

# Preston Pipeline<sup>2</sup>

VOL 9 ISSUE 1 FALL 2019

Thank You Bob Congdon For Your Years of Hard Work, and Dedication To Our Town!

## From the Desk of the First Selectman

by First Selectman Bob Congdon



It is with mixed emotions that I write my final article as Preston First Selectman. The past twenty-four years have flown by during which it has been an honor and a privilege to have served as your First Selectman. I want to thank the residents of Preston for providing me this opportunity. I could never have done it without the help and guidance of the other Selectmen over the

years - Tom Maurer, Jerry Garbarek, Christina Gregory, Merrill Gerber, Tim Bowles and most recently Mike Sinko and Lynwood Crary. I have also had the privilege to work with many very talented and dedicated employees, elected officials and, especially, two outstanding administrative assistants – Donna Kopetz and Nancy Musa.

Much has been accomplished during the last twenty-four years. We have addressed issues such as annexation, water rights, building a new school and man-

aging a major environmental spill at one of our schools. One of the things I am most proud of is the courage Preston residents demonstrated when the decision was made to take on the purchase and remediation of the former Norwich State Hospital. Seventeen dedicated and talented residents have volunteered their time and talents to serve on the Preston Redevelopment Agency. These individuals have spent thousands of hours soliciting State and Federal grants to pay for the remediation and have managed over twenty-five million dollars of remediation work completed at the site. The PRA also negotiated a development agreement with the Mohegan Tribe that will provide diversity and growth of our grand list for years to come.

The November election will choose new leadership not only for First Selectman and Selectmen but for many Boards and Commissions. These new leaders will need all our help and support as they find their way. Please get involved sharing your ideas and suggestions constructively and with civility. We have a great community filled with great people. Let's continue to make it better.

Thank you.

### Trivia Night!

To benefit the Restoration of Long Society Meetinghouse

**Join the Preston Historical Society as they hold a Trivia night on Saturday Nov. 9 at 6 pm at the Poquetanuck Firehouse, 87 Route 2A, Preston.** Trivia will encompass a variety of themes, including a category for local history. Great for all ages. BYO refreshments & finger food.

There will be prizes and raffles. Tickets are \$10 per person. Please send checks to:

Mark Christensen, PHS, 15 Amos Road, Preston 06365.

Or call Pat at 860-889-2772 or Linda 860-887-5828.

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Town of Preston  
Board of Selectmen  
**Bob Congdon Retirement Celebration**  
Friday, November 22, 2019

**AGENDA**

**Place:** Maple Lane Farms, 50 Northwest Corner Road, Preston  
06365

**Time:** 5:00 p.m.

**New Business**

1. Hors D'oeuvres, Cash Bar
2. Par-Tee

**Old Business**

1. Bob – 71 years old
2. 24 Year Term

**Public Comment** (per Posted Ordinance)

**Adjournment:** 8:30 p.m.

Pursuant to Retirement Statutes, your attendance and favor of a reply is requested by November 1. Maximum capacity applies per CT Fire Safety Code.

Robert's Rules of Order: Please mail your RSVP by 11/1/19 with \$40 per person (check made payable to Nancy Musa) which includes a retirement gift. Include your name, company, phone & email address. Send to: Town of Preston, Recording Secretary/Retirement Division, 389 Route 2, Preston CT 06365. Casual attire. Questions? Call 860-887-5581 ext. 101.

# Preston School District

Roy Seitsinger; Superintendent

We hope this message finds you well and enjoying early fall in southern New England.

The school year is off to a smooth start. We welcomed our students, staff, parents and families back from their summer break. We look forward to a great learning year!

At this time, it is always a good practice to remind families and community members to have foul weather plans. The skies are unpredictable and it necessary, particularly for young children to have a well-understood plan in place.



During the summer many projects were completed. These projects could not have been accomplished without the forethought and vision of the leadership of the entire community and the support of voters. Caring for town assets, including schools, is very important to the financial well-being of the community.

As a reminder, the Preston Plains Middle School is now the official polling place for all major votes.

Despite our late budget approval, the district was ready to welcome our students on Wednesday, August 28, 2019. Due to the delayed budget approval, we did have a few positions that were filled late. Our staffing is running tight and this has caused some necessary adjustments in school and bus scheduling. Our staff and families responded to these challenges with positive suggestions and mutual support.

In the fall, we begin our internal discussions about the next budget season (FY21!). Over these last few years, our transparent and detailed budget process has generated many improvements. During our process, we now systematically review the budget line-by-line and, after approval by the Board of Education, submit a trimmed-down budget to the Board of Finance (BoF).

The BoF typically brings forward an approved district budget that has gone through their thorough review. For the FY 20 budget (this school year) it took three

tries to achieve voter approval. It is our goal, through continuous improvement and open dialogue, to reduce extended referenda to help prevent operational obstacles such as late hires. The district is working diligently toward creating or improving systems that are designed to assure a quality learning environment and smooth operations. It is our intention, that with our Strategic Plan, our new Technology Plan, our upcoming Buildings and Ground Plan, and our refreshed Capital Improvement Plan to improve long-term predictability.

During the winter months, we hold upwards of 15 public meetings designed to examine and explain the budget. We welcome everyone to be part of the dialogue. As always, thank you to all the voters of Preston for their continued support of our district. As we all know, as the schools go, so goes the community.

There will be familiar priorities built into the FY 21 budget process, (1) the needs of students and families will always drive our decision making. (2) We will continue to monitor student population and make specific budget recommendations based on the data. (3) We will continue to look for public/private partnerships that will be important for our future success. (4) We will continue to assess and advocate for future safety and security updates. And, (5) we will improve instruction through such projects as the remodeling of the middle school science rooms.

We are doing everything we can to prepare our students to be ready to engage in the dynamic changes that the future will bring.

As a final note, our upcoming local elections will generate changes in leadership at several important town positions. We thank all those who are moving on to different periods of their lives and we wish all those entering new positions the very best.

Be safe and warm. Have a great Fall and a wonderful holiday season.

# Preston Redevelopment Agency

By Sean Nugent & Merrill Gerber

As the citizens of Preston are aware, the remediation clean up we've described in previous articles is currently on hold. Working with our contractors, we have determined that additional funds are needed to complete the clean-up to a residential standard requested by the Tribe. The major contaminant requiring remediation is spent ash/cinder materials from the former coal power plants that are now under roads, sidewalks, parking lots, grassy areas adjacent to the roads, and utility trenches. We are currently in discussions with the State and the Tribe to find an agreeable path forward to transfer ownership of the property to the Tribe. We will inform the citizens of Preston once that path has been identified.

