



# Rare Reminder, Inc.

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Vol. 71, No. 5 February 1, 2024

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## Newington/Wethersfield Woman's Club Scholarships

For Women who are CT residents in their junior or senior year of college matriculating for a Bachelor post-graduate degree. Who is eligible: Connecticut women who are pursuing courses of study in an accredited college or university. Applicants must have completed at least two or more years of study with a minimum of 3.0 GPA and are matriculating for a bachelor's or postgraduate degree. The application is the same for both scholarships and is available at [gfwcct.org](http://gfwcct.org). Completed applications including general and personal information, financial statement, instructor/employer references, official transcript of at least the most recent two years of undergraduate or graduate work must be received by the GFWC-Newington/Wethersfield Woman's Club by February 26, 2024 or before for us to review and forward your application which must be received by the GFWC/CT sponsoring club's Scholarship by March 10. Contact information: if you have any questions about the scholarships application you may contact by email: [perlyreg1@gmail.com](mailto:perlyreg1@gmail.com) or [chylene.pender@yahoo.com](mailto:chylene.pender@yahoo.com)

## CT DoAg Website for Farmers

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture (CT DoAg) announces the launch of a new website, [CTFarmStressRelief.com](http://CTFarmStressRelief.com), a compilation of mental health resources for those who make Connecticut's agriculture industry work, including a free and confidential 24/7 crisis and support line through AgriStress Helpline Connecticut. The line is staffed by agricultural specialists who can be reached by calling or texting 833-897-2474.

## Newington Fundraising Program

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

## AARP Free Tax Prep Assistance

AARP Tax-Aide, a free program, provides income tax preparation assistance for low and middle-income taxpayers of all ages, with special attention to those 60 and older. If married, both husband and wife should be present during an income tax counseling session. Taxpayers must bring all information and documents received that apply to their 2023 income taxes, including copies of all 2023 state/federal income tax forms; all income reports (1099 Forms) received for pensions, social security, interest/dividends, wages or any other income; all documents that relate to deductible expenses, social security numbers and identification for all household members. The Wednesday sessions will commence on January 31 and end on April 10, 2024. Counselors will assist taxpayers only on those topics for which they have been trained and the program permits. Where tax returns are outside the scope of their training, counselors will refer taxpayers to a paid tax preparer. Interpreters are not on location for assistance. To schedule an appointment with a certified Tax-Aide counselor call the Wethersfield Social & Youth Services office at 860-721-2880. If Wethersfield Public School classes are cancelled due to the weather, the Tax-Aide session is to and a new appointment must be obtained.

## The Women's Club of New Britain Feb Meeting

The Women's Club of New Britain will meet at 2:00 PM on Thursday, February 1, 2024. The meeting will be at the First Congregational Church, 830 Corbin Ave. New Britain, CT. The name of the program is: "SNOW LEOPARDS". Dr. Richard Benfield, a professor from CCSU, will present a summary of his almost 20 years in snow leopard research, beginning with a detailed exploration and rarely seen pictures of the mystical Snow Leopard. Following the program, coffee, tea and cookies will be served. Guests are welcome to attend for a \$10.00 fee. New members from The Greater New Britain Area are welcome to join the club.

## Wethersfield Men's Garden Club FREE Lecture

The Wethersfield Men's Garden Club will host a free public lecture on Feb 26 at 7pm in the Pitkin Community Center at 30 Greenfield St. Club member and CCSU Professor Richard Benfield will present his observations. As we move into the twenty first century the role of humans in the environmental stem is becoming more and more important. The role of a biogeographer understanding ecological systems involving flora and fauna in all the worlds biomes becomes paramount. This talk will look at one year in the life of a practicing biogeographer in places like the Arctic, Antarctic, Australia and Yellowstone.

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With coupon. Prices subject to change. Exp. 3/30/24

**FILET MIGNON SPECIAL**  
(6) 8 oz. *OR* (8) 6 oz.  
**\$99<sup>95</sup>** ~~\$109 Value!~~

With coupon. Prices subject to change. Exp. 3/30/24

### COMBO PACK #3

- (4) 6-8 oz. Prime Cut Filet Mignons
- (2) 10-12 oz. Rib Eye Steaks
- (8) Center Cut Pork Chops
- 5 lbs. Extra Lean Ground Round Hamburger
- 2 1/2 lbs. Beef Oven Roast
- (2) 10-12 oz. NY Strip Steaks
- (1) 20-24 oz. NY Boneless Sirloin Steak
- 2 lbs. Lean Stew Beef
- 2 1/2 lbs. Pork Roast
- (8) 1/2 Boneless Chicken Breasts

**\$259<sup>00</sup>** ~~\$289 Value!~~

With coupon. Prices subject to change. Exp. 3/30/24

### BONELESS BUNDLE #2

- (4) 10-12 oz. NY Strip Steaks
- (8) Center Cut Boneless Pork Chops
- 2 lbs. Ground Round Hamburger
- (8) 7-9 oz. Boneless Chicken Breasts

**\$109<sup>95</sup>** ~~\$119.95 Value!~~

With coupon. Prices subject to change. Exp. 3/30/24

### SUPER FREEZER BUNDLE

- 4 lbs. Ground Round Hamburger
- 2 lbs. Lean Stew Meat
- 2-1/2 lbs. Beef Pot Roast
- (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

**\$159** ~~\$175 Value!~~

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## Valentine's Day SPECIAL

Please Call Ahead; Order by 2/10/24  
• 4 Large Stuffed Shrimp  
• (2) 6 oz. Filet Mignon  
• 20 Cooked Cocktail Shrimp  
• Cocktail Sauce  
**\$60 Value!** **\$49<sup>95</sup>** While They Last!  
With this coupon.

**St. Patrick's Day**  
Order Early for Store-Made Corned Beef!

### 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<sup>00</sup>** ~~\$245 Value!~~

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### CHICKEN GALORE

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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

**\$169<sup>95</sup>** ~~\$189 Value!~~

With coupon. Prices subject to change. Exp. 3/30/24

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- Cold Cut, Cheese & Pepperoni or Shrimp Cocktail Platter
- Italian or Swedish Meatballs
- Sausage & Peppers

Make your big game party a success... **ORDER NOW!**

### 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

**\$129<sup>95</sup>** ~~\$145 Value!~~

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# What's Happening

# Rocky Hill & Cromwell?

Send us your community news!

E-mail [editor@rarereminder.com](mailto:editor@rarereminder.com) or  
call 860-563-9386 to submit news, photos,  
announcements or any upcoming events.

## Town To Hold Clinic For Multiple Vaccines

**CROMWELL** - A seasonal vaccination clinic will be held Wednesday, Feb. 7 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Town Hall gymnasium, 41 West St. Vaccines available include seasonal influenza, Covid-19 boosters, pneumonia, shingles, T-DAP and RSV.

Participants must be at least five years of age and in good health. Residency is not required.

The flu vaccine is free with most insurances; please bring your insurance card. There will be a limited supply of flu vaccine for those without

insurance.

Insurance is required for all other vaccines.

No appointments are required; people will be taken on a first-come, first served basis.

Masks are optional.

Please bring a completed content form available at [www.cromwellct.com/health-department](http://www.cromwellct.com/health-department).

For additional information, please call the Cromwell Health Department at 860-632-3426.

## Chorus Accepting Applications For College Scholarships

The executive board of the Middlesex Hospital Vocal Chords is accepting applications for its annual scholarships to be awarded to students from Middlesex County graduating seniors pursuing a career in nursing or music.

Applicants must 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 \$1500 scholarships will be paid directly to the recipients at the spring concert at Portland High School, Saturday, May 4 at 7 p.m.

Applications are available on our website, [vocalchords20.org](http://vocalchords20.org), or at your school guidance office. Applications must be submitted by March 15.

## Serve Your Community in Rocky Hill's New Affordable Housing Committee

The Town of Rocky Hill is seeking applicants to join its new Affordable Housing Committee!

Rocky Hill has been swept up by the same forces that have made affordable housing a crisis across the state. Just under 5% of our homes were classified as affordable in 2022. This is both a challenge and an opportunity for the town, since growing affordable housing also serves the Town's sustainability goals. By growing the stock of affordable housing in Rocky Hill, we can support our neighbors who spend a disproportionate amount of their income on rent, thereby reducing the ability to afford life's other expenses (food, utilities, transportation, and medical care, to name a few). Done right, affordable housing can offer energy-efficient places to live located near public transportation and can help encourage more walkable communities. Our children, our parents, our first responders, family and friends

can all have more housing opportunities.

To help build our affordable housing stock, the Town of Rocky Hill has created an Affordable Housing Committee that will advocate and oversee the town's affordable housing efforts, educate the community about affordable housing, and raise awareness of what the Town is required to do. The Town seeks residents who have an interest in affordable housing and would be willing to help the Town implement its affordable housing plan.

Residents from any and all backgrounds are encouraged to visit the Town's website and fill out the application form under the Affordable Housing Committee tab. Voices from the community who have never served on a board or commission are always welcome!

*Derek Caelin*

*Chair, Sustainable Rocky Hill Task Force*

## Creative District To Host Annual Coffeehouse Event

**CROMWELL** - The Cromwell Creative District (CCD) will hold its fifth annual coffeehouse event on Saturday, Feb. 24, from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Belden Room at the Cromwell Public Library.

The event will include live performances by local talent, refreshments, and raffle prizes. A fundraiser for the nonprofit, tickets are \$15 at the door (cash or Venmo accepted) or \$10 in advance (Venmo, Paypal, or check). Children 16 and under are free!

Visit Cromwell Creative District on Facebook, Instagram, or at [www.cromwellcreative-district.org](http://www.cromwellcreative-district.org) and follow the QR code on the coffeehouse poster to purchase tickets in advance and save \$5.

For anyone wishing to purchase advance tickets without paying electronically, a check may be made out to Cromwell Creative District and mailed to the Mayor's Office at 41 West St., Cromwell.

CCD is still seeking performers for this event as well. Previous years have included singers, musicians, dancers, poets, and more. Have a talent you'd like to showcase? Email [CCDcoffeehouse@gmail.com](mailto:CCDcoffeehouse@gmail.com) to request an application today.

We hope to see you there!

## RHHS Museum Seeks Volunteers

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

## Rocky Hill Historical Society

The Rocky Hill Historical Society is open on Saturdays 12:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Located at 785 Main Street in a former maritime school built in 1803, the RHHS exhibits include Native artifacts, maritime and military artifacts, and a research library. We are a small part of the past, present, and future of our town, and hope to share resources with you. Call for special appointments at (860)563-6704. Cheers to all in 2024!

## Covenant Living Tag Sale

Covenant Living of Cromwell will hold their first Tag Sale of the new year, on Saturday, January 27th, from 8:30 AM to noon. Please enter at 101 West St. and follow the signs. Our Resale Shop is stocked with bargains galore - dinnerware sets, pewter items, lovely jewelry, and a variety of linens and home goods. All are priced to please you. The Furniture Garage is closed. Come shop, buy, and save money! See you there!

Thank you for reading the Rare Reminder.

Visit us online at [www.rarereminder.com](http://www.rarereminder.com)

## Pet Supply Drive

Local residents and associates from The Residence at Ferry Park senior living community in Rocky Hill, CT ([www.residence-ferrypark.com](http://www.residence-ferrypark.com)) are hosting a Pet Supply drive to help local furry friends. All donations will benefit the Rocky Hill Human Services Food Pantry.

The Residence is accepting donations of dog & cat food, treats, toys, and grooming tools. Now through February donations can be dropped off inside the residence lobby, located at 60 Cold Spring Road, Rocky Hill, CT.

The Residence at Ferry Park offers Assisted Living and Memory Care living options to area seniors, along with an extensive array of amenities and services for residents.

For further information, visit [www.residenceferrypark.com](http://www.residenceferrypark.com) or call 860-575-3644.

## Area Vocal Group Seeks New Members

The Middlesex Hospital Vocal Chords, under the direction of Samuel Tucker and accompanied by a 10-piece orchestra directed by Alan Dougherty, is looking for a few good men/women to enhance their growing tenor and bass sections. No auditions, no experience necessary, just a love of singing and a willingness to make a commitment to the Vocal Chord family.

Rehearsals begin Tuesday, Jan. 16 from 6:45 to 9 p.m., St. Francis Church, Msgr. Fox Parish Hall, 10 Elm St., Middletown for our upcoming spring concert on Saturday May 4 at Portland High School. New members will be accepted through Feb. 4.

This community-oriented group has been entertaining audiences for 34 years with lively concerts showcasing a variety of musical interests. These include the top hits of yesterday, today and tomorrow, plus some classical and patriotic pieces to help promote our mission to lift spirits, relieve stress

and heal souls through music. Currently, our 90 members hail from all parts of Connecticut and all different walks of life. It's the love of singing that brings us all together. You do not need to be affiliated with Middlesex Health in order to join.

Proceeds from the concerts and our annual patron drive are given back to the community in the form of scholarships given to Middlesex County seniors planning on majoring in nursing or music. To date, the Vocal Chords have awarded \$82,500 to area students thanks to our loyal followers and members.

If you've been thinking about doing something this year to enhance your life, make new friends and reduce your stress levels, please consider joining our musical family. For more information, visit us on the web at [vocalchords20.org](http://vocalchords20.org) or call 860-342-3120. Also, check us out on YouTube and Facebook. We're looking forward to meeting you!

## Warm The Children Launching Winter Clothing Drive

The Middletown Kiwanis Club is gearing up for another season of providing new winter clothing for children in need. For more than 25 years, the Warm the Children program has helped families in need by providing warm clothing & footwear for our cold winter season. Warm The Children is neighbors helping neighbors.

Due to the pandemic, the last few years have brought about many changes in our communities. With rising prices for our most basic needs such as food & water, shelter, and clothing; we know that many of our neighbors will face unsurmountable odds this year. Many children of families working hard to pay rent and put food on the table, may have to go without warm winter clothing and footwear. As winter descends upon those families suffering financially, we hope to help lessen their burden by lending a hand up during these trying and still uncertain times.

This year The Middletown Kiwanis Club with support from The Chronicle, their readers and all of our donors is able to serve approximately 565 greater Middletown area children from birth through age 12, each receiving up to \$90 (\$70 if under age 4) of new winter clothing and footwear.

We are again working closely with staff at JCP's Commercial Customer Service Department devising a digital catalog from which our families will make their selections. Once the orders with their selections are processed, each families' clothing items will be shipped directly to them.

The families are referred to the Warm The Children Coordinator by public elementary and middle schools in Middletown, Cromwell, East Hampton, Portland, Regional District 13 and through some social service agencies such as Even

Start, Haddam Social Services and the Middlesex Hospital Family Advocacy programs.

Funds to pay for clothing originate mostly from individual contributors. No donation is too small. All the donation money received is used to purchase clothing and footwear, nothing is skimmed off for administrative costs as the Kiwanis Club absorbs the expenses and The Chronicle provides advertising support. Also, there is no payroll - the program is 100% volunteer.

Every year our friends and neighbors are the driving force behind our fundraising success. This season we will be able to serve approximately 565 children thanks to the donations we received throughout the past year.

This year's fundraising goal is \$60,000. That amount can enable us to serve more than 300 families with approximately 650 children in total again next season. No donation amount is too small!

The Middletown Kiwanis website has information on Warm The Children and ways that you can help. Please visit us at <http://middletownkiwanis.org>.

All donations are tax deductible.

Donations can be made:

By check or money order and sent to Warm The Children, c/o Liberty Bank, Attn: Karen Wolfgram, 315 Main Street, Middletown, CT 06457.

By credit card through PayPal via our website <http://middletownkiwanis.org>.

We also participate with the annual Travelers Championship Birdies For Charity Program in May & June. The Kiwanis Foundation of Middletown will receive a 15% Bonus for every dollar raised through The Birdies For Charity program for Warm the Children.

## Town Offering Free Kits To Test Homes For Radon

**CROMWELL** - The state Department of Public Health (DPH) and the Cromwell Health Department urge residents to test their homes for radon gas, the leading national environmental cause of cancer mortality. Health official estimate that radon is responsible for more than 21,000 lung cancer deaths each year in the United States.

A naturally occurring, radioactive gas formed from the natural decay of uranium, radon is found in rock, soil and water. While radon in outdoor air poses a relatively low risk to human health, it can enter homes from the surrounding soil and become a health hazard inside buildings.

Public Health Coordinator for the Town of Cromwell, Salvatore Nesci, says, "You can't see, taste or smell radon. People are most of the time unaware that radon could be present in the home. Testing for radon and minimizing exposure by

reducing elevated levels is very important and could save your life and the lives of those we love."

The DPH recommends testing homes for radon during the winter months. It is simple and inexpensive.

Free radon test kits are available for residents of Cromwell through the town Health Department located at the Town Hall, 41 West St.

Radon Kits are available by appointment only.

For more information or to schedule an appointment to pick up a free radon test kit, please call the Cromwell Health Department at 860-632-3426 between hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

To learn more about radon and to obtain a list of qualified radon mitigation contractors, please visit the DPH Radon Program website at [www.ct.gov/radon](http://www.ct.gov/radon).

