

The Valley **PRESS**

Vol. 11, Edition 16
Friday, August 16, 2019

AVON • CANTON • FARMINGTON • SIMSBURY



Photo by Dave Heuschkel

Hall of Fame worthy

Unionville resident Brian Hurlock will be recognized for his decades of teaching and coaching basketball is slated to be inducted to the Connecticut Women's Basketball Hall of Fame next April. See more on page 31.

Katherine Blore to lead West Woods, PAGE 8

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Patrina excited for role as interim principal at SHS

Steve Patrina who has spent 38 of the past 43 years as a Simsbury High School student, parent or employee, was recently named the school's interim principal. **PAGE 7**

Progress on field, Old Farms bridge

AVON - Town officials are pleased with the progress of two major construction projects taking place in Avon this summer. **PAGE 4**

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Correction

SIMSBURY – An election list in the last issue of Valley Press left out some of the major candidates in Simsbury, including Democrats Arthur House and incumbent Linda Schofield for Board of Finance; and Democratic incumbents Todd Burrick and Jeff Tindall for Board of Education. Also in Simsbury, Robert Kalechman is running as a petitioning candidate for first selectman. The Valley Press regrets the omissions.



Wild about animals

Allen Nixon of Farmington sent this week's photo. He writes, "Last month, early in July, I was taking a walk on the section of Rails to Trails near New Britain Avenue and Roma Drive in Farmington, when I and several other persons came across this immature bald eagle perched on this split rail fence. As you can see it is quite a large bird." Jay Kaplan, director at Roaring Brook Nature Center, tells us, "There was a time when bald eagle sightings in the Farmington Valley were a rare occurrence. The first successful Connecticut eagle nest in forty years fledged two young in Barkhamsted in 1992. Since then, eagles have recovered nicely and are a great example of an animal brought back from endangered status. There are now several active nests in the Farmington Valley and even more along the Connecticut River. It takes 4-5 years for bald eagles to grow in the white head and tail feathers." If you have a photo of a critter that you've spotted locally, submit it for this segment to submissions@turleyct.com. Include "Wild About Animals" and the animal spotted in the subject line, as well as your town of residence. All photos will be considered for publication. Due to the high volume of submissions, we regret not every photo will be published.



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Avon officials pleased with progress of two major projects

By **Ted Glanzer**
Staff Writer

AVON – Town officials are pleased with the progress of two major construction projects taking place in Avon this summer.

The Old Farms Road Bridge project on Route 10 saw Old Farms Road being reopened Aug. 3 after being closed for two weeks and a day, according to Town Engineer Larry Buri.

The project, 23 years in the making, calls for the bridge to be replaced as well as the road to be regraded and realigned so the angle of the road is more gradual, Buri said.

“It’s going very well,” Buri said. “The contractor is doing a great job. He says he is right on schedule. The weather is a huge factor and he’s going to hedge bets. It’s a penalty contract. He

has a deadline to meet or beat by October 2020.”

Buri said the next phase of the project is to have the drainage work done off Route 10 and, in late September, the primary beams should be installed for the bridge.

“That’s not small,” Buri said, adding a 600-ton crane will be used to install the two 140-foot beams. “They’re coming in on a special transport from Pennsylvania,” Buri said.

Rotha Contracting Co. of Avon is handling the \$14.6 million, 22-month project, and Buri said he is thrilled with the results to far.

“The contractor is an Avon contractor. He lives in Avon. His family lives in town. These guys I couldn’t give more glowing reference,” Buri said. “He knows it’s in his backyard and he wants it to

go as smoothly as possible and wants it be a showcase for his company.”

The second major project is the turf field and track installation at Avon High School, which is also on schedule, according to Assistant Town Manager Grace Tiezzi.

The carpet was delivered and installed earlier this month. This past week, the subcontractor was on site cutting in lines for the five individual sports (football, field hockey, soccer, and boys and girls lacrosse), and stitching in the center emblem, Tiezzi said, plus the acrylic-coated sand infill will be poured in.

This week the track surfacing contractor will be installing the rubber coating, Tiezzi said.

The project is expected to be substantially completed by Aug. 23, with overall final com-



Courtesy Photo

The turf field and track installation at Avon High School is on schedule, officials said.

pletion Sept. 20, Tiezzi said.

“The project has moved forward as well as could be hoped,” Town Manager Brandon

Robertson said. “We’ve had a very engaged building committee. All along it’s been a great effort.”

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Simsbury Board of Selectmen expected to endorse park name

SIMSBURY – After reviewing 57 submissions, a Simsbury Board of Selectmen work group recommended a name for the new park being constructed at 1 Old Bridge Road: Hop Brook Landing at the Flower Bridge.

The name reflects the combination of two suggestions due to their emphasis on the water access of the park and the park's proximity to the Flower Bridge.

Tourism and choosing a name that has not

yet been honored in town were among the factors considered, according to the Board of Selectmen's packet.

The packet says one popular suggestion was to name the park after Betty Hudson, the former property owner of where the park is located. The selectmen's packet noted when the town purchased the property from Hudson, it agreed to have a granite memorial/plaque in her honor at the new park.

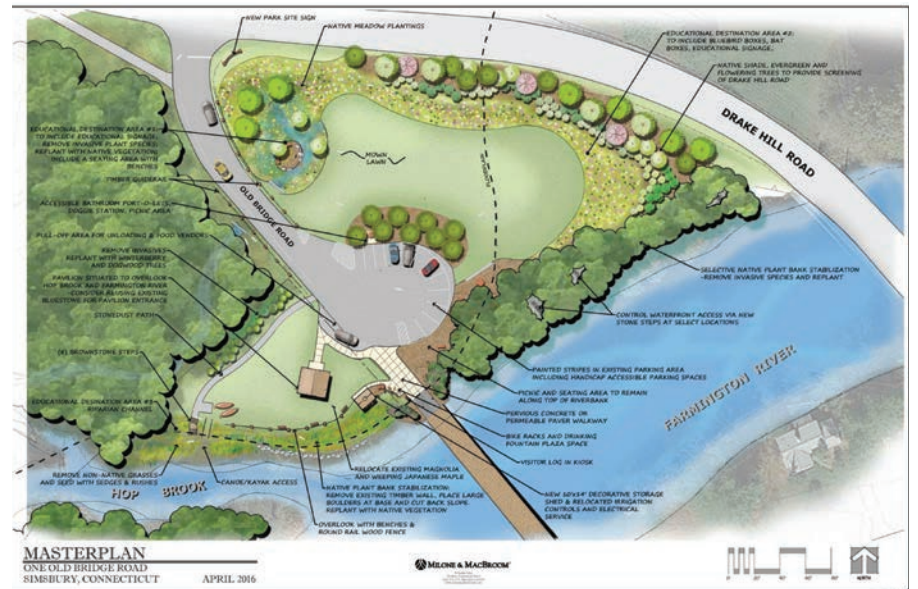
Other suggested



names included "Gateway to Tranquility," "George Matt," "Lovers Landing," "President Donald J. Trump's Forgotten Man Park," "SimCity Park," and "Simsbury Sail and Stroll."

The selectmen were expected to approve the new name at its regular meeting on Aug. 12.

– Ted Glanzer



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Farmington man pleads guilty to money laundering

A Farmington man on July 31 pleaded guilty in federal court to money laundering stemming from a scheme in which he stole \$3.3 million from people employed at his contracting companies based in Plainville.

According to a press release from the U.S. Attorney's office, between 2013 and 2017, Lee Ferguson, the owner of Ferguson Electric and Ferguson Mechanical, deducted \$1.60 to \$3.15 per hour from his employees' fringe benefits package as a third-party administrator fee for their pension plans.

The funds, however, were not used to cover administrative fees, but were diverted to another company, TPA of Connecticut, which Ferguson controlled. That company then sent the money to a Florida-based company, DJS Associates, a company Ferguson claimed to have formed to

See Sentencing on page 7

Steve Patrina thrilled to lead SHS on interim basis

By Ted Glanzer
Staff Writer

SIMSBURY — The joke goes that when Steve Patrina gets a cut, he bleeds blue and gold, the colors of Simsbury High School.

The best jokes are ones that have at least a little bit of truth to them, which means the one above is a particularly good one.

OK, Patrina probably bleeds red like the rest of us, but he has spent 38 of the past 43 years as an SHS student, parent or employee. He was recently named the school's interim principal, taking the place of Andrew O'Brien, who took another job in the Simsbury school district.

For Patrina, the appointment represents the natural progression of his career, as he's been a social studies teacher, a department chair, a student adviser and, most recently, and an assistant principal at the school. Not that is something he could have envisioned when he was a freshman attending Simsbury High.

"I never would have imagined it," Patrina said. "Whatever my status has been, I've enjoyed it. I've loved being a coach, a teacher, a student adviser, and department chair. There is some force in the universe that keeps moving me to greater responsibilities here. It's a positive sign that people have faith in me and trust I have the



Steve Patrina

best interests of the school in mind. That's my guiding spirit. Hopefully we can continue that. ... My line I use on everybody is the concept of greater good, and that's beyond yourself. What can you do for others? That's been the spirit [in which] we've been going at this."

The school district found itself in need of a principal once O'Brien, who served in the position for four years, took a job overseeing the buildings and grounds of the school system. That job involves overseeing the expansion and work projects districtwide, Patrina said.

"He's been nothing short of great in the new role getting things done and having the buildings organized," Patrina said. "He seems to enjoy the switch and we're thrilled for him."

O'Brien took the job at the end of June and, as Patrina said, the three assistant principals at the school got together to discuss how to best proceed.

"We want to get the school year off to a good start," Patrina said. "Due to the timing, to go through a

full [hiring] process, to bring on somebody new would make it difficult to get off to a great start. We offered [to the school district] that with me being the senior member, why don't we see what we can do to take the reins for a while and see how it goes. We're in a good spot. We dug in this summer; none of us is taking a vacation."

And, at least so far, things are going well, Patrina said.

"I've enjoyed it," he said. "It's a unique experience. It's the final culmination of all my experiences. I've coached baseball and basketball; I've been a parent here. My three children went here. My family lives in town. My mother lives in town. All of the staff members, the students parents have been nothing but positive and supportive of me. I can't say enough about the hard work the rest of the team has done. We're in a man down situation technically, people making sure doing best by Simsbury schools."

Patrina said it was too early to discuss taking the interim tag off his title and the school district will go through an full, formal hiring process when the time comes.

"The Board of Education has new goals this year, and a adopted a new product called the 'Vision of the Graduate,'" Patrina said. "So we have a new focus and a new start to the new year."

personal expenses.

According to the U.S. Attorney's office, Ferguson stole more than \$3.3 million from more than 300 employees. Ferguson was released on \$50,000 bond.

He is scheduled to be sentenced on Oct. 24, when he faces up to 10 years in prison.

—Ted Glanzer

SENTENCING from page 6

perform business consulting services. DJS didn't perform those services, however, and Ferguson, 62, used the money for

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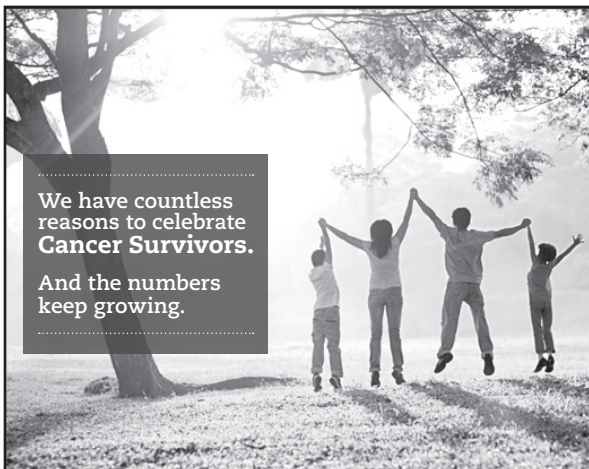
SIMSBURY – The 33rd Annual Simsbury Fly-In, Car Show and Food Truck Festival is set to take place Sept. 22 at the Simsbury Airport, 94 Wolcott Rd.

This country fair, built around displays of 750 beautiful airplanes and cars, with 150 business exhibitors, advertisers and sponsors has many fun activities for the entire family.

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Katherine Blore to lead West Woods school

FARMINGTON — Farmington school officials announced on Aug. 6 the hiring of Katherine Blore as the new principal of West Woods Upper Elementary School.

According to a press release, Blore, who most recently was the associate principal of Region 10's Lewis S. Mills High School in Burlington, was selected from a pool of more than 70 candidates.

Blore is a former math teacher and a mathematics department coordinator for grades five through 12.

"It is an honor to join the Farmington Public Schools as the principal of West Woods Upper

Elementary School," Blore said in a statement. "I am eager to lead a collaborative community that instills high academic expectations and joy in learning."

Officials said Blore stood out as a candidate because her educational approach aligns with Farmington's.

"Throughout the interview process, Dr. Blore exhibited a high level of leadership expertise in the areas of curriculum, instruction, assessment, and communication," Superintendent of Schools Kathy Greider said. "Dr. Blore's relationship building skills most impressed the committee as someone

who will prioritize building partnerships with all members of the school community in an inclusive environment of trust and collaboration. We are thrilled to have Dr. Blore join our school district community as a visionary leader, collaborator and contributor."

