

Preston Pipeline²

VOL 2 ISSUE 3

SPRING 2013

Blizzard of 2013

By Eleanor Miller

The weather forecasters were predicting that there would be what they defined as a Perfect Storm which would be composed of two storms, Winter Storm Nemo coming from the northwest and Blizzard Charlotte which would come from the ocean and arrive in New England on Feb. 8th. In preparation, on Feb. 6th and 7th, Bob Boyd, Preston Public Works Foreman and his employees serviced all the trucks, had 150 tons of



sand and salt on hand, and had all portable generators prepared for the Town Hall, Senior Center and Preston Plains School which would be a shelter in case of an emergency.

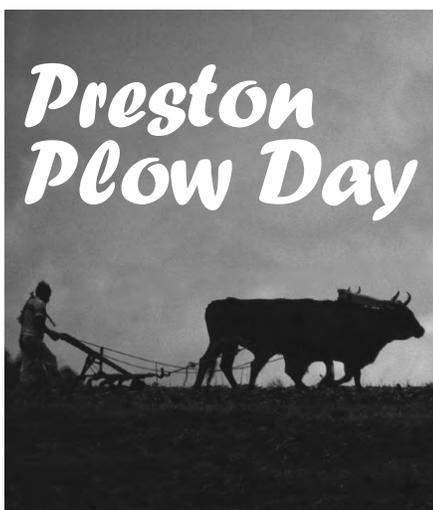
It began snowing on Friday, Feb. 8th and that afternoon 5 town trucks and 2 private contractors began plowing. This continued until 2 AM Saturday morning keeping the roads clear. At this time, because of the heavy amount of snowfall and strong winds, Mr. Boyd called all employees into the shop for a rest break. At 4 AM they headed back out and continued to open the roads (8 inches of snow fell in that 2 hour period). First Selectman, Bob Congdon, assisted on Saturday morning with snow removal on the Michigan Pay Loader. One of the most critical areas was at Brickyard Road which was closed from Friday evening until late Saturday morning. Due to the heavy wind a tree fell across the road onto power lines. The crew had to wait for CL&P in order to prevent any danger from

live wires. The tree was removed and CL&P restored power. The Public Works crew kept plowing until 6 PM on Saturday at which time all town roads were opened and sanded. They went through the complete storm without any breakdowns, which is tribute to the excellent maintenance of the equipment.

On Sunday morning the crew continued to push back and widen the roads. Due to the con-

tinual high winds the snow drifted in many areas. On Roosevelt Avenue by Good's Farm, there were snowdrifts 10 to 12 feet high. Ed Fleming's son-in-law, Adam Collins was able to open Roosevelt Avenue's right side of the road with his large 150 HP large farm tractor with 4 wheel drive which made a 15 to 18 foot pile snow on the other side of the road. There was also heavy drifting on Miller Road between the Piszczek and Miller properties which was removed with the town snowplows. The crew worked all day Sunday until 4:30 PM. Both lanes on the town roads were 90% passable.

Heroes come in many categories. The town crew and their assistants surely qualify for this distinction. They are the following: Bob Boyd-foreman, Ed Fleming-crew leader, David Desimone and Dominic Pace-crew members, Bob Congdon-First Selectman, Bill Brosnan-part time employee, and Private Contractors-Mike Daniels and Paul Fessenden



Plans are still moving forward for the Preston Conservation Commission's first Preston Plow Day on **Saturday, April 20th, 2013** at the former Dawley property on the north side of Rt. 2 (across from the Allyn Farm.) There are still some concerns about the land being ready for this event as the field is in active production and we cannot interfere with the spring planting schedule.

We have a few other farm parcels in town that could be used as a backup, and if it is necessary to move the event signs will be posted indicating the new location. Since this is a first-time event, we do not have any way to predict the turnout but we have received favorable responses from several horse and oxen team owners, along with tractor owners. Big or small, it will be a good way to usher in the start of the planting season.

Whether you want to participate with a plow or just stop by and watch (it is all free of charge), the Conservation Commission hopes that this will be a fun way for all to celebrate our agricultural heritage. A definite start/stop time has not been set, but plan on the morning hours as having the most activity. **Wear your boots!** Contact Lynwood Cray (860.886.1868) if you have any questions.

INSIDE:

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY • PRESTON FOOD PANTRY • RABIES CLINIC, FLEMINGS FEED, MAY 4th
PRESTON PARKS AND REC • HISTORICAL SOCIETY • LIBRARY NEWS • MORE!

TOWN OF PRESTON WEBSITE: WWW.PRESTON-CT.ORG

Lessons in Hometown Banking:

Refinancing is Still a Smart Move

Think you've missed out on the historically low mortgage rates?
Refinanced already and think you can't save any more? Think again!

- Lower Your Rate
- Shorten Your Term
- Save More Each Month

At Jewett City Savings Bank, we can help you make the most of your mortgage.

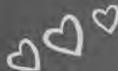
Visit our new mortgage web center:



- Apply online
- Calculate payments
- Sign up for rate alerts



JCSBank.com




**Jewett City
Savings Bank**

Since 1873

Your Hometown Bank for 140 Years!

Brooklyn • Central Village • Dayville • Jewett City • Preston

860.376.4444 • JCSBank.com



[Facebook.com/jcsbank](https://www.facebook.com/jcsbank)



Member FDIC

SPANOS LANDSCAPING

Your Property Is Our Priority!

Save 20%

Coupon good for 20% Off
FIRST service, Mowing,
Plowing...NEW Customers only.
Expires August 2013.



Mowing Lawns • Field & Brush • Landscape Maintenance • Snow Plowing & Salting

FREE Estimates • Fully Insured • License #605748 Serving Southeastern Connecticut

860-917-0855

EVENTS



presents

EASTERN CONNECTICUT'S PREMIER

HOME SHOW

Saturday, April 20: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Sunday, April 21: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Mystic Marriot, Groton

sponsored by



Overhead Door Company of Norwich, Inc.

88 Route 2A, Preston CT 06365

Paul Blanchard

pblanchard@ohdct.com

Cell: (860) 340-1901

Office: (800) 462-4003

Fax: (860) 889-7711

Web: www.ohdct.com

The publisher reserves the right to accept or reject any and all advertising. The publisher is not responsible for typographical errors and reserves the right to edit or delete information provided for space considerations.

Layout & Design by **Tracy Lyn Designs, LLC**
Preston, CT

To advertise in the
summer issue of the
Preston Pipeline²
please contact Tracy
at **860-889-0238**.

tracylyndesigns@comcast.net



A Trusted Name Since 1973



Bill Champagne

REALTOR

860.889.0303



Email: BillCrealestate@aol.com

Web: billchampagne.ctmls.mlxchange.com

Resident Trooper Tip

An emergency is a time when you need help from a police officer, firefighter, or doctor immediately. There are some things to remember to stay prepared for an emergency, and you should know what to do if there is one.



Resident State Trooper Tim Paige

- Memorize work and cell phone numbers.
- Post a list of emergency numbers you may need by the phone.
- Talk with others about different times you may need help and what you should do.
- Pick a safe place you can go to near your house if you need help right away.

If there's an emergency, there are a few important steps to follow.

- Go to a safe place right away.
- Call 911 or dial 0.
- Remember you can call both for free from a pay phone.
- The operator will ask you what the emergency is, your name, full address, and phone number.



Preston Historical Society

Preserving The Past for Future Generations

News from the Preston Historical Society



Preston War Memorial

With spring finally here, the Preston Memorial Committee is ready to start work on the Tribute Garden located at the fork of Old Shetucket Tpke and Route 165.

We can always use donations and physical and material help. Please contact Ron Tanguay (860-887-5402)-or Mark Christensen (860-887-5828)

News from the Preston Historical Society Long Society Meeting House

The Second Ecclesiastical Society, the Preston Historical Society and the town of Preston are currently looking at ways to help preserve this little known historical gem in our town. Working with grant opportunities available through the state, these groups are evaluating the needs of the building and will work from there to make repairs. **If you would like to be part of this project, please call Linda Christensen at 860-887-5828 or LindaCh5@comcast.net.**

The British are Coming!!!