## Cromwell Native Named To Sru Dean's List For Fall 2023

SLIPPERY ROCK, PA (01/08/2024)-- Abigail Malczon of Cromwell was named to the dean's list at Slippery Rock University for the fall 2023 semester. The dean's list consists of SRU undergraduate students who earned an adjusted semester grade-point average of 3.5 or higher, based on a schedule of at least 12 newly attempted and earned credits.

Slippery Rock University is a four-year, public, coeducational, regional comprehensive university that offers a broad array of undergraduate and select graduate programs to more than 8,000 students. SRU is one of 10 institutions and 14 campuses that make up Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education. SRU is fully accredited by the Middle State Commission on Higher Learning.

Founded in 1889, SRU is shaped by its teaching (normal) school heritage. For more than 130 years, the university has embraced the same hard-working, tenacious personality espoused by the people of western Pennsylvania. With a steadfast

yet adaptable commitment to intellectual development, leadership and civic responsibility, SRU provides students with a comprehensive learning experience that helps them become engaged citizens and succeed in their lives and professional careers.

## 8th Annual Knights of Columbus Charity Bowl

The Knights of Columbus DeSoto Council (Cromwell) is hosting its annual bowling fundraiser on Sunday February 25th from 12:00 - 3:00pm at Bowl-O-Rama. This is a family-friendly event that features prizes & raffles and supports the council's many charitable works! \$20/bowler (\$15 kids 12 & under) includes 2 games, shoes, pizza & drinks. Advanced registration is preferred, please visit our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/CromwellKoC](http://www.facebook.com/CromwellKoC) for the registration form or email [cromwellkoc@yahoo.com](mailto:cromwellkoc@yahoo.com).





# 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 Fire Department Documents Busy Year

By Nicole Zappone, Staff Writer

CROMWELL – 2023 was an exceptionally busy year for the Cromwell Fire Department with their calls for service.

The department noted on social media that their run totals were 3,218, which is a total of 408 runs up from 2022.

Of the 3,218 calls, the top calls included EMS with 2,276, with MVAs at 173.

Residential and commercial alarms were at 177, while building fires, which included mutual aid response, was 11.

Miscellaneous calls for assistance were at 581. “2023 was our busiest year, with a 14.50% increase in call volume compared to 2022,” according to fire department officials.

While the department had an increase in call volume, that didn't stop them from community involvement with toy and food drives to the local pantry around the holidays.

On Dec. 21, 2023, the department announced that they had surpassed 3,100 calls for service for the year.

“That is an increase of over 300 calls from last year's total calls for service,” the fire department said. “Rest assured, your Cromwell firefighters are on duty 24 hours a day and ready to respond. We are proud to serve our community and appreciate the support of the Fire Commission, the Chief's office, and the residents of Cromwell.”

## Rocky Hill Senior Center Events & Activities

Call 860-258-2786 for information and/or registration.

### MEMBERSHIP

Are you at least 55 years old and interested in staying active and connected to your community? Become a member of the Rocky Hill Senior Center! Membership is complimentary for Rocky Hill residents and \$20 per year for non-residents. Applications may be picked up at the Senior Center or mailed by request. Meet new people, experience a wide variety of recreational activities and enhance your quality of life!

### MOVIES

Join us at the Senior Center for complimentary weekly movies provided by Cora J. Belden Library! Movies are shown on Mondays at 6:30pm and Fridays at 1:00pm. Registration is not required. This week's movies include Golda Starring Helen Mirren, Zed Josef, Henry Goodman on Friday, February 2 at 1:00pm and Dumb Money Starring Paul Dano, Pete Davidson, Vincent D'Onofrio on Monday, February 5 at 6:30pm.

### SENIOR CENTER GIFT CERTIFICATES

Purchase a Gift Certificate good towards all of our senior activities, classes, special events, the fitness center...even our Lunch Program! This is a practical and perfect gift for family and friends!

### TABLE TENNIS

Interested in learning how to play table tennis! We will teach you! Drop in play on Mondays and Wednesdays from 1:00pm-4:00pm in the gymnasium. No experience is needed! Pre-registration is required.

### SPECIAL EVENTS

**THE SCIENCE OF CBD** - Friday, February 2, 10:00-11:00am. CBD seems to be everywhere these days. But do you know what CBD actually is? How it works in your body? If a product is good quality? In this presentation, Sunmed Your CBD Store (the largest brick and mortar CBD store on the world!) will help to answer your questions about hemp-derived CBD products. Free samples and discount cards will be provided for all attendees. Presentation is free but registration is required.

**BLACK HISTORY IN CONNECTICUT** - Wednesday, February 7, 1:00pm. In this program, we'll take you on a tour of items from our collection representing a spectrum of the Black experience in CT. You'll learn about a Harlem Renaissance writer, Ann Petry, who carefully preserved artifacts chronicling the black community of Saybrook. Browse through the photo album of a Hollywood actress who became a champion of labor rights for black entertainers. Program is free and registration is required. Presented by the Connecticut Museum of Culture and History (formerly the CT. Historical Society).

**LUNAR NEW YEAR** - Friday, February 9, 12:00-2:00pm. Wang Palace will provide a delicious luncheon featuring an egg roll, General Tso's Chicken, Beef and Broccoli, and Pork Fried Rice. The All Connecticut Chinese Chorus will present a show of Chinese vocal music and dance to celebrate Lunar New Year. The program includes traditional and folk music and dance showcasing ethnically diverse costumes. Cost: \$12M/\$15NM. Co-sponsor: Atria Senior Living

**SOLO AGERS SERIES - FINANCIAL PLANS, DECISIONS AND ESTATE PLANNING DECISIONS:** Friday, February 9, 10:00am-11:00am. Join Catherine as she focuses on considerations for financial planning, decision making, and estate planning as we age and become more dependent on others. Program is free but registration is required.

**HEARTS OF FIRE** - Wednesday, February 14, 12:00-2:00pm. Dress to impress for our Valentine's Day Party. Luncheon will be Lobster Bisque, Baked Stuffed Sole, Baked Potato, Broccoli and Dessert. Entertainment will feature the 6 piece band “The

Greater Hartford Society Ensemble.” Funding provided by: Music Performance Trust Fund. Cost: \$12M/\$15NM Co-sponsor: Mapleview

**PAINT PARTY - DEER IN SNOW** - Thursday, February 15, 1:30-3:30pm. Come join me for a peaceful painting of a deer in the woods. We will paint a nighttime landscape lit by the moon and a sky sprinkled with snow. That's where we will paint a sweet deer standing by a pond in a clearing. Fee includes instruction and all supplies. No experience necessary. Limited seats available. Cost: \$12M/\$15NM

**CORA'S CRAFTS - Book Folding Craft - Make a Teacup** - Tuesday, February 20, 1:00-2:00pm

Learn to fold the pages of a book to make this cute teacup. We'll add some extra touches and make a cute saucer too! In the mood for hot cocoa? It can be transformed into a steaming cup of hot chocolate with marshmallows! Let's hang out and create something together! Please call (860)258-2786 to register for these free programs provided by the library.

**BUSHNELL TOURS-TO-GO** - Wednesday, February 21, 1:30pm. Experience the beauty of The Bushnell through a virtual, interactive presentation. Trained volunteer tour guides will bring a projector to your building to show you backstage spaces, talk about the history of the venue and tell stories about their favorite shows and performers. Program is free but registration is required.

**HEALTHY AND EASY SNACK FOODS COOKING DEMO** - Thursday, February 22, 2:30-3:30pm. Join Jill Hebert, Registered Dietitian of 20+ years' experience, in a fun, cooking demo class. Participants will gain insight and learn how to cook easy healthy snacks from foods already in their pantry. The health benefits of foods will be explained and how to adjust recipes for a variety of health concerns. Strategies on how to shop on a budget will be discussed during the class. Students will have a chance to sample maple walnut energy bites and dark chocolate garbanzo bean cake made fresh in front of them. Both are tasty, healthy and easy to make. Cost: Free for members & \$5 for nonmembers. Registration is required. WAITLIST ONLY.

**BIRTHDAY BINGO BASH** - Wednesday, February 28, 12:00-2:30pm. Join us in celebrating our Members born in January & February. Birthday Members are invited to a complimentary luncheon featuring Vito's Pizza, Salad and of course, Birthday Cake and Ice Cream. Enjoy an exciting afternoon of BINGO with Birthday members receiving an extra card! Cost: FREE Birthday Members/\$10M/\$12NM Co-sponsor: Careforth

**INSTRUCTIONAL CARDIO DRUM BALL** : Work up a sweat with two drumsticks and a big ball! TONS OF FUN and a GREAT cardio workout! Improves your coordination, sense of rhythm, and works your heart at the same time. Moves choreographed to favorite tunes. Drum Ball is proven to benefit the body, strengthen heart & lungs, build healthy strong bones, improve flexibility, and increase muscular strength & endurance. Adaptable for all physical ability levels. Instructor: Wendy LeClerc. Days: Mondays & Wednesdays Dates: 2/12-3/18 (NC 2/19) Time: 12:00-12:45pm. Fee: \$45M/ \$55NM

## Siena College President's List, Fall 2023

LOUDONVILLE, NY (01/22/2024)-- Siena College names students to the President's List for the Fall 2023 semester. The President's List requires a 3.9 grade point average or higher.

Matthew Borowitz of Middletown (06457)  
Elena Cahill of Cromwell (06416)  
Brody Santagata of Middletown (06457)

## Another Year of Making Great Things Happen in Middlesex County

Community Foundation Increases Grant Awards, New Funds in 2023

Thanks to generous donors, the work of local nonprofit organizations, and strengthened partnerships forged with other funders, 2023 proved to be another successful year for the Community Foundation of Middlesex County (CFMC). The CFMC Board of Directors approved \$1,909,417 in grant awards to support nonprofit programs and services to improve the quality of life for all throughout the 15 towns of Middlesex County and beyond. CFMC was able to achieve this milestone in approved grant awards through an increase in donor support, including 14 new funds established at the Foundation last year.

CFMC extends a sincere thanks to the individuals, groups, and businesses who stepped up and put their hearts and dollars to work through the Community Foundation to help our community thrive in all areas that make a community a community. CFMC grant awards reflected a spirit of accessibility and inclusivity with funding made available to remove obstacles, provide opportunities for people with disabilities, and help neurodiverse individuals live independently. Many community members will have increased access to essential health and social services to address immediate physical and mental wellness needs, thus providing a path forward to a better future. CFMC donor support also brought the past to life by preserving invaluable archives, stories,

and triumphs, as they informed the community about local history. A love of lifelong learning was instilled among our community members of all ages by ensuring that toddlers and preschoolers have access to books, as they experienced the joy of reading at an early age, and by assisting seniors with new technologies to improve their daily lives. And tons of fresh vegetables were harvested for soup kitchens and pantries.

“We are grateful for all our wonderful donors and local nonprofits and inspired by the passion and commitment of all the good people throughout Middlesex County who are giving back to their local community in ways that matter to them,” commented Cynthia Clegg, CFMC President and CEO. “Each year we strive for a higher level of community collaboration and partnerships, and we are excited to welcome many new partners and will work together on new initiatives in 2024 and beyond.”

The Community Foundation of Middlesex County (CFMC) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded in 1997 by a group of local individuals and businesses dedicated to building community through philanthropy, leadership, and partnership. CFMC is proud to be accredited with Community Foundations National Standards™, the nation's highest and most rigorous standard for philanthropic excellence. More information can be found online at [www.middlesexcountycf.org](http://www.middlesexcountycf.org) or by calling (860)347-0025.

## Middletown Pride Announces Scholarship Fund to Benefit LGBTQIA2S+ Students

(Middletown, CT.) Middletown Pride, in collaboration with the City of Middletown's LGBTQIA2S+ Commission, is proud to announce that we are accepting applications for our first annual Middletown Pride Scholarship Program! This will be a one-time scholarship in the amount of at least \$1,000 awarded for education expenses, including tuition, books & supplies, and/or room & board.

LGBTQIA2S+ residents of Middletown, or a current or former LGBTQIA2S+ graduate of a Middletown, CT high school (Middletown High School, Mercy, Xavier, and Vinal), who is currently enrolled, or plans to be enrolled, in an accredited college or university for undergraduate or graduate studies are invited to apply.

Applications will be reviewed and selected by a sub-committee of the City of Middletown's LGBTQIA2S+ Commission, involving commissioners and community members.

Application Deadline: A complete application must be received by Middletown Pride by no later than Friday, March 15, 2024.

Announcement of Awards: Announcements informing applicants on scholarship awards will

be sent to applicants after April 19, 2024.

Presentation of Awards: Scholarships will be awarded during the Pride Rally at Middletown PrideFEST at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 1, 2024. Recipients must be present in person to accept the award.

Please contact LGBTQIA2S+ Commission staff member, Christopher Forte by phone at (860) 638-4820 or via e-mail at [Christopher.Forte@MiddletownCT.gov](mailto:Christopher.Forte@MiddletownCT.gov), with any questions.

Applications can be completed directly at [www.middletownpride.org](http://www.middletownpride.org). You can either download the form and e-mail a completed packet to Middletown Pride at [info@middletownpride.org](mailto:info@middletownpride.org), or you can apply via the online application.

On behalf of Middletown Pride, we wish you the best of luck in the application process!

About Middletown Pride – Middletown Pride is an organization in Middletown, CT, that provides resources, education, services, grants, scholarships, and holds FREE events for our local LGBTQIA2S+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/questioning, intersex, asexual, and two-spirit) community year-round.

## Twelve New Inductees into Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame

Lt. Governor Susan Bysiewicz and Department of Veterans Affairs Commissioner Ronald P. Welch today announced twelve veterans who will be inducted into the Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame as the Class of 2023 on January 25, 2024. The Hall of Fame recognizes distinguished Connecticut veterans who have made significant contributions to their communities after leaving military service.

“Each year, it is a great honor to participate in the Veterans Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and have the opportunity to be among so many brave Americans who answered their country's call of duty,” said Lt. Governor Susan Bysiewicz. “Thank you and congratulations to each of this year's inductees. I can't express enough the gratitude and appreciation we have for your service to our country, for your commitment to your community, and for all your contributions to the State of Connecticut.”

“On behalf of our dedicated staff of professionals at the Connecticut Department of Veteran Affairs we congratulate our inductees on their honorable service and lifelong accomplishments,” said Commissioner Ronald Welch. “You made a significant impact during your military service, and then pledged unwavering commitment, service, and volunteerism to our communities, including persistent, compassionate support and advocacy to our Service members, Veterans and families in our great state of Connecticut and beyond. With gratitude and in celebration, we welcome you into the Class of 2023 of the CT Veterans Hall of Fame!”

Bysiewicz and Welch will be joined by several elected officials and leaders of the state's veter-

ans' community at the Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame Class of 2023 induction Ceremony on Thursday, January 25, 2024 in the Gold Star Families Memorial Auditorium located on the DVA campus located at 287 West Street, Rocky Hill, CT. Each inductee will receive a commemorative medallion and certificate recognizing their induction.

The 2023 Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame inductees are: John Michael Chan – U.S. Army Air Force – Avon, Michael John Dalton – U.S. Army - Waterbury, Richard Guido DiFederico Jr. – U.S. Navy - Oakville, Maurice Joseph Fradette – U. S. Navy - Farmington, Michael Salvatore Gozzo – U.S. Marine Corps – Hamden

Richard Thomas Christopher LeFave – U.S. Army - Voluntown, Joseph Luca – U.S. Marine Corps - Meriden, Daniel Bernard Reilly – U.S. Air Force - Torrington, William Ford Law Rodgers – U.S. Marine Corps - Newtown, Lorenzo Anthony Santamaria - U.S. Marine Corps – Guilford

Charles Ferdinand Smith – U.S. Air Force – Killingworth, Peter Charles Tragni – U.S. Army – Waterbury

DATE: Thursday, January 25, 2024

TIME: 5:00 PM

LOCATION: Department of Veterans Affairs, Gold Star Families Memorial Auditorium 287 West Street, Rocky Hill, CT

Thank you for reading  
the Rare Reminder.





# What's Happening Newington?

Send us your news!

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

E-mail any news, photos, upcoming events or announcements to [editor@rarereminder.com](mailto:editor@rarereminder.com) or call 860-563-9386.

## Second Installment Tax Bills Must Be Paid Before Feb. 1

NEWINGTON - This is a reminder - no tax bill is sent for the second installment for the January Real Estate and/or Personal Property tax. Your January installment was included with your July tax bill. If you have misplaced the January installment, you can locate it online or call the office (860 665-8540). Supplemental Motor Vehicle tax bills will be mailed at the end of December which are for cars purchased or registered after Oct. 1, 2022.

The last day to pay without penalty is Feb. 1. All payments received on Feb. 2 will be charged interest according to CT State Statute Sec. 12-146. There are no exceptions. All back taxes must be paid prior to the new tax bills.

The tax office is open to the public and

only accepts payments by check, money order, and cash. You may also pay by mail, or drop your payment and check into the silver tax payment box located in the parking lot near the Town Hall entrance, or online [www.newingtonct.gov](http://www.newingtonct.gov). Do not pay back taxes online if you need a release to register a car with the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Taxpayers are responsible to pay taxes when they are due. Failure to receive a tax bill does not invalidate the tax, interest or fees.

