

Preston Pipeline²

VOL 2 ISSUE 4

SUMMER 2013

From The Desk Of The First Selectman

by First Selectman **Bob Congdon**

Thank You - On May 16th I had a run in with a tree and the tree almost won. The list of people who had a hand in saving my life is long. If it wasn't for the timely 911 call and response by residents, the quick response and professional care from Preston City Fire Co., Poquetanuck Fire Co., Poquetanuck Ambulance, Preston Resident Trooper Armando Bettini and American Ambulance Paramedics, I probably wouldn't be here today. I then benefited from incredible care from Backus Hospital, Life Star and the ER and ICU units at Yale New Haven Hospital. I extend my heartfelt thanks and gratitude to this incredible emergency service team. **I was humbled and honored by the calls and cards I received from residents of Preston and across Connecticut - thank you all. And to my wife and family, thanks for everything - I am blessed. It's great to live in a community that cares.**

Bob Sirpenski - as you may be aware, Bob Sirpenski is leaving as the Financial Manager for both the Town and the Board of



Education. Bob has served the Town well for the last year and a half and will be missed. The process of hiring a replacement has begun and it is our hope to fill the vacancy in August. Best wishes to Bob in his new position as Financial Manager for the town of Waterford.

Road Repair - It's that time of year when the Town Crew is cleaning up our roads and repairing potholes. Please use extra caution, especially during the summer months, as children are home from school and public works crews are busy repairing roads.

Short Term Notes and Bonding - The Town recently borrowed monies to continue abatement and demolition efforts at the Riverwalk property and to fund the Town's Five Year Capital Plan. Preston was able to obtain twenty year bonds at 3.16% and a short-term note at 0.349% due in large part to an improved bond rating by Standard and Poor's (S&P). S&P upgraded the Town's rating for a number of reasons, including: Preston's positive budget performance over the past five years, the Town's conservative fund balance policy of a minimum of 9% surplus, continuity in town management, and Preston's favorable audit reports over the past five years. Due in a large part to the improved bond rating Preston was able to obtain twenty year bonds at 3.16% and a short-term note at 0.349%.

Issues and ideas - If you have something you'd like to present to your elected officials, we welcome you to attend a Selectmen's meeting held on Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm or you can contact me by phone at (860) 887-5581 or by e-mail me at congdon@preston-ct.org.



Inside:

No White Flags....The Irvine Family

Preston Runs for Rob

The first annual "Running for Rob 5k" event took place on Saturday, June 15th, at Bluff Point with over 270 people registered. The race was a huge success and brought community together, educated others about ALS and raised over \$10,000! At the registration and kickoff party, held at Preston Community Park, local companies donated supplies and dozens of families cooked, baked and registered for the race. In addition, pennies were collected through Mrs. Roger's classroom, WCTY auctioned off concert tickets, Claire Watrous made sunflower hair barrettes and Landin Traylor sold lemonade. A portion of the proceeds were donated to Team Gleason as well as the ALS CT Chapter. Read more about the Irvine Family on page 6 and visit We Love Rob Irvine at <https://www.facebook.com/weloverobirvine>

INSIDE:

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

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

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**Preston City Congregational
Scarecrow
Festival
September 28th**

Vendors and Crafters wanted!!

Festival Hours:

Pancake Breakfast 7:30 - 10:30am

Festival 9:30 - 4:00pm

Chicken BQQ 3:00pm - 6:30pm

(On-site parking after 4:30 pm!!)

Scarecrow Contest!!! (Make a scarecrow!)

Bwana Igauna Reptile Adventure

Beech Brook Farm Horse Rescue

Jewett City Savings Bank Harvest Activity Center

scarecrowfestivalcrafters@hotmail.com

or call the Church at 860-887-4647



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860-892-4041

for more information.

Friday 5pm to 10pm

July 19, Aug. 16, Sept. 20,
Oct 18

Saturday 9am to 5pm

July 20, Aug 17, Sept. 21,
Oct. 19

Adults only please.

Kit contains 5 cards

for \$15.00

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.

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Preston, CT

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

tracylyndesigns@comcast.net



**To the kids who ride
Bus #2: I want to wish
you all a wonderful
summer. Thank you
for being safe,
respectful, and honest.
You are a special group and
I am glad you are mine.**

Love, Mrs. Potter



Preston Historical Society

Preserving The Past for Future Generations

News from the Preston Historical Society



Long Society Meeting House

As reported in earlier articles, the Preston Historical Society is working very hard to help preserve the Long Society Meeting House. We have asked for an evaluation proposal from Sara Nelson, an historical architect that would help us determine the best way to properly care for the building. An inquiry and

grant from the 1772 Foundation for exterior painting and window repair was submitted. The PHS, 2nd Ecclesiastical Society, and the town will also be working with a Peer Network Advisor to find ways to work together to save this historic gem.

Some Facts about Long Society Meeting House

- It was part of Norwich's Nine Mile Square. from Groton to Plainfield - thus - Looooong Society
- Original building - just behind the present - was built in 1726
- Had separate galleries for men and women
- Jabez Wight was the first minister - served for 56 years
- At first there were only benches - no pews
- By 1817, it was torn down and a new one built for \$1,025.70.
- The arrangement of the pulpit on the short axis opposite the entrance and is the only one of this type built in the nineteenth century and still standing.

Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Preston Historical Society is scheduled for Sunday, October 20, 2013 at Long Society Meetinghouse on Long Society Road. Refreshments will be served. New Members are always welcome!

Revolutionary War Memorial Dedication

NFA students Austin James, Anna Brown, and Hunter Browning, Mark Christensen and Ron Tanguay, as well as many local citizens (including these NFA students) and organizations, have been working hard to prepare the area at the fork between Old Shetucket Turnpike and Route 165



NFA students
Austin James, Anna Brown,
and Hunter Browning

for our Revolutionary War Memorial and Tribute Garden. And we just had a donation of two benches from the former Norwich Hospital site by the Preston Redevelopment Agency. Townspeople, local groups, PVMS classrooms, and those with genealogical links to Revolutionary Patriots have purchased bricks to be placed in the Tribute Garden along with the bricks listing the names of 239 patriots from our town.

Everyone is invited to the formal dedication on Sunday, September 8 at 1 pm at the Memorial.