Preston, CT will meet

Preston St. Mary, England on May 3, 2013.

Preston St. Mary - which is where we believe our town got its name - repaid an invitation to our 300th Anniversary and hosted several townspeople for the Millennium celebration. We will return the favor when the Martin's visit in May. Though they were unable to come during our 325th, we hope to make their short visit very special. They will be honored at a program by Preston Veterans Memorial School students at 8:45 am on May 3. This will be followed by a visit to the town hall and meeting with the Selectmen. We are planning a pot luck lunch at the Preston Community Park for a Meet and Greet. Everyone's invited. The Martins will go on a tour of the town as well as visit some local museums before they leave on May 4. Information will be available on the Town's website or call Linda Christensen at 887-5828.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Preston Historical Society is scheduled for Wed. June 12 at 6:30 pm at the Old Preston Library. New Members are always welcome!

Revolutionary Correspondence

I've been thinking about the hardships and suffering that our Preston Patriots and their families at home were forced to endure. The following are transcripts of letters sent between Nathan Peters and his wife Lois at the beginning of the war. Nathan served courageously during most of the war. His wife was expecting their fourth child when he marked off in 1775. She attempted to carry on his business while he was gone.

To/ Mrs. Nathan Peters / at Preston / pr favour of Capt. Stanton* Connecticut

[No date; probably several days following the Battle of Bunker Hill]

Dear Wife

You have Undoubtedly heard that there has bin an engagement here the battle † Began on Satterday Last on Charltown Side About Mid Day and before Sun Sett the Regulars began to fire on Us at our Camp at Roxbuary The fire Continued All most the Whole Night on both Sides from the Enneme in Our Camp at Roxbuary there was None Killed Three Wounded one of Which is Since Dead the battle on Cambridge Side was Worme and on our Side there Was by the best Accounts About Thirty Killed and Seventy Wounded - the Number of the Regulars Killed and Wounded are Grate but the Accounts are Not Yet Exactly Known - I send my mare by Capt Stanton I have not Drew any money Yet but Expect I Shall Draw it this Weak and Shall be Abble to Send Emediately - I am in helth throw [through] Gods Goodness as I hope these Will find you my Dere Sun and all Friends I am Your Loving and Affection[ate] Husband

N Peters

† Undoubtedly referring to the Battle of Bunker Hill, although his statistics are incorrect.

To / Cap. Nathan Peters / Roxbury Preston, June ye 20th at Night 1775
Dear husband

I this Moment Take Pen in Hand To Let you know that I am well and all our Friends here have No news To write wee have heard of the battle you have had Among you but wee hear So Many Storys wee no not what to believe a report This Morning was very Current here that Genll Putnum was Missing but we had it contradicted before knigh and Said he was only Slightly wounded in the wrist our fears are Many but wee all hope for the best My heart akes for you and all our friends there but I keep up as good Spirits as possible if you could spare your Mare Should bee very Glad you would Send her home As Soon as possible for I Cant borrow at all and Should bee glad you would Send mee Some Money if you Can but Don't let that Troubel you for I am not Like To Suffer for any article To Support My family but Cannot Carry on The Trade (Nathan's saddle making business) without money but that is the Least of my Troubels at Present our Corn Looks well and our Woork goes on as well as I could wish Pray write Every opportunity it being Late Must conclude with wishing you the best of heavens blessing and hope that God in due Time will return you to your family and Safty am your Loving wife Till Death

Louis Peters

(Taken from The Correspondence of Captain Nathan and Lois Peters, The CT Historical Society, 1980)

You insure your most valuable possessions.



Now it's time to insure the most precious of all...



Call now to see if you qualify for **Sava Family Select.**

AUTO • HOME • UMBRELLA • BUSINESS



860-437-7282
savafamilyselect.com

"Remembering Norwich State Hospital"

Wednesday May 8th @ 3:30 pm

Presenters are Christine Rockledge
and Linda Christensen

Reservations Recommended

Please call the library @ 860-886-1010

In Memory of Mary Rose Courey

Marie Rose Courey, a resident of Preston for 41 years, died on Tuesday, January 29th of this year at the age of 89 yrs.

Marie graduated from St. Mary's School, the Norwich Free Academy, and St. Francis Hospital School of Nursing She also attended the Catholic University in Washington, DC. Marie served as a registered nurse at the United States Coast Guard Academy for 39 years as the outpatient nursing administrator.

After retirement Marie continued serving others in many capacities. She was a devout member of St. Catherine's Church in Preston, where she served as an Eucharistic Minister, she was a member of the Small Church Group, and the Ladies Guild. Marie was a volunteer nurse at the Norwich Senior Center, she transported handicapped and ill patients to doctor's visits for United Community and Family services, she was volunteer for the Preston Flu Clinic, she was an active member of the Norwich Chapter of AARP and a member of Adventures of Long Life Learning at Three Rivers Community College. She took pleasure in feeding the birds in her back yard and enjoyed Middle East cooking. Marie was not married but had many relatives who were the most important aspect of her life and because of her outgoing personality she enjoyed entertaining and family gatherings.

Marie's family feels fortunate to have had her part of their lives. (submitted by Elizabeth Dubois, Marie's sister)

BEAUREGARD'S OIL

Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall...
We Keep You Comfortable All Year Round!

BURNER SERVICE
FUEL OIL • KEROSENE • DIESEL

Give Us A
Call
TODAY!



860-889-9634

From the Superintendent's Office



Acting upon the recommendation of its Community Relations Sub-Committee, the Preston Board of Education committed to an ambitious survey of every household in town last Fall. Based upon May 2011 data compiled by the Connecticut Economic

Resource Center (CERC), 2,080 existing housing units in Preston were sent copies of the survey. The survey was designed to tap into the public's opinion about communications, curriculum, student behavior expectations, technology and future planning.

Respondents to the survey interacted directly with School Perceptions, LLC, a Wisconsin based firm that specializes in creating and analyzing public school survey data to assist educational leaders in making strategic decisions.

The impetus for this survey stemmed from one of the Board's essential policy obligations; namely, to solicit and consider opinions about the school system. The Board determined that one of the best ways of achieving that objective was to commission a survey like the one created by School Perceptions, LLC.

Upon completing its analysis, the company prepared a report addressing key findings, findings that are being utilized by the Board of Education and administration in the furtherance of educational excellence. (It is also available to the public-at-large via the district's webpage).

Based upon a review of the data; the Board's Community Relations Sub-Committee identified the following eight goals:

1. To develop in conjunction with appropriate staff "list serves" comprising the email addresses of all parents in order to facilitate routine communication with them from either the school or district level.
2. To identify in conjunction with the Preston Board of Education a venue (or venues) for the routine dissemination of "financial planning information and overall expenses" relative to the school district.
3. To review in conjunction with the Preston Board of Education the advantages/disadvantages of adopting a school uniform policy.
4. To review in conjunction with appropriate staff and the Preston Board of Education the educational advantages/dis-

advantages and any modifications warranted therein associated with assigning homework pursuant to Board Policy 6154.

5. To repeat administration of the Connecticut Department of Education's School Climate Survey (or variation thereof) among the parents, students and staff of students enrolled in grades three, five and eight to assess progress made in reducing incidences of bullying.
6. To review in conjunction with appropriate staff and the Preston Board of Education the educational options and financial considerations associated with providing option for students who have mastered grade level curriculum that exceeds the requirements of Board Policy 6172.1.
7. To review in conjunction with the Preston Board of Education the educational advantages, space requirements and financial feasibility of offering a pre-kindergarten program to all age eligible students or a portion thereof, who reside in the town of Preston.
8. To evaluate in conjunction with appropriate staff and the Preston Board of Education the educational advantages/disadvantages, technology requirements and financial feasibility of acquiring digital textbooks in lieu of printed textbooks.

With the understanding that some goals may not prove attainable in the short term, the sub-committee intends to address each goal and report out its findings and recommendations to the Board between now and the conclusion of the 2013-2014 school year.



