

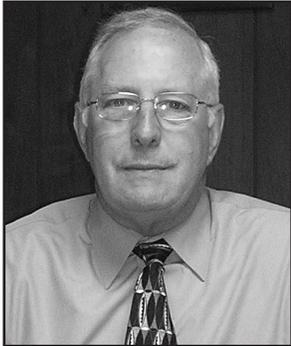
# Preston Pipeline<sup>2</sup>

VOL 6 ISSUE 1

FALL 2016

## From The Desk Of The First Selectman

by First Selectman Bob Congdon



Bob Congdon

**November 8th Elections** - This is proving to be an interesting presidential election year to say the least. While many voters have issues and concerns with one or both candidates for President, it is more important than ever that you exercise your right and responsibility to vote. In addition to choosing our next President and Vice President there are other important state and national positions that will be decided this

November. We will be electing our United States Representative, State Senator and State Representative. Consider your choices carefully and vote on November 8th.

**Emergency Notification System** - The system software is installed and staff has been trained in its use. There is information on this system in this issue of The Preston Pipeline, on the Town's website,

at Town Hall and our Library on how to sign up so that you can be notified of emergency situations in Preston. (See page 10.)

**Town Hall Staff** - Kathy Nichols, from our Planning Department, has chosen to retire so she can move closer to her family. Kathy has been employed with the Town for twelve years and will be missed. In addition to her duties as Planning Department Assistant Kathy has maintained our GIS System, the Town web site, and has been the recorder for many of our Boards and Commissions. While Kathy will be very difficult to replace there is good news. Nancy Musa has recently been hired to take on administrative duties of the Building Department and is proving to be an exceptional addition to our staff. If you're in Town Hall, please stop in and meet Nancy.

**Issues and ideas** - If you have something you'd like to present to your elected officials, please attend a Selectmen's meeting held on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month at 6:30 pm or contact me at (860) 887-5581, or e-mail me at: [Congdon@preston-ct.org](mailto:Congdon@preston-ct.org)

## SEEN AT THE SCARECROW FESTIVAL



**INSIDE:**

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY • PRESTON FOOD PANTRY • PRESTON PARKS AND REC  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY • LIBRARY NEWS • MORE!

TOWN OF PRESTON WEBSITE: [WWW.PRESTON-CT.ORG](http://WWW.PRESTON-CT.ORG)

Preston Pipeline<sup>2</sup>

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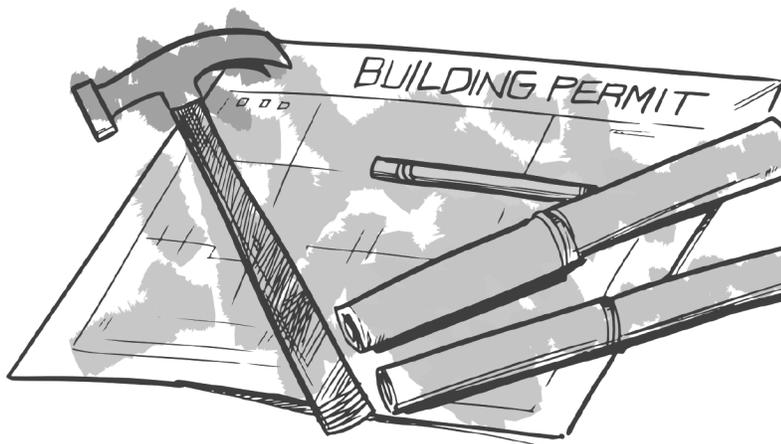
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A LETTER TO MY FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS IN PRESTON

In 1968, my father bought a piece of land on the Quinebaug River on River Road. I moved to this property forty years ago, and have been living here ever since. I have served this community in many capacities: as a school bus driver and then school bus coordinator, as an EMT with the Preston City Fire Department, as a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals, the Planning & Zoning Commission, the Inland Wetland and Conservation Commissions, and as a member of the Board of Selectmen.

In 1980, I left my position as the school bus coordinator for the Town and took a pay cut to work as a psychiatric aide at the old Norwich State Hospital. I spent thirty years of my life serving the people of our state as a social worker for the elderly, a child abuse investigator, and eventually as a planning analyst working on issues like climate change, renewable energy, and medical policy and mental health.

I was elected as your State Representative in 2012 and served on the Energy & Technology, Environment, and Humans Service Committees. As Chair of the Regional Entities Working Group, I advocated that we needed to do more to take the fiscal and policy decisions we make out of Hartford and bring them down to the local and regional level. Working closely with the Preston Redevelopment Agency, the First Selectman, and Senator Andy Maynard, I helped secure a \$5 million grant to finally tear down the old Kettle Building, where I ironically began my state career. I am confident that we will begin to see the fruition of our collective efforts as a town, in partnership with the Mohegan Tribe.

I am running for State Senate because I believe Connecticut's future hangs in the balance. We must get our budget under control; we must keep businesses here; and we must stand up for the values of human dignity and equality that define us. I will stand up to special interest groups and lobbyists. People know that I'll fight against corporate polluters just as much as I'll stand up for local small business owners. Together, we can restructure Connecticut's state government by enacting term limits and cutting programs that are not working. We must put people first, not politics.

- Your Neighbor, Tim Bowles

Paid for by Bowles 2016. Diana Kulmacz, Treasurer. Approved by Tim Bowles



# Preston Historical Society

Preserving The Past for Future Generations

News from the Preston Historical Society

## Remembering the Original Preston School Bus

With the start of a new school year, I thought I'd go back in our history and reprint an article written by Ruth Wheeler with a few original pictures.

### Preston's First School Bus - Sept. 1933

by Ruth Wheeler  
(Preston Pipeline March, 1994)

Before the first bus, we rode in Henry Bates ice cart. The benches along each side folded up so during the day they could use it to deliver ice (no refrigerators).

The bus (or ice wagon) started at Bennett's store across from the Baptist Church at about 7:30 am. Most of us NFA students came a couple of miles to get there - some three miles. Many used "Shank's Mare" (walking). Others were lucky and had fathers that brought us in. The bus brought us up to NFA in the morning, but we had to walk down to the bus terminal near the Norwich Post Office in the afternoon to get the bus. Why, I never knew.



Back Row: Owner and bus driver, Herbert Benjamin- Ellen Abrahamson, David Reed (N.Stonington), Genevieve Lebuis, Emily Panus, Florence Brand, Barbara Geisthardt, Ernestine Prue, Michael Martiska, Nathan Chafitz, Betty Spaulding (Norwich), Arnold Levine, Front: Caesar Lebuis, Charles Crary, Douglas Barnes, Ruth Abrahamson, Carrie Benjamin, Lois Bausch (Norwich) and Marion Lebuis.

A few lucky ones who loved on Shetucket Turnpike were picked up in front of their homes. Yes, we had "air conditioning" on the ice wagon - it just had canvas flaps on the sides and back.

As I see people out jogging in the morning, I think of how many NFA students jogged to get an education.

In the afternoon, our fathers were working so we walked home. Route 165 and 164 were not paved then, so it was jumping over the mudpuddles in the spring. We earned our education, but it was worthwhile. Most of the time we had fun, too. The end of the year was a real treat for us with Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin's invitation to their cottage at Lord's Point. We had a great time swimming, picnicking and socializing.

## Update on Long Society Meetinghouse



The restoration of the Meetinghouse continues with the fall painting of the back and sides of the Meetinghouse. Using part of our matching grant from the 1772 Foundation with money raised during our Preston Community Yard Sale and Music Festival, the sides of the building will be stripped, repaired and painted by Erik Berk Painting.

Dave Oat and Linda Christensen led a Walktober tour of the Meetinghouse on Sunday, Oct. 2. The Meetinghouse is available for tours both for adults and schoolchildren. Please contact Linda at LindaCh5@comcast.net.

