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Vol. 69, No. 5 **February 3, 2022**

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- 55+ community home Rocky Hill

Call or text me **860.301.5820** for a consultation.

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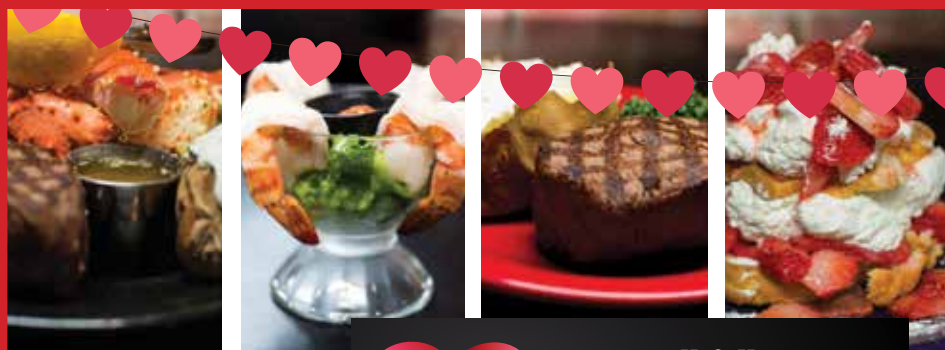
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Ground \$8.00/lb
Feet \$5.50/lb

GOAT

Bone-in Stew \$12.50/lb

Sausage \$12.00/1.5lb rope

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Butt \$6.00/lb
Spare Ribs \$6.00/lb
Ground \$8.00/lb
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Italian Sausage (Hot & Sweet) \$12.00/1.5lb rope



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Toastmasters

Bloomfield Toastmasters is dedicated to improving public speaking and interpersonal communication techniques among the local and on-line community. We offer our practice, training and positive feedback twice monthly at 7pm on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays. Our transition to Zoom meetings has helped our members and guests to practice and improve their on-line exchanges in social, business and family settings. We periodically have joint meetings with other local Toastmasters clubs. For further info or to attend our next meeting, send an email to: contact-7139@toastmastersclubs.org 7/1/21

Call-In Support Group

Looking for a safe space? Talk to a professional about the question and or concerns you may have regarding dementia. Every Friday from 2 to 3 p.m., there will be a call-in support group facilitated by Kristine Johnson, dementia specialist, Hartford HealthCare Center for Healthy Aging. Sponsored by Hartford HealthCare Center for Healthy Aging. Join the call at: 860.972.6338 - Meeting Room: 19623#. 12/16/21

Friends of Dinosaur Park

Are you passionate about Dinosaurs, Nature, Earth Sciences and Education? The Friends of Dinosaur Park and Arboretum, Inc., a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that supports the exhibits and educational programs at Dinosaur State Park, seeks new members for its Volunteer Management Board. Are you able to work well in a team setting, assist in any projects and tasks, and complete assignments in a timely manner? Experience in related areas is preferred but not required. As a Board Member, you will be required to attend a monthly in-person meeting and commit approximately 10 hours per month. To apply, please submit a resume or letter of interest and bio to: boardmembersearch@dinosaurstatepark.org 10/14/21

Friends of Center Cemetery

Join the Friends of Center Cemetery sponsored by the Rocky Hill Historical Society and led by Town Historian Bob Heron. Let's keep their memory alive by preserving Rocky Hill's historic cemetery. Attend our first Zoom planning meeting Jan 20th at 6 PM. Stone cleaning will take place in the warm months. Email infoRHhistory@gmail.com to get the zoom link. 1/6/22

Tai Chi Classes

Third Congregational Church in Middletown is holding tai chi classes on Fridays at 10 AM. Weather permitting, classes are held on the church grounds and moved indoors as needed. A weekly donation of \$5 or \$10 is requested. No experience is needed to participate and exercises can be done seated, if needed. Beginners and experienced practitioners are all welcome. Third Church is located at 94 Miner St. 9/23/21

Caregivers Support Group

The Alzheimer's Association Caregivers Support Group Returns! This support group is designed for the caregivers of family members suffering from dementia. The focus is on caregiving challenges, issues, and needs with possible solutions, ways of coping and information about community resources. Meetings take place the first Monday of the month from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at First Church of Christ 250 Main St., Wethersfield. For more information and to register contact Caring Ministries 860.529.1575 ext. 117. 8/26/21

Rocky Hill Historical Society

Interested in promoting, preserving and protecting Rocky Hill history? Volunteer! Contact us at infoRHhistory@gmail.com. 1/6/21

Women's Club of New Britain

The Women's Club of New Britain will meet at 2 PM on Thursday February 3. The meeting will be at the First Congregational Church, 830 Corbin Ave. New Britain. The name of the program is: The Mythical Trunk in the Attic. Edwin W. Strickland brings us a show and tell of documents and artifacts in our possession. You may want to look into your own attic and closet to begin your genealogy. Following the program coffee, tea and cookies will be served. Guests are welcome to attend for a \$10 fee. 1/13/22

Christmas Tree Pickup

Cub Scout Pack 85 of Wethersfield, CT is conducting its 16th annual fundraiser to pick up xmas trees from your curb, and requests \$10 donation for curbside pickup. Wethersfield residents can schedule an xmas tree pickup by leaving a text or voice message at 860-316-4771 or by emailing WethersfieldPack85@gmail.com. Pack 85 will use the funds to help with program and camping supplies. The Cub Scouts enjoy retrieving the donations at your door when the xmass tree is picked up. If not available at the time of pickup, checks can be paid to the order of "Pack 85" and mailed to: Pack 85 c/o Tony Centurelli, 675 Folly Brook Blvd, Wethersfield, CT 06109. A Venmo option is also available upon request. It's always a good time to join Scouting. Pack 85 (grades K-5) meets on Tuesdays at 6:30pm at Emerson-Williams Elementary School. 12/30/21

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

Rocky Hill Superintendent Presents Proposed Budget

by Mark DiPaola

Rising personnel costs are driving a Superintendent-proposed \$2.1 million school spending increase, with the Rocky Hill district looking to accommodate a growing special education student population.

District Superintendent Dr. Mark Zito presented the tentative budget – representing a near-4.5 percent hike over the current \$48.2 million in school expenditures – to the Board of Education (BOE) last Thursday, to kick off a round of workshops that will inform their deliberations over coming weeks.

In a budget that owes 64 percent of its dollars to salary costs, contractually fixed pay increases will and staff benefits account for 3.7 percent of the proposed 4.5 percent inflation, Zito said.

“As I’ve always said, education is a people-intensive industry,” the Superintendent

said. “That’s consistent across every district – not just in Connecticut, but the country.”

And with special education enrollment up – even though the district’s overall student population, for the first time in years, appears to be stabilizing – Zito and his team are hoping to bring on more people to meet the demand for services.

Today, almost 15 percent of Rocky Hill students utilize special education services – up from 9 percent a decade ago.

“That’s a significant increase in kids with unique needs,” Zito said. “Ten years ago, we had 230 kids in special education. Today, we have 377 kids.”

And that doesn’t include the 180 students with 504 plans, he said.

“I think part of the reason is we have great programming, and we have a reputation as a town that embraces kids with unique challenges,” Zito said.

So Zito’s proposed budget adds a special education teacher, as well as a paraeducator – at over \$61,000 in collective staff costs.

The Superintendent’s \$1.9 million in new position requests – 3.9 percent of the proposed budget increase – include a Grade 6 World Language teacher that would allow the district to continue the French and Spanish curriculum enhancements they initiated in the fifth-grade last year.

“We want to make sure we continue with robust foreign language instruction at the 6th grade level,” Zito said.

The proposed expenditures for new staffing includes \$18,000 for building substitutes – teachers and paraprofessionals.

While the pandemic-driven demand for substitutes will be a passing phenomenon, the rate – up from \$90 to \$150 per day – is likely the new norm, Zito said.

Rocky Hill Public Schools made the ad-

justment in lockstep with other districts, he said.

“If we didn’t meet that rate, we’d be frozen out of the market,” Zito said.

Even with costs going up, Rocky Hill remains at the top of its District Reference Group (D) in SAT scores and at the bottom in expenditures – special education and otherwise.

Rocky Hill’s special education costs take up 19 percent of its overall budget – the lowest in District Reference Group D.

The district is still \$5.5 million under the Reference Group average for overall expenditures – and \$9.9 million when compared to the State.

“We’re certainly not overspending on education in Rocky Hill,” Zito told the Board. “We’re getting topflight education at a cost that’s below average.”

Upcoming Events at the Cora J. Belden Library

Winter Reading Challenge – Until March 31!

Welcome to our fun, easy and colorful reading challenge for all ages! We encourage you to “Read the Rainbow” and log your books in Beanstack or on your paper sheet until March 31st. Earn raffle tickets for a chance to win some cool prizes!

Virtual Storytime (Online) - Mondays and Wednesdays in February at 11:00 AM

Join us online as we foster early literacy by exploring words through books, rhymes and songs. This Zoom program is recommended for children birth to 5 years and their caregiver. Registration is required.

One on One Tech Help (Online/Phone) - Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays in February at 2:00 PM

Sign up for a 1 hour time slot on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays to go over any tech questions you may have with Mike Murphy. These sessions will be conducted on Zoom or via phone.

Downloading Free E-books (Online) – Mondays in February at 2:30 PM

Did you know you can download thousands of e-books, audiobooks, magazines and more with your Cora J. Belden Library card? Come learn how to use Libby to read e-books on your favorite device. Registration required.

Knit One, Zoom Too! (Online) – Tuesdays in February at 11:00 AM

Join us remotely for some fiber fun! Newbies welcome! Registration is required to obtain the Zoom ID.

Baby Bop (Online) – Wednesdays in February at 9:30 AM

Join us for some fun! Recommended for children ages 0-2 and their caregivers. This program will take place on Zoom and live on Facebook.

Practice with Zoom (Online) – Thursdays in February at 2:30 PM

Join us every Thursday in November at 2:30 PM for the chance to test out your Zoom skills!

Guess How Many LEGOs in the Jar! – Saturday, February 5 at 10:00 AM

Celebrate Take Your Child to the Library Day by guessing how many LEGOs are in the jar. You could win the entire jar of LEGOs! Limited to children ages 12 and under.

Take Your Child to the Library Day – Activity Kit – Saturday, February 5 at 10:00 AM

Celebrate Take Your Child to the Library Day by picking up a kit with fun activities in it. These self-directed project bags are recommended for children ages 4 and up. While supplies last.

Take and Make Kit: Valentine’s Day! – Monday, February 7 at 10:00 AM

Get ready for Valentine’s Day with hands-on projects and activities! Make a heart wreath and festive windsock, plus enjoy coloring and activity sheets. These self-directed project bags are recommended for children ages 4 and up. While supplies last.

LEGO Club (Online) – Monday, February 7 at 6:30 PM

Back by popular demand! Join us to share your LEGO creations, try some LEGO challenges, and see what you can create! Recommended for ages 6 and up. Registration required to receive the Zoom codes.

Local Author Talk: Matthew Dicks (Online) – Monday, February 7 at 6:30 PM

Join the Newington, Berlin, Wethersfield and Rocky Hill Libraries for a night with Matthew Dicks, acclaimed author of *Unexpectedly Milo*, *Twenty-One Truths About Love*, and his newest book, *The Other Mother*. Registration required to receive the Zoom codes.

Expert Career Help (Online/Phone) – Tuesday, February 8 or 22 at 9:30 AM

Sign up for a 30-minute appointment to chat with a Human Resources expert. Get help with resumes, interviews, and more. Registration required.

Microsoft Office Basics: Word (Online) – Tuesday, February 8 at 2:00 PM

Learn how to create and edit a document with Microsoft Word. We will go over topics such as the general user interface, working with templates, text basics, formatting, page layout, and more. Registration required.

10 Minutes to Save the Planet (Online) – Wednesday, February 9 at 6:30 PM

Join Susan Quincy from the Kellogg Environmental Center, CT DEEP to see how we are affected by climate change here in Connecticut and what steps individuals can take to reduce carbon emissions and help global climate change. Registration required.

Make A Victorian Valentine (Online) – Friday, February 11 at 4:30 PM

During this 1 hour program we will learn some history about valentines during the Victorian period, listen to some holiday stories, and we will make our own Victorian valentines! Suggested ages: 8-14. Supplies included! Registration required.

It’s Only Logical: Take Home Kits – Saturday, February 12 at 10:00 AM

Give your brain a workout with logic puzzles and activities. Create your own brain teaser and more! These take-home bags are recommended for ages 6 and up.

Mother Goose on the Loose (Online) – Tuesday, February 15 at 10:00 AM

Join us for some fun rhymes, songs, and stories for Mother Goose on the Loose. Recommended for babies to age 3. Please register to get the Zoom code.

Microsoft Office Basics: Excel (Online) – Tuesday, February 15 at 2:00 PM

Learn how to create spreadsheets that allow you to easily store, organize and modify data with Microsoft Excel. We will go over topics such as the general user interface, working with templates, basic data entry, cell formatting, and basic formulas. Registration required.

Hattie Carthan: Her Life and Legacy (Online) – Tuesday, February 15 at 6:30 PM

Come learn about the pioneering urban gardener and environmentalist, Hattie Carthan. Did you know that Hattie and her block associations were responsible for planting 1500 trees in Brooklyn, New York in the 1960s, beautifying the neighborhood and helping to clean the streets? Registration required.

Navigating the New Real Estate Market (Online) – Thursday, February 17 at 6:30 PM

Have you thought about selling your house in 2022? Join local real estate agent Cathy Rossini Lapierre and Home Inspector Louis Nero to hear about the real estate market during the pandemic. They will talk about their predictions for the upcoming spring season and how you can prepare and navigate as a buyer or seller. Registration required to receive the Zoom Link.

Between the Buds Podcast Discussion Group (Online) – Thursday, February 17 at 6:00 PM

Beginning Thursday, February 3rd, join us again for a feast for the ears! A buffet of fascinating stories and interviews awaits you, as we delve into the world of podcasts, during this twice-a-month adult program. Registration required.

Health and Wellness with Dr. Nicole Klughers: Immune Support (Online) – Tuesday, February 22 at 6:00 PM

Join us for another virtual talk with Naturopathic physician, Dr. Nicole Klughers! This month, Nicole will look at immune support and natural ways that we can boost our immune systems. Registration is required to join the Zoom meeting.

Make a Simple Website with HTML (Online) – Thursday, February 24 at 6:30 PM

Have you been curious about web design but didn’t know where to start? Check out this quick, 1 hour Zoom crash course on basic HTML and get an idea of how to get started. Recommended for grades 6 and up, including adults! Registration is required.

Adult Music BINGO: Rock Edition (Online) – Thursday, February 24 at 6:30 PM

We’re back with another night of great songs, fun trivia and prizes! Join your favorite co-hosts for a special rock-themed music bingo night!

Harry Potter Trivia Night (Online) – Friday, February 25 at 7:00 PM

Get comfy in your living room, put on your wizarding hats, and join area libraries for a muggle trivia night straight out of Hogwarts! Answer trivia questions by yourself or in a group. All are welcome! Registration required to receive the Zoom Link.

STEM Saturdays: Take Home Kits – Saturday, February 26 at 10:00 AM

Explore science, technology, engineering, and/or math with hands-on activities! Each take-home project bag is filled with supplies so you can experiment and learn about a particular topic. Recommended for ages 6 and up. Project bags are available while supplies last.



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

Town of Cromwell Remembers Michael Camilleri

by Mark DiPaola

Cromwell residents mourned and memorialized the late former school board chair Michael Camilleri, a week after his sudden passing sent shock waves through the community that he served for over a decade.

Camilleri, an attorney and Republican who served on the Board of Education (BOE) for 12 years, lost his battle with neuroendocrine cancer on January 13, at 49 years old.

"It was just a shock," said Cromwell Mayor Allan Spotts, a longtime friend and former Republican Town Committee (RTC) Chair. "Mike was a dear friend to all of us and the entire Cromwell community. Our hearts go out to his wife, Terri, as well as his daughters, Megan and Jessica. He was a strong individual, but someone you could always go to for help. He's gonna be sorely missed."