J&S Card Design **HAVE SOME FUN & MEET NEW FRIENDS!**

Card making workshops

**St. James Church
Preston CT**

Friday 5pm to 10pm
April 19, May 17, June 14, July 19

Saturday 9am to 5pm
April 20, May 18, June 15, June 20th

**Contact Sandie Szocik
860-887-1368 or
Jewelly Szocik
860-892-4041**

for more information.

**Adults only please.
Kit contains 5 cards
for \$15.00**

MATTERN & STEFON LAND SURVEYORS, LLC

148 Route 2 • Preston, CT 06365
Phone & Fax: 860.889.1999

Boundary and Topographic Surveys
Commercial and Residential Development
State and Municipal Permitting
Consulting Civil Engineering

Susan F. Mattern, L.S. susan_camp@sbcglobal.net

(860) 887-1998
Fax (860) 886-8091

MATTERN CONSTRUCTION INC.
GENERAL CONTRACTING / CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

GEORGE MATTERN 26M BUSHNELL HOLLOW RD.
PRESIDENT BAL TIC, CT 06330

georgem@matternconstruction.com

Preston's Own Max Zachem: Built for Speed



A recent visit to MPZ Motorsports amazed me! Max Zachem was in the process of rebuilding his race car...which he rebuilds every year! He informed me that the car rides 2" off of the ground...and that he literally enters the car through the small window as it does not have any doors that open!

Max races all over New England, the furthest north he goes is Maine. It is his 13th year of racing. But racing is in his blood. His grandfather (Grandpa George) raced horse sulkies all around the state in the late 50's and 60's.

Max was recently on a pit crew at Daytona for a racer named Steve Park. It was Race Speed Week, featuring a Nascar Modified Tour. Steve Park emerged as a victor in the race. Due in part, I am certain, of his super pit crew!

Max started racing early (when he was 7!) and has an impressive number of wins:

- 2000-2006 Quarter Midgets 10 Championships
- 70 wins and over 250 trophies from N.E to Florida.
- 2006-2011 Legend Cars 3 Championships
- 20+ wins and raced from Maine to Georgia
- 2010-Present Modified Racing Series
- 2010- 8th Driver and Owner Points,
- Dart Steel Head Champion, 2 Top 5s 7 Top 10s
- 2011- 9th Owner and 10th Driver Points,
- Sportsman of the Year, 2 Top 5s 7 Top 10s.
- 2012- 6th Owner and 8th Driver Points,
- Most Improved Driver, 1 Top 5 Top 10s

Crew Chief- Ernie Ruggerio **Crew-** Ken Zachem, Wayne Wildermuth, Steve Merritt, and Don Caddick

Sponsors:

- Dunleavy's Truck & Trailer Repair • Fatheadz Eyewear
- Lu-Mac's Package Store (Family Business for over 50 years)
- Cliff Nelson Motorsports • Nutmeg Tool • Steve Merritt Sales
- Joe Gibbs Race Driven Oil w/ Wix Filters
- New England Race Fuels (Sunoco)
- Broad Brook Heating & Cooling Preston, CT
- AC*DC Industrial Electric w/ Generac generators
- Liberty Hill Home Inspections
- Spafco Race Chassis and Parts • 32 Signs • Bruce Bachta
- Charles Bartnicki • Race Dog Photography

ALWAYS LOOKING FOR NEW SPONSORS TO JOIN THE TEAM!

Twitter- @Modified79 **Facebook Page-** M.P.Z. Motorsports

2013 Valenti Modified Racing Series Schedule w/ select WMT & Open Events

Date	Track	Series	Days
April 6th-7th	Waterford Speedbowl	MRS	Sat-Sun
April 20th	Monadnock Speedway	MRS	Sat
May 19th	Thompson Speedway	MRS	Sun
June 8th	Seekonk Speedway	MRS	Sat
June 15th	Star Speedway	SBM	Sat
June 21st	Stafford Speedway	MRS	Fri
June 22nd	Waterford Speedbowl	WMT	Sat
June 28th	Lee Speedway	MRS	Fri
July 6th	Monadnock Speedway	MRS	Sat
July 13th	Canaan Speedway	MRS	Sat
July 20th	Oxford Plains Speedway	MRS	Sat
July 25th	Thompson Speedway	MRS	Thurs
Aug 3rd	Beech Ridge	MRS	Sat
Aug 10th	Waterford Speedbowl	MRS	Sat
Aug 17th	Seekonk Speedway	MRS	Sat
Aug 24th	Monadnock Speedway	MRS	Sat
Aug 30th	Stafford Speedway	MRS	Fri
Sept 13th	Stafford Speedway	MRS	Fri
Oct 5th	Seekonk Speedway	MRS	Sat
Oct 13th-14th	Lee Speedway	MRS	Sat-Sun
Oct 19th-20th	Thompson Speedway	MRS/WMT	Sat-Sun

Lu-Macs 352 Rt 2 • Preston, CT
PACKAGE STORE LOTTO!
Open Sundays 10-5

Warehouse Priced Wine, Beer and Liquors
 Vodkas • Scotches • Gins • Beers
 Whiskeys • Wines Buy Local!

From cowboy bars to NASCAR races to trendy restaurants, the Jack and Coke is one of the most popular cocktails in America. Simply Jack Daniels and Coca Cola, the combination is classic Americana in a glass.

State Representative Timothy R. Bowles

Serving Ledyard, Montville, and Preston By Eleanor Miller

Timothy Bowles is currently serving his first term as State Representative in the Connecticut General Assembly and he is also completing his second term as Selectman for the Town of Preston. He has been appointed to the Energy and Technology Committee, the Environment Committee, and the Human Services Committee.

Rep. Bowles moved to Preston in 1973 and began his employment as a Preston school bus driver and later promoted to school bus coordinator up until 1980. He served in several state agencies beginning at the Norwich State Hospital as an investigator for the Department of Children and Families, and as a planning analyst for the Office of Policy and Management. After his state career, Rep. Bowles worked as a Coordinator for the Southeast Mental Health System of Care in the offices of LEARN, the Regional Educational Service Center. Most recently he served as a Chair of the DCF Eastern Region Advisory Council.

Rep. Bowles involvement with Energy & Technology began with the Gov. O'Neil administration and he subsequently served on several important positions in that field. He is a strong advocate of renewable energy technologies and supports efforts to create green jobs in Connecticut, especially in the construction and manufacturing sectors.

Rep. Bowles is a supporter of the environment both nationally and locally. He is a member of the Sierra Club and was Chair of



the Conn. Chapter of the Sierra Club and Chair of its Political Action Committee. He served on the Preston Inland/Wetlands Commission and more recently the Preston Conservation Commission. He was also elected to the Preston Planning and Zoning Commission. He is a member of the Conn. Farm Bureau, the New England Alpaca Owner and Breeders Assoc., the Last Green Valley Heritage Corridor Assoc. and the Avalonia Land Conservancy. Rep. Bowles is an advocate for smart growth and supports agriculture as an economic driver. He believes climate change is a legitimate threat, especially to coastal states such as

Connecticut.

Rep. Bowles was a Vice-President of the Conn. AFL-CIO, an officer with the American Federation of Teachers A&R #4200, and an Executive Board member of AFSME Council 4 Local #2663. He was a union steward for 29 years and is a strong proponent of labor-management collaborations to identify and execute cost-effective efficiency measures in state government.

Representative Bowles has a Master's Degree in Child Development from St. Joseph College in West Hartford. He is the father of two children and the grandfather of four. He and his wife, Donna, operate and manage the Zion Hill Farm on the Quinebaug River in Preston where they raise Alpacas and host a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) operation. They are certified therapeutic foster parents.

Walden Property Maintenance

Springtime, Summer, Winter or Fall
No job is considered too small
(and yes, we will promptly return your call!)
For all those odd jobs around the house
that never quite get done....
Call Preston based Walden Property
Maintenance...you'll find us second to none!