"Dr. Blore's enthusiasm and joy for leading and learning make her an outstanding candidate to lead the WWUES community," Board of Education Chairman Chris Fagan said. "Her knowledge of teaching and learning, especially in the area of mathematics is a strength that she will bring to her role as principal. Her

strong work ethic and commitment to all students reaching high levels of achievement will build upon WWUES' legacy of educating students at the 5-6 level with a focus on academic excellence, joy of learning and student belonging."

Blore takes over for Alicia Bowman, who was appointed the district's assistant superintendent of finance and operations. The statement noted the efforts of West Woods interim Principal Mike Galluzzo and Assistant Principal Nicole Vibert, who worked over the summer to prepare the school for the new year.

— Ted Glanzer

Bill Garrity Joins Board of Directors

William Garrity of Simsbury was recently elected to the Board of Directors of Northwest Community Bank.

Bill is President of Garrity Asphalt Reclaiming in Bloomfield, CT, the largest milling and reclaiming company in New England. Bill has served on the Board of Asphalt Recycling and Reclaiming and the Board of Utility Contractors Association of Rhode Island.

A lifelong resident of Simsbury, Bill graduated from Simsbury High School and attended Central Connecticut State University. He was a selectman in Simsbury for ten years and served on the Simsbury Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.

Bill and his wife, Ann, reside in West Simsbury and have three married children.



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Farmington resident finds a way to help both children and animals

By Ted Glanzer
Staff Writer

FARMINGTON — Farmington resident Teresa McCormick Pelham was three-and-a-half hours into her first and only substitute teacher assignment when she had an epiphany.

The kids in the kindergarten class were all terrific, but it was clear that some, if not many, were experiencing some form of anxiety.

“What I noticed with the kids is I found them to be delightful little human beings, but so much was expected of them,” she said. “They were 100 percent great kids, but they’re stressed. And stress can bring out the worst in people ... and dogs.”

Up to that point Pelham had written and self-published two children’s books, “Roxy’s Forever Home” and “Roxy and Her Annoying Little Brother, Stuey,” which deal with the

trials and tribulations of Pelham’s two rescue dogs, Roxy and Stuey.

Roxy is a certified therapy dog who Pelham takes to school visits to talk about rescue dogs as well as dog safety. She is, according to Pelham, a chill pup.

“Kids pet her, but they learn though,” she said. “There are several thousand Connecticut kids who all know the first thing you do is to ask a dog’s owner if it’s OK to pet their dog.”

Much like those kindergarteners Pelham briefly encountered, however, 8-year-old Stuey also deals with anxiety issues.

“He’s really an awesome little dog, but our vet said he has separation anxiety,” Pelham said. “He’s pretty cool. He is so little, he looks like a puppy. He looks great, he does not have a scary look about him. But if you put your hand in front of his mouth, he will nip you.”

See **PELHAM** on page 10

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Burlington Community Fund accepting grant applications

BURLINGTON – The Burlington Community Fund at Main Street Community Foundation is currently accepting grant applications from non-profit organizations serving Burlington residents. Full guidelines, eligibility criteria and links to the online application are available on the Foundation’s website, www.mainstreetfoundation.org. All proposals are due by 4 p.m. Sept. 13.

Consideration for funding from the Burlington Community Fund will be given to, but not limited to, proposals requesting support for charitable projects in the areas of community outreach, arts/culture, youth programs, education, health, human services and the environment.

Organizations interested in applying are required to contact Kate Kerchaert, Director of Grants and Programs, at 860-583-6363 before submitting a proposal. In addition, the Women & Girls’ Fund at the Foundation is accepting grant applications from nonprofit organizations with programs serving women and girls in Burlington, as well as Bristol, Plainville, Plymouth, Southington and/or Wolcott; proposals are due by Sept. 13. Organizations serving men and boys in Bristol, Burlington, Plymouth, Southington and Wolcott are also invited to apply for a grant from the Men & Boys’ Fund at the Foundation; those proposals are due Sept. 6.

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PELHAM

from page 9

Pelham has a cabin in Maine and she got the inspiration to write a third book, "Stuey and Veronica," about Stuey's anxiety, something that, after her experience with the kindergartners, she believed children can relate to.

What originally was an idea of Stuey being anxious about going to Maine for camp (in real life, Stuey didn't do so well in his first trip to the cabin), turned into a story about him meeting Veronica, a wise goat who helps her canine friend with his anxiety.

"Veronica is a real goat" in Maine, Pelham said. "We were up there taking the dogs for a walk, and we met a goat and she actually lives in a house with some people and they're like hippies. They lived in a kind of commune and have this goat, who comes and goes in to house. She worked her way into the story."

Veronica counsels Stuey on keeping an open mind, and to try to relax and "try to be nice."

It's a branching out for Pelham, whose previous two books are geared toward younger children. "Stuey and Veronica" is a 26-page work that she says is appropriate for readers in grades two through four.

The previous two books were printed in hardcover and sell for \$16.99. Pelham printed "Stuey and Veronica" in paperback and sells for \$6.99, making it easier for children to purchase the book when she goes on school visits.

"I've been going to schools to do presentations; I wrote ["Roxy's Forever Home"] so I could donate money to dog rescues," Pelham said. "When I make money on it, I give it to rescue organizations. Then I figured out how cool it was to go into schools. The kids are so hungry to learn something new. I can teach them about writing without them realizing it, but



Teresa McCormick Pelham and Roxy with students at Wish Elementary School in Hartford.

also how to be safe around a dog and how cool it is to rescue a dog. This one is about anxiety."

Pelham says she has donated about \$12,000 through the years to animal rescues through her efforts.

For more information on "Stuey and Veronica" or about her school visits, visit www.roxysforeverhome.com or email Pelham at pelhamteresa@gmail.com.



Courtesy Photos

Teresa McCormick Pelham and Stuey.

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School Note

UNIVERSITY, MS – Rachel Marie Moore of Avon graduated with a Bachelor of Accountancy from the University of Mississippi May 11 at the university's 166th Commencement.

LIQUOR PERMIT
Notice of Application

This is to give notice that I, SONA RAMCHANDANI, 26 BUTTERNUT DR., UNIONVILLE, CT 06085-1546

Have filed an application placarded 8/5/2019 with the department of Consumer Protection for a RESTAURANT LIQUOR PERMIT for the sale of alcoholic liquor on the premises at

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The business will be owned by: RAMMER LLC
Entertainment will consist of: No Live entertainment

Objections must be filed by: 9-16-2019

SONA RAMCHANDANI

The Buzz

Farmington Girl Scouts obtain silver awards

FARMINGTON – The entire Girl Scout Troop 61101 of Farmington, which includes Alisa Amato, Alyssa Dapont, Hannah Hughes, Zoe Kay, Hannah Osborne, Emma Trzupsek, and Julia Przech, obtained their Silver Awards at a ceremony held in June.

During the ceremony, the young ladies gave PowerPoint presentations on their projects.

The girls were split into two groups that worked on complimentary projects that enhanced the newer portion of the Farmington Rail to Trail.

The first group, consisting of Zoe Kay, Hannah Osborne, Julia Przech, and guided by Troop Leader Tracey Amato: designed, built,



Courtesy Photo

From left are Emma Trzupsek, Hannah Osborne, Julia Przech, Alisa Amato, Alyssa Dapont, Hannah Hughes and Zoe Kay.

and installed a bench on the trail.

The second group, consisting of Alisa Amato, Alyssa Dapont, Hannah Hughes, Emma Trzupsek, and guided by Assistant Troop Leader Angela Przech: designed, built, installed, and planted two flower beds adjacent to the bench.





School Notes

ITHACA, NY – William Bunn of Simsbury and Andrew Diamond of Avon were among a group of students from Ithaca College who won the American Advertising Federation's National Student Advertising Competition Friday, June 7, in Hollywood, Fla. The team competed against seven other schools, with Liberty University coming in second and Syracuse University finishing third. The students are all participants in the college's Ad Lab, a senior capstone campaigns course in the Integrated Marketing Communications (IMC) major, housed within the Roy H. Park School of Communications.

VOTE

Robert Kalechman

First Selectman

Paid by Robert Kalechman



Suffering from Knee or Hip Pain? Practical information from the Desk of Anne T. Rolfe, DPT, Director of Post-Acute & Rehabilitation

When it comes to wear and tear, the knee and hip joints are most often affected by osteoarthritis.

KNEE: The knee is the largest and most complex joint in the body, and it is put under great pressure with every movement. It is no surprise that wear and tear in the knee's cartilage is one of the most common forms of arthritis and this gradually occurs starting from the age of fifty. Knee pain tends to increase after walking, going up and down stairs or kneeling. Stiffness is another symptom, which is mainly felt after a period of rest like getting out of bed, or when getting up from a sitting position.

Treatment involves a physical examination where you will be questioned about current medications, past knee injuries, when the pain started, whether it affects one or both knees, if it increases when you bend your knees and whether you are also in pain at night. The doctor will assess how you walk and if there is any swelling in the joint. Finally, an X-ray can confirm the diagnosis. If the joint space appears narrower on the X-ray, you suffer from osteoarthritis.

HIP: Osteoarthritis of the hip mainly occurs in people aged 55 or older, and women are twice as likely as men to suffer from hip arthritis. It is a natural wear-and-tear process, but congenital anomalies, inflammation and damage caused by injuries can also result in arthritis. One of the main symptoms of hip osteoarthritis is groin pain, which often also radiates to the buttocks, thigh and knee. Pain and stiffness occurs when patients get out of bed or get up from a sitting position.

All specialists will tell you to keep the knee and hip joints moving and combat obesity. You may be referred to a Physical Therapist who can teach you exercises to keep your joint in good shape or show you how to make certain movements differently to reduce the strain on the joint affected by arthritis. In some cases, the Orthopedic Surgeon will recommend surgery for quality of life.

McLean's experienced team of Physical Therapists provides comprehensive individualized therapy using innovative techniques and joint sensitive equipment so patients experience a perfectly tailored, effective plan of care. Over 90% of patients return to their prior level of function and activities. **Call McLean's Outpatient Rehabilitation at 860-658-3745 for more information.**

Attend a free seminar sponsored by McLean and Hartford HealthCare Senior Services and presented by Dr. Daniel Witmer, MD, Orthopedic Surgeon, to learn more about surgical and non-surgical options to treat arthritis. Join us at Hop Meadow Country Club at 6:00 on September 12. Please call 1-855-442-4373 to register.

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SIMSBURY STUDIOS

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Back to School**Students acquire independence with community's support**

SIMSBURY – Many high school students in and around Simsbury recently celebrated graduation, but there are less independent peers who are not yet ready to enter the workforce or go off to college. To bridge this gap, there are unique programs like Simsbury High School's Supported Training & Employment Program, which connects with community partners who offer internships to students who receive special services, ages 17-21. These job exploration experiences give students an opportunity to learn about a business and the people who work there, as

well as learn some real-world job skills.

On the morning of May 21, the STEP program job coaches and staff held an Appreciation Reception at SHS for these community partners to say a big thank you to staff, students, and community partners. STEP interns wore blue and gold shirts donated by the SHS Student-Parent-Teacher Council.

Transition coordinators Bridget Annulli and Ellen Grew offered some welcoming remarks, including thanking not only the community partners, but job coaches, staff, and the Simsbury Public

Schools administration, many of whom were present to show their continuing support.

A highlight of the event was when students took turns delivering presentations about their internship experience, complete with colorful slides depicting them at their workplaces. Some required assistive technology devices to narrate; others' speech may have been somewhat halting but each of the students showed determination to get through it successfully. Evident from these presentations was an increase in self-confidence and independence, strides that they

made through working at jobs provided by the community partners, including Antonio's Restaurant, Big Y, Community Pantry, Doggie in the Window, Farmington Valley YMCA, Fitzgerald's, Huntington Learning Center, Little City Pizza, Necker's, Simsbury Farms, Simsbury Public Library, Simsbury Town Hall, Staples, TJMaxx, and Walgreens.

For some organizations, this was their rookie year, others, like the Simsbury Public Library, have been working with STEP for over 20 years, according to Head of Adult

See **STEP** on page 13

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Above, left: Supported Training & Employment Program Transition Coordinator Bridget Annulli, left, observes as Josh Staskiewicz, a student intern in the program, greets Pasquale Ciron, from Huntington Learning Center. Above right: Maddy Bourque gets an encouraging hug from special education teacher Julianne Johnson.

Courtesy Photos

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Back to School

STEP from page 12 Services Susan Ray. In 1985 former SHS Vocational Coordinator Rose McGurkin-Fuhr designed and developed what is now the STEP program. She described the library as being a gentle, supportive, and helping environment for the students and credited Simsbury Public Library as “one of the first bricks in the foundation.”

In the classroom, STEP teaches practical skills like doing laundry, hygiene and nutrition, but there are many social or interpersonal skills that students learn during their internships, tasks that encourage per-

sonal growth.

Concluded Transition Coordinator Bridget Annulli, “These jobs help the students learn skills to prepare them for life.”

At the appreciation reception, there was an overarching atmosphere of support from staff, community partners, and even the students’ peers. When it was Alex Gomez-Nieto’s turn to speak, his self-proclaimed “twin” Dante Bontatibus was right there to whisper any needed prompts into his ear.

Senior Maddy Bourque had worked at the coffee cart at SHS, the Special Services Office, and the food pantry, so she was asked to go up to

the podium three different times.

Junior Devin Shlosser also approached the podium to speak three times, and after each, his grin was visibly wider each time.