Town Hall Hours: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Tuesday, 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

## Chorus Accepting Applications For College Scholarships

The executive board of the Middlesex Hospital Vocal Chords is accepting applications for its annual scholarships to be awarded to students from Middlesex County graduating seniors pursuing a career in nursing or music.

Applicants must 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 \$1500 scholarships will be paid directly to the recipients at the spring concert at Portland High School, Saturday, May 4 at 7 p.m.

Applications are available on our website, [vocalchords20.org](http://vocalchords20.org), or at your school guidance office. Applications must be submitted by March 15.

## Sperry Creek Bluegrass Band at The Buttonwood Tree

Middletown, CT: On Saturday, May 11th at 8 PM, The Buttonwood Tree presents the musical showcase of Cheshire, CT based bluegrass group Sperry Creek. Admission is \$20. Admission link: <https://bit.ly/3vuZqm8>

This concert and other TBT events brought to you by our generous donors and patrons, as well as the following organizations: Middletown Commission on the Art, Community Foundation of Middlesex County, Department of Community and Economic Development.

Sperry Creek brings fresh harmonies and instrumentation that hold true to the bluegrass genre. This five-piece band from Connecticut formed after some local pickers spent the height

of the pandemic keeping each other sane through socially distant backyard jam sessions. It didn't take the group long to realize that good sounds were happening. They soon adopted the name of a nearby creek, and the band was officially formed in the summer of 2020. Sperry Creek is made up of longtime musicians Scott Freeman (bass); Marilyn Toback-Reveley (guitar); Bill Reveley (fiddle); Corrie Folsom-O'Keefe (mandolin) and Dan O'Keefe (banjo), who all share a passion for bluegrass music. A culmination of musicians from other well known CT bands, Sperry Creek has allowed us to share our love of music with others throughout the New England bluegrass scene.

## Legislators Welcome John Wallace Funding

State Representatives Kate Farrar (D-West Hartford, Newington) and Gary Turco (D-Newington, New Britain), and State Senator Matt Lesser (D-Cromwell, Middletown, Newington, Rocky Hill, Wethersfield) welcome the allocation of \$6,277,283 for the renovation of John Wallace Middle School in Newington, approved by the School Construction Project Priority List Review Committee on Wednesday.

The funding is to demolish and rebuild the interior spaces of three wings in a new configuration of John Wallace Middle School to optimize functionality and meet the needs of 21st-century education.

One vital aspect of this project is to enhance security measures. New security doors will be installed to improve safety within the school premises. The project will also include upgrades to the HVAC and electrical systems.

"This investment is set to transform the educational experience for our Newington students and teachers," said Rep. Farrar. "I am proud to support this project to modernize our school facilities and ensure that all of Newington students have access to a safe and conducive learning environment."

"Wednesday's vote by the School Construction Project Priority List Review Committee was an important step in the process for the John Wallace Middle School renovation," said Rep. Turco. "This project is essential to our community, and I am committed to ensuring it reaches the finish line with votes in the House and Senate and a signature from Governor Lamont by the time the 2024 legislative session ends in May."

"I am so pleased that we have secured support for a 58.57% reimbursement rate for the school construction project at John Wallace Middle School, saving taxpayers over \$6 million," said Sen. Lesser. "This grant will help offset the cost of much needed repairs to improve security, technology, and classroom size."

The John Wallace Middle School renovation project was approved by Newington voters in a referendum vote in the November 2023 election. This approval by the School Construction Project Priority List Review Committee is the next step in the process to secure state funding for the renovation. The project now awaits a vote in the House, Senate, and final signature by the Governor during the 2024 legislative session which ends May 8th.

## Lifelong Learning Registration Open for Winter/Spring

West Hartford -- Registration for Presidents' College, the Lifelong Learning Program at the University of Hartford for adults 50+, opens January 11. Taught by professors and community experts, the program's 1.5-hour lectures and short (2-3 session) non-credit courses include topics like the arts, history, current events, literature, science, and engineering. There is no membership fee, and students pay a modest amount for only those courses they wish to take.

Navigating Discussions Across Political Divides, Appreciating Guitar Music, Shakespeare's Major Tragedies, Neurodiversity, Northern Ireland, and Trials That Shaped America are among

the many topics for courses and lectures. Included in the winter offerings is a discussion between former Hartford Courant staff music critic Steve Metcalf and his daughter, Laura Metcalf, on the making of a musician. Laura Metcalf, a cellist who grew up in West Hartford, and husband Rupert Boyd, a classical guitarist, comprise Boyd Meets Girl. The duo will play in the Hartford Symphony Orchestra's Masterworks series February 9-11. Further information is available at [hartford.edu/pc](http://hartford.edu/pc). Or email [pcollege@hartford.edu](mailto:pcollege@hartford.edu) or call 860.769.4495 with questions or to be added to the mailing list.

## Area Vocal Group Seeks New Members

The Middlesex Hospital Vocal Chords, under the direction of Samuel Tucker and accompanied by a 10-piece orchestra directed by Alan Dougherty, is looking for a few good men/women to enhance their growing tenor and bass sections. No auditions, no experience necessary, just a love of singing and a willingness to make a commitment to the Vocal Chord family.

Rehearsals begin Tuesday, Jan. 16 from 6:45 to 9 p.m., St. Francis Church, Msgr. Fox Parish Hall, 10 Elm St., Middletown for our upcoming spring concert on Saturday May 4 at Portland High School. New members will be accepted through Feb. 4.

This community-oriented group has been entertaining audiences for 34 years with lively concerts showcasing a variety of musical interests. These include the top hits of yesterday, today and tomorrow, plus some classical and patriotic pieces to help promote our mission to lift spirits, relieve stress and heal souls through mu-

sic. Currently, our 90 members hail from all parts of Connecticut and all different walks of life. It's the love of singing that brings us all together. You do not need to be affiliated with Middlesex Health in order to join.

Proceeds from the concerts and our annual patron drive are given back to the community in the form of scholarships given to Middlesex County seniors planning on majoring in nursing or music. To date, the Vocal Chords have awarded \$82,500 to area students thanks to our loyal followers and members.

If you've been thinking about doing something this year to enhance your life, make new friends and reduce your stress levels, please consider joining our musical family. For more information, visit us on the web at [vocalchords20.org](http://vocalchords20.org) or call 860-342-3120. Also, check us out on YouTube and Facebook. We're looking forward to meeting you!

## Al-Anon Family Groups Convention With AA Participation

Al-Anon Family Groups (AFG) of Connecticut will hold its 46th annual Convention at the Sheraton Hartford South Hotel 100 Capital Boulevard, Rocky Hill, CT.) on March 16-17th beginning at 8am. Al-Anon/Alateen Family Groups is a fellowship of relatives and friends whose lives have been affected by someone else's drinking. We help each other by sharing our experience, strength and hope in order to solve our common problems.

## GFWC-Newington/Wethersfield Woman's Club GFWC/CT Memorial Scholarships 2023-2024

Mary Williams Phipps and Dorothy E. Schoelzel For Women who are CT residents in their junior or senior year of college matriculating for a Bachelor post-graduate degree.

Who is eligible: Connecticut women who are pursuing courses of study in an accredited college or university. Applicants must have completed at least two or more years of study with a minimum of 3.0 GPA and are matriculating for a bachelor's or postgraduate degree.

The application is the same for both scholarships and is on the GFWC/CT website:

- Go to: [gfwcct.org](http://gfwcct.org).
- Select "About Us"
- Click on application.

Completed applications including general and

personal information, financial statement, instructor/employer references, official transcript of at least the most recent two years of undergraduate or graduate work must be received by the GFWC-Newington/Wethersfield Woman's Club by February 26, 2024 or before for us to review and forward your application which must be received by the GFWC/CT sponsoring club's Scholarship by March 10.

Contact information: if you have any questions about the scholarships application you may contact by email: [perlyreg1@gmail.com](mailto:perlyreg1@gmail.com) or [chylene.pender@yahoo.com](mailto:chylene.pender@yahoo.com)

Funded by the CT General Federation of Women's Club, applications for the Phipps and Schoelzel Scholarships are available online. We look forward to your application.

## Barb's Happy Travelers

Lancaster Show Trip & Dutch Country Sight & Sound Theatre -Daniel September 23-27,2024 Motorcoach Transportation 4 nights lodging 8 meals

Admission to Daniel Guided tour of Lancaster Admission to the Amish Experience&Jacob's Choice Guided tour of Philadelphia \$760.00per person Double occupancy For reservation and more information Contact Barbara Shaw 860-262-3531

## Events Newly-Retired Newington Women

Feb.4...St. Pats Event...\$20  
Feb.9...Valentine's Dinner...\$20  
Mar.12...St. Pats/Aquaturf...\$54

April 9...Broadway/Aquaturf...\$54  
Check us out online, or call Jean at 860-667-7647

## 8th Annual Knights of Columbus Charity Bowl

The Knights of Columbus DeSoto Council (Cromwell) is hosting its annual bowling fundraiser on Sunday February 25th from 12:00 - 3:00pm at Bowl-O-Rama. This is a family-friendly event that features prizes & raffles and supports the council's many charitable works! \$20/bowler (\$15 kids 12 & under) includes 2 games, shoes, pizza & drinks. Advanced registration is preferred, please visit our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/CromwellKoC](http://www.facebook.com/CromwellKoC) for the registration form or email [cromwellkoc@yahoo.com](mailto:cromwellkoc@yahoo.com).

## BHS 50th Reunion

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

## Organ Recital

Organist Scott Lamlein will perform on Sunday, February 18 at 4:00 at Church of Christ, Congregational in Newington, Connecticut. Lamlein performed the Widor Symphony No. 5 in Widor's church in Paris last summer. He will play that piece, along with works by Dan Locklair, Max Reger, and Florence Price. Free concert. 1075 Main Street, Newington, Connecticut (860) 666-4689 [newingtonucc.org](http://newingtonucc.org)

## NHS 50th Reunion

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

Thank you for reading  
the Rare Reminder.





# What's Happening Newington?

Send us your news!

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

## Cookies Recalled From Stew Leonard's After Labeling Error Lead To One Death

By Nicole Zappone, Staff Writer

A woman from New York died after going into anaphylactic shock from a severe reaction to eating cookies that had been purchased from a Stew Leonard's store in Connecticut.

On Jan. 25, Stew Leonard's, on their website, put out a recall of the Vanilla and Chocolate Florentine Cookies that were sold only at Stew Leonard's in Danbury and Newington from Nov. 6 through Dec. 31, 2023.

The recall stated that the cookies contained undeclared peanuts and eggs. People with an allergy or severe sensitivity to peanuts or eggs run the risk of serious or life-threatening allergic reactions if they consume these products.

"Stew Leonard's is working with the Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection and the supplier to determine the cause of the labeling error," the recall on the Stew's website said. "Customers who have purchased these cookies should bring them back to Stew Leonard's customer service for a full refund."

After the death of Órla Baxendale, according to her attorneys Gair, Gair, Conason, Rubinowitz, Bloom, Hershenhorn, Steigman & Mackauf from New York, said their client, a talented dancer, was just 25 years old when her life was cut short due to anaphylactic shock resulting from a severe allergic reaction.

"Órla's passing stemmed from an unfortunate incident involving the consumption of a cookie manufactured by Cookies United and sold by Stew Leonard's, which contained undisclosed peanuts," according to a statement from the firm's website. "This tragic oversight has led to the recall of the Vanilla Florentine Cookies from Stew Leonard's stores in Danbury and Newington, CT, for the period of November 6 - December 31, 2023."

The firm also stated that in a preliminary investigation, it was revealed that Órla's death "occurred due to the gross negligence and reckless conduct of the manufacturer and/or sellers who failed to properly identify the contents of the

cookie on the packing. This failure in proper disclosure has led to this devastating yet preventable outcome."

Born in East Lancashire, UK, Órla moved to New York to pursue a career as a dancer, according to the firm.

Stew Leonard Jr. said that over the holidays, they sold about 500 packages of the cookies and that this was an unfortunate thing that had happened.

Cookies United, in a press release dated Jan. 23, issued a statement saying that Stew Leonard's had been notified back in July about the change in the product's label.

Walker G. Flanary III, general counsel for Cookies United, said in an earlier press release claimed by Stew Leonard's that "the cookies contain peanut, which was an ingredient not disclosed to Stew Leonard's by the manufacturer."

According to Flanary, the grocery store had been contacted over the summer about the products contained in the cookies and issued this statement:

"Unfortunately, considering the tragedy of these circumstances, we need to point out that Stew Leonard's was notified by Cookies United in July of 2023 that this product now contains peanuts, and all products shipped to them have been labeled accordingly. This product is sold under the Stew Leonard's brand and repackaged at their facilities. The incorrect label was created by, and applied to, their product by Stew Leonard's."

"In the 24 hours since Cookies United learned of this tragedy, we have been cooperating with the New York State Department of Agriculture and have been informed we are in compliance with all applicable rules and regulations relating to this product. Our deepest sympathies to the family of this Stew Leonard's customer."

In another press release from Cookies United on Jan. 23, it was announced that 11 Stew Leonard's employees had been contacted about peanut ingredients on July 20, 2023.

An image of the label that Cookies United has

used in all shipments to Stew Leonard's since July 20, 2023, had correctly called out the ingredients list, including peanuts.

"We are fully cooperating with the authorities regarding this heartbreaking event. This is a tragedy that should have never happened, and our sympathy is with the family of this Stew Leonard's customer," according to Cookies United.

The CT Department of Consumer Protection and Department of Public Health are warning the public about the store's mislabeled cookies. Both the vanilla and chocolate flavors are affected.

Recently, officials announced that the cookies also contained eggs, which did not appear on the label. Eggs are one of the major food allergens identified by the FDA, and they require labeling.

Stew Leonard's president and CEO, Stew Leonard Jr., said in a video that the company's chief safety officer was never notified that the cookies contained peanuts.

"It was a holiday cookie, it was a one-shot deal, but we bought it from an outside supplier, and unfortunately, the supplier changed the recipe and started going from soy nuts to peanuts, and our chief safety officer here at Stew Leonard's was never notified," Stew Leonard Jr. said in a video.

"We have a very rigorous process that we use as far as labeling. We take labels very seriously, especially peanuts, and our chief safety officer was never notified. We didn't change the label; hence, we sold about 500 packages of these cookies over the holiday," he said.

"We're all just very, very sad about this whole thing, and you know, I want to assure you that the food you buy at Stew Leonard's is safe, the cookies you buy at Stew Leonard's are safe, and everything is labeled properly here are Stew Leonard's," he said.

The Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection Food, Standards and Product Safety



Division (DCP) and the Connecticut Department of Public Health put out a warning to the public that the Florentine Cookies sold at Stew Leonard's grocery stores in Danbury and Newington also contained eggs, which did not appear on the label.

The DCP said that consumers with food allergies should immediately dispose of the cookies or return them to the point of sale and seek medical attention if necessary.

DCP's investigation is ongoing.

## Newington Parks and Recreation Department is Seeking Civic Minded Business and Organizations

Newington Parks and Recreation Department is Seeking Civic Minded Business and Organizations to form a Public/Private Partnership for Upcoming June Special Events in 2024

The Newington Parks and Recreation Department is thrilled to invite businesses, organizations, and civic groups to collaborate on the upcoming third annual Newington Goes Country and fourth annual Food

Truck Friday events. These exciting gatherings are scheduled to take place on Thursday, June 13, and Friday, June 14, 2024, from 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the idyllic Mill Pond Park, promising an unforgettable experience for all attendees.

Both occasions will be brimming with lively entertainment, featuring music from the highly popular group Mass-Conn-Fusion, and an array of enjoyable activities. Attendees can immerse themselves in the exhilaration of a mechanical bull, savor trackless train rides and hayrides, witness the excitement of potato sack races for kids, interact with adorable animals in a petting zoo, and foster young imaginations with the inclusion of Imagination Playground's blue blocks. Exciting new additions for 2024 include a humorous and entertaining chicken flinger game, a bounce house, and a clown toss game designed to test participants' accuracy. Culinary delights will be provided by an array of over twenty food trucks, complemented by a delightful beer and wine garden.

With the anticipation of thousands of participants, we extend a warm invitation for your business, organization, or civic group to join us in fostering a vibrant community spirit through this public/private partnership. Your participation will not only contribute to the success of these events but also enhance the overall experience for attendees, making it a truly memorable occasion for everyone involved.

Please find below the sponsorship opportunities available for your consideration:

Platinum Sponsor (Cost \$1,700.00)  
Your company will sponsor the mechanical bull ride with its logo displayed prominently at the front of the line.

A half-page advertisement in the Newington Parks and Recreation brochure, mailed to 13,500 households and printed in one seasonal guide. (\$1,000.00 value)

Newington Parks and Recreation Facebook advertisements and a live video feature to be streamed to tens of thousands of people in the Greater Hart-

ford area.

News releases and PA announcements during the event that will mention your company as the platinum sponsor, to be sent to all media outlets including radio, television, and newspapers, including 10 iHeart radio stations when available.