Please send any donations to Preston Historical Society, c/o Mark Christensen, 15 Amos Road, Preston, CT 06365.

## Next Meeting

**The next meeting of the Preston Historical Society is scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 23, 2016, 1:00 pm, Long Society Meetinghouse, 45 Long Society Road.** Everyone is invited. Come out and check us out. Want to join or renew your membership? **Please check out our website at [www.preston-ct.org](http://www.preston-ct.org) for information and an application. Look for us on Facebook at Preston Historical Society of Connecticut.**



*"Thank you to the residents of Preston for your support and for your vote on November 8th. Also, I would like to thank the Preston Pipeline for providing this method of communication to all Preston residents."*

**Mike France**

**[www.MikeFrance2016.com](http://www.MikeFrance2016.com)**

**[RepFranceCT42@gmail.com](mailto:RepFranceCT42@gmail.com)**

**(860) 271-3816**

**[www.facebook.com/MikeFrance42ndStateRep](http://www.facebook.com/MikeFrance42ndStateRep)**

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Barbara Keck, owner, Dog behavioral counselor  
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# Attention Preston Voters



Independents 

 Democrats

Republicans 

On November 8<sup>th</sup>

Vote

## Heather Somers

### For State Senate, Representing Preston

Paid for by Norman Gauthier, Preston, Connecticut

## Your Town Government - Comments on the Annual Report

By Norman Gauthier

The centerfold of this issue is the annual report from the Board of Finance to advise you of the financial health of the Town. That report provides information and data needed to understand the financial position of the Town for both the past fiscal year and its current position. Your humble scribe is a member of the Board of Finance and an author of the report. In this space we will add information that is not appropriate for the official report but is worth noting.

The annual audit report provides a snapshot of the fiscal health of the Town as of June 30, 2015. The audit for the fiscal year that ended on June 30, 2016 is being compiled as you read this. We will report to you on the results of that audit report soon after it is completed.

At the end of FY2015 the Town's general fund surplus was 19% of the expense budget. So, in order to slow the growth of the surplus, the Board of Finance lowered the tax rate that year by a half mill. This helped. The surplus grew, but by a more acceptable \$155,243. It is expected that the audit report for FY2016 will show that, instead of adding to the surplus, we actually used some of it to pay Town expenses. Town officials try very hard to control spending and keep budget increases to a minimum. But, this is very difficult in a time when so many expenses

continue to increase. The Town's Grand List, the list of all taxable property, has the biggest impact on budget growth and tax increases. When the Grand List increases, the Town can absorb increases in expenses without any tax increase.

When the Grand List is stagnant, the only way to cover increased expenses is through tax increases. We look forward to the proposed development of the State Hospital property and the very real possibility that five to seven years from now we will see the Grand List growing and a corresponding decrease in the tax rate.

The Town is making annual payments on five separate loans. The total dollar amount of these loans is less than half of the Town receipts for a single year. By many standards this is considered a minor amount. The annual loan payment is 4.5% of Town expenses. Three of those loans will be paid-off in 2020.

The biggest threat to having stable budgets is the uncertainty of continued and consistent support from the state. If the state reduces financial support to the towns, our only recourse is to raise taxes. **Right now, the financial future for the Town of Preston looks bright. We welcome your questions and comments. Contact the author at [N.Gauthier@usa.net](mailto:N.Gauthier@usa.net)**

# PRESTON PARKS & RECREATION

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### TRUNK OR TREAT

Preston Parks & Recreation & PVMS PTO will be hosting Preston's 6th Annual Trunk or Treat event. Join us for a fun, family night which including decorated trunks filled with candy and treats and hayrides.



**TRUNK DECORATORS ARE NEEDED.** We are looking for 30+ people to decorate the trunk of their vehicle and hand out candy on the night of the event (candy will be supplied). We say "trunk" but you can decorate your car, minivan, truck, trailer, etc...use your imagination!! If you own a company, decorating a trunk is a great way to advertise to the Preston community!!

Gift cards will be awarded to the winners of the best decorated trunk contest: First Place: \$75.00; Second Place: \$50.00 and Third Place: \$25.00.

Lots of volunteers are needed to make this event successful! Still need volunteers for the following: set-up & clean-up, candy runners, help with hayride. Please contact Preston Parks & Recreation if you are interested in helping with this great community event!!

Date: Friday, October 28  
(rain date: Saturday, October 28)

Time: 6:30-8:00 pm

Where: Preston Veterans Memorial School Parking Lot

Admission: Bag of individually wrapped candy

*Trunk or Treat is for Preston residents only; ID required to enter*

### PRESENTS FOR PRESTON

Preston Parks & Recreation wants to make sure every child in Preston, 8th grade and under, has a Merry Christmas. If you are in need of help this holiday season or know a family that is, please contact Parks & Recreation by phone or email [prestonrec@hotmail.com](mailto:prestonrec@hotmail.com)

Must be a Preston resident to qualify for this program. All requests due by November 18. All requests will be kept strictly confidential.

If anyone is interested in sponsoring a child or making a donation towards this program, please contact the Parks & Recreation office



## EMPLOYMENT

Preston Parks & Recreation is looking for applicants for the following positions:

\*\* Program Aides (for after school programs, field trips and events)

Applicant must be 16 or older. Applications are available online at [www.preston-ct.org](http://www.preston-ct.org). Applications may be mailed to Preston Parks & Recreation, 389 Route 2, Preston, CT 06365.



## NEW PROGRAM IDEAS??

Have a new program idea? Are you interested in sharing a special talent of yours and instructing a class? Do you enjoy teaching kids or do you prefer working with adults?

Contact Preston Parks & Recreation by phone at 860-889-2482 x113 or email [prestonrec@hotmail.com](mailto:prestonrec@hotmail.com)

## YOUTH PROGRAMS

### JAMMING WITH HOOPS

Join us for a fun musically fueled class where kids will learn basic waist hooping, hand and leg hooping, and exploring space inside and outside of the hoop.

Instructor: Judi Jones

Dates: Tuesdays: November 1, 8, 15, 22

Time: 5:30 pm - 6:15 pm

Ages: 3-5

Location: Preston Plains Middle School

Fee: \$45 per child



### THE HOOP ACADEMY PRE-SEASON FALL BALL CLINIC

This is a great opportunity for all players, regardless of age or ability, to continue to develop and learn about the game of basketball in a positive environment. All campers will receive lots of drills and instruction on all aspects of the game including shooting, dribbling, passing and defense. This clinic is for everyone whether you are playing in a recreational league, in a travel league, or on a middle school team -- the purpose of this clinic is to prepare players for their upcoming seasons.

Instructor: George & Colleen Hardison

Dates: Saturday, November 8 & Sunday, November 9

Times: 9:00 am - 12:30 pm

Grades: 3 - 8

Location: Preston Veterans Memorial School Gym

Fee: \$55 per person

## YOUTH SPORTS

### YOUTH RECREATIONAL BASKETBALL

Registration for recreational youth basketball teams for grades 1 - 8 is now taking place.



All registrations forms due by Friday, October 28, 2016.

Practices will start in November. Games are played mostly on Saturdays, starting in December and running through February.

Coaches are still needed at all levels — please contact Preston Parks & Recreation for more info!!

Registration Fee: \$65 per person  
(fee includes full uniform: jersey & shorts)

## ADULT SPORTS

### MEN'S BASKETBALL



When: Wednesdays: October 5 - May 31

*(Basketball does not meet on holidays, school vacations, half days, or snow days/early dismissals during winter)*

Time: 6:45 pm - 8:15 pm

Location: Preston Plains Middle School Gym

Fee: \$20 per person

### CO-ED VOLLEYBALL

Bump, set and spike...come and enjoy an evening volleyball

Starting soon!! Check website for details!!!