Information pertaining to this program will be available to the local newspapers as the date gets closer. Donations to the project are always welcome. Preston Memorial Committee c/o Mark Christensen, 15 Amos Road, Preston.



J&S Card Design

What began as a modest "Women's Retreat" in September 2009, has now blossomed into sessions of fun and friendship.

Jewel Szocik states that it is a time for women to spend quality and creative time with one another. Several mothers come with their (older) daughters to create cards from kits that Jewel and Sandy Szocik put together with lots of care.

"It is like therapy for some..." says Jewel. The group has grown to 20 members who pay \$15 per session for the card kit which contains all materials needed to create 5 cards. Everything is supplied, and if you want to, you do not have to follow the samples that are given...Jewel and Sandy encourage creativity. They also welcome scrapbookers!

Jewel and Sandy share the profits with St. James and put some into the supplies that are needed. What they do, they do with lots of love as evident by the happy cardmakers I saw that Saturday!...See their ad on page 3.



Jewel and Sandy Szocik



6th Annual Holiday Craft Fair!

Oct. 11th & 12th
St. James Church
Rt 2A Preston CT

Vendors welcome!
Over 25 different vendors attend!
Bake Sale & Silent Auction
Silent auction runs Fri thru Sat afternoon

If you are a local business that would like to donate a basket to the silent auction please contact Jewel at 860.892.4041 or jwshappy@att.net
It is a great way to promote your business!

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The British Came and Had A Good Time! By Eleanor Miller

The Town of Preston had the honor of showing off two very special residents of Preston St. Mary, England when Richard and Jane Martin visited on May 2nd. The visit started with a casual dinner served by Ellie Miller who hosted the Martins at her home. The following morning, ceremonies were held at Preston Veterans Memorial School which included a slide show by Fred Herbert, a skit by Sandra Bosko tracing Preston's past and a session of the Martins being questioned by the students. This was followed by a tour of the town hall and a meeting with Bob Congdon.



Fred Herbert presenting a declaration to Richard & Janet Martin stating May 3rd as "Richard & Janet Martin Day" in Preston.

That afternoon a luncheon was held in their honor at the home of Fred Herbert where they met several Preston residents. It was here that Robert Congdon, 1st Selectman presented the Martin's with a proclamation declaring May 3rd as "Richard & Janet Martin Day" followed by a citation presented by Fred Herbert from the Connecticut General Assembly. The Preston Historical Society President, Linda Christensen, presented the Martin's with several Preston souvenirs and Russell Green gave the Martins one of his Preston brass hatchets which he created to celebrate the U.S. Bicentennial.

The evening ended with a trip to Abbott's for New England lobster. Linda Christensen, took the Martins on a tour of the town the next morning visiting various sites. Both of the Martins asked if all the American flags had been put up for a reason the they were impressed that many people have flags flying all the time as a show

of patriotism. Dorothy Miller escorted the Martins to the Mashantucket Indian Museum for an afternoon tour. On Sunday morning, I took Jane Martin to the church service at St. James Church where she received a warm welcome. The Martin's ended their visit with a trip to Boston before their return trip to London. Preston residents are invited to Preston St. Mary, England whenever they are in the vicinity.

Richard and Janet Martin have resided in Preston St. Mary for fifteen years and will celebrate their 47th wedding anniversary in July. They have three grown children, Anna,

Thomas, and Edward all who reside in London and six grandchildren (5 girls and 1 boy). Richard was a property developer for shopping malls; the majority of his work was performed in Scotland.

Janet taught History and English in secondary school until her children were born. While the children were small, Janet did volunteer work for multiple sclerosis.

Although the Martin's are retired, they keep occupied by volunteering for several charitable and civic causes and traveling around the world. When asked about his impression of Preston, Richard thought that the houses are located in a landscaped environment, many surrounded by trees, which creates a calm atmosphere. And, he said that everyone he met acted like they were glad to see you. Janet found Preston to be the most welcoming place that she has ever been in.

It was a memorable experience for the Martins and for those of us who participated.



Vacation Bible School

Where: Preston City Bible Church
293 Route 164, Preston CT 06365

When: August 5-9

Time: 9am to 12pm

For: All children ages 4-12 are welcome

Snacks will be provided

To register please go to www.prestoncitybible.org

Any questions please call Ryan Baker at 401-345-2188

Preston: No White Flags!



Hope & Community

The Irvine Family has found great strength and support by numerous individuals, families and organizations. These organizations that have influenced their outlook and given support:

- Church family: Preston City Congregational Church - the entire congregation has surrounded the Irvine's with love and support from the moment they found out.
- Team Gleason is an organization created by Steve Gleason, former NFL player for the New Orleans's Saints, who is currently battling ALS. Steve and his friends and family started Team Gleason to generate public awareness for ALS, raise funding to empower those with ALS to live a rewarding life, and ultimately find a cure. Team Gleason's mantra is "No White Flags", a sentiment that has provided strength, determination and hope for the Irvine family as they live and love life despite the challenges brought on by ALS. For more information, visit www.teamgleason.org
- The ALS Association CT Chapter has been a huge help to our family with everything from emotional support, equipment lending, to contributing to home improvements and family get-aways. They are a devoted organization committed to helping patients and families right here in Connecticut who are living with ALS.
- The town of Preston and local community. The community has been involved with numerous efforts to support the family, raise funding & awareness. This includes a "home makeover" to convert their garage into a handicap accessible bedroom and bathroom, Spaghetti Dinner & Basket Raffle, dinners prepared & delivered and numerous others.



DO NOT PLANT THIS!

By Terri Groff

Have you ever wanted an instant green fence? Yellow groove bamboo will provide that instant "green" fence but at quite a high cost you may not be able to afford.

Did you know it can grow two feet per day in late spring - nice -BUT, it also spreads out underground more than twenty feet per year.

Yellow groove bamboo and its nasty partner, Green groove or Bisettii are like land-based icebergs. What you see above ground is nothing compared to the relentless damage the rhizomes are causing underground. Each cane, called a culm, is connected by a root system (rhizome) and is scientifically one organism spreading rapidly in all directions. Rhizomes are very dense and heavy. A single plant bought "on line" turns into a fast moving bamboo forest and an expensive nightmare to eradicate. The rhizomes eagerly seek out moisture from any source. Water pipes, septic tanks, sewer lines, culverts and precious wetlands are prime targets for costly damage from the hungry rhizomes.