Recently we have been asked about the cost of the clean up. Our Vice-Chair and Funding Director, Jim Bell, has done a fabulous job raising money for this effort. To date the PRA has raised \$24.1 million of which \$19.4 million is from the State, \$2.2 million is from the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency), and \$2.5 million is from the Town of Preston (this includes our \$2 million dollar bond). In addition, we have an approved State loan of \$2 million; which we have not touched and will not until a positive path forward is found. It is worthy to note a total of \$35 million was requested.

On October 10th a Town Meeting was held at Preston Plains Memorial School seeking Town approval to amend the Ordinance establishing the PRA in 2009 to reduce the size of the PRA from a 10-membered agency to a 5-membered agency. Over time the agency has seen a reduction from ten members to six members. Over the years whenever someone resigned from the agency, we have been able to replace them with someone interested in serving. This has not been the case since 2016 – where we were reduced to sev-

en members – even though we posted these openings in both the local newspapers and the Town web site. Also, by State Statute, a 10-membered agency requires six (6) members as a quorum both to conduct a formal meeting but also to take action on things such as approving minutes, approving expenditures, going into Executive Session, and so forth. As we are currently at six members, we run the risk of not being able to conduct PRA business and have, in fact, experienced this recently. Our reduction to six members was the result of John Harris resigning due to the fact that he was recently elected to the Mohegan Tribal Council. In addition, it was always the PRA's plan to request the BoS to reduce to a 5-membered agency following transfer of ownership to the Tribe. These collective reasons led us to ask the current BoS to move forward with amending the current PRA Ordinance now.

Since we are taking about the PRA and its membership size, we feel it is important We also to thank and acknowledge the residents who gave their time and expertise to this effort to move this project forward; specifically: Kent Borner, Allyn Brown, Kerry Gentry, Merrill Gerber, Joe Biber, Sandy Ewing, Mike Clancy, Linda Riegel, Jim Bell, John Harris, Frank Ennis, Frank Matovic, Mike Lavoie, Bill Legler, Bill Cummings, and Andy Depta. A special thank you and recognition goes out to both Bob Congdon (1st Selectman) and Roberta Charpentier (recorder) as both have provided valuable perspective, insights, and support from the beginning.

Should you have any questions, suggestions or comments, please attend one of our meetings at Town Hall on the second or fourth Wednesday of each month or contact me (Sean Nugent) at 860-917-6567 or Merrill Gerber at 860-887-7169.

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georgem@matternconstruction.com

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How do you celebrate Halloween?

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or mail to:  
Tracy Lyn Designs, 211 Rte. 164 Preston, CT 06365



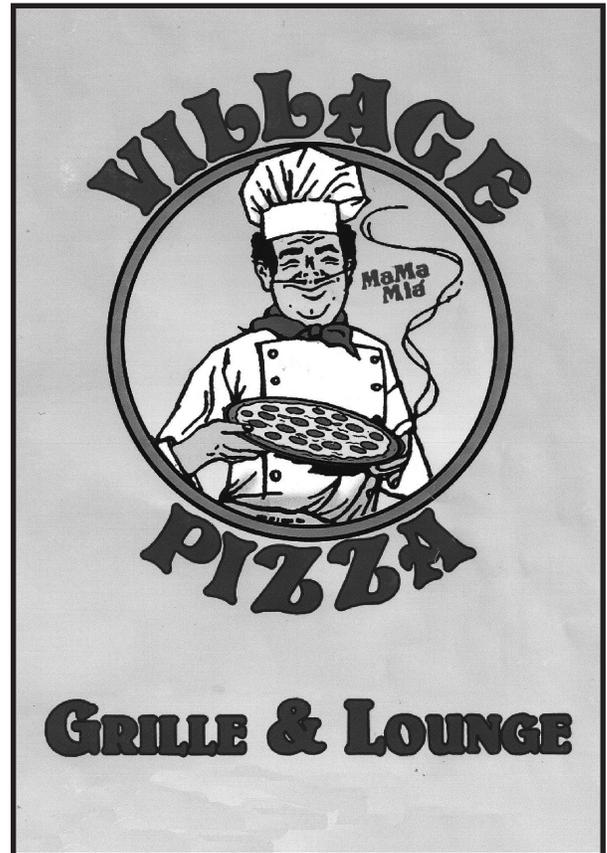
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# Notes from Avalonia Land Conservancy:

## Birds in the Fall

By Bob Chapin

Last time, we talked about hummingbirds. This time, let's see how our birds are getting ready for Fall and Winter.

The hummingbirds have already left for their long flight to their wintering grounds in Central America. In our woods and field-edges, and certainly on the undisturbed Avalonia properties, the resident birds have managed another busy spring and summer, finding a mate and then doing the full-time job of feeding both themselves AND a brood of always-hungry chicks. So now their young are grown and the adults have finished their molt. Molting is the process by which some species lose some or all of their existing feathers and replace them with new ones. This late-summer process is dangerous time for the birds, as they cannot fly, and thus are particularly vulnerable to predators. Tufted Titmice and Nuthatches are two local species which molt in late August. But by October and November that's over, and the year-round residents are settling into their winter routines.

Black-capped Chickadees are forming their winter flocks, starting to define their territories and visit the most productive feeding spots (like, say, that feeder full of sunflower seeds in your back yard). A flock has a defined membership of Chickadees (that is, few or no birds join or leave the flock during the winter). Interestingly, several other species can temporarily flock and feed with the Chickadees, including Downy Woodpeckers, Tufted Titmice, Brown Creepers and Nuthatches. A flock is pretty quiet most of the time, giving out only soft "Tseet" calls to keep in touch. If another flock intrudes on the territory, you'll hear loud "Dee-Dee-Dee" calls or "Chickadee-dee" calls. Once the intruding birds leaves, things quiet down again. These flocks break up in April or May when the male birds become less tolerant of other birds being around, and start to lay out and defend their breeding territories. The Tufted Titmouse overwinters here in family flocks, consisting of the adults and the young from the previ-



ous breeding season. Titmice can occasionally be seen flocking with Chickadees in the winter. The juvenile birds have two plumage differences from their parents: the young have a grey forehead patch (versus the black on the adults), and the tan/buff on the sides of their abdomen is much lighter in color than the adults. The winter territory for these family groups is about 15-20 acres. They keep in constant contact with each other by giving "Tseep" calls, and this activity becomes greater at a feeder and in the spring, when the calls are nearly constant. Males are dominant over females at feeders. The White Breasted Nuthatch is another common winter species here.