## ADULT PROGRAMS

### ZUMBA

Are you ready to party yourself into shape? Forget the workout and just lose yourself in the music. This class requires no previous dance experience and is effective for all levels of fitness abilities. Zumba features exotic rhythms set to high energy Latin and international beats. Before you know it, you'll be getting fit and your energy levels will be soaring. It's easy to do and totally exhilarating.

Instructor: Sharon Brouillard

Time: 6:00 - 7:00 pm

Location: Preston Plains Middle School Cafeteria

Fee: \$41 per session or \$10 per week for walk-in registrations

Session #2 ~ Thursdays: November 17, 2016 - January 12, 2017  
(no class on 11/24, 12/08 or 12/29)

Session #3 ~ Thursdays: January 26, 2017 - March 2, 2017

### CHAIR YOGA

A complete yoga practice using the support of a chair. Breathing techniques, yoga philosophy, meditation and deep relaxation are woven into each class. In this fun and informative class students will take home tools for mindfulness and relaxation as well as movements for energizing and stretching the body. Chair yoga classes are targeted for ages 60+ but classes are open to all adults and abilities.

Instructor: Sandra Hartnett

Session #1 ~ Mondays: October 17, 2016 - November 21, 2016

Session #2 ~ Mondays: November 28, 2016 - January 23, 2017  
(no class on December 26, January 2 or January 16)

Time: 10:00 - 11:00 Am

Location: Preston Public Library Meeting Room

Ages: 16+

Fee: \$30 per session (6 weeks)

### YOGA BASICS

Practice includes a variety of foundational postures (standing, seated and on the floor) that focus on balance and alignment. Breathing techniques, yoga philosophy, meditation and deep relaxation are woven into each class. Modifications are offered to optimize each individual's experience. Please bring: yoga mat, blanket, and 2 yoga blocks.

Instructor: Sandra Hartnett

Session #1 ~ Mondays: October 17, 2016 - November 21, 2016

Session #2 ~ Mondays: November 28, 2016 - January 23, 2017  
(no class on December 26, January 2 or January 16)

Time: 5:15 - 6:15 pm

Location: Preston Public Library Meeting Room

Ages: 16+

Fee: \$50 per session (6 weeks)

### BEYOND BASICS

For students with some yoga experience. This class encourages each student to honor their own level of ability. You will be guided through a practice of meditation and breath work, holding and exploring postures. Modifications are offered as needed. This experience will encourage improved balance, increase flexibility, strengthen and tone muscles and stress relief. Please bring: yoga mat, blanket, and 2 yoga blocks.

Instructor: Sandra Hartnett

Session #1 ~ Mondays: October 17, 2016 - November 21, 2016

Session #2 ~ Mondays: November 28, 2016 - January 23, 2017  
(no class on December 26, January 2 or January 16)

Time: 5:15 - 6:15 pm

Location: Preston Public Library Meeting Room

Ages: 16+

Fee: \$50 per session (6 weeks)

### HOOP FIT

Get sweaty, fit and have fun! Hoop Fit class is designed to keep your heart rate up for the whole class. Whether you have never hooped or an experienced Hooper this class is for all levels. Join us for 4 weeks of Hoop Fit!

Instructor: Judi Jones

Dates: Tuesdays: November 1, 8, 15, 22

Time: 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Ages: 16+

Location: Preston Plains Middle School

Registration Fee: \$45



### RESTORATIVE YOGA WORKSHOP

Restorative Yoga is a way of easing your body, mind & heart into union by resting in supportive poses. The use of props (pillows, blankets, blocks) promotes relaxation in the body so that deeply held tension may be released, allowing energy & balanced well being to be restored.

Instructor: Sandra Hartnett

Date: Thursday, November 10

Time: 5:30 - 7:30 pm

Fee: \$20 per person if registered by October 28th

\$25 per person for all registrations received after October 28th

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Saturday  
**NOVEMBER 5, 2016**  
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Cash Bar

Event held @:  
**PRESTON VFW**  
28 Spicer Road, Preston, CT

Tickets \$20

For More info Call: Amy Brosnan 860-889-2482 ext.113  
*Performers subject to change. ADULT CONTENT*

☆ *Starring* ☆

**HEADLINER:** Linda Belt *Atlantic City Performer*

**FEATURE:** Rodney Norman *Boston Comedy Fest*

**HOST:** Jeff Wade *Comix*

Tickets for Comedy Show can be purchased at the Preston Parks & Recreation Office.

Like us on Facebook

Stay up-to-date with all the programs, events, and happenings Preston Parks & Recreation is offering!! "Like" us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/PrestonParksRecreation](http://www.facebook.com/PrestonParksRecreation)

# Town of Preston Alert Program

## If We Can't Reach You, We Can't Alert You!

Our new **TOWN OF PRESTON ALERT PROGRAM** is a community notification system that delivers information directly from Town Officials to you.

Get time sensitive notifications about emergencies and other important community news that may affect your home, business, workplace or any other location in Preston. Examples of the types of alerts we will send are: severe weather information, major road closures, missing persons or other situations deemed emergencies, and town notifications.

**This program will allow us to provide YOU with important messages in the way that you specify. YOU select the types of alerts you want.**

**YOU select the way you wish to receive these alerts: texts, calls to your cell/work/home, or emails. YOU tell us the best way to contact you, and we'll do the rest.**

## Sign up now!

**Register by going online to: [www.preston-ct.org](http://www.preston-ct.org) | Preston Alerts**

**OR you can complete and mail, or deliver the form (at the bottom of this page) to the Selectmen's Office.**

**NOTE:** Family members, care takers or emergency contacts who live outside of Preston can receive alerts regarding YOU! Tell them to register on above website - by using your Preston address - so that they also receive alerts that may impact you. **This can help them, help you.**

If you completed a form in the past, we suggest you log-on to ensure your information is up to date. You have the ability to modify your own account profile whenever you wish. **If you have questions, please call 860-887-5581 ext. 101.**

**Working together to keep everyone in our community safe and informed.**

**Please register now!**

**ALERT PROGRAM  
REGISTRATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Text Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail or deliver to: Town of Preston | 389 Route 2 | Preston, CT 06365



Town of Preston  
**2016 Annual Report**  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2015

In December 2015 the Town's auditor, Sandra E. Welwood, LLC, Certified Public Accountants, completed its audit of the Town's financial statements for the year ending June 30, 2015 (FY2015) and shortly thereafter met with the Board of Finance to present and explain the results of that audit.

**AUDIT SUMMARY**

In her presentation to the Board of Finance, the auditor noted that no audit adjustments were needed and she praised the cooperation of Town Treasurer Sue Nylen, Finance Director John Spang, and all Town personnel involved.

Preston remains financially healthy with a Standard & Poor's rating of AA+. This high rating allows the Town to borrow money at lower interest rates than towns with a lower rating.

The Town ended FY2015 with an unassigned General Fund Balance (surplus) of \$2,879,784. This is an increase over the previous year because Town revenues exceeded expenses. The fund balance is 19% of FY2015 expenditures and provides a healthy reserve for unanticipated needs.

The following pages present more detailed data extracted from that audit report. The full audit report is available for review in the Town Hall and can be downloaded on the Town web site at

<http://www.preston-ct.org/index.php/government/boards-aamp-commissions/board-of-finance/budget-history>

Table 1 is a summary of the actual revenues and expenses for FY2015. It shows that actual revenues exceeded expenses for the year by \$155,243.

