

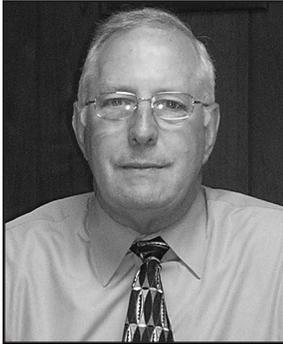
Preston Pipeline²

VOL 4 ISSUE 2

WINTER 2015

From The Desk Of The First Selectman

by First Selectman **Bob Congdon**



Bob Congdon

VOLUNTEERS. A unique feature of a small town like Preston is that much of the work of setting policy and running the Town is done by volunteers serving on Town Boards, Commissions, Agencies, and as EMTs and Firefighters. With the many demands on residents' time it has become more and more difficult to find volunteers able to give of their time and talents to serve the Town. The fire departments now employ some professional firefighters and EMTs during the workweek who, along with our dedicated volunteers, help to ensure that emergencies are handled in a timely manner.

State statutes do not allow us to hire professionals to serve on our Boards, Commissions and Agencies, positions must be filled by volunteers willing to serve.

At a recent town meeting, an ordinance was made less restrictive in order to allow an individual member of a Town Board, Commission or Agency to be eligible to serve on the Ethics Committee. This ordinance change increases the pool of potential members for Ethics Committee (which currently has three open positions). All current vacancies can be found on the Town Website at www.preston-ct.org. If you have an interest in any facet of town government including but not limited to finance, land-use, education, parks and recreation, ethics, and youth services, please consider serving.

ANNUAL BUDGET About half of the money needed to fund the General Government and Board of Education Budgets is provided by a return of state tax dollars in the form of grants and aide from the State of Connecticut. With the State facing a 1.5 billion dollar deficit in each of the next two years the possibility that revenue from the State will be reduced this year is very real. Any reductions in revenues from the State will equate to either an increase in local property taxes or the necessity to reduce service levels. It will be very important to solicit public input on priorities. Between now and the Annual Town Meeting in May there will be workshops and meetings to discuss how we should spend taxpayer dollars. You can follow this process by attending budget workshops, Board of Finance and Board of Selectmen's meetings (dates and times are posted in the Town Clerk's office and on the Town website).

Issues and ideas - If you have something you'd like to present to your elected officials, please attend a Selectmen's meeting held the second and fourth Thursday each month at 6:30 pm, contact me at (860) 887-5581, or e-mail me at congdon@preston-ct.org.

A Great Farmer and Friend: Clark Winslow Woodmansee

February 6, 1923 - October 9, 2014



**Clark Winslow
Woodmansee**

Clark Winslow Woodmansee, Jr. passed away on October 9, 2014 at the Colonial Health and Rehab Center of Plainfield. He was 91. He was born in Preston on February 6, 1923, the son of Ruth Browning Burdick and Clark Woodmansee, Sr. He was born and raised at the house located at 323 Route 165, just west of the Preston Veterans Memorial School with two older sisters, Lois (Beebe) and Helen (Bennett). He started school at the age of 6 at the

Preston City school located where the Preston City Firehouse is now. His first teacher was Mrs. Winger.

Winslow was a lifelong Preston resident and dairy farmer. He also was involved with and ran the Kahn's Livestock Sales barn in Franklin in the 1960's. He was very well respected in the farming community and instrumental in moving forward with modern dairy practices, ie he had one of the first milking parlors in the area.

He married Sophie Yurechko on February 22, 1947. They raised their four children, Rosanna, Clark, Jessica, and Dell on the farm. In 1976, he helped build the house on Krug Road with lumber from trees on the hill that he had planted as a child with his father. Winslow and Sophie purchased the Nowakowski property on the south side of Amos Lake and created the Amos Lake Beach Club and Camping Area. He was an outdoorsman and enjoyed hunting and had many friends.

He is survived by his wife, Sophie and his four children as well as 10 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren. His 6th, a great granddaughter was born in December of 2014.

Winslow not only lived to 91 but he lived the majority of his life fully, doing things "his way" and taking pleasure in the outdoors, in nature and farming. A private service and burial took place at the Preston City Cemetery. Donations were made to the Preston City Fire Department. The family appreciated the response and care given to Winslow on a number of occasions.

INSIDE:

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

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

Preston Pipeline²

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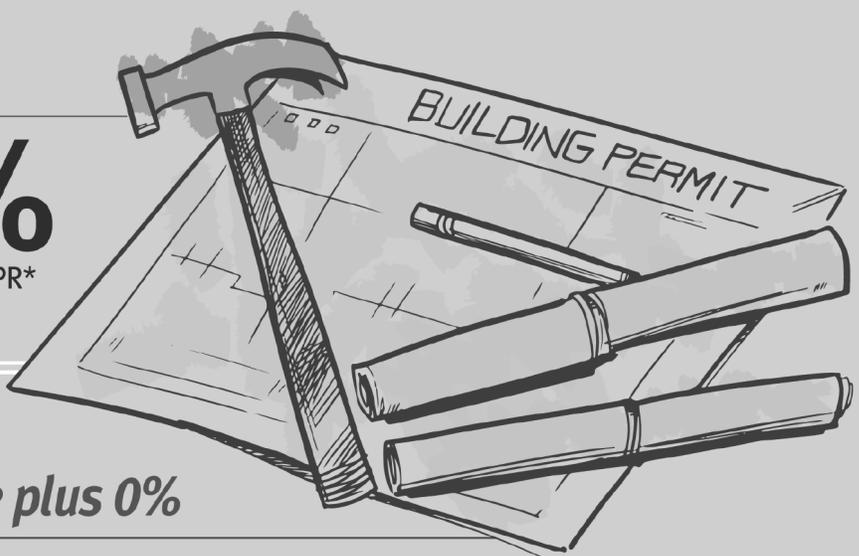
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*Rates as of September 2, 2014 and subject to change. Initial 1.99% Annual Percentage Rate (APR) is fixed for 12 months from account opening date and will not increase during that period. After 12 months the APR is variable based on the Prime Rate as published in The Wall Street Journal on the last business day of the month plus 0%. Maximum lifetime APR is 18%. New loans only. 1-2 family owner-occupied properties only. Adequate property insurance is required. Minimum loan amount \$10,000. Maximum loan amount \$350,000. Maximum total loan to value is 80%. Annual fee of \$45. A cancellation fee may apply for loans terminated within three years of origination date. Homes listed for resale are ineligible. Other restrictions may apply.

Want “Top Dollar” For Your Preston Home?

Experts Say: Start planning for it 60 to 90 days before you sell.

Preston, CT. – A recent interview with Jan Mallett of Raveis Real Estate revealed several helpful tips for anyone who is thinking of selling their Preston home.

“Most owners think their homes will sell quickly. Everyone thinks that their home is special and will bring top dollar fast. In fact a lot of all new listings that go on the market eventually expire with the home still unsold.”

If you’re going to sell your house in the next six months, there are some things you can do now that will help you get top dollar for your home when you do sell it.

There’s a free report available that shows you the things that buyers most look for in a home, and how to make your house irresistible to buyers. You’ll learn

- Why buyers love model homes and how to make your house show like one.
- A little-known designer’s secret that could net you \$500 to \$1,000 more when you sell your home.
- How to sell your house in as little as 24 hours – without ever putting it “on the market.”
- Three things you can do to get your house on a buyer’s “must see” list.

Jan has compiled a free report that she calls *How to Sell Your House for Top Dollar – Fast!* This report details several specific ways to prepare your house for sale and how to make your house irresistible to buyers. Jan Mallett says the information in this report is the secret to her success in selling homes so quickly, and the reason she can guarantee to sell any house in less than 90 days.

To get a copy of this free report, *How to Sell Your House for Top Dollar – Fast!* just call 1-888-456-8545 ext.999 for a free recorded message. There’s no cost or obligation and your report will be mailed today!

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Preston Public Library

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

SERVICES:

Best Sellers/ Fiction & Non-fiction Books for all ages • Audio books-cassette/MP3/CD/Playaways
Videos & DVD • Interlibrary loan • Magazines • Audiobooks from Iconn • Online Catalog • Reading groups
Passes to area attractions • Reference services • Internet Access • Preston Historical Society files

ON-LINE DATABASES:

ICONN your re-Search engine • Encyclopedia Britannica • JobNow
Learning Express - Learning Center free for Preston residents with library cards.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS:

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

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS:

Story Time!

Did you know, there is an incredibly fun Storytime and play-time available for children birth to 5 at our library? You do not need to live in Preston to come and play with us-everyone is welcome! You do not need to register in advance-just pop in at 10 am on a Tuesday or a Wednesday! We have such a good time together! We read books, and sing songs, do crafts and games, and then we have socialization! Please join us, we are always looking for new friends.

A Very Happy Unbirthday to You!

Saturday, February 21st at 10 am.

If it is not your birthday (and even if it is) come join us at
Preston Public Library for an

Alice in Wonderland themed Party.

Unbirthday cake and Unbirthday games!

Expect some Mad Hatter madness!

Also we have a lot of good books.

Children of all ages are welcome.

Registration is required. Please call (860) 886-1010

Holiday Hours & Closures:

Saturday, February 14th through Monday the 16th -Closed

Friday, April 3rd through Sunday the 5th -Closed

Saturday, May 23rd through Monday the 25th -Closed

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

Magazines!



Come in and look at our wide variety of magazines!

They are displayed in one group, next to our Reference section, across from the computers. No matter your passion-it's likely we've got you covered- Video games? We've got **"Game Informer"**-check out the latest video game reviews before you buy your next expensive game! Into entertainment news? Check out an issue of **"People"** magazine. Following World news? Try **"Time."** Enjoy gardening? Try a couple issues of **"Organic Gardening"** or **"Better Homes and Gardens"**. Is Home Improvement more your forte? We've got **"The Family Handyman"** and **"This Old House"**. We've also got **"Ranger Rick"**, **"Ranger Rick Jr."** and **"National Geographic for Kids"** for the younger set.

