement projects that support various organizations in their mission of delivering services to some of the state's most vulnerable residents.

Those recipients include Ädelbrook Behavioral and Developmental Services in Cromwell.

The nonprofit grant program, administered by the Connecticut Office of Policy and Management, releases these grants to fund a wide range

These projects, not typically reimbursed through other funding mechanisms, include facility alterations, renovations, improvements, and additions; new construction; health, safety, and Americans with Disabilities Act projects; energy conservation improvements; information technology systems; technology that promotes client independence; vehicle purchases; and

Connecticut's nonprofit providers support residents in every town and are a vital part of our social services safety net," Gov. Lamont said. "Providing funding to make strategic investments helps these organizations deliver the services some of our most vulnerable residents depend upon. This grant funding will help all of the residents that these organizations support to be able to utilize their personal strengths, talents,

Established in 2013, the program has provided more than \$130 million to the state's nonprofit organizations, supporting about 750 projects. The awards, given on Wednesday, will help support 94 projects and are the program's eighth

Over the past four years, the state has demonstrated its unwavering commitment to strengthening and supporting nonprofit providers, providing more than \$1 billion in additional funding.

This biennium, additional state support for nonprofits totaled more than \$650 million - a substantial increase of more than \$206 million over baseline appropriations.

Looking ahead, there is also \$50 million in capital funding for the next round of the nonprofit grant program.

Ädelbrook Behavioral and Developmental Services received \$350,000 in grants from the state to put toward its playscape expansion and enhancement.

Dr. Sabrina Demsky-Cameron, LCSW, execu-

tive vce president and CCO of Ädelbrook, said the organization will have the funding necessary to expand and enhance the existing playscape to include adaptive play equipment specifically designed for individuals with autism spectrum disorders and other intellectual and developmental disabilities.

The large play structure will feature additions such as a new swing set, a sensory dome, a rock wall, slides, music, and sound features, movement and color pattern-focused structures, and other pieces that will create a center of activity, physical and social development, and, most importantly, joy and inclusion.

'To ensure the playground meets the needs of those we serve, it will designed with input from our expert team of occupational therapists, therapeutic recreation specialists, special educators, speech and language pathology team, behaviorists, and clinicians," Demsky-Cameron said. While this playscape is fully inclusive, it will have the unique capacity to serve children who are older but may developmentally align more closely with elementary school-aged children."

Demsky-Cameron added that this adaptive playground will provide many opportunities for their youth to engage in the important occupation of play and make gains in their developmental and therapeutic goals, including physical strength and muscle tone, motor planning, and sequencing of body movements.

"Ultimately, our youth and young adults will have access to multi-sensory experiences that will

CROMWELL-A man from Cromwell,

along with 10 other individuals, was among

those arrested on Friday, April 19, as part of

the Middletown Police Department's Investi-

gative Services Division, Middletown's Emer-

gency Response Team, and the federal Drug

Enforcement Agency, who served a search and

vestigation where multiple "vendors" would

set up inside the building and illegally sell

The search led to a large amount of US cur

rency that is the suspected proceeds from illegal drug sales, 60 pounds of marijuana, over

1800 cannabis/THC products, MDMD (ecsta-

narcotics/marijuana seized was in excess of

The approximate street value of illegal

marijuana products, according to police.

sy), and psilocybin mushrooms seized.

\$200,000, according to police.

The warrant was the result of a lengthy in-

seizure at 52 North Main Street.

**Staff Writer** 

**Cromwell Man Arrested** 

On Several Drug Charges

help them learn and self-regulate," Demsky-Cameron said. "In addition to the structure itself, peer interactions on the playground will foster basic skills such as turn-taking, sharing, and communicating, all of which are common challenges for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder.'

Demsky-Cameron said they are grateful for the grant as the new adaptive playground will meet the many needs of the youth, enhance the therapeutic programming in place, and improve the quality of life for those they serve.

Ådelbrook is a 124-year-old nonprofit multiservice agency specializing in behavioral and developmental services. Ädelbrook is dedicated to meeting the unique needs of families and individuals of all ages and abilities, with expertise in supporting individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities and Autism Spectrum

From individualized education services to residential and therapeutic supports, Ädelbrook provides a high-quality continuum of care to meet the ever-changing needs of the amazing children and individuals it supports.

Through collaboration, both internally and externally, Ädelbrook provides expert, comprehensive, data-driven, person-centered services with compassion. By building trust in a safe and nurturing environment, Ädelbrook helps those it serves to find a future filled with achievement, dignity, happiness, and hope.

To learn more about Ädelbrook, please visit www.adelbrook.org

## **Local Foundation Recognizes** Leadership Of Area Women

Spring is in the air, the tulips are blooming, the birds are chirping, and it's time to celebrate Mother's Day - and that means celebrating the many incredible women in our community. At the Community Foundation of Middlesex County (CFMC), we honor the women who guide us with strength and listen with love. These are the women we all know and treasure, who lead with grace, offer wisdom, mentor us, and are quick to lend a helping hand. They truly make a difference in the lives of women and girls today - and every

Twenty-two years ago, one group of remarkable women had a dream to build something that would ensure women and girls of all ages and abilities could have a path to self-reliance and to achieving their full potential. They rallied their friends and neighbors and established the Sari A. Rosenbaum Fund for Women & Girls at the Community Foundation. They knew that by pooling their resources and working together, their support of nonprofit organizations would be stronger and make a greater impact in our region. Their goal was to provide grants to local nonprofits, thus helping women and girls overcome obstacles, realize their dreams, and build a bright future for generations to come.

Thanks to these visionaries, and countless women and men who have joined them over the years, the Sari A. Rosenbaum Fund for Women & Girls at CFMC has awarded grants to local nonprofit organizations that have encouraged women and girls to connect with the natural world through hikes and environmental walks; provided free access to bilingual parenting resources at local libraries; ensured economically disadvantaged women have diapers and other essential toiletries for their children or themselves; brought new creative works to the stage and galleries, providing girls and women a space to share their voices through the arts to address issues and concerns in their lives and their community; and so much more.

women who believe in the power of women helping women right here in Middlesex County, are a donor who continues to support the Fund, or one of the dedicated women who serves on the committee, we celebrate YOU this Mother's Day. We thank you for helping generations of women and girls live independent and productive lives. Together, with your gifts, your volunteer service, and your commitment to each other, we are able to help fund programs and services that address the most critical issues and needs in Middlesex

the Sari A. Rosenbaum Fund for Women & Girls have helped create a community of empowerment, mentorship, and leadership, ensuring women and girls continue to have opportunities to succeed and thrive. Thank you for continuing the legacy of never underestimating the power of women! We are honored to help you put your passions into action in Middlesex County. CFMC is proud to be accredited with Community Foundations National Standards™, the nation's highest and most rigorous standard for philanthropic ex-

that are happening because of good people like you. We invite you to learn more by calling us at 860-347-0025 or visiting us online at Middlesex-CountyCF.org.

#### The Hunt Continues For Painted Rocks

CROMWELL - Cromwell Creative District (CCD) is again collaborating with other groups in town to offer the annual spring hunt for paint-

This year, the event aims to bring attention not only to the wonderful nonprofits Cromwell has to offer (each nonprofit will have painted rocks with their logo or initials on them) but also to highlight the businesses #inthedistrict by placing a rock from each nonprofit at every business and park downtown. There are 34 locations (business and municipal) #inthedistrict.

Visit www.cromwellcreativedistrict.org to view a map of the district if you are unsure where to search for rocks. The hunt began April 28 and residents can keep any rocks they find. There will be no scavenger hunt or contest this year, instead, CCD hopes you will enjoy the local parks and provide patronage to the businesses downtown. Happy Spring!

#### **Cromwell Creative District Seeks Donations Through Golf Fund-Raiser**

Cromwell Creative District (CCD) is participating in the annual Birdies for Charity fundraiser, a collaboration between the Traveler's Championship, Webster Bank, and local nonprofits.

Happening now through the end of the Traveler's Championship on June 23, Webster Bank will offer a 15% match to all donations CCD receives through the Birdies for Charity link.

With such a great incentive, CCD uses Birdies

for Charity fundraiser as its annual fundraising campaign. Donating to CCD means supporting its mission to revitalize downtown Main Street, support local business there, and enrich the lives of Cromwell's residents.

To participate, you can donate at https://partnerhq.com/public/events/2024-travelers-championship-birdies-for-charity/organization\_part-

Whether you are one of the 60 founding

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## We are excited to share all the great things

#### Newly-Retired **Newington Women**

ticipate in the Memorial Day Parade on Monday,

May 27th at 9:30 a.m. starting at Rocky Hill High

School. Whether you represent a Veterans Asso-

ciation, a military organization, school, commu-

**Upcoming events:** May 9..The Kate!..10am May 15..Wellness fair..9:30 May 21..Clambake...8:30

Please email Jean Henry at jphenry@cox.net.... You don't have to be from Newington; We have many members from Rocky Hill, Wethersfield, C romwell, Glastonbury and West Hartford! Come join the FUN!

#### **Spring Plant and Baked** Goods Sale

All are welcome! Please come to our Spring Plant and Baked Goods Sale at the Rocky Hill Congregational Church, 805 Old Main Street, Rocky Hill, CT 06067, from 9 AM to 1 PM on Saturday, May 11, 2024. You'll find a wonderful variety of Annual, Perennial, Vegetable and Herb plants, beautiful Flowers, Hanging Baskets, and yummy Baked Goods. Come buy your Mom a beautiful plant and delicious baked items for Mother's Day! Handicap accessible and free parking.

Police also seized three weapons during the investigation.

Among those arrested included Christoper Carta, 47, Cromwell, along with Joaquin Bido, 37, Hamden; Carmelo Castro, 35, Hartford; Bryant Cobb, 47, New Haven; Brittany Draughn, 35, New Haven; David Drury, 45, Ansonia; Aaron Eaddy, 42, Stratford; Gabriel Kearse, 35, New Haven; Luis Torres, 32, New Britain; Bobbi Jo White, 52, Middletown; and Joshua Smith, 30, Bridgeport. Each of those arrested was charged with possession of over one kilogram of cannabis and illegal sale of

Joshua Smith was additionally charged with unlawful storage of a firearm.

Additional arrests are expected. All parties were released on bond and appeared in Middlesex Superior Court on May 3.

**Rocky Hill Memorial Day Parade** The Town of Rocky Hill invites you to par-

nity group or business we warmly welcome your involvement. If you would like to participate, please contact one of the co-chairs:

Rita Chhabra (860) 258 2772 or Henry Vasel (860) 982 0875

**Transfer Station** 

## **Has Special Hours**

CROMWELL\* - There will be seasonal hours at the transfer station from April 18 through May 30.

Hours will be Tuesday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Thursday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Residents must be checked in 15 minutes prior to closing.

#### **Holy Family Center** To Host Pasta Dinner

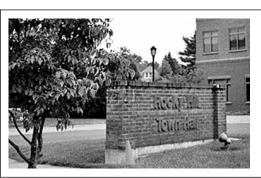
The Holy Family Retreat Center will host its 35th Annual Night of Reflection and Pasta Dinner on Thursday, May 9 beginning with mass at

The retreat center is located at 303 Tuxis Road,

Entrance 5, West Hartford. All proceeds from the event support retreat

programs at Holy Family. For additional information on the event, call (860) 983-0846 or email Tom@mcbridecarpet.com.

Thank you for reading the Rare Reminder.



## What's Happening Rocky Hill & Cromwell?

Send us your community news! E-mail editor@rarereminder.com or

call 860-563-9386 to submit news, photos, announcements or any upcoming events.

## **Local Business Group Spotlights Tattoo Shop**

By Katie Daigle, Chairperson **Cromwell Creative District** 

CROMWELL - As the winner of Cromwell Creative District (CCD)'s annual scarecrow contest, Warpath Studio is enjoying a year of free publicity from CCD. As such, Kelvin Young, owner of Warpath Studio (a tattoo shop at 328 Main Street, Cromwell) sat down with Katie Daigle, chairperson of CCD for a conversation about this interesting new business owner in town.

CCD: What is your background, and what brought you to this profession?

Kelvin: I have been into painting and drawing since childhood, and I really began to notice a strong interest in art around age 12. Still, I never really thought about art as a profession. In my last job, I worked in medial billing for four years and ended up getting fired for being late once. I realized that this was not the type of environment I wanted to spend my time in. I revisited my interest in art, and tattooing came to mind as a way to make a living using my artistry. In this field you must apprentice under a licensed individual for two years and then have them sign off on you becoming licensed. This is much more difficult than it sounds, you have to work hard to represent yourself and convince another artist to take a chance on you. All work reflects on the shop, so it is a big risk for them to allow an apprentice to work for them. I went from place to place with a portfolio of my art and asked to shadow, but I also wanted to make sure it was the right fit (venue, artist) for me as well. Now that I am on the other side of things, I have people coming into my shop asking to shadow me. I notice red flags like if someone comes in with pictures of tattoos they've already done (illegal) or if they want to cut corners regarding sanitary regulations, some people are just looking to make quick money. Right now, I am enjoying working for myself and by myself.

CCD: What brought you/your business to Cromwell?

Kelvin: I had researched many different locations, many places within my price range were on side streets, had hardly any natural light, etc., but one day last summer I drove through Main Street in Cromwell and fell in love with this spot. I wanted to create a place that would be inviting for locals and fit in with Cromwell's small town feel. I purposely did not include the word tattoo in my business name, and enjoy having locals drop in to see what exactly Warpath Studio is. The décor is inspired by my Mexican and American Indian

Live Performance Set For Madama Butterfly

MIDDLETOWN - The premier Connecticut Lyric Opera and the celebrated Connecticut Virtuosi Chamber Orchestra will perform Pucini's "Madama Butterfly" on Saturday, June 1, at 7: 30 p.m. It will be held at the Santo Fragilio Performing Arts Center, 200 LaRosa Lane, in Middletown and has been brought to that city by the Greater Middletown Concert Association.

Set in Japan in the early Twentieth Century, Pucini's deeply-felt and imaginative opera follows the poignant story of love between a United States naval officer, B.F. Pinkerton, and the beautiful Japanese geisha, Cio-Cio San. This popular opera, characterized by the clever integration of traditional Japanese themes with the soaring Italian operatic tradition, is an acclaimed masterpiece. It is sung in Italian with English supertitles

Call 860 343-7555 for further info and to reserve tickets now for the performance. Regular price tickets are \$50 each with special \$45 tickets for seniors. Tickets can also be ordered online.

#### **Rocky Hill Election Workers Honored**

Rocky Hill, CT- On April 24, Secretary of State Stephanie Thomas delivered a comprehensive presentation on Early Voting at the Rocky Hill Community Center. The event, which was sponsored by the Rocky Hill Democrats, aimed to educate the public on the importance and benefits of Early Voting Initiatives.

The highlight of the event was the recognition of several dedicated residents for their years of service as Election Day workers. The honorees included Thomas Deasy, Donald Francis, Stephanie Heneghan, Mary Beth Maluccio, and Edward Mulvey Jr. These individuals exemplify a steadfast commitment to our democracy through their ongoing efforts to ensure fair and transparent elections. Their contributions not only enrich our community, but also uphold the core democratic values that our nation cherishes.

The event also received accolades for the engaging and informative presentation by Secretary of State Stephanie Thomas. Her insights into Early Voting procedures and her willingness to address attendees' questions were highly appreciated by all participants.

Special thanks were extended to Registrar of Voters Phil Theroux, State Representative Kerry Wood, and Deputy Jaqueline Kozin for their attendance and valuable contribution to the event.

For more information on Early Voting in CT please visit Myvote.ct.gov

#### **Annual Teacher of the Year Program Celebrates 16 Outstanding Early Childhood Educators**

KING OF PRUSSIA, PA (May 6, 2024) - Goddard Systems, LLC, (GSL), the manager of The Goddard School® franchise system, the nation's leading premium early childhood education provider, is excited to present Cathy Coviello from The Goddard School of Rocky Hill with a 2024 Teacher of the Year Award.

Coviello's commitment to providing a level of security to the infants in her care is exceptional, taking care of each baby as if they are her own. Every aspect of how she shapes the school day s focused on their development. She has infants make art, teaches them about nature, provides sensory experiences and even shows them sign language and yoga poses. She truly goes above and beyond every day for each child in her care.