Arthur G. Walden

860.889.8117

Licensed and Insured License No. 572276

Spring/ Fall Yard Cleanups • Mowing & Mulching
Sand/Stone Deliveries • Power Washing • Transplanting
Shrub Trimming and Removal • Household Repairs Inside and Out
Skid-Steer • Mini Excavation Services

Your Town Government - Political Parties and Candidates

By **Norman Gauthier** and **Jerry Grabarek**

This is the 6th of a series of Pipeline articles about Preston town government. In this issue, Jerry Grabarek, Chairman of the Democratic Town Committee, and Norman Gauthier, Chairman of the Republican Town Committee, discuss the role of town political committees.

In November of 2013, as in each odd-numbered year, Preston voters will elect leaders for our Town government. You will be asked to select a First Selectman, two other Selectmen, a Town Clerk & Tax Collector, Town Treasurer, members for the Board of Finance, Board of Education, Planning & Zoning Commission, Board of Assessment Appeals, and Zoning Board of Appeals. These are the town officials who represent you and make decisions on your behalf. A few of these are paid positions but most are volunteers. Because they are local, their decisions have a direct impact on the quality of life here in Preston; much more impact than actions by state or federal officials.

The primary mission of the Republican and Democratic town committees is to seek out, designate, and help elect qualified candidates for public office. Membership in the town committees is open to all residents who are registered voters in that party. About half the voters in Preston identify themselves as republican or democrat. That means that only half of the voters in town are eligible to take part party caucuses, the first round of the candidate selection process.

In the next few months the political committees will begin the task of identifying which offices will be filled in November and then finding the best people for those offices. The first criterion for any candidate is a willingness to serve, and the second is having competence for the selected position.

The town committees screen prospective candidates and then at a meeting of committee members, endorse a slate of candidates. In July, each party will call its members to a caucus. At the caucus, the town committees will present the slate of candidates for final endorsement. The caucus can change the town commit-

tee selection and the caucus endorsement can be challenged through a primary election.

The town committees need and deserve the support of every Preston voter. First, become a member of the party that best represents your views on how town government should function. It's easy; visit the Town Clerk or Registrar of Voters and tell them that you wish to enroll in a party. They will help you do it and in a few minutes you will be eligible to vote in your party's caucus.

Second, become a member of your party's town committee. This will give you greater influence on what kind of people make decisions for you. Both political parties encourage voter participation and support a broad range of membership. Third, offer to serve on a town board or commission. Let your town committee know that you are willing to devote some time for service to your neighbors. Most boards or commissions meet only once a month. Openings for appointment to these positions pop up unexpectedly and town committees need a list of people ready to step in and help. Whether appointed or elected, by serving on a board or commission you will be able to share your ideas for improving town government.

In this Pipeline2 and in local newspapers we often read about the actions and decisions of Town boards and commissions. You can be part of that decision making process by taking part in town government, at any level, and you will help make Preston a better place to live.

Most importantly, keep yourself informed and vote every chance you get. Do your part to influence the future of the Town. The decisions you make today in choosing town leaders, approving referenda, or voting at town meetings will determine what kind of town we leave for our children and future generations.

For more information about your political party's town committee contact: Democrat Jerry Grabarek, dbggrabarek@sbcglobal.net or Republican Norman Gauthier, N.Gauthier@usa.net



Preston City Congregational Scarecrow Festival

Vendors and Crafters wanted !!

Date of Festival: Sept 28, 2013

Festival Hours:	Pancake Breakfast	7:30 - 10:30am
	Festival	9:30 - 4:00pm
	Chicken BQQ	3:00pm - 6:30pm

scarecrowfestivalcrafters@hotmail.com
or call the Church at 860-887-4647

PRESTON PARKS & RECREATION

INFANT/TODDLER PROGRAMS

MINI KICKERS SOCCER SKILLS

A fun introduction to the game of soccer for young players! The emphasis of coaching is to give children versatile experiences of basic motor skills and combinations, whilst creating a fun and safe environment for children to interact. *Instructor: Challenger Sports*

When: Tuesdays: May 7-May 28 (4 week session)

Where: Preston Community Park

Fee: \$55 (includes uniform & ball)

Session #1:

Time: 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Ages: 2-3

Session #2:

Time: 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Ages: 4-5



MOMMY & ME MUSIC

Babies, toddlers and preschoolers will participate in musical experiences that involve singing, expressive movement, games, creative play, vocal exploration, and instrumental play. A great variety of musical styles and genres will be the basis for the classes.

Instructor: Nicole Clarke

When: Fridays: June 7 - June 28 (4 week session)

Where: Preston Public Library

Fee: \$20

Session #1:

Time: 10:00 am - 10:45 am

Ages: 0-2

Session #2:

Time: 11:00 am - 11:45 am

Ages: 3-5



TUMBLING FUN

Movement, music, and tumbling fun! *Instructor: Miss Patti*

When: Friday: July 5 - August 9 (6 week session)

Where: Preston Veterans Memorial School Gym

Fee: \$25

Session #1:

Time: 10:00 am - 10:45 am

Ages: 2-3

Session #2:

Time: 11:00 am - 11:45 am

Ages: 4-5

PLAYGROUND PLAYTIME

No formal activity - just a gathering time and place for families!

Perfect opportunity for a nice picnic lunch at the park!

When: Mondays starting in April

Time: 10:00 am

Where: Preston Community Park Playground

SPORT LEAGUES

FALL SOCCER FOR AGES 4-6

Soccer is coming back to Preston!! In-town soccer league for ages 4-6. *Coordinator: Dustin Maurice*

Registration deadline: June 1



COMMUNITY EVENTS



CHILDREN'S FISHING DERBY

Sunday, May 5. More information available online at www.preston-ct.org. Volunteers are needed to help with this event. Contact Stacy at Preston Parks & Recreation at 860-889-2482 x117 for info.

CHILD PROGRAMS

BASKETBALL

Calling all kids that enjoy playing basketball! Grab your ball and come on down to Preston Community Park to shoot some hoops. No formal program, just an organized meeting time for kids and parents.

Date: Mondays: starting July 1

Time: 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Fee: FREE

TENNIS

This is an introductory class into tennis. Learn the basics of tennis including: forehand & backhand hitting, serving, and the rules of the game. Materials included.

Instructor: Nickie Andersen

Dates: Sundays: June 2 - June 30 (5 weeks)

Fee: \$20

Location: Preston Community Park Tennis Courts

Session #1:

Time: 1:00 pm - 1:50 pm

Ages: Kindergarten - Grade 2

Session #2:

Time: 2:00 pm - 2:50 pm

Ages: Grades 3 - 5

Session #3:

Time: 3:00 pm - 3:50 pm

Ages: Grades 6 - 8



SUMMER CAMPS

SUMMER DAY CAMP

Summertime is the perfect opportunity for children to meet new friends; participate in activities in a safe, supervised and friendly atmosphere; expand their horizons; build self esteem; and have lots of fun! At our summer camp, kids will enjoy arts & crafts, games, music, sports, water activities, science experiments, & more!

Dates: Monday - Friday, July 1 - August 9 (NOT July 4)

Time: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Ages: Entering Kindergarten - Grade 9

Location: Preston Veterans Memorial School Gym

Fee: \$85 per week and daily rates also available

Thursday Adventure Field Trips for those entering Grades 5 - 9 (additional field trip fee required)

Friday field trips to Ocean Beach for ALL kids!

Before Care (8:00 - 9:00 am) & After Care (3:00 - 5:00 pm) are available for \$5 per hour. **NEW THIS YEAR, WEEKLY RATES**

Complete details available on our website at www.preston-ct.org

HOOP ACADEMY BASKETBALL CAMP

It is with great pleasure that we announce the 1st Hoop Academy Summer Slam Basketball Camp at Preston Veterans Memorial School! 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 a full week of drills and instruction on all aspects of the game including shooting, dribbling, passing and defense. Come and learn all of the skills you will need to play the great game of basketball. There will also be fantastic guest speakers, medals, prizes and much more! All campers will receive a free t-shirt for being in attendance.

Camp Directors: George & Colleen Hardison.