Gold Sponsor (\$1,100.00)

Your company will sponsor the animal petting zoo with its logo displayed near the animals.

A quarter-page advertisement in the Newington Parks and Recreation brochure, mailed to 13,500 households and printed in one seasonal guide. (\$500.00 value)

News releases and PA announcements during the event that will mention your company as the sponsor of the animal attraction, to be sent to all media outlets including radio, television, and newspapers, including 10 iHeart radio stations when available.

Silver Sponsor (\$800.00)

Your company will sponsor the children's potato sack race/clowns, stilt-walkers and magicians with its logo displayed at the finish line.

A quarter-page advertisement in the Newington Parks and Recreation brochure, mailed to 13,500 households and printed in one seasonal guide. (\$500.00 value)

News releases and PA announcements during the event that will mention your company as the silver sponsor, to be sent to all media outlets including radio, television, and newspapers, including 10 iHeart radio stations when available.

Bronze Sponsor (\$500.00)

News releases and PA announcements during the event that will mention your company as the bronze sponsor, to be sent to all media outlets including radio, television, and newspapers, including 10 iHeart radio stations when available.

If any of these opportunities interest you and you would like to receive advertising throughout Connecticut, please do not hesitate to call Bill DeMaio at 860-665-8669 to discuss the details for a fully customized marketing campaign. Sponsorships will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out. Remember, with Newington Parks and Recreation, we are building a strong community.

Thank you for reading  
the Rare Reminder.

## Newington Parks and Recreation Department Celebrates Generous Donation to Expand Access to Camp RECreate

The Newington Parks and Recreation Department is thrilled to announce a significant contribution from Ms. Jill Price, totaling \$1,200.00, towards expanding access to Camp RECreate. This generous donation will be directed to scholarships, ensuring that kids, who wouldn't be able to attend otherwise can participate in our dynamic seven-week summer program.

Ms. Price, aims to pay it forward and provide opportunities for a more inclusive and enriching experience for the youth in our community. The donation will support scholarships for families facing financial constraints, with the goal of fostering a sense of community and creating lasting memories for all participants.

"In speaking with Ms. Price, she shared her belief in the transformative power of summer camp and how it made a significant difference in her children's lives. Now, she encourages other families, civic groups, and businesses to join her in supporting the scholarship fund, emphasizing the importance of collective efforts to extend the reach of these opportunities," said Superintendent Bill DeMaio of the Newington Parks and Recreation Department.

To answer Ms. Price's call to action, the department invites additional contributions to the sum-

mer camp scholarship fund. Interested parties can contact Bill DeMaio at the parks and recreation office by calling 860-665-8666.

Registration for Camp RECreate will begin on Wednesday, February 28th. The program runs from June 17th to August 2nd (no camp on July 4), Monday through Friday from 7:30 AM to 5:30 PM. It includes a diverse range of activities such as weekly field trips, special guests, swim lessons, pizza parties, cookouts, and more!

Families seeking scholarship opportunities are encouraged to contact the Human Services Department to qualify. Space is limited, and registrations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

The Newington Parks and Recreation Department expresses gratitude to Ms. Jill Price and encourages the community to join hands in making Camp RECreate a truly inclusive and transformative experience for kids who wouldn't be able to attend otherwise.

For more information, please call the Parks and Recreation office at 860-665-8666 or check us out on Facebook and our website: [www.newingtonct.gov/parksandrec](http://www.newingtonct.gov/parksandrec). Remember, with the Newington Parks and Recreation Department we are building a strong community!

## St. Patrick's Fundraiser

The Newington St Patrick's Day Parade Committee as a countdown to the parade is holding a fundraiser to pay the expenses for Newington's participation in the Hartford St Patrick's Day Parade and asking for a \$20 donation. The fundraiser will be held at the Newington Knights of Columbus Hall, 171 Pascone Place, Newington, CT 06111 on Feb 4th, 2024 from 2:00pm to 5:00pm. Music by Danny Ringrose, Guinness will be flowing and food will be available. There will be a CASH bar. This is open to the public and for more info call Tom McBride at (860) 983-0846. Tom is also looking for town groups and/or organizations to march in the March 9th parade. If your organization is interested in marching please contact Tom McBride.

## NEWINGTON TOWN PLAN AND ZONING COMMISSION NOTICE OF DECISION

At its Regular Meeting on Wednesday, **January 24, 2024** the Newington Town Plan and Zoning Commission met and took the following actions:

### APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS:

**Petition 32-23:** Special Permit (Sec. 6.16) For A Cannabis Hybrid Retailer At 2661 Berlin Turnpike (AKA 2657-2661 Berlin Turnpike) In The B-BT Zone (Business Berlin Turnpike Zone). Applicant: Chillax LLC, Owner: 2661 Berlin Turnpike Associates LLC, Contact: Michelle Bodian Esq.

Submitted,  
Paul Dickson  
Town Planner





# What's Happening Wethersfield?

Send us your news!

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

E-mail any news, photos, upcoming events or announcements to [editor@rarereminder.com](mailto:editor@rarereminder.com) or call 860-563-9386.

## School Board Learns Benefits of Unique Student Reading Club

By Joan Hunt, Staff Writer

Before the business end of Board of Education meetings, it is standard practice to hear presentations about ongoing events from one of the schools in the district. Last week, a group of very articulate students from Webb Elementary introduced their school's new library media specialist, Leane Arnau, and the Nutmeg Book Club started by her and curriculum specialist Annie Kuhn.

Nicholas Safina said that Ms. Arnau came to the school in October of last year when Mrs. Murphy retired. She was previously the library media specialist at Willington Middle School.

"Just like a classroom teacher, each librarian puts his or her own special touches on the library," Nicholas said. "She has incorporated some maker space activities into her lessons, rearranged the book stacks, and is implementing lessons on digital citizenship," he reported. "She is also working to update the non-fiction collection and labeling the different sections and genres for quick identification."

Matthew Kitman told the board about the new Nutmeg Reading Club. "Nutmeg books are chosen each year in Connecticut to encourage kids to read high quality literature, also known as really good books, chosen from books published in the last five years," he explained.

The books are chosen in four categories, based by the ages of the reader, and 10 books of fiction are chosen in each category.

"In December, Mrs. Kuhn and Miss Arnau had each of the fourth, fifth and sixth grade classes come to the library for what they called Nutmeg book testing," said Matthew. "They took turns telling us about each of the 10 books. They told us about the characters and what the story was about." Afterward, he said, the students voted,

picking two favorites: "Scratch Scratch," and "Leonard, My Life as a Cat."

Karina Peshi described the books that were chosen for the club to read. "Scratch Scratch is about a girl named Claire, who is being haunted by a real ghost, while she is helping her dad with his ghost tour business," she said. The girl started an investigation of her own. "In her investigation, she learned a lot about Chicago's history and a little boy who is eerily similar to the ghost boy on the ghost tour bus," said Karina.

"Leonard, my Life as a Cat" is about an alien named Leonard who is supposed to be visiting Earth as a human park ranger, but ends up on Earth as a cat instead," she said. In the end, Leonard has to decide whether to return to his planet or to stay with Olive, a girl who has taken him in.

According to Karina, every person in the book club gets their own copy of the book they choose to read. The club is open to any fourth, fifth or sixth grade student. On Tuesday mornings, Ms. Arnau leads the "Scratch Scratch" book club, and on Wednesday mornings, Mrs. Kuhn leads the "My Life as a Cat" one.

During club meetings, students talk about the characters, the plot, the story, and the problems of the story, and they make predictions about what they think will happen based on evidence from the book. "We usually read a chapter aloud together, and the rest of the time we are on our own," said Karina.

Superintendent of Schools Michael Emmett said the book club is an example of the many successful programs he has seen at Webb Elementary. The presentation is part of the Kids Empowering Kids initiative that promotes student leadership.

## Area Vocal Group Seeks New Members

The Middlesex Hospital Vocal Chords, under the direction of Samuel Tucker and accompanied by a 10-piece orchestra directed by Alan Dougherty, is looking for a few good men/women to enhance their growing tenor and bass sections. No auditions, no experience necessary, just a love of singing and a willingness to make a commitment to the Vocal Chord family.

Rehearsals begin Tuesday, Jan. 16 from 6:45 to 9 p.m., St. Francis Church, Msgr. Fox Parish Hall, 10 Elm St., Middletown for our upcoming spring concert on Saturday May 4 at Portland High School. New members will be accepted through Feb. 4.

This community-oriented group has been entertaining audiences for 34 years with lively concerts showcasing a variety of musical interests. These include the top hits of yesterday, today and tomorrow, plus some classical and patriotic pieces to help promote our mission to lift spirits, relieve

stress and heal souls through music. Currently, our 90 members hail from all parts of Connecticut and all different walks of life. It's the love of singing that brings us all together. You do not need to be affiliated with Middlesex Health in order to join.

Proceeds from the concerts and our annual patron drive are given back to the community in the form of scholarships given to Middlesex County seniors planning on majoring in nursing or music. To date, the Vocal Chords have awarded \$82,500 to area students thanks to our loyal followers and members.

If you've been thinking about doing something this year to enhance your life, make new friends and reduce your stress levels, please consider joining our musical family. For more information, visit us on the web at [vocalchords20.org](http://vocalchords20.org) or call 860-342-3120. Also, check us out on YouTube and Facebook. We're looking forward to meeting you!

## Friendship Force Call for Members

Friendship Force Connecticut is active and traveling and accepting new members! Our chapter has resumed full travel activities, as well as monthly group social activities (Kent Falls, Providence Gondola rides, Culinary Inst of Amer, CT Antique Machinery Museum, and many others this year). Our members travelled to Cornwall, UK this last year, where we stayed in the homes of the host club members and explored castles, bio domes and the Lost Gardens of Heligan,

while sharing meals with the local residents. In May 2024, we will be hosting ambassadors from Niagara, Canada and showing them the wonders of our state. Then, we will be traveling to Santa Barbara followed by San Francisco. Some of our members might even join the Boston chapter on their trip to Brazil in March. For more information about our chapter and on how you can join, visit [facebook.com/ffconnecticut.org](http://facebook.com/ffconnecticut.org), email [ffconnecticut@gmail.com](mailto:ffconnecticut@gmail.com) or go to [friendshipforce.org](http://friendshipforce.org).

## Residential Sidewalk Assistance Program

The Town of Wethersfield Code Chapter 139-1 requires that owners of properties bordering upon any street where sidewalks are present shall keep such sidewalks free from all obstructions which would endanger the safety, health or well-being of pedestrians. In the FY 23/24 budget, the Town Council allocated \$25,000 to a new Residential Sidewalk Assistance Program for the Town to complete sidewalk repairs and replacements along the frontages of residential properties. These funds can only be used to eliminate safety hazards within the public right-of-way by repairing or replacing sidewalk slabs, and are only available to residential property owners who have a demonstrated financial need for assistance.

Residential property owners that require assistance in completing this work are encouraged to

submit the attached application form, which will be reviewed by the Town's Social and Youth Services Department to determine Program qualifications are met similar to other Town assistance programs. Funds are available on a first-come, first-serve basis until expended. If you have any questions regarding the eligibility of sidewalks located along your property prior to applying, please contact the Wethersfield Engineering Department at 860-721-2850 or [engineering@wethersfieldct.gov](mailto:engineering@wethersfieldct.gov) to request a site inspection to verify that sidewalk conditions meet Program requirements. If your application is approved, the Engineering Department will be notified, and repair work will be scheduled and completed at no cost to you.

Visit [www.wethersfieldct.gov](http://www.wethersfieldct.gov) for details

## GFWC-Newington/Wethersfield Woman's Club GFWC/CT Memorial Scholarships 2023-2024

Mary Williams Phipps and Dorothy E. Schoelzel For Women who are CT residents in their junior or senior year of college matriculating for a Bachelor post-graduate degree.

Who is eligible: Connecticut women who are pursuing courses of study in an accredited college or university. Applicants must have completed at least two or more years of study with a minimum of 3.0 GPA and are matriculating for a bachelor's or postgraduate degree.

The application is the same for both scholarships and is on the GFWC/CT website:

- Go to: [gfwcct.org](http://gfwcct.org).
- Select "About Us"
- Click on application.

Completed applications including general and personal information, financial statement, instruc-

tor/employer references, official transcript of at least the most recent two years of undergraduate or graduate work must be received by the GFWC-Newington/Wethersfield Woman's Club by February 26, 2024 or before for us to review and forward your application which must be received by the GFWC/CT sponsoring club's Scholarship by March 10.

Contact information: if you have any questions about the scholarships application you may contact by email: [perlyregl@gmail.com](mailto:perlyregl@gmail.com) or [chylene.pender@yahoo.com](mailto:chylene.pender@yahoo.com)

Funded by the CT General Federation of Women's Club, applications for the Phipps and Schoelzel Scholarships are available online. We look forward to your application.

## Libraries Need Friends!

The Friends of the Wethersfield Library would like more community members to join us. Friends make the Library better. Friend events such as: the continuous book sales in the Library book nook, raffles, periodic pop-up book sales and others help raise funds to expand Library programs. These include, but are not limited to Summer Reading, museum passes and occasional Library improvements.

Friends volunteer opportunities include: sorting book donations, book sales, technol-

ogy support, marketing, publicity social media and membership.

By joining the Friends, you will be demonstrating your support of the Library as an integral part of our community. Please consider joining our dedicated group of volunteers as we support the Library and the community.

For more information, contact: [friends@wethersfieldlibrary.org](mailto:friends@wethersfieldlibrary.org) <https://www.wethersfieldlibrary.org/friends-of-the-library-inc/>

## Chorus Accepting Applications For College Scholarships

The executive board of the Middlesex Hospital Vocal Chords is accepting applications for its annual scholarships to be awarded to students from Middlesex County graduating seniors pursuing a career in nursing or music.

Applicants must have been accepted at an accredited college or university. The review committee will consider academic records, extra-curricular and community service activities, the

student's ability to articulate his/her career goals and the recommendations of references.

The \$1500 scholarships will be paid directly to the recipients at the spring concert at Portland High School, Saturday, May 4 at 7 p.m.

Applications are available on our website, [vocalchords20.org](http://vocalchords20.org), or at your school guidance office. Applications must be submitted by March 15.

## Wethersfield Men's Garden Club Welcomes Professor Richard Benfeld for Free Lecture Feb 26

The Wethersfield Men's Garden Club will host a free public lecture on Feb 26 at 7pm in the Pitkin Community Center at 30 Greenfield St. Club member and CCSU Professor Richard Benfeld will present his observations. As we move into the twenty first century the role of humans in the environmental stem is becoming more and more important. The role of a biogeographer understanding ecological systems involving flora and fauna in all the worlds biomes becomes paramount. This talk will look at one year in the life

of a practicing biogeographer in places like the Arctic, Antarctic, Australia and Yellowstone.

For several decades, the dedicated members of the Men's Garden Club have maintained the Weston Rose Garden. The public is invited to meet the gardeners and learn more about the Club and gardening in general. The Club will continue informational lectures on the 4th Monday of each month in the Pitkin Center, open to all members of the public.

## Wethersfield UNICO Macaroni Dinner

The Wethersfield UNICO Macaroni Dinner returns for the 43rd year on Sunday, February 18, 2024, from 11:30-4:00 at the Wethersfield Community Center on Pitkin Street. Our Annual Macaroni Dinner brings together hundreds of people to enjoy a traditional Italian Sunday dinner with homemade meatballs and sauce, salad, garlic bread, ice cream, and beverage. This event is our primary fundraiser and helps us to give back to the community through scholar-

ships and grants. Tickets ( \$17 for adults and \$8 for children 12 and under) can be bought online ( WETHERSFIELD UNICO Famous Macaroni Dinner - 2024 (eventease.com), through the mail (Wethersfield UNICO Dinner Tickets, P.O. Box 290370, Wethersfield, CT, 06129-0370) or at the door. Visit the Wethersfield UNICO Facebook page for updates and information about our chapter.

## Wethersfield Senior Center Presents... Recurring Events and Programs

Wii Bowling - Tuesdays at 1 PM - (Room S1) New players welcome! Great exercise and great fun!

Mah Jongg - Tuesdays/Thursdays at 9:30 a.m./1 p.m. - Looking for new players. Instruction available to beginners. Walk-ins welcome.

Bingo - Wednesdays at 12:15 p.m. (and) 2:15-3:15 p.m. (Banquet Room) Always a fun day! \$2 admission includes 2 bingo cards.

Set Back - Fridays at 12:15 p.m. (and) 3 p.m. Join our friendly group; everyone welcome: singles,

partners, beginners, experienced players. Easy to learn. Please arrive before 12 p.m. to register/ receive scorecard. Players must be seated and ready to play by 12:15 p.m. \$1 members/\$2 nonmembers

Red Onion Senior Quilters - Third Monday of every Month at 10 a.m. All skill levels welcome. Make new friends and quilt for charity...

\*Browse more events and programs through the Senior Center's newsletter - available at <https://wethersfieldct.gov/senior-center>.