**TABLE 1**  
General Fund – Fiscal Year 2015 Summary

Fiscal Year July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance With Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final		
<b>Revenues:</b>				
Property taxes	\$ 8,961,877	\$ 8,961,877	\$ 9,207,560	\$ 245,683
Intergovernmental	4,666,056	4,666,056	4,598,115	(67,941)
Local	1,056,396	1,056,396	1,226,383	169,987
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>14,684,329</b>	<b>14,684,329</b>	<b>15,032,058</b>	<b>347,729</b>
<b>Expenditures:</b>				
General government	1,498,132	1,504,147	1,361,810	142,337
Land development and control	62,898	62,898	59,123	3,775
Public works	600,004	620,004	591,270	28,734
Public safety	626,364	643,259	612,058	31,201
Health Services	127,482	127,482	122,481	5,001
Public and social services	373,371	373,371	367,718	5,653
Miscellaneous	391,743	481,833	385,484	96,349
Education	10,850,000	10,850,000	10,688,038	161,962
Debt service	669,335	688,835	688,833	2
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<b>15,199,329</b>	<b>15,351,829</b>	<b>14,876,815</b>	<b>475,014</b>
<b>Revenues minus Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ (515,000)</b>	<b>\$ (667,500)</b>	<b>\$ 155,243</b>	<b>\$ 822,743</b>

FY2015 results were favorable for both revenues and expenditures versus the budget. Both the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Education returned unspent budget funds to the Town. The budget anticipated using \$667,500 from the surplus to balance the budget. However, as Table 1 shows, surplus funds were not needed and the surplus balance actually increased by \$155,243.

The additional revenues shown were due to an insurance payment from the PVMS oil spill claim, better than expected payment of back taxes, and increased building permit fees.

The final expense budget was \$152,500 higher than the original budget due to mid-year appropriations approved by the Board of Finance.

Table 2 reports the end-of-year balance of the major governmental funds. To fully understand this table and narrative some definitions may be helpful:

The General Fund is the fund that holds Town operating revenues and from which expenses are paid. The day-to-day operation of the schools, public works, and Town hall are paid from this fund. It is also the repository of taxes paid and any state grants received.

The Capital and Non-Recurring Fund is a fund established by the Board of Finance to pay for unplanned, one-time projects that are not included in the annual budget. It includes excess funds from completed capital projects and funds added by the Board of Finance.

The Capital Projects Fund holds funds for ongoing capital projects that have been approved and funded.

The Preston Redevelopment Agency Fund (PRA) was created to segregate funds received as State or Federal grants to be used exclusively to demolish buildings and develop the former Norwich State Hospital site.

Other Funds are a collection of small funds that are maintained by the Town, such as: various cemetery funds, dog fund, Bates Fountain fund, EMS capital fund, and several others.

**TABLE 2**  
Balance Sheet of June 30, 2015

	General Fund	Capital and Nonrecurring Fund	Capital Projects Fund	PRA and Other Funds	Total
<b>Assets</b>					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 4,154,258	\$ 82,673	\$ 736,041	\$ 1,359,445	\$ 6,332,417
Receivables	873,885			676,317	1,550,202
Other Assets	313,666	218,388	536	144,492	677,082
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 5,341,809</b>	<b>\$ 301,061</b>	<b>\$ 736,577</b>	<b>\$ 2,180,254</b>	<b>\$ 8,559,701</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>					
Accounts payable	\$ 634,310	\$ 5,075		35,321	\$ 674,706
Accrued expenses	71,264				71,264
Bond anticipation notes				2,000,000	2,000,000
Other Liabilities	669,236			1,150,729	1,819,965
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>1,374,810</b>	<b>5,075</b>		<b>3,186,050</b>	<b>4,565,935</b>
<b>Deferred Inflows of Revenues</b>					
Receivables / Taxes	308,968			386,550	695,518
<b>Fund Balances</b>					
Nonspendable	19,075			29,051	48,126
Restricted	2,112	53,513		55,172	110,797
Committed		54,516	736,577		791,093
Assigned	757,060	187,957		407,202	1,352,219
Unassigned	2,879,784			(1,883,771)	996,013
<b>Total fund balances</b>	<b>\$ 3,658,031</b>	<b>\$ 295,986</b>	<b>\$ 736,577</b>	<b>\$(1,392,346)</b>	<b>\$ 3,298,248</b>

Table 2 Fund Balance categories:

Non-spendable –amount that is encumbered, such as long-term payables.

Restricted –amount that can be spent only for the specific purposes stipulated by the providers.

Committed –amount that can be used only for specific purposes approved by a Town Meeting.

Assigned –amount intended by the Board of Finance to be used for specific purposes but is not restricted or committed.

Unassigned – fund balance amount remaining in the General Fund that is spendable. This is the amount that is also referred to as the Town surplus fund.

The Preston Redevelopment Agency unassigned fund balance deficit represents a loan balance that must be paid down or rolled over annually.

Table 3 is the annual report of the Tax Collector. The taxes paid to support the FY2015 budget are based on the October 2013 Grand List. The collection of back taxes and lien fees added \$172,008 to the taxes collected.

**TABLE 3**  
**Report of the Tax Collector for the Year Ended June 30, 2015**

Grand List October 1,	Taxes	Lawful Corrections		Suspense Transfers	Adjusted	Collections			Taxes
	Receivable July 1, 2014	Additions	Deductions		Taxes Receivable	Taxes	Interest and Liens	Total	Receivable June 30, 2015
2013	\$ 9,144,432	\$ 6,829	\$ 35,814	\$ -	\$ 9,115,447	\$ 8,938,828	\$ 38,025	\$ 8,976,853	\$ 176,619
2012	198,717	1,140	7,074	-	192,783	139,542	31,882	171,424	53,241
2011	47,985	-	1,233	-	46,752	27,790	8,110	35,900	18,962
2010	6,518	10,854	1,288	-	16,084	2,021	938	2,959	14,063
2009	91	7,894	349	-	7,636	117	84	201	7,519
2008	152	8,132	-	-	8,284	97	91	188	8,187
2007	(342)	11,184	-	-	10,842	750	848	1,598	10,092
2006	(13)	17,772	179	-	17,580	811	1,071	1,882	16,769
2005	1,593	18,930	877	-	19,646	880	1,345	2,225	18,766
2004	2,212	6,721	80	-	8,853	-	-	-	8,853
2003	241	10,087	320	-	10,008	-	-	-	10,008
2002	(591)	13,971	-	-	13,380	-	-	-	13,380
2001	(20)	7,898	42	-	7,836	-	-	-	7,836
2000	(837)	3,569	277	-	2,455	-	-	-	2,455
1999	(544)	2,946	-	-	2,402	-	-	-	2,402
	<u>\$ 9,399,594</u>	<u>\$ 127,927</u>	<u>\$ 47,533</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 9,479,988</u>	<u>\$ 9,110,836</u>	<u>\$ 82,394</u>	<u>\$ 9,193,230</u>	<u>\$ 369,152</u>

The Board of Selectmen, Board of Education, and every Town department should be congratulated for their contributions to making FY2015 another fiscally positive year for Preston.

### ***Board of Finance***

*Norman Gauthier, Chairman, Ken Zachem, Jerry Grabarek, Andrew Bilodeau,  
David Cannon, Melissa Lennon, Stacey Becker - Alternate, Robert Tousignant - Alternate*

# State Legislative Update

By State Representative Mike France

It has been an honor to serve the residents of Preston as part of the 42nd District for the past two years and I look forward to continuing to serve you. I will continue to make myself available on a quarterly basis in a Town Hall format to hear directly from you on issues that concern you, and to provide direct feedback on your questions.

## Local Developments

We had a wonderful summer here in Southeastern Connecticut, kicked off by the successful memorandum of understanding (MOU) reached by the Mohegan Tribal Gaming Authority and the Town of Preston in May. The widely-supported MOU provides the framework to negotiate the terms of sale for the 393-acre property on which sat the former Norwich Hospital. The success of this project to date is the result of the dedicated work of all the volunteers who serve on the Preston Redevelopment Agency under the leadership of Chairman Sean Nugent (snugent@prestonriverwalk.com). The foresight of Preston elected leaders and residents to take charge of their own destiny with this property is being rewarded.