Coviello joins 15 other teachers nationwide who were selected from more than 6,600 nominations for their embodiment of competence, leadership, creativity and a nurturing demeanor. All 16 regional winners created strong bonds between home and school and incorporated their own passions into their teaching while continuing to ensure the health and safety of their stu-

"At Goddard, we are focused on nurturing teachers' growth and empowering their success," said Dr. Lauren Loquasto, senior vice president and chief academic officer, GSL. "All of the Teacher of the Year honorees exemplify Goddard's commitment to providing a rewarding career where educators are encouraged to bring their creativity to the classroom and are truly valued and supported. We appreciate how these teachers love what they do while preparing their students for the next stages in both their academic and life journeys, and we can't thank them enough for their commitment to their school communities."

In addition to being named a 2024 Teacher of the Year, GSL gifted each of the regional winners a \$1,000 cash award and dedicated a custom set of Life Lesson Library books, Goddard's exclusive social-emotional development program, to each school in the teacher's name.

"I am deeply humbled and incredibly honored to be named a Teacher of the Year," said Coviello. "This recognition fills me with gratitude and a profound sense of responsibility. I owe immense nanks to my directors for their unwavering guid ance and support; their mentorship has been invaluable on this journey. I am also tremendously grateful to the Goddard families who voted for me and to my coworkers, whose encouragement and support have been a constant source of

For more information about The Goddard School and the Teacher of the Year Awards, please visit GoddardSchool.com.

#### **Plymouth State University President's List**

PLYMOUTH, NH (01/11/2024)-- 915 students have been named to the Plymouth State University President's List for the Fall 2023 semester. To be named to the President's List, a student must achieve a grade point average of 3.70 or better for the Fall 2023 semester and must have completed at least 12 credit hours during the semester, at least nine of which must confer grade points, at the time the lists are finalized.

Kieran Moller of Wethersfield (06109) Sadie Sullivan of Cromwell (06416) Mitchell Quadrato of Wethersfield (06109) Eleanor Barrett of Wethersfield (06109)

culture (Apache from the New Mexico area). I wanted to represent my culture and bring awareness to it, so you see that depicted in the art on the walls and the various items here. The name Warpath is a reflection of this as well: during the Indian wars, the US said the Indians were "on the war path" with Americans. Now, I see the term as a strong internal drive to never give up.

CCD: As a follow up to the question about choosing this location, is it a challenge to be located so closely to another tattoo studio in town?

Kelvin: Actually, no, we are very supportive of each other and are both thriving. While we are both fine artists, we are not in competition with each other because we both offer something different. My style is realism, I do a lot of portraits, animals, etc. Intuition's work is more fine line and

CCD: What do you enjoy doing outside of

Kelvin: I enjoy reading, mainly nonfiction and history; watching documentaries and biopics. I hope to start traveling soon, maybe start within the US and then venture further.

CCD: What else would you like readers to know about Warpath Studio?

Kelvin: I feel it's important to give back, so Warpath offers a 15% discount to all military, first responders, Cromwell residents, and college students with a valid ID.



### **Bomb Threat Evacuates Griswold Middle School**

ROCKY HILL - A bomb threat on Monday morning prompted the evacuation of staff and students at Griswold Middle School.

According to the Rocky Hill Police Department, they investigated a bomb threat that was made toward the school. Police said that although the credibility of the threat appeared low, students and faculty were evacuated as a precautionary measure.

The RHPD, along with other law enforcement agencies, conducted a thorough investigation and kept close contact with the school

After a search utilizing a bomb-detecting dog, the school was deemed safe, and students returned to school to resume their day.

The police department said they will continue to increase their presence at the district schools in the immediate future. The person responsible for the threat was detained.

In an email sent from Superintendent of School Mark Zito that morning, he wrote to

Dear Students, Families, and Staff,

Earlier today, a caller made a bomb threat against Griswold Middle School. This call was placed from Bradley International Airport. The state police have been coordinating law enforcement efforts with Rocky Hill police. The individual who made the call has been identified and is currently being detained by the state police. As a precautionary step, all GMS students and staff have been temporarily evacuated to Rocky Hill High School. At this time, all students are safe and properly supervised. While the threat is not believed to be credible, the police still recommended the evacuation out of an abundance of caution. Police will thoroughly sweep GMS in accordance with their safety protocols, and students and staff will return to GMS once the police have provided the 'all clear.'

We will continue to keep everyone updated.

Respectfully, Mark Zito, Superintendent of Schools

#### RHHS Museum Seeks Volunteers

The Rocky Hill Historical Society wishes the community a happy, healthy New Year 2024! We are looking for volunteers to help with all aspects of running our small gem of a museum. Tuesdays 10:00-12:00 and Saturdays 12:30-3:00 we are open for visits. We welcome help with writing, mounting exhibits, helping with maintenance of our Center Cemetery, leading tours-whatever suits your interests! Call us at 860-653-6704.

#### NHS 40th Reunion

Newington High School -Class of 1984 is celebrating their 40th Reunion

Indian Hill Country Club featuring Casa Mia on the Hill on July 19,2024 at 6:00 PM-10:00 PM. Please email Paul Leckowicz pjleckowicz@gmail. com with any inquiries.

#### Military Whist on May 9 in Cromwell

First Congregational Church, 355 Main Street, Cromwell will host our spring Military Whist on Thursday, May 9. Doors open at 5:30 PM, the game starts promptly at 6:30 PM. Just \$8 for an evening of fun, refreshments and prizes!! Ample parking is available in the lot 2 houses north of the church, and the hall is handicapped accessible.

#### **Rocky Hill Farmers Market**

Rocky Hill Farmers Market is moving to Tuesdays!! We're on the lookout for farmers, artisans and young entrepreneurs to join us. Let's unite in supporting our local community! Mark these dates in your calendar:

//9, //16, //23, //30 & 8/13

All markets will take place at Elm Ridge Park (376 Elm Street) from 4-7 p.m.

For more information please call the Parks & Recreation Department (860) 258 2772.

#### Letters to the Editor

#### Passing the Torch

After more than 20 fulfilling years, it is with a sense of both pride and gratitude that I announce I will be stepping down as parade marshal of Cromwell's Memorial Day Parade. Organizing this worthy event for many years has been an honor beyond words.

Together, we've ensured our veterans receive the respect and remembrance they deserve. However, I believe it's time to pass the torch to a new generation to carry on this vital tradition.

Thank you for your unwavering support of the parade and our town's commitment to remembering those who sacrificed.

Sincerely, Al Waters



## What's Happening Newington?

#### Send us your news!

We want to know what's going on in Newington.

E-mail any news, photos, upcoming events or announcements to editor@rarereminder.com or call 860-563-9386.

## Local Man Deemed "Leader" For Statewide Crime Spree

man from Newington, who police said was the ring leader of "statewide criminal activity," was arrested last week on charges that included catalytic converter thefts, wheel thefts, ATV thefts, and commercial burglar-

According to the Southington Department, Ethan

**Ethan Angel Nieves** Angel Nieves, 21, of Newington, was taken into custody during a court appearance in New Britain Court on April 29.

After a nine-month investigation, police said that Nieves had been using a grey 2023 Honda Odyssey, stolen from Farmington, since March 2023 to commit crimes in Southington and throughout the state.

Police said that after several reports in Southington of catalytic converter and wheel thefts dating back to early 2023. Officers worked to track down leads, working with other law enforcement agencies, and concluded that Nieves was likely in possession of the stolen Honda

Odyssey. It was also believed that Nieves was the ring leader organizing much of the statewide criminal activity.

Southington police and several other agencies executed a search warrant on March 12, at Nieves' residence in New Britain. During the operation leading to the search warrant, officers observed several individuals returning to the residence in a stolen vehicle taken earlier that morning during a burglary at CarMax in East

According to police, two of the three suspects were taken into custody. It was later confirmed that Nieves was the third outstanding suspect. With this most recent arrest, several agencies have arrested and charged Nieves for his involvement, and numerous additional arrests are

For his criminal activity in Southington, Nieves has been charged with larceny in the first degree, three counts of larceny in the third degree, two counts of conspiracy to commit larceny in the third degree, burglary in the third degree, conspiracy to commit burglary in the third degree, two counts of criminal mischief in the first degree, conspiracy to commit mischief in the second degree, and use of a motor vehicle without permission. He was released after posting an \$85,000 court-set bond.

#### Calling all Artists! 2024 Wethersfield Art League Show

Join us in displaying your art at the Keeney Memorial Cultural Center located at 100 Main Street in Old Wethersfield. We will be showcasing all creative media including paintings, mix media, sculpture, pottery, fiber art, and carved wood the second, and free for the third. Sponsor dues Our judge this year is Karl Bayek, art teacher at must be up to date, which is \$30 or \$35 per fam-Wethersfield High School. Awards will be given ily and can be paid when dropping off your art. at the reception on June 1, 2024 from 1-3PM. The Checks or cash accepted. Please direct all quesexhibit will be open to the public from 10AM to tions to Connie at (860) 989-1873 or Wethers-4PM daily until June 26, 2024.

Drop off for the show is: Tuesday, May 28 from 12:30-3:30PM Wednesday, May 29 from 10AM-noon Entrance fees are \$15 for the first entry, \$10 for

fieldArtLeague@gmail.com

#### Farah the Horse to Return to Newington Goes Country

The Newington Parks and Recreation Department announces today that Farah the horse will be trotting down Cedar Street on her way to the Newington Goes Country Festival, to be held at Mill Pond Park on Thursday, June 13th from 5:00pm-10:00pm. Farah's intentions are to visit with as many of the kids in attendance as possible. This special horse will be led by Newington's own, Meg Sautter. "You don't often get a chance to pet and feed a real live horse in our park," said Bill DeMaio, Superintendent of Newington Parks and Recreation. "This exhibit was a huge success last year, and we are grateful that Meg Sautter is willing to share Farah with our townspeople."

The Newington Goes Country event is once again going to be a real thriller. We have booked North County Band who will be providing the lively sounds of country music. There will also be an appearance from Valentine the Clown, the Amazing Andy juggler and magician, and a live animal petting zoo fully stocked with goats, rabbits, donkeys, llamas, alpacas, and more. There

will also be several food trucks for your dinner arrangements as well as a Beer and Wine Garden The preschool youth will have their own section of the park, which will include a bounce house blue blocks, Monster Mural, face painting, games and other activities.

But wait, there's more! Have you ever had the chance to ride a mechanical bull? If not, here's your opportunity! Don't worry, when you fal off, you will safely land on an inflated pillow of air. Train rides will be ongoing all evening until sunset. Mark your calendars to bring your friends and family on Thursday, June 13, 2024 to come and join the fun at Mill Pond Park in Newington If you are a business or civic group that wishes to join the Newington Parks and Recreation Department with a public/private partnership please call the office at 860-665-8666, and we will customize a social media marketing campaign exclusively for your own business. Don't delay Start to reap the benefits today!

#### 12 Tips to Manage Anxiety with Dr. Wendy Hurwitz

When faced with anxiety, what can one do before and during to help reduce and relieve anxiety and regain balance, calm, and clarity?

Come learn about anxiety and what you can do to help prevent it and to manage it if it occurs. Everyone will come away with information, tools, and techniques to help manage anxiety and help regain and restore balance and calm.

\*\*\*free and open to all people from all towns

who are disabled or are 55 years old or older, with Center membership (membership is free through

When: Fri May 17, 1PM-2:30PM

Where: Newington Senior & Disabled Center, 120 Cedar Street, Newington, CT

For more information or to register: please call the Center at: 860-665-8778

About the Presenter:

A graduate of Yale University School of Medicine, Dr. Wendy Hurwitz is a nationally recognized expert on stress. A former medical researcher for ABC News, Dr. Hurwitz is an expert in two fields: Mind/Body Medicine and Energy Medicine. She has a forthcoming book on stress.

Dr. Hurwitz helps organizations and individuals achieve peak performance by enhancing vitality and wellness. She translates the latest and most sophisticated scientific research into practical, easy-to-use techniques people can use to maintain and enhance vitality even under the most trying circumstances. Dr. Hurwitz has provided training for AT&T, Unilever, Lowe Worldwide, the FDNY, and has been an invited guest speaker at the United Nations.

#### Sen. Lesser Advances Bill to **Support Elderly Nutrition Program**

Tonight State Senator Matt Lesser, Senate Chair of the Human Services Committee led passage of a bill implementing task force recommendations for the Elderly Nutrition Program.

"As the Chair of the Elderly Nutrition Task Force, I am pleased to lead the passage of this legislation that supports the wellbeing of our seniors," said Sen. Lesser. "The funding available for senior nutrition, our Meals-on-Wheels program and our congregate sites, has fallen to levels not seen since before the Pandemic but the cost of food has not. That's placing incredible pressure on our elderly nutrition service providers and on our vulnerable seniors. This bill will help stretch scarce dollars and connect seniors to more federal resources, and ensure that localities have a seat at the table. Our local providers do so much on tight budgets, and this additional support will ensure that essential services like Meals on Wheels and congregate meal services will continue for our most vulnerable residents. Our parents and grandparents took care of us – and it's our job to make sure that not one senior in Connecticut

Recently, nutrition providers have announced cuts to congregate site and Meals of Wheels service in Connecticut due to a reduction of federal funding under the Older Americans Act. The bill makes a number of changes to the operation of Connecticut's elderly nutrition programs. Separately, the Department of Aging and Disability Services recently made available \$500,000 of additional funding to CRT, a community action agency, to temporarily stave off threatened cuts to food service in the Hartford County region. Those cuts remain on the horizon with additional

funding pressures looming.

Connecticut's elderly nutrition programs are funded primarily by the federal government through the Older Americans Act, with funding passing through the State of Connecticut to area agencies on aging which administer programs lo-

#### 2024 Newington Library 5K Challenge Road Race

Register for the 27th Annual Newington Library 5K Challenge Road Race which will be held Sunday, May 19, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. at Mill Pond Park in Newington, CT. The first 200 registrants will receive a special Dri-fit t-shirt. This year's Little Readers Sprint will begin at 9:45 a.m. for children between ages 2 and 5, they must be accompanied by an adult. The \$10 registration fee for the Little Readers Sprint is waived if an adult is a registered runner or walker in the 5K race.

This fast and flat certified 5K race course runs through a quiet residential neighborhood and finishes at Mill Pond Park; strollers are allowed on the course! Advanced registration is \$25 for adults and \$10 for children ages 12 and under.

Race day registration is \$30 for adults and \$10 for children ages 12 and under. There are trophies

#### **Newly-Retired Newington Women**

Upcoming events: May 9.. The Kate!.. 10am May 15.. Wellness fair.. 9:30 May 21..Clambake...8:30

Please email Jean Henry at jphenry@cox.net.... You don't have to be from Newington; We have many members from Rocky Hill, Wethersfield, C romwell, Glastonbury and West Hartford! Come

#### **Holy Family Center** To Host Pasta Dinner

The Holy Family Retreat Center will host its 35th Annual Night of Reflection and Pasta Dinner on Thursday, May 9 beginning with mass at

The retreat center is located at 303 Tuxis Road, Entrance 5, West Hartford.

All proceeds from the event support retreat

programs at Holy Family. For additional information on the event, call (860) 983-0846 or email Tom@mcbridecarpet.com. and recognition for top male and female runners as well medals for top runners in the age division brackets. In addition all who run/walk are eligible to win race prize drawings. Register online at raceentry.com, download the registration form from the library's website www.newingtonct.gov/ library or pick up a form at the library.

Can't participate that day but want to support the race and the Lucy Robbins Welles Library? Donate online at www.raceentry.com. All proceeds from this annual library fundraiser will

For more information visit the library's website or call the library at 860-665-8700. Many sponsors are returning including Saputo USA, Data-Mail, and Kingston Wealth Management. Help us celebrate and support the Lucy Robbins Welles Library in Newington, CT!

#### **Newington High School** Class of 1984 Reunion

Newington High School Class of 1984 is celebrating their 40th Reunion at the Indian Hill Country Club featuring Casa Mia on the Hill July 19, 2024 from 6:00 PM-10:00 PM.

Please email Paul Leckowicz at pjleckowicz@ gmail.com with any inquiries.

### NHS Class of '65 Reunion Newington High School's Class of 1965 will

hold its 60th reunion on September 18, 2025. The luncheon is at Indian Hill. Call Ron at 860-384-3944 for more info.

#### NHS 50th Reunion

Newington High School 'Class of 1974' is celebrating their fabulous 50th, with a reunion at the Indian Hill Country Club on Sept. 28, 2024! We are searching for all classmates, friends, and teachers from that class; please send contact info to Lynne Fournier at: lfournier@aol.com. Can't wait to hear from you!

#### **Newington Parks and Recreation Department Seeking** Sponsorship for a New Chicken-Themed Attraction

The Newington Parks and Recreation Department is excited to extend an outstanding chance for your company to shine at two upcoming special events hosted at Mill Pond Park in Newington. Imagine this: an interactive Chicken Flinger game sure to captivate attendees. Participants will unleash their excitement by stomping on a seesaw mechanism, sending a rubber chicken soaring towards a captivating 6-foot by 6-foot canvas. This canvas depicts a humorous scene of a chef cooking a chicken in a pot, complete with a twofoot hole precisely where the pot sits.