These can be easily identified by their habit of moving headfirst down or around a tree trunk in short zig-zaggy spurts, and their plumage pattern of a white breast, grey sides, and a black covering atop their head which extends down the back of their neck. Nuthatches stay together as a pair all year, and generally in the same territory. They are among the first to start the mating rituals in the Spring (well, actually, winter: the male can start his courtship singing and behavioral displays in January!). Their winter territory ranges from 25-45 acres; summer breeding territories are smaller.

Unlike the Titmouse, the Nuthatch young do not spend the winter with their parents, but will often migrate. The parental pair stays in touch using soft "Ip" calls, although calls at feeders may be louder, and aimed at an intruding squirrel or chipmunk. Less so in the winter, but more often in the courtship and breeding season, Nuthatches are known for their mate-feeding behavior. The male will grab a bit of food and run over and present it to the female. She will sometimes take it from his beak, or sometimes get him to put it down on the branch, from which she will retrieve it. This behavior stops once the eggs have hatched. Think of this behavior next time you see a bride and groom feed each other a piece of wedding cake.

The Friends of the Preston  
Library  
Welcome  
**Margaret Gibson**  
Connecticut's Poet Laureate



**Join us as we welcome Preston's own  
Connecticut Poet Laureate.**

**Tuesday, Oct. 29, 2019**

**6:30 pm**

**Preston Public Library  
389 Route 2, Preston**

**Margaret will be reading a selection of poems from  
books and new poems that have to do with Nature and  
the environment. Come and help us celebrate poetry.**

***Please call the library at 860-886-1010 to reserve a spot for  
this free program.***

# Attention Preston Voters



Independents 

 Democrats

Republicans 

Vote  
**Kem Zachem**  
Board of Selectmen

Paid for by PrestonGOP19, Norman Gauthier, Treasurer

## Troop 75 news:

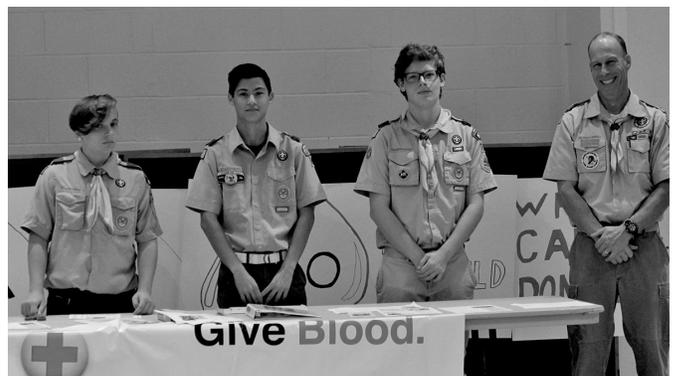
Recently Troop 75 presented Peyton Prior his Eagle Scout award.

Peyton, for his Eagle Project, built picnic Tables at the Preston City town hall.



Troop 75 life Scout Sean Hirt sponsored an American Red Cross Blood drive as his Eagle Scout service project. The blood drive was held on Friday

Oct 11, 2019. Sean Goal was to have 25 pints of blood donated. Time for drive is 9:00 am til 6:00 pm at the Poquetanuck fire house.



# PRESTON PARKS & RECREATION

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### TRICK OR TREAT DOOR TO DOOR

We are putting a twist on our annual Trunk or Treat event and moving it indoors for this year, due to mosquitoes. Kids will be going trick or treating classroom to classroom.



Date: Friday, October 25  
Time: 6:30 - 8:00 pm  
Where: Preston Veterans Memorial School  
Admission: Bag of individually wrapped candy person



We appreciated your understanding and cooperation. We look forward to a fun event for the kids. Thank you for your help in making the best out of this buggy situation.

We are still looking for a handful more of door decorators. If you are interested, please register online at [www.preston-ct.org](http://www.preston-ct.org) or reach out to Preston Parks & Recreation by phone (860) 887-5581 x113 or email [recreation@preston-ct.org](mailto:recreation@preston-ct.org) or

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



### TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

Join Preston Parks & Recreation's for our 4th Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony on Saturday, December 7th at Preston Community Park from 6:00—7:00 pm.

Lights, Music, Santa & Celebration.

## FAMILY BUS TRIPS

### DR. SEUSS' HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS THE MUSICAL

Join Preston Parks & Recreation as we travel to Providence Performing Arts Center to discover the magic of Dr. Seuss' classic holiday tale as it comes to life on stage. Featuring the hit songs "You're A Mean One, Mr. Grinch" and "Welcome Christmas," The Grinch discovers there's more to Christmas than he bargained for in this heart-warming holiday classic. Max the Dog narrates as the mean and scheming Grinch, whose heart is "two sizes too small," decides to steal Christmas away from the Whos, an endlessly cheerful bunch bursting with holiday spirit. Celebrate the holidays with the show *The New York Times* calls "100 times better than any bedtime story!" School bus will depart and return to Preston Veterans Memorial School.



Date: Thursday, December 19, 2019  
Time: 5:30 pm - 10:15 pm  
Ages: 6+  
Fee: \$38.00 per person

## NEW PROGRAM IDEAS??

Have a new program idea? Are you interested in sharing a special talent of yours and instructing a class?

Contact Preston Parks & Recreation by phone at 860-889-2482 x113 or email [recreation@preston-ct.org](mailto:recreation@preston-ct.org)

## YOUTH SPORTS

### RECREATIONAL YOUTH BASKETBALL

Registration for recreational youth basketball teams for now taking place.

Co-Ed ~ Grade 1 & 2 • \$70.00 per child  
Co-Ed ~ Grades 3 & 4 • \$70.00 per child  
Boys ~ Grades 5 & 6 • \$80.00 per child  
Boys ~ Grades 7 & 8 • \$80.00 per child  
Girls ~ Ages 10 & 11 • \$80.00 per child  
Girls ~ Ages 12 -15 • \$80.00 per child



Basketball season runs mid/end of November - February.