The rhizomes are an equal opportunity invader, moving out behind, over and under any barriers causing havoc with neighboring property. Sprouting easily through six inches of concrete, growing in total darkness to sprout under vinyl siding, behind insulation to pop out of the roof of a house in Bozrah. Thousands of dollars later, the bamboo victim had to remove the siding, insulation and roofing, and then excavate the yard to eradicate the insidious rhizomes invading twenty-four inches deep. Reports have come in from NJ about the rhizomes invading the gas lines, while in PA they filled a leaching field and a septic tank with a strangling convoluted mess like horticultural concrete. One escaped rhizome can contaminate an entire neighborhood.



But wait-there's more...the thick woody fibrous culms grow to three inches in diameter requiring a saw to cut down. However cutting does not kill the bamboo, neither does ROUNDUP, nor spraying it with gasoline or paint thinner. Yes, desperate people have tried this.

The growth rings, called nodes, are chambered off by a tough fibrous membrane that prevents chemicals from traveling to the rhizomes. Phyllostachys Running bamboo is a giant temperate timber bamboo that evolved 40 million years ago to survive in the forest in China. Surviving the Hiroshima bombing to sprout within days, it is one

tough plant to get rid of. Eradication is only accomplished by digging up the roots (rhizomes) and burning them. Burning the above ground plants only causes more pollution and will not kill the rhizomes below grade. The plants grow up to forty-five feet tall to entangle in power lines, and survives to - 15 F degrees in winter.

The legislature just passed CT Public Act 13-82, an act regulating the planting and sale of running bamboo. Effective from passage "running bamboo" means any bamboo of the Phyllostachys genus. No person who plants or allows running bamboo to be planted on their property shall permit the bamboo to grow beyond their property lines. After October 1, 2013 anyone who violates this will be liable for any damages caused to neighboring property and the cost of removing any bamboo that grew beyond their property line. Section C specifies planting bamboo 100 feet from abutting property lines and public rights of way with \$100 per day fines (because bamboo grows and spreads out daily). Can you afford this??

Google Institute of Invasive Bamboo Research for the entire law. Call me if you see bamboo: Terri Groff - Field Researcher 860.884.9177.



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Summer cocktail: Pour bourbon and add ginger ale.
1.25 oz. bourbon | Stir with cracked ice
2 oz. ginger ale | in a rocks glass.



The Cynthia A. Carano Memorial Scholarship committee is pleased to announce that the 2013 recipient of a \$1,000 scholarship has been awarded to **Samantha DeVito**. Samantha, a 2013 graduate of Norwich Free Academy is the daughter of Michael and Elissa DeVito of Tanglewood Drive in Preston. Samantha's essay, "How an Educator Has Positively Impacted My Life",

written about NFA teacher, Vincent Laudone was chosen from nine other applicants. "Her essay truly portrayed what the committee was looking for and honored Ms. Carano's legacy," said Gale Ennis, Chairperson of the scholarship committee. A luncheon was held on Sunday, June 2nd at the Poquetanuck Firehouse and was attended by family and friends of the applicants, the Carano Family, and the scholarship committee.

The Cynthia A. Carano Memorial Scholarship was started in 2009 by two parents of her former students after her unexpected death. Cyndi Carano was a beloved teacher in Preston for 22 years. For details how to donate to the scholarship fund, or to apply for the 2014 scholarship please contact Gale Ennis at 806-887-3618. *Contributed By Gale Ennis*

A Diamond in the Rough?



A number of months ago the PRA received a request from the Preston Memorial Committee, for the donation of a couple of benches from Preston Riverwalk for use at the Revolutionary War Memorial along route 165 in the "Y" at Old Shetucket Tpk. Although there are 5 or 6 benches at the site only one was complete (no broken parts). To fulfill the request PRA has donated the whole bench (pictured above) and enough bench parts to construct a second. That part was easy.

As you can see from the picture the best bench is in terrible shape, all the others have broken wooden parts or bent metal supports or both. Somehow Linda and Mark Christensen will get them looking presentable and installed at the memorial. The work to renovate the memorial is moving along at the direction of the Preston Memorial Committee, with a lot of volunteer effort. When complete the area will be a very nice addition to the town scenery. PRA is happy to be able to support such noble local effort.

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Preston Community Fund

Once again the Preston Community Fund is soliciting requests for projects or programs that benefit the Town. These projects or programs must improve quality of life in Preston and be "over and above" items funded by the town's budget. Recent recipients are the Historical Society, Troop 75's Scouting Program, the Two Can Food Pantry and the Preston Pipeline. Submissions should include a brief description of the project or program, benefits to the community, a summary of estimated costs and a projected completion date. **Application forms are available at the Preston Library or by calling Merrill Gerber at (860) 887-7169.**

Your Town Government - The Plan of Conservation and Development

By **Norman Gauthier** and **Bob Congdon**

This is the 7th of a series of Pipeline articles about Preston town government.

The Preston Planning and Zoning Commission has begun work on amending the Town's Plan of Conservation and Development (the Plan). The current Plan was adopted in 2003 and the Commission is required by law to update it every 10 years. The State considers the Plan so important that it can withhold funds from a town that does not have an approved plan.

Elsewhere in this issue of Pipeline, the Commission asks you to help by completing and returning a short Public Opinion Survey that will assist them in understanding your thoughts about the present condition and future needs of the Town. The survey has been mailed to every household in Town and is available in the Town Hall, the Library, and on the Town web site.

The Plan should not be confused with zoning regulations, subdivision regulations, building codes or other land use regulations. The Plan is advisory and will be used for guidance when developing and enforcing these various regulations.

When completed, the Plan will describe the Town of Preston in historic, geographic, demographic, economic, and physical terms. A large section of the Plan is a collection of background studies that will provide the reader with a broad picture of the Town, both past and present. It will cover topics such as: population and economics, land use, environmental features, housing trends, education and municipal services.