What a great accomplishment this is for the Town of Preston: a boost to our economy, with the potential to create up to 700 jobs, and an optimistic future for securing southeastern Connecticut as a hub for tourism and commerce. For more information on the Riverwalk development, please visit [www.prestonriverwalk.com](http://www.prestonriverwalk.com). For more on the Preston Redevelopment Agency, please visit the Town of Preston website at [www.preston-ct.org](http://www.preston-ct.org), and click the Boards, Commissions & Committees link under the "Government" tab.

## Non-Partisan State Government Information

I'd also like to encourage you to explore the incredible resources of the Legislative Offices of Financial Analysis (OFA) ([www.cga.ct.gov/ofa](http://www.cga.ct.gov/ofa)) and Legislative Research (OLR) ([www.cga.ct.gov/olr](http://www.cga.ct.gov/olr)) to keep up to date on state budgetary and legislative issues. OFA, the non-partisan fiscal research and analysis office of the General Assembly, keeps track of the state's appropriations and spending, tax and revenue information, bonds and grants and the state's historical spending patterns. On their website, you will find a Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 Budget Revision, a FY 16 Budget Status Report, budget sheets and books, and fiscal notes. OLR - on the other hand - is the non-partisan research arm of the General Assembly. Research analysts and attorneys provide information on various issues, laws, policies and programs. In addition, OLR responds to specific questions from legislators as part of their research responsibilities. Their research regarding these areas is generally



reported via bill and fiscal analyses/summaries. On their website you will find archives of committee documents, public act summaries and reports, and background information on hot topics.

## Education

With our children back to school, I want to inform you of a proposed education reform package that would provide our public/private high school students with an opportunity to transfer to a technical high school. This year I fought to establish a new bridge program that would prepare students during the summer to start at a technical high school following freshman or sophomore year. This is an ideal alternative for our students who have, upon review of their academic record and dis-

ussion with their family, decided that a different path is desired. Since this bill was not considered by the Education Committee in the 2016 Session, I met this summer with Dr. Nivea Torres, Superintendent of the Connecticut Technical High School System ([www.cttech.org](http://www.cttech.org)), as well as other interested stakeholders, to work together on this opportunity for the next session. I would greatly appreciate your opinion and thoughts on this issue.

## Transparency of Taxpayer-funded Campaign Spending

I will also continue to push for legislation to require that campaign consultants register with the State Elections Enforcement Commission (SEEC) ([www.ct.gov/seec](http://www.ct.gov/seec)) when they accept 15% or more of grant funds from a legislative candidate under the Citizens Election Program (CEP). Currently, Treasurers, Deputy Treasurers and Candidates are required to submit SEEC Form CEP 10, which is an affidavit of intent to abide by the CEP requirements. Campaign consultants who receive a significant portion of the CEP grant should also be required to provide a similar statement to abide by state law. If a consultant fails to comply with this requirement, the proposal would require the consultant to pay a fine of \$1,000 and be prohibited from participating in the next two election cycles. I also consider it a crucial provision to such legislation that any personal service agreements are disclosed, and that a copy of the agreement is provided by the campaign to SEEC. You should know how your tax dollars are being spent, especially when it comes to funding fair elections.

**If you have any questions or concerns about state government, please contact me at 1-800-842-1423 or [Mike.France@housegop.ct.gov](mailto:Mike.France@housegop.ct.gov).** I would especially love to hear your ideas for new legislation to propose and support during the upcoming session!

# EXPANDING AVALONIA LAND CONSERVANCY IN PRESTON

By Margaret Gibson

Avalonia Land Conservancy presence in Preston, despite our best efforts, may still be Preston's best-kept secret.

Some of our preserves are small: the **Poquetanuck Sedge Beds**, for instance, is a preserve of only one acre, but it is in a cove which, as a fresh and salt water estuary, maintains species of fauna and flora that are unique. We are there to have a say in protecting this environment. **Choate Brook Preserve** is also just an acre, but it abuts beautiful Choate Brook, again allowing us a say in keeping this waterway healthy and flowing. Such small preserves are perhaps better kept as secrets.

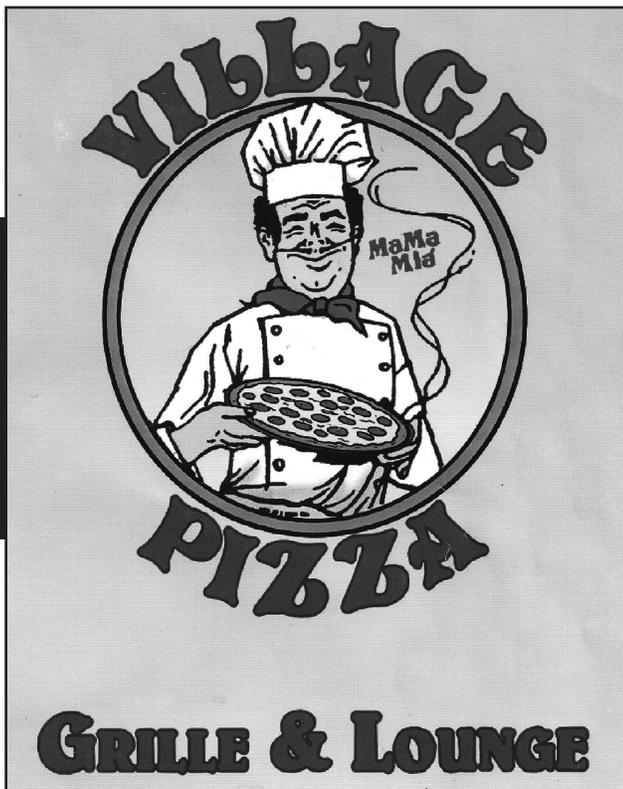
But then there are Preserves with walking trails and varied environments, and if you don't know about these two, you're missing out. The **Preston Nature Preserve** off Krug Road offers fields, upland woods, and a beautiful wetland to explore on a well maintained trail system. Our Avalonia team in Preston does its best to keep out invasive species of plants and to attract wildlife and birdlife. You have access to a trail on the **Mitchell Preserve** from within North Stonington's Reed Preserve; and you can explore several tracts of the Mitchell Preserve (the **Greenwood** and the **Songbird**) by entering a trail system off Lake of Isles Road. Here you have rolling slopes,

woods and wetlands, deep woods birds, glacial erratic stones, and a sense of restorative quiet. All these preserves are for your recreational use-walking, hiking, photography, bird-watching and the like.

We hope you will visit these preserves! We also hope that you will consider joining Avalonia and donating to it-your time in particular. The Preston team in Avalonia is small in number if mighty in dedication. We mow trails, mark them, check boundaries, and do other stewardship activities. Mighty as we are, we are also getting older, and that means we would appreciate new members, helping hands, young folks to frolic with, folks of all ages to join us in maintaining the physical beauty and environmental values of land right here in Preston. You can also consider donating land to Avalonia, so that we can preserve farmland fields, wildlife habitat, waterways, and forests. Donation may be part of a better financial package for you and your family when the time is right for you.