Practices are weeknights and held at either Preston Veterans Memorial School or Preston Plains Middle School.

Games are mainly Saturdays, with both home and away games.

Registration deadline: Tuesday, October 18, 2019.

All registrations received after October 18th will be accessed a \$20.00 late fee and only accepted if space is available. No registrations will be accepted after November 15th.

COACHES ARE NEEDED FOR ALL AGE LEVELS!! Please contact the Parks & Recreation office if you are interested in coaching...head coach or assistant coach!!

## ADULT PICK UP SPORTS

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

Join your Preston neighbors and friends for weekly pick up basketball games

Dates: Thursdays: October 10, 2019 - May 28, 2020

*(Men's Basketball does not meet on holidays, half days, school vacations, or snow days/early dismissals during winter. So, basketball will NOT meet on the following days: 11/28/19, 12/05/19, 12/26/19, 03/05/20, 04/16/20, OR 05/21/20)*

Time: 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Location: Preston Plains Middle School Gym

Ages: 18+

Fee: \$20 per person for the year



### CO-ED VOLLEYBALL

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

Dates: Tuesdays: October 1, 2019 - May 26, 2020

*(Volleyball does not meet on holidays, half days, school vacations, or snow days/early dismissals during winter. So, volleyball will NOT meet on the following days: 11/05/19, 12/24/19, 12/31/19, 02/18/20, or 04/14/20)*

Time: 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Location: Preston Veterans Memorial School for the months of October, March, April & May.

Preston Plains Middle School Gym for the months of November, December, January & February

Ages: 16+

Fee: \$20 per person for the year



Preston Parks & Recreation is on social media!!  
Stay up-to-date with all the programs, events,  
and happenings Preston Parks & Recreation is offering!!



@PrestonParksRecreation



@PrestonParksRecreation

## ADULT PROGRAMS

### **YOGA**

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

Instructor: Sandra Hartnett

Session #2 ~ Wednesdays: October 30 - December 11, 2019

Time: 5:15 – 6:15 pm

Location: Preston Public Library Meeting Room

Ages: 16+

Fee: \$60 per session (6 weeks)

### **CORE DE FORCE LIVE**

CORE DE FORCE LIVE is an empowering, core-focused workout that combines authentic Boxing, Kickboxing, and Muay Thai moves, explosive power moves and interval training. Ready to get into killer shape? It starts with one punch! Bring an exercise mat.

Instructor: Cindy Stolaronek

Dates: Mondays: November 18 - December 16, 2019

Time: 6:00 – 6:50 pm

Location: Preston Plains Middle School

Ages: 16+

Fee: \$30 per person for 5 week session

### **WOMEN'S SELF DEFENSE CLASS**

Join us for a Women's Self Defense Workshop. Learn practical self defense tactics from 7th Degree Black Belt in Kempo Karate, Dan Jenkins. We promise you will leave feeling more confident! Wear something comfortable to work out in.

Minimum of 10 needed for class to run. Register early to help make this class a success.

Date: Wednesday, November 6, 2019

Time: 6:00 – 6:50 pm

Location: Preston Veterans Memorial School Gym

Ages: 12+

Fee: \$21 per person

## SENIOR ACTIVITIES

### **CHAIR YOGA**

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

Instructor: Sandra Hartnett

Session #2 ~ Mondays: October 28 - December 16, 2019  
(no class on November 4 or November 11)

Time: 10:00 – 11:00 am

Location: Preston Public Library Meeting Room

Fee: \$36 per session (6 weeks)

### **COUNTRY LINE DANCING CLASSES**

Grab your boots/shoes and join in for some Country Line Dancing fun!!

Date: Thursdays: November 7 – December 19, 2019  
(no class on November 28 or December 5)

Time: 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Location: Preston Plains Middle School Cafeteria

Ages: 55+

Fee: \$45.00 per person

## SENIOR BUS TRIPS

### **CARPENTERS REMEMBERED CHRISTMAS**

#### **COACH BUS TRIP**

Join us as we travel by coach bus to the Log Cabin in Holyoke, MA. "Merry Christmas Darling" with the Carpenters Remembered is the definitive concert show celebrating a mix of their Christmas songs and classic ballads of one of the most successful recording acts of all time. Starring Michelle Berting Brett who is accompanied by a live, 4-piece Nashville band, the show re-creates the Carpenters' original sound. Experience an intimate behind-the-scenes portrait of the pop music phenomenon that defined an era, and sing along with hits that include "Close to You", "Yesterday Once More", "Rainy Days & Mondays", and many Christmas Classics as well!

Family Style Luncheon Homemade Soup Chicken Florentine & Baked Scrod Rolls & Butter. Vegetable & Potato Dessert - Coffee & Tea

Date: Monday, December 9, 2019

Bus Departure Time: 9:00 am

Approximate arrival back time: 5:00 pm

Ages: 55+

Fee: \$88.00 per person

### **FESTIVAL OF TREES AND TRADITIONS**

#### **at Wadsworth Athenaeum**

Established in 1973 by the Women's Committee as a museum fund-raising event, Festival of Trees & Traditions has become an annual holiday custom for visitors from throughout the state and beyond. Every year community members, artists and organizations decorate holiday trees and wreaths to be displayed in the galleries throughout the week. All items are for sale, and profits help fund the museum's special exhibitions, educational programs, and operating expenses. Purchase a tree or wreath for your home or donate it to a local charity. We will not be eating lunch due to time, there is a Bistro there to have lunch if time allows you. Feel free to pack a lunch or snacks if needed. School bus will depart and return to Preston Veterans Memorial School.

Date: Tuesday, December 3, 2019

Time: 8:45 am – 1:15 pm

Ages: 55+

Fee: \$19.00 per person

### **FIDDLER ON THE ROOF**

Join Preston Parks & Recreation as we travel to Providence Performing Arts Center to see Fiddler on the Roof! Rich with musical hits you know and love, including "Tradition," "Sunrise, Sunset," "If I Were A Rich Man," "Matchmaker, Matchmaker" and "To Life (L'Chaim!)," FIDDLER ON THE ROOF is the heartwarming story of fathers and daughters, husbands and wives, and life, love and laughter. FIDDLER ON THE ROOF will introduce a new generation to the uplifting celebration that raises its cup to joy! To love! To life! School bus will depart and return to Preston Veterans Memorial School.