Former Mayor Enzo Faienza met Camilleri in 2008, not long after starting his own tenure at the RTC helm. He described the former Board chair as a close friend, confidant, and when everyone needed it, "the peacemaker" and "great negotiator".

"He's like a brother to me. We had so many great conversations, even in my personal life – he was just a great human being and a man of ethics and integrity," Faienza

said. "We're both Italian, so we can both get passionate about what we're doing, but he was the type of person who would help you to take a step back and analyze – not let the emotions take over."

Camilleri faced a particularly tough negotiation in 2020, when he called up former BOE member Jeff Matrullo to announce that he was stepping away to spend more time with his family – and that he was passing the gavel to the young attorney he's mentored since his days at Brown Rudnick.

"I said 'no, we need you.' We needed his steady hand," Matrullo recalls. "We went on for hours, and he said, 'I think you're ready, Jeff. You can do it.'"

Matrullo would take the leap of faith, but a Camilleri vote of confidence was contagious.

"I followed Mike a lot of places," Matrullo says. "He set the example for me when we worked together."

Matrullo says the fellow UConn Law product quickly took him under his wing, lending his steady hand to guide him through the growing pains first year associates typically endure.

"I made a lot of mistakes, as all first-year lawyers do. He was never angry. Just calmly brought you back to the middle," says Matrullo, now a partner with Penwood Real Estate Investment Management, LLC. "He didn't have to take the time to invest in me,

but he mentored me and countless others, knowing it would make the entire organization better."

Town residents say that it was Camilleri's investment in Cromwell – through service on various local boards and commissions – that underscored his commitment to making his community better.

"Mike was just a giant in the community," said Town Councilor James Demetriades. "There isn't a single person in town with a bad thing to say about him. It's a huge loss."

Christie Carpino says Camilleri was one of the first people she met when she first got involved in the community – for the current Cromwell State House Rep, it must have left an impression.

"I remember how welcoming and open and easy to talk to he was. I was fortunate to be able to count him as a friend for as long as I did," Carpino said. "Cromwell is a better place because of Mike. Mike loved his community and his family, and I'll miss him."

John Flanders first met Camilleri at UConn Law School – perhaps fittingly, the two took the same municipal law class.

Later, they would serve together on the School Board. And while the two would have their share of disagreements, Flanders says he was often wowed by Camilleri's knack for diplomacy.

"He definitely didn't allow party affiliation to impact anything. He was scrupulous

about that and entirely open to listening to anybody and giving real consideration to their thoughts," Flanders said. "Heaven knows he and I didn't agree on everything, but I always had the sense he respected my opinion."

Camilleri exemplified the school district governing body's apolitical, bipartisan spirit, says current Board Chair Celina Kelleher.

"Mike had a way of making everyone feel valuable and comfortable. He taught people to advocate for what they believed in and guided them through," Kelleher said. "What made him such a great leader was in part due to his ability to see both sides of an issue and express his opinion while respecting and inviting opposing viewpoints. I think he believed this made for some of the most important discussions."

She too described him as a trusted mentor.

"His words of encouragement have always meant so much to me, and he always believed in me," she said. "I was happy to take on extra responsibilities if he was the one asking. I would definitely not have had the courage to take on the position of Board Chair if he had not taken me under his wing."

Rocky Hill Senior Services Programs and Events

Rocky Hill Senior Center , 761 Old Main Street, Rocky Hill CT 06067. Contact: gmarino@rockyhillct.gov; 860-258-2788

SENIOR CENTER MEMBERSHIP: Are you at least 55 years old and interested in staying active and connected in your community? Become a member of the Rocky Hill Senior Center located in our new state of the art facility. Membership is complimentary for Rocky Hill residents and \$20 per year for non-residents. Applications may be accessed on the Town's web site, may be picked up at the Senior Center or mailed by request.

LUNCH AT THE SENIOR/COMMUNITY CENTER: The Senior Services Department offers a hot lunch program Monday-Friday at 12noon for anyone age 55 and over. Menus are available online, in our newsletter or at the Center. A veg-

etarian option is available on request. Please call 860-258-2786 three days in advance to reserve your lunch or register online at registrations.rhparkrec.org. We are not able to accommodate walk ins. Fee is \$4 for members and \$10 for non-members.

HEALTH SERVICES at the Senior/Community Center: **Healthy Choices Wellness Check:** A nurse will check blood pressures, review medications and discuss health concerns. No appointment needed. Mondays, 9:45-11:45am.

Foot Care: A nurse from Pedi-Care will provide this service on Wed., Jan. 26 and Feb. 23 from 9:00am-2:30pm. Call 860-258-2786 for an appointment. \$30 payable to nurse. **Massage:** 15, 30 and 60 minute appointments available on Wed., Feb. 2 and 9 from 9:00am-2:00pm. Call 860-258-2786 for an appointment. Fee payable to

therapist.

COLLAGE - A BOOK IS A BOOK: Using the collage technique you will create the pages and put them together as a unique expandable book. Bring to class a favorite story, poem, phrase, prayer, etc. No artistic talent needed, just a creative mind. Wednesday, 2/2-3/9, 10:00-11:30am, \$18 M / \$24 NM

GRAB AND GO'S: All are free to Senior Center members and you must pre-register. Pick up is in front of Senior/Community Center. **Brain Booster-Celebrate National Puzzle month** with puzzles, brain teasers and brain healthy treats. Friday, Jan. 28 at 10:00am.

Chili and Cornbread: Shake the winter blues away with a hearty bowl of chili and cornbread. Wednesday, Feb. 9 at 1:30pm. Co-sponsored by Caring People and Dispatch Health.

CHESS CLUB- Join us on Monday mornings from 10:30am -12:00pm for a stimulating game of chess. Our number one goal is to have FUN! All levels are welcome from beginners to grandmasters. Facilitator Lewis Nedell will be available to assist beginners on the fundamentals of the game. Program is free but pre-registration required.

INTERGENERATIONAL PROGRAM (Mario Kart Tournament) Friday, Feb. 18 from 10am-12noon: Through this program seniors and child family members can play video games together. Equipment and technology provided. Pre-registration is required. \$30 per team.

THE GREAT COURSES SERIES: Join Mimi Theroux as

she shares a series of college-level audio and video courses on our large screen on Tuesday afternoons. Each video is approximately 30 minutes in length and will be followed by a lively group discussion. The first one will be London: A Short History of the Greatest City in the Western World. Tuesday, 1/11- 3/1, 1:00-2:30pm, \$8 M / \$16 NM

BOOKED TO TRAVEL - ARMCHAIR EDITION: Barbara Wysocki facilitates this unique book discussion that takes readers to places known and unexplored. Instead of everyone reading one book, we'll focus on a new location each month. Each reader will choose their own book including novels, histories, biographies, even poetry -- as long as the book connects

with that month's destination. Register for this free program held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month from 1:15—2:30pm.

CRAFT PROJECTS: Join the staff of Autumn Lake to do a different craft project on the second Tuesday of the month at 1:00pm, February 8. Free to Senior Center members. Materials and light refreshments provided.

INCOME TAX PREPARATION: A free IRS certified tax assistance program will be available for low-moderate taxpayers, especially those 60 and older. Covid-19 safety procedures are being developed to bring the program to the Rocky Hill Senior/Community Center. Call Senior Services at 860-258-2786 to schedule an appointment.

Virtual Coffeehouse Call for Performers and Artists

Calling all performers and artists! Cromwell Creative District (CCD)'s third annual Coffeehouse is virtual! The event will take place online, going live on the evening of Friday March 4th, 2022.

Performers: Please email cromwellcreativedistrict@gmail.com with a video performance (must be kept under 5 minutes). Please include your name, contact info and a brief bio/introduction about the group or individual performer that will be read prior to the performance. Subject line to include "Virtual Coffeehouse 2022."

Artists: Please email cromwellcreativedistrict@gmail.com up to 3 photos of artwork in .jpg format with artist name and contact information, a brief bio, and description of work (to be read while images are on screen). Subject line to include "Virtual Coffeehouse 2022."

This is a family-friendly event! Performers of all ages are welcome. Fun family videos (including pets, culinary specialties, snow sculptures, Covid activities, etc) are encouraged. Submissions of performances or art are due February 4th at 11:59 p.m. If you have any questions, please contact CCD via email: cromwellcreativedistrict@gmail.com.

K of C Charity Bowl

DeSoto Council #6 of the Knights of Columbus in Cromwell is hosting a bowling fundraiser to support its charitable works. Everyone is invited to support the event which will be held on Sunday February 20th from 12:00 – 3:00pm at Bowl-O-Rama in Newington. \$20/bowler (\$15 kids 12 & under) includes 2 games, shoes, pizza & soda. Prizes and raffles as well. This is a great family-friendly event that benefits those in need! Advanced registration is preferred, please visit www.cromwellkofc.com/charitybowl.htm for registration details. Inquiries can be sent to cromwellkofc@yahoo.com.

Do you have something to say?

We welcome all letters to the editor that are signed and include a name and daytime phone number for verification. We reserve the right to edit all letters for length or other concerns. Mail your letter to P.O. Box 289, 222 Dividend Road, Rocky Hill, CT 06067, fax it to 860-257-8591 or e-mail it to editor@rarereminder.com.



What's Happening Newington?

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

Human Services Hosts Youth Mental Health Forum

by Mark DiPaola

As a veteran youth case manager, Ann McAdams has seen a lot, but what she's seeing lately jarring even for her: teen clients pushing their parents to enroll them in mental health services – instead of the other way around.

"Which is a really big shift," says McAdams, who works for Newington's Human Service Department. "The kids are now asking – begging – for therapy."

If there's a silver lining in the indication that today's youth are more aware of their social/emotional needs, it's also a loud and clear signal that everyone else had better catch up – and quickly, Connecticut health professionals said during a Facebook Live youth mental health forum hosted by State Representatives Gary Turco and Amy Bello.

"We've had a significant mental health crisis even prior to the pandemic," says Dr. Melissa Santos, who heads Division of Child

Psychology at Connecticut Children's Hospital. "Since the start of the pandemic, we've seen a sharp increase across our entire system, with families trying to access our behavioral health services."

Even before the onset of COVID, suicide was the second leading cause of death among those between the ages of 10 and 34, according to the CDC.

Today, in the wake of job losses, learning disruptions, isolation, and cancelled school events, students are trying to reclaim some semblance of normalcy – even as the pandemic's emotional toll lingers, Santos and McAdams say.

Research has shown dramatic upsurges in reported anxiety and depression across all age groups, but healthcare professionals are particularly concerned about youth – 150,000 of which lost a parent or guardian to COVID.

"Even when the pandemic is gone, we're going to see kids impacted for a long time,"

Santos says.

Last year, state lawmakers passed Public Act 21-116, which requires schools, hospitals, and other community touchpoints to disseminate information regarding available mental health support services.

Other legislation ramped up youth suicide prevention training programs, added social emotional learning (SEL) to teacher professional development, and expanded outpatient services.

But gaps remain, lawmakers and mental health professionals say.

"We are seeing a lot of people struggling in our communities," Bello said. "The mental health needs have grown during the pandemic, and it's been hard to find services."

McAdams sees it firsthand. Newington Human Services has roughly 10 clients – all under the age of 14 and referred to her office by the Newington school system.

"We're seeing a lot of depression, anxiety, and it's like they just don't know how to

deal with it," she says. "It's heart-wrenching."

She recounted calling for a psych evaluation on behalf of one child – and being told the wait was 3-6 weeks. And that's on the low end – McAdams says 4-6-month delays are not uncommon.

"That's horrendous. A lot can happen in 4-6 months."

Turco and Bello will have 4 months to pump additional support into state and community resources – starting in February, when they return to Hartford to begin the winter legislative session.

Turco is promising a "comprehensive bill" – among his Democratic caucus's major priorities.

"We know a lot of parents and families are concerned about this," Turco said. "It's an issue that's been affecting people since before the pandemic, which has compounded and complicated this further."

Two Redistricting Options Presented to Town Council

by Mark DiPaola

A pair of new redistricting options minimizes or avoids the loss of polling stations while redistributing voter volume between them – the Newington Registrars' response to a groundswell of opposition following a previous proposal to go from 7 locations to 3.

Newington registrars Theresa Avey (R) and Marie Fox (D) presented both at the Town Council's January 25 meeting. The Council plans to deliberate on February 8, pick one, and then schedule a public hearing – tentatively for February 22 – before making a final decision.

"We can't leave it as is, completely, because there have to be some changes that need to take place to realign it with the newly reapportioned districts," said Mayor Beth DelBuono, referring the Census-driven, legislative redistricting process that prompted the registrars' local-level analysis. "We can make those changes minimal, if that's what the public wants."

Newington currently has polling stations at:

- The Mortensen Community Center on Garfield Street (District 1)
- Ruth L. Chaffee School, at 160 Superior Avenue (District 2)
- Anna M. Reynolds School on 85 Reservoir Road (District 3)
- Elizabeth Green School on Thomas Street (District 4)
- John Wallace Middle School on Halleran Drive (District 5 and 8)
- John Paterson School at 100 Church Street (District 6)
- Martin Kellogg Middle School at 155 Harding Street (District 7)

Due to the legislative reapportionment, Newington loses its 29th House District, as well as a slice of its 27th – leaving what's left of the 27th and a portion of West Hartford's 20th District.

The original registrar proposal was to dedicate two polling stations (Mortensen Community Center and Ruth Chaffee Elementary) to the 27th, and one (John Wallace Middle School) to the 20th.

Revised plans would keep Reynolds, Chaffee, and Martin Kellogg untouched, while attempting to balance the distribution of voters among the other sites.

Option 1 is to:

- Combine District 8's 1,619 voters with District 5's 1,790 at a District 5 John Paterson Elementary School polling location (total: 3,409)
- Merge 919 District 5 voters, 830 District 1 voters, and 2,671 District 6 voters to the 20th Assembly District's John Wallace District 6 voting station (Total: 4,420)

•Redistribute voters between District 1 and District 2, with Robbins Avenue as the dividing line – result would be a District 2 reduction from 4,602 to 4,141, and a District 1 total of 2,851

•District 7 (2,428 voters), District 3 (2,050 voters), and District 4 (2,439 voters) would remain unchanged

Option 2 would:

- Roll District 4 and 7 into one voting location – tentatively Newington High School (NHS) – for a total of 4,867 voters
- Retain locations for Districts 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6

"I want to thank both of you for your hard work and response to feedback from Council and the public," said Councilor Mitch Page, who was in staunch opposition to the 3-location plan. "I could definitely support a change to an extent that it's responding to the reapportionment and maintaining our polling places."

Councilors say they were flooded with comments – email and otherwise – in the two weeks following the first proposal, which critics say would have had the effect of making it more difficult to vote by increasing driving distances to the polls and causing long lines and delays.

But Fox and Avey have maintained that that was never the intent.

"We would like to thank the public that reached out, not only with their concerns, but their ideas," Avey said. "We've looked at many options since our first presentation."

"We're here to make it easier for voters – not suppress them," Fox added.

But they've also described a balancing act between keeping polling stations open and keeping them staffed – Avey says it takes more than a hundred workers to run all the town's location during a typical election, and that yearly recruiting challenges were a large factor in their calculus.

That much is unlikely to change if the Council goes with either of the two new options, but local officials say they're willing to help.

"As a 24-year resident and now an elected official, I take my vote incredibly seriously to a point where I take the day off from work not only to vote, but stand at the polls," said Board of Education member Jessica Weaver during the January 25 public comment segment.

Now, she's recruiting younger residents to work at the polls.

"I think it's important that we don't put the onus on our senior citizens, so by the public hearing, I will have a bunch of young people who will have undersigned to commit to being poll workers this next election,"

she said. "Rest assured, that will no longer be an issue."

Town resident Gia Pascarelli admitted that she had some reservations about the proposed NHS location in Option 2 – Fox and Avey said they chose the high school because it would offer more parking.

"Plenty of parking sounds great, but Willard Ave heading into Cedar Street is a bit of a nightmare when it comes to traffic," Pascarelli said.

Town resident Jan Kritzman says she's concerned that coming apartment developments – and an influx of new residents to town – will make even a modest reduction in polling locations less than tenable.