**Go to [avalonialandconservancy.org](http://avalonialandconservancy.org)** and learn more about the organization. You'll find trails all over southeastern CT, guided hikes, and activities for you and your family. There is so much to participate in! And you can begin right here at home in Preston. **Questions? Call Margaret: 860-886-1777.**

**Where family and good friends meet to eat...stop in check out our new menu!**



The "Upscale" Country Pizzeria & Grille

**Gourmet Pizza**

**New Items on the Menu!**

**Calzones! New Wraps! Wings!**

**Specialty Salads & Grinders**

**DELICIOUS SOUPS and PASTRAMI!**

*Mama Mia!  
It's Soooo Good!*

**Route 165 • Fleming's Center  
Preston CT • (860) 887-1930**

Minutes from Foxwoods. Rt. 2 West to Rt.  
164. Turn Left Onto Rt. 165, on Right

# News From Preston Redevelopment Agency



**Sean Nugent**  
Chairman  
Preston  
Redevelopment  
Agency



**Charles F. Bunnell**  
Chief of Staff  
External and  
Governmental Affairs  
The Mohegan Tribe

In May, The Mohegan Tribe and the Preston Redevelopment Agency reached agreement on a **Memorandum of Understanding for the development of the former Norwich State Hospital (Preston Riverwalk) property. Since then, the groups have been working daily to finalize the Property Disposition and Development Agreement.**

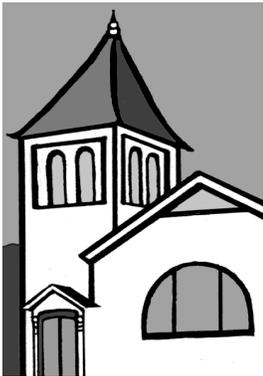
In a joint statement, Preston First Selectman Bob Congdon and Chairman Kevin Brown said, "The Preston Riverwalk proposal is an example of what can be accomplished to enhance the region through an economically sustainable development project when two governments come together for the betterment of the community.

We are optimistic about finalizing the Purchase and Sale agreement, bringing us one step closer to transforming this blighted property and providing jobs and needed revenue for the community, the region, and the state."

"Over a one week period in March of 2016, a team of four real estate professional from around the country, reviewed the Riverwalk site, talked to 'stakeholders' from Preston, the region and state and reviewed work done to date at the site. After a week of research they presented a report and road map forward based on the extensive real estate experience.

Recently the CRE organization reached out to the PRA asking if we would be willing to be part of a panel discussion at the upcoming International Economic Development Conference (IEDC) to share our story and the role the CRE Team has played in our project. CRE has agreed to pay travel and lodging expenses for a member of the PRA to attend the conference in Cleveland, OH on September 27th. The members of the PRA fully supported this request and **PRA Chairman Sean Nugent** will be attending the meeting to share our story."

## Preston City Congregational Church



Reverend Stanley E. White,  
Minister

Reverend Thomas J. Flynn,  
Associate Minister

*"Where Friends  
Become Family"*

For more information,  
check out our website:  
[prestoncitycongregational.org](http://prestoncitycongregational.org).  
Check us out on FACEBOOK!!!

*Join Us This Sunday!*

Worship 9 & 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday School 8:45 a.m.

**TURKEY SUPPER**  
October 22 • 4 - 6:30 p.m.  
Adults \$11  
Children 12 & under \$6

**Christmas Bazaar**  
November 19 • 9 - 2 p.m.

**Christmas Ever Services**  
December 24 • 4 & 11 p.m.  
Celebrate Christmas  
in the city!

321 Route 164 • Preston, CT  
860.887.4647 or 860.886.7200

## A BIG "Heads Up"!

**News From The  
Preston City  
Congregational Church**  
**Two Can Food Pantry**



As the weather cools and the days become shorter, the Food Pantry must plan to provide food items to more and more families in need. **Last year, we provided holiday dinners for over 100 families in November and December.** This year, we will provide turkeys (with all the "fixins' ") for Thanksgiving, and hams for Christmas. We buy hundreds of pounds of potatoes at cost, and local farmers have given us winter squash, turnips, and onions. **Donations of cranberry sauce, gravy, stuffing, and canned pineapple are welcomed. If you are able to provide a turkey or ham, let us know a week or two ahead so we will know how many we have to purchase.**

**A big "Heads up! The annual Troop 75 Boy Scout Food Drive will take place on Saturday, November 12. Yellow bags will be put on your mail box on Friday, the 11th. Last year we received over 3000 food items to stock our shelves. Thank you for your continued generosity!**

## Q & A With **John Freedman**...Talented Performer from Preston!

### When did you start performing locally?

In the Spring of 2012 I happened to be searching on the web to see if anyone in CT was doing a performance of a Gilbert and Sullivan comic operetta. I came upon the Connecticut Gilbert & Sullivan Society's web site where I learned that they would be performing HMS Pinafore and Trial By Jury the coming Fall, and were holding auditions for those shows in a few weeks.

I had never performed in any kind of show before. But I knew the music from HMS Pinafore by heart and thought it might be fun to give it a try. So I tried out, never thinking I would be good enough to be offered a role. But much to my amazement I was offered a role, and have been performing with them ever since.



### Who influenced you the most in your theatrical performing?

My parents were the ones who most influenced my interest in theater and performing. Both my parents were big Gilbert and Sullivan fans. I grew up listening to and attending Gilbert and Sullivan operettas and always thought that the music, the characters, and the story lines in these works were incredibly clever and funny. My mother loved the theater, and was an avid theater goer. She was also an actress and studied with Uta Hagen at the Herbert Berghof Studio in Manhattan. Though she never performed in any Gilbert and Sullivan operettas, she appeared in many local community theater productions and acted in summer stock in Lake Placid. My parents are both gone now, and never got the chance to see me perform. But I often think of them when I am on the stage, and picture them looking down and smiling. They would have been thrilled.

### What do you like best about performing in front of live audience?

The people who come to see Gilbert and Sullivan shows are ardent fans. Many of them have seen the particular show you are doing numerous times, including some professional productions of that show. Most know the songs and dialogue by heart and all of them come in with extremely high expectations. It is always amazing to me see and hear people responding to my portrayal of a character, laughing at the jokes, picking up on the double entendres, and applauding after a big solo number. And of course, when meeting with the audience after the show, it is wonderful to have people come up to you, shake your hand, and tell you what a wonderful job you did.

### What was your favorite role?

I would have to say that to date my favorite role was playing Don Alhambra Del Bolero, the Grand Inquisitor of Spain in The Gondoliers. Don Alhambra is a major principal role, and a central figure in the story. He is a comic foil to all of the other characters and yet has some of the funniest lines in the show. When playing this role, I delivered the lines with a Spanish accent. This made the character even more fun to portray and was a big hit with the audience. Don Alhambra has two big solo numbers: I stole the prince...where he explains how he spirited away the infant Prince of Baratavia to escape a revolution on the island, brought him to Venice, leaving him to be cared for by a

Gondolier who, with a terrible taste for tippling, subsequently got the Prince mixed up with his own infant son. In "There lived a king..." in Act II, Don Alhambra tells the two brothers, who are now jointly reigning as Kings on Baratavia, that giving titles to all of their subjects on the island is not a good idea. That when everyone is somebody, then no ones anybody! This was great role and an amazing experience for me.

### What do you like best about living in Preston?

I grew up in the suburbs 1/2 hour train ride from NYC. I went to school in Pittsburgh, and lived in Boston for 7 years. Though I always liked and took advantage of the cultural things each of these places had to offer, I often felt out of place and I did not like the crowds, the traffic and the noise. Though it is between two enormous casin-

nos, Preston has managed to keep much of its rural character. It is a friendly, quiet, comfortable, and affordable place to live. Yet cities and what they have to offer are still within reach when I get the itch to do something different, and two major airports are within easy reach should a major vacation be the order of the day.

**The Connecticut Gilbert & Sullivan Society will be performing The Pirates of Penzance at the Performing Arts Center, Valley Regional High School, Deep River, CT. Performances are Oct 15 2:00pm and 7:30pm and Oct 16, 2:00pm**

Full of funny characters, comic irony, and memorable music, The Pirates of Penzance is the best known and most beloved works of Gilbert and Sullivan. Set on England's Cornish coast in Queen Victoria's time, it tells the story of Frederic, who as a young boy, was mistakenly apprenticed to a band of soft-hearted and inept pirates by his hard-of-hearing nursemaid. Now 21, Frederic, freed from his indentures, declares his affection for his former ship mates but his loathing for their vile profession and vows to exterminate them.