Date: Wednesday, February 12, 2020

Time: 5:00 pm – 11:00 pm

Ages: 55+

Fee: \$43.00 per person

### **BLUE MAN GROUP**

Over 35 million people on our blue planet have experienced the exciting and spectacular show that is BLUE MAN GROUP. And now, the Blue Men return with a new touring show — BLUE MAN GROUP SPEECHLESS TOUR. SPEECHLESS will feature new and original compositions, acts, and instruments alongside iconic Blue Man Group moments based in joy, art, music, comedy, social commentary, and profound absurdity. Join us at Providence Performing Arts Center and experience a new blue. School bus will depart and return to Preston Veterans Memorial School.

Date: Wednesday, March 20, 2020

Time: 5:30 pm – 10:15 pm

Ages: 55+

Fee: \$44.00 per person



# REFOREST THE TROPICS

A UNITED NATIONS SANCTIONED CARBON DIOXIDE SEQUESTRATION PROGRAM

RTT IS A 501(C)(3) NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

ACCEPTED BY UNFCCC-AIJ IN 1995 TO DEMONSTRATE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF TROPICAL FORESTS TO FIX AND STORE CARBON EMISSIONS

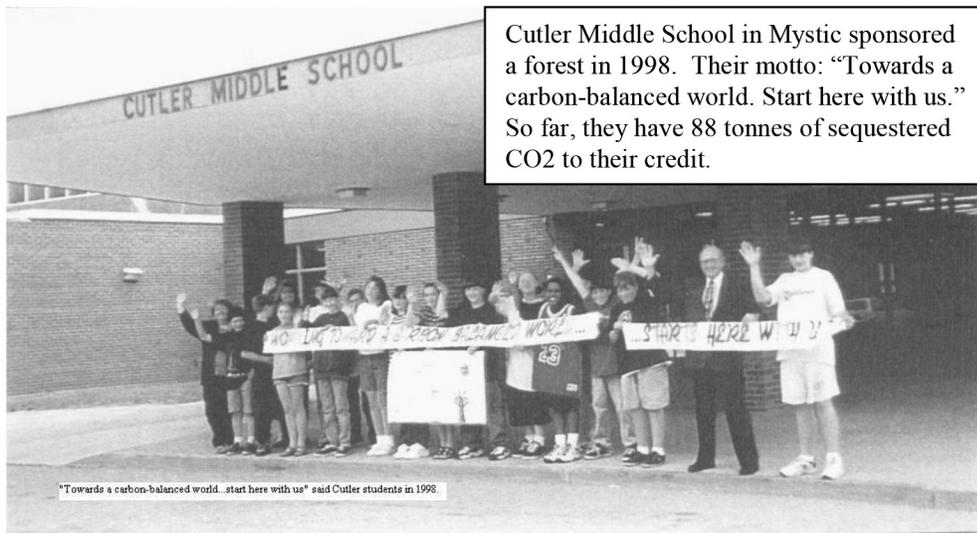
28G Cottrell St. Mystic, CT 06355 - (860) 572-8199 - [info@reforestthetropics.org](mailto:info@reforestthetropics.org) - [www.reforestthetropics.org](http://www.reforestthetropics.org)

## Gearing up for Climate Change

Greta Thunberg, the young Swedish activist, has addressed the UN General Assembly on behalf of children in the World demanding more action on countering climate change. We adults can sit back and do little, even though we may agree with her, or we can take action to address the problem. But what can we do?

First, a long-term approach is to include the topic of climate change in schools so that children can learn the vocabulary on how to discuss climate change. What is CO2 or "sequestration"? Or, how much CO2 does our school or home emit? And what are our options for addressing the problem?

We have all seen the photos of the Amazon burning. We recognize that the burning of the trees releases CO2 into the atmosphere adding more of this greenhouse gas to the atmosphere. Few understand that climate



Cutler Middle School in Mystic sponsored a forest in 1998. Their motto: "Towards a carbon-balanced world. Start here with us." So far, they have 88 tonnes of sequestered CO2 to their credit.

change with stronger hurricanes and storms are caused by the CO2 and other greenhouse gases that are already in the atmosphere.

Unfortunately, CO2 resides in the atmosphere for 100-200 years, meaning that unless we can extract and store it out of harm's way, we will suffer from climate change for hundreds of years to come.

The other side of the Amazon experience is that,

if we reforest and create more new forests, those trees can extract CO2 through photosynthesis and store it in the form of wood in the forest stand. Reforest The Tropics, a Mystic based non-profit has developed a model of pasture reforestation that is efficient in extracting CO2 in tropical farms. These forests are managed for long-term storage of CO2 while they produce income for farmers who voluntarily cooperate by letting us reforest their pastures. Grants and free technical assistance provide the incentives that have convinced 14 farms in Costa Rica to sign 25-year contracts for our U.S. sponsors.

So far, 15 schools in New England have sponsored small pilot projects. A 2 ½-acre forest can sequester 25 metric tonnes of CO2 each year to balance an equal amount of school CO2 emissions in the U.S. RTT is organizing forests for U.S schools and working with 5th and 6th grade classes in Preston to teach about climate change and the role of forests in balancing our emissions. Preston is participating in a RTT teaching program with Prof. Hugh Birdsall. Website <https://youtu.be/UJzpJnxZkXc> & [Reforestthetropics.org](http://Reforestthetropics.org).

# On November 5<sup>th</sup> Vote Line B

## Protect Preston's Future



**Vote  
Greg Moran Sr.  
First Selectman**

Paid for by PrestonGOP19, Norman Gauthier, Treasurer

# Andersen Oil



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# Lu-Macs PACKAGE STORE

Warehouse Priced Wine, Beer and Liquors



### HOT BUTTERED RUM

- 2/3 cup packed dark brown sugar
- 1/2 cup (1 stick) unsalted butter, room temperature
- 1/4 cup honey
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1/8 teaspoon ground cloves
- Pinch salt
- 3/4 cup spiced rum
- 2 cups boiling water
- 4 sticks cinnamon, for garnish

**Vodkas  
Scotches  
Gins Beers  
Whiskeys  
Wines**

**We are open  
Sundays  
10-5!**

Using a mixer, beat the brown sugar, butter, honey, cinnamon, nutmeg, cloves, and salt in a bowl until blended and smooth. Transfer the mixture to a 4-cup (or larger) measuring cup. Add the rum and then 2 cups of boiling water. Stir until the butter mixture dissolves. Divide the buttered rum among 4 mugs. Garnish with the cinnamon sticks and serve.