"A lot of them may, hopefully, register to vote," Kritzman said. "I'm glad the proposal isn't to reduce it to 3 anymore, but even 6 might not work, because you have to prepare for the possibility of more people."

Mayor DelBuono and the Council thanked residents for weighing in – but they say the voter suppression allegations leave a bitter taste.

"Their testimony convinced me that three was way too drastic," said Deputy Mayor Gail Budrejko. "Their concerns were heard, and the process worked. Obviously the first draft would have reduced access, but for anyone to think these changes were a deliberate back room plan to suppress voting rights was an insult to them, me, and the Council."

"It became clear very quickly that three was not the right number when this came out, and I think we could have worked together on a bipartisan proposal," the Mayor added.

State Senator Matt Lesser and 27th House District Rep Gary Turco, who held a recent press conference to voice their opposition to the 3-location proposal, say their concern was the potential effect.

"We shouldn't be surprised the initial proposal got the response it did. We heard

very clearly that threats to our voting system are of broad concern," Lesser said. "One thing you learn in politics is to take it at face value that motives are good, but you look at the effect, and the effect would have had a real impact on people's ability to cast a ballot. So, I'm grateful that the registrars are re-considering."

Turco says the new options are an improvement – though he's leaning toward the first one, since it would retain all 7 polling locations.

"I believe Marie when she says the intent wasn't to suppress voters, but the consequence would be making voting more difficult for every single Newington resident. My fear is if we didn't speak up, it would shortly become new policy in Newington, and the consequences would be voter suppression," Turco said. "I thank this Council and our Mayor for considering a revised proposal."

Other residents hope those considerations will include the registrar's proposal development process – and the data informing it.

Newington saw 83 percent of eligible voters cast a ballot in the 2020 Presidential – with 35 percent of votes submitted by mail – according to the Secretary of State's Office.

On January 24, Deputy Secretary of State Scott Bates sent a letter asking the registrars for, among other data, its turnout projections for 2022 – and the event that voters are not afforded the COVID excuse absentee eligibility that lapsed after the fall 2021 election season.

That letter was referring specifically to the previous 3-location proposal, but Avey and Fox have indicated that a more detailed report regarding the two alternatives – with mapping visuals – will be made public soon.

"I think that's a good starting point to be able to answer those questions to give transparency to the public as to the process," Weaver said.

Lyra's Hair Design Celebrates 20 Years

Madeline Lyra, Owner & Master Stylist of Lyra's Hair Design, never thought that she was going to be in her alone (same location) for 20 years and stylist for 35 years. Despite the challenges at the beginning of opening her salon, Madeline persisted because she believed she was able to fulfill her dream of many years after graduating The Wilfred Academy of Hair & Beauty Culture in 1986 and because she believed in herself.

Madeline always mentioned that one day she was going to own a salon and it did not matter how long the wait was going to take. She mentioned that it was a matter of setting a goal and making it happen! It was going to happen one day!

Madeline has worked hard for many years to build a loyal clientele based on her work ethic and customer service skills. She mentioned that she is looking forward to work for 20 more years, "God willing,@ in the same location and of course the customers will play an important role to make it happen.

Last but not least she mentioned that she greatly appreciates the patronage from her customers and she wanted to say thank you for being loyal to her business.



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Councilors Hail Mixed-Use Development on Berlin Turnpike

by Mark DiPaola

Town Councilors are hailing a record-setting developer investment as they prepare to entertain a 10-year, 50 percent tax abatement for the Berlin Turnpike-bound project – a combination of luxury apartments, a grocery store, and various retail amenities.

The mixed-use vision is called Meadow Commons, and it will see two developers – Grossman Group and Criterion Partners – pump a collective \$100 million into the 3333 Berlin Turnpike parcel currently owned by an Eversource subsidiary.

“This is the biggest announcement for private investment in the history of the town,” said Town Manager Keith Chapman during the Council’s January 25 meeting. “We’ve worked with the developers for several months to get it to this point. They’re excited to come in, and we’re equally excited that they’ve chosen Newington.”

Minus soft costs, the investment comes to \$82 million – \$57.4 million of which is taxable.

That adds over \$2.2 million, annually, to the Grand List under normal conditions – \$1.1 million each year, for the next 10 years, if the Council approves the tax fixing agree-

ment proposed by Town Assessor Steve Kolofsky.

It will be the tenth in the town’s history, which boasts 9 abatements – 6 of which were worth 100 percent, and 3 of which were for 50 percent.

“This is the most aggressive agreement we’ve brought to you in our tenure, but it’s also the biggest development we’ve ever had, so the two sort of go hand in hand,” Kolofsky told the Council. “It’s a competitive situation where if one town isn’t as aggressive, they’ll go to the other town.”

Grossman Group, a commercial developer, and Criterion Partners, a residential specialist, have been working hand in hand since Lakeway Commons, a similar project that saw success in Shrewsbury, Massachusetts.

Grossman will own and manage the 24-acre parcel’s Berlin Turnpike-facing front lot – the future home an “anchor” grocery store and 35,000 square feet of lifestyle retail, dining, and amenity tenants to be spread out across five commercial buildings.

The back parcel, which Criterion will own and operate, is earmarked for 269 market-rate apartment units – served by a fitness center, indoor garden, and clubhouse – according to Town Planner Renata Bertotti.

The Town Planning and Zoning Commission has

cleared the project for construction.

“This tax fixing agreement is really the last hurdle,” Chapman said. “We’ll want to get it done in a timely fashion, because the developers are ready to get started.”

The Council reconvenes February 8 and will likely vote on the abatement then. But at the January 25 meeting, the project got a warm reception.

“This is huge, and such an incredible project to bring to Newington,” Mayor Beth DelBuono told Chapman and his Town Hall economic development team. “I’m really ecstatic and really appreciate your efforts on this.”

Councilor Mitch Page echoed the sentiment.

“This looks like a great opportunity for the town,” Page said. “It’ll help us in many ways, looking at terrible budget crunches.”

He just had one suggestion: to try and coordinate with the State DOT to ensure Meadow Commons’ future residents have reliable bus route access.

“That’s a large group of folks, and if we can encourage folks to use public transportation that would be an obvious benefit,” Page said.

Farrar Announces Re-Election Bid for 20th District

by Mark DiPaola

Democratic State Representative Kate Farrar has announced her plans to seek a second term presiding over the 20th House District – which, per the recent legislative reapportionment, will include 8,000 Newington voters.

Farrar, whose District will encompass the southern part of West Hartford and the west end of Newington, was first elected in 2020 – she’ll campaign to retain that seat this coming fall.

“In this time of uncertainty and immense challenges, I am running for re-election to continue to be a champion for our communities,” Farrar wrote in a prepared statement sent to news outlets Monday. “I’m committed to work together to build a fair recovery out of this crisis for all of us to thrive.”

For Farrar, a self-styled progressive, that means protecting and expanding child-care programs, making it easier for working mothers to return to the workforce and/or attaining training in high-earning careers, and removing roadblocks to affordable housing – challenges she sees as gender equity issues exacerbated by the pandemic.

“The pandemic’s greatest economic impact has been on women, and it doesn’t just impact them individually – it’s felt throughout the community,” Farrar said over the phone.

Farrar, a UConn product, got her first taste of politics while interning for Denise Merrill in her capacity a House Rep – years before she became Secretary of State.

She says that experience inspired her to pursue a career in the nonprofit sector, where she’s spent the last 20 years.

Farrar’s nonprofit work has included providing women and girls with STEM education opportunities, lobbying for paid family medical leave legislation. She currently serves as the Program Specialist for Connecticut Food Share.

Farrar says it’s those experiences that informed her decision to run two years ago.

“Doing that job in the nonprofit sector, I saw so many gaps for families and senior struggling to make ends meet,” Farrar said. “I’ve been encouraging other women to run for years, and I decided to take my own advice.”

In her first term, Farrar advocated for the Crown Act, which prohibits employers

from banning hairstyles synonymous with African American culture – a practice advocates say is rooted in racial discrimination.

She also worked to pass pay transparency legislation and expanded the state’s Care for Kids childcare subsidy program to make those pursuing workforce training and education eligible.

Farrar says her priorities for this coming legislative session will include establishing a Connecticut child tax credit and retaining the earned income tax credit passed last year.

The latter was among several proposals Farrar and progressive lawmakers had put into a larger tax restructuring plan – and Farrar says she expects that conversation to

continue.

“The story of our state is we do have a great inequality gap. Much of that can be tied to our tax system,” she said. “If you see that our lower and middle-income families are paying 2-3 times the amount of the wealthiest, that just doesn’t seem right.”

At the local level, she’s got her sights set on transit-oriented development – West Hartford and Newington are both looking to add rail stops to the New Haven-to-Springfield line.

“We can have a collaborative approach in how we look at our towns,” she said. “We want people to see a future for living in these communities, and that transportation investment is really crucial.”

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Our country is seriously deteriorating before our eyes and President Biden has the nerve to say he has accomplished more in his first term than any other president! I want to focus on one subject in particular due to limited space, but first briefly let’s list some of his accomplishments:

- Inflation is at historic rates on almost everything we buy.
- Gas prices and fuel oil to heat our homes have skyrocketed.
- Our energy independence has been curtailed yet Biden approved the Russian pipeline as they get ready to invade Crimea.
- 2 million illegal immigrants have entered this country with no background checks, scattered all over this country with no vaccinations.
- His covid policy has been inconsistent and a disaster.
- His foreign policy is missing in action. Our enemies are all lined up to test him.
- Let’s not forget his son Hunter and all of his illegal adventures
- He has weaponized the Department of Justice and the FBI against parents fighting for their children’s rights in school.
- Crime is out of control in this country no thanks to the president’s efforts and his left wing consultants.

The one subject that he wants us to forget which all Americans, especially Veteran’s will not forget is Afghanistan. He had a deadly strategy for exiting Afghanistan not for our enemies but for our own military. 13 brave young men and women killed several other severely wounded. He left behind thousands of Americans, green card holders, and men and women who helped our military even though he said he would never do that. Of course we gave up our Bagram military base leaving untold millions of dollars of weapons to the enemy as well as a fortified base not only for the Taliban but for China. The fact that he has not mentioned the brave people he left behind is something that is unconscionable and unforgivable to all Americans.

If you, President Biden, consider this a great year I hate to think what a failure would have looked like.

Nick DeFrancesco

Do you have something to say?



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Walk with Us!

Join a "Zoning Audit" of Newington Junction

WEDNESDAY FEB. 16 @ 1-3 PM
At the Station 146 Willard Ave

See where smart zoning reforms around this station could create more homes. Bring warm clothes, comfortable shoes, & a mask! Follow-up workshop Mar. 9 @ 1 PM.

REGISTER BY EMAIL:
organizing@desegregatect.org



What's Happening Wethersfield?

Send us your news!
We want to know what's going on in Wethersfield. Email any news, announcements or upcoming events to editor@rarereminder.com or call 860-563-9386.

Bello to Seek Second Term for 28th House District

by Mark DiPaola

Democratic State Representative Amy Morrin Bello will be seeking a second term presiding over Wethersfield's 28th House District.

Morrin Bello, a former Wethersfield Mayor elected to the seat in 2020, made the announcement in a statement released to news outlets this past Monday.

"I would be honored to continue to serve the people of Wethersfield. As your representative, I've dedicated myself to listening to my constituents and representing our entire community," Morrin Bello wrote. "I'm proud of my record of fighting

for our families' health and safety during the pandemic, championing voting rights, and working to pass laws to assist our workforce and grow our economy. With your support, I will continue to advocate for these important initiatives at the State level and bring crucial funding back to our town."

Morrin Bello, a former Wethersfield Town Clerk, served on the Town Council from 2015 to 2020 - holding the Mayor's seat from 2017-2019.

She petitioned for, and won, the town's first Democratic primary to secure her place on the November 2020 ballot - a race for the 28th House seat vacated by longtime Democratic State Rep Russ Morin.

"I'm incredibly impressed with the way Amy delivers for Wethersfield," Morin wrote in the statement. "She's responsive to her constituents, worked to protect our families and businesses during the pandemic and fought to protect voting rights. I'm proud to support her for re-election in November."

Morrin Bello serves on the legislative General Administration and Elections Committee - a charge that saw her deliberate on, and support, the pandemic-driven expansion of vote-by-mail eligibility in 2020.

On the Transportation Committee, Bello advocated for infrastructure investment, as well as pedestrian and bike-friendly roads - of particular concern to many residents

and visitors of the town's Old Wethersfield historic district.

Wethersfield captured \$11.9 million in municipal aid through the 2021 bipartisan biennial state budget - and the number climbs to \$12.4 million in 2022.

"It is my pleasure to enthusiastically endorse Amy Morrin Bello for re-election for State Representative," said Democratic Council Minority Leader Ken Lesser. "Amy is an extremely hard working and dedicated public servant who works tirelessly to bring state funding to Wethersfield and do what's best for our community."

Mystic Seaport's Dr. Akeia de Barros Gomes to speak at WHS

As part of a series of lectures and concerts given to augment their current exhibit River, Land, and Sea: Wethersfield's Maritime History, Wethersfield Historical Society is proud to announce an upcoming lecture by Dr. Akeia de Barros Gomes, Senior Curator of Social Maritime Histories at Mystic Seaport Museum. Titled "Not Being Contented Ashore": Black Mariners of Connecticut, Dr. de Barros Gomes' talk will concentrate on the unique experiences of the large number of Black men - both enslaved and free - who were employed at sea throughout the eighteenth century in Connecticut. She describes the climate in the following words. "Maritime work provided a space of integration, an arena of relative freedom, and was largely merit based. By exploring the historical contexts that Black seafarers navigated and individual stories of Black mariners from Connecticut, we can explore Black maritime culture and communities. We can also begin to understand how these men, their families, their communities and their legacies became, as James Rose asserts 'an integral part of the historical tapes-

try of the state of Connecticut."

The programs on the series have been selected to expand attendees historical and cultural understanding of how maritime trade shaped the development and character of Connecticut's "most ancient town." Programs are scheduled on select Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm in the Keeney Memorial Cultural Center, 200 Main Street, Wethersfield, CT. Admission is \$10 for the general public and free to society members.

In the coming months, speakers include Chris Menapace, Senior Educator at Discovering Amistad, and Jonathan James-Perry, Aquinnah Wampanoag Artist, Educator and Performer. Perennial Wethersfield favorites, traditional Celtic band, The Jolly Beggars will be giving a performance of sea chanteys and nautically themed music, as will Essex' own The Jovial Crew, who specialize in "songs of the sea, pub, and shore". Dates and times will be listed on the society's website (www.wethersfieldhistory.org) and social media.

Due to the ongoing pandemic, attendees will be expected to mask and maintain social distancing while indoors.

This programming has been made possible in part by grants from CT Humanities and the Robert Alan Keeney Memorial Fund at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving.

For more information about Wethersfield Historical Society, contact the society at (860) 529-7656, email society@wethersfieldhistory.org, or visit www.wethersfieldhistory.org. The Keeney Center is handicapped accessible and offers free parking and restrooms. Like us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/WethersfieldHistory>.

Wethersfield Historical Society is a soon-to-be 90-year-old private nonprofit 501(c) 3 organization founded, funded and governed by community members and dedicated to preserving and promoting Wethersfield's history and culture to inspire people today and tomorrow.

Upcoming Events at Wethersfield Academy for the Arts

Wethersfield Academy for the Arts offers both virtual and in studio Youth and Adult Programs. We adhere to Covid-19 rules for social distancing. Mask wearing and proof of vaccination

also required.

Concert
Friday, February 18th, 7:00 - 8:30 pm
Join former RCA record-

ing artist Frank Morgan, Wethersfield musician Stephen Wells and New Haven musician and former Motown artist John Prodis as they celebrate Frank Morgan's songwriting career, life stories and new music. Suggested donation: \$20; Refreshments/BYOB

Adult Classes
Relief Sculpting Class
6 week class, begins February 3rd, 3:00 - 5:00 pm
Non-instructional, monitored, clay molding class. Model our lip, eye, hand, or ear casts in relief, an architectural pattern or create

an abstract relief. Create a mold of your object and cast it into a final product. All materials supplied. Email: info@wethersfieldarts.org, if interested.