Striking out on his own he meets and falls in love with Mabel, the fairest of Major General Stanley's daughters. But as they plan their nuptials and Frederic proceeds with his plans to eradicate the pirate band, a paradox, regarding his birth date, is revealed to him that throws all his and Mabel's plans into total disarray.

Though all seems lost, Gilbert and Sullivan once again come to the rescue, finding a way to work out this seemingly hopeless tangle to the utter delight of both players and the audience.

John will be playing the principal role of Edward, Sergeant of Police. Since the Sergeant and his force of bobbies only appear in Act II, I will also be performing as one of the pirates in Act I.

The show is staged with full sets, beautiful period costumes, and a full orchestra. **You can find out more information about CG&SS and the show and buy tickets by visiting the CG&SS web site [CTGANDS.ORG](http://CTGANDS.ORG) or calling (860)-554-1256. As an extra bonus this year, CG&SS has partnered with three local restaurants. When you purchase a ticket to the show you will receive a voucher for 10% off the price of your meal when you dine at one of the partner restaurants on Oct 15th and 16th.**

The Friends of the Preston Public Library Cordially Invite You

## "Reflections On The Harp"

A Winter Wonderland Musical Performance



Featuring **Preston's Own Harp Soloist Evelyn Cournoyer** in a performance of musical favorites including selections of Original and Contemporary Celtic Music and a few Holiday favorites. Please join us for this delightful, musical treat.

**Saturday, November 26, 2016 at 1:00pm**  
(Community Room, Preston Public Library)

Evelyn Cournoyer grew up in Preston, CT and is now attending her second semester at Berklee College of Music in Boston, MA. Her major is Contemporary Writing and Production. She has performed a great deal of traditional Scottish and Irish music, but is currently experimenting in other innovative styles, interpreting old tunes in a new way and using her traditional skill set to write new and exciting music.

## Are You Prepared For Your Funeral ?

Please join us for a necessary, but sometimes not-so-easy to talk about, presentation

**Tuesday, October 25, 2016**

**4:00pm - 5:30pm**

Preston Public Library Community Room  
389 Route 2 (Norwich Westerly Road) Preston, CT  
Sponsored by the Friends of the Preston Public Library



join us for a one hour program with guest speaker **James Morin**, an experienced and licensed funeral director and retired Connecticut State Police Sergeant James has degrees in Criminal Justice and Mortuary Science and will be presenting "Key Issues To Think About", in preparing for your funeral.

**(Registration required. Please register at the front desk of the library or call the library to register (860) 886-1010 by Monday, October 24, 2016.)**



## Hitting the Pavement with Max Zachem

**Tuesday, November the 8th at 6 pm**

**Poquetanuck Firehouse**

**87 Route 2A**

**Join us as our local professional driver talks about the nuts and bolts of auto racing.**



Career Expo & more!

Coming 11.11.16

Concert

Benefits vets!

Join us!



**tdid.org**

**Mohegan Sun**

# Preston Public Library

389 Route 2 ( Across from Town Hall) Preston, CT 06365 Phone (860) 886-1010  
Find us online: <http://www.prestonlibrary.org> Email us: [library@prestonlibrary.org](mailto:library@prestonlibrary.org)  
Hours: Monday 9-3 Tuesday-Thursday 9-8 Friday 9-5 Saturday 9-1

## SERVICES:

Best Sellers/ Fiction & Non-fiction Books for all ages  
Audio books-cassette/MP3/CD/Playaways  
Videos & DVD • Interlibrary loan • Magazines  
Audiobooks from Iconn Online Catalog  
Reading groups  
Passes to area attractions  
Reference services  
Computers for Internet Access (please check in at desk)  
Wireless Access for Laptops, Cellphones, etc.  
(please check in at desk)  
Preston Historical Society files

## ON-LINE DATABASES:

Consumer Reports w/ Cars  
ICONN your re-Search engine  
Encyclopedia Britannica  
JobNow  
Learning Express- Learning Center: FREE for  
Preston residents with library cards.

## CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS:

Story Times-  
For children - birth to five years old.  
Join us for stories, songs, fingerplays, and crafts.  
**Tuesdays, 10 to 11 am and Wednesdays, 10 to 11 am.**

## Holiday Hours & Closures:

Saturday, Oct 8th through Monday, the Oct 10th - Closed  
Friday, Nov 11th - Closed  
Close at 1pm Nov 23rd  
Friday, Nov 24th through Sunday, Nov 27th - Closed  
Close at 1pm Dec 23rd  
Saturday, Dec 24th through Monday, Dec 26th - Closed  
Friday, Jan 2nd, 2017 - Closed  
Saturday, Jan 14th through Monday, Jan 16th, 2017 - Closed

**For the safety of our staff and patrons, the library follows  
the inclement weather policy of the Preston Schools.  
Thank you for your understanding.**



## Minecraft Meet Up at Preston Public Library

**Preston Public library will be hosting a Minecraft Meet up  
for homeschoolers, ages 6-12 years.**

**We will be meeting from 1-2 pm every Monday  
starting on 10/3 through 11/14.**

Please bring your own devices (iPad or laptop)  
For more information contact: Jayne Perry a  
(860) 886- 1010 Monday, Tuesday, or  
Wednesday from 9am - 1 pm.

Looking for a home for a home for Lego or Duplo Blocks?  
The Library will be happy to put them to good use!

## Book Sale & Donations

**Friends of the Preston Library Book Sale  
Poquetanuck Firehouse, 87 Route 2A  
Friday, October. 14th - 9am-5 pm  
Saturday, October 15th - 9am -1pm**

**The Semi-Annual Friends of the  
Preston Public Library Book Sale will again take  
place at the Poquetanuck Firehouse,  
87 Route 2A, Preston.  
There is a great selection of books, audio, and media.  
Fill a bag \$3 on Saturday!**

The FOL thank you for your donations of books, CDs and  
DVDs throughout the year. Due to storage limitations at  
this time, we will be unable to accept donations from  
December 1st, 2016 until March 15th, 2017.  
Please hold onto your well loved/ good condition  
books until then.

Library Board of Trustees: Patricia Bell, Bob Chapin, Jan Clancy, Wendy Connal-Nicolaou  
Joanne Eisenhard, Ceil Gerber, Ann Legler, Mary Jo Nugent, Edie Sowa **Email:** [prestonlibraryboard@gmail.com](mailto:prestonlibraryboard@gmail.com)

# Ready to Vote?

By Joanne Eisenhard and Lennie Spencer

We were hoping to have an article published in the Preston Pipeline's July issue; however, there was so much information about the Preston Riverwalk property in that issue that there was no room for this article. We placed that article on our ROV page of the town website (<http://www.preston-ct.org/index.php/departments-aamp-services/registrar-of-voters>) should you want to go back and read it.



This article will simply emphasize how you can ensure you are "ready to vote" for the upcoming general election on November 8th. Please know that the lines, at our polling location in the basement of Town Hall, will be longer than they have been the past two years we've been in office as Registrars of Voters. We do plan to have two checkers, one for streets A-N, and one for streets O-Z to aid in making the lines move as fast as possible. Be sure to look for the signs directing you to the correct checker as you enter the polling location. There's something else YOU can do to make the lines move as fast as possible as well. That's to ensure you are registered, in the Connecticut Voter Registration System at your current address and that you have the proper ID (more on that later) that is required.

**The Connecticut Secretary of the State's voter lookup tool (<http://www.sots.ct.gov/sots/cwp/view.asp?a=3172&q=512796>) will at least inform you if you are registered in Preston.** The link just shown takes you to a page entitled "Voter Registration Lookup." Once you've selected the Town of Preston and entered the required information of your name and date of birth, the system will display "...You are registered in the following party..." If you are not registered under the information you entered, the system will display "...Record Not Found. Please check your selection..." At that point, you'd certainly want to contact us or simply complete an online voter registration at <https://voterregistration.ct.gov/OLVR/welcome.do> in order to correct your voter registration record. You may use the online voter registration only if you have a driver's license or state-issued ID through the Connecticut DMV. On our ROV page, we have a link to a card that you can print, fill out by hand, and mail in or present in person in the ROV office or to an official in the Town Clerk's office if you prefer to not use the online tools. Do not just drop it off under our door or in our mailbox. We are, by statute, NOT to accept a hand delivered card that has not been witnessed by an official.