Junior Caoilfhionn Carr was confident enough in her presentation that she even went a little off script about her job at Doggie in the Window. After outlining the basic assigned tasks of feeding and watering the dogs and cleaning up after them, she showed her skill at taking initiative, adding, “I also check to make sure the dogs are playing nice together.”

SHS Junior Beatrice Bloom participated in the STEP program for the first

time this year. She enjoyed her work at Big Y. She said, “I’ve learned how to do different things. I packaged the cookies, and then I would go over to bag groceries. Packaging cookies

was my favorite thing to do.” With a bright smile, she added, “And I don’t like sweets so I was never tempted to eat them.”

Dante also enjoyed his work at TJ Maxx, where

he organized the stock and put clothes on hangers.

For partnership information contact Bridget Annulli or Ellen Grew, transition coordinators at 860-658-0451, ext 665.

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■ The Buzz

New Horizons Village hosts 62nd Strawberry Festival

UNIONVILLE – New Horizons Village, a division of New Horizons, Inc., celebrated its 62nd Strawberry Festival Thursday, June 20. Due to construction at the Village and inclement weather, the festival was held at the Farmington Senior Center. Attendees came from all over Farmington Valley and beyond in order to show their support for New Horizons Village.

Participants enjoyed a fun evening that included a musical performance by Out the Boxx, rock painting, balloon art, a magician and food trucks. All of the proceeds from the strawberry festival

went towards purchasing a van for New Horizons' newly launched medical transportation program called Sunshine Wheels.

New Horizons would like to specifically thank Ion Bank, Comcast, Athena Health Care Systems, Threshold, Avon/Canton Rotary, Berkshire Bank, Brown & Brown Insurance, Insurance Provider Group, Lawrence J. Longua, Maier Design Group, Medline, Pension Consultants, Inc., Saucier Mechanical Services and Workers' Compensation Trust for their significant contributions as sponsors.



Students honored for essays

CANTON – State Rep. Leslee Hill, state Sen. Kevin Witkos and Collinsville Savings Society's President, Gary J. Roman, held an award ceremony earlier this year to recognize students from Canton Intermediate School and Thompson Brook School. The students were given an essay prompt to explain what Memorial Day means to them on a personal level. Six students earned awards.

The winning students from Canton Intermediate School were: Russel Bilodeau (first place), Kate Cianfaglione (second place) and Christian Robitaille (third place).

An excerpt from Russel Bilodeau's winning

essay reads, "There are also those who will give the ultimate sacrifice. This is a very powerful reason why we remember these brave men and women, it's so that they may be recognized as not only people but as leaders and protectors of our freedom."

The winning students from Thompson Brook School were: Abbigale Kim (first place), Sofia Agudelo (second place) and Harshmit Verman (third place).

An excerpt from Abbigale Kim's first place submission reads, "Our nation is a big family, we are one and we have to have trust, loyalty and love for those who have fought for us."



From left: Christian Robitaille, state Sen. Kevin Witkos, Harshmit Verman, Kate Cianfaglione, Abbigale Kim, Sofia Agudelo, Russel Bilodeau, state Rep. Leslee Hill, Gary J. Roman.

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■ The Buzz

Two Avon Girl Scouts earn Silver Awards

AVON – Juliana Portal and Maya Monteiro, Cadette Scouts who recently completed 8th grade at Avon Middle School, identified a need in the community for shadow flag boxes to be available for members of VFW Post 3272 and/or family members of fallen veterans. They worked with the Gildo T. Consolini, Avon VFW Post 3272, and Sanford & Hawley Inc. and constructed 22 shadow flag boxes. This past March, with Grant Hagedorn (past post commander of Avon VFW Post 3272) the scouts presented to the Avon VFW Post 3272 their finished product.

The first three flag boxes are to be displayed



From left: Avon Girl Scouts Juliana Portal and Maya Monteiro build flag boxes at Sanford & Hawley's workshop in Avon.

at Mission Barbecue restaurant in Southington, Avon Free Public Library, and Avon's Italian Club, where the VFW Post 3272 meets monthly. The remaining flag boxes will be stored and distributed amongst its members and/or family members of fallen veterans for years to come. The VFW plans to continue the tradition of



Courtesy Photo

Pictured are Avon GS Cadettes Troop 66087 and Silver Award recipients. From left are) Maya Monteiro, Juliana Portal; Renee Magoon from Mission Barbecue restaurant, Tori Carroll and Bob Nardiello, senior vice commander of the Avon VFW Post 3272.

constructing the boxes and having them readily available to honor members in the future.

To get involved with Girl Scouts in Avon, visit www.gsfc.org, find Avon

CT Girl Scouts on Facebook, and come to the annual Avon Girl Scout Join Night event, which will be Tuesday Sept. 24 from 6 to 7 p. m. at the Avon Free Public Library.

The Rev. Linda Spiers appointed chaplain for Canton volunteer department

After serving nearly 15 years as Rector of Trinity Episcopal Church and now retired, the Rev. Linda Spiers has been appointed Chaplain for the Town of Canton Volunteer Fire & EMS Department.

"I am grateful and honored to accept this new role, and to have the opportunity to give back to the Canton community ...

in a new way," Spiers said. "My role as department chaplain is to minister to the needs of volunteer firefighters and EMTs from all religious backgrounds, including those without traditional religious affiliations. Listening with the ear of the heart and loving all for who they are, is the mission."

"For me, it's a new



The Rev. Linda Spiers ministry of presence: in

both the worst and best of times; lending an ear to those who may need to talk, or to others who could benefit from spiritual guidance. I also look forward to building new relationships with Canton's volunteer firefighters and EMTs. I know the gift these brave women and men are to our community."

'Party in the Pasture' set for Sept. 19

FARMINGTON – The harvest moon will be shining on Thursday, evening Sept. 19th at the ultimate farm-to-table affair of the season, hosted by the Farmington Land Trust. Set on the private, bucolic, West District Nature Preserve, The Party in the Pasture, will be a magnet for those who treasure and preserve open space and enjoy the conviviality and understated elegance of gourmet, candlelit farm-

to-table fare paired with exceptional wines and acoustic entertainment under the stars. Diane Tucker, the naturalist who stewards the preserve, will offer a fascinating pre-cocktail tour of the rich flora and fauna for our sponsors and Patrons.

Tickets can be purchased on the Farmington Land Trust website <https://www.farmington-landtrust.org/> or by calling 860-674-8545.



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Academic News

WILLIMANTIC – Eastern Connecticut State University's Social Work Program held its annual Phi Alpha Honor Society Induction ceremony May 18 in the Betty Tipton Room of the Student Center. At the ceremony the Phi Alpha Honor Society for Social work inducted 38 new members, including *Julia Thompson '19* of Collinsville, who majors in Social Work.



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Senior Signals

By Stephen Allaire



The Stress of Caregiving

Three families came this past week to discuss the problems and stress of giving care to a spouse with some degree of dementia. In each case the caregiving spouse, all of whom happened to be wives, talked about and exhibited signs of the toll it was taking on them. They were not getting sleep, were anxious for their spouse and themselves, and felt overwhelmed by the unrelenting demands. They were incredibly devoted to their husband's care, but reluctantly came to the realization that their own health was suffering, and that if they themselves became sick, that was bad for both spouses. What could they do?

The first thing is understanding that help is needed. If a person has dementia, he or she may become insecure and fearful, and follow the healthy spouse around the house. The healthy spouse is like a security blanket, so the one with dementia is afraid to lose sight of the spouse, much like a very young toddler wants mommy in sight. With failing memory, the needy spouse may ask the same question over and over, and sooner or later, this unrelenting following and questioning can drive the healthy spouse to distraction. Sometimes the dementia may lead to anger and frustration which is taken out on the healthy spouse. All of these women were devoted to their husbands, and reluctantly came to the conclusion that something had to change.

The change may be a combination of getting care for the one with dementia and getting time away for the healthy spouse. For example, a companion for a half day or at least several hours a week may allow the healthy spouse to meet with friends or just go for a walk or change of scenery. Getting socialization with family and friends is critical to keeping one's sanity. There are also support groups run by the Alzheimer's Association and nursing homes and other care facilities. Sharing experiences may give ideas on how to cope, and let someone know that they are not alone in figuring out different options.

Day care can be a big help for both the healthy spouse and the one in decline. In Connecticut, if one qualifies, the Connecticut Home Care Program for Elders could pay for the day care, and the transportation back and forth. We had one spouse whose family convinced her to go to day care by telling her it was a job. She helped fold napkins and set the tables in an assisted living facility. After two weeks she asked where her paycheck was, which gave the family a needed laugh, and it successfully gave her husband the daily break he needed.

Government programs that can help pay for outside help include Veterans Administration Aid and Attendance, and the Connecticut Home Care for Elders Level II, and Medicaid. At the high end for those who qualify, Medicaid could pay up to \$5,945 per month for care at home. VA Aid and Attendance, for a married veteran that qualifies could pay up to \$2,230 per month.

Some sources for information are www.aarp.org, www.alz.org, www.CT.gov/agingservices.org. Ask friends who have gone through the same difficult decline of a loved one. Or consult with an elder care attorney who knows the programs available and possible sources of payment.

The key is not to go it alone to the point where you are so stressed that your own health suffers. Without you, your spouse with dementia may be forced to a nursing home. And don't let feelings of guilt prevent you from seeking the assistance that is directly needed for the sick spouse, and indirectly benefits both. It can be the difference that keeps you both at home.

Attorney Stephen O. Allaire and Attorney Halley C. Allaire are partners in the law firm of Allaire Elder Law, members of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys, Inc., with offices at 271 Farmington Avenue, Bristol, (860) 259-1500, or on the web at www.allaireelderlaw.com. If you have a question, send a written note to either Attorney Allaire at Allaire Elder Law, LLC, 271 Farmington Avenue, Bristol, CT 06010, and they may use your question in a future column.

The Buzz

New interpretive signs grace Simsbury multi-use path

A group of volunteers has helped to explain the "Heritage" along the Simsbury's section of the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail, with seven new interpretive signs. The signs provide the history of Pettibone's Tavern, the White Memorial Fountain, Ensign Bickford, The Nike Missile site, an old tobacco barn, the Simsbury Community Farm, and Lake Basile, as well as purpose of the Nod Brook wildlife management area and the impor-

tance of wetlands like the Minister Brook marsh next to the bike trail.

In 2014, Linda Schofield, along with Pattie Jacobus, Nancy Anstey, Martha Hogan, Frank Haviland, and Billy Honeck started the Simsbury "Try-athlon" as an enticement to bring newcomers to "try" Simsbury's terrific outdoor assets, including the bike path, hiking trails, and river. The triathlon used all three for the three legs of the race. Many



volunteers and scouts helped make the race a success each year on race day. Profits were put into a special revenue fund in the town for future use to improve some aspect of the race course.

Ultimately, it was decided that the funds

would be used to fabricate these signs. Schofield, Diana Moody and Sue Quirk, with help from the Simsbury Historical Society, developed the sign content and photos. Tom Roy, from the town's public works department (and a triathlete himself) used the special revenue fund to fabricate and install the signs in early August. The seven signs are arrayed along the multi-use trail from just north of the Avon border to just south of the Granby line.

The Rotary Club of Farmington essay contest winners announced

FARMINGTON – On Tuesday, June 4, The Rotary Club of Farmington hosted the students, faculty and parents of the WestWoods Upper Elementary School for the 18th Annual Student Essay Contest. This partnership helps meet one of Rotary International's goals of promoting literacy.

The annual event allows students to select a topic of their choice and offer an essay to persuade

readers on a matter the student is passionate about. This year, students chose to address the issues affecting the environment, gender equality and fair trade. Three students of the 10 award winners were selected to read their pieces at the club's weekly meeting.

To honor the student efforts the Rotary Club of Farmington will make a charitable contribution to an organization selected by

the students. This year the students chose InterAction, (<https://www.interaction.org/>.)

This year's contest winners are as follows:

Grade 6 winners: Joyce Li, Jiayi Liu, Nichole Marunchak, Nikita Nayunpiati and Henna Neilson. Grade 5 winners: Devananda Kallath, Coco Mooney, Emma Seapan, Victoria Underfill and Prakhkar Vatsa.

The following student writers are commended for the writing that they submitted to this contest.

Grade 6 Honorable Mention winners are Meher Akmal, Danning Chen, Ethan Halstead, Wei Li, Olivia Nowak, Rithvik Satyavarapu, Josh Silva. Grade 5 Honorable Mention winners are Joel Addae, Jivitesh Babu, Yenna Morton, Chase Quigley, Lucy Remo, Evan Waite.

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■ The Buzz

Avon Volunteer Fire Department personnel attain 2Q licensure

AVON – The Avon Volunteer Fire Department has announced it has five new drivers. On June 15, five AVFD members took and passed their 2Q driver's tests, the prerequisite for becoming qualified to operate AVFD Engines 7, 9, 10, 11 and 14, as well as Ladder 12 and Tanker 20.

AVFD Assistant Chief Ken Sedlak and firefighters Jake O'Malley, Ethan Gillard, Dylan Bernetich and Jeff Bernetich each received their 2Q fire apparatus

driver's license endorsement. After completing an average of 40 hours of training each, with the assistance of Capt. Bobby Sanderson, the volunteers amassed the knowledge and expertise necessary to safely and professionally operate fire apparatus.