Dates: Monday - Friday, August 12 - 16

Time: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Fee: \$150 for residents; \$160 for non-residents

** If there is an interest, Preston Parks & Recreation Summer Camp staff will offer before care from 8:00 - 9:00 and After Care from 3:00 - 5:00...contact the Recreation Office for more information **

ADULT PROGRAMS

A MEDITATION ON DRAWING

Calling all adults that want to express their creative side! Learn basic drawing skills or advance the one's you have from still life. The class will start out with basic shapes using line and form and work up to more challenging still life. All materials (vine charcoal, kneaded eraser, and drawing pad) are included in the registration fee. *Instructor: Eleanor Miller*

Dates: Tuesdays: May 7 - June 11 (6 weeks)
Time: 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Ages: 16+
Location: Preston Plains School Library
Registration Fee: \$72



STAR GAZING CLUB



Preston Parks & Recreation is starting a Star Gazing Club for the months of April - October. Did you know you can see a galaxy 2½ million light-years away with your unaided eyes? Craters on the Moon with binoculars? Countless wonders await you any clear night. The first step is simply to look up and ask, "What's that?" When you do, you're taking the first step

toward a lifetime of cosmic exploration and enjoyment. If you are interested in participating, please contact Gary DeVeau at prestonstargazer@gmail.com for more information.

ZUMBA

Exercise with a Latin flair! The Zumba program fuses hypnotic musical rhythms and easy-to-follow moves to create a dynamic feel-good workout. The routines feature interval training where fast and slow rhythms and resistance training are combined to tone and sculpt your body while burning fat. *Instructor: Julie Guiher*

Dates: Mondays: May 6 - June 17 (not May 27)
Time: 7:00 pm to 7:55 pm
Ages: 16+
Location: Preston Plains School Library
Registration Fee: \$35 (6 weeks) or \$10 walk in fee per class



CO-ED VOLLEYBALL



Bump, set and spike...come and enjoy an evening of pick-up volleyball with your Preston neighbors.

Dates: Tuesdays: April 2 - June 11
Time: 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm
Ages: 16+
Location: Preston Veterans Memorial School Gym

WALKING GROUP

Lace up your sneakers and join your fellow Preston residents for a nice walk on our track. Walk at your own pace. No formal activity, just trying to gather people together. Great way to meet new people!

Dates: Tuesdays & Thursdays starting in April
Time: 10:00 am
Location: Preston Community Park



CO-ED SOFTBALL



Grab your glove and come on down for some pick up softball games with your Preston neighbors. New teams formed every week. Ages: 18+

Dates: Tuesdays & Thursdays: Beginning July 2
Time: 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Location: Preston Community Park Softball Fields

COACH BUS TRIPS

PLYMOUTH WHALE WATCH

Travel to Plymouth, where pilgrims established a colony after arriving on the mayflower. You will enjoy free time in Plymouth and a 4 hour Whale Watch Cruise that will never be forgotten. Your boat captain will bring you to primary feeding grounds for Humpback Whales, Dolphins, Fin Whales, Minke Whales, and Harbor Porpoises. Join us for an absolutely exhilarating experience

Date: Saturday, May 18, 2013
Time: Bus leaves Preston Veterans Memorial School at 10:00 am
Bus departs Plymouth at 7:00 pm
Fee: \$70 per person (adults, seniors & children are all same price)



BOSTON RED SOX GAME

Travel to Fenway Park in Boston, MA and watch the Red Sox take on the Toronto Blue Jays. Game time is 1:35 pm. Trip fee includes round trip bus transportation & game ticket (seats located in Outfield Grandstand 7). Bus departs from Fenway Park 30 minutes after the conclusion of the game.

Date: Sunday, June 30, 2013
Time: Bus leaves Preston Veterans Memorial School at 10:00 am
Fee: \$87 per person (adults, seniors & children are all same price)

**** Early Bird Registration: \$77 per person (\$10 savings) if registration form & payment is received by May 1 ****



BRONX ZOO

Join Preston Parks & Recreation as we travel to the world famous Bronx Zoo in New York, one of the largest wildlife conservation parks in the world. It is home to some 4,000 animals representing about 650 species from around the planet, many shown in their natural habitats and in open-ranges. Your Total Experience Ticket allows general zoo admission and to special rides and attractions including the Bug Carousel, Butterfly Garden, Children's Zoo, Congo Gorilla Forest, Wild Asia Monorail, Zoo Shuttle, 4-D Theater and JungleWorld. There are cafes and food stands throughout the park or you may bring your own food. A fast food stop will be made on the ride home at one of the roadside rest areas.

This trip is great for all ages!

Date: Friday, August 23, 2013
Time: Bus leaves Preston Veterans Memorial School at 8:00 am
Bus leaves Bronx Zoo at 4:30 pm
Fee: Adult: \$63; Senior (65 & up) \$61; & Child: \$59



EMPLOYMENT

Preston Parks & Recreation is looking for applicants interested in working with children during the summer months. Positions include:

Camp Director, Assistant Camp Director, and Camp Counselors.

** Camp Director applicants must be 21 years of age or older.

** Assistant Camp Director applicants must be 18 years of age or older.

** Camp Counselor applicants must be 16 years of age or older.

Camp Counselors applications are available online at www.preston-ct.org. Applications may be mailed to Preston Parks & Recreation, 389 Route 2, Preston, CT 06365. No emailed or faxed applications will be accepted. Applications will be accepted until May 1, 2013.

Assistant Camp Director & Camp Director applicants - job description available at www.preston-ct.org. Please submit cover letter and resume to Preston Parks & Recreation, 389 Route 2, Preston, CT 06365. No emailed or faxed submissions will be accepted. Positions open until filled.

Town Woodland does the Public Good By Chris Casadei



"Timber!!!" may have been heard from the junction of Routes 12 and 2A recently as the first trees were cut marking the start of a Timber Harvest designed to improve the overall health and productivity of the forest surrounding the campus of the former Norwich Hospital. This Timber Harvest is the result of months of preparation, consultation, field work, and meetings between The Preston Redevelopment Agency and Forester Chris Casadei of Hull Forest Products, Inc. of Pomfret Center, CT. This activity is a fine testament of the Agency's overall vision of the Town owned property to create a productive center of sustainable mixed-use activity which embodies the sound ecological management of renewable resources and focusing on the preserving the rural character and natural beauty of the area.

Upon the initial site walk and lengthy discussions about the Agency's objectives the Town contracted Casadei to develop a comprehensive Forest Stewardship Plan for the 200 plus acres of productive forestland that have been largely abandoned for the past 60 years. The Plan involved a vegetative inventory and map of the individual stands or management units which captures a snapshot of the current condition and stocking levels of the forest. From this data a series of active management prescriptions are outlined that would help shift the stands to a condition that would meet the Agency's vision. The Plan will serve as a guideline to the stewardship of the woodland to maximize its long term timber growth potential and health while enhancing wildlife habitat, improving access for passive recreation and maintaining the aesthetic beauty of the landscape, all within a framework that promotes the sustainable harvesting of forest products that benefit the society as a whole. Upon thorough review and some clarification of the jargon the plan was approved and adopted unanimously by the Agency and plans to implement the prescriptions were made.

Casadei then set out to forest again to apply the management prescriptions set in the Stewardship Plan. Each tree to be removed was marked and measured and from this data the stumpage price, or income to be received by the landowner was established. While the species composition varied greatly within the different individual stands the overall condition was constantly even aged and overcrowded, there were a fair amount of

trees damaged by the recent storms and some concerning levels of disease in the birch. Simply put the forest needed a good "weeding" as you would periodically do to promote the health of your garden. By removing the poorly formed, damaged and diseased trees the available resources; sunlight, water and soil nutrients, are concentrated to healthy, vigorous and aesthetically pleasing trees, accelerating their growth. The residual forest will be more resilient to storm damage, disease and cyclical pests. This initial activity will remove approximately 30% of the total trees in the forest which in this situation will produce enough firewood to heat 80 homes for a year and, if all the sawlogs were sawn into flooring, yield enough lumber to lay a floor over 6.5 acres. Upon review of the marking the Town of Preston and Hull Forest Products entered into a Timber Sale Agreement and the low impact Timber Harvest was scheduled to commence.