**LOTTO! • 352 Rt 2 • Preston, CT**



# Preston Historical Society

## Harmony Library Company Ledger #2

In the last edition of the Preston Pipeline, was shared the wonderful find of two ledgers regarding creation, organization and meetings of the Book Company of South Preston. In 1801, a few of Preston's residence created a library by the name of Harmony Library Company. The book collection was maintained at Oliver Crary, Esq. home.

The 2nd ledger begins Sept. 8, 1806 with their annual meeting. The notes are simple and short. The choosing of a modorator for the meeting, Mr. Joseph Tylor. The 2nd order is the choosing of directors for the coming year, Joseph Tylor, Robert S. Avery, Asa Gore, Giles C. William W. Avery as Secretary, John Morgan as Treasure and Oliver Crary as Librarian.

A quarterly meeting is held on Dec. 8th 1806 at Oliver Crary's home. Penelity received from Capt. Jacob Meech for .20 cents. At the next quarterly meeting on March 9th 1807, Mr. Park and Joseph Tylor paid penaties of .05 cents and .02 cents respectively. I can't help wonding how overdue Capt. Meech's books were to have a penaty so steep.

For the years 1807 to 1810, only one entry per year showing the selection of officers for the coming year. There is avoid in entries for 18011-1814. The last entry is for Dec. 4th 1815. A special meeting of the Harmony Library at the huse of Mr. Oliver Crary. The officers for the coming year are elected, with one notable change. Mr. Oliver Crary, Esq. is no longer the librarian. A position he has held from the orgin of the Harmony Library Company. Mr. Adin Cook is elected as the new librarian. Mr. Cook is directed to take charge of the book and belongings of the company and to remove them to his house before the next meeting.

According to the book "Preston in Review. This was the 3rd attempt to create and maintane a library. I have been unable to find additional information regarding the dissolution of the library. Perhaps a decended of Adin Cook will someday answer this mystery for us.

In an attempt to determine were "South Preston" was, I refered the the PHS book Early Homes and Families. Thankfully, I was able to find several of the officers of the Harmony Library Company homes in the book. South Preston was an area south of the center of Preston City. Their homes were dotted along what is currently Route 164 and abutting roads from the south end of Amos Rd. to the end of Route 164 and Route 2.

Address-123 Parks. Rd., Preston, CT 06365  
Email- prestoncthistoricalsociety@gmail.com  
Website- www.preston-ct.org  
Facebook- facebook.com/prestonhistoricalsocietyct/

## On the Edge of History



Long Society Meeting House-We are wrapping up work on the Long Society Meeting House for this year. The structural improvement to the interior have been completed. The new steps and walk are installed and the new step railing will be

installed shortly. As we take a momet to enjoy the completed work, we also are looking forward. In the coming year, we hope to complete the renovation. The ceiling needs to be replaced and a fresh coat of paint on the interior walls, benches and floors. Thank you ver much to all who have supported the renovation. We could not have done it without help from many businees and people. LSMH Chairman-Mark Christensen, Flag Pole Chariman-Mike Clancy

**Cultivating Cemeteries'**-The cemeteries continue to be an important part of what we do. Fall is the perfect time for cleaning. Please check our Facebook page for dates and times.

**Digitizing Documents**-The documents which have been digitized are now available to search via <https://ctcollections.org/> . There is still much work to be done. If you would like to help, please contact Chairman-Linda Christensen, Call 860-887-5828, or email at LindaCh5@comcast.net

### Events

**Next Meeting-Dec. 5th @6:30** at the Preston Public Library  
There will be a cookie swap. Please bring your favorite Cookie to share!

1st Thanksgiving presented by Mary Brown of the Mayflower Society-Wed. Nov. 6th @ 6:30 at the Preston Public Library  
Trivia Night-Sat. Nov. 11th@6pm at the Poquetanuck Fire House.  
Tickets are \$10per person-B.Y.O.B. To purchase tickets please contact Pat Macek 889-2772 or Linda Christensen 887-5828

### Annual Membership are now due.

Preston Historical Society Membership Application 2020  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
\$10 – Senior/Student                      \$15 – Single membership  
\$20 – Family membership                \$100 – Life Membership

# Preserving The Past for Future Generations



# Jill Keith

for  
**Town Clerk & Tax Collector**

- Dedicated to Family
  - Proud of Preston
    - Planning for Our Future
      - Qualified & Experienced

Protect Preston's Future  
On Nov 5<sup>th</sup> VOTE Line B

Paid for by PrestonGOP19, Norman Gauthier, Treasurer



# **K**now your Farm **K**now your Food

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Open 7 days 9am to 6pm | Phone: 860-887-8098  
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sweetgrass-creamery.com

# Preston Public Library

389 Route 2 (Across from Town Hall) Preston, CT 06365 • Phone 860.886.1010

Find us online! [www.prestonlibrary.org](http://www.prestonlibrary.org) • Email us: [library@prestonlibrary.org](mailto:library@prestonlibrary.org)

Hours: Monday 9-3 • Tuesday-Thursday 9-8 • Friday 9-5 • Saturday 9-1

## SERVICES:

Best Sellers/ Fiction & Non-fiction

Books for all ages

Audio books-cassette/MP3/CD/Playaways

DVD Interlibrary loan Magazines

Audiobooks and E-books from RBDigital, also

E-books available from SimplyE

(There's an App for that!)

Online Catalog • Reading groups

Passes to area attractions • Reference services

Computers for Internet Access

(please check in at desk)

Wireless Access for Laptops, Cellphones, etc.

(please check in at desk)

Preston Historical Society files

## ON-LINE DATABASES:

Consumer Reports w/ Cars

researchIT CT- free online resources

Encyclopedia Britannica

JobNow-Live, anytime, anywhere job assistance

LearningExpress- Learning Center free for

Preston residents with library cards

## Holiday Hours & Closures:

Sat., Oct 12th through Mon., Oct 14th – Closed

Sat., Nov 9th through Mon., Nov 11th – Closed

Wednesday, Nov 27th Close at 1pm

Thurs., Nov 28th through Sun., Dec 1st – Closed

Tues., Dec 24th through Thurs., Dec 26th – Closed

Tuesday Dec 31st – Closed

Wednesday, Jan 1st 2020 – Closed

Saturday, Jan 18th 2020 through

Monday, Jan 20th – Closed

For the safety of our staff and patrons, the library follows the inclement weather policy of the Preston Schools. All cancellations are announced on WFSB channel 3. Thank you for your understanding.