Figure Drawing I
Instructor: Pete Anderson
6 week class, begins February 22nd, 5:00 - 8:00 pm
Students will gain confidence in figure drawing through learning the construct of the figure based on key elements of focus, stepping back and learning an observational manner, measuring in several academic methods, creating simple

forms and shadow mapping. The class will end with a live model on the last day. For beginner through experienced artists.

Workshops
The Topic is Gilding - Virtual & In-studio
Instructor: Marek Czarnecki
One day workshop, Saturday, February 5th; 1:00 - 5:00 pm
Gold fills us with awe. It is so beautiful and practical, we use it to value all other materials. It is eternal; it never fades or rusts. There is no substitute for it. Owning it guarantees ultimate earthly power.

of a pigment? Which materials make durable colors? What are the local and international sources for colors? Can we still use locally sourced materials to make our own paint?

Marek will demonstrate how to make pigment from local Connecticut brownstone, as well other natural sources. Pigments from specialized manufacturers can also be added to a variety of mediums (oils, egg tempera, watercolor, wax) to make your own paint.

The Winter Landscape: Inside - In-studio
Instructor: Paul Batch
February 25th - 27th ; 10:00 am - 4:30pm
In this workshop, you will be given the power to move mountains and trees -- on your canvas. Each day will begin with a demonstration, followed by independent painting time with the instructor to provide personal help at the easel, and end with a group critique. A strong emphasis will be placed on composition and drawing. The intent of this workshop is to discover the tonalist palette and the power of creation in the congenial atmosphere of painting with others in the studio. For all levels of oil painters.

Youth Classes
Drawing & Painting
Instructor: Nick Frasco

Participants will learn the history, uses and meaning of gold, the different formats and grades of gold; the tools used to handle gold leaf, and finally its practical application. Also includes demonstration of how to make paint from gold, called "shell gold", and the two basic techniques for applying gold leaf.

All about Pigments Workshop - Virtual & In-studio
Instructor: Marek Czarnecki
One day workshop, February 12th, 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Local icon painter Marek Czarnecki will lecture on the historical use of colors from the earliest works of art to the contemporary manufacturing of synthetic pigments. What are the characteristics

Legal Notice Town of Wethersfield Planning and Zoning Commission Virtual Meeting Via Zoom

The Wethersfield Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a virtual public hearing on Tuesday, March 1, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

Because of Covid-19 concerns, this will be by virtual and/or phone conferencing. Please check the Town of Wethersfield website for the live stream link prior to the meeting, to hear and be heard on the following applications:

3005-21-Z Lucas Kyriakos seeking a Special Permit in accordance with Section 5.2 (Permitted Uses) of the Wethersfield Zoning Regulations for Outdoor Music/Entertainment to amend Application No.'s 1700-10-Z, 1723-10-Z, 1857-15-Z & 1896-16-Z at 222 Main Street.

3008-21-Z Stefan & Cara Crespo seeking a Special Permit in accordance with Section 3.5.1.B.1 (Vehicular Storage) of the Wethersfield Zoning Regulations to park a snowmobile trailer in the driveway at 15 Crest Street.

3011-22-Z JPL Transportation seeking a Special Permit in accordance with Section 5.3 (Accessory Uses & Structures) of the Wethersfield to park a box truck at 61 Arrow Road.

3012-22-Z Leonardo Gugliotti seeking a Special Permit in accordance with Section 5.6 (Exceptions for Business Redevelopment) of the Wethersfield Zoning Regulations for a change of use from retail to a cosmetology school at 657 Silas Deane Hwy.

Planning and Zoning Commission
Denise Bradley
Duly Authorized
Dated at Wethersfield, Connecticut,
this 1st day of February 2022.

020322

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD

The Town Council of the Town of Wethersfield will hold a Virtual Public Hearing on **Monday, February 7, 2022** at 7:00 p.m. from the Town Council Chambers, 505 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield, Connecticut for the following:

CHAPTER 116 - PEDDLING AND SOLICITING, ARTICLE III - PROTECTION OF PUBLIC ORDER AND PEDESTRIAN AND VEHICULAR TRAFFIC SAFETY FROM AGGRESSIVE OR UNLAWFUL SOLICITATION OF ALMS

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

Dated at Wethersfield, Connecticut this 31st day of January, 2022.

Susan I Schroeder, Town Clerk

020322



What's Happening Wethersfield?

Send us your news!

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

Silas Deane Middle School First Trimester Honor Roll

Grade 7 General Honors: Abdelaziz Abubaker, Ethan Aiello, Alexis Aponte, Adriel Augustin, Tristan Bass, Gracie Calderone, Bryce Christian, Hailey Conashevick, Allison Crossen, Kayden Dillon, Jose Espirito Santo, Joshua Evans, Luis Feliciano, Arianna Florea, Tessa Fortuna, Alastair French, Emily Fuller, Jamie Fuschi, Conner Gagliano, Nicholas Galatie, Isaiah Gamble, Leticia Gil, Samuel Gilbert, Malena Gugliotti, Kyleigh Harrison, Madeline Ignaffo, King Johnson, Chloe Kelliher, Maddison Kelly, Christopher Knapp, Gianna Kovach, Luke Lagosh, Luca Lamenza, Juliana Levy, Charles Logan, Breon Lurry, Elizabeth Maltese, Samuel Martin, Julianna McGrath, Jake Melillo, Atticus Mitchell, Bianca Mollica, Ajla Muminovic, Cayden Munsell, Elliot Nash, Yucala Nash, Sophia Noli, Alexa Nunez, Abigail O'Connell, Gillian O'Donnell, Alexander-Ortiz, Annabelle Ortiz, Jonah Phillips, Ethan Povey, Ephram Powers, Rafael Ramirez, Obama Riley, Alyssa Rodriguez, Anthony Sanseverino, Eliana Sipala, Amelia Slemmer, Edwin Snyder, Leart Tahiri, Morgan Tracy, Kelly Williams, Samantha Wodecki, Rowena Wojeck Walsh.

ny, Riley Carreiro, Julia Cartiera, Caroline Cheever, Jilian Cianfaglione, Eliana Cicero, Andrew Corwin, Matthew Corwin, Brayden Courtemanche, Abram Cowles, Ethan Crowell, Emma Cruz, Gabriella Deda, Giulia DiCenso, Dylan DiCioccio, Olivia DiMartino, Luca DiPaola, Joseph Domingo, Alexandra Estrella, Molly Failla, Nicholas Feliciano, Alison Figueroa, Marco Fortuna, Austin Freund, Jenna Fuschi, Mireya Garzon, Madelyn Gaulin, Ariana Giachello, Siena Giangrave, Tyler Giangrave, Ava Gill, Luke Gilligan, James Godbout, Lily Gomez, Jayla Gray, Brianna Grazlavich, Matthew Gregorski, Grace Grzymajlo, Zachary Hahn, Cara Hart, Aurela Jashari, Alisa Kajic, Silvia Kazanxhi, Griffin Kelly, Brayden Kennedy, Siva Kent, William Kerr, Amina Korkutovic, Ismet Krdzic, Collin Kunzelman, Ariana LaPlant, James Laufer, Sylvia Lin, Chang Liu, Violet Lenski, Michael Lopes, Evan Mainville, Isabella Manning, Murat Masic, Mary Mazzone, Annika McQuin, Elliot McMullin, Ethan Miller, Raymond Milvae, Peter Mirabelli, Luca Montano, Angelina Nguyen, Haily Nguyen, Stephanie Nicolai, Lucia Novak, Jessica Ofori-Agyemang, Selma Okanovic, Chloe Ortiz, Amin Osmanovic, Samantha Pazdar, Aiden Petruck, Alessandro Pirrotta, Luke Polmatier, Kristiana Popovic, Gavin Power, Evan Quinn, Alex Reardon, Jamie Reardon, Ximena Reyes Alvarez, Brianna Rhodes, Elijah Richenburg, Emilia Rivas, Brian Rosa, Patrick Rosania, Snow Rosess, Nathan Rydecki, Ava Salemi, Nicholas Salemi, Olivia Salemi, Damian Sar-

do, Zoe Scalercio, Madelyn Scarfo, Cooper Schwartzman, Iris Serani, Nolan Shea, Rachel Sisson, Claire Smith, Augustus Spaeder, Alexis Spain, Jackson Sundquist, Sofia Symolon, Michael Taverney, Jillian Unajan, Megan Vazquez, Gabriella Vigeant, Aday-Warren, Jake Weingartner, Katelyn Wethje, Silas Willard, Anna Wyszynski.

Grade 8 General Honors: Jacob Adames, Sara Aiello, Michael Ber, Ca-son Berasi, Mark Cantwell, Cayden DeJesus, Isabelle DeVanna, Bogdan Di Cicco, Ryan Donnelly, Meldina Durie, Ester Duro, Graciana Gagne, Richard Getzewich, Kendra Graham, Liliana Gugliotti, Alexander Harrison, Brayden Jones, Tristian Jones, Olivia Kablik, Sharia Kamran, David Kerr, Jacob Klinger, Carly Laabs, Jayson Layman, Chase Lemos, Hedwin Leroux Sanchez, Terrell Manuel, Noah Martinez, Sean Millen, Caroline O'Connor, Justin Ocasio, Gabriella Parrott, Olivia Patrissi, Jeremy Quezada, Jaikob Ramos, Josiah Reyes, Angelina Rivera, Kylee Rivera, David Rosania, Maya Santiago, Stella Shurdho, Ryan Skehan, Ryan Socha, Rosa Thigpen, McKailha Thompson, Luciano Trudeau, Briana Upton, Julian Vargas, Ashlynn Vernile, Kennedi White, Fiona Xhelaj.

Grade 8 High Honors: Ramo Ahmetovic, Taylan Alacali, Madelyn Albright, Lejla Alihodzic, Emily Allen, Elijona Avdimetaj, Norah Bangs, Maya Bartley, Jessica Basroom, Jericho Beard, Luke Beasley, Klaudia Beatty, Emily Beaupre, Sara Beaupre, Charley Bellobuono, Mai-Lin Benejan, Jack Berube, Annabella Blanco, Sofia Blanco, Milena Brodowicz, Emilia Buccheri, Alana Burnell, Hannah Burstein, Emily Company, Vincent Cappelletti, Braelynn Carey, Charles Carson, Seida Cecunjanin, Sophie Centurelli, Emma Chodorowski, Ryan Clark, Owen Clarke, Cesar Coca, Jake Coelho, Arran Collins, Parker Condon, Justin Crossen, Olivia Cruz, Antonio Cuda, Dylan Cyr, Ian Daigle, Brianne Davis, Victoria DeLeon, Isabella Destefani, Dominic DiCioccio, Miranda Dominguez, Megan Doyle, Kellie Drew, Tessa Dudek, Natalie Dukes, Michael Ehrlich, Mollie Engel, Jaime Ernst, Jack Fairservis,

Madina Faizi, Maya Fanelli, Cooper Farrelly, Michael Fazzino, Manuel Feliciano, Joao Fraga, Emily Franco, Lorelei Frazzini Kendrick, Katherine Freitas, Sarena Fuss, Anushka Gandhi, Colin Gasparini, Chiara Gega, Gabrielle Gerardi, Max Gionfriddo, Mariyah Gonzalez, Ayleen Gonzalez-Rosario, Ryan Goupil, Amanda Greene, Jenevieve Haggerty, Xavier Hale, Amira Hampton, Sara Hassan, Kayla Hedstrom, Olivia Hobbs, Denisa Huric, Megan Johannes, Eliza Joyce, Caitlyn Jubac, Kylie Karanian, Manmeet Kaur, Kaylee Keleher, Jayden Khong, Hunter King, Sophia Klementon, Ella Komanetsky, Isabella Korzinski, Philip Korzinski, Brooke Kuvinskis, Grace Lara, Jacob Lis, Daniel Liu, Ava Lombardo, Dominic Lombardo, Mia Lopa, Devin Lynch, Jason Magana, Norah Majewski, Elizabeth Mann, Michael Manocchio, Justin Marin, Gabriela Maternowski, Caroline Maziarz, Jack McGrath, Joseph McKenna, Arsilzo Menga, Joseph Montalvo, Allison Montes, Gabriella Montes, Laura Moraes, Mallory Mori, Zachary Morytko, Tyler Murphy, Ari Nash, Madisen Nieves, Cristina Ortiz, Elma Osmanovic, Nathan Oszurek, Cassandra Pace, Angelina Palazzo, Reid Parker, Noah Patrei, Gabriella Patrissi, Wes Pavick, Isabella Peacock, Ella Pelletier, Kelsey Perkins, Kaitlyn Perrotta, Gabriel Pol-lar, Daniel Prado, Lily Provost, Hayden Rac-cagni, Ava Ramsey, Owen Redfield, Sophia Reilly, Helen Richwine, Gabriel Rivera, Ang-elise Rodriguez, Cailynn Rodriguez, Chlo-ey Rodriguez, Leyna Rodriguez, Ilaria Ron-dinelli, Bryanna Rosario, Sean Rosella, Jason Salgado, Ahyaan Saqib, Sophia Scheinberg, Madison Shafman, Mikaela Shepard, Nora Sipes, Eric Sitek, Cade Smith, Paxton Smith, Greyland Soter, Melvin Soto, Meghan St. Hilaire, Alexander Stevens, Alex Strickland, Thomas Susca, Albina Tahiri, Kylie Tardette, Janelly Tepi, Aaliyah Terrero, Jackson Tinker, Madison Tracy, Janelle Trujillo, Adrianna Vardoulakis, Dymond Vazquez, Madison Violette, Zeldawalsh, Avery Weaver, Catherine Webster, Madelyn Wethje, Alexander-Williams, Haley Williams, Shante Williams, Rose Witlicki, Jacob Yanosy, Matthew Yor-gensen.

Kidnapping Suspect Arrested

On Tuesday, January 25, 2022, at approximately 1019 hours Wethersfield Police Dis-patch received a telephone call from a female party who indicated that Edward Casares (DOB 10/06/1979) was in Room 131 at Motel 6 (1341 Silas Deane Hwy. Wethersfield). Casares had an active arrest warrant from West Harford Police Department for violation of Connecticut General Statutes §53-21 Risk of Injury to a Minor, §53a-94 Kidnapping in the Second Degree (2 Counts), §53a-61 Assault in the Third Degree, and §53a-181 Breach of Peace in the Second Degree.

Based on the severity of the charges and Casares criminal history, the Capitol Region Emergency Services Team (CREST) was activated to contact Casares and work to initiate a surrender. At approximately 1252 hours, Casares surrendered to CREST without incident and was then turned over to West Hartford Police Department.

Upcoming Events at the Wethersfield Library

FEBRUARY TAKE AND MAKE: COPYCAT BURT'S BEES LIP BALM

Make a soothing and hydrating lip balm out of all natural ingredients. Supplies available at the information desk starting February 1. First come first served.

LOCAL AUTHOR MATTHEW DICKS

Join us for a fun, engaging evening with local author Mathew Dicks. He is the author of such favorites as *Memoirs of an Imaginary Friend*, *Twenty-One Truths About Love*, *Something Missing* and many more. Listen to this amazing man tell his story and give a behind-the-scenes look at some of his newer books. This program will be held on Zoom Monday February 7th at 6:30 p.m. Sponsored by a partnership between Berlin-Peck Memorial Library, Wethersfield Library, Lucy Robbins Welles Library and Cora Belden Library. Register by email for a Zoom link: library@wethersfieldlibrary.org.

FOR TEENS: DIY BATH PRODUCTS

Teens join us on Tuesday, February 8th at 2:45 and learn how to make your own all-natural shampoo

bar, milk bath and sugar scrub! This program is free and open to teens in grades 7-12. Registration is required and limited to 12 participants. Teens may register in person at the Wethersfield Library, by emailing library@wethersfieldlibrary.org, or by calling (860) 257-2811.