"I am extremely proud of these members for stepping up, carving time out of their busy schedules to train, and adding to their skill set," says AVFD Chief Bruce Appell. "It's the dedica-

tion of members like these who give our department its strength and professionalism and help keep us operating as a volunteer organization."

The 2Q driver/training program is designed to prepare potential fire apparatus drivers for the state of Connecticut Department licensure. Training covers post, during and pre-trip inspections, brake systems, suspension systems, steering components and basic maneuvering of the vehicle.



Volunteers from left to right, Leigh King and Tom LaPointe



Cleaning greens are, left to right are Stacey Czopor, Carly Smithberger and Ray Smithberger. *Courtesy Photo*

Volunteers prepare meals for people dealing with health crisis

SIMSBURY – Nearly 20 employees, clients and friends joined King, Prell and Associates, a private wealth advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial in Simsbury, to volunteer at Auerfarm, home to Healing Meals Community Project. The team cleaned and prepared vegetables for use in 419 organic meals that will be delivered to individuals and families dealing with a serious health crisis

throughout the Hartford community.

The firm hosted the event to kick-off a month-long kindness campaign to encourage and support it employees' community engagement and inspire more good.

We are very proud to support Healing Meals Community Project (HMCP), based here in Simsbury.

HMCP prepares and delivers delicious, 100%

organic meals for families dealing with a serious health crisis. They cook for the entire family for 12 weeks, at no cost to them. Uniquely, the nutrient-rich meals are prepared by youth volunteers working alongside adult mentors and an executive chef. Each week these delicious and nutritious meals are conveniently delivered right to the clients' doors by volunteer Delivery Angels.

Adams & Knight Receives Telly Awards

AVON – Adams & Knight, an integrated marketing agency, was recently awarded three Telly Awards for its video marketing work for financial services and healthcare clients. The Telly Awards recognize excellence in video and television across all screens. This year's winners were chosen from more than 12,000 entries, from 50 states and five continents, by a council of more than 200 leading experts.

Adams & Knight's received a Silver Award in the Financial Services and Banking category for the online video "The Moment: KITE Architects" produced on behalf of Webster Bank. Part of an online series that highlights a turning point in a business' success, the video was created using a run-and-gun style production with a slider to add motion and depth to otherwise flat or inanimate objects and settings.

The agency won a second Silver Award for

the promotional video "Ragazzino's Fine Foods" in Videography and Cinematography. The video, showcased the evolution of a three-generation, family-owned food company from Connecticut, was filmed on a RED Digital Cinema camera and utilized the camera's high-speed frame to showcase fast-paced footage for processes in the company's factory.

On behalf of Hartford HealthCare, the agency won a Bronze Award in the Public Service & Activism category for the social media video series "Be Rxesponsible." The series highlights the importance of properly disposing of expired and unused medication.

"Our video marketing capabilities have grown exponentially over the last few years and our team is honored to be recognized again by the Telly Awards competition," said Bill Knight, principal and CMO. "Our video produc-

tion team continues to raise the bar by incorporating new techniques and technologies into their work, helping us produce quality visual content across a variety of channels for our clients."

A Celebration at Bristol's Farm – 50th Protected Farm

CANTON – Bristol's Farm became the 50th farm to be protected by the Connecticut Farmland Trust, with a well-attended celebration at the farm on June 15. Under sunny skies, farmer Josh Bristol led tours of the farm. He described their crops and farming methods and explained some of the science behind their work. He explained that different colors of "plastic mulch" -- soil covers -- can be used to do more than warm or cool the soil. It turns out that silver mulch delays thrips (insects) on onions, and red mulch improves the yield of tomato plants. He also described their irrigation methods, crop



Members representing three generations of the Bristol family who gathered at the farm pictured, from left, are John Forker, Adam Bristol, and Hollace Bristol, all representing the fourth generation, Josh Bristol, and his wife, Erica, and Nick Bristol, representing the fifth generation; and Josh and Erica's son, Anson, representing the sixth generation.

planting plans and how they "share" their crops with wildlife.

Protecting the farm was a long-term, collaborative effort.

After the tour, each of the funders described

their participation in working with the Bristol family to purchase the agricultural development rights to 27 acres of the farm. In all, this protection was almost 20 years in the making. Representatives

from the four funding groups were Elisabeth Moore, executive director of the Connecticut Farmland Trust; Phil Philbrick, president of the Canton Land Conservation Trust; Tom Seigny and Bill Volovski, Canton selectmen; and Commissioner Bryan Hurlburt from the state Department of Agriculture.

The Canton Land Conservation Trust participated in both the discussions and funding for the protection and, Phil Philbrick told those gathered how delighted the Land Trust is that this historic Canton landmark will remain as a farm in perpetuity.

■ The Buzz

Simsbury Eagle Scout John Cody awarded Sgt. Felix M. Del Greco Jr. Memorial Scholarship



Courtesy Photo

Pictured, from left: Troop 76 Scoutmaster Chris Weiland, Megan Cody, Eagle Scout John Cody, Dennis Cody, scholarship chairperson Mark Holowesko and Troop 76 girl's Scoutmaster Tabitha Whatham

SIMSBURY – Eagle Scout John Cody of Simsbury BSA Troop 76 was awarded the 2019 Sgt. Felix M. Del Greco Jr. Memorial Scholarship at the latest BSA Troop 76 Court of Honor.

The scholarship was established, by the Del Greco family, to remember and honor Felix, who was killed in Iraq, on April 9, 2004.

Sgt. Del Greco was the first Ct. National Guard soldier killed in action.

The Scholarship has become Felix's legacy. John Cody will be attending UCONN in the fall.

Unionville resident Jane Tedder honored

FARMINGTON—Unionville resident Jane Tedder, Ed.D., was among 12 organizations and individuals to receive an award at Wheeler's ninth annual Hands & Hearts reception in May at The Country Club of Farmington.

Tedder was recognized for her support of Wheeler's mission and role in driving the organization's 50th Anniversary Board of Trustees Challenge.

The event honors individuals and families, corporations and foundations for their outstanding support of Wheeler's mission to provide equitable access to innovative care that improves health, recovery and growth at all stages of life. "Any organization would be extremely lucky to have someone like Jane Tedder serving on their board. She brings a strategic mind, boundless energy, and a focus on success to everything she does," said Susan Walkama, LCSW, president and chief executive officer,



From left to right, Susan Walkama, LCSW, president and chief executive officer, Wheeler, with Hands & Hearts recipient Jane Tedder, Ed.D., and Francis Vincent, chair, development committee, Wheeler Board of Trustees, and strategy and marketing lead, Cigna.

Courtesy Photo

Wheeler. "We are most fortunate because not only did Jane serve a vital role on our board of trustees during a time of change and growth, but she returned years later during the occasion of our 50th anniversary."

Walkama added, "Using the experience she gained throughout a life of advocacy and dedication to causes, and in particular her time leading a significant fundraising campaign for her alma mater, she

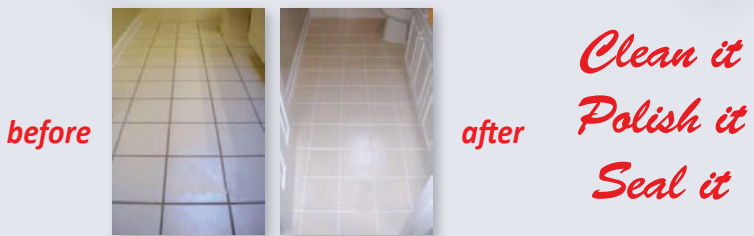
approached us and, working together, we launched a 50th anniversary trustee challenge, which accomplished far more than we ever could have imagined, thanks to Jane's generosity and leadership."

During her time on the board, Tedder served on the Executive Committee as vice chair and secretary. She also was chair of the Planning Committee and served on the Facilities Committee.



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■ The Buzz

Simsbury student honored in essay contest

SIMSBURY – Rachel Coppinger, a rising junior at Simsbury High School, was awarded one of two runner-up prizes in the 19th Annual Statewide Connecticut Bar Foundation James W. Cooper Fellows Quintin Johnstone Essay Contest.

Students wrote essays on the topic, “Jumping the Gun – Preventing School Violence”. This year’s topic dealt with two student brothers, one a popular jock, and one a social outcast who are seen on a viral video shooting at a gun range. The school gets word of the video



Rachel Coppinger

and decides that the video shows that the social outcast brother is a threat and suspends him. The popular brother is not suspended, despite participating in the same activity.

Rachel Coppinger, daughter of Lori and Daniel Coppinger, of

Simsbury, Connecticut, has received the following honors: 1st place winner of the DAR American History Essay Contest, 1st place in the VFW Patriot’s Pen Contest, and 3rd place in the National Civics Essay Contest. In addition, Rachel actively participated in the following at Simsbury High School: JV Crew Team, and Robotics Team. Rachel’s extracurricular activities outside of school include studying Tang Soo Do, a Korean Martial Art. She plans to continue her education after high school in the field of engineering.

Hill-Stead Museum announces interim director

FARMINGTON – The Hill-Stead Museum Trustees and Board of Governors announced today that Dr. Anna Swinbourne has been appointed to lead the museum as interim executive director.

“I am thrilled to announce that our museum trustee, Dr. Anna Swinbourne, has agreed to temporarily helm the museum as interim executive director, effective immediately,” said Mark Shaw, president of the board of governors.

Swinbourne is an independent art historian, curator and art advisor engaged in a variety of scholarly and art-market endeavors. From 1999 to 2009, she was on the curatorial staff at The Museum of Modern Art, New York.



Dr. Anna Swinbourne

Prior to joining MoMA, Swinbourne was an assistant vice president in the Impressionist and Modern Art Department of Sotheby’s, New York. She was trained at the École du Louvre in Paris, Tufts University (B.A.), and the Institute of Fine Arts of New York University (M.A.; Ph.D.). She has been the museum trustee at Hill-Stead Museum since 2018 and serves as a member of the Art Advisory

Committee of the King Baudouin Foundation United States.

“I am eager and excited to continue the steady progress we at Hill-Stead Museum have made over the last few years in becoming an even more enriching, dynamic and sustainable institution,” Swinbourne said.

“Though she will be greatly missed, I am truly thankful for Susan Ballek’s strong and solid leadership of the museum over these past six years,” Shaw says. “As executive director and CEO, Susan has guided the museum to consecutive years of revenue growth, balanced budgets and year-round high-quality programming with record-breaking membership and outreach numbers.”

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Business

BeanZ: A truly inclusive business in the Farmington Valley

By Scott Masson
Special to the Press

A Place Where Everyone Belongs: This is the motto of BeanZ & Co., an inclusive cafe that employs young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). This small business has captured the hearts and minds of many people throughout the Farmington Valley in its first seven successful months.

BeanZ was established in December 2018 by Kim Morrison and Noelle Alix in the New England Pasta Company on Route 44 in Avon. New England Pasta, in turn, was founded in 1994 by Kim and Scott Morrison. Kim and Noelle were inspired to open BeanZ because of their daughters, Megan Morrison and Cate Alix, who both have Down Syndrome.

The cafe has 18 employees evenly divided between staff members without disabilities and those with disabilities. The cafe is an inclusive place where customers

can eat breakfast and lunch. The countertop at BeanZ is lowered for those with disabilities. The cash register has a simple system for everyone to use, including those who may need help making change. Kim and Noelle talked about their slogan, with another friend one night, and they came up with, "Everyone Belongs."

BeanZ is a welcoming cafe. As soon as customers walk in they are greeted with happy employees. TV news stations such as Fox61, NBC 30 and WTNH have been coming to check out BeanZ. The owner, Kim, is hopeful BeanZ will be even more successful as a result of the media attention. BeanZ has already changed the public's opinion on people with IDD.

The staff at BeanZ have become a family, helping each other out if they need help. The employees at the cafe with IDD include Lauren Traceski, Jessica Sahlman and Nick Sinacori, all members of Favarh - The Arc of the Farmington Valley. Lauren's primary

job at BeanZ is to serve customers their food and cleans tables and sometimes to operate the register. Jessica buses the tables and Nick runs the register. The BeanZ crew from Favarh has a job coach named Yojaria Evans.

"It's a great experience working at BeanZ," said Lauren "And it feels good to get a paycheck"

"It's awesome to work at BeanZ," added Nick.

He noted that when he goes to bed at night he can't wait to get up and get back to work with a smile on his face.

The author, Scott Masson, is a member of Favarh - The Arc of the Farmington Valley, a Canton-based nonprofit agency that supports people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Pictured at top right, from left, is Nick Sinacori, a BeanZ employee with Scott Masson
Right: Masson speaks with Kim Morrison, co-owner of BeanZ.





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Arts & Entertainment

Hike to the Mic V performance schedule announced

The Friends of Heublein Tower have announced the performance schedule for Hike to the Mic V, a “Music and Arts Happening” event on Saturday, Aug. 17 and Sunday, Aug. 18.

Hikers to the Heublein Tower will be rewarded with great musical entertainment, food vendors and family fun. Sunday morning Jazz will be a great way to celebrate the summer and enjoy the “royal view” from one of Connecticut’s premier hiking destinations. Featured

artist Corey Pane will be doing live painting both days.

Working in tandem with corporate sponsors and the State DEEP, the Friends of the Heublein Tower’s Hike to the Mic is a unique concert event that will highlight local and regional talent to be featured at the iconic Tower.