The Plan will include discussion of the Town's need for affordable housing, the need for protection of existing and potential public drinking water supplies, the protection and preservation of agriculture, and the needs of the Town in the areas of education, health, recreation, social services, public utilities, and emergency services.

The law requires that the Plan: (1) be a statement of policies, goals, and standards for the Town's physical and economic development; (2) recommend the most desirable use of land within the Town; and (3) include a map showing these proposed land uses.

The preparation and adoption of the Plan is the responsibility of the Planning and Zoning Commission; but in fact, it involves the whole Town. Everyone in Preston is invited to answer and return the Public Opinion Survey. Town staff is researching and compiling the statistics, finding or drawing the relevant maps, and preparing the actual document.

Before the Commission can give its approval to the Plan, it must hold a public hearing on the Plan. Two months before the public hearing they must submit the Plan to the Board of Selectmen for their review. The Selectmen can endorse the Plan with or without comments, or they can reject it.

A month before the Commission holds its public hearing it must file a copy of the plan with the town clerk and post it on the Town's web site. This is done so that every person who wishes can read and review the Plan. The public hearing is an opportunity for residents to provide their own comments and critique of the Plan. If you wish to attend the public hearing, watch for the hearing notice to be published in the local newspaper and on the Town web site. The notice will be published twice, once between 10 and 15 days before the hearing and the second at least two days before the hearing.

The Plan of Conservation and Development describes the goals and objectives for the future of the Town of Preston. You can be a part of this Plan. Return the survey; read the Plan and provide your comments to the Planning and Zoning Commission. Your efforts will be rewarded by a renewed appreciation for the Town, as it was, as it is, and as it will be in the future.

We welcome your comments and questions. Questions about town government may be sent to N.Gauthier@usa.net or Congdon@preston-ct.org. Selected questions will be answered in future issues of Pipeline.

RIDE WITH MAX!



Go to YouTube and find Max Zachem's videos. It is like you are riding along with Max!

<http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbkQZoETuiUUr2qn2jBn1xw>



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PRESTON PARKS & RECREATION

SUMMER CAMPS

SUMMER DAY CAMP



There is still time to register for Summer Camp!! Summer time 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: Weekly Rates or Daily Rates available

Friday field trips to Ocean Beach for ALL kids!

Tuesday Field Trips for those entering Grades 5 - 9

** July 2, July 16, & July 30 ~ Laser Tag & Cyber Sport

** July 9, July 23, & August 6 ~ Capture the Flag & Bowling



Thursday Adventure Trips for those entering Grades 5 - 9

** July 11 ~ Yawgoo Water Slides

** July 18 ~ Tree Climb Adventures

** July 25 ~ Mini Golf & Indoor Trampolines

** August 1 ~ Zip Lining Canopy Tour

** August 8 ~ Brownstone Adventure Water Park

Before Care (8:00 - 9:00 am) & After Care (3:00 - 5:00 pm)

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: \$165 for residents; \$175 for non-residents

Before Care 8:00-9:00 and After Care 3:00-5:00 is available and will be staffed by Preston Parks & Recreation Summer Camp staff. Weekly rate of \$10 for Before Care & \$20 for After Care.

SPORT LEAGUES

FALL SOCCER 3v3 LEAGUE FOR AGES 4-6

Soccer is coming back to Preston!! In-town soccer league for ages 4-6. Early registration is key so teams can be formed and uniforms can be ordered.

3v3 = 3 versus 3 kids on the field at one time.

Coordinator: Dustin Maurice. Coaches still needed.

Registration forms available online at www.preston-ct.org

Registration Fee: \$30 (all registrations received after June 1 will be accessed a \$10 late fee). Absolutely no registrations will be accepted after August 10th!



TODDLER/ PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

MAD SCIENCE

Mad Science Preschool Programs are engaging hands-on learning experiences for preschool children aged 3-5. Each workshop is an interactive, age-appropriate exploration of a specific science topic. Children will learn about science by touching, feeling, and even tasting their science experiments. Preschoolers enjoy engaging demonstrations and perform simple experiments.

Dates: Fridays: September 6 - September 27 (4 week session)

Time: 10:00 - 10:30 am

Ages: 3 - 5

Location: Preston Public Library Meeting Room

Fee: \$35 (includes all materials)

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: October 4 - October 25 (4 week session)

Where: Preston Public Library Meeting Room

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



CHILD & YOUTH PROGRAMS

BABYSITTER TRAINING

In babysitting training you'll learn how to:

- ** Make decisions
- ** Choose safe & age-appropriate toys and games
- ** Interview for a babysitting job

Date: Saturday, July 20

Time: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Ages: 11-18

Location: Preston Town Hall

Fee: \$50 (add \$15 late fee for registrations received after June 15)

CPR/FIRST AID TRAINING

In CPR/First Aid you'll learn how to:

- ** Handle an emergency or illness
- ** Perform first aid, including responding to emergencies
- ** Recognize emergencies, check victims
- ** Only Child & Infant CPR covered

Date: Saturday, July 27

Time: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Ages: 11-18

Location: Preston Town Hall

Fee: \$50 (add \$15 late fee for registrations received after June 15)

SAFETY SAKES PACKAGE ~ sign up for both Babysitting & CPR/First Aid and get both classes for only \$75!! (\$15 late fee for registrations received after June 15)

KIDS PICK UP 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

ADULT PROGRAMS

CO-ED SUMMER SOFTBALL



Grab your glove and come on down for some pick up softball games with your Preston neighbors. New teams formed every week.
Dates: Thursdays: Starting July 11
Time: 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Ages: 18+
Location: Preston Community Park Softball Fields

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. *Instructor: Eleanor Miller*

Dates: Tuesdays: September 17 - October 22
Time: 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Ages: 16+
Location: Preston Plains School Library
Registration Fee: \$65; 6 week session



Materials needed: vine charcoal, kneaded eraser, & drawing pad. If you already have those materials, great! If you would like to go out and purchase them yourself, great! If you would like us to take care of ordering the class materials you will need, then please include a \$25 materials fee with your registration form.

ADULT CO-ED KICKBALL LEAGUE

Preston Parks & Recreation is looking to start an adult co-ed kickball league for this fall. Early registration for teams is important to make this activity happen. Registration forms and more information available on-line at www.preston-ct.org.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

COMMUNITY YARD SALE

Join Preston Parks and Recreation on Saturday, September 29 for a Community Yard Sale/Garage Sale/Craft Sale/Vendor Sale, etc...at Preston Community Park. You bring your items to sell and we do the advertisement for the event.