The proactive approach of the Preston Redevelopment Agency is to be commended; recognizing and agreeing upon the multitude benefits of active Forest Stewardship and what it may take to apply in the real world can be a daunting task. Into perpetuity the woodland itself will display and respond positively to the diligence and foresight of the Agency while the forest products produced will be enjoyed by the community it serves. Hull Forest Products plans to host informative walks through this woodland this October in conjunction with The Last Green Valley Organization's Walktober series. For more information about the Preston Redevelopment Agency please visit www.prestonriverwalk.com and for more information about Hull please visit www.hullforest.com. Any questions, concerns or comments can be directed to myself at casadei@hullforest.com.



The Preston Redevelopment Agency

Springing Ahead at Preston Riverwalk!

The Preston Redevelopment Agency (PRA) has been functioning for almost 4 years and has worked diligently to: (a) establish an Agency that looks after the best interests of the Town as it relates to Preston Riverwalk; (b) secure the property; (c) apply for funding to assess, clean up environmental issues & demolish structures; and (d) evaluate & select developers to 'revitalize' the property.

Our budget is comprised of three components: (1) an annual operating budget, (2) Town Matching funds and (3) Grants/Loans obtained from various State and

Federal agencies and programs. (<http://goo.gl/iwvYW>) The first two components (the annual operating budget & Town Matching funds) represent the total annual PRA Town budget. Town Matching funds are requested when matches are required to ensure the PRA is positioned to receive such State or Federal grants. For example, when we received the three \$200K EPA grants in 2010/2011 (for a total of \$600K) a match of \$40K for each was required by the Town (for a total of \$120K) before we could accept and expend any of the grant monies. Clearly these grant monies (and matching funds) are critical for the continued clean up and demolition path of Preston Riverwalk. The PRA continued to be prudent in spending during the first half of 2012/2013 as our focus has been on seeking to identify and engage a developer(s) and to clean up the site. We are currently engaged in 'what if' discussions with one potential developer who expressed interest in the property and remains engaged in their own, detailed due diligence activities. We are working to finalizing a brokerage agreement with Jones Lang LaSalle that addresses our mutual concerns and expectations. The draft contract is currently under review by both legal firms.

Since the Town approved the two million dollar Town Match and two million dollar DECD loan in December, Jim Bell (Funding Director) and Bob Congdon (Finance Director) have been working closely with the State to complete the detailed agreement and with the Town Bond Council & Financial Consultant to complete the bonding package. In addition, Jim Bell continues to work closely with Kathy Warzecha (our Town Planner) in securing and receiving current and future funding. Currently Jim is working to, (1) receive the funds to the previously awarded STEAP with DECD, (2) continuing to work with the State to switch the Town match (\$125K) and \$100K of Brownfield Assessment Grant from Assessment to Abatement & Demolition. Switching these monies will allow us to complete the abatement and demolition of Building MM. Jim is working to resolve the issue of oversight of the grant by a Regional Planning Agency. Jim has also been busy applying for Grant monies to further progress on the property; (1) an application for the EDA demolition grant (~\$1M) was submitted in early March, (2) a resolution to utilize the DECD Loan and Town Match to serve as the EDA match was submitted and approved by the BOS, (3) a request for a \$5M Urban Act Grant was also submitted to DECD, (4) applications for (a) three additional \$200K EPA Cleanup Grants requiring a \$40K Town match for each and (b) \$500K STEAP Grant were also submitted.

Our Operations Team (led by Frank Ennis) continues to manage a



FBI Supervisory Special Agent Kevin Kline and Special Agent Bomb Technician Samuel DiPasquale with Agent DiPasquale present the certificate to First Selectman Robert Congdon.

agreement with Hull Forest Products and has begun harvesting timber on Lot 2. Please see article on Hull Forest Products in this issue for more information. Manafort is working to sell bricks and roofing tiles to aid in increasing the value of our salvage monies.

In March the FBI attended a BOS meeting to thank the Town of Preston and PRA for our continued support in their ongoing field training. FBI Supervisory Special Agent Kevin Kline and Special Agent Bomb Technician Samuel DiPasquale were present with Agent DiPasquale presenting the certificate. The FBI has been training on the property for over 10 years. First Selectman, Bob Congdon said, "this is a win-win for the FBI, the Town of Preston and south eastern CT". Agent DiPasquale remarked that training here in Preston Riverwalk was "a big deal". In 2012, the FBI began a terrorism training program unlike any other, to be held exclusively at Preston Riverwalk. Last year's participants included Scotland Yard and the New York Police Department. The Boston Police Department is expected to train this year. See photo in this issue.

The State Police, Public Works and members of the PRA continue to patrol the site with random weekend and off-hour patrols. In addition, our public works crew continues to do a fabulous job of plowing snow and cleaning up storm debris on the property.

On January 29, 2013, Rep. Cafero, 142nd District, Rep. Candelora, 86th District and Rep. Klarides of the 114th District introduced House Bill 6267 which calls for the state government "to aid in the redevelopment of the Norwich State Hospital property and strengthen the local economy surrounding the property." This bill also addresses amending general statutes, "to (1) commit economic and environmental resources to the redevelopment of the Norwich State Hospital property, and (2) require that the state explore potential partnerships with the federal government and the Mohegan and Mashantucket Pequot-owned tribal casinos to redevelop the property and strengthen the local economy." First Selectman Congdon, Rep. Bowles and Chairman Nugent presented testimony in Hartford during the public hearing for this proposed bill.

For more information and/or to follow this bill see <http://openstates.org/ct/bills/2013/HB6267/>.

We look forward to the near horizon, anticipating many of our goals coming to fruition, and thank you for your continued support! For more information please see the following links:

<http://www.preston-ct.org/index.php/government/boards-aamp-commissions/redevelopment-agency>
or <http://www.prestonriverwalk.com/default.htm>

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
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
Internet Access • Preston Historical Society files

ON-LINE DATABASES:

ICONN your re-Search engine
BookFlix-interactive stories
Encyclopedia Britannica JobNow
LearningExpress- Learning Center **free for patrons.**

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS:

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

Holiday Closures:

May- Saturday 25th and Monday 27th
July- Thursday 4th

The library will be closed for the safety of our staff if the Preston Schools close due to inclement weather.

Thank you for your understanding.

Did you know that you can find out what the library has on its shelves from home? That you could renew items over the net? or borrow books from other libraries from your home computer? Log on to the library homepage at prestonlibrary.org

Board of Trustees: Patricia Bell, Donna Bowles, Bob Chapin, Jan Clancy, Wendy Connal-Nicolaou, Ceil Gerber, Ann Legler, Catherine Pearson
Email: prestonlibraryboard@gmail.com

Looking for Community Involvement?

The Preston Public Library Board is looking for a Board member. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7pm. Interested parties should submit a letter of interest along with their qualifications to the Library Board email.
Must be a Preston Town Resident.



These upcoming events are sponsored by Friends of the Preston Public Library

Book Sale!

The Friends of the Preston Public Library are having their Annual Book Sale at the Preston Public Library, Route 2, Preston, on the last weekend in April. It will run on Friday, April 26th from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, and Saturday, April 27th from 9:00 am-3 pm. Inexpensive softly worn books and media will be available in all genres. This year we have many recent fiction and nonfiction books including a large selection of romance novels. There is also a huge selection of VHS tapes that we are practically giving away!! Come early for some great finds! Friends will be accepting your slightly used books in the collection box in the front of the library beginning on April 1. Any questions, please contact Linda Christensen 860-887-5828.

Author's Talks and Book Signings!

Monday, May 20th, 2013 at 6:30 pm
Hanna Perlstein Marcus- author of "**Sidonia's Thread**". These talks will be held in the Preston Library Community Room. Refreshments will be available.
Please register for these free events by calling (860)886-1010 or by asking at the Circulation Desk.
Please see our webpage for further details at: www.prestonlibrary.org.

Connecticut Author's Trail (CAT)

It's almost that time again! Preston will have two authors presenting at our library. Mark your calendars and watch for more info on our webpage.