The Newington Parks and Recreation Department is seeking a sponsor to join in on making this attraction even more unforgettable. A \$500.00 cash partnership is all it takes to sponsor one of our popular special events in June: Newington Goes Country on June 13 or Food Truck Friday on June 14. In return, your brand will take center stage in the extensive marketing campaign, reaching thousands of potential customers. Your company's logo will feature prominently in the seasonal program guide, distributed to all 13,500 Newington households. Additionally, your brand will receive exposure through PA announcements during the event, prominent on-site signage, an exclusive Facebook live video featuring Superintendent Bill DeMaio, and mentions on

the popular Parks and Recreation Facebook page.

This exclusive opportunity is available on a first-come, first-served basis, so don't delay! Interested business owners should reach out to the Newington Parks and Recreation Department immediately at 860-665-8666. Seize this opportunity before it's gone. Your company's moment of triumph with Newington Parks and Recreation

For more information, please call Bill DeMaio at 860-665-8669 or check us out on Facebook and/or our website: www.newingtonct.gov/parksandrec. Remember, with the Newington Parks and Recreation Department we are building a

#### "You'll Do" Book Talk by Author Marcia Zug

Wednesday, May 15, 6:30 p.m.

Join author Marcia Zug to hear about her new book You'll Do: A History of Marrying for Reasons Other Than Love. This book is an illuminating and thought-provoking examination of the uniquely American institution of marriage, from the Colonial era through the #MeToo age. Books will be available for purchase and signing. Registration required. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

#### Wethersfield High School 60th Reunion

Wethersfield High School "Class of 1964" will be holding their 60th Reunion on Saturday, September 28, 2024.

The reunion will be held at The Back Nine Tavern at Stanley Golf Course in New Britain, CT.

We are searching for all classmates and friends. More information is on our Facebook page Wethersfield High School (Connecticut) Class of 1964 Contact Bob Jinks at 1106raj13@gmail.com for more information.



## What's Happening Newington?

#### Send us your news!

We want to know what's going on in Newington. E-mail any news, photos, upcoming events or announcements to editor@rarereminder.com or call 860-563-9386.

#### **Annunciation Women's Guild** Mother's Day Weekend Plant Sale Friday, May 10

The Annunciation Women's Guild will hold their Annual Mother's Day Weekend Plant Sale on Friday May 10th and Saturday May 11th, 2024. It will be held at Holy Spirit Church hall, 183 Church St. Newington, from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. Plants include geraniums, herbs, some vegetables, annuals, hanging baskets and planters. Please contact Jackie Gilligan at 860-667-1441 or Jeran Fuzie at 860-667-0690 for any questions. This fundraiser allows us to use the profits to benefit our parish and community through our many purchases, donations and events that we provide. This is a perfect opportunity to buy a Mothers Day flower basket and gifts, or to obtain quality plants to start your garden.

#### Live Performance Set For Madama Butterfly

MIDDLETOWN - The premier Connecticut Lyric Opera and the celebrated Connecticut Virtuosi Chamber Orchestra will perform Pucini's Madama Butterfly" on Saturday, June 1, at 7: 30 o.m. It will be held at the Santo Fragilio Performing Arts Center, 200 LaRosa Lane, in Middletown and has been brought to that city by the Greater Middletown Concert Association.

Set in Japan in the early Twentieth Century, Pucini's deeply-felt and imaginative opera folows the poignant story of love between a United

States naval officer, B.F. Pinkerton, and the beautiful Japanese geisha, Cio-Cio San. This popular opera, characterized by the clever integration of traditional Japanese themes with the soaring Italian operatic tradition, is an acclaimed masterpiece. It is sung in Italian with English supertitles

Call 860 343-7555 for further info and to reserve tickets now for the performance. Regular price tickets are \$50 each with special \$45 tickets for seniors. Tickets can also be ordered online.

#### State Rep. Gary Turco Supports Continued Funding for Free School Meal Programs

State Rep. Gary Turco (D-Newington, New Britain) joined legislative colleagues and advocates at a press conference on March 26 to highlight the importance of HB 5510, which concerns continued funding for free meal programs in Connecticut's schools, including free breakfast for all and covering the share of families who qualify for free or reduced-price lunch.

"Funding school meals is an investment in our children, educational system and entire state's well-being but childhood hunger is very real and happening in every community, regardless of average household wealth as one in eight children in Connecticut suffers from hunger and it negatively affects physical, oral, and mental health," said Rep. Turco. "Hunger can also lead to behavior problems and difficulty with learning. It can also lead to obesity as children eat cheaper and reduced-nutrition meals. Any increase in education funding, new school buildings and teacher support will be negated if children are too hungry to focus and learn." Families now face increased school meal debt following cuts to universal meal funding, according to Rep. Turco.

"From September to January, there was already close to \$400,000 in student meal debt owed by families," added Rep. Turco. "This number is predicted to continue to climb and will increase the stigma and potentially bullying children face." Additionally, Rep. Turco said that HB 5510 is missing funding for free school lunches for all students that are eligible for reduced-priced meals. Rep. Turco said this funding is very important to support ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) families who are struggling to stay out of poverty. Several states have already passed universal school meals, including Massachusetts.

"Let's work toward Connecticut ensuring no child in the classroom goes hungry in Connecticut by passing universal school breakfast permanently as proposed in this bill and add funding for free lunch for those eligible for reduced pricing," said Rep. Turco.

Rep. Turco that he would vote to amend the

fiscal guardrails to feed Connecticut's children.

"If our children go to school hungry and don't get a nutritious meal, they can't learn," said Rep. Turco. "We're wasting education dollars, we're wasting all the resources we provide to teachers because children are distracted, or just not feeling well or don't go to school. Nothing is more important than feeding our children." Rep. Turco later testified before the Appropriations Committee with longtime Newington Public Schools employee Eileen Francolino.

I appreciate that Eileen, who works as a Student Assistance Coordinator at Newington High School, took time away from her job this week to testify in support of HB 5510 with me," said Rep. Turco. "Eileen has a front-row seat to the importance of funding school meals as an investment in our children, educational system and community's well-being."

#### **Newington Parks and Recreation Seeking** Sponsorship For an Inflatable Gaga Pit

The Newington Parks and Recreation Department is thrilled to announce the latest addition to its recreational offerings in Newington: an inflatable Gaga Pit! Designed to bring families and friends together for active fun, this brightly colored octagonal game will make its much-anticipated debut at two upcoming events: Newington Goes Country on Thursday, June 13th, and Food Truck Friday on June 14th, both held at Mill Pond Park fields.

In an effort to enhance community engagement and support, Newington's Parks and Recreation Department is actively seeking the first sponsor for this thrilling new addition to the epartments many activities. Businesses civic groups interested in maximizing their local visibility are encouraged to reach out to Bill DeMaio, Superintendent of the Newington Parks and Recreation Department, at 860-665-8666 for sponsorship details.

"This presents a wonderful opportunity for

children and adults alike to enjoy outdoor recreation and socialize with friends in our beautiful park," remarked Bill DeMaio, Newington Parks and Recreations

Superintendent. "Moreover, with the versatility of the Gaga Pit, we're thrilled to offer yearround entertainment, including indoor use during winter months at the Mortenson Community

The introduction of the Gaga Pit aligns with Newington Parks and Recreations ongoing commitment to fostering community engagement and providing enriching recreational opportunities for residents of all ages. As preparations continue for the debut of this exciting addition,

> Thank you for reading the Rare Reminder

Newington Parks and Recreation invites interested sponsors to reach out with any questions or expressions of interest.

To initiate a public/private partnership with the Newington Parks and Recreation Department, businesses or civic groups simply need to express their interest by contacting the Newington Parks and Recreation Department at 860-665-8666. Upon reaching out, they will receive detailed information about sponsorship oppor-

For a sponsorship fee of \$900, Sponsors will enjoy a comprehensive package of promotional benefits, including:

park, providing visibility to 1. Signage at the park visitors and event attendees.

2. Inclusion in the Newington Parks and Recreation Department's brochure, which is directly mailed to over 13,500 households, maximizing exposure to the local community.

3. A complete social media package, ensuring promotion across Newington Parks and Recreation's social media channels to reach a wider audience. 4. Highlight on Facebook Live, offering a dy-

namic and engaging way to showcase the sponsor's involvement and support. Partner with Newington Parks and Recreation

in building a strong community! Join us for the unveiling of the Gaga Pit at the special events on June 13th and June 14th.

> **American Legion** Post 117 Meeting

The American Legion Post 117 at 294 Willard Ave. Newington will hold our next meeting on Tuesday, May 21st. Free dinner at 6:30 PM. and meeting at 7:00 PM. We welcome all military past and present interested in learning the benefits of

#### **Church Bells Play Dedications**

Church of Christ, Congregational, located in the center of Newington, is requesting song dedications from the community. The church carillon, which plays a variety of music throughout the year, is a mellifluous addition to the town's ambience. The carillon has a library of over 2,000 songs--both sacred and secular. The church welcomes your song requests. For a donation of \$100, you can choose the hymn or songe you would like to hear each Sunday for a month Some people honor their parents or spouse during their anniversary month. If you would like to request a song, or have questions, please contac Michelle Dixon at the church. (860) 666-4689 of ficeadmin@newingtonucc.org

#### The Newington Senior and Disabled Center Presents...

A bus trip to Foster's Down-east Clambake, York, Maine

Tuesday, May 21, 2024

Clam Chowder, Streamer Clams, Cultivated Mussels, Maine Lobster, Sweet Corn on the Cob, Red Bliss Potatoes, Rolls & Hot Drawn Butter, Blueberry Crumb Cake. (Or Entree Choice of BBQ Chicken or Vegetarian)

Live entertainment.

After lunch enjoy Downtown Portsmouth. Cost: \$130 per person In person registration only. Checks only. NO CASH

Departure: 8:30 a

Estimated return: 6:30 pm (Newington) For more info, call the Senior and Disabled

Center, Newington, at 860-665-8778.

#### **Newington Democrats Honor** 3 Outstanding Local Volunteers

(NEWINGTON, CT)-- On Sunday, April 21, over 80 Newington Democrats, along with state and local officials, gathered at The Back Nine Tavern at Stanley Golf Course to celebrate three of the party's outstanding volunteers at its annual Democrat of the Year event. Awardees included Democrat of the Year Wendy Holness, Women in Leadership Honoree Cindy Stamm, and Young Democrat of the Year AJ Tiniakos.

'Together, we've demonstrated the value of collaboration and the importance of electing Democratic leaders at all levels of government," said State Treasurer Erick Russell. "These incredible awardees are having an impact right here on the local level and building the foundation for all the amazing work being done [at the state and national levels]."

Multiple speakers commended Holness for the work ethic she displayed during the 2023 municipal campaign cycle. Lieutenant Governor Susan Bysiewicz noted that Holness made over 7,000 phone calls to voters ahead of the November 2023

'What keeps our democracy strong is rooms like this and people like Wendy...who do the hard work of getting people elected," said former Mayor of Hartford Luke Bronin.

Stamm was honored both for her current work as a party fundraiser and her prior service as an elected official. After serving three terms on the Board of Education, she transitioned into a new role as Chair of the Fundraising and Events Com-

"Fundraising is not an easy task," said Attorney General William Tong. Tong continued by praising Cindy's diligent work as essential to winning elections.

'Cindy's knowledge, experience, and personal-

ity are huge assets to our team," said Newington

Democratic Town Committee Vice Chair Terri LaPenta-Duffek. "She is highly deserving of this year's Women in Leadership Award." Tiniakos, a recent transplant from Southington, was among three members of Generation Z elected

to the Newington Town Council and Board of Education as Democrats in 2023. "AJ is always the calming voice of reason on our team," said Newington Town Councilor Kathy Gonzalez, who presented on behalf of Tiniakos. "It

is an absolute pleasure to serve with him." Holness, Stamm, and Tiniakos received multiple commendations, including a citation from U.S. Representative John Larson. Newington's state legislative delegation, State Senator Matt Lesser (D-Middletown), State Representative Gary Turco (D-Newington), and State Representative Kate Farrar (D-West Hartford), presented each honoree with a citation from the Connecticut General Assembly.

Wendy, Cindy, and AJ, thank you for all the work you've done-and will continue to do-to help elect the leadership our community deserves," said Newington Democratic Town Committee Chair John M. Kelly. "With your help, and the help of all the people in this room, we will continue moving Newington in a positive direction."

#### **Local Eastern Students Inducted Into Leadership Honor Society**

WILLIMANTIC, CT (03/18/2024)-- Eastern Connecticut State University inducted 32 students into the Omicron Delta Kappa (ODK) leadership honor society inducted 32 students on March 3. ODK is a national leadership honor society for college students who have exemplified outstanding academic conduct and active involvement in campus organizations.

Among the inductees were:

Alicia Abrahams of Newington, a senior major-

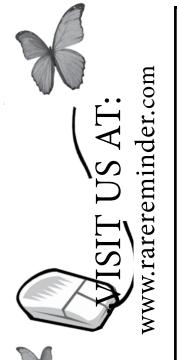
Allison Arling of Cromwell, a senior majoring in History and Social Science and Business Adminis-

Amani Jones of Newington, a senior majoring ir Business Information Systems.

Mia Sommers of Wethersfield, a junior majoring in Psychology and Spanish.

The first ODK chapter in New England, the society was established at Eastern in 1994 and has since inducted nearly 900 students, faculty and alumni.

We had over 130 applicants and selected the top 32 who demonstrated outstanding service and lead ership within our community," said Casey Kensey director of student and family programs. "These students were more than deserving of this honor not only are they incredibly involved student lead ers, but collectively their average GPA is 3.82!"



#### **NEWINGTON ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

#### **NOTICE OF DECISION**

At its Regular Meeting on May 02, 2024 the Newington Zoning Board of Appeals met and took the following actions:

#### PETITION 00-24-01 WAS GRANTED AS REVISED BELOW:

Petition 00-24-01: 311 Orchard Avenue, requesting a variance of Section 4.4.1 to reduce the second front yard setback of a corner lot (on the Meadow Street side) from 30' to 15' for the construction of a single-family home. Applicant/Contact: William DeMilia, Owner: Frederick D'Aquila.

Submitted, Erik S. Hinckley Asst. Town Planner / ZEO



## What's Happening Wethersfield?

#### Send us your news!

We want to know what's going on in Wethersfield.

E-mail any news, photos, upcoming events or announcements to editor@rarereminder.com or call 860-563-9386.

## **Town Council Weighs Needs** Versus Level Of Tax Increase

#### By Joan Hunt Staff Writer

WETHERSFIELD - For those who have followed the budget process for Fiscal Year 2024-25, it has been a real education about making the numbers fit the needs of the residents. While salaries and benefits account for the bulk of the town's yearly expenses on both the town and the school sides, maintaining the equipment, facilities, vehicles of all the town's departments, the infrastructure, recreation fields and a host of other things vie for what is left.

And that is before consideration can be given to any improvements that are needed to maintain the value of the services, education, and safety that residents rightfully expect to have in their town. Typically, this part of the town budget gets short shrift. That is because Wethersfield is largely residential and the citizens bear the lion's share of the tax burden.

This year, the council has some decisions to make that could give them flexibility in the waning moments of the budget season.

First, the percentage used to figure the amount of money budgeted for employee healthcare turned out to be much higher than needed. Town Manager Fred Presley told the council last week that the increase will only be 4 percent, rather than the 10 percent estimated by the town, and the 12 percent estimate used by the BoE. This means that the expense for town employees' health insurance will be \$266,000 less than it appears on the town budget, and \$532,000 less on the BoE budget.

Next, Presley noted that the state legislature will vote this week on the state budget, and it is likely they will return the full amount of promised funding to towns for magnet school reimbursement. If so, that accounts for about \$400,000 that appears on the BoE budget.

In addition to these two developments, the council also looked at the possibility of using a portion of the fund balance to lower the mill rate increase. Director of Finance Michael O'Neil said there is more than \$15 million in the fund balance, also referred to as the "rainy day fund." He said that the town keeps the level at between 7 and 10 percent at all times, but it is over 10 percent at the moment, which represents \$640,000 that could be used to reduce the mill rate.

"It is real money,' he explained. "If you want to give money to the schools, for example, you can use some of it to replace the mill levy. The tax rate

Deputy Mayor Matt Forrest said that in his many years on the Town Council, they have almost always turned in a maintenance budget similar to the one they have in front of them.