Aug. 17

- 11 a.m. Downright Family Band
- 12 p.m. The Zolla Boys
- 1 p.m. Accounting Crows

• 2 p.m. Keepers of the Vibe

• 3 p.m. Penniless Wild

- 4:15 p.m. Will Evans
- 5:30 p.m. Atlas Gray.

Aug. 18 schedule is:

- 10 a.m. Giovanni Gardner Trio;
- 11 a.m. MJK Orbit
- 12 p.m. Ian D’Arcangelo
- 1 p.m. KC Sisters
- 2 p.m. Blue Eyed Blackbird
- 3 p.m. Among the Acres
- 4:15 p.m. Erica Bryan



Keepers of the Vibe,

& the New Mosaic
5:30 p.m. Jaimoe’s Jasssz Band.
Local food vendors Ben & Jerry’s Ice Cream, Harry’s Bishop Corner

Pizza, Elephant Trail Thai, and KC Dubliner grilling in the Eisenhower Pavilion will be there serving food and ice cream. There will be a raffle filled with great

items with all proceeds going to enhance and restore the majestic Tower for this and future generations. For more info: www.hiketothemic.com.

Farmington Valley Acoustic Festival is Oct. 19

The 4th Annual Farmington Valley Acoustic Festival will be held on Saturday, Oct. 19 at Winding Trails in Farmington. This one-day music festival runs from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

There will be music on three stages as well as a song contest and two workshops at Winding Trails, 50 Winding Trails Drive, Farmington.

The festival will feature local and nationally touring acts from acoustic-based genres such as Americana, Delta blues, reggae, a cappella, singer-songwriter, and all varieties of folk: traditional, rock, pop, and modern.

The 2019 lineup includes chart-topping performers, official state troubadours, and award-winning songwriters. Performers include Gracie Day, The Wolff Sisters, Kristen Graves, Auburn Mode, Hannah’s Field, Crowes Pasture, Shawn Taylor, Ramblin’ Dan Stevens, Lara Herscovitch and The Highway Philosophers,



Courtesy Photo

The Wolff Sisters

Lori Diamond and Fred Abatelli, Peter Nelson, Bill Benson, Sweetest Key, Peter Lehndorff, Eric Paradine, Mark Moriarty, Bombay Oysters, Bonnie Lee Panda, and more.

The performances will take place on three stages: in the open-air amphitheater under the forest canopy, in the rustic log cabin, “Nature’s Porch”, and lakeside at Walton Pond. The outdoor stages

move to indoor lodges in the event of rain.

Advance discount tickets are \$10 adults, \$5 children ages 3-15. Tickets purchased at the gate will be \$15 adults and \$8 children. Advance discount tickets are available at www.windingtrails.org or by calling Winding Trails at (860) 677-8458.

Festival proceeds benefit the Trails Fund of Winding Trails.

‘A New England Retrospective’



The Keeper’s House (Monhegan Island)

Local artist Bob Burns will be exhibiting a number of oil paintings depicting the treasure that the New England Landscape represents. The showing will be in the Program Room at the Simsbury Library throughout the month of September. The exhibit is open to the public.



Autumn Way

Arts & Entertainment

Fall into special events At The Simsbury Free Library

The Simsbury Free Library offers all state residents the rare chance to learn about little-known Connecticut history with special events and recurring programs throughout the entire year!

One such signature event will occur Sept. 19 at 6:30 p.m. when New-Gate Prison Site Manager Morgan Bengel will share the trial and error experiment of our state's first prison that included many exhilarating escapes. Before New-Gate prison opened in 1773 in Granby, penalties for breaking the law included whipping, cropping of ears, or branding with a hot iron. The colonists decided an alternative way to punish law breakers was to turn the Simsbury Copper mine's laby-

rinth of dark, dreary caves and shafts into a prison to isolate criminals and reform them. Bengel will explore the national historic landmark's history spanning more than three centuries that helped shape the ever-evolving prison system.

In addition, one of Simsbury Free Library's most popular, frequent programs is its Drop In Genealogy workshops in which genealogist Alison Watson Maston uses her 40+ years of experience to help the public research family history using records. The monthly Drop In Book Club will return to the event calendar for a whole new season of books.

A full roster of September events offered by the Simsbury Free Library include:

• Tuesday, Sept. 10: Drop In Book Club: Before the War (11:15 a.m.)

New members in search of great book discussions and even better company are always welcome at the Simsbury Free Library's Drop In Book Club any time they are interested in the monthly selection. This month's selection is the acclaimed novel, Before the War by Fay Wheldon. For more information, call 860-408-1336 or email programs@simsburyfreelibrary.org.

• Saturday, Sept. 14 and Sept. 28: Drop In Genealogy (10 a.m. to 2 p.m.)

Researching your family tree and don't know where else to look to find missing ancestors? Bring any information you have and let genealogist Alison

Watson Maston help. Alison has over 40 years of experience. She specializes in researching vital records, land records, immigration and naturalization records as well as probate records. She has particular expertise in New England, New York City and Ireland. Free for members; \$5 for non-members. To make a reservation or for more information, call 860-408-1336 or email programs@simsburyfreelibrary.org.

• Thursday, Sept. 19: The Saga of New-Gate Prison (6:30 p.m.)

As the first state prison, New-Gate was a trial and error experiment, one that included many prison escapes. Join Site Manager Morgan Bengel to explore how these exhilarating escapes shaped New-Gate's his-

tory and contributed to the ever-evolving prison system. Free to members and students. \$5 for non-members. To reserve a seat, call 860-408-1336, or email programs@simsburyfreelibrary.org.

The Simsbury Free Library – the Gracious Yellow Lady – is including the Simsbury Genealogical and Historical Research Library, is located at 749 Hopmeadow St. It is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and the second and fourth Saturdays of the month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. as well as by appointment. To RSVP or for more information, visit www.simsburyfreelibrary.org or call 860-408-1336.

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Town Calendar

Avon

Avon Fall Food Truck & Carnival, Sept. 13, 14, and 15, at 99 Thompson Road. Food, rides, music, games, handmade crafts for sale, and a fireworks display at 9 p.m. on Saturday. Go to www.avonct.gov for more information

Garden Club of Avon Invites You to Laugh and Learn Mon., Sept. 9 with Marty Devenney, whimsical floral designs inspired by Amy Stewart's book "The Drunken Botanist" held at the Church of St. Ann, Fr. Bennett Hall, 289 Arch Rd., Avon. \$10 includes buffet lunch. Reservations required. For more info: MRGNJ3@aol.com or 860-673-3887. Cash and checks only accepted at the door.

Canton

Canton Historical Museum, 11 Front St., Collinsville, open Sat. and Sun., 1-4 p.m., during the summer. If one is looking for something to do, volunteers have lots of stories and information to share about the museum and the community

Farmington

Farmington Senior Center events, 321 New Britain Ave., Unionville, 860-675-2490:

- Tanger Outlet & Foxwoods Trip, Thurs., Aug. 22, leaves 7:30 a.m., departs 4 p.m., \$34
- Ask the Physical Therapist: Wed., Aug. 28, 10 a.m., with Dr. Joe from Advanced Physical Therapy

Farmington Branch of SCORE offering free, individualized business mentoring session Wed., Aug. 21, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at the Farmington Library, 6 Monteith Drive, one-hour sessions by appointment,

860-673-6791, ext. 204, or online at www.greaterhartford.score.org

Farmington Continuing Education class offerings, register online at www.fpsct.org/fce or call 860-404-0290:

Courses for students: Organization, Time Management & Study Skills Workshop (students entering grades 9-12), Aug. 19; Make It Go with Robots at The Coder School (ages 10+), Aug. 19; How to Help Your Student Improve Success in School, Aug. 21; Registration for ESL, GED, ABE, Citizenship, Sept. 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 12; Writing an Effective College Application Essay, Sept. 11; Driver Ed by AAA, Sept. 17; SAT Preparation, Verbal Review, Sept. 18

• Continuing Ed trips: Bronx, Aug. 17 – American Museum of Natural History 860-404-0290; Oct. 19 - 9 11 Museum; Nov. 2 - Madame Butterfly, Met Opera, NYC; Nov. 11 - Lower East Side Tenement Museum, NYC; Dec. 3 - Radio City Holiday Show and Dec. 7 - NYC Day on own. or www.fpsct.org to register, for more info 860-414-1024.

The First Congregational Church Tag Sale will be held at 75 Main St., Farmington, on Sat., Sept. 7, from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m., rain or shine. The sale will be held on the church green, but will move to the adjacent Porter Memorial Hall in the event of rain. Parking for the event is available in the lot behind the Barney Library and on Church and School Streets. Free and open to all. Anyone may donate items for sale for this event. Items will be gratefully accepted on Fri., Sept. 6, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. at Porter Memorial Hall, 75 Main Street. For questions,

contact Karen Wasley at kwwasley39@aol.com.

Central Valley Square Dance Club, Free Fun Dance Nights. Mon., Sept. 23, 7-8:30 p.m. and Mon., Sept. 30, 7-8:30 p.m. Farmington Community Center, 321 New Britain Ave., Unionville for a fun time learning how to square dance. No dancing talent required. Singles or couples, and all two left feet are welcomed. For more info 860-674-0489

Granby

Lost Acres Vineyard, 80 Lost Acres Drive, North Granby, 860-324-9481:

- Kristal Fiorentino, Sat., Aug. 17, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., unleash one's inner warrior yoga and meditation
- Grapestock Music Festival, Sat., Aug. 17, 1-8 p.m.
- Yoga Sundays with Rachel Aug. 18 and 25 at noon, \$15 per class
- Art Show by Heather Sawtelle & Tom Cameron through Sept. 8, reception 5:30-8 p.m.
- Yoga in the Vines, Fri., Sept. 13, 5:30-6:30 p.m., \$18

Maple View Farm, Salmon Brook Street, new summer brewery hours:

Fridays, 4-8 p.m.; Saturdays, 1-8 p.m.; and Sundays, 1-6 p.m.; Bands at the Brewery Saturdays, 4-6 p.m., no cover.

Simsbury

Second Chance Shop, 12 Station St., Tax Free (on clothes and shoes) week from Aug. 19-24, Closed Sat., Aug. 31.

Storyteller's Cottage events at 750 Hopmeadow St., to register call 860-877-6099 or visit www.storytellerscottage.com

Literary events:

- The Great Gatsby

Sparkling Summer Night Gala, Sat., Aug. 17, 8-10 p.m., \$50 for event, \$60 for event and drinks, pre-registration required

• The Grand Tour Revisited: A Sunday Book Brunch, Aug. 18, 12-1:30 p.m., \$5 for those who bring a treat, \$10 for others, pre-registration required

• Back to School at Hogwarts, Sun., Sept. 15, 1-4p.m., \$50, and tickets can be reserved here: <https://www.storytellerscottage.com/book-online/back-to-school-at-hogwarts-1>. Everyone who registers will receive a Hogwarts admission letter

• Dinner with Marilyn Simon Rothstein, Thurs., Sept. 19, 5:30-7 p.m., in the elegant Jane Austen Salon. The cost is \$50 and includes a 3-course dinner and a signed copy of her book. Tickets can be reserved here: <https://www.storytellerscottage.com/book-online/dinner-with-an-author-sept-19th>. Guests can enjoy unprecedented access to this talented author over a delicious dinner before she speaks to the public at our Author Talk event at 7 p.m. She'll discuss her hilarious novel, "Husbands and Other Sharp Objects."

At the Simsbury Senior Center, 754 Hopmeadow St., 860-658-3273:

- Bingo Monday, Aug. 26
- Aug 16, 9:30 a.m. Duplicate Bridge, 10 a.m. Setback, 10 a.m. Charity Stitchers, 10:15 a.m. Tai Chi (Intermediate), 11:05 a.m. Tai Chi (Beginner), 12 p.m. Cardio Blast
- Aug 19, 10 a.m. Hearing Clinic, 10:30 a.m. Chess Club, 12 p.m. Cardio Blast, 12:00 p.m. Painting Club, 12 p.m. Contract Bridge, 1 p.m. Balanced Bodies
- Aug 20, 9 a.m. Stretch & Tone, 10 a.m. Ceramics, 10:15 a.m. Tai Chi

(Intermediate), 11:05 a.m. Tai Chi (Beginner), 11:30 a.m. Lunch Café, 12 p.m. Cribbage, 12 p.m. Beginning Line Dancing, 1 p.m. Canasta & Scrabble

• Aug 21, 10 a.m. Cell Phone / Tablet Tutoring, 11:30 a.m. Blood Pressure/ Sugar Screening, 12 p.m. Lunch @ Eno, 12 p.m. Cardio Blast, 1 p.m. Balanced Bodies

• Aug 22, 9 a.m. Healthy Moves, 10 a.m. Advanced Line Dancing, 10 a.m. Wii Bowling, 10 a.m. English Conversation, 1:00 p.m. Canasta

• Aug 23, 9:30 a.m. Duplicate Bridge, 10:00 a.m. Setback, 10:15 a.m. Tai Chi (Intermediate), 11:05 a.m. Tai Chi (Beginner), 12 p.m. Cardio Blast

• Aug 26, 10:30 a.m. Chess Club, 12:00 p.m. Painting Club, 12 p.m. Cardio Blast, 12 p.m. Contract Bridge, 1 p.m. Balanced Bodies, 4:30 p.m. Pizza and Bingo

• Aug 27, 8:30 a.m. Foot Care, 11:30 a.m. Lunch Café, 12 p.m. Beginning Line Dancing, 12 p.m. Cribbage, 1 p.m. Canasta & Scrabble

• Aug 28, 10 a.m. Cell Phone / Tablet Tutoring, 11:30 a.m. Blood Pressure/ Sugar Screening, 12 p.m. Lunch @ Eno, 2 p.m. Book Club

• Aug 29, 10 a.m. Advanced Line Dancing, 10 a.m. Wii Bowling, 10: a.m. English Conversation, 1 p.m. Canasta

• Aug 30, 9:30 a.m. Duplicate Bridge, 10 a.m. Setback

Simsbury Chamber of Commerce, 860-651-7307:

• Spooktacular Chili Challenge sponsorship opportunities, call 860-651-7307 to set up appointment, Event takes place on this year on Sun., Oct. 20. The event has grown in atten-

dance each of the past five years

• After Hours hosted by the Simsbury Inn. Thurs., Aug. 22, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

• Fri., Aug. 23, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Member Orientation Luncheon at Manny's Simsbury Pizza.