The Library Board of Trustees is currently accepting applications for 2(two) vacancies. Please use Board email for further information.

Stop in and meet our new staff members!

## DID YOU KNOW...

You can renew your items online (one-time) using your account in the library catalog?

## Getting ready to take the SAT, ACT, or ASVAB exam?

Learning Express is available free to Preston Library patrons!

Just go to [www.prestonlibrary.org](http://www.prestonlibrary.org) and scroll down.

In the right hand column you will find the link for



Learning Express has up to date information for many exams – and can help you build various skills.

## Children's Corner



you know that there is a new story time for 3 to 5 year olds that meets on Mondays @ 11:30A? It's called Lunch & Listen. Children come with a caregiver and bring a lunch or snack. They listen to stories, eat and socialize, and then do a craft or create some art. If you are interested in bringing your little one, just call the library to register (860) 886-1010.



Do you have children younger than 3 or older than 5? Preston Public Library is hoping to expand the programs and services offered to all children. Please feel free to contact Amy via email @ [childrensprestonlibrary@gmail.com](mailto:childrensprestonlibrary@gmail.com) with your requests and suggestions. We are open to community input, and will do our very best to meet the needs of Preston's youngest citizens.

## Remember:

**You can find magic wherever you look.  
Sit back and relax, all you need is a book.**

~Dr. Seuss

Library Board of Trustees: Katherine Allingham, Patricia Bell, Kelly Ennis-Davis, Ann Legler, Mary Jo Nugent

Email: [prestonlibraryboard@gmail.com](mailto:prestonlibraryboard@gmail.com)

# The Friends of The Preston Public Library

## Margaret Gibson - Connecticut's Poet Laureate

Join the Friends of the Preston Library as they welcome Preston resident, Margaret Gibson, Connecticut Poet Laureate. Margaret will be reading a selection of poems from books and new poems that have to do with Nature and the environment. Come and help us celebrate poetry. Tuesday, October 29, 6:30 pm at the Preston Public Library, 389 Route 2, Preston. Please call the library at 860-886-1010 to reserve a seat for this free program.

### Friends of Preston Library & Preston Historical Society Present Tellabration! A Celebration of the Oral Tradition

Tellabration is a mammoth storytelling event - and that's no Tall Tale! It's a storytelling phenomenon, made up of dozens of storytelling happenings all over the world. Its purpose is to introduce adults, as well as children, to the pleasures of the oral art of storytelling. It is one of the programs offered by The Connecticut Storytelling Center, based at Connecticut College in New London.

The Friends of the Preston Library and the Preston Historical Society will host a Tellabration for families on Sunday, November 10th at 1:00 p.m. at the Long Society Meetinghouse, 45 Long Society Road, Preston. For more information about this free program call 860-887-5828. Carolyn Stearns will be performing.

Carolyn's performance will include a family version of the story of the Revolutionary War ship Confederacy, built in Preston on the Thames by Carolyn's ancestors. To compliment that story she will perform "Black Sheep" - a story of a Revolutionary War uniform. Third in the program will be "The House Women Built," an empowering tale of fortitude during the Revolutionary War. The final story is titled "Ox Drive" and rounds out the historical performance with a tale of how we honor history today.

A full listing of Tellabration sites in Connecticut with dates and times can be found by logging onto <http://www.connstorycenter.org> and clicking on "Tellabration" or by calling The Connecticut Storytelling Center at 860-439-2764.

## Friends of the Preston Library Membership

Please indicate membership level for 2019-2020 and enclose a check payable to "Friends of the Preston Public Library" in the amount shown:

<input type="checkbox"/> New Member	<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal
<input type="checkbox"/> Senior (55+)	\$5.00 per year
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Member	\$10.00 per year
<input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership	\$15.00 per year
<input type="checkbox"/> Business Membership	\$25.00 per year
<input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime Membership	\$100.00

Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

I am willing to help with:  Book Sales  Special events  Library Volunteer

The Friends of the Preston Public Library is a registered 501C(3) organization  
and all contributions are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

# State Legislative Update

By State Representative Mike France



October 1st marked the onset of millions of dollars in new tax and fee increases on some of our most-commonly consumed goods and services. These taxes, along with those that went into effect in July, were included in the Democrats' state budget plan that passed in June, and will undoubtedly have a negative impact on families, seniors, and businesses in our community.

**Digital Goods** – The current tax on personal/non-business uses of digital goods of 1% will increase to 6.35%. This increase applies to a myriad of online services, including – but not limited to – streaming (e.g., Netflix, Hulu), music (e.g., Spotify, Apple Music), eBooks, software downloads, and in-app purchases made on smartphones. Purchases of software (in a box, container, or on a CD; not downloaded online) for business purposes will also be taxed at 6.35%.

With an increased percentage of residents streaming and downloading their content (e.g., music, movies, smartphone apps), as opposed to watching on traditional cable television or listening on the radio, Democrats are taking advantage of those who are fleeing cable for lower cost options to create a new revenue stream.

**Prepared Foods** – The Department of Revenue Services (DRS) released an alarming policy statement in September stating that a Democrat-approved 7.35% tax would be applied to a long list of grocery items that have never been taxed before including cookies, juice, bagels, bagged vegetables, yogurt, rotisserie chickens, prepared "meals," and much more.

Due to massive outcry from the public, they have changed their interpretation of the tax on grocery items and prepared meals in general.

The new policy announcement from DRS says that items currently being taxed in eating establishments (restaurants, grocery stores, etc.) will continue to be taxed after October 1st, but no new items will be taxed. The only change being made is that the sales tax rate on already-taxed items will be increased from 6.35% to 7.35%, which is a tax increase of almost 16%.

Ultimately, the language of the law remains unchanged – which still means the question as to what is taxable is open to interpretation. That was one reason that Republicans petitioned for a Special Session to fix the statutory language to make the scope of taxation clear. What is currently clear, however, is that the budget still raises taxes and puts many more new grocery store items at risk of being taxed in the future.