'I believe this is the moment to invest in our town," he said. "Although we have a great town, we have areas that are not great."

Using the example that \$10 million in drainage improvements are needed at this point, he acknowledged that much-needed culvertsand dams may not sound exciting, "but they form the fabric of our infrastructure and protect against the flooding of neighborhoods," he said.

Saying that it was time to stop kicking the can down the road, Forrest alluded to issues and problems that have existed in town for 30 to 40 years and have not been dealt with, in order to keep the budget as bare bones as possible. Athletic fields, roads, quality education, the senior center, quality of life issues and sidewalks were some of the items that Forrest said he believed worthy of more attention.

Councilor Shelley Carbone called the proposed budget increase "irresponsible" because el-

town budget that is earmarked for town staff, and warned about the referendum that will soon be presented for necessary school building projects.

"I don't want to tax people out of town," sad Carbone.

derly people on fixed incomes and families where

both parents are working to make ends meet can-

insurance, but the Board of Education is still going to want that money," Carbone said. "Show

me data that says more dollars equals better test

scores," she said. Expecting the school district

to use the insurance savings to retain the seven

math interventionist that had been cut from the

school budget request, Carbone said she was not

She also questioned the \$150,000 item on the

convinced that they were needed.

"I'm glad to see that there are decreases on

not afford higher taxes.

Councilor Jane Roets said that the idea of tax increases is scary, but she feels a responsibility to maintain the advantages that have caused people to move into Wethersfield in the first place. Noting that when a house goes on the market in town it doesn't take long before someone buys it, she said she didn't think the taxes are keeping people

"But not maintaining our schools, roads and sidewalks will keep them from coming here," she said. "We need to keep our house in order and invest in it," said Roets.

Mayor Ken Lesser thanked the group for a terrific discussion last Wednesday, although there were too many variables still out to formalize the budget that night.

"I believe any budget is a statement of priorities, and I know our priorities are to be fiscally responsible, but at the same time have a strong quality of life for all our residents," he said.

"I am only one of nine people, but for me personally, I hope we can bring the overall budget down lower than it is. I'm not sure I'm ready to invest the health savings back into the board. I think it is important to make some adjustments to keep the quality of life high, and that's our job as counselors. We need to maintain balance between the tax rate and what we charge our residents and the services that we provide," said

The mayor said he hoped they could come up with a bipartisan budget and asked anybody on both sides of the aisle to send him, the town manager or the finance director questions and ideas in the coming days. A second workshop was scheduled for tonight, if needed, and the final budget is expected to be adopted on May 13.

#### Live Performance Set For Madama Butterfly

MIDDLETOWN - The premier Connecticut Lyric Opera and the celebrated Connecticut Virtuosi Chamber Orchestra will perform Pucini's "Madama Butterfly" on Saturday, June 1, at 7: 30 p.m. It will be held at the Santo Fragilio Performing Arts Center, 200 LaRosa Lane, in Middletown and has been brought to that city by the Greater Middletown Concert Association.

Set in Japan in the early Twentieth Century, Pucini's deeply-felt and imaginative opera follows the poignant story of love between a United States naval officer, B.F. Pinkerton, and the beautiful Japanese geisha, Cio-Cio San. This popular opera, characterized by the clever integration of traditional Japanese themes with the soaring Italian operatic tradition, is an acclaimed masterpiece. It is sung in Italian with English supertitles projected.

Call 860 343-7555 for further info and to reserve tickets now for the performance. Regular price tickets are \$50 each with special \$45 tickets for seniors. Tickets can also be ordered online.

#### Two Local Non-Profits Team Up For Annual 5K The Keane Foundation has a long-standing

Save the Date for the Sixth Annual

WETHERSFIELD - On the first Sunday in June, since 2002, the Richard M. Keane Foundation has been proud to sponsor an annual 5k Walk/Run. For over two decades, the event has attracted numerous runners and walkers of all ages and skill levels to Standish Park in historic Old Wethersfield to participate in a fun family event that helps to support the Keane Foundation's After School Enrichment Programs.

The 5K honors the memory of Richard Keane and two other Wethersfield residents, Jeffrey Bittner and David Winton, who perished in the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center on 9/11/2001. As the Keane Foundation prepares for the 2024 5k Walk/Run on June 2, we are pleased to announce an exciting new direction for the event.

After 23 years as an exclusive Keane Foundation fundraising event, we will now partner with Laura's Garden Foundation, a Wethersfield nonprofit developed to honor the inspirational life and legacy of Laura Kirsche Hart.

(Middletown, CT) - Middletown Pride an-

nounced its sixth annual Middletown PrideFEST,

scheduled for Saturday, June 1, 2024. Get ready to

kick-off Pride Month with the state's largest Pride

Middletown PrideFEST is an all-afternoon

street festival that includes family friendly

fun and activities for all ages from 12pm - 10

pm.PrideFEST consists of the Middletown Pride

March down Main Street, our Pride Rally on the

South Green, two Pride Showcase Concerts, and

a Tea Dance Vendors and food trucks will be lo-

cated on Main Street, and a 21+ area will offer cocktails and adult beverages with a perfect view

of the South Green Stage.Middletown PrideFEST

draws approximately 20,000 individuals from all

over New England, hundreds of vendors, and fea-

flagship event, created by and for Middletown's

LGBTQIA2S+ community."It is a safe and wel-

Middletown PrideFEST is Middletown Pride's

tures the largest Pride March in the state.

ner in the Keane Foundation's annual 5K, and loved to spend time with her family at Mikey's Place. The beautiful Laura's Garden in Standish Park created in Laura's memory embodies her generous spirit and commemorates her cherished memory. It is also very near to where the 5k begins and ends. Proceeds from the Keane Foundation/Laura's Garden Foundation 5k on June 2 will help

partnership with the Kirsche family that includes

the annual Christmas Eve Luminaria display that

has become a holiday tradition in many Wethers-

field neighborhoods. Laura was a frequent run-

to maintain the community garden that bears Laura's name as well as to continue support of the Keane Foundation's After School Enrichment Please join us in the 5K as we celebrate this

new partnership and maintain the wonderful 5K in the heart of Old Wethersfield!

#### Wethersfield Men's Garden Club Annual Plant Sale May 11

Wethersfield Men's Garden Club (https:// www.facebook.com/Mens-Garden-Club-of-Wethersfield-165623468911) will hold its annual plant sale from 9am to 1pm on Saturday May 11 in the Wethersfield Town Hall parking lot (515 Silas Deane Highway). The sale features vegetables, including Webb-Deane-Stevens samples. Proceeds from the sale support multiple local garden/agricultural charities and maintenance of the Frank Weston Rose Garden next to the Wethersfield Town Hall. 10% off your purchase with a paper copy of this notice.

#### WHS Drama Presents... 3rd Annual Cabaret for a Cause

Cause," This year, 100% of the proceeds will be donated to TIDE Cancer Foundation, (www. tidecancerfoundation.org) . After personally experiencing the challenges of cancer treatment and recovery, WHS teachers Gina and John Gallivan founded TIDE, which supplies supportive care packages to women battling cancer in Connecticut. A talented group of performers is excit-

## PRESS RELEASE

MVA with Injuries
On Sunday, April 28, 2024, at 6:31 AM,
Wethersfield Police Officers were dispatched to 1750 Berlin Turnpike on the report of a motor vehicle accident with [serious] injuries. Upon arrival, Officers discovered that the collision involved a motorcycle.

Aetna Ambulance and Wethersfield EMS responded to provide medical attention. The motorcycle operator was transported to a local hospital for treatment. The Mid-State Accident Reconstruction Team is investigating this accident. Anyone with information is asked to call Officer Emma Borvsevicz at 860-721-3006.

The Berlin Turnpike, northbound, at Pawtucket Street, is currently shut down.

On May 11, Wethersfield High School Drama proudly presents its third annual "Cabaret for a favorites including "Wicked", "Hamilton", "Newsies", and more. Student directors and the cast look forward to raising voices and raising money with their community. Come early to bid on raffle baskets, buy sweet treats, and schmooze with the cast. Main Street Creamery's truck will be on site. dishing their celebrated ice cream. Doors open at 7pm, with curtain at 7:30pm. Tickets available at ShowTix4u.com beginning Wednesday, May 1st. \$15 adults/\$10 seniors and students, general admission. At the door, \$18/\$13. Online sales close one hour before curtain time. 411 Wolcott Hill Road. For more info, sblanzaco@wethersfield.me.

#### **Holy Family Center** To Host Pasta Dinner

The Holy Family Retreat Center will host its 35th Annual Night of Reflection and Pasta Dinner on Thursday, May 9 beginning with mass at

The retreat center is located at 303 Tuxis Road, Entrance 5, West Hartford.

All proceeds from the event support retreat programs at Holy Family. For additional information on the event, call

(860) 983-0846 or email Tom@mcbridecarpet.com.

#### coming place to gather together and to celebrate our authentic selves' right here in our community," said Christopher Forte, Founder and Lead Organizer of Middletown Pride.Forte created Middletown Pride in 2018, a public-private partnership between the City of Middletown, the Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce, Wesleyan University, the Russell Library, and the

City's LGBTQIA+ Commission.

"It's amazing the see the level of commitment Middletown has for our queer community.Over the last few years, the LGBTQIA+ Commission has increased the number of events and programs to build safe spaces and forge stronger inter-community networks" said Steven Kovach, Chair of the City of Middletown's LGBTQIA+ Commis-

Karleigh Chardonnay Webb, a 2023 Middletown Pride Grand Marshal, shared that "Middle-

Middletown PrideFEST on June 1, 2024 town Pride is an example of how deep the commitment to inclusion has grown. Pride isn't just a 'big city' event, and it's an everywhere event where a community as a whole can be a part of. To see a town of this size do it as big, as grand as anywhere in the world is a beautiful thing to see and even more beautiful to be a part of."Grand Marshal Hella Swagg echoed Webb's sentiment, "to say that being a Grand Marshal of Middletown Pride was life changing would be a complete understatement! The connections I've formed and

> strengthened through pride is what it's all about." "Middletown PrideFEST is made possible through the hard work and dedication of our partners, volunteers, sponsors, and the unwavering support from our community. We are so grateful to all those who make PrideFEST a reality" said Forte.

Mayor, Ben Florsheim said, "Middletown PrideFEST has become a signature event for the City of Middletown, and we are so excited to continue building on the success of the last few years. PrideFEST 2024 is shaping up to be the biggest, best, and proudest yet."June 1 will certainly be a day you do not want to miss.

Applications for vendor spaces, marching groups, performers, volunteers, and sponsors will go live on January 1, 2024. Visit https://middletownpride.org/ for more details and information regarding the day of PrideFEST and how to get involved!

NHS 40th Reunion
Newington High School - Class of 1984 is

celebrating their 40th Reunion

Indian Hill Country Club featuring Casa Mia on the Hill on July 19, 2024 at 6:00 PM-10:00 PM. Please email Paul Leckowicz pjleckowicz@gmail.com with any inquiries.



## What's Happening Wethersfield?

#### Send us your news!

We want to know what's going on in Wethersfield. E-mail any news, photos, upcoming events or announcements to editor@rarereminder.com or call 860-563-9386.

## **Town Resident Opens New Home and Beauty Shop**





It's a family affair, as Victoria Oliveira and Mayor Ken Lesser, left, help Victoria's younger daughter Ria, 5, as she cuts the ribbon for her mother's new shop called Jackie in Old Wethersfield last Saturday. Behind them is Victoria's father, Tony Guerrera, former mayor, legislator and high school grad pal of Mayor Lesser, and current commissioner of Motor Vehicles.

#### By Joan Hunt

WETHERSFIELD - Last Saturday was the ribbon-cutting for a unique shop called Jackie, in the heart of Old Wethersfield. The visually stunning collection of home décor and beauty products reflects the careful selection and style of its owner, Victoria Oliveira. She refers to her shop as

"It is a collection of brands and designs that really complete each other," she explained. It has taken her the past several months to hand-pick the items and brands that she carries in her store, and many of them are personal to her.

For example, the beauty and skincare products are those that she has used for years, and they don't appear in department stores or beauty

The Women's Club of Christ the King Parish

will hold its General Meeting on Tuesday, May 21,

2024 at 2:00 pm. at the Church of the Incarnation,

544 Prospect Street, Wethersfield. Welcome club

members, friends and guests to an afternoon of

musical memories of America's popular patriotic

songs as we celebrate Memorial Day in Christ the

King Parish. Patty Carver is a singer, actress and

writer of international credits. She will present a

delightful and entertaining tribute to the music of

counters. They include One Love organics, Three Ships skincare and B14e, which she buys in Bra-

"I love the skincare industry in Brazil, and I travel there every year," said Victoria. Ascribing to the "less is more" theory, she only carries products that are organic, with safe, clean ingredients that are suited for sensitive skin.

Tableware, home accessories, ceramics and more create a vision of fun and grace, complemented by the artwork of abstract painter Sandy Welch, who has a studio in West Hartford.

"She is a cool person I met through my aunt's store," said Victoria.

The inspiration for Jackie, as well as the name of the business, comes from her aunt who owned a boutique called Artichoke in West Hartford,

songs of all times. The program is Irving Berlin,

A Patriotic Tribute. Patty shares some of Irving

Berlin's popular hits, patriotic favorites and sto-

ries of his life, celebrating one of the greatest

Spring Tree Tour
Sunday May 19, 2024 at 1pm. Join Arborist

John Kehoe on this new walk in Old Wethers-

field. Discover the wide collection of older and

newer trees on this walk, their co-existing habits

and the benefits trees give to us. This is a 1.5 hour

walk so wear comfortable shoes and bring a wa-

where Victoria worked part-time while attending St. Joseph College.

We shared a love for all things fashion, beauty and design," says Victoria. That love has taken her many places, including New York and Los Angeles, where she learned about beauty, brands, and fashion. As a grad student at Emerson College in Boston, she studied journalism and worked a while in the magazine industry.

But Victoria, who was a local girl, returned to Connecticut and bought a home in Old Wethersfield nine years ago. When she decided to bring her unique business to the community, there was no place that seemed as good as the lovely town

#### Wethersfield-Unico **Bocce League**

The Wethersfield -UNICO Bocce League starts Thursday, June 13, 2024. League play is every Thursday, from 6 - 8pm, at Millwoods Park, 166

Prospect Street in Wethersfield. All ages and residents of any town are welcome. Registration is \$25 per person, or \$100 per Team of 4. The season culminates in our Tournament in September.. All equipment is provided. Register onsite or for more info please contact the Commissioner of Bocce, Michael Fortunato, where she has chosen to live with her husband, Jacquesson, and daughters Bella and Ria.

Jackie is a natural for the Main Street locale, and adds to the ambience of a shopping district that attracts more visitors every day. On May 10, Jackie combines with Soulshine Yoga next door and Castor and Poly Boutique for an event they are calling Mama's Night Out from 6 to 8 p.m. for

a little fun and late night shopping. Regular hours for Jackie are Wednesday, Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Thursday, 12 to 7 p.m., and Sun. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

#### **Barb's Happy Travelers Upcoming Trips**

Resort World Catskills Monticello, New York Saturday July 13, 2024

Departs from Middletown at 7:00a.m. Cost:\$94.00per person

Bonus Package:\$25.00slot play/\$15.00 food

The Turkey Train Winnipesaukee Scenic Railroad, Meredith, New Hampshire

Saturday September 14,2024

Depart from Middletown at 7:30a.m. Cost:\$145.00 per person

For information and reservations contact Barbara Shaw 860-262-3531

#### America as she sings these uniquely American favorites celebrating some of the greatest patriotic Newly-Retired

**Newington Women** Upcoming events: May 9.. The Kate!.. 10am May 15..Wellness fair..9:30 May 21..Clambake...8:30

Please email Jean Henry at jphenry@cox.net.... ou don't have to be from Newington; We have many members from Rocky Hill, Wethersfield, C romwell, Glastonbury and West Hartford! Come join the FUN!

#### ter bottle. We will meet at the Keeney Memorial Cultural Center Parking Lot. Rain or shine, Free and open to the public. For further information: wethvia@icloud.com

songwriters of all time.

Christ the King Parish Women's Club

#### **LEGAL NOTICE OF ADOPTION TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD**

At the Regular Meeting of March 18, 2024, the Town Council of the Town of Wethersfield adopted the following:

#### **RESOLUTION R24-002**

**AUTHORIZATION FOR THE FFY 2023 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT** PERFORMANCE GRANT APPLICATION

The full text of this document is available for public inspection in the Town Clerk's Office.

Dated at Wethersfield, Connecticut this 9th day of May, 2024.