THE WIDE WORLD OF ASTROLOGY

Most people encounter the "study of the stars" while reading "horoscope" forecasts for the zodiac signs. But there's so much more to this field - astrology examines literally "everything under the sun," with a fascinating array of specialties. Come hear Janet Booth an astrologer of 40+ years and board member of the Astrological Society of Connecticut, Inc., survey the connections between the sky and our lives on earth, and learn something about yourself in the process. You are more than just your zodiac sign! This Zoom program will be held Tuesday February 8th at 6:30 p.m. Register by email: library@wethersfieldlibrary.org to receive the Zoom link.

FOR TEENS: ANIME CLUB

Teens join us on Tuesday, Feb-

ruary 15 at 2:45 pm to watch the latest anime! This program is free and open to teens in grades 7-12. Registration is required and limited to 12 participants. Teens may register in person at the Wethersfield Library, by emailing library@wethersfieldlibrary.org, or by calling (860) 257-2811.

ZOOM PROGRAM: BLACK CITIZENSHIP IN THE AGE OF JIM CROW

Based on the New York Historical Society's 2018-1019 exhibition, this virtual program explores Black Americans' struggle for equality under the law from 1865 through WWI. Learn about both Southern and Northern roles in this dark chapter of our history as well as the Black New Yorkers' organizing and community-building in the face of discrimination. This program will take place virtually on Thursday, February 17, from 6:30 to 7:30 PM. To register, email library@wethersfieldlibrary.org.

IN-PERSON PROGRAM FOR ADULTS:

"COME TO YOUR SENSES: AROMATHERAPY 101" Discover the history and health benefits of essential oils and heal-

ing botanicals while creating a fabric aromatherapy dream pillow, a healing foot salt soak and soap, all using dried botanicals and essential oils. Relaxing music and herbal teas (aromatherapy in a cup!) add to this calming, creative experience! Presented by Kim Larkin, NAHA certified Aromatherapist and owner of Klassic Kreations. This program will take place in-person on Saturday February 19th from 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. Register in person at the Wethersfield Library, by emailing library@wethersfieldlibrary.org, or by calling (860) 257-2811.

FOR TEENS: JEOPARDY

Teens join us on Thursday, February 24 at 2:45 pm for some friendly, fast-paced competition Jeopardy-style! This program is free and open to teens in grades 7-12. Registration is required and limited to 12 participants. Teens may register in person at the Wethersfield Library, by emailing library@wethersfieldlibrary.org, or by calling (860) 257-2811.

ZOOM PROGRAM: CT'S INSPIRING AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN

The Connecticut Women's Hall

of Fame presents an interactive, multi-media program about some of Connecticut's most remarkable African American heroines. You will be inspired by the important contributions of African American women in CT including women's rights activist Maria Miller Stewart, Civil Rights activist Marian Anderson and others.. This program will take place virtually on Thursday, February 24, from 6:30 to 7:30 PM. To register, email library@wethersfieldlibrary.org.

LILACS IN BETHLEHEM: THE BELLAMY-FERRIDAY HOUSE AND THE TRUE STORY OF LILAC GIRLS

Lilac Girls by Martha Hall Kelly is based on the true story of Caroline Ferriday's work as a member of the French Resistance during World War II. The story was inspired by the author's visit to her home and garden in Bethlehem, CT. Join us as we experience Connecticut Landmarks' historic Bellamy-Ferriday House & Garden through this photo-lecture and discussion, and learn more about the real-life people behind the story! Register by email: library@wethersfieldlibrary.org

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GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS CAN HELP YOU: Take back your life. Phone 855-2-CALL-GA(855-222-5542) to speak with someone. Gamblers Anonymous is a nonprofit fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from a gambling problem. www.gamblersanonymous.org

GARAGE DOORS: Garage door installation or repair. Garage door openers installed. Please call Gary Redekas (American Excellence LLC. License #511752). 860-658-4504.

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN: Oh most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine, Splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh Star of the Sea, help me and show me that you are my mother. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly seek you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in my necessity (Make your request). There are none who can withstand your power. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to Thee. Holy Mary, I place this prayer in your hands (3 times). Say this prayer for 3 consecutive days and then you must publish this and it will be granted to you. W.B.

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).

ADDITIONS: ADDITIONS AND DECKS, custom kitchen and bathroom, custom sawn live edge lumber slabs up to 36 inches wide, www.yellowmountainconstruction.com call Nick 860-480-5552

ITEMS FOR SALE: Electric treadmill, electric bike, desk and a buffet, Please call 860-563-4087

NO JOB TOO SMALL: New or repair work. Roofing, siding, fisa boards, gutters, and carpentry. Licensed and insured. 27 years experience. Call Tim anytime 860-967-6255.

HOUSE CLEANING: At its absolute best! Family owned and operated. Residential and Commercial cleaning Any size home \$50 per visit. Every 4th visit free. We also clean offices. Vaccinated and COVID Cleaning protocol. Call Steffy at (860) 249-0462.

AOH February Food Drive

The Ancient Order of Hibernians Hartford Division 2 is sponsoring a Food Drive on Sunday, February 13 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.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 (mayo, mustard, ketchup, etc.). Everyone that makes a donation will receive a special Valentine's Day treat! 2/3/22

Charter Oak Photographic Society

The 2021/22 season of the Charter Oak Photographic Society has a new meeting location: First Baptist Church of West Hartford, 90 North Main St., West Hartford, CT 06107. The church is located near the corner of North Main and Fern Streets, West Hartford. **Please park only in lots 2 and 3, unless using the handicap space.** Entering the building: We will meet in the large brick building attached to the back of the Church. Entry is by the traffic circle and straight across from the cemetery. Only meetings on the second Monday of the month will be held in person at this time. Our general meeting and Program on the fourth Monday of the month will continue to be held via Zoom until further notice. For more information, please visit www.charteroakphoto.org or email Sue DeMaio, Publicity Coordinator at bad6829@aol.com 9/23/21

Thanks for reading the Rare Reminder.

American Heart Association
Fighting Heart Disease and Stroke

Are YOU at Risk?

Do You Know Your Numbers?

Your total cholesterol should be below 200 mg/dL.

Your blood pressure should be below 140/90 mm Hg.

Blood Pressure
140/90 mm Hg or lower

Total Cholesterol
200 mg/dL or lower

HeartStroke Briefs

For more information, call 1-800-AHA-USA1 or visit www.americanheart.org

7/2000 10-0169 12/2/21

Connecticut Horticultural Society

Connecticut Horticultural Society Presents a virtual discussion: "Untermeyer Gardens: Past, Present, & Future" with Timothy Tilghman, Thursday, Feb. 17, 7pm. The Connecticut Horticultural Society is thrilled to welcome Timothy Tilghman, who will present "Untermeyer Gardens: Past, Present & Future." The virtual discussion is at 7pm and is followed with a Q&A. Tilghman, head gardener at Untermeyer Gardens Conservancy, introduces us to this celebrated property, its recent restoration of its 43 acres in Yonkers, NY, and how it is being cared for today by the Untermeyer Gardens Conservancy. In 1899, Samuel Untermeyer purchased Greystone, the former estate of Samuel Tilden. In the 41 years Untermeyer owned Greystone, he transformed the gardens and greenhouses into some of the most celebrated gardens in America. The Conservancy was founded in 2011 and collaborates with the City of Yonkers to facilitate the restoration of Untermeyer's gardens. Untermeyer Park and Gardens is a City of Yonkers public park. The talk is free for members and \$10 for non-members. For more information or for non-members to register, visit www.cthort.org. 1/13/22

Virtual Class: Exercise and Healthy Aging

Keeping the body moving is essential to healthy aging. Join the virtual class on Tuesday, March 1 from 11 a.m. to noon and learn about the benefits of daily activities to shape physiology, exercise can be used as a tool to fight disease and age-related decline, types of exercise. Presented by Michele Boisvert, exercise physiologist, Hartford HealthCare GoodLife Fitness. GoodLife Fitness, a program of Hartford HealthCare, is geared toward the older adult to build energy, strength and endurance for an active lifestyle. An exercise physiologist works one-to-one with each person to improve muscular strength, balance, cardiovascular health and self-esteem, while reducing the risk of falls and injuries. To learn more, visit <https://hhcseiorservices.org/health-wellness/goodlife-fitness>. REGISTRATION REQUIRED: Call 1.855.HHC.HERE (1.855.442.4373) or go to HartfordHealthCare.org/VirtualClasses. After you register, you'll receive an email with easy instructions on joining the virtual class. 2/3/22

Understanding Your Grief

New Support Group begins Monday, February 28th. . Understanding Your Grief is designed to lead participants towards hope and healing. When grieving the death of a loved one, it can be hard to understand the complex - painful- thoughts and feelings. The materials presented are written by one of North America's leading grief educators, Dr. Alan D. Wolfelt, Ph.D. This ten-week program will help you understand the normal and necessary journey of grief. This cohort will meet on Mondays beginning February 28th from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at First Church of Christ, 250 Main Street, Wethersfield, CT. Questions or to register please call Caring Ministries at 860.529.1575. Printed materials are they only charge. Participants may order books at: www.firstchurch.org/grow.understanding-grief. 1/20/22

Rotary Club Scholarships

This year the Rotary Club of Wethersfield / Rocky Hill, Inc., through its Helping Hand Fund, will award a limited number of scholarships. The scholarship (while the amount is set annually) is currently \$4,000 per year with a maximum of \$16,000 over four years. These awards are available to graduating high school seniors residing in Wethersfield or Rocky Hill who will attend an accredited two or four year institution. Applicants should demonstrate a financial need, strong academic performance, and a commitment to community service. The Helping Hand Fund was founded in 1949 by members of the Rotary Club of Wethersfield / Rocky Hill, Inc. Since then the Fund has awarded over \$1,000,000 in scholarships to graduating high school seniors in Wethersfield and Rocky Hill. Further requirements and information, including an application, can be found at www.helpinghandfund.net All applications must be received so later than April 15th. Interviews will be scheduled and scholarship winners notified in early May.

Rocky Hill Historical Society

Making History Series - Who Are We? On February 16 at 7:00pm, join our Zoom panel in a discussion of the question Who Are We. We'll describe historical changes in our town, present day demographics and Rocky Hill's new Sustainable CT initiative. A period of Question and Answer will follow. Panel participants include RH Historical Society President Ed Chiucarello, Lisa Marotta, RH Mayor, and Pam Roach, RH Recycling Consultant. Email infoRHhistory@gmail.com for the Zoom link.

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 www.carshelpingtheblind.org. 12/30/15

Mason Community Breakfast

The Newington Masons have a community breakfast the first Sunday of every month! Come join us. Price is just \$10,(\$5 for children) and includes eggs, bacon, sausage, homefries, pancakes, coffee, toast & juice and the "Surprise Special". Come eat breakfast with your neighbors! The Mason hall is located at 80 Walsh Ave(behind CVS) . Breakfast is held from 7:30-11am; come in front or back door and come downstairs to kitchen. 12/2/21

Call the Rare Reminder Classifieds at 860-563-9386

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Lunch & Dinner menu
www.portofinosrestaurantct.com

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- Outside Patio Open
- Take Out

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Pizza

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Free Braille Calendars

The National Federation of the Blind of Connecticut has 2021 Braille calendars free of charge. For more information, please call (860) 289-1971 or email info@nfbct.org. 11/19/20

Virtual Coffeehouse

Call for Performers and Artists

Calling all performers and artists! Cromwell Creative District (CCD)'s third annual Coffeehouse is VIRTUAL! The event will take place online, going live on the evening of Friday, March 4. Performers: Please email cromwellcreativedistrict@gmail.com with a video performance (must be kept under 5 minutes). Please include your name, contact info and a brief bio/introduction about the group or individual performer that will be read prior to the performance. Subject line to include "Virtual Coffeehouse 2022."

Artists: Please email cromwellcreativedistrict@gmail.com up to 3 photos of artwork in .jpg format with artist name and contact information, a brief bio, and description of work (to be read while images are on screen). Subject line to include "Virtual Coffeehouse 2022."

This is a family-friendly event! Performers of all ages are welcome. Fun family videos (including pets, culinary specialties, snow sculptures, Covid activities, etc) are encouraged. Submissions of performances or art are due February 4th at 11:59 p.m. If you have any questions, please contact CCD via email: cromwellcreativedistrict@gmail.com. 1/13/22

Donate Your Car

Donate your car, truck or van and help raise funds for a local private school. Free, fast tow-away. Running or Not Running. Can be used for a charitable tax deduction. Call Charter Oak Education dba Sterling Education at 860-643-1100. 1/10/19

Fly Fishing Expo Cancelled

After much discussion, the CFFA Board of Directors has made the difficult decision to cancel this year's Fly Fishing Expo that was scheduled for Feb. 5 due to the continuing fluctuation and concerns of Covid spread. We look forward to a large gathering in 2023. We will be conducting monthly zoom meetings of topical interest to the fly fishing community.

Please consider becoming a member of to get the monthly newsletter and watch facebook for additional updates.

www.facebook.com/ctflyfish

"CFFA is dedicated to serving and promoting the pleasures and traditions of the sport of fly fishing and to conserve Connecticut's gamefish waters." 1/20/22

RH Memorial Day Parade

The Rocky Hill Memorial Day Parade will take place on Monday, May 30, at 9:30 a.m. starting at Rocky Hill High School. Anyone interested in participating or volunteering should contact: Gerry Luczak (860) 721 1400 or Rita Chhabra (860) 258 2772. 2/13/22

Virtual Class: How to be Aware of Your Surroundings

Precautions are necessary especially during the winter months, but keeping yourself alert during any given situation is important. On Thursday, March 3 from 1 to 2 p.m. learn how you can avoid slips, trips and falls. Presented by Lisa Murawski, exercise physiologist, Hartford HealthCare GoodLife Fitness.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED: Call 1.855.HHC.HERE (1.855.442.4373) or go to HartfordHealthCare.org/Virtual-Classes. After you register, you'll receive an email with easy instructions on joining the virtual class. 2/3/22

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Get the skills you need to get back to work. If you have a computer, you can go to school! Adult Education is offering a free Online GED program to prepare you for the GED exam. We also offer free Online high school completion classes to earn your diploma. Registration is ongoing for area residents. Call 860-343-6044 for more information. 10/21/21

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

ECO-FRIENDLY LAWN MOWING AND PROPERTY MAINTENANCE: Sickle and Scythe would like to be your new landscaping company for 2022. Fully insured, quiet and local. I use zero emissions equipment at no more cost to my clients. For a free consultation and more information please visit my website: SickleandScytheCT.com.

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ALATEEN: Part of the Al-Anon Family Groups, is a fellowship of young people whose lives have been affected by alcoholism in a family member or close friend. We help each other by sharing experience, strength and hope. The Thursday Newington Alateen is now a Zoom format. For information do to <https://www.ctalanon.org/meetings/alateen-meetings-by-town>

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- 20 Cooked Cocktail Shrimp
- Cocktail Sauce

\$60 Value! \$49.95 While They Last!
Butchery. With this coupon. Exp. 2/28/22

St. Patrick's Day

Order Early for Store-Made Corned Beef!

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We will de-bone, skin, split, freeze wrap & label

20 LBS. OF CHICKEN BREAST
ONLY \$49.95

LARGE COOKING TIME BUNDLE

- 16 Center Cut Pork Chops
- 16 Lean Tender Cube Steaks OR
- (2) 24 oz. NY Sirloin
- 16 - 1/2 Chicken Breasts
- 10 lbs. Lean Ground Round Hamburger
- 4 lbs. Lean Stew Meat
- 4 lbs. Beef Oven Roast
- 4 lbs. Pork Roast

\$219 ~~\$245 Value!~~
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Bring to room temperature, slice and eat!