• "Good Morning Simsbury" hosted by Farmers Insurance – The Isaac Adams Agency. Aug. 28, 8-9 a.m.

• Thurs., Sept. 12, 5:30-7:30 p.m. After Hours hosted by TD Bank.

• Wed., Sept. 25, 8-9 a.m. "Good Morning, Simsbury" hosted by McLean. Save the date. More details to follow soon.

• Tues., Oct. 1, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Joint After Hours with Granby Chamber of Commerce hosted by Hop Meadow Country Club. Save the date. More details to follow soon.

33rd Annual Simsbury Fly-In, Car Show and Food Truck Festival, Sept 22, Simsbury Airport. The largest event of its kind in the Northeastern U.S., with 18,000 spectators. This year we will include 25 great trucks with a huge variety of wonderful things to eat. It's like a special kind of country fair, built around displays of 750 beautiful airplanes and cars, with 150 business exhibitors, advertisers and sponsors, and many fun activities for the entire family. Special attraction: 25 great food trucks, offering a wide choice of great things to eat. Free seminars; live music; aerial demonstrations; judging and trophies for cars and airplanes; helicopter and AT-6 World War 2 training plane rides; gyrocopter, Powered Parachute and formation flight demos;

See **CALENDAR** on page 29

Check It Out

Music at Lisa's Crown & Hammer, 3 Depot St., Collinsville, 860-693-9199, 9 p.m.-midnight (unless otherwise noted), www.crownandhammer.com: Friday, Aug. 16, Steven English; Fri., Aug. 23, Passenger; Fri. Sept. 6, The Carrie Johnson Band; Sat. Sept. 7, Feed the Need

Acoustic Nights at Winding Trails in Boathouse Pavilion, 50 Winding Trails Drive, Farmington, Fri., Sept. 6 in Boathouse Pavilion, Blackberry Jam, Robert Fullerton, and Jef Blaney, 6:45-9 p.m., free to members, \$7 nonmembers, \$4 ages 4-12, 860-677-8458

Bridge St. Live calendar, 41 Bridge St., Collinsville, 860-693-9762: Fri., Aug. 16, 8 p.m., JW-Jones; Sat., Aug. 17, 8 p.m., Charlie Thomas' Drifters

The Brewery@ Maple View Farm
Aug. 17 at 4 p.m. Cobalt Express; Aug. 22, 7-9 p.m. Comedy Night with Marty Caproni and Rafi Gonzalez; Aug. 24 at 4 p.m. Jonny Taylor and Aug. 31, 4 p.m. GreenHouse. For more info 860-655-2036 or www.mapleviewhorsefarm.com. The farm is located at 192/198R Salmon Brook St. Granby.

The Matchstick Architects, New Hartford Pavilion, Sun., Aug. 25, 3-5 p.m., Bridge Street, New Hartford, (Parking at Town Hall/Police Station, Additional parking across from Beekley Library.) The band is a four-piece Indie Rock/Americana band forged in the heart of the northeast. Their original

music is infused with rock, country, folk, and Americana stylings, fronted by the soulful voice of Dar Maloney and is rounded out by Tom Conklin on lead guitar, DiDi Davis on Bass, and Dennis Cotton, the bands newest member, on drums. This is all to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the upper Farmington River becoming a Wild and Scenic River. Details at farmingtonriver.org or matchstickarchitects.com.

A Celebration of Talent!
Farmington Community & Senior Center, 321 New Britain Ave., Farmington
For a Live Performance on Aug. 25 2-4 p.m. that will include 20 selected acts. Admission will be by donation only. This is an Eagle Scout Project fundraiser put on by Ben Cooley, Troop 170, Unionville, an incoming senior, involved in the music programs at Farmington High School. This fundraiser for the Farmington Housing Authority, will help build a garden gazebo in Maple Village, Unionville. For more information: 318jester@gmail.com

Simsbury Meadows Performing Arts Center, The Beach Boys, Sat. Aug. 17, 7:30 - 10 p.m., followed by one of the year's biggest firework shows. Benefit for the Boys & Girls Club of Hartford. No outside food or beverage allowed. Alcohol will be available for purchase to patrons 21 years of age or older. Event is rain or shine. For more information visit: www.trantololaw.com/concerts/beach-boys. To purchase tickets: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-beach-boys-good-vibrations-great-cause-tick->

ets-61649144250. Tickets also available at: Fitzgerald's Foods, Simsbury.

Kristan & Marilyn: An evening of contemporary writers. Tues., Aug. 20, 7 p.m., Marilyn Simon Rothstein interviews Kristan Higgins at the Avon Free Public Library, 281 Country Club Rd., Avon. Join us to celebrate the release of Kristan Higgins new book, "Life and Other Inconveniences." Books will be for sale at this event. For more info 860-673-9712, ext. 235

The Storyteller's Cottage to host dinner with Marilyn Simon Rothstein, Thurs., Sept. 19, from 5:30-7 p.m., in our elegant Jane Austen Salon. The cost is just \$50 and includes a 3-course dinner and a signed copy of her book. Tickets can be reserved here: <https://www.storytellerscottage.com/book-online/dinner-with-an-author-sept-19th>. Guests can enjoy unprecedented access to this talented author over a delicious dinner before she speaks to the public at our Author Talk event at 7 p.m. She'll discuss her hilarious novel, "Husbands and Other Sharp Objects."

Lost Acres Vineyard, www.lostacresvineyard.com
• Yoga Sundays with Rachel, Aug. 18 and 25, 12 p.m., \$15 per class
• Art Show by Heather Sawtelle & Tom Cameron, Aug. 16 - Sept. 8, Artist Reception Aug. 16, 5:30 to 8 p.m.
• Sunday Music by Legacy Jazz, Sept 15, Oct 20, Nov 10; 1 to 4p.m. For more info: www.lostacresvineyard.com

Valley & Beyond The Noah Webster Real Ale Harvest Fest returns for its fifth year on Sat., Sept. 7. All proceeds from this one-of-a-kind brew fest will benefit the educational mission of the Tickets are available for both sessions: 2-5 p.m. or 6-9 p.m. Each session includes unlimited samples served in a souvenir tasting glass. Attendees must be 21 or over with proper ID to attend. Please drink responsibly. Discounted tickets for designated drivers are \$20 and there will be a reserved Lyft, Uber, and designated driver drop off point in front of the museum. The event is held at the Noah Webster House & West Hartford Historical Society, 227 South Main Street, West Hartford. Purchasers will receive an e-mail confirmation with parking information. www.noahwebsterhouse.org or call 860-521-5362.

2019 Connecticut Virtuosi Summer Music Festival
Chamber Music, Individual Instructions, Master-Classes Orchestra, Art History, Fun & Educational Activities, Opera Young Artist Program and Public Performances
• Fri., Aug. 16, 7 p.m., Jurate Svedaite - recital Tunxis Room, Tunxis Community College 271 Scott Swamp Rd. Farmington
• Sun., Aug. 18, 6 p.m., Vocal recital - Mary McCue, soprano, Cyril & Methodius Church, 55 Charter Oak Ave. Hartford
• Mon. Aug. 19, 7 p.m., Luiz de Moura Castro - Piano Class Recital McAuley Community 2021 Albany Ave. West Hartford
• Thu. Aug. 22, 7 p.m., Moniuszko Choir perfor-

mance, Tunxis Room, Tunxis Community College 271 Scott Swamp Rd. Farmington
• Fri. Aug. 23, 7 p.m., Final VMI Orchestra Performance, Adrian Sylveen, director Tunxis Room, Tunxis Community College 271 Scott Swamp Rd. Farmington
• Sun. Aug. 25, 2 p.m., Vivaldi: Le Quattro Stagioni, Brunilda Myftaraj

Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art 600 Main St. Hartford

Admission to all concerts is by suggested donation \$15 - \$25.

For more info: www.institute.thevirtuosi.org, info@thevirtuosi.org, (860)944-0423

Guitar Under the Stars, returns to Hartford, Sat., Sept. 7th. Acclaimed Guitarist Daniel Salazar, Jr. Brings a spectacular evening of Spanish, Latin, Classic and International Music to Bushnell Park. Free and open to all, no tickets are required. Audience members are encouraged to bring their own lawn chairs or blankets. The schedule of events for the concert are as follows:

• 5 p.m.-7 p.m. Face painting for all ages by Paloma Face Painting
• 5 p.m. Argentine Tango social dancing presented by The Garage Dance Studio
• 6 p.m. Salsa and Latin dancing with DJ Willie Rios
• 7:30 p.m. The Daniel Salazar Ensemble with special guests Spanish Flamenco singer/guitarist Juan Pedro Jimenez, Flamenco dancer Yohanna

Escamilla, Brazilian singer Jose Paulo, and members of The Hartford Symphony Orchestra with conductor Emmett Drake.

The Mark Twain House - Graveyard Shift Ghost Tours, Aug. 24, 6-9 p.m. Filled with haunted history, dark tales and Victorian traditions surrounding séances and spiritualism, these nighttime tours are as educational as they are goose bump-inducing. Lots of creepy tales - and learn about Mark Twain's interest in the supernatural. Tours at 6, 7, 8 and 9 p.m.

Acclaimed Michael Feinberg Quintet embarks on East Coast tour. Fri., Aug. 23, 8:30-11 p.m. at the Side Door Jazz Club, 85 Lyme St., Old Lyme. Tickets \$35. For information call 860-434-0886 or visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/michael-feinberg-quintet-tickets-65055561937>.

Infinity Hall music calendars, box office 1-866-6306

20 Greenwoods Road, Norfolk: Aug. 16, Robert Earl Keen; Aug. 17, 8 p.m., Satisfaction - The World's #1 Rolling Stones Tribute Band; Aug. 18, John Mayall, Aug. 22, Donavon Frankenreiter; Aug. 24, The Weight Band; Sept. 13, 8 p.m., Ana Popovic
32 Front St., Hartford: Aug. 17, 8 p.m., Delbert Clinton; Sept. 10, 8 p.m.; Dweezil Zappa: Hot Rats & Other Hot Stuff"; Sept. 11, 8 p.m. Jonny Lang; Sept. 12, 8 p.m. Sister Hazel

CHECK IT OUT
continued on page 29

CALENDAR from page 27

radio control model aerobatics; banner tow pickup demonstration; new aircraft and car dealers; many local craftspersons; much more. Full details and contact info at www.simsburyflyin.com.

Simsbury Woman's Club meeting on Tues., Sept. 10, at the Apple Barn. Business meeting begins at 11:30 a.m. followed by lunch (bring your own). The program begins at 1 p.m. Author Janet Barrett reviews "They Called Her Reckless", a true story

about a war, love, and one extraordinary horse during the Korean war. The public is invited to attend the program. No charge.

Simsbury Veterans Memorial Announces Paver Drive. Paver applications are being accepted through Sept. 6, for the new walkway that goes from the Memorial to the library parking lot. The target date for installation is Veteran's Day. Pavers must be for a Veteran honored and does not need to be from Simsbury or CT. Application forms can

be downloaded at www.vfw1926. For more info contact John Fox at jrfox@comcast.net or 860-658-0388.

Valley & Beyond Clear the Shelters adoption event, Aug. 17, 12-3 p.m., 1188 New Litchfield St., Torrington. Help get more cats and kittens adopted. We are an all-volunteer, cats-only, non-profit animal shelter. Visit <https://www.kittyquarters.org/> 860.482.2888.

How to Coexist with Bears in our Midst: The

Facts, the Myths, the Reality, Thurs., Sept. 26, 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Join Ginny Apple, a Master Wildlife Conservationist with the State Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) as she talks about black bears, focusing on the natural history of black bears in Connecticut, an overview of black bear habitat, diet, behavior, reproduction and current research efforts. She also provides practical recommendations for optimum coexistence with our black bear population and her personal observations on CT

Black Bears. Cost: \$3/M; \$5/NM. Program includes cheese, fruit and vegetable platter with beverage. Please register by 9/25. Location: Elmwood Senior Center, 1106 New Britain Avenue, West Hartford.

Trout Unlimited riverside picnic Sat., Sept. 7, 10:30 a.m., pavilion at Matthies Grove in People's State Forest, Barkhamsted. Sponsored by Farmington Valley Trout Unlimited. It will feature demonstrations, special guests, updates on conservation efforts and available

education programs, stream sampling and more. Admission and lunch are free and the public is invited. Check www.fvtu.org for details and if weather is uncertain. RSVP to 860-539-7200.