Fee: 10-foot x 10-foot spot (if registered by September 10)
Preston Residents: \$10
Non-Residents: \$15
**Registration fees increase by \$10 after September 11

More detailed event info available online at www.preston-ct.org

FREE PICKLEBALL DEMONSTRATION

Tuesday, July 16 from 6:00—8:00
Preston Community Park Basketball Courts

Pickleball? WHAT?? Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in the US. Pickleball is a fun game that is played on a badminton sized court with the net lowered to 34 inches at the center. It is played with a perforated plastic baseball (similar to a whiffle ball) and wood or composite paddles. It is easy for beginners to learn, but can develop into a quick, fast-paced, competitive game for experienced players. Perfect game for everyone from kids and teens to adults and seniors.



Join us to watch an exciting demonstration of this fascinating game. Afterwards, those who want to give this sport a shot, will be able to! Equipment will be provided.

COACH BUS TRIPS

(Early registration is key to the success of these coach bus trips)

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

SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS

Join Preston Parks & Recreation as we travel to Salem, a popular New England destination during the month of October. On this tour, you will visit the Salem Witch Museum, Salem's most visited museum, and you will enjoy watching Cry Innocent, a theatrical performance based on an episode of the Salem witch trials. You will also have time to walk and explore Salem on your own.

Date: Saturday, October 19, 2013
Time: Bus leaves Preston Veterans Memorial School at 8:00 am
Bus leaves Salem at 4:00 pm
Fee: \$75 per person

** Register before September 1 and pay only \$65 per person**

EMPLOYMENT

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

- ** Youth Basketball Referees (training provided)
- ** After School Program staff
- ** Adult and child program instructors/teachers/coordinators

Applicant should be 16 and old. Applications and job descriptions 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.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR...

- **Wednesday, September 11-** Trunk or Treat Organizational meeting at 7:00 pm in the Preston Veterans Memorial School Library. Be a part of helping to plan one of Preston's biggest community events. Lots of work goes into putting on a successful event every year.
- **Wednesday, September 18 -** Youth basketball organizational meeting. This meeting will cover all of our basketball programs, for all kids from Kindergarten - Grade 8. All parents are invited and encouraged to attend!



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

The Preston Redevelopment Agency

PRA Mid-Year Update by Sean Nugent, PRA Chairman

As we are midway through 2013, we felt it was important to provide you with an update on activities and accomplishments thus far. The Agency has been focused on (a) completing all of the paperwork associated with securing the \$2M DECD Loan and the \$2M Town Match, (b) aggressively pursuing additional grants and loans, (c) selecting a broker to aggressively & innovatively market the property, (d) continue to progress the clean-up and demolition of the site, and (e) continue to manage our Grant/Loan Funding and Town Budgets efficiently and prudently. I will address each below.

In December of last year the people of Preston approved the \$2M DECD Loan and required \$2M Town Match. These monies will be used to significantly progress the clean up and demolition of the site. Before any work can begin though, the Agency needed to secure both funding pools. On the DECD side this meant working with them to finalize a detailed agreement. With the assistance of Shipman & Goodwin, the agreement was completed and signed in May by both the State and the Town. In parallel we worked closely with the Town Bond Counsel (Bruce Chudwick) and our Financial Advisor (Mark Chapman of Independent Bond & Investment Consultants, LLC (IBIC)) to develop the offering packet to the bond market. Working with the Board of Finance, the decision was made to bring together both the Town capital bonding request and the PRA Town Match request so that only one set of fees would be required. This work required approximately four months and included the Town Treasurer (Sue Nysten), the Town Finance Director (Bob Sirpenski), the BOF and the 1st Selectman.

Following a continuous analysis and review of updated IRS regulations and discussions with both Bond Counsel and IBIC, it was decided to sell one year notes for the PRA Town Match and sell a 20 year bond for the Town Capital project fund. This decision was allowed the PRA seek the lowest interest rates while providing the greatest flexibility related to the sale of the property. The one-year notes were offered to the market on June 4th and sold at an interest rate of 0.349%. The \$2M Town Match monies were received on June 18th.

Jim Bell and Kathy Warzecha continued to identify, investigate, develop the submission packages and submit requests for grants to both State and Federal programs. During the first half of this year they applied for (a) three (3) EPA Clean Up Grants [Federal], (b) a \$500,000 STEAP [Small Town Economic Assistance Program] grant [State], (c) a \$5M Urban Act Grant [State] and (d) roughly \$1M Economic Development Agency (EDA) [Federal] demolition grant. Currently we are awaiting responses on the STEAP and Urban Act Grants. We received a deficiency letter from EDA in May and responded in advance of their June deadline and are now awaiting final response. Unfortunately we were not awarded the three EPA Clean Up Grants. In addition to these, Rep. Bowles is working with the appropriate parties to Hartford to obtain \$5M Bond related to abatement and demolition at the site.

Late last year the Agency issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for brokerage services. The process led us to select Jones Lang LaSalle's (JLL) office in Hartford and an agreement was signed in late March. Since that time JLL met with the PRA to ensure alignment, are in the process of completing their initial marketing materials and tools that require review and approval by the PRA and finalized the marketing signage. You should see new signage on the site in late June.

Our clean-up work on the site is directly related to having funding dollars in hand. During the first half of this year, we were able to complete the work funded by our 2012 EPA Clean Up Grants only. This allowed us to abate and demolish additional smaller structures on the northern portion of the main campus. As such, we have now abated and demolished 28 structures out of the original 55. However, this represents only 20% of the 1.3 M square feet of building space on the site as the largest buildings (which will require significant dollars) remain. As mentioned above, we are awaiting word on the new requests that will allow us to significantly progress the clean up to include these larger buildings.

Lastly, like any other committee or agency within the Town, we are responsible to manage our budgets responsibility and prudently. We work closely with both the Town Treasurer and Financial Director to ensure we achieving those expectations. In addition, the Town Auditor reported that the PRA was solid in our fiscal practices.

HOLY COW!



Look who's 65!