## The Making of a Classical Musician

Hear from cellist and concert producer Laura Metcalf, a West Hartford native, about her musical development and NYC music career. Her father, Steve Metcalf, former Hartford Courant music critic and WNPR commentator, will lead the interview. The father/daughter duo will spice up the presentation with a few short musical selections. Then attend Laura's performance at the Hartford Symphony Orchestra, part of the Masterworks Series, with Boyd Meets Girl, her duo

with her husband, classical guitarist Rupert Boyd. Attend both the Tues, Feb. 6 lecture at 4 p.m. and Sun., Feb. 11 performance at 3 p.m., or just the lecture. Lecture-only attendees will receive a discount code to buy tickets to see Metcalf in her two other Feb. HSO performances. Sponsored by Presidents' College Lifelong Learning at the University of Hartford. Visit [hartford.edu/pc](http://hartford.edu/pc) for more information.





# What's Happening Wethersfield?

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## Social Services Director Reviews Results Of Youth Survey With BoE

By Joan Hunt, Staff Writer

Last October, students in Silas Deane Middle School and at Wethersfield High School took an online survey that asked for their input regarding substance use and at risk behaviors. The survey, which has been performed at regular intervals, was last done in the local district in 2021. It is anonymous and voluntary. On Jan. 23, the Wethersfield Board of Education learned the results.

Director of Social, Youth and Senior Services for the town Erica Tew said the data will be used to guide future planning, to provide prevention programs and to promote overall community awareness. She introduced the survey consultant, Bonne Smith, of B. Weyland Smith Consulting, who also happens to be a Wethersfield resident and mother of three children in the localschool district.

"The response rate was really good, about 83 percent overall," she reported. The results were broken into several categories, and she addressed some of them individually, beginning with gender identity.

"Overall, 4.1 percent of youth described themselves as transgender, non-binary, or unsure," she said. Regarding sexual identity, Smith said

14 percent of youth described themselves as gay, lesbian, bisexual, pansexual or describing themselves in another way.

The next category was gaming and consequences, within the past year. Smith said the survey showed that middle school youth are having more of a hard time stopping gaming than high school students. "Fifty-five percent of kids feel more connected with others because of gaming, but conversely we have about 17 percent who report getting into a verbal or physical fight because of gaming," she said.

The survey revealed a similar result in the social media category. "About 62 percent say they feel more connected with others because of social media and about 17 percent overall got into a fight, physical or verbal, because of social media," she said.

"On the question about having trouble stopping scrolling, checking or refreshing, we have about 32 percent of middle school and 35 percent of high school students saying that is true for them in the past year," added Smith.

When the survey was conducted in 2021, 43 percent of youth overall reported being the victim of bullying during their lifetime, but this time

the figure was 51 percent. There was also an increase in frequency of bullying.

"In 2021, we had only .8 percent saying they were bullied every day. This time it was 1.6 percent. That equates to 22 students who feel they are bullied every day, and those are the kids we are going to worry about," said Smith.

The survey revealed that about 24 percent of youth reported always or almost always feeling anxious in the past year. "That doesn't sound amazing, but it's better than it was," said Smith. She said that most reductions were seen at the middle school, where the district has added numerous programs related to mental health. Middle school anxiety improved over the last survey by 24 percent.

"The number one source of stress in both middle school and high school is academics, which is the same in every community we serve," she said.

The survey also asked questions about thoughts of self-harm in the past year, acting

on that self-harm, physical abuse by an intimate partner, being sad or hopeless two or more weeks in a row, or considering suicide in the past year. All have gone down since 2021. However 8 percent reported considering suicide in the past year, which Smith said represents 111 youth, when you do the math.

Regarding other sections of the survey, Smith said that substance use has gone down appreciably since the survey began in 2016. "One of the biggest decreases has been alcohol," she reported. One of the questions relate to where youth access these substances and who they use them with.

"I like to highlight that the number one answer is in their home, with parents' permission and at home without parents' permission," she said.

Smith's presentation was a snapshot representing pages of data and breakouts contained in the Wethersfield Youth Voices Count Survey Results 2024. All board members received a copy of the complete report.

### Wethersfield Public Library February Events

(860) 721-2163  
anewton@wethersfieldlibrary.org  
February Art Exhibit at Wethersfield Library  
Wethersfield resident Nita Vitaliano will be showcasing her artwork at the Wethersfield Library during the month of February. Her pieces are primarily acrylics and pastels, portraying landscapes and still lifes. She enjoys creativity in its many forms, and appreciates the process as much as the final product.

Call 860-721-2166 if you are a local artist interested in exhibiting your artwork at the Wethersfield Library. The Library is located at 515 Silas Deane Highway in Wethersfield. For information and directions to the Library, visit [www.wethersfieldlibrary.org](http://www.wethersfieldlibrary.org) or call 529-2665.

FOR TEENS AND ADULTS: MENDING 101 KIT: Practice your sewing skills for simple repairs! Supplies and instructions provided. Kits available at the Information Desk starting February 1st. First come first served.

FOR TEENS: DIY LIP BALM: Teens join us Tuesday, February 6th at 2:45 to make your own soothing and natural lip balm! This program is free and open to teens in grades 7-12. All supplies are provided. Register on our Events Calendar at [wethersfieldlibrary.org](http://wethersfieldlibrary.org).

FOR TEENS: DUCT TAPE ROSES: Teens join us Tuesday, February 13th at 2:45 to make fun and funky duct tape roses! This program is free and open to teens in grades 7-12. All supplies are provided. Register on our Events Calendar at [wethersfieldlibrary.org](http://wethersfieldlibrary.org).

ZOOM PROGRAM: EASIEST HOUSE-PLANTS EVER: If your home features sunny windows or shady sills; if your home is Sahara dry or comfortably spa-like, join us Tuesday February 13th at 6:30 pm on Zoom for this lecture and receive recommendations to match your home environment and style. Care and cultivation suggestions will accompany the recommendations. Presented by Tovah Martin, horticulturalist and author of more than a dozen titles on plants. Register on our Events Calendar at [wethersfieldlibrary.org](http://wethersfieldlibrary.org) to receive the Zoom link.

AUTHOR TALK WITH BEN MONTGOMERY:

A SHOT IN THE MOONLIGHT: HOW A FREED SLAVE AND A CONFEDERATE SOLDIER FOUGHT FOR JUSTICE IN THE JIM CROW SOUTH: Join us on Zoom Thursday February 22nd at 6:30 to hear Ben Montgomery, discuss his book, A Shot in the Moonlight: How a Freed Slave and a Confederate Soldier Fought for Justice in the Jim Crow South. The book is the true story of George Dinning, a freed slave who was wrongly accused by a mob of stealing livestock and the aftermath that followed. Dinning later became the first black man in the South to win a court decision of financial compensation.

Ben Montgomery is author of the New York Times best-selling book 'Grandma Gatewood's Walk' and several other notable titles. In 2010, he was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in local reporting and won the Dart Award and Casey Medal

for a series called "For Their Own Good," about abuse at Florida's oldest reform school.

Books are available at the Wethersfield Library. Please register through our Events Calendar at [wethersfieldlibrary.org](http://wethersfieldlibrary.org) to receive the Zoom link.

FOR TEENS: ANIME CLUB: Teens join us on Tuesday, February 27th at 2:45 pm to watch the latest anime! This program is free and open to teens in grades 7-12. This is a drop-in program; registration is not required.

FOR ADULTS  
ZENTANGLE: RELAX WITH DRAWING: Join us Thursday February 29th at 6:30 for a Zentangle class taught by Cheryl Cianci and use your imagination to create a piece of art. Through the Zentangle method of drawing, you can relax, be creative and develop your potential.

Cianci is an artist, educator and Certified Zentangle Teacher working and teaching in the greater Hartford area. All materials are provided. Class size is limited. Please register through our Events Calendar at [wethersfieldlibrary.org](http://wethersfieldlibrary.org)

### Plymouth State University President's List

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

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

### NHS 50th Reunion

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

### Barb's Happy Travelers

Lancaster Show Trip & Dutch Country  
Sight & Sound Theatre  
-Daniel  
September 23-27,2024  
Motorcoach Transportation  
4 nights lodging  
8 meals  
Admission to Daniel Guided tour of Lancaster.  
Admission to the Amish Experience & Jacob's Choice Guided tour of Philadelphia.  
\$760.00per person Double occupancy.  
For reservation and more information contact Barbara Shaw 860-262-3531.



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

The Wethersfield Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, February 6, 2024 at 7:00 p.m., Town Hall Council Chambers, 505 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield, Connecticut.

**Public Hearing - 2167-24-Z Virgins Enterprise LLC/AVA Incorporated LLC** seeking a Special Permit in accordance with Section 5.2.F (Permitted Principal Uses) of the Wethersfield Zoning Regulations for "event space" use at 898 Silas Deane Highway.

Planning and Zoning Commission  
Dominick Caruso, AICP, Planning Consultant  
Duly Authorized  
Dated at Wethersfield, Connecticut,  
this 22nd day of January, 2024.

### Legal Notice Town of Wethersfield Historic District Commission

The Wethersfield Historic District Commission will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, February 13, 2024 at 7:30pm at the Wethersfield Town Hall, 505 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield, CT, Conference Room #3, on the following applications seeking a Certificate of Appropriateness:

- Application #8180-24** Gove Restoration LLC, seeking to remove existing back porch and rebuild using cement siding, aluminum storm windows and storm door, TimberTech stair treads, and a TimberTech matte white railing at 76 Church Street.
- Application #8181-24** Megan Wehbe, seeking to install 18 solar panels on front and rear roofs of home with mechanicals on right side of home at 10 Fernwood Street.
- Application #8182-24** Bernard Morissette, seeking to install six-foot-high white vinyl fence and chain link fence in rear yard at 47-49 Main Street.
- Application #8183-24** Bernard Morissette, seeking to install six-foot-high wood stockade fence along left property line at 1 Fernwood Street.
- Application #8184-24** Charles and Eileen Albrycht, seeking to remove existing garage and replace with 12'x18' Classic Cape garage with Duratemp siding at 25 Woodland Street.
- Application #8185-24** DBL Contracting LLC, seeking to replace existing windows with white Harvey Tribute vinyl windows with simulated divided lites at 176 Hartford Avenue.
- Application #8186-24** Suzanne Barton, seeking to install 11'x13' cedar-framed gazebo with black polycarbonate roof in side yard at 55 Main Street.
- Application #8187-24** Brian Shea, seeking to install 14 solar panels on left side roof of home with mechanicals on right side of house at 41 Harmund Place.
- Application #8188-24** Presley Stewart, seeking to install 36 solar panels on front, side, and rear roofs with mechanicals on left side of home at 24 Wilcox Street.

Town of Wethersfield  
Historic District Commission

Kim Wolf  
Duly Authorized  
Dated at Wethersfield, Connecticut,  
this 29th day of January 2024

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the Rare Reminder.







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**Friendship Force Call for Members**

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

**Fly Fishing Expo and Banquet**

CFFA is pleased to announce our upcoming Fly Fishing Expo and Banquet to be held on February, 3, 2024. The program features a Day Time Fly Fishing Expo, that has been attended by over 400 persons annually and an evening banquet with Guest Speaker, Captain Ray Stachelek, owner of Cast a Fly Charters, a salt water charter service for 60 years. The program is open to all and has been a staple for persons interested in the sport of fly fishing for many years.

**The Making of a Classical Musician**

Hear from cellist and concert producer Laura Metcalf, a West Hartford native, about her musical development and NYC music career. Her father, Steve Metcalf, former Hartford Courant music critic and WNPR commentator, will lead the interview. The father/daughter duo will spice up the presentation with a few short musical selections. Then attend Laura's performance at the Hartford Symphony Orchestra, part of the Masterworks Series, with Boyd Meets Girl, her duo with her husband, classical guitarist Rupert Boyd. Attend both the Tues, Feb. 6 lecture at 4 p.m. and Sun., Feb. 11 performance at 3 p.m., or just the lecture. Lecture-only attendees will receive a discount code to buy tickets to see Metcalf in her two other Feb. HSO performances. Sponsored by Presidents' College Lifelong Learning at the University of Hartford. Visit [hartford.edu/pc](http://hartford.edu/pc) for more information.

**Warm The Children  
Winter Clothing Drive**

The Middletown Kiwanis Club is gearing up for another season of providing new winter clothing for children in need. This year's fundraising goal is \$60,000. That amount can enable us to serve more than 300 families with approximately 650 children in total again next season. No donation amount is too small! The Middletown Kiwanis website has information on Warm The Children and ways that you can help. Please visit us at <http://middletownkiwanis.org>. All donations are tax deductible. Donations can be made: by check or money order and sent to Warm The Children, c/o Liberty Bank, Att: Karen Wolgram, 315 Main Street, Middletown, CT 06457 (or) by credit card through PayPal via our website <http://middletownkiwanis.org>.

**Middletown PrideFEST June 1**

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

**80's to Today Dance**

FEBRUARY 16 (Friday) at Polish American Club, 541 North Main Street, Bristol from 7 to 11 pm. Enjoy the sounds of this fabulous music played by our DJ Cadillac Jack. Remember listening to the oldies? This is always fun! Be sure to come and bring your friends. You can purchase food at the open kitchen from 7-9 pm. Dress casual and door prizes. Admission \$17. For info, call Gail 860-463-6906. Sponsored by Singles Social Connections.

**Rocky Hill Church Repair Fundraiser**

The stately Rocky Hill Congregational Church in the center of town will be celebrating its 300th birthday in 2027. A \$750,000 capital fundraising campaign, VisionFund300, is underway to make needed repairs to the historic meeting house. With a three to four year timeline for completing the work, it is hoped that the church's three hundredth birthday can be celebrated in an updated, renovated church. Do you have a connection to this church? Baptism, marriage, funeral of a loved one? Please consider contributing as a remembrance of your link to this landmark congregation. Email [visionfund300@rhccucc.org](mailto:visionfund300@rhccucc.org) or call the office at 860-529-4167 with questions or for more information. To donate directly, go to the church's website donation page: [www.rockyhillucc.org/contributions](http://www.rockyhillucc.org/contributions).



## “Musical Wildflowers” (FREE Concert)

NEW LONDON, Conn.—Sunday, February 18 at 2:00 P.M. in Leamy Hall at the United States Coast Guard Academy, the United States Coast Guard Band presents a free concert, “Musical Wildflowers.” This event is free and open to the public. Leamy Hall is located at 15 Mohegan Avenue, New London, CT, 06320. The Coast Guard Band’s archived content is available on YouTube by searching “United States Coast Guard Band.” Livestream events can be accessed through a link on our Facebook page, and the Coast Guard Band maintains an active Instagram account which can be followed at @uscoastguardband. For more information on the United States Coast Guard Band visit [www.uscg.mil/Community/Band](http://www.uscg.mil/Community/Band) or call the Concert Information Line at (860) 701-6826.

## Join Wethersfield Dollars for Scholars

Wethersfield Dollars for Scholars has been awarding scholarships to graduating seniors residing in Wethersfield, who are continuing their education at an accredited secondary school. Founded in 1975, volunteers have worked hard to help our town’s students. To continue this great work, we need your assistance. We are looking for volunteers to join us in planning our annual golf outing, assist with our mailings, become a part of the scholarship selection process, plan our annual awards ceremony or assist with the long-term financial planning so Wethersfield Dollars for Scholars can continue to assist future students. If you are interested in becoming part of our organization, please call Mario Pace 860-748-0837.

## Community Conversations at the Rocky Hill Senior Center

The State Unit on Aging (SUA) is writing an updated strategic plan around services for aging people in Connecticut, with an emphasis on supports funded by the Older Americans Act. To ensure the plan includes priorities important to residents in the state, the SUA is holding a series of community conversations across Connecticut. Join us at on Wednesday, February 7 from 10:00am -12:00pm to hear about the plan and give us your input. Light refreshments will be served. Registration is requested by emailing [agingstateplan@ct.gov](mailto:agingstateplan@ct.gov) or by calling 860.424.5111 or 866.218.6631 and speaking with a State Unit Staff member. Please let us know if you will require any accommodations as soon as possible.

## 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](http://www.facebook.com/cromwellcreativedistrict) and [www.cromwellcreativedistrict.org](http://www.cromwellcreativedistrict.org).

## Help Our Concert Series!

Concerts at Church of Christ, Congregational are free admission, but we fund them through donations by the audiences and generous annual donors. If you’ve given in the past--thank you! Would you please help us again this season? If you’ve never given, please consider helping present all of our concerts with a donation. . You may send a check to the church (Church of Christ, Congregational, 1075 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111) or leave it in the offering plate. Please make a note on your check (“concert series”). You can also donate at [newingtonucc.org](http://newingtonucc.org).

## Support for the Visually Impaired

The National Federation of the Blind of Connecticut (NFB of CT) will begin holding in-person monthly chapter meetings at the Hartford Room on March 18 from noon to 1:30 p.m. Subsequent meetings will be held on the third Saturday of each month. At chapter meetings, we gather and exchange ideas, share and discuss concerns and aspirations, raise and promote awareness of the capabilities of blind people, and make plans for outings and events. For more information, contact Melissa Thompson at 860-922-4949 or email her at [lady1mnt@yahoo.com](mailto:lady1mnt@yahoo.com).