**Motor Vehicle Trade-In Fees** – The current motor vehicle trade-in fee of \$35 will increase to \$100. Instead of being rewarded for trading in an old vehicle for a new, more efficient model, car buyers are being punished with a tax increase of over 285%. This tax hurts not only families who need to upgrade their vehicles, but also businesses that rely on fleets of vehicles to facilitate their everyday operations.

**Alcohol** – The excise tax on all alcohol sales, except beer, will increase by 10%. This significant increase will be felt by consumers and package store owners, small and large, across the state.

**Electronic Cigarettes** – A new 40 cent per milliliter tax of e-cigarette liquid is being placed on wholesale vaping purchases, or 10% of the wholesale sales price for other products. This tax is expected to raise \$1.9 million this fiscal year and \$2.5 million in the next fiscal year.

**Short-Term Rentals** – Websites that offer short-term rentals, like AirBNB, will be subject to a new 15% hotel tax. An anticipated \$1.5 million will be collected from this tax in the current fiscal year and \$2 million in the next fiscal year. Many of these large websites already pay a hotel tax, and have contributed millions of dollars to the state in recent years.

Four years ago, Governor Malloy proposed the 25% increase in the hotel tax from 12% to 15% with a commitment of \$15 million to be dedicated to tourism; which lasted exactly one year. Now the new tax revenue of over \$24 million per year almost exclusively goes to the General Fund while state tourism advertising suffers.

These new taxes are disappointing in the substantial negative effect they will have on our economy, which remains one of the worst in the country due to these and other flawed policies. Instead of reducing the size and scope of state government, the Legislature again took more money out of the pockets of hard-working residents. I will continue to represent your voice against new taxes and in favor of sustainable long-term policies, like reduced spending, to address our fiscal crisis.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding these – or other – issues, please reach out to me at [Mike.France@housegop.ct.gov](mailto:Mike.France@housegop.ct.gov) or 1-800-842-1423.

**I will be at the Preston Transfer Station (108 Ross Road) on Saturday, November 16th – stop by any time between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. for a one-on-one conversation! I would be happy to answer any of your questions concerning the new taxes that went into effect October 1st or the upcoming 2020 Legislative Session.**

# AA AFFORDABLE AIR LLC

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



Summer is over, and the PCCC Food Pantry is beginning to think ahead for the holidays. A BIG EVENT will take place this month...The SCOUTING FOR FOOD DRIVE! ...held every year by our town's great Boy Scouts. Bag will be left at mail boxes on October 26, and will be picked up by the Scouts the next Saturday. This drive has really filled our shelves each year.

Thanksgiving is coming soon and we provide frozen turkeys and the "fixin's" to our needy families in November. You can keep this in mind if you contribute to the the Boy Scout Food Drive, or put items in pantry boxes placed in the churches and around town. We buy our potatoes from LoPresti's and they also contribute some squash. Items like gravy, cranberry sauce, and stuffing as well as canned vegetables are always welcome.

**Thank you in advance!**

## Preston City Congregational Church

Reverend Stanley E. White, Minister



### Join Us This Sunday!

Two services of worship  
 9 & 10:30 am

### Ham & Bean Supper Nov. 2, 4-6 pm

Adults \$10 Children \$6  
 (twelve and under)

Menu: ham & homemade baked beans, potato salad, coleslaw, rolls, homemade baked assorted pies, and beverage.

Purchase your tickets at the church, or reserve them (860.887.4647)

Only 100 tickets will be sold!

### Annual Church Bazaar November 16, 9-2 pm

This is a community holiday favorite!

### "Hockanum Valley Ringers" Concert December 7, 4 pm

in the Sanctuary. This group will present a musical concert featuring five octaves of hand bells! The concert is free, however a "Free Will" offering will be received to support the HVR.

Don't miss this concert!

### Cookie Sale

December 21, 9-2 pm

in Dudek Hall. Come and purchase homemade cookies for the holidays. There will a variety of favorites available for purchase. We'll box them for you! You can even enjoy a "Free" cup of coffee while enjoying your cookies. Why bake for the holidays? We'll do it for you!

### CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES 4 & 11 pm

Join us for this special afternoon and evening. All are welcome!

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

**321 Route 164 • Preston, CT**  
**860.887.4647 or 860.886.7200**

# Protect Preston's Future ... Vote!



**Protect Preston's Future**  
**Elect the Preston GOP Team**



- First Selectman----- **Greg Moran Sr.**
- Board of Selectmen -----**Ken Zachem**
- Town Clerk/Tax Collector-----**Jill Keith**
- Town Treasurer ----- **Susan P. Nylen**
- Bd of Finance, 6 yrs -----**Jack Smallwood**  
**Andy Depta**
- Bd of Finance 4 yrs ----- **Robert Congdon**
- Bd of Finance 2 yrs ----- **John Moulson**
- Bd of Finance Alternate----- **Matt Davis**
- Bd of Education – 4 yrs----- **Tom Turner**  
**Dan Harris**
- Bd of Education – 2 yrs----**George Carver**
- Assessment Appeals -- **Norman Gauthier**
- Planning & Zoning ----- **Art Moran Jr**
- P & Z Alternate -----**Lyle Boyden**  
**Robert Berube**
- Zoning Bd of Appeals ----- **John Moulson**  
**Greg Moran Sr**

**Committed to:**

- ✓ **Responsive government**
- ✓ **Sensible fiscal management**
- ✓ **Controlled spending**
- ✓ **Planning for the future**

**On November 5, 2019**  
**Vote to Protect Preston's Future**  
**Elect the Republican Team**



**Greg Moran Sr**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Selectman**

Lifelong Preston resident  
Serves on several Town agencies  
Part of a family business in Preston since 1981  
Life member Poquetanuck Volunteer Fire Dept  
Volunteer with local Boy Scouts and youth sports

**Ken Zachem**  
**Board of Selectman**



Lifelong Preston Resident  
Owner of a Preston business  
Veterans Memorial School building committee  
18 years as a member of the Board of Finance  
8 yr member of Parks & Recreation Commission  
8 yr member of Planning & Zoning Commission



**Jill E Keith**  
**Town Clerk & Tax Collector**

BA from Eastern Connecticut  
State University  
Title searcher working with  
Town Clerks statewide  
Experienced office administrator  
Experience in financial accounting  
Child advocate for Conn Partners in Policy Making

We will provide Preston taxpayers with a town government that spends no more than we can afford, is friendly to residents, provides exceptional service, is efficient and effective.

Paid for by the Preston Republican Town Committee