Find the answer on the back page.

The Preston Redevelopment Agency

Forester's Field Notes By Chris Casadei

The unseasonable dry weather of April and May provided excellent working conditions for the harvesting crew to compete the first two stands on either side of Route 12 South of Mohegan Pequot Bridge. As the crew mobilizes to the last stand to be treated, the larger block to the East of the reservoir, I would like to provide some insight as to how to assess a Forest Management Activity of this nature. As previously noted the primary goal of this activity is Timber Stand Improvement with considerations for wildlife habitat enhancement and aesthetic preservation. Although the CT DOT has a proposed right of way through the stand to the East of Route 12 to straighten out Route 2A the area was treated to improve the quality of the timber and accelerate its growth. The stand will show an immediate response and with no start date set in the near future the decision was made to treat the proposed Right of Way the same as the rest of the stand to provide a contiguous Forest within the stand and maximize the value of the growing stock until the time comes to clear for the new highway. While timber harvesting at any scale is certainly a temporary disturbance there will always be a distinction between what the general public perceives as a mess and what the Industry views as a well-executed harvest.

As the Forester supervises the harvest there are a myriad of aspects observed to ensure the Harvester is properly implementing Best Management Practices and working toward the overall goals of the Stewardship Plan. The major concerns focus on the protection of the residual stand, soil conservation and mitigation, proper utilization of the forest products removed and management of the associated woody debris. By checking the stumps for the paint mark applied when the tree was selected for removal the Forester can confirm that the Harvester is only removing the trees that were selected. The residual trees are checked for damage caused by machinery contact or poor directional felling decisions of the chopper.

While minimal collateral damage is rarely unavoidable the



North of Parke's Place



Across Route 12 from Parke's Place

residual stand should be relatively free of "barked up" or "skinned up" boles, as damage to main stem is referred to within the industry, as well as very limited damage to the crowns of the remaining trees. The network of skid trails should be left stable and free of long term erosion concerns. Erodeable slopes within the skid trails should have water bars installed or brush laid on them to slow down or divert the runoff away from the bare soil and any excessive rutting should be graded flat. Where aesthetics are of high concern the management of the residual woody debris from the harvested material is rather important. This material is referred to as topwood, slash, brush or coarse woody debris and while it plays an important ecological role within the system it is often what the public views as an awful mess. In assessing management of this material the Forester checks that the non-merchantable portions of the trees harvested are cut up or slashed so that nothing is sticking up higher than three feet from the ground. This practice

ensures the rapid decomposition of the topwood which helps to shelter any regeneration from deer browse while recycling the nutrients from the material back into the forest soil. If properly handled, the vast majority of the topwood will be recycled naturally into the forest floor in 3-4 growing seasons.

Needless to say the first two stands have been quite neatly harvested and the residual stand should respond positively to the treatment. Let's hope the recent wet spell is behind us and the favorable working conditions return for the summer as we start on the treatment of the final stand. For a more in depth review of our work we are working with th PRA to organize a Forest tour. We are targeting October 19th for the walk in which Hull Forest and the PRA will lead a group through the large stand behind the reservoir in conjunction with The Last Green Valley Walktober program. More Walktober information will be available soon at www.tlgv.org and please do not hesitate to contact me at Casadei@hullforest.com with any questions or concerns.

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
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Internet Access • Preston Historical Society files

ON-LINE DATABASES:

ICONN your re-Search engine
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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:

August: Saturday July 31 thru Monday August 2
**For the safety of our staff and patrons, the library follows
the inclement weather policy of the Preston Schools.**
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

Connecticut Author's Trail (CAT)

Begins July 9th at 6:30 pm at Janet Carlson
Calvert Library in Franklin, CT.
More information can be found 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."

These talks will be held in the Preston Library Community Room and will be sponsored by the Preston Friends of the Library. Refreshments will be available.
Please see our webpage for further details at: www.prestonlibrary.org.

The Summer Reading 2013- Dig Into Reading!!



**On Saturday, June 22nd, the Preston Library kicked off its summer reading program: "Dig Into Reading." Join us for a summer filled with dinosaurs, buried treasure, mummies, tunneling and burrowing animals, magic-and of course-lots of great books!
Summer reading is open to children of all ages.**

Friday, July 12th at 10 am - Underground Animals!
Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center entertains and teaches us about what lives beneath us. See Live animals!

Monday, July 15th at 1 pm - WORM DAY!
There will be Worm races, worm treats, and worm stories

Monday, July 22nd at 1 pm: Gnome and Fairy Day! -
Gnomish games, treats, and crafts!

Thursday, July 25th at 10 am Mad Science!
Exploring rocks. Registration required and limited to 25 children.

Monday, July 29th at 1 pm - MUMMY DAY!
Mummy games, stories, crafts, and treats.

Friday, August 2nd at 2 pm - Eric Girardi - Gravity Bender!

Monday, August 5th at 1 pm - PIRATE DAY!
Pirate treats, games, and makeovers!

Saturday, August 17th at noon - It's our FINALE!
Join us for a delicious Ice cream Social!

The Preston Library Summer reading program is open to children of all ages. Come on in, register, and pick up a reading log, pick out some great books and join the fun!

For information call us at 860-886-1010.

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.

Preston Town Buildings & Facilities Committee

By **Walter Kornosewicz**, Chairman

The summer season finds our Committee at a slow pace, as there are no ongoing projects to report on. We are looking into several smaller projects, but they are at the beginning of the process. As things develop, I will report on them in my next submission.

This gives me the opportunity to write about building techniques and materials used in another part of the country, coastal North Carolina. My wife & I have visited the area several times a year, in the past four years. It is known for its sandy beaches, as a popular vacation destination and hurricanes. The difference between buildings & homes there, as compared to Connecticut, is that they are built to resist the expected high winds and storm surge.

All homes in the flood zones are built on stilts or pilings that raise the living space eight feet above ground level. The pressure treated timbers are buried eight feet or more into the sandy soil and each home can have anywhere from thirty to forty timbers to support it. In the event of high waves and storm surge, the water washes under the home and around the pilings and does not affect the structure. Just recently, Connecticut shoreline homes that were damaged by Hurricane Sandy are being ordered to be rebuilt in such a manner. FEMA oversees the National Flood Insurance Program and with the damage caused by

Hurricane Sandy, flood insurance cost to the homeowner has risen dramatically. The new building codes are designed to limit or prevent such losses in the future.