## Movies at the Cromwell Senior Center

Join us every Friday at 1 p.m. in the Library’s Arch Room for a fresh showing of a new film on the big screen. Please contact the senior center for more information and to register, at 860-632-3447.

## Tax Savings for Newington Vets

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



from left to right: owners Jeff & Taunya; daughter Kelsie; grandson Greyson; son in-law Mike; Suzanne



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[www.rarereminder.com](http://www.rarereminder.com)

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## Tech Help at the Rocky Hill Library

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 2 pm. Sign up for a 1 hour time slot to go over any tech questions you may have. These sessions can be conducted in person or online via Zoom. Please register and Mike will reach out via e-mail to coordinate the meeting.

## Senior Center

### Gift Cards

Available for the holidays! Purchase a Gift Certificate good towards all of our senior activities, classes, special events, the fitness center... even our Lunch Programs! This is a practical and perfect holiday gift for family and friends!

## Rocky Hill Food

### Share Fridays

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

## Cromwell Creative District

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

## Rocky Hill Pet Supply Drive

Local residents and associates from The Residence at Ferry Park senior living community in Rocky Hill, CT ([www.residenceferrypark.com](http://www.residenceferrypark.com)) are hosting a Pet Supply drive to help local furry friends. All donations will benefit the Rocky Hill Human Services Food Pantry. The Residence is accepting donations of dog & cat food, treats, toys, and grooming tools. Now through February donations can be dropped off inside the residence lobby, located at 60 Cold Spring Road, Rocky Hill, CT. For further information, visit [www.residenceferrypark.com](http://www.residenceferrypark.com) or call 860-575-3644.

## 8th Annual Knights of Columbus Charity Bowl

The Knights of Columbus DeSoto Council (Cromwell) is hosting its annual bowling fundraiser on Sunday February 25th from 12:00 – 3:00pm at Bowl-O-Rama. This is a family-friendly event that features prizes & raffles and supports the council's many charitable works! \$20/bowler (\$15 kids 12 & under) includes 2 games, shoes, pizza & drinks. Advanced registration is preferred, please visit our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/CromwellKoC](http://www.facebook.com/CromwellKoC) for the registration form or email [cromwellkofc@yahoo.com](mailto:cromwellkofc@yahoo.com).

## Wethersfield Library Art Exhibit

Richard Incorvati will once again share his inspiring travel photography with library patrons. This exhibit will feature Portugal, and includes the artist's passion for landscapes and cultural connections. Richard is a life-long world traveler. His work will be on display at the Wethersfield Library during the months of December and January. Call 860-721-2166 if you are a local artist interested in exhibiting your artwork at the Wethersfield Library. The Library is located at 515 Silas Deane Highway in Wethersfield. For information and directions to the Library, visit [www.wethersfieldlibrary.org](http://www.wethersfieldlibrary.org) or call 860-529-2665.

## Developing Inner Clarity

Developing Inner Clarity: A Beginner Silent Meditation Retreat, Saturday, February 3, 10am – 5pm at Odiyana Center, 450 New London Turnpike, Glastonbury. Refresh your body and mind with a guided meditation retreat in the silence. Discover the real freedom to be found in a calm and quiet mind, and escape the busyness of daily life. Participants are encouraged to attend the full retreat but can attend individual sessions. Cost: \$25 for full retreat or \$7 per session. No one turned away for lack of funds. Everyone welcome. Info at [meditation-inconnecticut.org](http://meditation-inconnecticut.org)

## Wethersfield Art League

### Invites You to Join!

The Wethersfield Art League is a non-profit organization that has been serving the community for 65 years. Artists of all levels (and ages!) are welcome! An annual individual sponsorship costs just \$30, a family sponsorship just \$35. Classes, workshops, and free open studios are held at the Little Red Schoolhouse, 193 Wells Road, Wethersfield. Email us at [Wethersfield-ArtLeague@gmail.com](mailto:Wethersfield-ArtLeague@gmail.com) or Phone: 860-563-9637. Visit us on Facebook or Instagram: [@WethersfieldArtLeague](https://www.instagram.com/WethersfieldArtLeague).

## 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](http://www.facebook.com/CromwellArts) or contact [CromwellArtsAlliance@gmail.com](mailto:CromwellArtsAlliance@gmail.com). 11/20/14

## Rocky Hill Senior Center Membership

Are you at least 55 years old and interested in staying active and connected to your community? Become a member of the Rocky Hill Senior Center! Membership is complimentary for Rocky Hill residents and \$20 per year for non-residents. Applications may be picked up at the Senior Center or mailed by request. Meet new people, experience a wide variety of recreational activities and enhance your quality of life!

## Volunteers in Psychotherapy

Volunteers In Psychotherapy allows you to earn strictly private therapy [no reports to insurers of your private discussions] in exchange for volunteer work you supply, privately and independently, for the charity of your choice. VIP's local service has been granted awards and funding from the Connecticut Psychological Association. Contact Dr. Shulman at (860) 233-5115, or learn more at [www.CTVIP.org](http://www.CTVIP.org).

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**Selection A \$39.80**

**PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT** Holy Spirit, you who made me see everything and showed me the way to reach my ideal, You, who gave me the divine gift to forgive and forget the wrong that is done to me, and You who are in all instances of my life with me, I in this short dialogue want to thank you for everything and confirm once more that I never want to be separated from you no matter how great the material desire may be. I want to be with you and my loved ones in your perpetual glory, Amen. Thank you for your love towards me and my loved ones. Persons must pray the prayer three consecutive days without asking your wish. After third day, wish will be granted no matter how difficult it may be. Then promise to publish this dialogue as soon as this favor is granted. \_ \_ \_ \_

**Selection B \$35.40**

**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. O 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. \_ \_ \_ \_

**Selection C \$26.80**

**ST. JUDE NOVENA** May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray for us. Say this prayer 9 times a day. By the 8th day, your prayer will be answered. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised. My prayers have been answered. Thank you and God Bless you, St. Jude. \_ \_ \_ \_

**Selection D \$14.00**

**ST. JUDE** Thank you again for answering my prayers. Publication promised. \_ \_ \_ \_

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Mail to: Rare Reminder, P.O. Box 289, Rocky Hill, CT 06067  
St. Jude ads run as Rare Reminder classified ads, in the first available issue after receipt of ad. Ads shown are slightly smaller than actual classified ads. Rates effective April 01, 2015.

**ELECTRIC STAN LLC.:** Kitchen and Bathrooms. Upgrading panels & meters, Add 10 yrs. smoke detectors to your home. 10 Wilcox St, Wethersfield, Licensed and Insured, E-1 202454. Call or text for free estimate on electric work needed. All jobs require permit, Home inspector lists needs to sell your home. Will work with aluminium wiring. Install car chargers for residential 860-716-7903. I return every call.

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

**SNOW PLOWING:** Snow removal for commercial and residential. Call 860-347-0509.

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

**STARFISH** don't have brains.

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**1150-AM**  
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Installation

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while you wait!

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155 Main Street, Middletown All Since 1898  
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**TREE REMOVAL SERVICES:** Tree Removal, Lot Clearing, Stump Grinding, Firewood. Fully Licensed and Insured. Free Estimates 24/7 Emergency Services 860-922-7738, Schmitt Tree Service and Landscaping.

**HARDWOOD FLOORS:** Installation, Repairs, sanding and finish, all stain colors, rubio monocoat, dustless system and more. 17 years experience with all types of wood floors, best price and quality work. Call now and set up an appointment for more details. ACS Wood floors, 860-995-3099, 860-514-6770. HIC0641233.

**MONICA CLEANING:** Provides reliable and top quality cleaning services throughout Connecticut. We take good care of your home or office and clean it as we would our own. We stand behind our performance and guarantee your satisfaction. We care about our services to you, and if you're not satisfied, we're not. Give us a call - We Do It All! 860-833-5226 for a Free Estimate.

**THE STUMP GUY LLC:** Stump grinding, Tree removal, shrubs and brush removal. Dump runs. Fully licensed and insured. Credit Card accepted. Call 860-770-9014 or 860-876-3750. HIC0644464.

**TAXES, TAXES, TAXES:** Licensed and experienced CPA will prepare your Federal/State Income Tax Returns. Individual and small business tax returns at reasonable rates. Electronic filing available. Senior discounts and home service. New clients receive 20% discount with this ad. Convenient and confidential service for all your tax needs. Bookkeeping services also available. Call Rocky Hill 860-563-7906 or Middletown 860-358-9124 for free estimate or appointment.

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**ST. JUDE NOVENA,** May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray for us. Say this prayer 9 times a day. By the 8th day your prayer will be answered. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised. My prayers have been answered. Thank you and God Bless you, St. Jude. P.F

**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. In Person Meetings Thursdays 7:30pm at United Methodist Church 401 New Britain Ave Newington, CT

**Cromwell Senior Center**  
and Holiday by Atria Presents

**SPEED DATING** Ages 60+  
**FREE DRINK AND FOOD**

**February 15, 2024**  
Event time 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm

*Must RSVP by Feb. 8th*

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**DECARLO LANDSCAPING:** Full-service property maintenance. Headtrimming, fall clean ups, regular cutting, mulch & stone & tree service. 860-543-2773.

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**ANTS** do not sleep.

**WANTED:** Used and abused boats, cars, trucks, RVs and motorcycles. Top dollar paid. Free pick up 860-675-7261.

**TOP DOLLAR PAID FOR OLD FISHING LURES:** Tackle Boxes, Heddon Creek Chub, etc. Free Appraisals. Call Keith 860-944-7115.

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

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

**VINNY MASON CONTRACTOR:** All types of masonry work, new fire place, chimney repair, fire-place stone, stone wall, walkway, patio. Licensed & Insured, HIC.0628280. Contact 860-916-7517.

**LANDSCAPING JH1 SOLUTIONS:** Serving Rocky Hill, Cromwell, Wethersfield, Newington. Residential and Commercial. Tree removal and trimming, land clearing, patio and retaining walls, weekly lawn maintenance and Spring and Fall clean ups, Firewood available. Call jack for quote 860-818-2773.

**SHARK'S** teeth are literally as hard as steel.

# SEEKING EMT'S

Newington Emergency Services, Inc.

is currently seeking volunteer EMT'S to fill open positions. If you're a certified EMT and want to use your skills, please visit our website: [www.newingtonems.com](http://www.newingtonems.com) for further information and to fill out an application.



Please remember to pull to the right for flashing lights. Ambulance corps members use flashing lights to respond to emergency medical calls.

**TREE REMOVAL SERVICES:** Tree Removal, Lot Clearing, Stump Grinding, Firewood. Fully Licensed and Insured. Free Estimates 24/7 Emergency Services 860-922-7738, Schmitt Tree Service and Landscaping.

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# Get Results With The Rare Reminder Classifieds!

## Classified Advertising

Our Classified Advertising Staff is able to assist you in placing and pricing your classified advertising, the typed ads that run throughout the paper. Classified advertising sections include: General, Real Estate, Help Wanted, Auto, and For Pets' Sake. You can place your classified ad by phone (limited to 25 words) or by mailing the attached form with your payment. Deadline for all classifieds is Mondays by 5pm.

**Personal Classifieds:** up to 22 words:  
\$14.00(use form provided)  
20¢ each additional word

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

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

**All classified ads must be paid upon order.**

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Please Select One, or simply include your check.



Card #

Expiration Date:   —

Security Code

Payment Amount: \$

Name  Day Time Phone

Address  City  Zip

Date(s) ad is to appear in paper  Amount Enclosed: \$


**Be sure to include phone # in ad (if needed).**

Phone 860.563.9386  
Fax 860.257.4684-Classified  
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Rocky Hill, CT 06067


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13 \_\_\_\_\_ 14 \_\_\_\_\_ 15 \_\_\_\_\_ 16 \_\_\_\_\_ 17 \_\_\_\_\_ 18 \_\_\_\_\_  
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**230 Wethersfield Ave., Hartford, CT**  
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**ANNA'S CLEANING SERVICE:** Luxury polish woman helper 860-518-9608.

**ELEPHANTS** have been known to remain standing after they die.

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Please Select One, or simply include your check.



Card #

Expiration Date:   —

Security Code

Payment Amount: \$

Name  Day Time Phone

Address  City  Zip

Date(s) ad is to appear in paper  Amount Enclosed: \$

**Be sure to include phone # in ad (if needed).**

Phone 860.563.9386  
Fax 860.257.4684-Classified  
Hrs: Mon.-Thur. 8:30-4; Fri 8:30-1  
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**Two Single Model 9 x 7 Garage Doors & Two .5 HP Electric Operators**

INCLUDES: Well Insulated Steel Doors. Take Down, Disposal of Old Doors & Openers, Installation, Weather Seal, Two Remotes, Wireless Keypad, Wall Button & Photo Safety Eyes. Window Upgrades available for additional price. Excludes Previous Orders. Not Valid with any other offer. Plus tax. Offer expires 2/29/24



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

**THE CONNECTICUT TREE PROTECTIVE ASSOC., INC.** wishes to remind property owners that firms or individuals contracting for tree care services must hold a state Arborist's license. Unlicensed parties are subject to prosecution by the state.

**HARDWOOD FLOORING:** Installation, repairs, sanding, staining, dustless refinishing. Carpet and vinyl, LVT and ceramic, all flooring. Finish carpentry and decks. HIC#0624266. Fully insured. Free estimates. **BROTHERS HOME IMPROVEMENT & FLOORING, LLC.** Locally owned/ operate [info@brothershomeimprovementct.com](mailto:info@brothershomeimprovementct.com), [www.BrothersHomeImprovementCT.com](http://www.BrothersHomeImprovementCT.com) 860-432-5716, 860-882-7672.

[www.rarereminder.com](http://www.rarereminder.com)

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**TREE WORK:** tree removal, tree trimming, tree pruning, tree cabling. Fully licensed and insured. LaPila Arborists 860-965-5546.

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**JOSH'S JUNK REMOVAL:** All items removed at a reasonable rate. Call for estimate. We also remove sheds and hot tubs. Insured. Josh Langdon 48hrs. Cleaning Service. 860-922-4621.

**ELECTRICIAN:** 30 years experience. Licensed E1-121957 and fully insured. Prompt reliable service. Reasonable rates. No job is too small. Please call Brian 860-614-4370.

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

**HEATING, HOT WATER SERVICES:** Service and installation of any model of the furnace or boiler. Conversion oil to gas options. Licensed and Insured. Call Art 860-478-5979.

**J&S PAINTING AND HOME IMPROVEMENT:** Painting interior and exterior, roof, siding, windows, hardwood and laminate floors, new and repair, fence installation, deck installation, new additions, all kinds of carpentry work. House and office cleaning. Property Management. Call John 860-796-0006.

**HOT WATER HEATERS:** Highly experienced and qualified installation. Call today for a fair price 860-836-7075.

**FOR SALE:** Rose Hill Cemetery Plot lot #753 Sec. 24 SE. Asking \$2300. Call 860-877-8662 or 860-836-0947.



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We do service.  
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**J&S MASONRY, LLC.:** Designer patio, Pool patio, Chimney Repair, Sidewalk, Stone Walls, Brick Walls, Retaining Wall Bluestone, Steps, Veneer Stone, Walkways, Cement, Tile, Paving, building maintenance all kinds of masonry home repair. Call John, 860-796-0006.