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- (8) Cube Steaks
- 8 Boneless Center Pork Chops
- 16 Boneless Spare Ribs
- 2-1/2 lbs. Boneless Pork Roast
- 2 lbs. Sweet or Hot Sausage
- 8-1/2 Boneless Chicken Breasts

\$149 ~~\$165 Value!~~
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COMBO PACK #3

- (4) 8 oz. Prime Cut Filet Mignons
- (2) 10-12 oz. Rib Eye Steaks
- (8) Center Cut Pork Chops
- 5 lbs. Extra Lean Ground Round Hamburger
- 3 lbs. Beef Oven Roast
- (2) 10-12 oz. NY Strip Steaks
- 2 lbs. Extra Lean Stew Beef
- 3 lbs. Pork Roast
- (1) 20-24 oz. NY Boneless Sirloin Steak
- (8) 1/2 Chicken Breasts

\$229 ~~\$249 Value!~~
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FAMILY PACK

- 5 lbs. Ground Round Hamburger
- 10 lbs. Chicken Legs & Thighs
- 4 lbs. Country Pork Ribs
- 5 lbs. Bacon
- (1) 3 lb. Beef Pot Roast
- (1) 3 lb. Pork Loin or Chops
- 5 lbs. Hot Dogs
- 2 lbs. Extra Lean Stew Beef
- (2) 1-1/2 lb. London Broil

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- (4) 6 oz. Filet Mignon
- (2) 10-12 oz. NY Strip Steaks
- (1) 20-24 oz. Boneless NY Sirloin
- (2) 10-12 oz. Delmonicos

\$99.95 ~~\$119 Value!~~
With coupon. Prices subject to change. Exp. 4/9/22

BONELESS BUNDLE

- (4) 10-12 oz. NY Strip Steaks
- (8) Center Cut Pork Chops
- 2 lbs. Ground Round Hamburger
- (8) 1/2 Boneless Chicken Breasts/Super Trim

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\$6.00 each
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Our Own Seafood Stuffed Stuffed Sole

\$5.50 each

XLg. Stuffed Shrimp
\$6.00 each
With coupon. Prices subject to change. Exp. 4/9/22

STEAK LOVERS BUNDLE

- (4) 6 oz. Filet Mignon
- (2) 10-12 oz. NY Strip Steaks
- (1) 20-24 oz. Boneless NY Sirloin
- (2) 10-12 oz. Delmonicos

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COMIC BOOKS WANTED: From 40s - 70s comic book art also. Call Bobby 860-841-5709.

Act Out with NCTC

The Newington Children's Theatre Company has opened enrollment for their second session of Act Out classes for ages 8 and up. Each week, kids learn basic theatre terminology and skills and apply them to a one-act comedy. Beginning February 22, Fairytale Dream House will take place on Tuesdays, 4:45-6:15pm. February 26 starts Laffin' School, 10am-12pm. The final performance for both will be at an outside location April 9, 2022.

Not quite 8? Join In Performance, You're a Good Man Charlie Brown, beginning February 16. Weekly classes introduce young actors to the stage outfitting them with all of the skills needed to become part of the ensemble of their current School-Year Musical. Two sessions to select from: Wednesdays, 4:30-5:30pm, or Saturdays, 9-10am. All rehearsals take place at 136 Day Street in Newington. No experience necessary. Registration required. Visit www.NCTCarts.org for more info.

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE: Commercial/Residential. Fall Cleanups, Snow plowing, Junk removal. Lawn mowing. Home/basement/ garage clean outs, dump runs. Brush mowing. Drainage. General carpentry. Call 860-347-0509.

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Al-Anon Family Groups

Do you wish the drinking would stop? Al-Anon Family Groups can help. Phone and electronic meetings available. For information visit www.alanon.org or call 1-888-8AL-ANON (1-888-825-2666) 11/12/20

Jewish Genealogical Society

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Connecticut presents History and Geography--Tools for Eastern European Research, given by Amy Wachs, on Sunday, February 20, 2022, at 1:30 pm ET on Zoom. Researching our Eastern European ancestry remains challenging in many countries, where missing records may lead to frustrating "brick walls". This presentation will offer guidance for using the region's historical events and geography to help fill in gaps and move past brick walls to aid in determining place of ancestry, trace migration, and identify ancestors.

Amy Wachs has been involved in Jewish genealogy for over 30 years. She is Past President of the Jewish Genealogy Society of Cleveland and served on the Board of LitvakSIG, Inc. from 2014 through 2020. Amy is a retired attorney and university instructor. She taught law in Latvia as a Fulbright Scholar and in Moldova as a Fulbright Senior Specialist. Amy often speaks about Eastern Europe and Jewish genealogy topics at conferences and to local audiences.

This program is free for JGSCT members. A \$5 donation is suggested for non-JGSCT members.

For registration information, visit www.jgsct.org 2/3/22

Manes & Motions

Manes & Motions is seeking caring members of the community, age 14 and older to assist with all aspects of our program including...

Sidewalkers - are responsible for assisting with rider safety and providing support to the rider during class. Experience is not required; training provided.

Horse Leaders - groom and tack horses before class, lead the horse in lessons and care for the horse after class. Prior horse experience is required.

Barn & Facility Support - assist with a variety of tasks such as maintaining the barn, cleaning stalls, paddocks, tack or general facility repairs.

You can support your community, gain new skills, and explore career options when you volunteer at Manes & Motions!

For information call 860-685-0008; email MMVolunteerCoordinator@hfsc.org or visit www.hfsc.org 9/23/21

Meditation for Beginners

Saturday, February 5th, 10am - 12:30pm, live-streaming and in-person at Odiyana Meditation Center, 450 New London Turnpike, Glastonbury. Learn simple meditation techniques and experience the many benefits including improved physical and mental well-being. The function of meditation is to give rise to mental peace. When our mind is peaceful, we're happy. Course includes guided meditations and practical advice to carry into daily life. Everyone is welcome. Cost: \$20- no one turned away for lack of funds. Info and registration at meditationinconnecticut.org

CCD Call for Members

Do you enjoy seeing your town revitalized? Do you want to support local businesses? Are you a creative thinker? If so, then you belong in Cromwell Creative District (CCD)! CCD is a completely volunteer-run nonprofit that works collaboratively with local businesses, nonprofits, and civic groups to attract business and visitors to the historic and riverfront areas of downtown Cromwell. Whether your interest is in volunteering on a specific project, sharing creative ideas, or taking on a leadership role within the group, Cromwell Creative District has something for you! CCD currently holds meetings virtually/telephonically at 9am on the third Saturday of each month. Learn more at www.facebook.com/cromwellcreativedistrict and www.cromwellcreativedistrict.org and "Rethink How You See Cromwell!" 8/19/21

Cromwell Arts Alliance

Are you an artist or someone interested in supporting arts programming in Cromwell? Perhaps you want to inspire creativity in others through classes or workshops? Maybe you have yet to discover your hidden creative abilities! The Cromwell Arts Alliance invites you to learn more about the organization and the opportunities we support for artists of every kind, art lovers and those who just want to explore their creative side. Connect with us at www.facebook.com/CromwellArts or contact CromwellArtsAlliance@gmail.com. 11/20/14

Addiction Services

The holidays can be tough on those who have struggled with addiction. It can be a recipe for relapse between holiday stress and family gatherings with alcohol. If you have a loved one struggling with drug or alcohol use, you should seek treatment for them immediately.

Being close with family for the holidays may also have caused you to notice that they are not doing well and struggling with addiction. Take the time to talk to them, ask them what they may be struggling with, and discuss treatment. We hope everyone is having a wonderful Holiday season.

To learn more about the dangers of waiting visit: <https://www.narcononnewliferetreat.org/blog/the-dangerous-waiting-game.html>

Addiction screenings: Narconon can help you take steps to overcome addiction in your family. Call today for free screenings or referrals. 1- 800-431-1754. 1/13/22

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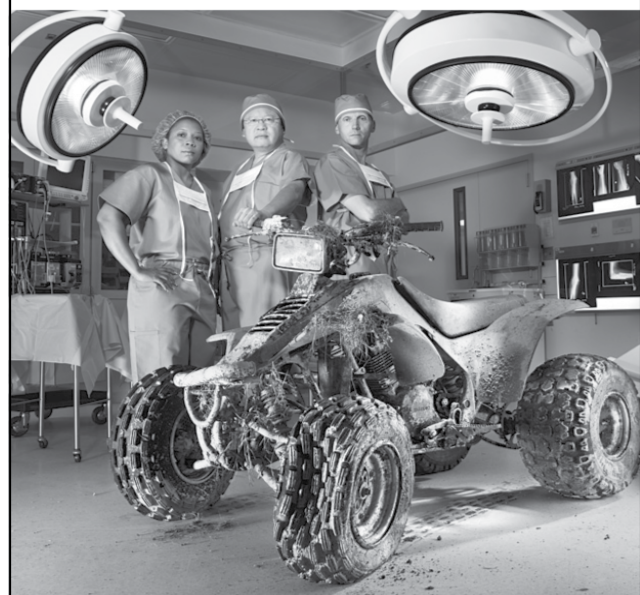
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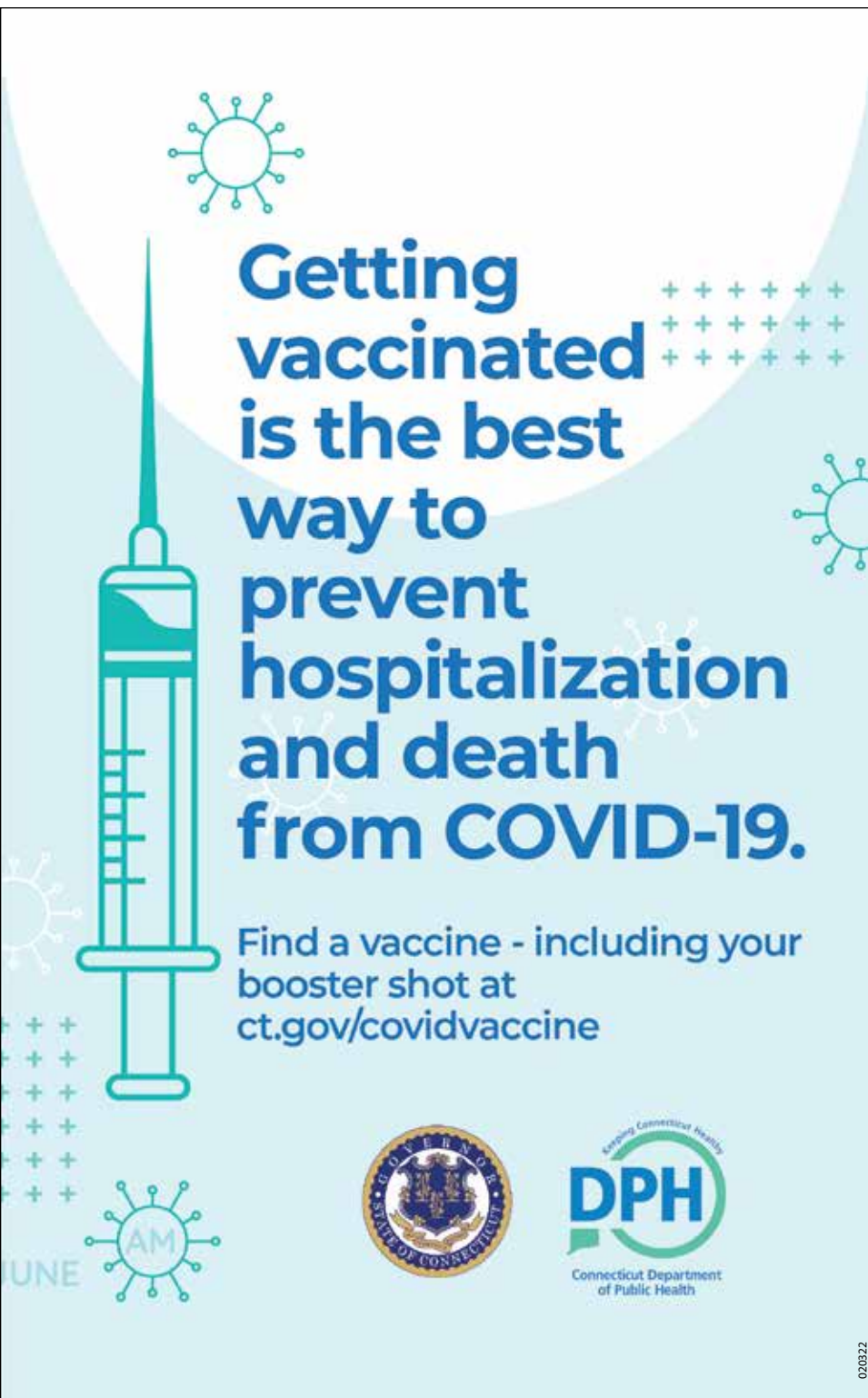
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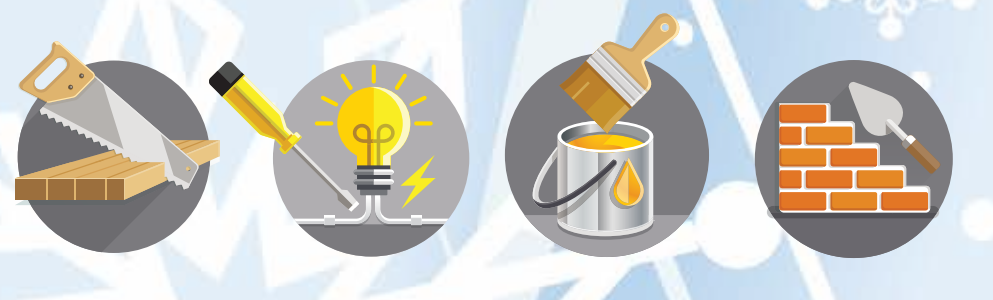
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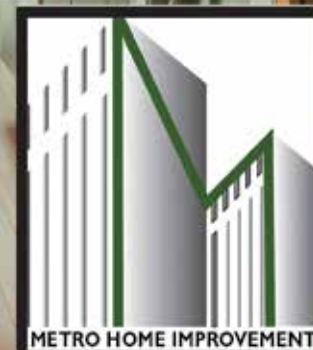
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Community Breakfast

Join us for Sequin-Level Lodge's Monthly Community Fund-raising Breakfast from 7-11 AM on the first Sunday of every month. \$10 per adult, \$5 per child under 14 years old. \$25 family maximum cost for 2 parents and their children. Enjoy a full breakfast menu of pancakes, eggs, bacon, sausage, homemade hash browns, toast, coffee, and juices, plus our monthly breakfast special.

Our Monthly Breakfast is open to the public, so bring your family and friends and have a great breakfast hosted by your local Freemasons. Proceeds from the breakfast go to support the expenses of the Lodge and the programs we do for the Newington community. While you're at the Lodge, feel free to ask a Brother to give you a tour of our Lodge room and to share with you a little about Freemasonry and what has made Sequin-Level Lodge a Newington staple for nearly 75 years.