Valley Seniors' Bowling League invites all bowlers, age 55 and older, to join its league. Looking for new team members and substitutes to bowl at Blue Fox in Simsbury, Tuesdays at 1 p.m., beginning Sept. 10, for 32 weeks. All levels of ability are welcome. Contact Suzanne at 860-658-5748.

CHECK IT OUT from page 28

At the Warner Theatre, 68 Main St., Torrington, tickets at 860-489-7180 or warnertheatre.org:

- Disney's "Little Mermaid Jr." Friday and Saturday, Aug. 16 and 17, 6 p.m., in the Nancy Marine Studio Theatre

- Eli Young Band, Aug. 30 at 8 p.m., Main Theatre, Opening act: Jason Ingriselli and The Miles North

- Mad Max with Live Score, by Morricone Youth presented by Boondocks Film Society on Sept. 20, a one-of-a-kind film event. New York City cult favorites Morricone Youth will be performing their own live and original re-score of George Miller's 1979 masterpiece Mad Max, setting aside the film's original soundtrack to create a completely new sonic. Doors open at 7 p.m., film begins at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$20.

- Comedian Kevin James,

Sept. 19, 7:30 p.m.

- Jim Breuer: Live and Let Laugh, Oct. 12, at 8 p.m.

At the Wadsworth Atheneum, 600 Main St., Hartford, 860-278-2670, tickets at the wadsworth.org:

- Gallery Talk, Fri., Aug. 16, 12-1 p.m., Spirit of the Bauhaus

- Member Evening, Behind the Scenes in Conservation, Fri., Aug. 16, 4-6 p.m., with Allen Kosanovich. Call 860-838-4070 to reserve a place

- Austin House Visit, Sat., Aug. 17 and Thurs., Aug. 22, 3-4 p.m., reservations required

- Second Saturdays for Families, Giants and Miniatures, Sat., Aug. 10, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. — discover oversized and tiny treasures with a docent, then design one's own sculpture, big or small, to take home

- Tour 3 in 30: The Art of Dining, Aug. 18 and 24, 1:30-2 p.m. in conjunction with Theatreworks "Fully

Committed," free with museum admission or tickets to "Fully Committed"

- Alive! at the Atheneum, Aug. 18 and Sept. 15, 3-7 p.m., tickets start at \$20

- Art In Focus Tom Burr's Chicks, Aug. 21, 12-1 p.m., Free

- Gallery Talk Out on View, LGBTQ+ histories, Aug. 24, 12-1:45 p.m.

Hart Community Division Summer Musical Theater Calendar

- Hart Community Division Young Composers Project Summer Showcase, Fri., Aug. 16, 3:30-5 p.m., Alfred C. Fuller Music Center, F Bliss Music Room

- HCD Open Hartt: Open Mic and Coffee Hour, Fri., Aug. 16, 7:30-9 p.m., Simsmore Studio, Simsbury

- Simsmore Session Concert, Liz Seidel, Sat., Aug. 24, Simsmore Studio, Simsbury

- The Connecticut Historical Society Black Citizenship in the Age of Jim Crow;

through Sept. 14. For more info www.CHS.org

- Windsor Concerts on the Green, Broad Street, Thurs. 6:30-8:30 p.m.: Aug. 22, Rock Solid Alibi

Connecticut Theatre Company presents Memphis The Musical the four-time Tony award winning musical through Aug. 18. Performances at 7 p.m. on Fri. and Sat.

Season packages and individual show tickets are on sale via their website, www.connecticuttheatrecompany.org. The Repertory Theatre is located at 23 Norden St., in New Britain.

Are You READI?

The Connecticut Office of the Arts, in partnership with Now You Know Ent, will present the 2nd READI

Music Conference, Sat., Aug. 17, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at The Mort and Irma Handel Performing Arts Center, Hartford. Free. For more info and to RSVP: <https://readi2019.splashthat.com>

The Little Theater of Manchester, The Dixie Swim Club, Through Aug. 18, Fri. and Sat. at 8 p.m. tickets \$19-25 www.cheneyhall.org or 860-647-9824

Find your idea of a Good Time!



Look for your Arts & Entertainment, Town Calendar and Library Calendar right here or go online to find the latest in local events and entertainment!

Search for Concerts, Nightlife, Dance, Theater, Art & More Online Anytime at: www.turleyct.com/valley-press.html. To submit an event for the calendar email: sedwards@thevalleypress.net

The Valley PRESS

Capturing the Moments of Your Community

SPORTS

SUMMER BASKETBALL CAMP



Photos by David Heuschkel

Brian Hurlock, holding up basketball in left photo, will be recognized for his decades of coaching and teaching the sport when he is inducted into the Connecticut Women's Basketball Hall of Fame next April.

Hurlock heading to CT Women's Hoop Hall of Fame

By David Heuschkel
Sports Editor

Alex Keuler's dream is to play on the Farmington High School basketball team. He's going to be an

eighth grade student at Irving A. Robbins Middle School this fall, so he has time to work on his game.

Brian Hurlock was helping Alex achieve his dream with his summer

basketball camp at the high school last week.

"Each year I always try to get better at dribbling, shooting, passing," said Alex, who has attended Hurlock's camp the

past four years. "I always want to get better."

There are no words that any coach in any sport loves to hear more than a player saying he or she wants to continually improve. This

summer marked the 30th anniversary of Hurlock's hoop camp, which is run through the town's park and recreation department.

Hurlock, of Unionville, spent more than three

decades as a high school coach around the state. The majority of that time was spent in gymnasiums, coaching girls basketball teams.

See **HURLOCK CAMP** page 32

YOUTH FOOTBALL

Mudhogs football has momentum for upcoming season

By David Heuschkel
Sports Editor

Mike Forte likes to tell a story about the day his jaw dropped at a youth football game. It wasn't something he saw. Rather, it was something he heard.

Forte, who was coaching the Canton-based Valley Warriors at the time, was chatting with the coach of the Farmington Valley

MudHogs after a scrimmage when he asked from which towns did that program draw players.

"I fell on the ground when I heard it was the same five towns where I was coaching," said Forte, who had just 14 players on his Warriors team.

That realization that two youth football programs in the area were drawing players from Avon, Burlington, Canton, Farmington and



Courtesy photo

Farmington Valley MudHogs president Mike Forte is pleased with the increased number of players.

Harwinton didn't make sense to Forte. Mindful of decreasing numbers for some of the local high school programs, as well as interest waning at two competing youth programs, he believed it would be in the best interest for the MudHogs and Warriors to unite.

Forte himself switched sides when he was named president of the MudHogs last fall, setting the stage for the pro-

grams to merge over the winter.

Some eight months later, as youth football teams start to prepare for the upcoming season, Forte is pleased to report the program has "breath of new life" since the Mudhogs and the Canton-based Valley Warriors joined together.

"As a direct result of now having one youth

See **MUDHOGS** page 34



Photos by David Heuschkel

Brian Hurlock, a former longtime high school girls basketball coach, has been stressing fun and fundamentals at his basketball camp at Farmington High since he started it in 1989.

HURLOCK CAMP from page 31

For his dedication and service to the sport, Hurlock is being recognized. He will be among the 2020 inductees into the Connecticut Women's Basketball Hall of Fame at a banquet next April in Hamden.

Flash back to 1989. Following his first season as head coach of the girls hoop team at Terryville

High, Hurlock asked Bruce Till, the park and rec director in Farmington at the time, if he could start a summer basketball camp.

"He said 'no problem' and gave me his blessing," said Hurlock, who graduated from Farmington High in 1980. "At that time I was the only camp. I'd have 60-something kids. We'd use both gyms and be out in the parking lot."

Over the years, as more AAU programs and travel teams formed, attendance at Hurlock's camp gradually dipped. Ironically, he had been working with the upstart Connecticut Starters, an AAU program, when he launched his hoop camp 30 years ago in Farmington.

"My camp is really about details," said Hurlock, who had 35 kids registered for his camp the first week of August. "I want them to learn about the game as much as I have in my brain."

Hurlock's brain is loaded from decades of coaching various sports. His first job was as an assistant for Eileen Crompton's softball team at Lewis Mills in the spring of 1981. He also coached the girls volleyball team at Mills under Linda Hamm.

"Two great role models for me to coach girls. They taught me to coach girls," Hurlock said. "They just told me it's how you relate to them, if that makes sense."

Hurlock doesn't remember Hamm's exact words but her message was essentially this: You've got to understand girls and be patient.

Art Hamm, Linda's brother, was the athletic director at Terryville High when he hired Hurlock to coach the girls basketball team in 1988.

Hurlock spent two years at Terryville. His team won one game the first season and went 12-10 the following year. From there he went to Bloomfield High, coaching the girls basketball team while Nykesha Sales was a junior and senior.

Hurlock was a coach for all seasons. When he wasn't coaching girls hoop at Bloomfield in the

winter, he coached the softball team at Farmington in the spring and was an assistant girls volleyball coach under Bonnie Lynch in the fall.

Later, Hurlock was head coach of the girls basketball teams at Brookfield, East Windsor and Torrington's Oliver Wolcott Tech up until he stopped two years ago. When he took over at Wolcott Tech in 2009, the team was a member of the Berkshire League and had gone many years without winning a game.

It wasn't until Hurlock's third season at Wolcott Tech that his team won a game, following back-to-back 0-20 seasons and after the school moved out of the

Berkshire League and into a conference with other technical schools that weren't very good.

Hurlock said it didn't bother him to take over high school programs that were down at the time because he embraced the challenge to help players improve. He has a same philosophy with his basketball camp – the objective is for every kid to get better.

Hurlock, 57, knows adversity like few others. In the first week of August in 1979, before his senior year at Farmington High, a fire destroyed his family's home on Forest Street in Unionville. His mother Anneliese was hospitalized with burns and died two weeks later at age 47.

"Anyone who knew my father [Frank] or my mom, they know that's how I am. She liked to have fun. She was a worker like my father," said Hurlock, who has been working at George's in Unionville for 37 years, doing prep work in the morning at the popular restaurant.

Hurlock said he shared the story with his campers, how he lost his mother in the fire, with a message.

"Cherish your parents," a camper said.

"I couldn't have said it any better," Hurlock said.

Hoop camp in Canton

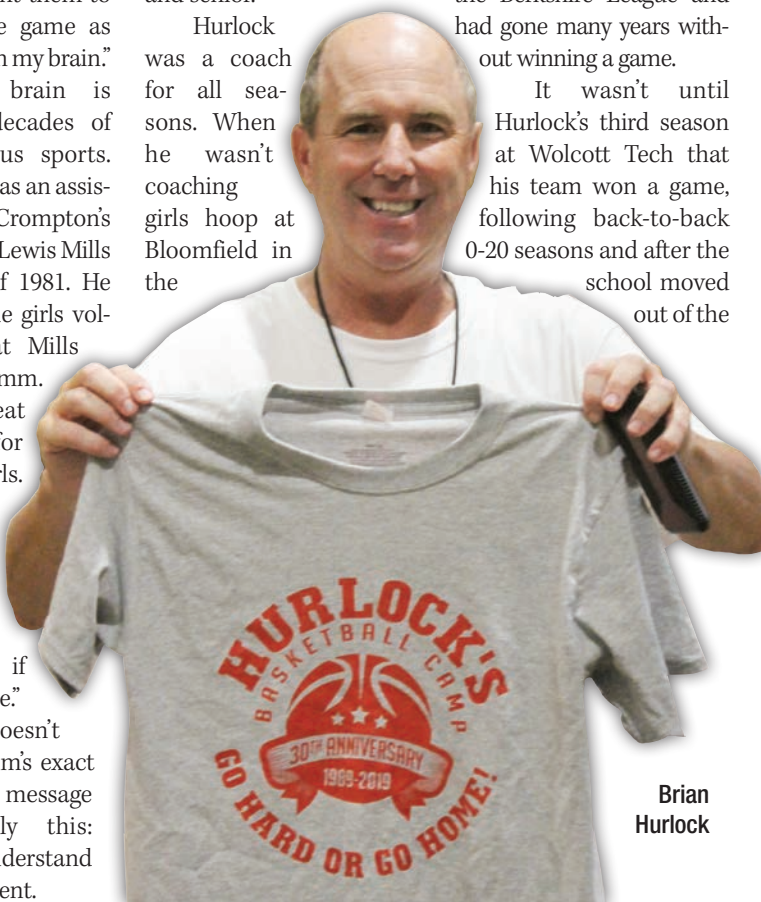


Photo by David Heuschkel

The Warrior Basketball preseason clinic hosted by Canton High School basketball coach Craig Archambault, is Sept. 12 to Oct. 17 at Canton Intermediate School. The cost for the five-week program for boys and girls in grades 4-8 is \$150.

The 90-minute clinics will take place on Thursdays, starting Sept. 12, and run from 6-7:30 p.m. The focus is on developing fundamental skills in ball handling, shooting, passing, defense, individual scoring moves and team offensive/defense strategies. The staff includes Canton High School basketball players and coaches.

To register, go to www.CantonRec.org.



Brian Hurlock

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

New field, weight room and a renewed interest in Avon football

By David Heuschkel
Sports Editor

When he agreed to take over as head coach of the Avon High football team last June, Jeff Redman did so as a favor to athletic director Tim Filon. There weren't any other applicants or candidates for the position because Sal Cintorino informed the school rather late that he would not be returning for a third season as head coach.