**ST. JUDE NOVENA,** May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray for us. Say this prayer 9 times a day. By the 8th day your prayer will be answered. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised. My prayers have been answered. Thank you and God Bless you, St. Jude. P.F

Call the Classifieds at 860-563-9386

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**PAVING CONTRACTORS, LLC**  
WINTER SPECIALS:  
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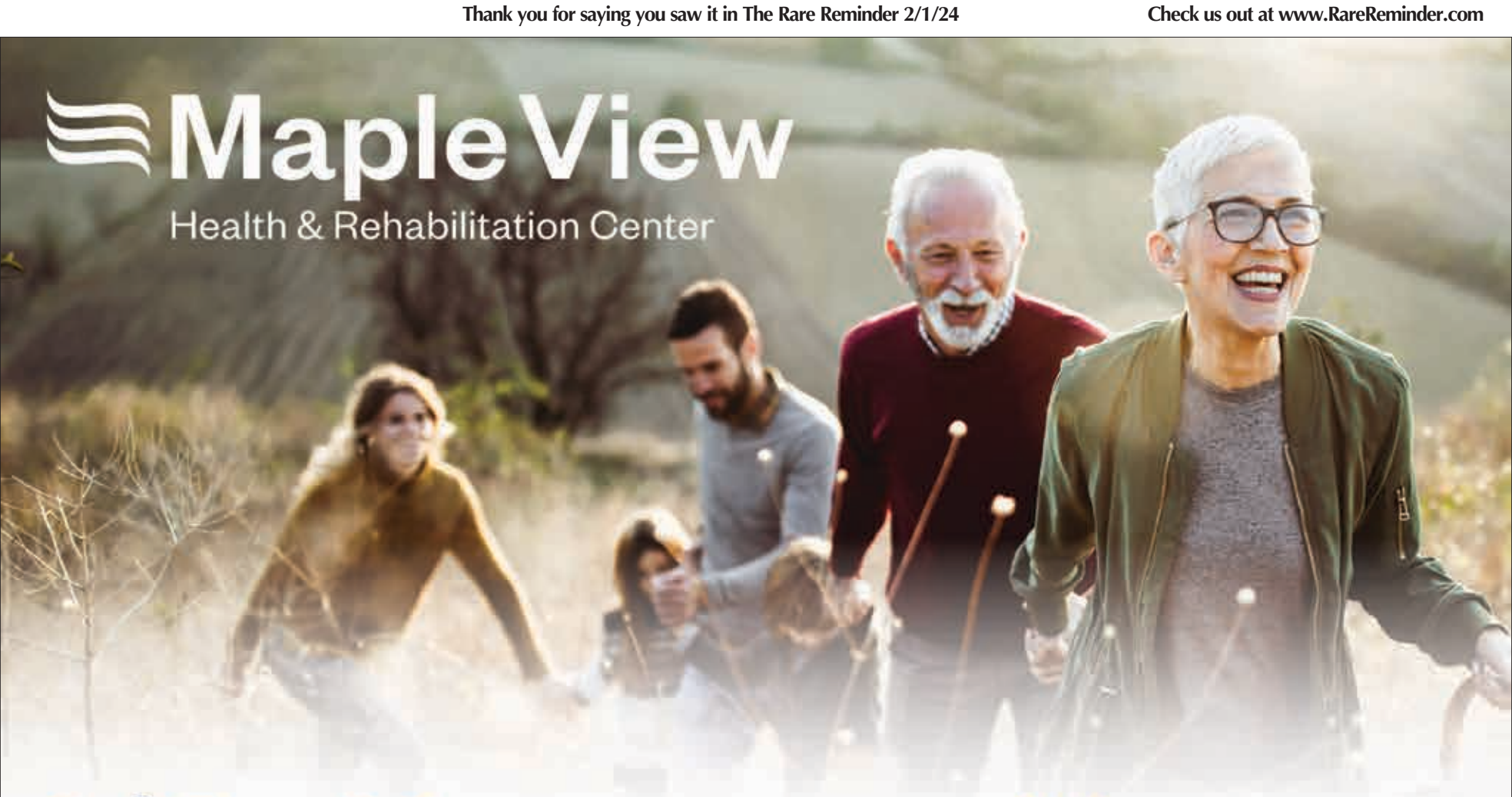
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<b>SOUTHURY</b> Wednesday, February 7 2:00pm-4:00pm (Refreshments) Heritage Hotel 522 Heritage Road	<b>SOUTHINGTON</b> Thursday, February 8 7:00pm-9:00pm (Coffee & Dessert) Southington Country Club (The Back Nine Tavern) 150 Savage Street	<b>MYSTIC</b> Saturday, February 10 2:00pm-4:00pm (Refreshments) Mystic Marriott Hotel 625 North Road

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## Libraries Need Friends!

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

## AOH February Food Drive

The Ancient Order of Hibernians Hartford Division 2 is sponsoring a Food Drive on Sunday, February 11 from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Collection will take place at Christ the King Parish at 601 Silas Deane Highway in Wethersfield in the parking lot that is between the church and the middle school. The food will be given to the pantry at Saint Augustine Church in Hartford. Please bring non-perishable items with canned meats and soup in the greatest need in addition to pinto and pink beans. We are also looking to collect cooking oils, spices, and condiments.

## Middlesex County Acts of Kindness

Volunteers can provide free home-based assistance to Middlesex County residents in need. Volunteers help neighbors with household chores, yard work, companionship or transportation at their convenience. Even just one hour a week or month will make a difference to help keep people living safely and independently in their homes. Contact Michelle Puzzo, President and Co-founder UR Community Cares at [info@urcommunitycares.org](mailto:info@urcommunitycares.org).

## Social Justice Coalition

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

## Rocky Hill Historical Society

Happy, healthy New Year wishes to the townspeople of Rocky Hill! The Rocky Hill Historical Society is open on Saturdays 12:30 p.m.- 3:00 p.m. Located at 785 Main Street in a former maritime school built in 1803, the RHHS exhibits include Native artifacts, maritime and military artifacts, and a research library. We are a small part of the past, present, and future of our town, and hope to share resources with you. Call for special appointments at (860)563-6704. Cheers to all in 2024!

## Help Newington Human Services

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

## CPD Food Pantry is Open

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

## Meals on Wheels Seeks Volunteers

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

## Organ Recital

Organist Scott Lamlein will perform on Sunday, February 18 at 4:00 at Church of Christ, Congregational in Newington, Connecticut. Lamlein performed the Widor Symphony No. 5 in Widor's church in Paris last summer. He will play that piece, along with works by Dan Locklair, Max Reger, and Florence Price. Free concert. 1075 Main Street, Newington, Connecticut. (860) 666-4689. [newingtonucc.org](http://newingtonucc.org)

## 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". The Mason hall is located at 80 Walsh Ave(behind CVS) . Breakfast is held from 7:30-11a.m.

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## RHHS Visitors

### Welcome

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

### BHS 50th

#### Reunion

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

## 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](http://www.carshelpingtheblind.org). 12/30/15

### NHS 50th

#### Reunion

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

### Food Pantry

Saint Paul's Lutheran Church Food Pantry, at 371 Wolcott Hill Road in Wethersfield is open Thursday's between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. All are welcome. Feel free to call 860-529-5397 with questions. 03/10/22

## Rocky Hill High School 50th

#### Reunion

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

### Monthly First

#### Friday Breakfasts

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

### Free Legal Advice

Attorney Joan Wilson offers free half hour consultations at the Wethersfield Senior Center between 10 a.m. and 12 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month. Program is for town residents and is by appointment only.

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## Meals on Wheels Volunteers Needed

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

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**FOR SALE:** Established dry cleaning business and tailor shop in Hartford. Owned since 1986 until now. Prime location and plenty of parking. Just installed 2 brand new machines cost over \$100,000. For more information about the business and price. Please Call Chantha 860-994-1993

**WETHERSFIELD FOR RENT:** 1st floor office \$350.00 all utilities included. Contact Carl Lucas 860-296-1411.

**1 BEDROOM/ 2 BEDROOM APARTMENT FOR RENT IN ROCKY HILL:** Hot water/heat included, \$1350/1650. New paint/floors. Move-in ready. Call Eda 860-986-9271.

**RENTAL SPACE AVAILABLE:** Approximately 1250 sq feet, potential Salon or retail space, on busy section of Silas Dean Why, Rocky Hill. Please call 860-257-0312 for additional information.

**SELL YOUR HOUSE FAST:** Any condition- "AS-IS"-Fast Cash Closings -No Hassles. Local & Professional -No Fees -No Commissions [www.valleyresidentialgroup.com](http://www.valleyresidentialgroup.com) 860-589.4663.

**NEWINGTON:** One bedroom apartment for rent spacious. \$1,400 per month. Washer & Dryer included, on site parking 860-604-3197. No pets.

## PROPERTY TRANSFERS

### Cromwell

<b>01/12/2024</b> Azer, Matthew To Coe, Dori	<b>2314 Cromwell Hills Dr</b>	\$143,000
<b>01/09/2024</b> Mason, Ronald A; Mason, Suzann M To Simmons, Cheryl	<b>213 Skyview Dr</b>	\$270,000
<b>01/12/2024</b> Pons, Colleen M To Ritone, Amber	<b>14 Woodland Dr</b>	\$148,000
<b>01/09/2024</b> Fulton, Jonathan W; Cerrito, Krystal A To Parekh, Rohan R; Holt, Megan L	<b>40 Acer Dr</b>	\$380,000
<b>01/08/2024</b> Tuzeneu, Stephen A; Tuzeneu, Lois To Tapia, Carlos G; Barrera, Raquel	<b>45 Barbara Rd</b>	\$307,500
<b>01/08/2024</b> Cook Clifford Est; Higgins, Tom To 52 Braeburn Lane LLC	<b>52 Braeburn Ln</b>	\$50,000
<b>01/09/2024</b> Condon, Richard; Condon, Nicole To Truong, Dinh S; Pham, Nhu Y	<b>15 Clifford St</b>	\$475,000
<b>01/08/2024</b> Metlitski, Andrey To Akerley, Austin A	<b>70 Fox Run Ct</b>	\$270,000

<b>01/08/2024</b> Kinnane, Lucy M To Daigneault, Todd	<b>59 Homecrest St</b>	\$285,000
<b>12/04/2023</b> Ramsay Loretta A Est; Hodge, Raymond M To Dombrowski, Stanley	<b>91 Old Farm Dr</b>	\$325,000
<b>12/06/2023</b> Paszczuk Elizabeth Est; Paszczuk, Jennie To Melendez, Edgar T; Vazquez, Sasha L	<b>23 Ralph Ave</b>	\$315,000
<b>12/04/2023</b> Lawlor, Jay R; Newrez LLC To Kyem, Olivia N	<b>19 Thornton Dr</b>	\$197,000
<b>12/12/2023</b> Pandolfi Antoinette M Est; Greika, Amy To 107 Webster Court LLC	<b>107 Webster Ct</b>	\$115,900
<b>01/08/2024</b> Romanelli Ft; Romanelli, Nick To Ocasio, Carlos	<b>30 Woodmere Rd</b>	\$310,000
<b>01/12/2024</b> Janet Leigh Whittaker Lt; Whittaker, Janet L To Patel, Kartavya; Patel, Jinitaben	<b>43 Brookwood Dr #D</b>	\$212,000
<b>01/11/2024</b> Freedom Mortgage Corp To Flippingfancy Homes LLC	<b>22 Clemens Ct</b>	\$205,000

<b>12/01/2023</b> Hillview North LLC To Marconi Property LLC	<b>377 Cromwell Ave</b>	\$3,200,000
<b>12/01/2023</b> Hillview Plaza Assoc LLC To Marconi Enterprises LLC	<b>397 Cromwell Ave</b>	\$7,800,000
<b>01/11/2024</b> Frascarelli Rose P Est; Johnson, Teresa R To Difronzo, Derek J; Difronzo, Amber J	<b>51 Grimes Rd</b>	\$375,000
<b>12/01/2023</b> Donald Pet & Marilyn S Pe To Ahmad, Ishraq	<b>2100 Harbor View Dr</b>	\$151,000
<b>01/09/2024</b> Palica, Ryan To Radhakrishnan, Vinodkumar; Seshadri, Niranjna	<b>49 Pequot Dr #</b>	\$272,000
<b>12/01/2023</b> Carola Ft; Carola Jr, Nicholas A To Desopo, Joseph	<b>18 Valley Brook Rd</b>	\$280,000
<b>01/10/2024</b> Deborah C Morrison RET; Morrison, Deborah C To Livingston, Glenda V; Thangaraj, Praveen W	<b>242 Whitewood Dr</b>	\$750,000







# OUR PET PAGE



## Caring for pets for over 60 years!

### Connecticut Veterinary Center & The Pet E.R.

470 Oakwood Avenue, West Hartford  
American Animal Hospital Association Certified  
**Call 860.233.8564**

<b>Windsor</b> 620 Bloomfield Ave. 860.688.2026	<b>Also Serving</b>	<b>Kensington</b> 88 High Road 860.229.8960
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## Friendships should not be spoiled by bad breath!

### February is National Pet Dental Health Month

At Companion Animal Hospital we offer dental consultations and hygiene services!  
Give us a call today! 860-632-7955  
5 Kirby Road, Cromwell




This brother/sister pair are in need of a foster home. Their dad passed away and they were left in the apartment alone. Cats are emotional and sensitive animals. As a foster home, you can help them through the mourning process so they can recover and bond with a new family. Please email [hucatresearch@gmail.com](mailto:hucatresearch@gmail.com) or call 860-479-5173.



**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](http://www.outtopasture.org).

## VISIT A SHELTER NEAR YOU!

### Meet Dior!

She's a classy 7yo tabby cat looking to soak up every ounce of your affection! She is shy at first, but after a few meetings, all she wants is purrs, pets, and snuggles! Dior needs to be an only pet in a quiet home with lots of human attention! To learn more, please contact Our Companions at

**860.242.9999 Ext. 302**  
[OurCompanions.org](http://OurCompanions.org)  
[Helpline@OurCompanions.org](mailto:Helpline@OurCompanions.org)



Spooky is about 1 1/2 years old. He is a little nervous but enjoys pets and will be a great companion once he settles into your home. He doesn't do well with other cats or dogs so he needs to be the only pet in the house.



Online adoption form at [www.fobac.org](http://www.fobac.org) and you can email us too at [fobacadoptions@gmail.com](mailto:fobacadoptions@gmail.com). 860-828-7055

## ADOPT A NEW BEST FRIEND!

Rizzi was rescued taking shelter under a deck along with his mother and siblings. This handsome little fellow is only 6 weeks old. Rizzi is in foster care now, but is hoping to find a permanent home. He is very friendly and would be a wonderful addition to a loving family.

If interested call AFOC at 860-693-0303 for more information.




**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!

**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.



## POA PET OF THE WEEK

"A non-profit, all-volunteer animal rescue organization."

Porter is a spunky little 3 month old who loves to play, play, play. He is also a world champion snuggler! Porter would be so happy to have furry canine siblings that like to romp and rough house (he ADORES his 70lb canine foster brother!). He is fine with kitties and kiddos as well.



Visit [www.POAinc.org](http://www.POAinc.org), or call 860-569-0722


## BRING HOME A FRIEND

Name: **Konan**  
Gender: **Male**  
Breed: **DSH**  
Color: **Black & White**  
Ages: **1 year old**

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



**Konan** was found as a stray in the Hamden area. He was checked for a microchip (none) and given a checkup, flea treatment, and was neutered. He's currently at the home of the person who found him making sure he has basic care. However, she has several pets and is managing some personal challenges so she cannot keep him long term. The vet **described him as "sweet" but shy**, and while he's guarded at times, he tolerates petting, will eat out of your hand, and is litter box trained. Being a young cat, it's believed Konan will thrive in a loving, forever home of his own once he becomes familiar with his surroundings. If you adopt him, you may want to give him time to adjust in a room by himself before introducing him to others (pets/kids) in the home. To adopt sweet Konan, please email: [remimari@gmail.com](mailto:remimari@gmail.com)



## SPAY/NEUTER awareness month

### I want to go home



We welcomed Jelly into our foster home this week. Jelly is a sweet, seven year old boy who was abandoned when his family got a new pet who began to bully Jelly. Jelly would run outside to get away from him. This sad situation could have been prevented with a proper introduction. Jelly was cared for by a family nearby but they could not adopt him as their own because they were moving. Jelly is ready to retire into a sweet house kitty in a home where he can shine at last. He is very sweet and mellow. Please fill out an application on our website at [www.hucatresearch.org](http://www.hucatresearch.org). Thank you!








Cookie (top) & Mini are looking for loving homes with lots of patience and TLC. They came from a tough situation and need some socializing as far as playing outside, walking on a leash and playing with toys. They are timid and shy but very loving and fun!! If you are the type of person who wants to really rescue a pet and are willing to love & pamper it, then these pups are for you! There are three sisters & one brother. None have ever showed aggression. Very sweet dogs and everyone at the Vet loved them. Serious inquiries only over 25 years old.

Online adoption form at [www.fobac.org](http://www.fobac.org) MUST have current Vet for a reference. Call Jan 860-828-7055

02/01/24

## Walk By Faith Doggie Bakery & Cromwell Country Store

Established in 2012

317C Main St.  
Cromwell  
860-834-0261

My name is Kim Roy. I own & operate Walk by Faith Doggie Bakery & Cromwell Country Store. We have been in business for 11 years & are now open to the public with our country store as of 2020. As a single mom, I needed a way to support us in tough times. I was teaching Kindergarten & attending college again for a BA in Behavioral Health & Ethics. Who would have thought, our dog Faith would bring the way to support a family financially & emotionally. Faith was getting older & suffered from hot spots, weight issues, & slowing down with a whimper as she got off the couch. I researched for a way to help her. With good, quality natural ingredients & human grade herbs & spices in handmade treats, they changed her life. It's amazing to see the difference what these treats are doing in the lives of pups today.

Our bakery is fully open for the experience of seeing our entire hand-baking process, with smells of yummy baking even attracting the dogs & pet owners passing by. Located adjacent to a park, and trails & the CT River. We carry our treats, cat treats, pet toys, birthday cakes, a dog jerky bar, art with your dog, selfie station, bake or frost your own treats, & everything you would expect at a country store; locally made cards, candles, soaps, maple syrup, sauces, fudge, totes, honey, mugs & more. We also carry our product in local shops and grocers.


We are so proud of what Walk by Faith Doggie Bakery has become & I am enjoying this amazing journey of helping people & their pets improve their lives.