Homes in coastal North Carolina are built to withstand wind gusts in excess of one hundred and forty miles per hour. All exterior windows and doors must meet this standard. Hurricane shutters still exist on some of the older homes, but on newer homes they are not necessary.

Seldom do you see vinyl siding used on a home down there. The traditional cedar shake, made popular on the Nag's Head style home, still holds up well to the wind and salt water. Newer homes use a siding called Hardie Board, which is a siding material made of wood pulp and cement. It lays flat against the side of a building to resist wind damage and holds up very well to the effects of salt spray & sun damage. It is also made to resist the freezing effects of our New England winters. It is a low maintenance product that is also fire resistant.

We can learn how to limit or prevent storm damage to our homes by looking at how other areas of the country have addressed the issue. By adopting some of their methods and materials, we can have a low maintenance home that will resist the weather and the occasional storm.

Preston Plan of Conservation and Development to be Updated and We Need Your Help!

It has been ten (10) years since our last Preston Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) was adopted. The Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) will be preparing an update to the Plan within the next several months. The purpose of a **Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD)** is to provide a guiding master plan for the development of our community over the next 10 year period. It addresses the future land use policies, community facility needs, infrastructure needs, and population needs, and defines the future land use goals and policies of the community that the Planning & Zoning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, and Conservation Commission will enact through the development of regulations and utilize the POCD findings as a part of the basis for decisions on individual land use applications.

The Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) wants to learn what you have to say about the future of the community, and has prepared a survey of important town issues to get your input. The survey will be sent to every Preston household in June. We are developing the mailing list from a variety of sources and hope we don't leave anyone out. If you do not

receive a survey, please call us at 860-887-5581 ext. 118 or email at nichols@preston-ct.org or you may obtain one at town hall, either the First Selectman's Office or the Planning and Zoning Office. It will also be available at the Preston Public Library and the town website, www.preston-ct.org. What you have to say will help the PZC understand the needs and desires of its residents.

This is an important part of preparing the plan; please take the time to fill out the survey. For your convenience, the PZC will be including a self-addressed stamped envelope for you to return the survey. In addition, the PZC will be conducting workshops for the plan update; these workshops will be open to the public and will be advertised on the town website.

We ask that only one survey form per person be submitted; those submitting surveys must be over 18 years of age.

Thank you for your time.

Art Moran, Jr.

Chairman,

Planning and Zoning Commission

Preston Ridge Vineyard

As the summer heats up, the vines are starting to blossom with the beginnings of our 2013 harvest. We're excited to see what this year brings and reflect on our experience to date.

In 2008 we bought the acreage at 100 Miller Road and were ready to go...at least that's what we thought. We learned quickly, however, that there's a lot more to the winery business than just getting to chat with customers and enjoy some wine in the tasting room.

While perhaps different from the traditional definition of a farm, a vineyard truly encompasses all the qualities of farm life, from long days of tending the vines, nearly continuously during the growing season, to timing the harvest just right so the grapes are picked at the peak of their ripeness. It is a non-stop process that doesn't even produce any fruit until the vines are at least three years old. We were determined though and got to it, planning, digging, planting and picking, and four and a half years later in October of 2012 we were finally ready to literally, show the fruits of our labor to the public and opened up our brand new tasting room/production facility to be enjoyed by all.

We currently taste nine different wines, all hand-crafted on site, ranging from a sweet table white to some very dry reds. As of



A view of Preston Ridge Vineyard

now we offer only one Estate vintage, a Cabernet Franc, but our first Estate Chardonnay will be released later this fall. While it has been a huge learning curve for us, owning and operating our own vineyard has given us the opportunity to truly understand and respect the science and art behind making a bottle of wine.

Beyond that it has also allowed us to meet some amazing people, through conversations in our tasting room, who may have never otherwise crossed our paths. We can't say it all happened exactly as we planned or without some hiccups along the way,

but we couldn't have asked for a better end result and look forward to many years of enjoying wine with our patrons in our very own tasting room.

We hope we will see you there soon!

Preston Ridge Vineyard is open, Saturdays 12-7 & Sundays 12-4 for tastings. We will also be open on Wednesday evenings in July/August for the Mohegan Sun Fireworks! Visit our website for updated hours and information on all tasting room events/music: www.prestonridgevineyard.com.



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Feel Free to email
Stephen.Olender@Hilton.com
for any groupinquiries

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News From The Preston City Congregational Church Two Can Food Pantry



Here, at the Food Pantry, we have both good news and bad news. The bad news is that the number of families needing assistance has not decreased, but has increased over the past few months. This month we have served 50 local families. Unemployment in our area has increased, perhaps because of the reduction of staff at the casinos. A great number of families are facing serious health problems, without adequate insurance to take care of medical bills.

The good news is that more and more Preston citizens have stepped up to help alleviate the growing need. In addition to our grants from Jewett City Savings Bank and the Preston Community Fund, we have received generous cash donations from individuals in town, and food donations from townspeople and local organizations, especially PCCC, and St. Catharine's, and the "Food for Fines" at the library. Thank you for your support in the past, and be assured, we would greatly appreciate any contribution you are able to make. **PCCC Food Pantry, 321 Rte 164, Preston, CT 06365 860-883-4647**



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A View From The Steeple



"Kids These Days"

Growing up, this phrase was not always spoken by adults in a positive light. Often, they blurted out these words when kids said something crazy, or did something they believed to be out-of-line by their standards.

Today, I celebrate kids these days! They are wonderful, energetic, full-of-life; children and young people who add to the joy of living in Preston.

I recently attended a musical presentation presented by fourth grade students at Preston Veterans Memorial School. The performance was great and well rehearsed (thanks, teachers and staff). But what I enjoyed (as much as the performance) was watching the kids having fun sharing their talents with fellow students, parents, and townspeople like me.

Summer's here! Let's remember the lesson of kids these days: to enjoy life, to have fun, and to be safe.