A. Digger Stolz Will be here on July 11th, 2013 to talk about his book "**Stumblin thru: Hike your own hike.**"

Margaret Gibson Will be here on September 12, 2013 to talk about her book, "**Second Nature: Poems.**"

"Remembering Norwich State Hospital"

Wednesday May 8th @ 3:30 pm

Presenters are Christine Rockledge and Linda Christensen
Reservations Recommended
Please call the library @ 860-886-1010

Preston Town Buildings & Facilities Committee Report

By **Walter Kornosewicz**, Chairman

At our most recent meetings, we have met with the Preston Historical Society and the Second Ecclesiastical Society, to see what can be done to preserve the Long Society Meetinghouse for future generations. The building, which was last renovated in the mid 1960s, appears to be in good structural condition but is in need of exterior paint and window repairs. The Committee is in the process of securing a small financial commitment from the Board of Finance to support our effort to secure a matching grant from The CT Trust For Historic Preservation, allowing us to have a structural analysis, environmental study and plan of preservation. This document would list any deficiencies with the building and the preservation plan will enable us to apply for additional grants for repairs.

Established in 1716, the Meetinghouse and cemetery covers almost two acres. The Preston Historical Society has a long term lease, which has been in effect almost fifty years, from the Second Ecclesiastical Society. They assist in the maintenance of the property and hold some meetings in the building.

The Long Society Meetinghouse was listed on the National



Register of Historic Places in 1976. It is noted in the registration papers as the single remaining unaltered example of a Colonial broadside meetinghouse, in Connecticut. There are likely less than a dozen left nationwide. The Meetinghouse is not the first one built on that site, however. The present building, which postdates the Colonial Period, was constructed as a reproduction of the original meetinghouse, which was in need of replacement.

The adjoining cemetery contains 154 inscribed headstones, with the earliest dated 1727, along with a number of unmarked fieldstones. Of the carved headstones, many were done by recognized Colonial stone carvers of the period.

Located across from The Preston Senior Center, the Meetinghouse is located in one of the earliest settlement areas of the Town. What do you think? Do we take this opportunity to preserve a part of our Town's history before the site deteriorates beyond any reasonable efforts to save it for future generations?

Interested in becoming a member? The Building & Facilities Committee meets the first Monday of the month (except holidays), 7 p.m. at the Town Hall. Come to one of our meetings or inquire at the First Selectman's office at the Town Hall.

At Community Hearing Aids of Connecticut We're All EARS!

The new *Invisibel Hearing Aid* fits comfortably in your ear canal where no one can see it.



NOW OFFERING

40% off
MSRP

on select Hearing Aids

Call TODAY for Your FREE Hearing Evaluation

Norwich • 215 W. Town Street • **860-546-4397**

Groton • 441 Long Hill Road • **860-415-8100**

Local Toll Free



Christine H. Kendall, MA
Clinical Audiologist



Benefits of hearing instruments vary by type and degree of hearing loss, noise environment, accuracy of hearing evaluation, and proper fit.

www.communityhearingaids.com



**Pick Your Own
STRAWBERRIES!**
Ben & Judy's
263 Rte 165 Preston CT
860-889-2223 · Open in June
Call for dates & times

News From The Preston City Congregational Church Two Can Food Pantry



Over the winter months, the Preston City Congregational Church Food Pantry provided canned goods, cereals, toilet tissue, and bread to many needy area families. At the Easter holiday time, we distributed a total of 65 hams for family dinners. We are indebted to the Jewett City Savings Bank and the Preston Community Fund for the generous grants which allowed us to purchase these special items.

The townspeople of Preston have given generously through their churches, and collection boxes, especially the one placed in the library. But the need is ongoing, for each family receives a bag containing pasta sauce, pasta, mac and cheese, several soups, at least 3 canned vegetables, several cans of tuna, peanut butter, jelly, canned fruit, canned pasta, baked beans, and rice. A second bag contains toilet paper, cereal and bread. We also have "optional shelves" which contain donated items, such as canned juices, coffee, personal hygiene items, etc. We would gladly welcome any donations, but be aware, we cannot distribute outdated items.

LOPRESTI'S FARM



**Hanging Baskets
Perennials
All Kinds Of Early
Vegetable Plants!
Cabbage! Lettuce! More!**
Our Own Tomatoes First Week In June!
Open 9 to 6 • Rte 164 • Preston CT

A View From The Steeple

Inspiration



I married them and baptized their 3 girls. They've been actively involved in the life of the church for years, and today they (all five of them) are working as a team to insure that Rob's many needs are met following his diagnosis of ALS in 2012.

Preston has many wonderful families; and the Irvine family is one of them! In their own way, family members are doing their best to comfort and encourage each other. Rob, especially, continues to inspire his family and friends, his Doctors, and everyone he meets with his positive outlook. Someone once remarked, "You really get to know what a person is made of when tough times come upon them." Those who know this family know that they are made of genuine love for each other. Rob IS an inspiration to many; I continue to be amazed by his optimism!

While I am impressed with the Irvine family, I am also pleased by the way people in our town rally around the Irvines - doing whatever they can to help Rob's situation. In a small town like Preston, you have the opportunity to meet some great and caring people. And sometimes it's something so unfortunate that brings us all together and unites us in a common cause. Preston is a great town!

See you around town!
Rev. Stan

Preston City Congregational Church



*"Where Friends
Become Family"*

*Join Us
This
Sunday!*

Reverend Stanley E. White, Minister

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE
May 26-Sept. 1 • 9 a.m.

UPCOMING CHURCH SUPPERS

April 27, Chicken Pot Pie

June 22, Ham & Bean

Call the office for reservations

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

July 15-19 • 9 a.m. - 11:30

Ages 4 - 7th grade

Registration accepted by July 1st

Call the office

SCARECROW FESTIVAL

Sept. 28 • 9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Pancake Breakfast 7:30-10:30 a.m.

Chicken BBQ 3:00-6:30 p.m.

Call the office for food reservations

321 Route 164 • Preston, CT

860.887.4647 or 860.886.7200

Website: prestoncitycongregational.org

Check us out on **FACEBOOK!!!**

Quick Thinking Saves a Life!

Jim Mackie stopped me at the transfer station on Good Friday. He wishes to express his gratitude to some quick thinking... thinking that saved his life!

One day in early March he was working at the transfer station and began to feel ill. He was going to just go home, but Bob Boyd told him to go to the hospital and called an ambulance.

When Jim got to Backus, they immediately admitted him, found two blockages in his arteries and ended up Lifestarring him to Hartford Hospital where he had stents put in.

Jim told me he was comforted by seeing Bob Boyd and Bob Congdon as he was leaving in the ambulance...and the EMT with him in the ambulance was equally comforting. People who "saved his bacon", the people of this town, are just really great people. Glad to see Jim at the transfer station, where he says, he feels like a new man!

Win a \$25.00 Gift Certificate to Village Pizza!

What is the first thing you do to celebrate Spring?

Your answer: _____

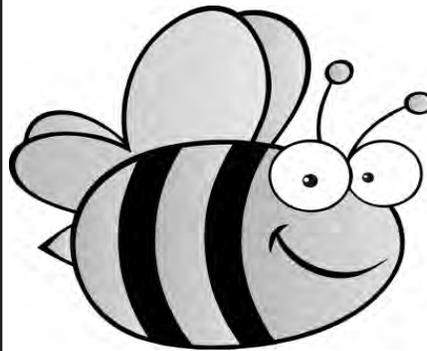
From: _____

Phone: _____

Please mail your entry to: Tracy Lyn Designs
211 Rt 164 Preston, CT 06365

Or Email me at tracylyndesigns@comcast.net

ANDERSEN OIL CO.



Spring is here and we are as busy as a bee doing what we do best! Give us a call to see how we can help you today!

DELIVERING:

Fuel Oil • Kerosene
On and Off-Road Diesel

OFFERING: Budget Plans • Pricing Programs
Prebuys • Price Caps • Heating System
Service & Installation

LICENSED & INSURED

860-464-7628

www.andersenoilcompany.com



GRILLE & LOUNGE

The "Upscale" Country Pizzeria & Grille

Gourmet Pizza

Grilled Meats & Seafood

Pasta, Pasta & More Pasta!