**Come Visit our Bakery & Country Store! We are dog friendly!**

[www.walkbyfaithdoggiebakery.com](http://www.walkbyfaithdoggiebakery.com)

02/01/24

**VISIT YOUR LOCAL SHELTER TODAY**



Onyx is a handsome, smoky-black Maine Coon mix. He is very friendly, yet he lives in a community cat colony. He gets food and shelter from the rain there but it's clear that he was once a house cat. We would like to give Onyx the opportunity to be safe and warm in a home again but our foster homes are full. You can make a difference in his life by providing a foster home until he finds a permanent home. Foster homes play a crucial role in the overall mission of municipal shelters to reduce euthanasia rates. They give animals a chance to thrive and create more spaces at shelters. Our rescue group is working collaboratively with other rescue groups to find Onyx a foster home and give him a chance at a real home. Please email [hucatrescue@gmail.com](mailto:hucatrescue@gmail.com) if you can help Onyx.

02/01/24



Chico is a big boy, neutered late in life, hence the big jowls. He is friendly, although not a lap cat. He showed up one day at a resident's back door. He is fully vetted and would really like to be in a home and out of the kennel. He really needs to stretch his legs and peer out the windows.

Online adoption form at [www.fobac.org](http://www.fobac.org) or email us at [fobacadoptions@gmail.com](mailto:fobacadoptions@gmail.com)

02/01/24

**ADOPT DOLLY.** Dolly is a beautiful, one year old, black and white tuxedo. She is quite shy and will shine with a nurturing, patient person. Dolly is good with other cats and she really likes dogs. Please fill out an application on our website at [www.hucatrescue.org](http://www.hucatrescue.org).



Name: **Tilly**  
Gender: **Female**  
Breed: **DSH**  
Color: **Black**  
Age: **3 years old**

Tilly (aka Tilt) was rescued from a hoarding situation. She's very sweet and loves to make "biscuits" on your lap. When she was found she had a large polyp in her ear which has been removed. This caused her head to have a slight tilt. She needs a quiet home because she does get nervous and isn't sure what to do with loud noises or sudden movement. In a gentle, loving home she will be such a joy and very affectionate with you. To adopt Tilly, contact Cat Tales today! *No Dogs / No Children*

Web: <http://www.CatTalesCT.org/cats/Tilly-2>  
PH: 860-344-9043 • Email: [Info@CatTalesCT.org](mailto:Info@CatTalesCT.org)  
Watch our TV commercial: <https://youtube/Y1MECIS4mlc>

02/01/24

**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](mailto: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.

**ADOPT A SHELTER PET**



**PET OF THE WEEK**

**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)



My Name Is **Kylie**

My Person Is **Lauren**

02/01/24



# HUGE WINTER SALE

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**DEE'S ANTIQUES, PAYS \$\$ CASH MONEY \$\$:** Buying gold jewelry, sterling silver jewelry and gold and silver coins. Military items, musical instruments, vintage advertising signs and memorabilia, old toys, old hunting, and fishing items. Servicing the community and family respectively for 50 years. Call 203-235-8431.

**For a Great Haircut Come See**  
**CABRO**  
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**PLUMBING & HOME RENOVATION:** Licensed #0265213 & insured. Free estimates. No job too small! Residential & commercial. Reasonable rates. Senior citizen discount. Mike, 860-883-5382.

**ELECTRICIAN:** For all your electrical needs. Service upgrades, additions, troubleshooting, swimming pools, etc. Reliable & dependable. Fully insured, CT Lic #103115. Call Nick @ 860-989-9522.

**FENCE:** Dog fence, Vinyl, cedar, chain link, repairs. Pool code. For Free estimates call Eric at 860-231-1799. Saddle Hill Landscaping (formally D&D Fence).

**CONNECTICUT FINE WOOD WORKING:** Custom wood-working, furniture repair, mantels, crowns and cabinets. Home remodeling, spray finishing all types. Licensed and Insured. 860-613-0856.

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Thank you for saying you saw it in The Rare Reminder 2/1/24

**DUMP IT:** Dump runs, one item or a full truck or trailer load. Basements, garages, attic clean outs. Prompt Professional and Reliable. Call Dave, DDAHauling 860-803-5528.

**GOT TREES AND STUMPS?** Call or text 860-770-9014 or 860-876-3750. Credit Card accepted. Fully licensed and insured. HIC0644464.

**ALAN SOUCY HOME IMPROVEMENT:** Let us give you a Free Estimate on your new Kitchen & Bath remodeling. BBB Alan 860-657-6462.

**ROOFER, ROOF-REPAIR-MAN, CORRADO FAMILY ROOFING TRADITION:** All general roof repairs, full roofs, roof stain and mold removal, roof ventilation, Skylights Installation, Siding and Replacement Windows, Aluminum Trim, Chimneys, chimney repairs & Gutter Installation. Gutter down spouts, gutter tune ups & Gutter Cleaning, leaf guards. No job to small. 59 years local trusted experience. Residential Home Improvement LLC. Licensed & insured HIC#569972. Professional reasonable rates. Free estimates. Call Frank or Gregory F. Corrado, 860-869-1596, 860-529-3377.

**ASPHALT MAINTENANCE PAVING CONTRACTORS, LLC WINTER SPECIALS:** Hot asphalt available for repairs. Asphalt millings also available. Call Office 860-632-PAVE or Field # 860-883-7689.

**HOUSECLEANING:** Polish/English speaking woman can clean your house with care. 3rd cleaning 30% off for new clients. Satisfaction guaranteed. Insured and bonded. Call 860-268-2301.

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**SNOW PLOWING:** Yard clean up, tree and brush removal, gutter cleaning, minor home repairs. Seasonal lawn and yard maintenance. Call Greg 860-538-3326.

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**FOOD:** Are you over-involved with food? Would you like that to be different? Consider attending an OA meeting and find out what is involved. For more information, meeting times and places to call CT OA at 860-840-2475, or look us up at [www.ConnecticutOA.org](http://www.ConnecticutOA.org).

**WANTED TO BUY:** All antiques; toys, military, watches, advertising, jewelry, coins, clocks, signs, all musical instruments, guitars, saxophones, keyboards, trumpets, amplifiers, accordions, vintage electronics, hi-fi stereo, amplifiers, pro-audio, radios, ham equipment, tube type equipment, plus more. 1 item or entire estate. Call 860-707-9350.

**\$8 BUNDLE OF FIREWOOD:** 5 to 7 bundles delivered to your door. 5 Bundles minimum. Cords and 1/2 cords available. call 860-883-7689.

**A ABSOLUTE MASONRY:** Stamped Concrete, sidewalks, driveways and additions. Retaining Walls, Stone work. Excavation, Remodeling. 30+ years experience. Tony 860-543-4464.

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# EMPLOYMENT



*In this season of giving, the American Cancer Society wants to thank the many individuals who give their time and talents throughout the year to make a difference in the fight against cancer. For more information about ways to become involved in your community, contact the American Cancer Society at 1.800.ACS.2345.*



[www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org)  
Hope.Progress.Answers.

**Don't let gravity be your downfall.**



One in three. That's how many adults over 65 fall each year in the United States. Because older bones break more easily, falling injuries for seniors can be traumatic. Staying active and strong is key — along with making home environments as safe as possible. For more info on senior fitness and home safety, visit [orthoinfo.org](http://orthoinfo.org) and [nata.org](http://nata.org).



*Ready. Set.*  
**RESOLVE!**

**Seeking : FT / PT Counter Sales Rep & Drivers For Steady Truck Rental Facility.**

Customer service & computer skills required. Other duties involved.

Must have valid driver's license & reliable transportation. Drug screen required.

**Call Stephanie at 860-289-2508**

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

**SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS NEEDED:** Rocky Hill/ Berlin/ Meriden/ Southington. Must be 21 years or older and possess a driver's license for at least 3yrs. Paid training to acquire CDL license and endorsements available. The opportunity to bring your children to work, No Childcare\$\$ Contact Sheila at New Britain Transportation 860-828-0511 ext. 221 or visit us at 257 Woodlawn Rd Berlin, CT.

**WANTED:** Home health aid to assist a 83 year old woman with dementia in Wethersfield. Duties include feeding, ambulating, bathing, toileting & dressing, bilingual Spanish speaking preferred. P/T \$15-18 an hour. Call Joe 860-517-9681.

**TOWN OF MANCHESTER:** Job Openings Clerical Assistant PT, Evidence Technician PT, Mechanic II – Public Works, Police Officer – Entry Level, Police Officer – Certified, Project Support Manager, Safety and Compliance Coordinator, Water & Sewer Maintainer/Equipment Operator I, <https://www.manchesterct.gov/Employment-Opportunities>



## Automotive Forum

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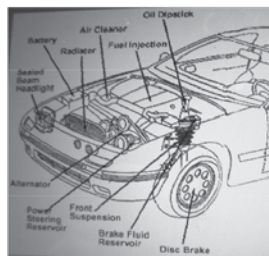


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# SPORTS CORNER



Newington senior captain LeBron Beckford is defended by RHAM's Troy Miller during the Nor'easters victory at NHS last Monday.



Nor'easters junior guard Donovan McDorman looks for an opening against RHAM.

## Nor'easters Roundball Survive Raptors

By Josh Howard

Newington boys basketball used a 10-point run that spanned the latter stages of the third quarter and early part of the fourth to take a lead they would not relinquish in a 70-62 victory over RHAM on Jan. 22.

Prior to the Nor'easters scoring surge, the teams traded the lead a half dozen times in what proved to be a closely-contested Central Connecticut Conference (CCC) battle.

It was a much-needed win for a Nor'easters team that was coming off a pair of one-point losses to Windsor and Torrington.

"I hope it helps us a lot; we really needed this to get over the hump. The last two games have been heartbreakers for us," said Newington head coach Scot Wenzel. "The kids played their hearts out and we needed this at this point more than anything. It wasn't pretty, but we'll take it."

Senior captain Avery Mickens paced the offense, hitting five 3-pointers and scoring a team-high 25 points.

"My teammates really helped set me up with good shots," Mickens said following the eight-point win. "Without them, I wouldn't have been able to do it."

Mickens hit three shots from beyond the arc in the first quarter as the home Nor'easters stormed out to an early lead, scoring 11 of the first 15 points and expanded the lead to 22-13 after the first eight minutes.

Wenzel said that Mickens, who captains the team with fellow seniors LeBron Beckford and Adam Alexander, has been a "leader by example" this season.

"In the first half we did a good job at getting him the ball and in the second half it was a little more difficult, but he still came through with some big shots," Wenzel said of Mickens' latest performance.

Behind seniors Troy Miller and Brady Hulland, the visiting Raptors clawed their way back in the game, outscoring Newington by 11 in the second quarter to take a 32-30 lead into the half.

Miller and Hulland combined to score all 19 of RHAM's points in the quarter. Miller finished with a game-high 31 points and Hulland added 20 points in defeat.

After losing the momentum and the lead, Wenzel's goal at the half was to refocus his bewildered team.

"We got away from what we were doing. It became a game of one-on-one stuff and we were playing very selfishly," recalled Wenzel. "In the second half I thought we did a better job at running some sets and getting some good looks and got back to what we did in the first quarter."

The teams traded buckets throughout the first five minutes of the third before Beckford scored in transition to narrow the deficit to two points and Alexander tied the game with a pair of free throws.

On the ensuing offensive possession, sophomore Josiah Sims made a contested layup in traffic, giving Newington the lead at 44-42 with less than a minute to play in the third quarter.

The six straight points to end the third quarter was part of a 10-0 Newington scoring spurt that bled over into the final frame.

Mickens said the sudden surge was part physical and part mental.

"The second quarter we lacked intensity, and we came out in the third quarter and brought that energy and intensity to help us get the win," added Mickens.

A 3-pointer from RHAM's Conor Sullivan narrowed the margin to 62-60 with less than a minute to play in regulation, but free-throws proved to be the difference as Newington made their final six foul shots, with Sims sinking four freebies and junior Donovan McDorman hitting two.

Sims finished the night with 17 points, while Alexander added 12 and Beckford scored 11.

Coming off the pair of one-point losses, Mickens said it was good to be on the winning end of a close game.

"I would rather play in games like this than a blowout," he added. "I love playing against good teams, it only makes you better."

With February's stretch run coming up, Wenzel hopes his team can limit mistakes and "become a smarter and a more physical basketball team."

"We have to take care of the ball and finish games like we did tonight," added Wenzel.

Mickens agreed, adding, "We have a lot of potential. We've been in a lot of close games, but this one feels good and will definitely

will lead us on the right path."

Last Friday, the Nor'easters followed up the win over RHAM by beating Simsbury 58-41, upping their record to 6-8.

Next up is a road test against the Blue Dragons in Middletown tonight (Thursday, Feb. 1). Tip-off is 6:45 p.m.

## The Starting Five - Athletes of the Week

**Mason Parker** - Rocky Hill High School (Ice Hockey): Parker, a sophomore, scored four goals as the Terriers won a pair of games last week. In a 4-2 win over East Catholic, Parker tallied two goals and dished out an assist to charge an offensive that also got a pair of goals from freshman Kyle Eames, who was recently named a Connecticut High School Coaches Association Player of the Week. Three nights later, Parker scored two more goals — earning the Connecticut High School Hockey Report Player of the Game — as Rocky Hill throttled New Milford 5-1.

**Katie Bohlke** - Newington High School (Cross Country): Bohlke was named the Connecticut Girls Cross Country Gatorade Player of the Year last week. Bohlke, a senior who has committed to run collegiately at Virginia Tech, won both the Class L and State Open championship in the fall. Along with her accomplishments on the trails and tracks, Bohlke has maintained a 4.17 GPA. She is currently competing for the Nor'easters indoor track and field team before she finishes up in the outdoor season in the spring before joining the Division I Hokies in Blacksburg, Virginia.

**Katie Harding** - Rocky Hill High School (Basketball): Harding scored a program record 40 points as the Terriers throttled Avon 82-51 on Jan. 26. Harding, a sophomore, ignited an offense that scored a season-high in points as the team won a fourth straight game. Rocky Hill next hosts Cromwell tonight (Thursday, Feb. 1) at 6:30 p.m.

**Owen Thulen** - Wethersfield High School (Ice Hockey): Thulen registered his second shutout of the season, making 30 saves as the Eagles blanked Farmington Valley General 1-0 behind a power play goal from Jake Kulvinskis on Jan. 17. Thulen, a junior, then



earned the win in a 4-1 win over East Catholic and made 34 saves in an overtime loss to Glastonbury.

**Tessa Porch** - Middletown High School (Basketball): Porch tallied 47 points as the Blue Dragons won a pair of games to extend their winning streak to four games. Porch, a sophomore, first scored a career-high 24 points in a 72-53 win over New Britain on Jan. 22 and then netted 23 points (hitting five 3-pointers) in a 51-43 victory over Amistad on Jan. 24. Through the first dozen games, Porch is the team's leading scorer, averaging over 15 points per game as Middletown has won seven of those games.

To nominate an athlete for The Starting Five or with sports-related comments, email [joshhowardsports@gmail.com](mailto:joshhowardsports@gmail.com).

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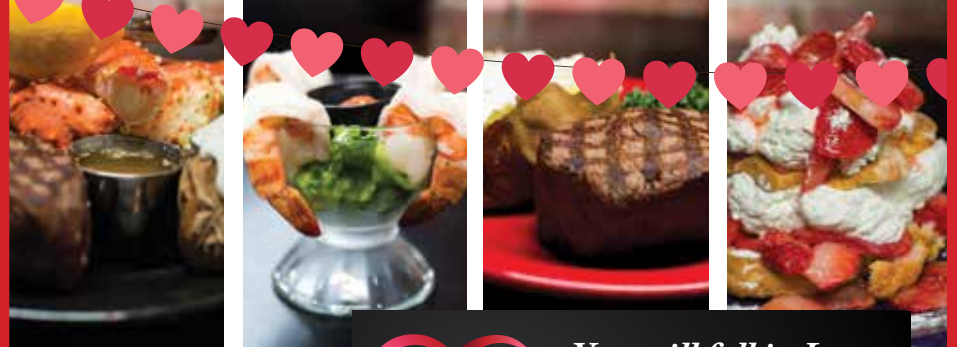
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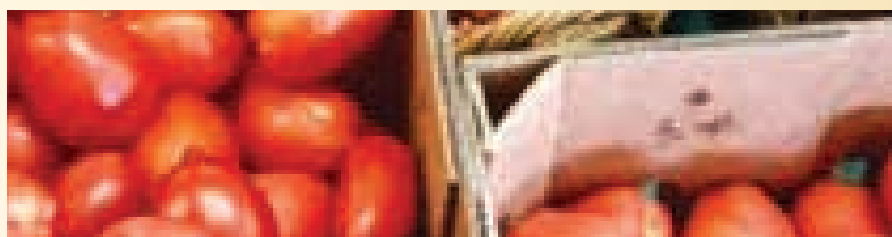


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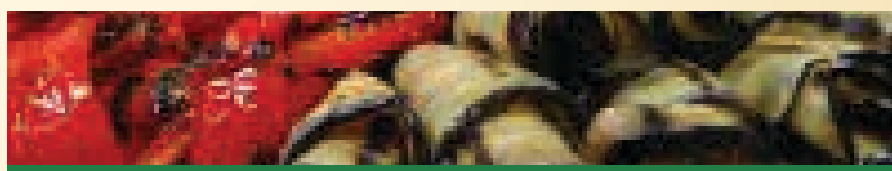
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