We hope to see you there! Please note that Sequin-Level Lodge meets or exceeds all of the state of Connecticut and CDC COVID-19 guidelines and requirements for restaurants. 11/4/21

Bloomfield Toastmasters

Bloomfield Toastmasters is dedicated to improving public speaking and interpersonal communication techniques among the local and on-line community. We offer our practice, training and positive feedback twice monthly at 7pm on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays. Our transition to Zoom meetings has helped our members and guests to practice and improve their on-line exchanges in social, business and family settings. We periodically have joint meetings with other local Toastmasters clubs. For further info or to attend our next meeting, send an email to either of the following addresses:

contact-7139@toastmastersclubs.org and bloomfieldtoastmastersct@gmail.com 3/11/21

Virtual Class: Keys to Consider:

Driving and Dementia

As a senior, driving may seem like a difficult task especially difficult for those struggling with dementia. In this webinar presented by Kristine Johnson, CDP, dementia specialist, Hartford HealthCare GoodLife Fitness, she will discuss the progression of dementia, how dementia affects skills needed to drive and safety concerns. Join the class on Friday, March 4 from 10 to 11 a.m.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED: Call 1.855.HHC.HERE (1.855.442.4373) or go to HartfordHealthCare.org/VirtualClasses. After you register, you'll receive an email with easy instructions on joining the virtual class. 2/3/22

Caregiver Support Group

Caregiver Support Group is being held the second Monday of each month at 5 p.m. Please join us for educational discussions and an opportunity to learn and share with others who understand. Complimentary care is provided for your loved one during your session. A support group provides an opportunity to learn more about the different stages of this progressive disease and offers tips on ways to cope. The support group will be facilitated by Gina Smith, LPN and held at The Atrium at Rocky Hill, 1160 Elm Street Extension, Rocky Hill CT. Please rsvp to Roxanne at 860-563-5588 or email Rmagnolia@benchmarkquality.com

Virtual Dementia Caregiver Series

The Dementia Caregiver Series occurs Wednesdays: March 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Participants should select one series and are encouraged to attend all five sessions. Topics include: Session 1: Overview of Dementia; Session 2: Basics of Good Communication and Understanding Behaviors; Session 3: Safety in the Environment and How to Structure a Day with Activities; Session 4: Taking Care of the Caregiver and Care Options and Session 5: Overview of Community Resources that May Be Helpful. Presented by a Certified Dementia Specialist from Hartford HealthCare Center for Healthy Aging.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED: Call 1.855.HHC.HERE (1.855.442.4373) or go to HartfordHealthCare.org/VirtualClasses. After you register, you'll receive an email with easy instructions on joining the virtual class. 2/3/22

MXHCV Scholarships

The Executive Board of the Middlesex Hospital Vocal Chords is requesting applications for its annual scholarships to be awarded to students from Middlesex County pursuing a career in nursing or music who have been accepted at an accredited college or university. The review committee will consider academic records, extracurricular and community service activities, the student's ability to articulate his/her career goals and the recommendations of references. The \$1000 scholarships will be paid directly to the recipients at the Spring Concert at Portland High School, Saturday May 7th, 7:00 pm at Portland High School. Applications are available at the school guidance office or by calling Dianne at 860-344-0743. Deadline is Tuesday March 8th. Visit us on the web at vocalchords20.org for more information. 12/23/21

Call-in Caregivers

Support Group

Caregivers support groups provide emotional, educational and social support in a positive and uplifting atmosphere for those who care for an older loved one, particularly those with dementia. For many years, Hartford HealthCare Center for Healthy Aging has offered monthly in-person support groups at numerous senior living communities and senior centers to focus on stages of the disease, communication, strategies and family dynamics.

To observe safe social practices, Hartford HealthCare Center for Healthy Aging is hosting two call-in caregivers support groups each week led by dementia specialists and resource coordinators. The call-in groups are held Mondays, 10 a.m., and Fridays, 2 p.m. At the meeting time, participants can call 860.972.6338 and enter access code 19623#.

Participants do not need to have attended a caregivers support group in the past. Confidential discussion and telephonic assessments can also be had one-on-one with a dementia professional outside of the online group. 7/30/20

Newington Small Business Assistance

The Newington Small Business Assistance Program is established to provide financial assistance to Newington businesses and non-profits impacted by the coronavirus pandemic with 50 or less employees. The Program will provide limited, one-time grants of up to \$10,000 to eligible Newington businesses and non-profits adversely impacted by the COVID pandemic.

The Program is funded through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and administered by the Town of Newington. It is intended to help businesses, non-profits and the Newington business community become stronger and prosper.

Applications will be accepted from 8:30 AM February 7, 2022 through 4:30 PM March 11, 2022. Applications submitted prior to or after this date will not be considered.

Applications are available at <https://www.newingtonct.gov/2966/Small-Business-Assistance-Program>

Applications (and all required documentation) are to be submitted via email to jmurphy@newingtonct.gov, with "Small Business Grant Program" in the subject line. 2/3/22

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The 10 fastest growing job markets in the United States

Working professionals relocate for exciting career opportunities every day. In 2017, in an effort to determine where the most exciting opportunities may be, researchers at ConsumersAdvocate.org studied data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, focusing on metro areas that employed at least 250,000 people. The following are the metro areas that exhibited the greatest employment growth rate from January to June of 2017.

1. Jacksonville, FL
2. Des Moines-West Des Moines, Iowa
3. Chattanooga, Tennessee-Georgia (Note: The Chattanooga metro area

consists of six countries, three in southeast Tennessee and three in northwest Georgia)

4. Ft. Lauderdale-Pompano Beach-Deerfield Beach, FL
5. Oxnard-Thousand Oaks-Ventura, CA
6. Fayetteville-Springdale-Rogers, AK
7. Durham-Chapel Hill, NC
8. Harrisburg-Carlisle, PA
9. Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, Minnesota-Wisconsin (Note: 16 counties in both Minnesota and Wisconsin make up this metro area)
10. North Port-Sarasota-Bradenton, FL



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01/21/2022	14 Bow Ln	\$262,000
Bossie, Sandra; Bossie, Sandra A To Bossie, Denise C; Nuemann, Paul R		
01/20/2022	5 Court St	\$226,600
Ingraham, Christine K; Ingraham, Joshua N To Deluca, Carol; Fritsch, Kimberly		
01/19/2022	57 Field Rd	\$275,000
Corey, Laurabeth To Barry, Hassan		
01/20/2022	10 Palmer Cir	\$327,000
Osterling, Christer E To Palenski, Stephen		
01/18/2022	3 Pondview Dr	\$515,100
Buonaiuto, Nancy J; Buonaiuto, William D To Anthony, Melissa R; Anthony, Michael R		
01/19/2022	3 Shanley Ct	\$308,900
Anthony, Dylan; Anthony, Dylan B To Kola, Aurel; Kola, Eneгла		
01/21/2022	206 Skyview Dr	\$220,000
Gerardi, John To Hurd, Karen; Hurd, Karen L		
01/20/2022	2 Smith Farm Rd	\$600,000
Smith, Richard A To Bossie, Daniel T; Bossie, Natisha		

01/21/2022	64 Woodland Dr	\$121,000
Danc LLC To Kalinowski, Maciej		
01/18/2022	31 Alicia Ln	\$255,000
Amat, Joseph B To Barrett 3rd, Robert		
01/18/2022	197 Atkins St	\$390,000
Olander, Linda R To Mooney, Jennifer M; Mooney, Paula A		
01/18/2022	1 Carmela Dr	\$100,000
Spurr, Roger; Spurr, Mary L To Fiderio, John C		
01/11/2022	1705 Country Club Rd	\$450,000
Sachetti, Ronald E; Sachetti, Debra A To Richards, Lisa		
01/12/2022	425 Fowler Ave	\$225,000
New England Res Svcs Inc To White 3rd, James L		
01/18/2022	122 Front St	\$217,000
Bibisi, Lynette M To Chaplin, Jaron		
01/14/2022	118 High St	\$500,000
Pinch, William R; Saines, Jennifer A To Macqueen, Amy J; Holmes, Scott G		
01/12/2022	162 Highland Ave	\$250,000
Westbrook 3rd, Daniel E To Houde, Kaitlyn		

01/13/2022	31 Highview Ter	\$290,000
Hendrickson, Jessica To Pizarro, Francisco J; Rodriguez, Mayline		
01/19/2022	24 Laurel St	\$180,000
Lombardo, Anthony To Vestergaard, Meaghan M		
01/18/2022	48 Liberty St	\$205,000
A Carusone Properties LLC Ov Liberty LLC		
01/12/2022	6 Magnolia Ave	\$339,000
Ruiz, John M; Maldonado, Beatriz A To Dpax LLC		
01/14/2022	84 Mcdowell Rd	\$315,000
Leone, Deborah S To Rosa, Georgiana; Rosa Sr, Carmelo		
01/19/2022	8 Millbrook Rd	\$268,000
Tapia-Leon, Carlos G; Barrera, Raquel To Pincay, Sergio M; Pincay, Vanessa G		
01/11/2022	73 Millbrook Rd	\$300,000
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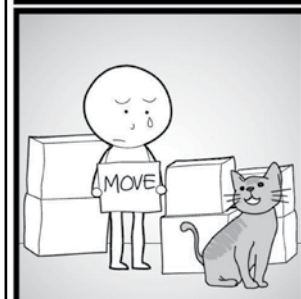
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Women and STEM

The number of women entering the professional fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) is slowly growing around the world, but there is still a sizable gender gap in these professions. According to the College Board, which produces many standardized tests, only 27 percent of all students taking the AP Computer Science exam in the United States are women. Similarly, just 18 percent of American computer-science degrees are attained by females. However, this is not the case elsewhere in the world. A paper by Gijsbert Stoet and David Geary published in Psychological Science noted that women who live in countries with traditionally higher gender inequality tend to choose STEM professions more readily. Algeria, for example, has one of the highest ratios of women in STEM professions, at 41 percent. Stoet and Geary surmise that women in these countries may be choosing careers with the strongest path to financial independence.

According to a U.S. Department of Education report, students studying science or math in college have a higher employment rate and salary than other majors after graduation. STEM majors typically earn an average of \$15,500 more annually than non-STEM majors. Engineering and engineering technology tends to pay the most. Women eager to secure competitive, stable and well-paying jobs should carefully consider the opportunities available to them in STEM fields.



PROPERTY TRANSFERS

01/18/2022 449 Newfield Street LLC To Eddinger, Janina	449 Newfield St	\$300,000
01/20/2022 Sansevero, Andrew J To HK Realty USA LLC	3 Omo St	\$305,000
01/14/2022 Greco, Grace Y To Lathrop, Matthew C	44 Overlook Ave	\$249,900
01/18/2022 Mcgill, Gladys J; Dawes, Vivian E To Eric Sabo Properties LLC	27 Prospect St	\$68,000
01/12/2022 Carlson, Scott To Garcia, Willy B; Miranda, Marisol	863 Randolph Rd	\$237,000
01/14/2022 Demerchant, David To Birdhouses LLC	322 Ridgewood Rd	\$217,000
01/19/2022 Reading Lawrence W Est; Reading, Daniel To Reading, Lawrence W; Kenny, Mary E	234 S Main St #411	\$171,000
01/19/2022 Houghtaling, Virginia D To Townsend, Katlyn A	1862 S Main St	\$290,000
Newington		
01/12/2022 Kierklo Jolanta M Est; Wisniowski, Wanda L To Gajewska, Elzbieta; Gajewski, Grzegorz	68-70 7th St	\$240,000
01/12/2022 Kierklo Jolanta M Est; Wisniowski, Wanda L To Gajewska, Elzbieta; Gajewski, Grzegorz	70 7th St	\$240,000

01/14/2022 Dilernia, Nicholas; Dilernia, Dina To Dilernia, Savino	169 Dowd St	\$145,000
01/14/2022 Pereira, Michael; Pereira, Sonya To Calero, Sandra	154 Hampton Ct #154	\$175,000
01/11/2022 Whelan, William M; Whelan, Carol A To SMG Homes LLC	1665 Main St	\$270,000
01/11/2022 Whelan, William M; Whelan, Carol A To SMG Homes LLC	1667 Main St	\$270,000
01/12/2022 Hackett, Alyssa To Severns, Erin K; Dunford, Patriel A	175 Orchard Ave	\$260,000
01/14/2022 C B Home Buyers LLC To Painter, Mairead R	70 Woodland St	\$280,000
Rocky Hill		
01/14/2022 Kowalska, Edyta A To Chakravadhanula, Dhaveji S; Chakravadhanula, D L	101 Blair Rd	\$225,000
01/14/2022 Kowalska, Edyta A To Chakravadhanula, Dhaveji S; Chakravadhanula, D L	Cliffside	\$225,000
01/19/2022 Wojtkowiak, Steven J To Roether, Sharon M	74 Copper Beech Dr	\$225,000
01/12/2022 Mundra, Amandeep S To Reyes, Maria; Lopez, Anibal	67 Sunset Rdg	\$365,000

Wethersfield		
01/18/2022 Frances Z Christie FT; Burns, Jeffrey J To Foballe, Abby L; Foballe, Mark A	Collier Farms #15	\$388,000
01/18/2022 Jones Caris S Est; Jones, Charles To Belair, Danielle N	60 Concord Cir	\$147,500
01/20/2022 724 Nott Street LLC To Villarreal, Vanessa A	724 Nott St	\$240,000

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 860-563-9386



OUR PET PAGE

ANIMAL ALLIANCE 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 you 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..

“Once you have had a wonderful dog, a life without one, is a life diminished.”
—Dean Koontz

PETS ETC ETC ETC
At Home Pet Sitting Service 860-666-2833
Mid Day Dog Walking Service

*Are your pets in need of company?
Is your home alone?*

Lisa A. Ruglio
Bonded • Insured Member Pet Sitters International

ANIMAL LOVERS: Financial help needed. Any donation is greatly appreciated and tax deductible. Out to Pasture Farm & Rescue, P.O. Box 310174, Newington, CT. 06131. www.outtopasture.org.

BABY IS A STUNNING, BROWN TABBY. She is sweet, friendly and social. Baby is easy to care for because she is affectionate but also independent. She enjoys alone time and is content looking out the window. A wonderful personality. Funny and cute! Please fill out an application on our website at www.hucatresearch.org. Call 860-479-5173 or email hucatresearch@gmail.com.

CRITTER SITTERS OF NEWINGTON: Daily/Vacation In-Home Dog/Cat Care, Overnight Pet/House Sitting. Bonded/insured/experienced. Pets stay safe, healthy & happy while you're away. Visit us online at WWW.CRITTERSITTERSCT.COM or call 860-306-2334.

ADOPT A NEW BEST FRIEND!



Rudy is a handsome, red tabby. He is very friendly and social, affectionate and personable. Rudy is six years old and declawed, a practice which is no longer recommended by veterinarians and banned in many parts of the world. Rudy does have some anxiety from it and he is on a urinary diet. He is in search of a quiet, low stress

home where he can relax and thrive. Please fill out an application on our website at www.hucatresearch.org. Call 860-479-5173 or email hucatresearch@gmail.com.



Meet Dylan and Jett!

Dylan and Jett are so bonded and absolutely adorable! This brother/sister pair born in April are sweet, curious and love to play and cuddle! They have a shy side so they'll thrive with someone who appreciates that and will help them gain confidence! They also have experience living with adult cats. To learn more about Dylan and Jett, please contact Our Companions at



860.242.9999 Ext. 302
OurCompanions.org
Helpline@OurCompanions.org

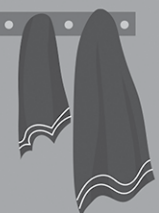


SAVE A SHELTER PET TODAY

Cold Weather Tips for Pets

Ditch the Bath

Reduce bathing frequency during cold spells. Drying can take too long, and washing too often can deplete natural oils and increase dry, flaky skin.



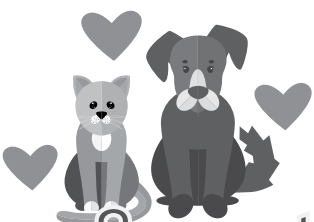
Ask a Pro

If your dog must be bathed, ask your vet for a moisturizing shampoo or rinse recommendation.



ASPCA

MUSHU IS A LARGE TUXEDO. He is also as friendly and social as can be. Mushu loves lots of attention. He is confident and loving. Mushu is good with other animals. Please fill out an application on our website at www.hucatresearch.org. Call 860-479-5173 or email hucatresearch@gmail.com.



spay & neuter awareness month



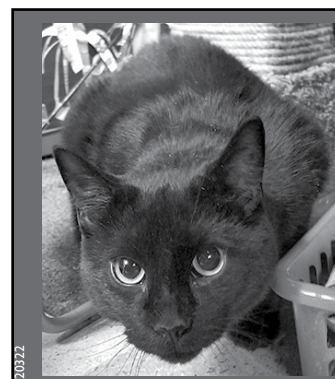
Max and Mini are a very bonded brother and sister. They are 14 weeks old. Max lost one eye from upper respiratory infection. Mini is very active and Max follows her lead.

We are asking they be adopted together.



Call AFOC at 860 693-0303.

REHOMING A PET is never an easy decision but in those rare circumstances where it is necessary to rehome a pet, do so responsibly and humanely. Adoptapet.com now has a Rehome feature to help families who have made the decision to rehome a pet. Shelters and rescue groups focus on those pets in urgent need of help and those that have been abandoned. Rather than placing your pet in overcrowded shelters, Rehome is a better option. For those families that might need help getting through a little rough patch, we recommend the retention site at <https://rehome.adoptapet.com/help-keep-pet>



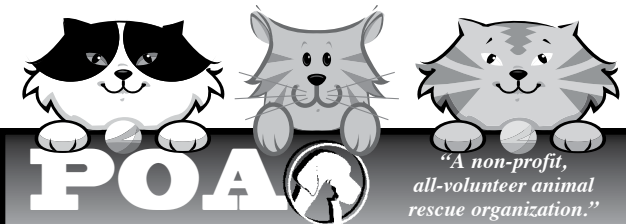
Kiki is a nice male black 7 year old cat. He is very sweet and longing to meet his new family. He can be seen at the Berlin Petsmart. Online adoption form required at www.fobac.org



Fall in Love with a Shelter Pet

There are two means of refuge from the miseries of life: music and cats.