Kids these days... **they're great!**

See you around town!
Rev. Stan

Preston City Congregational Church



*"Where Friends
Become Family"*

Reverend Stanley E. White, Minister

SUMMER WORSHIP 9 AM

On Sept. 8th we return to two services

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

July 15-19 • 9 a.m. - 11:30

Ages 4 - 7th grade

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

*Join Us
This
Sunday!*

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Photo of Scoutmaster Black Presenting Zach Moran, with his Mom and dad, his eagle scout award. The highest rank in boy scouts. Troop 75 51st Eagle Scouts and Zach completed his Eagle in the 100th year Anniversary of the National Eagle Scout Association NESA.

Win a \$25.00 Gift Certificate to Village Pizza!

Do you like the heat of summer or do you prefer fall?

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



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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

The school year will be finished by the time you read this article, which means summer vacation and summer activities will be in full swing. To that end, we'll be making final plans for, and going on 2013's High Adventure Trip to Colorado as well as an alternate trip for those who can't make Colorado.

Eagle Scout - First, congratulations to Troop 75's newest Eagle Scout, Zachary Moran. Zach is the son of Karen and Jason Moran. He received his Eagle Award, the highest award in Scouting, on May 5th at a Court of Honor at the Preston City Fire Department, our sponsor. For those of you who are not familiar with an Eagle Scout award, it's the highest award a Scout can attain. The requirements include twenty-one Merit Badges and a major service project demonstrating team leadership. Zachary led a group of Scouts who redid the flowerbeds at the Preston City Fire Department. If you haven't seen the results, please stop by and take a look. The flowerbeds look very professionally done and just in time for summer. Zach may be taking orders from our readers, but that you'd need to discuss with him. In addition to being an Eagle Scout, Zachary is valedictorian at Science & Technology Magnet High School of Southeastern Connecticut and will be attending Rochester Institute of Technology in the fall, where he will be studying Film and Animation.

Recognition - As you probably know from reading our articles that we hold Courts of Honor to recognize advancement, awards and meeting Merit Badge requirements. (Merit Badges are issued to recognize a Scout meeting certain skills or knowledge elements such as swimming, cooking or camping.) To that end a Court of Honor was held on June 22 that recognized 13 rank advancements for ten Scouts and one Merit Badge. Advancing to Tenderfoot Scout were Digby Ludlow, Jett Pelegrini, and John Sylvia. Advancing to Second Class was Robbie Roark, and advancing to First Class were Nathan Cyr, Nathaniel Crary, Peter Crary, and Max Migliaccio. Advancing to Life Scout was Liam Cook. A Citizenship in the World Merit Badge was awarded to Mark Gardner. This is Mark's last required Merit Badge on his the path to Eagle Scout. Mark is planning to construct a hiking trail in Preston for his Eagle Project. The project has been approved by both the Town of Preston Conservation Commission and the Mohegan district. All that's left is his Eagle Board of Review. Stand by for more information as his progress continues. Congratulations Scouts on your accomplishments!

Spring Biking - Our last article mentioned we'd gone on a two-day biking trip to Block Island. We stayed at Camp Aquapaug in South Kingston Rhode Island where we enjoyed camping in a shelter with a fireplace. From there we also biked on the O'Neill Bike Trail to Narragansett and back. For dinner we enjoyed Teriyaki Chicken cooked up by several of our young "Chefs in Training". The following morning we had pancakes for breakfast, and the Troop agreed that our young Scouts made the best pancakes they'd ever had. (Now that's a pretty big claim considering all the Scouts that have passed through T-75.) Then we took a ferry to Block Island, spent the day biking the island and then took the last ferry back to the mainland.

Spring Hikes - The Troop has held several pre-hikes to condition Scouts for our Colorado trip. The first was on April 6th and was a loop on the Pachaug and Nehantic Trails from Rt 138 to Mt Misery and back. The second hike was on April 27th and followed the Nehantic Trail from



Beachdale Pond to Phillips Pond and back. On May 18th we did a 10-mile hike from Wyassup Lake to Green Falls Campground. We backpacked to test all our gear and cooking equipment before venturing to Colorado. (We also found several old stone foundations on the way as well as a bear cave {fortunately with no bear}. Our final hike before leaving for Colorado was up Mt Monadnock on the 29th. Mt Monadnock is located in Jaffrey New Hampshire, is 3165 ft high and is claimed to be the most often climbed mountain in New

England. That hike was our last one before leaving for Colorado.

June Campout - On June 1 and 2 we held a "reverse Camporee at Benjamin's. At a regular Camporee Scouts will travel from station to station where their skills are tested and scored. At this Campout, rather than being tested, new Scouts went from station to station to get skill instruction from older Scouts. Skills taught included Map and compass, fire safety, Cooking, knot tying as well as knife and saw safety.

High adventure Trip 2013 - Colorado is the location for this year's High Adventure Trip. We leave on July 11th and return on July 20th. Reservations have been made for 14 Scouts and 9 Leaders. We will fly to Denver on July 11th and travel to Rocky Mountain National Park where we'll spend four days getting acclimated to the altitude and hiking. Next we'll travel to Glenwood Springs where we'll be "white water" rafting on the Colorado River and visiting some local caverns. Our next stop will be Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park, where we'll hike the rim of a canyon as deep as the Grand Canyon and also hike on the historic Old Spanish trail. On our final three days we'll visit Florrisant Fossil Beds, an Indian Pueblo and Pikes Peak. Our final stop before we head home will be the US Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs.

For new Scouts and those not able to make the Colorado trip we're planning a great short trip to Winsor, VT on July 10th and 11th July 10th and 11th. A full day of events is planned on the 10th including a three-hour canoe trip on the Connecticut River, a campfire and overnight sleeping in Tee-Pees, a hike at Gochee Gorge and a visit to a glass blowing factory. Look for "follow up" on our summer adventures in the next Pipeline.

Summer Camp - The second week of August is right around the corner, and that is when T-75 Scouts will attend summer camp at the Yawgoog Scout Reservation in Rockville, RI. We will return to our usual haunt at the Three Musketeeer site in camp Three Point. This year we will be greeted by a familiar face as Three Points Program Coordinator is T-75 Eagle Scout Chris Black. More info in our next issue.

Troop 75 Website - Keep up to date with Troop 75 Activities at our website at <http://prestontroop75.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 860 887-2414.



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