Susan I. Schroeder Town Clerk

The Town Council of the Town of Wethersfield will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, May 20, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Council Chambers, 505 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield, CT 06109 for the following:

**LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING** 

**TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD** 

#### **RESOLUTION R24 - 003**

Authorization for the Town to enter into with and deliver to the State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection any and all documents which it deems necessary to carry out the Spring Street Pond Project.

The full text of this document is available for public inspection in the Town Clerk's Office.

Dated at Wethersfield, Connecticut this 9th day of May, 2024.

Susan I. Schroeder Town Clerk

#### **LEGAL NOTICE Town of Wethersfield** PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

The Wethersfield Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, May 21, 2024 at 7:00 p.m., Town Hall Council Chambers, 505 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield,

Public Hearing – 2183-24-Z Demas S. De Oliveira seeking a Special Permit in accordance with Section 3.5.1.B.4 (Permitted Accessory Uses) of the Wethersfield Zoning Regulations for the outside storage of a Camper/RV over 18' in length in the side yard at 95 Mapleside Drive.

#### Public Hearing – 2184-24-Z Raising Cane's Restaurants,

**LLC** seeking a Special Permit in accordance with Section 5.2.F.3 (Permitted Principal Uses – Hospitality Uses) of the Wethersfield Zoning Regulations for a restaurant with drive-through window at 1298 Silas Deane Highway.

> Planning and Zoning Commission Justin LaFountain, AICP, Town Planner **Duly Authorized** Dated at Wethersfield, Connecticut, this 2nd day of May, 2024.



gambling problem. www.gamblersanonymous.org

No job too small. Pete: 860-916-7047.

**EXPIRES 5/31/24** 



#### **Green Expo Seeks Participants**

The Rocky Hill Congregational Church's fourth annual Green Expo will be held on Saturday, June 8, 2024 from 10 am to 1 pm. We are seeking environmentally and ecologically-focused participants. Our 2023 Expo had a wide variety participants, including bee and pollinator educators, environmentallyfriendly products, land trust representation, the Cora Belden Library and Rocky Hill Historical Society presentations, electric bikes and electric cars. Do you sell green-focused products? Do you represent ecologically-supportive businesses? There is no charge for a table space. Our space is limited, so please let us know as soon as you can, if you are interested in participating. Please contact Sandi Kelly: sandict@cox.net or 860-930-6787.

#### Friendship Force Call for Members

Friendship Force Connecticut is active and traveling and accepting new members! Our chapter has resumed full travel activities, as well as monthly group social activities (Kent Falls, Providence Gondola rides, Culinary Inst of Amer, CT Antique Machinery Museum, and many others this year). Our members travelled to Cornwall, UK this last year, where we stayed in the homes of the host club members and explored castles, bio domes and the Lost Gardens of Heligan, while sharing meals with the local residents. In May 2024, we will be hosting ambassadors from Niagara, Canada and showing them the wonders of our state. Then, we will be traveling to Santa Barbara followed by San Francisco. Some of our members might even join the Boston chapter on their trip to Brazil in March. For more information about our chapter and on how you can join, visit facebook.com/ffconnecticut.org, email ffconnecticut@ gmail.com or go to friendshipforce.org

#### Free Career Development

The Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce will offer the "Professional Training & Development Program", free of charge, in 2024. Classes will be conducted virtually via Zoom, during the months of April, May and June, on Mon. - Thurs., @ 5:30 - 7:00pm. Classes offered include: Grant Writing, Managing Yourself and Leading Others, Google Sheets, Google Docs, Google Slides, Career / Personal Coaching, and Financial Management / Understanding & Engagement. These programs are available to the public (CT residents) and open for registration at this time. For additional information on the program, please visit www.middlesexchamber.com and click on "For Business" tab to access Professional Training and Development site, you can also register there as well. To schedule a pre-course appointment, or for more information concerning the program or signing up for classes offered, please contact Lorenzo Marshall at 860-347-6924 or lorenzo@middlesexchamber.com.

#### **Event for Wethersfield for Seniors**

The Wethersfield High School Interact Club, together with the Wethersfield Senior Center invite seniors, age 55 and over, for an evening of great food, fun, and music on Saturday, May 18th from 5:00-8:00 pm at the Wethersfield High School Cafeteria. Tickets may be purchased for \$10 from the Wethersfield Senior Center, 30 Greenfield Street. Tickets sold after Monday, May 13th will be \$15.00. To RSVP or for more information, please contact the Senior Center at 860-721-2770 or senior.center@ wethersfieldct.gov or Nella Szilagyi, Interact Club Advisor at 860-571-8284 or nszilagyi@wethersfield.me.

#### Free Hazardous Waste Collection

Free Household Hazardous Waste Collection - The Lower CT River Council of Governments will hold a HHW collection event on Saturday, May 11, from 9:00 - 1:00 at East Hampton Water Pollution Control Facility, 20 Gildersleeve Dr., East Hampton. The collection is open to residents of the RiverCOG region which includes Cromwell & Middletown. No commercial or business waste allowed. Please visit https://rivercog.org/ household-hazardous-waste/ to learn more.

#### **Spring Plant and Baked Goods Sale**

All are welcome! Please come to our Spring Plant and Baked Goods Sale at the Rocky Hill Congregational Church, 805 Old Main Street, Rocky Hill, CT 06067, from 9 AM to 1 PM on Saturday, May 11, 2024. You'll find a wonderful variety of Annual, Perennial, Vegetable and Herb plants, beautiful Flowers, Hanging Baskets, and yummy Baked Goods. Come buy your Mom a beautiful plant and delicious baked items for Mother's Day! Handicap accessible and free parking.

#### Newington Fundraising Program

Every month, a local non-profit or civic group enrolls to be the recipient of the cans and bottles that are donated to the new shed located in the back gravel parking lot at Churchill Park. Throughout the month, volunteers from the organization return the cans and bottles to generate revenue for their group. We would like to give your organization a specific month to benefit from the profits of the donated cans and bottles. All you have to do is bring the bags of donations to a local return center and they will pay you based on the weight of the bags. No sorting necessary! For those of you who haven't yet brought their cans and bottles to the shed, the Newington Parks and Recreation Department strongly encourages you to make a New Year's Resolution and drop off bags of bottles and cans to help out these non-profit organizations in town. If you are in a local non-profit organization and are interested in receiving donations, all you have to do is call the Parks and Recreation office at 860-665-8666 for more details. Remember, with Newington Parks and Recreation, we are building a strong community.

#### WMGC Plant Sale

Wethersfield Men's Garden Club (https://www.facebook.com/ Mens-Garden-Club-of-Wethersfield-165623468911) will hold its annual plant sale from 9am to 1pm on Saturday May 11 in the Wethersfield Town Hall parking lot (515 Silas Deane Highway). The sale features heirloom and conventional flowers, shrubs and vegetables, including Webb-Deane-Stevens samples. Proceeds from the sale support multiple local garden/ agricultural charities and maintenance of the Frank Weston Rose Garden next to the Wethersfield Town Hall. 10% off your purchase with a paper copy of this notice.

#### **Church Bells Play Dedications**

Church of Christ, Congregational, located in the center of Newington, is requesting song dedications from the community. The church carillon, which plays a variety of music throughout the year, is a mellifluous addition to the town's ambience. The carillon has a library of over 2,000 songs--both sacred and secular. The church welcomes your song requests. For a donation of \$100, you can choose the hymn or songs you would like to hear each Sunday for a month. Some people honor their parents or spouse during their anniversary month. If you would like to request a song, or have questions, please contact Michelle Dixon at the church. (860) 666-4689 officeadmin@ newingtonucc.org.

**Annual Spring Rock Hunt** 

Cromwell Creative District (CCD) is again collaborating with other groups in town to offer the annual spring hunt for painted rocks. This year, the event aims to bring attention not only to the wonderful nonprofits Cromwell has to offer (each nonprofit will have painted rocks with their logo or initials on them) but also to highlight the businesses #inthedistrict by placing a rock from each nonprofit at every business and park downtown. There are 34 locations (business and municipal) #inthedistrict. Visit www.cromwellcreativedistrict.org to view a map of the district if you are unsure where to search for rocks. The hunt will begin Saturday April 27 and residents can keep any rocks they find. There will be no scavenger hunt or contest this year, instead, CCD hopes you will enjoy the local parks and provide patronage to the businesses downtown. Happy Spring!

#### **RHHS Botany Plant Sale**

The RHHS Botany and UConn Horticulture students will be holding their annual plant sale on May 2 from 1-5, May 4 from 9-12, May 10 from 1-5 and May 13 - 17 from 1-2:15. Students have grown a variety of annuals, perennials, vegetables, herbs, patio planters and hanging baskets. Hope to see you at the Rocky Hill High School Greenhouses located at 50 Chapin Ave in Rocky Hill CT. For further information, please contact Kim Antol (antolk@rockyhillps.com). Happy Spring!

#### **Deming-Young Farm Tag Sale**

The Deming-Young Farm Foundation will be holding its spring tag sale on Saturday, May 18, from 9am to 2pm. The tag sale will be held at 282 Church Street in Newington. All proceeds from the tag sale will go toward the restoration and preservation of the Thomas Deming farmhouse. Items for sale will include household items, small furniture, knick-knacks, pocketbooks, antiques, jewelry, tools and more. If you have any items to donate for the tag sale, please call David or Mary at 860-666-1016. Rain date May 25.

#### **Notre Dame Church Tag Sales**

WE ARE BACK 2024! NOTRE DAME CHURCH MONTHLY TAG SALES, SATURDAY, June 1 at 272 Main St., DURHAM from 8 AM to 1 PM ....RAIN OR SHINE! OUTSIDE you will find records, tapes, cd's, books, pictures and frames, baskets, electronics, sporting equipment, and a full range of miscellaneous tag sale items. INSIDE our Church Hall we have a huge assortment of clothing, toys, jewelry, china, a variety of linens, kitchen supplies, craft supplies, and more. See you at our next Saturday TAG SALE.

#### Support for the Visually Impaired

The National Federation of the Blind of Connecticut (NFB of CT). Meetings will be held on the third Saturday of each month. At chapter meetings, we gather and exchange ideas, share and discuss concerns and aspirations, raise and promote awareness of the capabilities of blind people, and make plans for outings and events. For more information, contact Melissa Thompson at 860-922-4949 or email her at lady1mnt@yahoo.com.

#### **Newington Student Assistance Loans**

The Newington Student Assistance Fund (NSAF), is a nonprofit organization whose mission, since 1966, is to assist residents of Newington obtain post-secondary education or training. Loans are available to any Newington resident. The application for loans is available to download on the website at www.nsafinfo.org. Completed applications must be attached in an email and emailed to: loans@nsafinfo.org no later than noon on June 7, 2024. While the Newington High School Counseling department will continue to have the loan application information on their website, applications are not accepted by them. For more information or questions, please go to www.nsafinfo.org. The loan amount for the 2024-2025 academic year is \$2,000 and students may reapply each year. All loans are interest-free. In addition, loan recipients pay the principal back in monthly installments following graduation or the termination of studies/training which also allows for the continuation of providing new loans.

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## Invitation to Crafters to Participate in Bolton Church Fair

St. George's Episcopal Church is inviting crafters to rent a booth at the church's 48th Annual Craft and Harvest Fair. The event will be held on Saturday, September 28, 2024 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM on the church lawn at 1150 Boston Turnpike, Route 44, Bolton, CT. Registration deadline is September 1. For further information, please email bkalina333@gmail.com or call 860.643.9203.

#### Wethersfield-Unico Bocce League

The Wethersfield -UNICO Bocce League starts Thursday, June 13, 2024. League play is every Thursday, from 6 - 8pm, at Millwoods Park, 166 Prospect Street in Wethersfield. All ages and residents of any town are welcome. Registration is \$25 per person, or \$100 per Team of 4. The season culminates in our Tournament in September.. All equipment is provided. Register onsite or for more info please contact the Commissioner of Bocce, Michael Fortunato, at Fortunatom@aol.com.

## **Deming-Young Farm Seeks Tag Sale Donations**

The Deming-Young Farm Foundation is seeking tag sale donations for its May 18th fundraising tag sale. We are seeking household items, small pieces of furniture, vintage and/or antique items, knick-knacks, hand tools, jewelry, etc. for donation. Unfortunately, we cannot accept books, clothes, toys, Christmas decorations or large pieces of furniture. We can arrange for pickup. Call David or Mary at 860-666-1016 for more information or to arrange a donation. Thank you for your help.

#### **AOH May Food Drive**

The Ancient Order of Hibernians Hartford Division 2 is sponsoring a Food Drive on Sunday, May 19 from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Collection will take place at Christ the King Parish at 601 Silas Deane Highway in Wethersfield in the parking lot that is between the church and the middle school. The food will be given to the pantry at Saint Augustine Church in Hartford. Please bring non-perishable items with canned meats and soup in the greatest need in addition to pinto and pink beans. We are also looking to collect cooking oils, spices, and condiments.

#### WHS 60th Reunion

Wethersfield High School "Class of 1964" will be holding their 60th Reunion on Saturday, September 28, 2024. The reunion will be held at The Back Nine Tavern at Stanley Golf Course in New Britain, CT. We are searching for all classmates and friends. More information is on our Facebook page: Wethersfield High School (Connecticut) Class of 1964. Contact Bob Jinks at 1106raj13@gmail.com for more information.

#### **German Club Maifest Party**

The Hartford Saengerbund German American club presents a Maifest party, a long-running German tradition that heralds the arrival of spring. It is scheduled from 2-8 p.m. at the club, 719 North Mountain Road in Newington. Featured attractions are German food, imported German beer and live music by Scha Musi. Admission is \$5 for adults and free for children. Seating will be available inside and outside the clubhouse. This event will be held rain or shine. For additional information call 860-953-8967, visit hartfordsaengerbund.org, or check out its Facebook page.

#### **Rocky Hill Food Share Fridays**

Families in need are eligible for free fresh food distribution at Elm Ridge Park every Friday from 1:15-1:45 p.m. The mobile food share is sponsored by volunteers from Oasis Christian Church. For more information please call the Oasis Church at 860-529-0701 or Foodshare at 860-286-9999.

#### Middletown PrideFEST June 1

Middletown Pride announced its sixth annual Middletown PrideFEST, scheduled for Saturday, June 1, 2024. Get ready to kick-off Pride Month with the state's largest Pride event! Middletown PrideFEST is an all-afternoon street festival that includes family friendly fun and activities for all ages from 12pm – 10 pm. PrideFEST consists of the Middletown Pride March down Main Street, our Pride Rally on the South Green, two Pride Showcase Concerts, and a Tea Dance. Vendors and food trucks will be located on Main Street, and a 21+ area will offer cocktails and adult beverages with a perfect view of the South Green Stage. Applications for vendor spaces, marching groups, performers, volunteers, and sponsors will go live on January 1, 2024. Visit https://middletownpride.org/ for more details and information regarding the day of PrideFEST and how to get involved!

#### **Tax Savings for Newington Vets**

The maximum income limit for Newington's low-income based veterans exemption program has been increased from \$45,000 (for married and single) to \$47,800 for Single and \$56,600 for Married. These new income limits are in effect for this filing period, applications are due by October 1, 2023. If you have already applied this year (having applied in 2023) there is no need to re-apply. If you are a veteran who has never been on the program and feel you may qualify, or did not qualify under old income limits, however may qualify under the new income limits – Please Apply. Contact the Assessor's Office at 860-665-8530 or assessor@newingtonct.gov for more info.



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#### **Cromwell Creative District**

Cromwell Creative District (CCD) is a volunteer-run non-profit aimed at revitalizing downtown Cromwell by celebrating our vibrant history, bolstering our current resources, and creating opportunities for future growth through programs, events, and public art. We are currently in need of individuals with strengths or interest in the following areas: fundraising or grant-writing, creative thinking and planning, task-oriented workers to assist with projects, and those interested in leadership roles within the executive board. Visit www.cromwellcreativedistrict.org to learn more about CCD, and follow us on Facebook and Instagram. If interested in becoming involved, email CCD at cromwellcreativedistrict@gmail.com.

#### **Rocky Hill Farmers Market**

Rocky Hill Farmers Market is moving to Tuesdays!! We're on the lookout for farmers, artisans and young entrepreneurs to join us. Let's unite in supporting our local community! Mark these dates in your calendar: 7/9, 7/16, 7/23, 7/30 & 8/13. All markets will take place at Elm Ridge Park (376 Elm Street) from 4-7 p.m. For more information please call the Parks & Recreation Department (860) 258 2772.