Specialty Salads & Grinders

Be sure to try our tasty homemade soups!

DELICIOUS BURGERS TOO!

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

Troop 75 Activities

By Scoutmaster Barry Black and Committee Member Merrill Gerber

It's that time again to share Troop 75's activities with our readers. Winter camping, A Court of Honor, swimming and an awards dinner were highlights of the past three months, and will be discussed below.

Winter Camping - The Mohegan District Klondike was held from 2-15 to 2-17 at Camp Tadma. The event lived up to its name as temperatures remained below freezing most of the weekend and a light snow fell the entire time. This year's theme was "Video Games" and each event was named after a famous video game. Unlike most Klondikes in the past, the events were not so much a test of scouting skills but a test of teamwork and cooperation. Mark Gardner, one of our Scouts felt the event was good but it was cold and painful, especially when several sleds slammed into each on the trail between events. There was a variety of events including one called "angry birds" that featured firing a rubber chicken from a balloon launcher and trying to knock over 5 gallon buckets that represented the Angry Birds arch enemies, the Pigs. The Scouts also enjoyed a massive snowball fight. It's tough to claim any unit as a winner because all had fun.

The Scout Leaders stayed in three sided cabins at Tadma, and the one that T-75 used had a squirrel living in the top of the cabin that chose to sleep on one of our leaders chests. (A blanket he wasn't.) The Scouts enjoyed the Klondike events but also found time to make a "huge snowman". A good time was had by all, particularly with good weather and temperatures in the 30's during the events. Troop 75 ran three teams in the Klondike, a New Scout patrol, a Venture Scout patrol and an Adult patrol. All patrols won at least one "Blue Ribbon" and a total of 17 ribbons were awarded to the troop collectively.

Cub Scouting - T-75 Scouts get involved with Pack 75 members to help guide them forward to becoming members of the Troop. The T-75 Scout will assist a Den or the Pack with planning activities, such as the annual Scouting for Food Drive in the Fall, and helping them be successful. In turn, one or more Scouts will be invited to the Pack's annual Blue and Gold banquet. This year the banquet was held on February 24th at Preston Veterans School.

Also when a WEBLOS II Scout moves from Cub Scouting to Boy Scouts, he goes through a ceremony that symbolizes the event. This year the event was held at a pond on Mr. Benjamin's property on March 23rd. Six WEBLOS II Scouts from Pack 75 crossed over the pond by canoe, where they were welcomed to T-75, by Senior Patrol Leader Noah Cyr, provided with troop neckerchiefs and then enjoyed a campout with the Troop. Scouts crossing over included: Daniel Egger, Digby Ludlow, Dylan McGuire, John Sylvia, Jett Pellegrini, and Conrad Waters. Congratulations to new T-75 members as they start on "the path to Eagle". We hope you enjoy your Scouting experience.

Swimming - On Wednesday March 13th Scouts and leaders traveled down the road to the pool at Americinn Motel in Griswold to complete Second Class and First Class swimming requirements. A "Thank you" goes out to Americinn for providing a "Scouting" discount to make the pool affordable for the program.

Fish Frys- The annual Frys were held at St James Church. T-75 Scouts and leaders helped in the kitchen, clearing tables, serving meals and



"diving for pearls" in the kitchen sink. There's always a lot of interest in helping with the fish fries so we had to limit the number of Scouts to five to keep their enthusiasm from interfering with their main task.

Pancake Breakfast - Our annual "All You Can Eat" Pancake and French Toast Breakfast was held on April 7th at the Preston City Fire Department on April. A thank you to all who came out to this annual community event and to shake off the long winter's blues that have kept many folks inside instead of "out and about".

Eagle Board - Every Eagle Scout Candidate goes through a Board of Review as a step on his path to the rank of Eagle Scout. The Board Reviews his Scouting History and asks questions about his goals, objectives and plans for the future. Zachary Moran has completed his Eagle Scout requirements and went through his Board in December.

Zach did well and now plans are being made for his Eagle Court of Honor. This will be a separate event from a regular T-75 Court of Honor to highlight the significance of the event.

Court of Honor - Our latest Court of Honor was held on March 27. Second Class Awards were presented to four scouts: Max Migliaccio, Peter Crary, Nathaniel Crary, and Nathan Cyr. Additional awards included Klondike and Scout Sunday Patches.

Order of the Arrow -The Order of the Arrow is an Honor Camping Society. Members are elected by their peers and called out at a Troop Meeting, campout or any other event that involves a large number of Scouts. Two members of the Troop were called out on March 20th and elected to the Order; Ryan Le Fleur and Gabriel Hopkins-Gray.

Looking Ahead - The annual District Awards dinner will be held at the Groton Inn and Suites on April 27th, is for Leaders and includes several adult awards for Leaders who've made significant contributions to District Scouting. Scout Show 2013 will be held at the Hebron Fairgrounds from May 31-July 2. Our High Adventure Trip 2013 planning continues. This trip to Colorado includes hiking, white water rafting and camping and will take place from July 10 to July 20. Our next Court of Honor and potluck dinner will be at the end of the year picnic.

Warm Regards - Troop 75 has to say a special "Thank you" to HOCON Gas. Preston's Bill Cummings and HOCON donated the propane to heat our Scout building this past winter. If anyone is looking a Propane supplier, please consider HOCON, a big supporter of Scouting in Preston.

New Scouting TV Show - You might be interested in a new "reality" TV show on Scouting. It's called "Tougher than a Boy Scout" and is on Monday nights at 7:00 on the National Geographic Channel. The show features Scout adventures and includes a Scout from Connecticut in the cast. The show will run for several more weeks.

Troop 75 Website - Keep up to date with Troop 75 Activities at our website at <http://preston troop 75.webs.com>. The website has photos and information about the Troop, as well as links to other Scouting websites. Please have a look!

Join Scouting - Troop 75 is always looking to welcome new boys into our program. No Scouting experience is necessary. Just bring enthusiasm and energy. For information or suggestions, contact Scoutmaster Black at 887-2414.



Tracy Lyn Designs, LLC
211 Rt 164
Preston, CT 06365

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
HARTFORD, CT
PERMIT # 3344

FLEMING'S FEED

353 Route 165,
Preston, CT
860-889-7536

Open 7 Days • WE'RE LOCAL!

786 Route 1,
Stonington, CT
860-535-3181

\$5.00 OFF! Any 30lb. Bag
or Larger
DOG FOOD We have all the
best brands at the
best prices!

- Iams
- Eukanuba
- Purina
- Blue Buffalo
- Pro Plan
- Nutro
- Blue Seal
- Nutri Source
- Science Diet
- Many more!

Fleming's Coupon. Exp. 4/28/13.

RABIES CLINIC
Saturday May 4th
1 - 3 pm

\$15
rabies shots
Preston
location only

FLEMING'S FEED
Propane Refill

\$9.99

20 lb. Gas
Grill Size



Fleming's Coupon. Exp. 4/28/13.



FREE
Pack of SEEDS
Vegetable or Flower
\$2.29 Value

One per person

Fleming's Coupon. Exp. 4/28/13.



One per person

FREE
Pack of Pansies
\$2.49 Value

Fleming's Coupon. Exp. 4/28/13..

BAGGED MULCH

Big 3 cu. ft. bags!

5 or more
Natural Cedar \$3.99 ea. \$4.49 ea.

Cedar Brown Black or Red \$4.99 ea. \$5.49 ea.

Hemlock \$6.49 ea. \$6.99 ea.

Pine Mulch, Nuggets, or Mini Nuggets \$6.49 ea. \$6.99 ea.

BULK MULCH

Brown, Black or Red

\$38/yard

**FREE in-town
delivery**

when you purchase 3 yards
or more. Preston only.

Fleming's Coupon. Exp. 4/28/13.



Canned Cat
Food
20 flavors to
choose from!

Limit 5
Cases



39¢
each

Fleming's Coupon. Exp. 4/28/13.