- Albert Schweitzer



PET OF THE WEEK



Ringo, 2.5 years, seems nervous at first. But as soon as you bribe him with some treats, he perks up and grabs the crunchy morsels right out of your hand. Ringo is a big fan of scratches behind the ears and he will reward you with head butts for showing him your love and attention. He will also roll over and show you his fluffy belly too. Look closely and you can see his mixed color toe beans on his gigantic paws. If you're looking for an affectionate lap cat, Ringo is your man.

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

Petfinder

Where Pets find their People
www.petfinder.com

I want to go home



Our little Kiki is still searching for a rescue home. Kiki is a Leukemia positive kitten. She is as sassy and spunky as can be right now and she is enjoying life. The average lifespan of Leukemia kitties is three to six years old. We like to think that Kiki is too sassy for the retrovirus and will go even longer. Kiki can live with other Leukemia positive cats or other animals such as a dog or rabbit. Please fill out an application on our website at www.hucatresearch.org. Call 860-479-5173 or email hucatresearch@gmail.com.

February is National Pet Dental Health Month

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Connecticut Veterinary Center & The Pet E.R.

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American Animal Hospital Association Certified
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Windsor
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860.688.2026

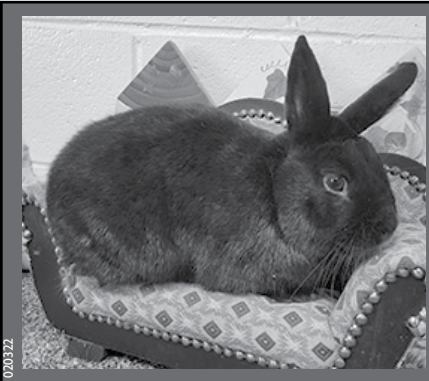
Also Serving

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88 High Road
860.229.8960

ADOPT KIT. Kit is a stunning, tortoiseshell. She was a tiny kitten when her mom adopted her. She is now eight years old and searching for a new home because her mom passed away. Kit is very sweet and personable. Please call HUCR at 860-479-5173 for details on how you can meet Kit.

FELINE LEUKEMIA VIRUS (FeLV) is a virus that attacks the immune system of a cat. It is not a form of cancer, but a retrovirus that affects the immune system. About 70% of cats who encounter the virus are able to resist infection and eliminate the virus on their own. The cats that don't eliminate the virus will test positive for the antigens. Feline leukemia is a disease that only affects cats -- it cannot be transmitted to people, dogs, or other animals. FeLV is passed from one cat to another through saliva, blood, and to some extent, urine and feces. The virus does not live long outside the cat's body. Only 3% of house cats test positive for FeLV. Keeping your cat indoors and away from infected cats is a sure way to prevent them from contracting FeLV. Cats with FeLV can live normal, happy, healthy lives, though they may have a shorter life expectancy. Their immune system is compromised and anemia and lymphoma may develop. Historically, cats with this disease have been euthanized as soon as they are diagnosed. But, most rescue groups now believe that these cats are equally deserving of adoption, love, and care and should be humanely euthanized when the disease shows dominance over their immune systems. A message from HUCR

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!



Kiwi is a nice male, black satin bunny. He comes with complete set up (his cage on wheels). An adoption donation is requested.

Online adoption form required at www.fobac.org



FIGARO IS A SEVEN MONTH OLD teenager. He is a little shy at first but can't resist playing and having fun after a while. He is all black and very handsome. Figaro is good with other cats. Please fill out an application on our website at www.hucatrescue.org. Call 860-479-5173 or email hucatrescue@gmail.com.

ADOPT A BARN CAT. We have several beautiful barn kitties available that were recently rescued from an unwelcoming, dangerous area. These working cats make friends easily with farm animals. They are also excellent in warehouses and greenhouses. The property owner's responsibility will be to provide daily food/water, protection from the elements, and long-term vet care. After a short period of secure confinement, the cats will accept your barn as their new home and clean up the place of any rodents. Please fill out an application on our website at www.hucatrescue.org. Call 860-479-5173 or email hucatrescue@gmail.com.

Want your pet to be featured in our pet page section as the Pet of the Week?

Email us a photo of your pet or pets, with his and/or her name AND your name (the owner) to: sales@rarereminder.com

Mailing address: P.O. Box 289, Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Although we love all of your entries, due to quantity received, there is no guarantee your pet will be put in the paper. Photos mailed in cannot be returned. Our apologies. -The Rare Reminder, Inc.

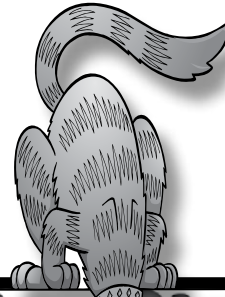


Just rescued! Beautiful, little Boogie is a one year old girl. She is easygoing and carefree. She is going to the vet this week and will be up for adoption. She is happy to be in her foster home and very receptive. A little princess. Please fill out an application on our website at www.hucatrescue.org.



Call 860-479-5173 or email hucatrescue@gmail.com.

You can keep a dog; but it is the cat who keeps people, because cats find humans useful domestic animals. - George Mikes



PET OF THE WEEK

ADOPT A SHELTER PET

You can publish a Memorial for your pet on our PET PAGE

Your announcement would include a photo, pet name and up to 50 words. Your cost, \$10.00



Make check payable to Rare Reminder, Inc. and send to: Rare Reminder, Inc., P.O. Box 289, Rocky Hill, CT 06067, ATTN: Pet Section Memorials (photo cannot be returned)

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Our People Are **Jean & Rusty**



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DUMP RUNS BY RICH: Attics, basement, garages. I clean out everything but your wallet! Senior Discount. Ask about my dumpster on wheels! Call Rich 860-881-4745.

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FAMILIES ANONYMOUS: A fellowship of people whose lives have been affected by the use of drugs or alcohol of a relative or friend. Meetings held every Thursday at 7:30pm at the Congregational Church of South Glastonbury, 949 Main St. Room #211. For information call 860-748-9715.

JUNK REMOVAL: Don't need a Dumpster, just a Quick pickup? One item or a truck load. Quick, neat, Reasonable. Gregory's Hauling 203-235-6210.

ST. JUDE: Thank you again for answering my prayers. Publication promised M.L.N.

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Or you can simply call during normal business hours – 860-563-9386.

We're available Monday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Tuesday to Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Friday, 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

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NORTHWEST CHILDREN'S CENTER CROMWELL: Assistant Teacher Mon-Fri 2:30 -5 pm Must have credits in ECE/Elementary Ed. or be a Matriculated student in ed. Call Suzanne 860-635-3485 or email suzrutner@aol.com

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SEEKING EMT'S: Newington Volunteer Ambulance is currently seeking EMTs to fill open positions. If you're a certified EMT-B or EMTIntermediate 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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SPORTS CORNER

Eagles Basketball Falls to NWC, Rebound on the Road

by Josh Howard

Northwest Catholic used a 16-0 run in the first quarter to take an early lead and never looked back as the visiting Lions defeated Wethersfield girls' basketball 58-44 last Tuesday, Jan. 25 at WHS.

NWC seniors Morgan Murphy (23 points) and Brianna Lebrun (19) did a majority of the scoring damage. The duo combined to score all 25 of the team's first quarters points.

"What has frustrated me to this point is that we are usually able to take away a team's best player, but it's been the opposite against us this year," said Wethersfield head coach Jeff Russell. "Every team's best player has had their best night against us. Our scouting report that we give is not appearing on the court."

Trailing by 17 after the first, Wethersfield chipped away at the deficit several times but couldn't get any closer than seven points.

Mackenzie Mori came off the bench to lead the Eagles with 11 points, including seven in the second quarter as the home team outscored the visitors 17-10. Mori led a 9-point run in the quarter, hitting a floater and knocking down a three-pointer on back-to-back possessions. The run narrowed the gap to 30-23, which was the closest they would get the rest of the night.

In an effort to get the ball out of the hands of Murphy and Lebrun, Russell used a press from the onset, rotating in several players and digging deep into his bench.

"We wanted to force them to play fast because they really struggle to play



Wethersfield's junior guard Vanessa Venditti passes the ball during the Eagles 58-44 loss to NWC on Jan. 25.

fast, but if you don't do the second half of it which is have a body on the post it doesn't matter how fast you get them to play," said Russell, who watched Lebrun torch his team for 16 point in the first quarter. "If you don't have a body on her, she is going to get an offensive rebound and score. They killed us with that and they killed us from the foul line tonight."

Missed layups and turnovers doomed the Eagles in the second half.

Northwest Catholic sophomore Maeve Rushin, who is the daughter of Connecticut basketball legend Rebecca Lobo, scored eight of her 10 points in the second half to secure the vic-

tory.

Russell's deep rotation allowed nine Eagles players to breaking into the scoring column but the team could only muster a total of 19 points in the second half.

Vanessa Venditti, who scored eight in the first half, received a lot of attention defensively and was limited to two points after the break.

Russell said Venditti has done well as the primary scorer and the team is still searching for a secondary scorer to alleviate some of the pressure.

"We have a lot of kids that work really, really hard but what we lack are pure basketball players," added Russell. "What we've gotten away with in the past is be-

Eagles played much better on the defensive end, allowing only 33 points the rest of the way.

A young bench, featuring Mori and fellow sophomores Avery Ford and Sophie Adams, brought some much needed energy to the court.

Ford was a force defensively, coming up with several deflections which started transition opportunities for Wethersfield.

Russell said Ford does a lot more right than wrong and has a high IQ for an underclassman, "A few games ago she stepped in and played phenomenal for us against Windsor and really led the comeback to give us a chance."

Prior to the Northwest game, the Eagles were coming off a convincing win over Rocky Hill (65-30) and a hard-fourth loss against powerhouse Windsor. Venditti combined for 40 points in the two games, including canning a half dozen three-pointers against Windsor.

Russell added that the team has to find other ways to win this year. The sixth year coach had a championship-worthy team in 2020 that was preparing to play in the Class L quarterfinals prior to the COVID-cancel-

lation. Russell said this season's team differs from that 2019-2020 team, which featured three all-conference players.

"Our schedule is based on what we did a few years ago. We've faced two top-ten teams this year and our players are being tasked with some incredibly difficult stuff," said Russell.

His goal is to have the team play disciplined defensively and hopefully create easy buckets on the offensive end.

Following the loss to NWC, the Eagles responded with back-to-back road games against Berlin and Rockville, bringing their record to 7-5.

Defense was the catalyst in the wins, holding the teams to 28 and 29 points respectively. Venditti combined for 24 points in the two wins, including going 4-4 from behind the arc in the win over Rockville.

The Eagles return to WHS this Friday, Feb. 4, for an important Central Connecticut Conference tilt with Middletown. The game tips at 6:45 p.m.

Questions or comments? Email joshhowardsports@gmail.com or follow on Twitter @RareReminderJH

Eagles Freeze Terriers on Ice



Shane Mazur will be one of eight Wethersfield ice hockey seniors recognized for Senior Night on Saturday, Feb. 5, when the Eagles takes on South Windsor.

by Josh Howard

Wethersfield ice hockey defeated co-op Rocky Hill/Middletown/Plainville/Haddam/Killingworth, 4-1, on Jan. 26 at the Newington Ice Arena.

It was the Eagles fourth straight victory, improving their record to 8-2-2 overall.

Colby Quinn scored a pair of goals, while Will McCarter and Jay Socha each lit the lamp.

After falling behind 2-1, the Terriers cut the deficit in half late in the first period when Brody Davidson scored off an assist from Owen Davidson.

Wethersfield freshman keeper Owen Thulen, who was making his first start, kept the net clean the rest of the game to earn the victory.

Two years ago, Wethersfield and Rocky Hill were teammates on the ice, combining

with Plainville and Middletown to create a co-op team that was on the cusp on doing something special.

The 2019-2020 squad won 17 of 20 regular season games and advanced to the quarterfinal of the Division II tournament when the local sports world was shut down due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The rest of the tournament was canceled, leaving the co-op team with only "what ifs."

The following season, Wethersfield decided to have a standalone team, leaving Rocky Hill, Plainville, and Middletown to join forces with Haddam and Killingworth.

Next up for Wethersfield is a pivotal game against South Windsor this Saturday, Feb. 5, at the Newington Ice Arena. It will be the Eagles' Senior Night where they will celebrate Quinn, McCarter, Socha, Ryan Mazur, Shane Mazur, T.J. Mayfield, and Anthony Zabielski. Face-off is 7 p.m.

The Starting Five: Local Athletes of the Week

Owen Powers - Wethersfield (Swimming): Powers won the 200 yard freestyle and was the starting engine behind the 400 freestyle relay that took first place as the Eagles held off E.O. Smith/Tolland, 96-88, on Jan. 25. The junior teamed with Colin Pace, Jack Lynch, and Paolo Pirrotta in the relay win and also took second in the 100 freestyle as the event, which took place at WHS.

Marina Perry - Rocky Hill (Track & Field): Perry finished second in the weight throw, tossing a personal-best 42-02.25 at the New Balance Games at The Armory Track & Field Center in New York. Throwing against some of the nationals best and brightest athletes, Perry also finished 3rd in the shot put with a toss of 36-02.00.

Kendall Miller - Newington (Basketball): Miller had a career-high 12 points, to along with seven rebounds, two assists, a steal, a block, and six deflections as Newington beat East Catholic 74-25 on Jan. 25. The freshman has made a major impact this season, playing over 15 minutes and averaging over six rebounds per game as the

Nor'easters enter the week with a record of 14-1.

Jaden Wynn - Cromwell (Indoor Track): Wynn, a junior, broke the school record in the 55 meter dash, running a 6.75 and losing by a nose to Ellington senior Vincent Sivo at the Shoreline Coaches Invitational on Jan. 28. Wynn and fellow junior Mike Anderson, who finished fifth overall with a time of 7.03, were the only teammates to place top five during the event at the Floyd Athletic Center in New Haven.

Tyah Pettaway - Middletown (Basketball): Pettaway scored 39 points last week as the Blue Dragons picked up a huge win over Simsbury (54-49) on Jan. 25 and a victory over Conard (47-26) on Jan. 28, extending the team's winning streak to four games. The senior guard is averaging 19 points and four steals a game for a team that has won 11 of 13 games this winter.

To nominate someone as an Athlete of the Week or with questions or comments on sports-related topics, email Josh Howard at joshhowardsports@gmail.com

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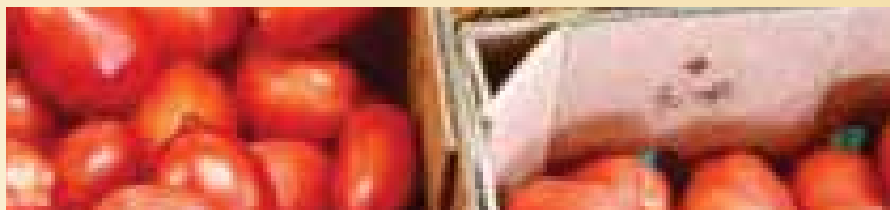
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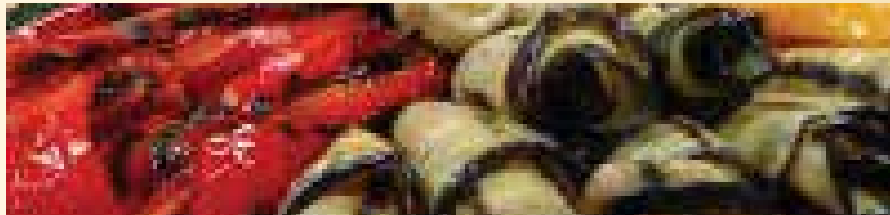
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