Redman was an ideal candidate to take over the program. He was a teacher at the high school and had been a football coach for more than three decades, including a previous stint at Avon in the 1990s. Still, he reluctantly agreed to return to the sidelines. It wasn't something he truly wanted to do. He did it for the returning players.

"The main factor of being in this program is the kids. They're just very positive," said Redman, who decided to return for a second season this fall. "It's a pleasure to be around them."

Nothing pleases a football coach more than seeing players work hard in the weight room. Avon

has a bigger one this year. Redman moved the cardio machines and weight lifting equipment into the same area. About 25 yards of turf was laid down for agility training.

Per CIAC rules, Avon and other football teams that did not have spring practice can congregate Aug. 19 for conditioning. The first team practice is Aug. 24.

The Falcons open the 10-game regular season Sept. 13, a Friday night, at Bloomfield, which won the Class S state championship last year. The following weekend, Avon will play its first home contest on the high school's new turf field Sept. 21, a Saturday, against Tolland.

"I think for all the kids at the high school there's a lot of excitement. Not just football; it's all the sports," Redman said. "It will be a nice complex and it will serve us well."

Redman is hoping the new field and revamped weight room will spark interest in football. The size of the roster has decreased in recent years, as has the win total. Avon has won a total of six games the last

three seasons, including a 2-8 record a year ago.

Redman has been encouraged with the number of incoming freshmen that have been in the weight room. He was looking for a coach for a developmental team, which would be comprised of mainly freshmen players. Due to budget cuts and low numbers, there were just varsity and JV teams the last three years.

A year ago, there were less than 20 players for the first week of practice. Through recruiting more players, that number nearly doubled when the season started.

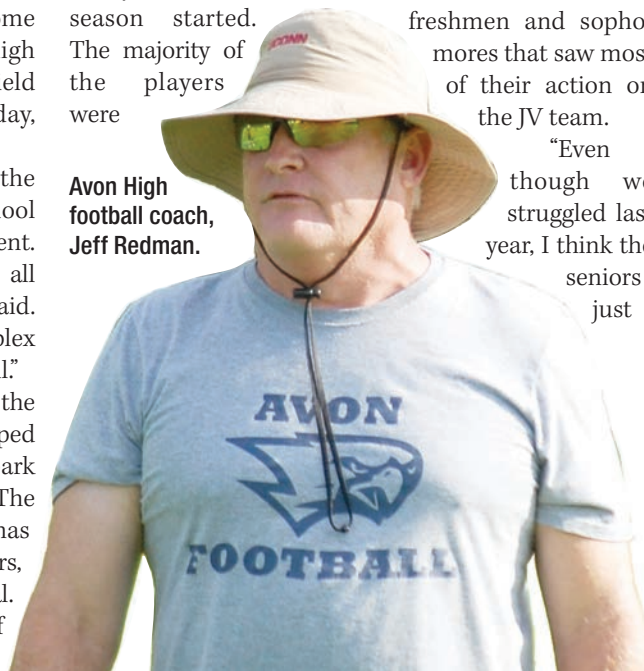
The majority of the players were



Photos by David Heuschkel

Avon football is spelled out on the new turf field, which is expected to be ready for the Sept. 21 home opener against Tolland.

Avon High football coach, Jeff Redman.



freshmen and sophomores that saw most of their action on the JV team.

"Even though we struggled last year, I think the seniors just

brought very good positive mature attitudes and laid the foundation for everybody else," Redman said. "We had a very successful JV team. They won a lot of games and they got a lot of playing time and they were excited about it."

Working in the school, Redman can sense that excitement. And knowing the returning players, he has a better sense of the program this year.

"We're miles ahead," he said. "The kids have been lifting all year and they're excited. I've got a lot more numbers. I don't

know what the first day is going to bring, but I've got kids that are very good athletes that are coming out and I have good size.

"We're going to be a lot better. We're going to be better skill-wise, better experience-wise, and we're going to be a little bit more competitive. It's not going to happen overnight, but I expect us to have a better year record-wise. I'm really happy with the kids. They're into it. They're excited. That's something that didn't happen last year. When I inherited a program, the interest just wasn't there."

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2019-20 Varsity Football Schedules

Avon

Date	Opponent	Time
Fri., 9/13	at Bloomfield	7 p.m.
Sat., 9/21	Tolland	1 p.m.
Sat., 9/28	Guilford	1 p.m.
Sat., 10/5	Lewis Mills	1 p.m.
Sat., 10/19	Bulkeley/Weaver	1 p.m.
Sat., 10/26	at NW Catholic	12:30 p.m.
Fri., 11/1	at Berlin	6:30 p.m.
Sat., 11/9	Plainville	1 p.m.
Fri., 11/15	at Rocky Hill	7 p.m.
Tues., 11/26	at Simsbury	6:30 p.m.

Farmington

Date	Opponent	Time
Fri., 9/13	Maloney	6:30 p.m.
Fri., 9/20	at Pomperaug	6:30 p.m.
Fri., 9/27	at E O Smith	6 p.m.
Fri., 10/4	Wethersfield	6:30 p.m.
Fri., 10/11	Windsor	6:30 p.m.
Sat., 10/26	Middletown	2 p.m.
Fri., 11/1	at Bristol Eastern	6:30 p.m.
Sat., 11/9	at Hartford Public	1 p.m.
Fri., 11/15	RHAM	6 p.m.
Thu., 11/28	at Plainville	10 a.m.

Granby/Canton

Date	Opponent	Time
Fri., 9/13	at Stafford	6:30 p.m.
Fri., 9/20	Ellington	6:30 p.m.
Fri., 9/27	Rockville	6:30 p.m.
Fri., 10/4	at SMSA	6 p.m.
Fri., 10/11	at Haddam/Killingw.	6:30 p.m.
Fri., 10/25	Windsor Locks	6:30 p.m.
Sat., 11/2	Away Coginchaug	1 p.m.
Fri., 11/8	at Coventry	6:30 p.m.
Fri., 11/15	Gilbert/Northwestern	6:30 p.m.
Fri., 11/22	OSW	6:30 p.m.

Simsbury

Date	Opponent	Time
Fri., 9/13	at Hall	7 p.m.
Fri., 9/20	Amity	7 p.m.
Fri., 9/27	at South Windsor	3:30 p.m.
Fri., 10/4	New Britain	7 p.m.
Fri., 10/11	Conard	7 p.m.
Fri., 10/25	at Manchester	7 p.m.
Fri., 11/1	at Southington	7 p.m.
Fri., 11/8	Enfield	7 p.m.
Fri., 11/15	at Glastonbury	7 p.m.
Tue., 11/26	Avon	6:30 p.m.

MUDHOGS from page 31

program as opposed to two, if a kid in Canton, Avon, Farmington, Burlington or Harwinton chooses to play football, he has one choice," Forte said.

As expected, there has been an increase in the number of players on the three tackle teams.

Forte said the A squad (grades 7-8) has 35 players, B (grades 5-6) has 24 players, and C (grades 4-U) has 32.

A year ago, prior to the merger, the A team had 22 players, B had 20, and C had 16. The Valley Warriors had even fewer players - 16 (A), 18 (D, grades 1-3), no B or C teams - in its program last year.

Forte also attributes the uptick in numbers to safety. To avoid head injuries, youth coaches continue to stress the hawk-style of tackling in which players use their shoulders, torso and legs to take down a ball carrier. "The concussion thing is real, there's no doubt about it," Forte said. "Your head should never be used as a weapon or included in the tackle."

That was not the case when Forte was a linebacker on the University of New Haven football team in the 1990s. He said one drill involved six linebackers - two lines of three - and as soon as the whistle blew, the players would ram heads.

Forte played for Mark Whipple and Tony Sparano at New Haven. As a senior in 1994 he set

the single-game team record with 27 tackles, a mark that still stands today. He estimated using his head for half of them.

Forte said all the MudHogs' coaches have coached at either the high school or collegiate level.

"We have all bought into the 2019 and beyond way to teach and coach youth football, which is really centered around safety. Not just safety with the concussion issues but also the heat issues," he said. "The days of running around with a trash bag to lose weight, all of those Neanderthal techniques will never be seen again. Our program has momentum to feed the high schools in the Valley."

That's good news for high school football programs at Avon, Canton, Farmington and Lewis Mills. The numbers at Avon and Farmington have decreased in recent years and Canton formed a co-op with Granby Memorial this fall.

But the MudHogs want to do more besides being a feeder program for area high schools. Forte said not having practice on Fridays allows MudHogs players to attend high school games

at night.

The MudHogs participated in a youth camp in June at Farmington High. Head coach Chris Machol said Farmington is hosting a community day Aug. 30 for MudHogs players and parents.

"We want to be part of the football community," Forte said. "It's a two-way street. It's not just the high schools doing stuff for us. We need to support the high schools by going to their games and attending fundraisers."

The MudHogs begin conditioning Aug. 12 and start practice the following week. They open the Nutmeg Youth Football League (NYFL) season Sept. 1 against Simsbury at Farmington High. The first of three games that day start at 11 a.m. Other teams in the NYFL are West Hartford, Granby/Suffield and Southington.

Farmington Valley MudHogs schedule

- Sept. 1 vs. Simsbury
- Sept. 8 at Southington
- Sept. 15 vs. Granby/Suffield
- Sept. 22 at W. Hartford
- Sept. 29 **BYE**
- Oct. 6 at Simsbury
- Oct. 13 at Granby/Suffield
- Oct. 20 vs. West Hartford
- Oct. 27 vs. Southington
- Nov. 3 **BYE**

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The Ethel Walker School awarded educational leadership grant

The Ethel Walker School, an all-girls high school in Simsbury, has been awarded an Educational Leadership grant of \$250,000 from The Edward E. Ford Foundation. The grant, which requires a one-to-one match from the school community, will support Walker's new Capabilities Approach program. Only six schools nationally were selected for this honor.

"At Walker's, we are reimagining girls' education in a way that seeks to disrupt gendered mindsets. This program will help us create an environment where girls will bolster each other to achieve functional mastery of a variety of capabilities," said Walker's Head of School Dr. Meera Viswanathan. "I was drawn to the thinking of Nobel Laureate Amartya Sen and his work on justice and the capabilities approach. He suggests that justice is measured by the ability of a person to engage in an array of actions or 'doings' that help one realize one's full potential according to one's own system of values. Walker's Capabilities Approach is inspired by Sen's research and will focus more specifically on the iterative process of success

and failure as necessary stages of girls' learning."

The Walker's Capabilities Approach addresses key questions related to specific issues of gendered mindsets. Importantly, it also focuses more broadly on social justice issues as they affect girls, and, in addition, members of historically-marginalized groups with respect to socio-economics, race, ethnicity, religion and other factors. These questions include – why is it that girls tend to be academic successes at the primary, secondary and college level yet, year by year, tend to be less vocal? And why, though their academic successes propel them into fine colleges and universities, do girls/women even so yield dominance increasingly? Clearly a myriad of factors are at work, both internal and external to the individual. The key question is – what can schools do to address this disparity? With respect to social justice, how can we ensure equity in the classroom and beyond?

Walker's new Capabilities Approach program focuses on the acquisition of a constellation of skills — interwoven and

foundational — allowing for challenge and failure, with the end goal being functional mastery of each skill. The capabilities approach recognizes social justice as a primary goal, as each student is encouraged to overcome any obstacles to achieve her full potential. The 10 capabilities are divided into four categories – fluencies, discoveries, agencies and a self-selected capability. The capabilities range from self-defense to financial fluency to sustenance and sustainability and more.

What is critical is not only what, but how. Recognizing that the most complex problems of our era require collaboration and team effort, we envision girls coming together, 'bolstering' one another over the hurdles within the program. Bolstering means both encouragement and uplift from peers who have already achieved proficiency in a particular area. The acquisition of fundamental mastery in these capabilities will help our students develop resiliency through the process, as they strive to achieve baseline proficiency in these areas, with some capabilities requiring greater 'stretching' of limits

than others. This means that the process, not just the result, will be a goal in itself, with the intention that this 'bolstering' model of learning will become the Walker's Way, a template for acquiring new skills that is collaborative and iterative.

The mission of The Edward E. Ford Foundation is to strengthen and support independent secondary schools and to challenge and inspire them to leverage their unique talents, expertise and resources to advance teaching and learning throughout this country by supporting and disseminating best practice, by supporting efforts to develop and implement models of sustainability, and by encouraging collaboration with other institutions. (www.eeford.org/)

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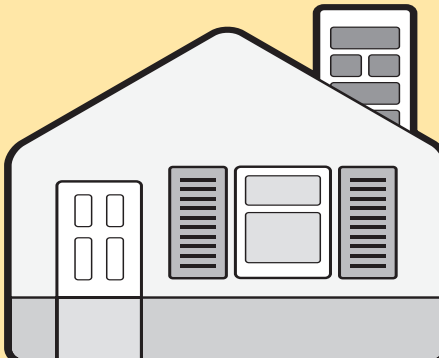
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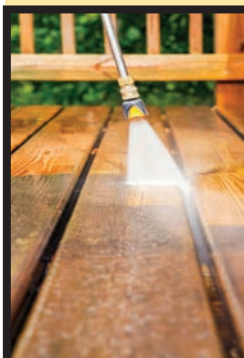
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