#### **Cromwell High School Class Reunion**

Cromwell, CT - The Cromwell High School Class of 1984 is planning its 40th year reunion. The reunion will be held on Saturday, August 3rd, 2024. The planning committee is looking for information on Cromwell classmates who graduated in 1984 from Cromwell High School. We are also seeking Cromwell classmates who went to school with the class of 1984 but graduated from another area high school. Our goal is to reconnect with as many classmates as possible. 1984 graduates who wish to be added to the contact list or have any questions should send an email to Jennifer Polke Slifer at 1984chsreunion@gmail.com.

#### **Notre Dame Church Tag Sales**

WE ARE BACK 2024! NOTRE DAME CHURCH MONTHLY TAG SALES, SATURDAY, MAY 4, at 272 Main St., DURHAM from 8 AM to 1 PM RAIN OR SHINE! OUTSIDE you will find records, tapes, cd's, books, pictures and frames, baskets, electronics, sporting equipment, and a full range of miscellaneous tag sale items. INSIDE our Church Hall we have a huge assortment of clothing, toys, jewelry, china, a variety of linens, kitchen supplies, craft supplies, and more. See you at our next Saturday TAG SALE.

#### **NHS 50th Class Reunion**

The Newington High School "Class of '74" has announced their exciting 50th Reunion plans!: The main event will be on Saturday, September 28th at Casa Mia on the Hill (Indian Hill Country Club) in Newington, from 5:30pm-10:30pm, The cost of the event is \$90 per person. No tickets for this event will be sold at the door. The cutoff date is Friday, September 6th. Payment details will be coming in an email from Lynne Fournier. Please email her at lfournier@aol.com with any questions, or if you don't receive the email by March 31st. If you do not have an email please call Lynne at 860-438-7311. Can't wait to see

#### **Got Lunch Newington Fundraiser**

Got Lunch Newington is a community based organization that has provided lunch ingredients for students of the Newington School system for the past seven years. We operate for a 10 week program from June 12 to August 18. We are hosting a fund raiser at Panera Breads, Berlin Turnpike on May 23, from 4 PM to 8 PM. participation flyers may be obtained by contacting amarino 767@live.com. We are also hosting food drives on June 8 and July 13 at the Church of Christ, 1075 Main St. Newington from 9-12. Peanut butter, jelly, tuna and chicken in family sizes are great items!

#### **Help Newington Human Services**

A growing number of Newington families are struggling to cover inflated costs of living, but Newington Human Services offers several ways to help them. If you want to donate, come to our offices at Town Hall (200 Garfield Street) - we are located on the side of the building facing Lucy Robbins Welles Library. You can also donate by mail - Newington Human Services, 200 Garfield Street - Newington, CT 06111 - or online at https://www.newingtonct.gov/1343/Community-Donations.

#### **Bereavement Support Group**

The Church of St. Mary in Portland would like to invite you to attend our Bereavement Support Group every second Monday of the month. Our next meeting is Monday, May 13th at 6:30 pm. Please consider joining us in the Church Hall of St. Mary Church, 45 Freestone Ave, Portland. "All are Welcome." For questions, please call or text Susan Bongiorno Frizen at (860) 685-1966.

#### **Social Justice Coalition**

The Town of Wethersfield and Wethersfield Public Schools invites community members to join the Social Justice Coalition. The Coalition explores topics related to equity, diversity, and cultural responsiveness in order to create significant, sustainable, and meaningful change. It is composed of Wethersfield residents, including students, parents, representatives from community agencies, elected officials, and more. For meeting dates and details, visit www.wps.wethersield.me/our-town-social justice.

## Cars Helping the Blind

Wondering what to do with your old car or truck? Donating your vehicle to the National Federation of the Blind is convenient and may qualify you for a tax deduction. Call 1-855-659-9314 or visit <a href="https://www.carshelpingtheblind.org">www.carshelpingtheblind.org</a>. 12/30/15

## **South Catholic Class Reunion**

South Catholic Class of 1975: Save the Date. 50th Reunion 6/7/25. Request information and update contact info at schs1975reunion@gmail. com.

#### Junk in the Trunk

Community Tag Sale and Vendor Fair on June 1st, 9 am- 2 pm, Emerson Williams Elementary School. NEW THIS YEAR - we will also promote a list of tag sales around town. Register by visiting www.wethersfieldeducationfoundation.org.

#### Rocky Hill High School 50th Reunion

Seeking Rocky Hill High 1975 class members for a 50th reunion in 2025. Contact Laurette Pellerin at islandogmom3@charter.net for details.

#### **Food Pantry**

Saint Paul's Lutheran Church Food Pantry, at 371 Wolcott Hill Road in Wethersfield is open Thursday's between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. All are welcome. Feel free to call 860-529-5397 with questions. 031022

#### NHS Class of '65 Reunion

Newington High School's Class of 1965 will hold its 60th reunion on September 18, 2025. The luncheon is at Indian Hill. Call Ron at 860-384-3944 for more info.

#### Monthly First Friday Breakfasts

The Rocky Hill United Methodist Church, 623 Old Main Street, is celebrating all veterans and first responders with a free breakfast from 9 to 11. Welcome back.

#### NHS Class of 1984 Reunion

Newington High School Class of 1984 is celebrating their 40th Reunion. Indian Hill Country Club featuring Casa Mia on the Hill July 19,2024 6:00 PM-10:00 PM. Please email Paul Leckowicz at pjleckowicz@gmail.com with any inquiries.

#### BHS 50th Reunion

The Berlin High School class of 1974 Is celebrating their 50th reunion on June 8th, 2024 at the Italian American Club in Berlin. We are searching for all classmates, friends, and teachers. Please send contact info to Barbara Fappiano Nieman at Niemabf@aol.com. Help spread the word!

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**AL-ANON FAMILY GROUPS:** Problem drinking affects as many as one in four people in our community, but many are still uninformed about Al-Anon Family Groups, free services to friends and families who suffer from a loved one's drinking. Please call 1-888-425-2666 (1-888-4AL-ANON).

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NAMI SUPPORT GROUPS: Do you have a loved one suffering from mental health challenges? NAMI trained volunteers assist at Support Groups. They are fused on providing an opportunity for people to share and learn from each others common experience. Groups are free and participation is strictly confidential. Contact 860-882-0236 or www.namifarmingtonvally.org.

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Call/Text or email to register: 860-834-0036 syncocize@gmail.com

#### BHS Class of 1974 Reunion

The BHS Class of 1974's 50th reunion will be on Saturday, June 8, 2024, 1:00PM- 5:00PM, at Casa Mia on the Green, 600 Cold Spring Road, Rocky Hill, CT 06067. Buffet luncheon, cash bar, music and fun!!! Cost is \$60 per person, non-refundable. RSVP to Frank at rudewicz@comcast.net, or Donna at dcm@ psr4u.com for payment options & details. Payment due by

#### **Libraries Need Friends!**

The Friends of the Wethersfield Library would like more community members to join us for Friend events such as: the continuous book sales in the Library book nook, raffles, periodic pop-up book sales and others help raise funds to expand Library programs. These include, but are not limited to Summer Reading, museum passes and occasional Library improvements. Friends volunteer opportunities include: sorting book donations, book sales, technology support, marketing, publicity social media and membership.

#### **Meals on Wheels Volunteers Needed**

You can help deliver meals to shut in seniors for as little as two hours per week. We currently need volunteers to help deliver meals at our local sites in Portland, East Hampton, Cromwell, and Newington. You can help just one day a week for only two hours (mid-day). Call (860) 519-3484 for more info.

#### **RHHS Visitors Welcome**

The Rocky Hill Historical Society welcomes visitors on Saturdays, 12:30-3:00 p.m. Special meetings can be arranged by calling 860-563-6704. We have over 400 years of Rocky Hill history accessible to visitors; we have docents who love a chance to share their enthusiasm over our community. We are a grateful part of the larger Rocky Hill community-come on down!

#### CPD Food Pantry is Open

The Cromwell Police Department's free food pantry is open. The pantry is available 24/7 in the Cromwell Police Department lobby at 5 West St. Cromwell PD takes donations for nonperishable foods, hygiene products, and bottled water/juices! The Animal Control Officer also has cat/dog food available upon request!

#### American Legion Post 117 Meeting

The American Legion Post 117 at 294 Willard Ave. Newington will hold our next meeting on Tuesday, May 21st. Free dinner at 6:30 PM. and meeting at 7:00 PM. We welcome all military past and present interested in learning the benefits of member-

**GARAGE SALE:** Friday May 10th, 9am-3pm. Saturday May 11th, 9am- 4pm. 40 Midwood Farm Rd East Hampton. Tools, grills, patio furniture, refrigerator, tool boxes, work bench.

LANDSCAPING LLC: Junk removal, spring clean ups, lawn maintenance. and tree removal. Discount for senior citizens. Miguel 860-834-2169.

GARAGE SALE: 5/11 & 5/18, 9am-4pm. 91 Bush Rock Road, Colchester. Kayaks, gas grill, tools, household, and more!

**SHRUBS** SHRUBS: We remove old, overgrown shrubs, help design and replant new shrubs. Let us beautify your home and improve its curb appeal. 860-944-8258.

**BUCKET TRUCK TREE CLEARING**: Free Estimates 860-478-5155. Advance Tree Experts by Larry. Same week service. Licensed & Insured.

**REMOVAL:** Gregory's Hauling will remove one item or a truck full with neat, prompt service. Reasonable too over 25yrs. 203-235-6210.

ESTATE SALE: Friday and Saturday May 10th & 11th 9am - 2pm. 16 Lexington St. Wethersfield. Complete contents- bedroom and living room furniture. English, China, and other glassware. Linens/ towels/ comforters. 1930s Wurlitzer jukebox As-Is. No early birds please, cash and carry.

WE SELL: Topsoil, stone and mulch. Please call 860-

223-0633.

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Hill, Wethersfield, Berlin, New Britain. Satisfaction Guaranteed. Please Call Jim 860-667-2109.

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COMPLETE BASEMENT **WATERPROOFING** 



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#### **Rocky Hill Memo**rial Day Parade

The Town of Rocky Hill invites you to participate in the Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 27th at 9:30 a.m. starting at Rocky Hill High School. Whether you represent a Veterans Association, a military organization, school, community group or business we warmly welcome your involvement.

If you would like to participate, please contact one of the co-chairs: Rita Chhabra (860) 258 2772 or Henry Vasel (860) 982 0875.

#### Turkey Dinner

On May 22, 2024, Holy Trinity Church, 200 Summer St., Plantsville will be hosting a Turkey Dinner with all the fixings including salad, dessert and soft drink of choice from 5:30 to 6:30 in the church hall. This event will be in memory of Helen Locks a longtime parishioner of the church. For reservations to eat in or take out please call Sandy @ 860-681-5483.

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STUMP GRINDING: Free quotes and estimates. Serving greater Hartford and Middlesex counties. Quick service, please call 860-573-4913. Fully insured.

HOUSE CLEANING: Need some help to get your home clean? I'd be happy to help. I have 10+ years of experience, I offer reliable service. reasonable rates and I do an amazing job. References upon request. Please call or text for free estimates. ARIANE' S CLEANING, 860-331-5309.

BOAT FOR SALE: 2010 SeaRay Sundancer 24 foot. Sleeps 2-3. Excellent condition. Bimini top. Swim platform. Marina slip included. Call 860-604-9786.

NUTMEG STATE MASONRY LLC: Side walks patios, retaining walls, concrete foundation/chimney repairs. HIC.0670085, 860-890-1431. nutmegstatemasonryllc.com



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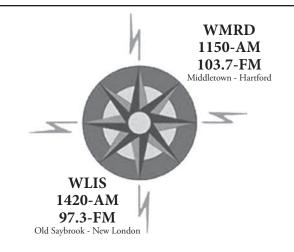
**PAINTING INTERIOR SPECIALIST:** Complete rooms, sheet rock and ceiling repair, kitchen cabinets. References 35 years experience, Your Local Painter. HIC#0631884 860-874-3630.

HANDYMAN REPAIR & HOME IMPROVEMENT: Simple solutions to everyday problems! Prompt, dependable, quality work, licensed and insured. Bathrooms-toilets, faucets, vanities, fans, outlets, sinks, pipes & clogs. Kitchensgarbage disposers, faucets, switches, lighting, dimmers & ceiling fans. Outdoors-doorbells, door locks, motion lights, hose faucets. Discounts for singles, Moms, Seniors and All Thumbs! Specializing in small jobs when you are available. CT. Lic. HIC.#0628836, call HUTMAXX, 860-881-7881



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**PAINTING-INTERIOR/EXTERIOR**: Ceiling & sheetrock repair, wallpaper removal. Exterior repairs, mildew removal. 20 years experience. Licensed, insured. Free estimates, Senior discount. Steve, 860-983-4327.



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FOR SALE: Tow behind Dethatcher \$65. Tow behind Aerator \$150. Walk behind 8HP leafblower \$150. JDeer Bager \$175. 860-635-4497.

**TREE SERVICE**: pruning, removals, cabling, disease treatment and brush clearing. Owner on every job. Fully insured. Licensed Arborist S-6179. LaPila Arborists 860-965-5546.

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**B&B LANDSCAPING**: Now Accepting new lawn customers. Services offered: Spring cleanups, hedge trimming, odd jobs. Dump Runs. Call Billy 860-398-3490.

SUMMER GUITAR, BASS: UKULELE LESSONS by Conservatory Trained, Learning Specialist. Learn your favorite songs! \$30. Pete Cocolla - 860-463-2734. GuitarStarInstruction.com

**SOLID WOOD:** Entry door. Vintage baby dresser. Two antique ivory end tables. Two air conditioners. Best offer. 860-522-6697.

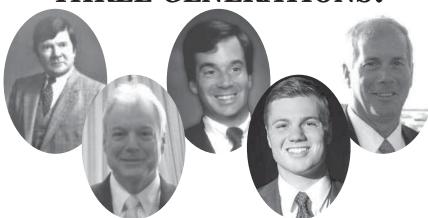
LIMO SERVICE: D & I car service provides airport transportation to NY, NJ, MA, and CT or surrounding areas 24 hours a week. New customers 10% off. Call 860-306-0471.

**BUYING ANTIQUES & OLD STUFF**: Bottles, crocks, jugs, pottery, costume jewelry, toys, games, sterling, watches, coins, glassware, silver plated items, typewriters, sewing machines, military, bar items, tools, hunting, fishing, kitchenware, cookware, all advertising items, clocks, lanterns, lamps, radios, Christmas, knives, license plates, Masonic, fire department, books. Beer cans, advertising tins. Donald Roy 860-874-8396.

DRAPERY CLEANING: Take down, clean, rehang. Home or office free estimates. 40yrs experience. Mercury cleaners owner, Rocco cell 860-573-1092, office 860-242-8446. www.mercurycleaners.com or email mascaro1988@comcast.net

CABINET REFACING: Not an overpriced box store or franchise. Local company, cabinetmakers specializing in refacing since 1986. All wood products, custom work and counter tops. Deal with the owner. Wood'n Excellence CP#0664648, 860-345-2050.

## We're all about family; and have been for three generations.



Being part of this community for three generations gives us a unique advantage; you're not just a family we serve, you're our neighbor. Knowing you this well means providing you with excellent service comes naturally.

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Robert P. Sullivan, Sr. (1925 - 2005) Robert P. Sullivan, Jr. (1950 - 2013)

Farley-Sullivan Funeral Homes 34 Beaver Road, Wethersfield 860-563-9999

**FREE:** Cleanout all items in storage. 5'x8' unit mostly small household items. Must take all. Call 10am-7pm. thank you 860-436-2654.

**HOUSECLEANING**: More than 19 years of experience. very detailed and references available. 860-680-4669.

**M&B LANDSCAPING:** Family business since 1979. Clean ups, shrub removal, trimming, mulching, plantings, weeding. Quality work. Free Estimate. Call 860-324-3666.

ODD JOB HANDYMAN: Kitchens Bathrooms Basements Patios/Walkways. Decks/Stairs. Garages/Sheds Anything You Need; Installed, Assembled, Repaired, Replaced, Removed, Redesigned, Relocated. You Name It! Floors:Hardwood/Tile/Laminate. Doors:Garage/Shower/Storm/Interior/Exterior. Windows. Walls/Framing/Tile/Sheetrock.. Dump Runs. Moving. FACTOTUM: 860-667-1111, Brett.

# Cromwell Human Services

#### **Summer Food Drive Wish List**

Kids are home for summer and our pantry needs snacks!
Peanut Butter & Jelly, Juice Boxes, Goldfish,
Rice Krispie Treats, Cereal Bars, Granola Bars,
Fruit Cups, Fruit Snacks, Raisins or any snack-sized
snacks or toiletries. We really appreciate it!