Now back to ID, a voter is to "...announce their street address, if any, and their name to the official checker(s) in a tone sufficiently loud and clear as to enable all election officials present to hear the same." The voter is then to "...present to the official checker(s) either: a. a Social Security card; or b. any preprinted form of identification which shows the registered voter's: i. name and address, or ii. name and signature, or iii. name and photograph or c. sign a statement under penalty of false statement that they are the registered voter whose name appears on the official check list." "Each voter who registered to vote by mail for the first time and did not provide identification with their application, shall present to the official checker(s) either: a. a current and valid photo identifi-

cation that shows the registered voter's name and address; or b. a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck or other government document that shows the name and address of the registered voter." Being prepared as in the aforementioned ID description and having gone online to confirm your voter registration in the Town of Preston will aid in making your voting process go smoothly.

Additionally, about one week before the election, the Connecticut Secretary of the State's office will place on line a ballot for each city and town of the state so that you can not only see all the official candidates for all National and State races, but local races as well. In this way, you can be fully prepared for what you will see when you are handed the ballot. One final point about the ballots, only write-in candidates that are on the Connecticut Secretary of the State's office official list will be counted as a write-in. Should you write-in your neighbor and your neighbor is not on the official list of write-in candidates, the vote in that race will NOT be counted.

Should you not check your voter registration status and you are not on our official voter's list with the information you announced, our official checker(s) will ask that you move immediately to our Assistant Registrar's table. There, we can take some time to investigate and deal with your voter registration issue. If we are unable to allow you to vote in the polling location, we will have you proceed to our Election Day Registration location in the upstairs conference room of the Town Hall. There, with a lot more time required of you, we should be able to work through the EDR process to get you registered and to vote (you will not go back to the polling location to vote).

As you can see, we're emphasizing being "ready to vote" so that your time required to vote will be minimized. **Please be "ready to vote" on Tuesday, November 8th. Should you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please call us at the Registrars of Voters' office at 860-887-5581, extension 116. Additionally, you may contact us by e-mail at: [registrar@preston-ct.org](mailto:registrar@preston-ct.org).**

**Your Local Fire Department Needs You!**  
Stop in Monday nights 6-8,  
call 860.887.4815, or visit  
[PrestonCityFire.com](http://PrestonCityFire.com) to apply  
today!

## 2016 Scarecrow Festival at PCCC



## LOPRESTI'S FARM

**Native Tomatoes  
Winter Squash!  
Mums! Pumpkins!  
Wreathes • Cemetery Boxes**

**Open 9 to 6 • Rte 164 • Preston CT**

## NEWS FROM TROOP 75

25 Scouts and leaders of Troop 75 and I hiked up Mt Washington and it took us 11 hours in total - we started at around 2,000 feet, stopped at Lake of the Clouds around 5,000 feet, some of us even climbed to the top of Mt Moran at 5,288 feet, and we all reached the summit at 6,288 feet. It was a tough hike but fun because we hiked and also had to climb a lot of rock surfaces. Even though it was cold at the top and there were high wind speed and foggy, we were prepared with the right gear and when the fog cleared a few times, it was amazing to see how high up we were. My favorite part was coming in and out of the tree line on the mountain; I don't get to hike above the tree line every day. I also loved the two waterfalls we hiked two days before: Arethusa Falls and Ripley Falls AND Diana's pool that we visited the day after our hike: Ripley Falls had a really deep hole that you could pencil dive into it.

### JOURNAL ENTRY BY:

**Troop 75, Life Scout Seth Hurt 8th Grade - Team 2  
July 2016 - Mt Washington High Adventure**

We left our camp around 6:30 to start the hike up the Mount Washington. We moved slowly but steadily up the mountain, stopping every 15 minutes for water. Once we started the last half mile before Lake of the Clouds, that is a rest station around 5,000 feet, we basically had to climb at a 70 degree angle. Everyone was having fun at that point but it was very tiring. Once we got to Lake of the Clouds we rested for about half an hour, then Most of the group Hiked up to Mount Moran elevation 5,288 feet. Soon the group was back on the trail to hike the final 1200 feet in freezing, raining, very windy and foggy. Nobody was happy with the conditions, but we all had the proper gear. My favorite part was when we were at the

Continued on page 23

## OPERATION WARM - Preston



**PVMS PTO would like to ensure that every child is warm through the winter months. We need 100 coats for Preston children. We appreciate your help in reaching this goal for the 2016/2017 winter season.**

You can help us reach our fundraising goal by creating your own fundraising page or donate at: <https://give.operationwarm.org/events/preston-connecticut-operation-warm-program/e83946>. All online donations go directly towards children in need in our community. Keeping children safe and warm throughout the cold winter months can change lives. And it starts with you.

Since 1998, Operation Warm has provided brand new winter coats to millions of children living in poverty across America. This gift goes beyond just staying warm, but empowers a child to greater self-confidence and peer acceptance at school. When you give to Operation Warm or partner with our nonprofit, you're giving a child more than a coat, you're telling a child who needs to hear it most: "You're worth it."

**You are welcome drop checks off at pvms office made out to pvms pto please memo operation warm.  
Contact Heather Helwig at [quintchaos@gmail.com](mailto:quintchaos@gmail.com) for more information.**

## NEWS FROM TROOP 75 Continued



Troop 75 Departs Firehouse



Troop 75 Jewel Trail



Troop 75 at Summit of Mt Washington



Troop 75 at Ripley Falls

Continued from page 22

Summit of Mount Moran and the fog cleared and we could see the ground far below us. The Hike back down was much easier than the hike up. Before the actual climb up Mount Washington, on Tuesday, we hiked 2 days climbing Arethusa Falls and Ripley Falls, which were both beautiful places.

**JOURNAL ENTRY BY:  
Troop 75 , Life Scout Jack Zachem 8th Grade - Team 1  
July 2016 -Mt. Washington High Adventure  
August 2016 - Summer Camp Yawgoog**

Summer camp was fun and we were very busy. We had rain on Wednesday like we seem to have every year but this year we also had a major thunder, lightning and rain storm. The night we had the bad storm it was so windy that the flaps on our tents were horizontal to the ground. We were all safe in our tents and stayed pretty dry given how hard it rained. We won the Danny stick (best overall Camp site award) and Cory Converse made a very cool snapping turtle to add to the stick. The snapper even had a cape to go along with the Super Hero theme. The Troop received over 160 merit badges and several rank advancements. Which included one Life Scout award.



Members of Troop 75  
at Whales Tail Park

## Win a \$25.00 Gift Certificate to Village Pizza!

What is your favorite fall activity?

Your answer: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail your entry to: **Tracy Lyn Designs**  
211 Rt 164 Preston, CT 06365  
Or Email me at [tracylyndesigns@comcast.net](mailto:tracylyndesigns@comcast.net)

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### CARROT CAKE

1 tsp Goldschlager® cinnamon schnapps  
2 oz Bailey's® Irish cream  
2 oz coffee liqueur

Fill highball glass with ice. Place a tsp. (float) of Goldschlager in glass. Fill rest of glass with Irish Cream and Coffee Liqueur. Shake. Pour into shot glasses.

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24 cans for

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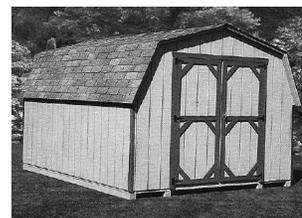
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