### **Cromwell Town Hall**

41 West St. • Cromwell, CT 860-632-3449

PAINTING INTERIOR SPECIALIST: Complete rooms, sheet rock and ceiling repair, kitchen cabinets. References 35 years experience, Your Local Painter. HIC#0631884 860-874-3630.

a non-profit organization

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Call the Classifieds at 860-563-9386

**HOUSECLEANING**: Polish/ English speaking woman can clean your house with care. 3rd cleaning 30% off for new clients. Satisfaction guaranteed. Insured and bonded. Call 860-268-

**B&B LANDSCAPING**: Now Accepting new lawn customers. Services offered: Spring cleanups, trimming, odd jobs. Dump Runs. Call Billy 860-398-

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**SOLID WOOD:** Entry door. Vintage baby dresser. Two antique ivory end tables. Two air conditioners. Best offer. 860-522-6697.

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**CABINET REFACING:** Not an overpriced box store or franchise. Local company, cabinetmakers specializing in refacing since 1986. All wood products, custom work and counter tops. Deal with the owner. Wood'n Excellence CP#0664648, 860-345-2050.

THE EMBRYOS of tiger sharks fight each other while in their mother's womb, the survivor being the baby shark that is born.

FREE: Cleanout all items in storage. 5'x8' unit mostly small household items. Must take all. Call 10am-7pm. thank you 860-436-

**HOUSECLEANING**: More than 19 years of experience. very detailed and references available. 860-680-4669.

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TREE SERVICE: pruning, removals, cabling, disease treatment and brush clearing. Owner on every job. Fully insured. Licensed Arborist S-6179. LaPila Arborists 860-965-5546.

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20¢ each additional word

All classified ads must be paid upon order.

**Commercial Classifieds:** Services, child care, rentals, real estate, help wanted, auto, etc. up to 22 words:

\$16.00(use form provided) 30¢ each additional word Classified rates effective 4/1/15

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Please Select One, or simply include your	che	ck.					
WISA Mastercard Megraess DICOVER  Card #		Expiration Date:					
		Secu	urity Code		Payment Amount: \$		
Name	I	Day Time Phone					
Address		(	City			Zip	
Date(s) ad is to appear in pape	er	Amount Enclosed: \$				-	
Be sure to include phone # in ad (if needed).	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Phone 860.563.9386 Fax 860.257.4684-Classified Hrs: MonThur. 8:30-4; Fri 8:30-1	7	8	9	10	11	12	
P.O. Box 289, 222 Dividend Road	13	14	15	16	17	18	
Rocky Hill, CT 06067	19	20	21	22	(add ad	ditional charges bev	ond 22 words)



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is seeking new members to help carry on the spirit of volunteerism in our community.



Call 860-529-8022 for more information

FOR SALE: Tow behind Dethatcher \$65. Tow behind Aerator \$150. Walk behind 8HP leafblower \$150. JDeer Bager \$175. 860-635-4497.

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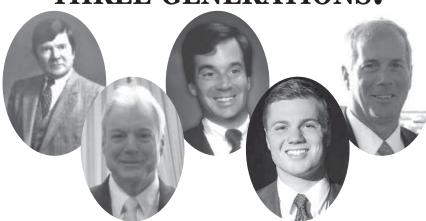
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BE ALERT to highway danger. Rain slicked roads can be very dangerous & at high speeds, cars can hydroplane. This reduces your ability to steer or stop safely. To help prevent hydroplaning make sure your tires are in good condition & properly inflated. And remember to always wear your safety belt.

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## Would you like to donate food to those in need?

The Wethersfield
Food Bank
is currently in need of
the following items:

- Canned pasta
- Rice
- Cans of chunk chicken
- Jelly (plastic cans or bottles)
- Peanut butter
- Tuna in water
- Cans of fruit in 100% juice
- Low sodium soups
- Pasta sauce
- No-salt-added canned vegetables
- Granola bars
- Fresh produce
- Cereal
- Toilet paper
- Personal hygiene products (soap, shampoo, toothpaste)

Please visit our website for updates at www.wethersfieldct.com



All donations can be brought to the following locations:

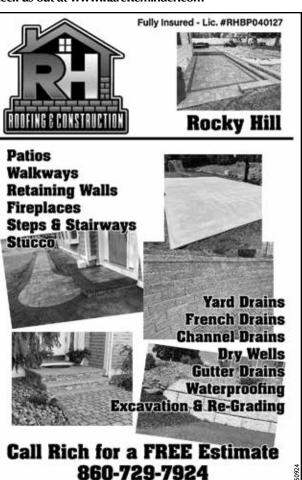
Department of Social and Youth Services

505 Silas Deane Highway M-F 8:00am to 4:30pm 860-721-2977

> William Raveis Real Estate

990 Silas Deane Highway M-F 9:00am to 5:00pm Sa-Su 10:00am to 1:00pm 860-258-6202

> First Church 250 Main Street 860-529-1575





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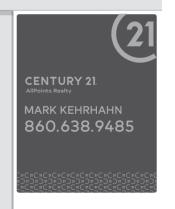
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#### Available building for lease in Rocky Hill

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#### 3 tips for first-time home buyers

Real estate has garnered considerable attention since 2020, and for good reason. Though speculators and real estate professionals may point to a number of variables that have affected the market for homes in recent years, the pandemic certainly was among those factors. Real estate prices and mortgage interest rates increased significantly during the pandemic and have remained well above pre-pandemic levels ever since.

The spike in home prices and interest rates has had a significant impact on young home buyers, some of whom feel as though their dream of home ownership may never be realized. And data from the National Association of Realtors indicates the median age of home buyers is now significantly higher than it was two decades ago. In 2023, the median age of buyers was 49, which marked an increase of 10 years compared to the average buyer age 20 years ago.

First-time home buyers may face a more challenging real estate market than they would have encountered just a half decade ago. The following three tips can help such buyers successfully navigate the market as they look to purchase their first home.

- 1. Expect to move quickly. Inventory remains very low, which means buyers are in heated competition for the few homes that are on the market. In late 2023, NAR data indicated the rate of home sales were the lowest they had been in 13 years, so buyers will likely need to move quickly and make an offer if they see a home they like, as chances are the property won't be on the market too long before it's sold. In fact, the NAR noted that homes spent an average of just 23 days on the market in October 2023.
- 2. Apply for mortgage preapproval. The competitive nature of the market for buyers means it's in their best interests to arrange financing prior to beginning their home search. A mortgage preapproval can be a competitive advantage, as it indicates to sellers that buyers won't be denied a mortgage or lack financing after making an offer. The



#### **PROPERTY TRANSFERS**

Cromwell 04/18/2024	20 Alexander Dr		<b>04/04/2024</b> Perry, Bernadette G To Alexander, Selwyn	94 Cynthia Ln #D8	\$220,000	<b>04/04/2024</b> Collins Terry L Est; Collir To Mahmud, Samir; Mah		\$500,000
Goulet Nancy G Est; Mur To Kotsyubinskiy, Vlad; K		\$350,000	04/04/2024	111 Dekoven Dr #5		04/04/2024	271 Ridge Rd	\$300,000
<b>04/16/2024</b> Styga, Dawn M	73 Evergreen Rd		Muscio, Debra A To Muscio, Daniel A		\$155,000	Keiling, Dawn A; Corona To Bard, Peter K; Brady,		\$369,000
To Vinci, Donald J; Vinci,		\$280,000	04/05/2024	338 Margarite Rd		04/19/2024	73 Silver St	
<b>04/10/2024</b> Ricker, Jamie	90 Woodland Dr		Stephanie L Thorpe T; Wo To Oneto, Todd; Oneto, I		\$351,000	73 Silver Street LLC To Fumi Realty LLC		\$175,000
To Sierra, Allen L		\$200,000	04/15/2024	821 Millbrook Rd		Newington		
<b>04/15/2024</b> Zak Group LLC	204 Woodland Dr		Decker, Steven C To Kaslusky, Scott		\$925,000	<b>04/15/2024</b> Doris A Maher Lt; Bottic	150 Cheney Ln	
To Herrera, Francisco		\$169,500	04/16/2024	106 Northview Dr		To Logan, Paul; Higley,	•	\$351,000
Middletown 04/18/2024	75 Carll Rd		Rose, David; Rodriguez, S To Allen, Christopher; Alle <b>04/15/2024</b>		\$610,000	<b>04/08/2024</b> Flynn Ada R Est; Flynn, <sup>-</sup> To Zgurskyy, Oleg	<b>68 E Cedar St</b> Fimothy	\$211,000
Sell Realty LLC To Rose, David		\$430,000	Pizzuto, Anthony A To Mckinley, David: Mckir	nlev. Jessica	\$630.000	10 Zgurskyy, Oleg		Ψ211,000

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\$630,000

To Mckinley, David; Mckinley, Jessica

# REALESTATE



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04/15/2024

04/19/2024

To Taylor, Sean C

Gomez Josephine Est; Gomez, Margaret



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financial experts at NerdWallet note that buyers will be asked to provide details about their employment, income, debt, and financial accounts when applying for mortgage preapproval. Gather this information and clear up any issues, such as credit disputes or delinquent accounts, prior to applying for preapproval.

3. Set a realistic budget and expect to offer over asking price. A financial planner and/or real estate professional can help first-time buyers determine how much they should be spending on a home. In the current market, buyers should know that they will likely need to pay more than asking price for a home. For example, the NAR reports that 28 percent of homes sold for above list price in October 2023. With that in mind, first-time buyers may do well to look for homes that are under budget in anticipation of offering more than list price after seeing a property.

The real estate market remains competitive for buyers. First-time buyers can utilize three strategies to increase their chances of realizing their dream of home ownership.



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Bajek, Linda; Bajek, Karen		
To Kuzmich, Rebecca S		\$323,000
04/15/2024	15 Ellsworth St	
Charamut Children T; Cam	panario, S A	
To Granger, Tanya R		\$366,000
04/15/2024	3 Grandview Dr	
Gribauskas, Michael; Schun		
To Schumann, Joan A; Sch	umann, Jeffrey A	\$40,000
04/16/2024	150 Kitts Ln	
Trident Connecticut LLC		
To 172 Kitts LLC		\$17,000,000
04/19/2024	Maple Glen Condo #	70
Teitelman, Lynda J		
To Karp, Jeremy M		\$220,000
04/15/2024	57 Michael Ln	
Khuu, Le T		
To Antoniou, Michael		\$300,000

44 Millbrook Ct

\$176,500

92 E Pobbins Ave

04/05/2024	57 Millbrook Ct	
Rodriguez, Duhamel To Goodspeed, David		\$175,000
04/05/2024	80 Piper Brook Ave	
Salerni, Michael		
To Seay, Angela		\$350,000
04/05/2024	149 Sterling Dr	
Matos, Eliziel; Matos, Ador		<b>#</b> 400 000
To Dingfelder, Alan C; Ding	gtelder, Barbara B	\$480,000
04/16/2024	179 Sterling Dr	
Gabriel, Kevin M		¢450.000
To King, Samantha		\$450,000
04/15/2024	16 Vincent Dr	
Gay, Marian	Driana D	¢202 200
To Morgan, Tyler J; Lamari		\$392,200
<b>04/15/2024</b> Catricala Investments LLC	25 Woodsedge Dr	
To Sullivan, Melanie J		\$165,000
_ ′		\$105,000
Rocky Hill		
04/16/2024	501 Briarwood Ct	
Five-M Assoc		
To Dodge, Carol; Dodge, .	Jason	\$285,000

<b>04/12/2024</b> Williams, Lawrence; William To Hf Osprey RET Ft	<b>1402 Briarwood Ct</b> ns, Deena	\$352,500
<b>04/18/2024</b> Bean, Robert F	200 France St	
To Mohanty, Debasis; Das,	Lopamudra	\$425,000
<b>04/12/2024</b> Noll Randal J Est; Eddy, Ly	306 Holly Hill Dr	
To Jayabalan, Jeevan K; Ki	umar, Ramya J	\$345,000
Wethersfield		
<b>04/15/2024</b> Meilinger, John B	45 Garden St	
To Goldreich, Marcia		\$400,000
<b>04/19/2024</b> Amin, Bibi F	62 Hillsdale Ave	
To Mccabe, Mary		\$340,000
<b>04/19/2024</b> Clabby, Deirdre	Parkridge #1	

To Caruso, Daniel

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exotic.handsome. month old boy. He has transformed from a scared boy into an amazing young man. Opie is loving, affectionate and playful. Opie loves people. He also has made a sweet relationship with Katie and charmed her into liking him. Together they

are adorable. Please fill out an application on our website at www.hucatrescue.org. Thank

ADOPT COOKIE. Cookie is a striking beauty with a big personality. Cookie is very outgoing and friendly. She will require a warm up period. Cookie was given away as an only kitten before she was even eight weeks old. She doesn't know how to act at times and she will be quite protective of you after a warm up period. She bonds deep ly. You can watch Cookie's video by going to our website and linking to our YouTube channel. Please fill out an application on our website at www.hucatrescue.org.

## Adopt Us!



here! Darth, Luke and Leah are three week old kittens up for adoption this week. are very social and confident. Please

adopting a kitten is a 15-20 year commitment and that kittens do better in pairs. Please fill out an application on our website at www.

hucatrescue.org. Thank you!

THE INDEPENDENT CAT: Cats are very tuned into their environment. Their eyes are proportionately much larger than that of humans making them sensitive to movement. This focus on their surroundings has stereotyped them as being independent or aloof. Yet, cats are social animals and need to be with each other and with people. Kittens that are taken from their moms too early or are raised as only kittens are at risk for developing 'only kitten syndrome'; a condition where they haven't learned play properly and are rough or misinterpret movements. You can provide attention and love but there is simply no way you can replicate the play behavior of cats nor the loving discipline from their feline moms. If they don't learn limits in their play as youngsters, they often develop inappropriate playful aggression. It may be cute when a kitten attacks vour ankles when you walk by or playfully nips at your fingers while you're playing. It will be much less cute, not to mention annoying and painful, when your cat is full grown. If you are a one cat home, an adolescent that has been around cats or an adult is the best choice when adopting. If you are thinking of adopting a kitten this kitten season and don't have any other cats, make it two! They will both be waiting at the door for you.

- A message from Hearts United Cat Rescue.

PET OF THE

WEEK

# Adopt a NEW Best Friend!



#### **ADOPT OSCAR**. Oscar is a large, eccentric, quirky boy. It's estimated that he is around 2-3 years old. He is still playful as a kitten and very friendly. He loves to run and greet you at the door and he will also greet your guests. He also loves to jump in your lap. He is just a tiny bit fresh at times when he's playful but not rough. He's just fun loving and a goofball. We are not sure how he is with other cats yet but most cats adapt with a proper slow introduction. He'd also be happy being an only kitty. Please fill out an application on our website at www.hucatrescue.org.

## dopt A Pet or two



Name: Khia Gender: Female Breed: **DSH** Color: Grey Ages: 8 months

Khia is a very energetic kitten who would love a quiet home. She is very active and playful. She is still learning to trust people and needs a quiet home with a patient person who will work with her to get her more comfortable and help her come out of her shell. She does like to be petted and spoken to softly.

CAT TALES

She will need a devoted person with time and patience. Khia would do well with a friendly, confident cat to help her adjust. Please adopt this gorgeous girl! No Dogs / No Children Web: http://www.CatTalesCT.org/cats/Chia

PH: 860-344-9043 • Email: Info@CatTalesCT.org Watch our TV commercial: https://youtube/Y1MECIS4mlc

#### RABIES CLINIC

Saturday, May 18 1-3pm **Berlin Animal Control** 600 Christian Lane, Berlin

Please have dogs on leashes and cats in carriers

For more info call 860-828-7055



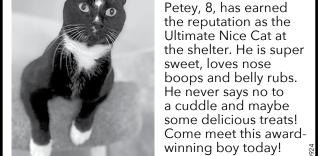
WHISKERS PET RESCUE: Is a no-kill animal welfare organization with an adoption center located in Bennett Square in Southbury. We are a nonprofit charity made up entirely of volunteers committed to caring for animals who have been abandoned, injured, abused or neglected. Should you wish to adopt a whiskered kitty or make a donation to our animal shelter to be utilized towards our spay-neuter program, please mail to Whiskers Pet Rescue, 134 Main St., South Southbury, CT 06488. Please ask our volunteer staff about our senior to senior kitty adoption program where our kitties are adopted by senior citizens and veteran. Our staff at our animal shelter can be reached at 203-586-1666. Thank you for assisting our homeless whiskered friends!

### I want to go home



Katie is an extrovert! She is a beautiful torbie and she loves attention and people. She is affectionate, loving, expressive... She just doesn't enjoy other cats very much but she does like Opie! The two have been adorable together. They both love people and now they love each other. They

can't wait to meet you. Please fill out an application on our website at www.hucatrescue.org. Thank you!



Visit www.POAinc.org, or call 860-569-0722

#### **Meet Poppi!** Poppi is a young Chinchilla looking for a loving, safe new home! He is a fun and active boy at one year old. To learn more, please contact Our Companions at

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most valuable lifesaving work isn't happening at a shelter rescue ganization. It's happening talking the important



foster work that is done by volunteers every time they open their homes to a dog or kitty from a shelter. The truth is, foster dogs and cats make great houseguests. They're just happy to be out of the shelter.

Not only does fostering provide an invaluable service to rescue groups and the shelters that depend on foster homes (not to mention the foster animals themselves), it's a great way to learn about your own needs as a foster parent/pet parent.

Fostering a pet is a selfless act of kindness that has numerous benefits. It not only saves lives and makes a difference in the lives of animals, but it also provides you with an opportunity to experience the joys of pet ownership, contribute to a shelter's mission, and connect with a supportive community.

If you're considering fostering a dog or cat, reach out to local animal shelters, rescue organizations, or foster-based programs in your area. They can guide you through the process, match you with a suitable foster dog or kitty, and provide support along the way.

Remember, fostering is a temporary commitment, but its impact lasts a lifetime. By opening your heart and home to a pet in need, you can play a vital role in their journey towards a brighter future. Take the leap and become a foster parent. You'll be amazed at the positive impact it can have on your life and the life of a deserving canine or feline companion.

SAVE A SHELTER PET TODAY

**ATTN: Pet Section Memorials** 

(photo cannot be returned)

WELFARE LEAGUE: Is an all volunteer animal welfare organization devoted to preventing the suffering of homeless animals in our community. Our animal welfare organization provides TNR (Trap-Neuter-Release) of community cats in the central Connecticut area. Should vou wish to adopt a cat or kitten; volunteer to feed community cat colonies in the City of New Britain; donate to our special needs cats and kitten, please contact Marie at 860-632-0863. Our mailing address is P.O. Box 1775, New Britain, Connecticut 06050. Thank you for your compassion for the animals.

MINI ITALIAN GREYHOUND: Male, 5 months old. Color Blue. All shots. Bought from breeder. Microchipped. \$2000. 203-427-7828.

Name: Jax Gender: Male Breed: Russian Blue CAT TALES Color: Orange & White Ages: 10 years old

This is a courtesy posting. This cat is not fostered by Cat Tales. Contact the owner directly for more information.

Jax is an affable, sweet kitty with a great sense of humor and a mean game of fetch. He loves to be outside, basking in the sun, watching birds, or hunting mice. The ideal home would give him plenty of space to roam, but a warm bed and a few cuddles when the day is done. Jax has been with his people since he was a kitten, but now there's a health conflict within the family and he needs to be re-homed. The family will take time to find him the perfect home as he deserves all the peace and love someone can give. Jax is neutered, up-todate with his vet visits, and located in Middlesex County, CT. https://CatTalesCT.org/cats/Jax/ To adopt cool-cat Jax, please contact Mallory at: mk.barnett@ymail.com, Subject: JAX Special Diet / No Cats / No Children

**ADOPT DOLLY**. Dolly is a beautiful, two year old tuxedo. Dolly is searching for a rescue home because she is very shy. She needs patience, love and time to blossom. She is quite playful and would enjoy another cat, especially a fun loving male. Dolly also really likes dogs. Please fill out an application on our website at www.hucatrescue.org.

**ADOPT TIPPER**. Tipper is a handsome, seven year old

boy. He is searching for a new home because his mom is battling some health issues. Tipper is very sweet and friendly and loves to sit with you when you are watching TV. He is good with other cats and dogs. Tipper recently went to the vet for a wellness check-up and his blood work is all good. Won't you open your heart to this sweet mature boy? Please fill out an application on our website at www.hucatrescue.org.

To All Our Mothers, a Very Happy Mother's Day

**Companion Animal Hospital** 860-632-7955 in Cromwell Dr. Mel & Dr. B. Hess 5 Kirby Rd.

ADOPT GOLDIE. Goldie is a stunning, round young girl. She has a lovely, sweet personality. Goldie enjoys lots of attention. Although she will not fight with other cats, it's clear that she would be happy being an only kitty and getting your undivided attention. She enjoys visiting with the little girl that frequents her foster home. Please fill out an application on our website at www.hucatrescue.org.



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FEMALE PCA: Looking for reliable, capable, experienced in private Wethersfield home, 40 hours, M-W-F-SAT-SUN. Some minor lifting. Email qualifications to noh0079@yahoo.com.

#### **Texting and driving is an epidemic**

Of the many dangers on the road, text messaging while driving is one that is entirely preventable. Putting down your phone when driving can prevent thousands of injuries and even death.

According to Students Against Destructive Decisions and Liberty Mutual Insurance Group, instant and text messaging while driving tops the list of driver distractions. Evidence gathered by these organizations has suggested that more than 3,000 vehicle fatalities and about 300,000 collisions a year can be attributed to texting conversations while the vehicle is in motion.

The Web site Distraction.gov notes that, in 2010, 3,092 people were killed in crashes involving a distracted driver and an additional 416,000 were injured in motor vehicle crashes involving a distracted driver. Some people are now saying that texting while driving is equally as dangerous as driving while impaired by alcohol or drugs in terms of interfering with individuals' driving abilities.

Texting creates a crash risk 23 times greater than driving while not distracted, according to the United States. Department of Transportation. Although it may seem like a driver's eyes are off the road for only a nominal amount of time, texting generally requires about 4 seconds, which is 4 seconds drivers are not looking at the road. At average driving speeds, that can mean driving about 360 feet, or the length of a football field, without looking.

But messaging while driving is not the only danger associated with phones and operating a motor vehicle. A study from Carnegie Mellon University found that using a cell phone while driving reduces the amount of brain activity associated with driving by almost 40 percent. Therefore, texting or simply speaking on a phone while driving involves a manual distraction, a visual distraction and a cognitive distraction. All of those distractions add up to trouble.

Many areas have banned the use of cell phones while driving. But such laws are difficult to enforce. A 2009 Pew Research study on teens and distracted driving found that nearly half of all people between the ages 12 to 17 have at one time ridden in a vehicle where the driver was engaged in texting. Fifty-two percent of phone-owning teens ages 16 to 17 said they have talked on a cell phone while driving.

In response to the rise of texting-while-driving accidents, some organizations have taken an eye-opening approach to educating drivers about the dangers of texting. In 2010, AAA of the Carolinas started airing an evening public service announcement showing graphic images of a teen driver texting then getting involved in a 3-car accident. The ending slogan stated, "You drive, you text, you die." Other campaigns focus on the positives instead of the negatives, with Facebook groups promoting people who choose not to text

Any activity that takes a driver's attention away from the road can lead to accidents. This includes eating, changing radio stations or addressing unruly children in the back seat. Making an effort to reduce distractions -- especially putting down the phone while in the car -- can considerably reduce accident rates.

WAIT STAFF AND DELIVERY DRIVERS WANTED: Apply in person. Village Pizza. 233 Main St. Wethersfield, CT.

**PART TIME RETAIL:** Popular retail apparel and footwear store now hiring for after-school, evening, and Weekend positions. Weekend availability is required for all positions. If you are ready to multi-task in a busy retail environment this job is for you. Please note these are not "summer-only positions". We are searching for individuals willing to commit through Fall 24 and beyond. Please apply in person M-F, 11am-5pm at Mickey Finn's, 874 Berlin Turnpike, Berlin.

ROLLING GREENS GOLF CLUB: Proshop Position & Maintenance Position Available. Call Brian @ 860-257-

**SEEKING EMT'S:** Newington Volunteer Ambulance is currently seeking EMTs to fill open positions. If you're a certified EMT-B or EMT- Intermediate and want to use your skills, contact us at 860-667-5825. Leave a message or stop by 71 John H. Stewart Drive and pickup an application. Please remember to pull to the right for green lights. Ambulance corps members use green lights to respond to emergency medical calls.

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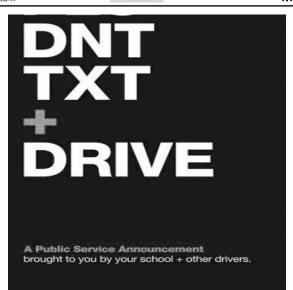
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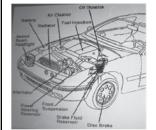
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# SPORTS CORNER

## Nor'easters Lacrosse Building Base



Newington High School senior Connor Caracciolo scored a goal during the Nor'easter loss at Glastonbury High School last Monday. Despite the loss, Newington is in contention this season, having won five of their first ten games this spring.

By Josh Howard

In the third season under head coach Chris Siewertsen, Newington High School boys lacrosse is on the upswing.

In mid-April, the Noreasters won four of five games over a ten-day span — which included a three game winning street.

three-game winning streak.

Siewertsen said "execution on offense" has been the key to the team's success this spring.

"We have a lot of talented guys on that side of the field," added Siewertsen. "They set the tone on offense, and they are making the most of their opportunities." Last week the Noreasters suffered a setback, dropping a pair of games that included a 20-8 road defeat to Glastonbury on April 24. Despite the 12-goal discrepancy, the Noreasters

showed signs at GHS, trading goals for the perennial powerhouse Guardians for the first quarter and a half.

After allowing the first three goals, Newington

stormed back, scoring five of the next eight to narrow the margin to 6-5 on a goal from David Sulmicelli at the 8:34 mark of the second quarter.

Glastonbury would reel off a dozen straight goals, a scoring streak that bled over into the late



For the second straight season, senior Julian Middlebrooks is protecting the goal for NHS boys

stages of the third quarter to pull away.

Siewertsen said the game reminded him of the team's season opener, a 16-6 loss to Simsbury — the reigning Central Connecticut Conference (CCC)-Central champions.

"Good teams take advantage of little mistakes and when we make a couple of mistakes in a row it adds up," the third-year coach stated. "I think we're a better team than a 20-8 showing against them, and that first quarter and a half showed who we actually who we are, but once you let a team like that get on a roll it starts to snowball."

Through the first ten games this season, Newington has won a handful of games and entered the week with a record of 5-5.

Aiden Bengtson is leading the change offensive, scoring a team-high 60 points. The junior attacker leads the squad in both goals (29) and assists (31).

Connor Caracciolo has contributed 26 goals, while Sulmicelli has posted 19 goals and 13 assists through the first ten games.

sists through the first ten games.

Returning starter Julian Middlebrooks is back in goal, protecting a backend that has held three

opponents under ten goals in a game, including

a season-low three goals in a 16-3 victory over Tolland on April 18.

Middlebrooks has posted ten or more saves in nine of the 10 games, including a season-high during an out-of-state battle with Massachusettsbased Martha's Vineyard Regional on April 13.

"We've asked him to do a little more this year and he's been great," Siewertsen said of his keeper. Captaining the team are Bengtson and Gianlu-

ca Tirado, along with returning all-conference standouts Khalil Stewart and Evan DeMarco Now midway through his third season, Siewertsen said the current crop of upperclassmen

has helped implement his approach and are set-

ting an example for the next generations of stickwielding Noreasters.

"They have all been great, and they've all taken on big rolls" noted Siewertsen, who said the stretch run will ultimately come down to "execution", adding, "If we make an impact on offensive-

Siewertsen's squad is slated to play at Wethersfield High School tonight (Thursday, May 9) for their annual rivalry game against the Eagles at Cottone Field. The game starts at 4:30 p.m.

ly, we can get the ball rolling our way."

## The Starting Five -Athletes of the Week

By Josh Howard

Ella Komanetsky - Wethersfield High School (Softball): Komanetsky pitched a complete-game, one-hit shutout as the Eagles blanked Newington 4-0 on April 29. Komanetsky, a sophomore, struck out nine in the outing as Wethersfield held an opponent scoreless for the second time in the last five games. Alyssa Pericello powered the offense from the plate, hitting a solo homer to left field in the top of the seventh to cement the victory. Pericello finished the game with two runs on a pair of hits. On May 3, the Eagles earned a wild 19-14 win over Maloney. Komanetsky drove in three runs on a pair of hits and scored two more as the team won its sixth game this spring.

Raghav Jaiswal - Rocky Hill High School (Tennis): Jaiswal won his No. 1 singles match, rallying to defeat Manchester's Joe Richardson (2-6, 6-1, 11-9) as the Terriers edged the Red Hawks at Manchester High School on April 24. Jaiswal, a junior, was one of four Terriers singles players to earn victories in the match. Dheer Sarshetti won the No. 2 singles match, Nate Corcoran was victorious at No. 3 singles, and Ishaan Singh won the No. 4 singles match.

Jaylin Manson - Newington High School (Baseball): Manson hit a bases loaded gamer-tying double and then scored a walk-off game-winning run following a base knock by Luca Robson as the Nor'easters stormed back to defeat Conard 9-8 on April 29. Newington trailed 8-2 heading into the bottom of the seventh before reeling off the game's final sevens to steal the victory, punching their ticket to the state tournament. Manson, a ju-

nior, then connected on a walk-off single – scoring Elijah Bengston – in the top of the seventh as the Noreasters beat Maloney 6-5 on May 2 to earn their ninth win this spring.

Brady Holzmiller - Rocky Hill High School (Baseball): Holzmiller pitched a complete-game, striking out three as the Terriers beat Berlin 4-2 on May 3. Holzmiller, a junior captain, protected an early lead as the Terriers scored four over the first four innings thanks to runs from Brody Reid, Patrick Boyle, Daniel Lin, and Chase Margiotta. The win was Rocky Hill's second straight, also beating Whitney Tech 18-0 the previous day behind three hits, three runs, and a pair of RBIs from Reid and a combined one-hit shutout from Boyle, Robert Packer, and Ryan Castagno.

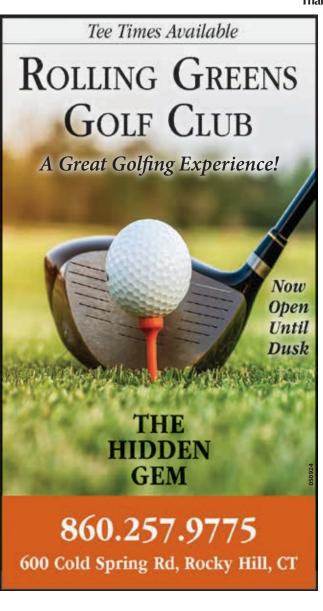
Peyton Kelleher - Cromwell High School (Softball): Kelleher delivered from both the plate and mound during a 20-2 win (five innings) over East Hampton on May 1. Kelleher, a freshman, scored five runs and drove in another on three hits to lead the offensive charge and also pitched a complete game, striking out six and allowing only one hit. The Panthers also got contributions from Victoria and Alexis Wiatrak, who combined to drive in seven runs and scored four more on two hits apiece. Keira Beyer also scored three runs and Annika Peters added three RBIs in the landslide victory.

To nominate an athlete for The Starting Five or with sports-related comments, email joshhoward-sports@gmail.com.



Cromwell College Commits...On May 3, Cromwell High School honored nine student-athletes who will be playing sports at the next level. From left; Alex McKiernan (Football - Anna Maria College), Emeka Yearwood (Football - Springfield College), Colby DiMenna (Baseball - Western New England University), Connor Slifer (Baseball - Western New England University), Cameryn Hickey (Soccer - Emmanuel College), Victor Payne (Basketball - Saint Francis University), Ace Kenney (Soccer - Bridgewater State University), Aubrey Kulpa (Soccer - Penn State University), and Victoria Wiatrak (Softball - Western Connecticut State University).





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Little Gina's Homestyle <b>Pizzelle</b> (7oz, all flavors)	\$5.99
Kimbo Decaf <b>Espresso</b> (8¾0z)	\$5.99
Sclafani Imported <b>Panettone</b> (2lb)	\$5.99

DELI:	
Taking Mother's Day, Communion, Graduation	& Shower Orders
Imported <b>Pecorino Romano</b>	
Cheese (chunk, 1lb min)	\$8.99 lb
Imported Parma Prosciutto	\$16.99 lb
Land O' Lakes <b>American Cheese</b>	\$4.99 lb
Margherita <b>Pepperoni Sticks</b> (whole)	\$5.99 lb
We Carry a Full Line of Boars Head	l Products





#### We believe in Quality & Service At **All Times At D&D Market**

Welcome to an amazing experience of quality and service, a place where the Customer matters. D&D Market is built on the same principles that it was founded on in 1932 with quality Cheeses, Meats, Deli, Olives and Groceries, many imported from Italy. Catering is also available. Come in and have our knowledgeable staff serve you.

-Danny D'Aprile