The most current issue of a magazine is kept on display for all patrons use, in-library, but back issues are available for patrons to check-out for a for a three week period!

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

The Friends of the Preston Public Library and
the Preston Historical Society
invite you to:

"The Life and Legacy of Prudence Crandall"

with Kazimiera Kozlowski, Museum Curator,
The Prudence Crandall Museum



March 26, 2015

6:30 p.m.

Preston Veterans Memorial School
325 Shetucket Turnpike (RTE 165)
Preston, Connecticut

Come join us for a program about the remarkable life of Prudence Crandall, educator and abolitionist, who defied social convention by establishing the first academy in New England for African-American young women. The presentation will include the video "To All On Equal Terms: The Life and Legacy of Prudence Crandall."

The building that once housed the Canterbury Female Boarding School is now the Prudence Crandall Museum, a National Historic Landmark in Canterbury CT. The Museum is administered by the State of Connecticut and includes period rooms, changing exhibits, a museum shop and research library.

From now until the end of April the Museum is open Monday through Friday by appointment only.
For information: 860-546-7800 or
www.cultureandtourism.org.

Ann Cannon

Forever Missed...

Forever Grateful...

Forever Loved...

Thanks, Ann Cannon, for your devoted love of children, teaching, reading and education.

The staff, board of trustees and the patrons of the Preston Public Library would like to remember Ann for all she did for the library and the children in Preston. We are deeply grateful for her support of the library's services and programs. We appreciate and recognize her kind-hearted, warm ways and her inspiration, which live on.

Ann's contributions were many: service as a teacher, a minister's wife and soul mate, a mother of three, Chairperson for the Preston Board of Education for 20 years, and volunteering as a library board member. Her life demonstrated how concerned individuals do make a difference. A long-standing advocate and strong supporter of reading; each spring, Ann donned her Mother Goose outfit and went to read in as many Preston elementary classrooms as possible. The yearly Read-a-thon was named in her honor.

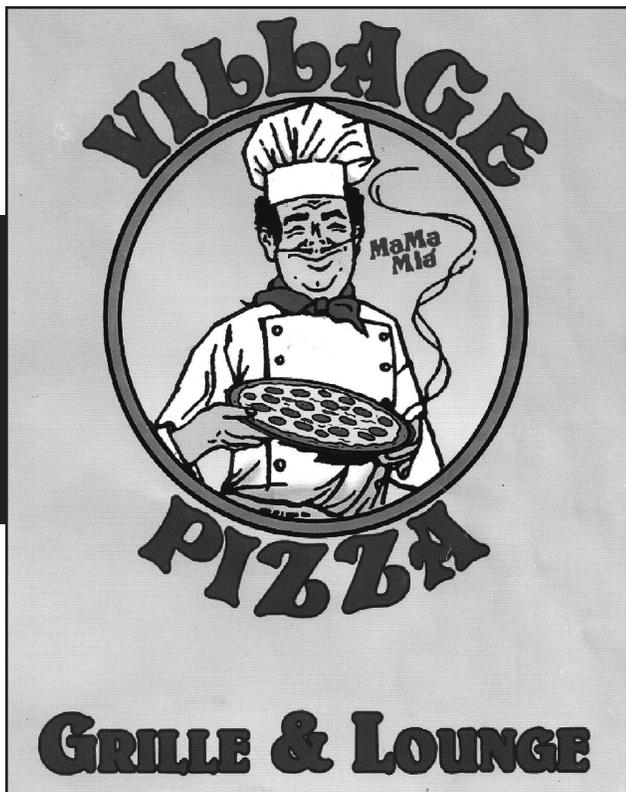
At the time of her death, Ann's family requested contributions be made to the Preston Public Library enabling us to create the Ann Cannon Memorial Fund, in her memory. This fund remains today and is still receiving donations from her family, friends and patrons of the library. In recent years, monies have been used to purchase the Nutmeg books, which are required summer reading for Preston students.

We are very proud of her many interests and achievements, especially for the time she spent in all the schools (Poquetanuck, Preston City, Preston Plains and Preston Veterans Memorial), visiting, greeting teachers and supporting education in innumerable ways. It is our honor and privilege to pay tribute to her for her dedication and example. The lives of many children have been enriched because of her.

From the Preston Public Library staff, library board and library patrons, thank you.
Your memory lives on forever in our hearts . . .

**Donations to the "Ann Cannon Memorial Fund" are welcomed and made payable to: Preston Public Library (please write Ann Cannon Memorial Fund on the memo line) and mailed to:
Preston Public Library 389 Route 2, Preston, CT 06365**

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4 whole cloves
boiling water
1 cinnamon stick

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LICENSED & INSURED

Meet State Representative Mike France

Representative Mike France was sworn in as a member of the Connecticut General Assembly on January 7th. He represents the 42nd district which includes the Town of Preston. This interview was conducted by Preston Pipeline contributor Norman Gauthier.

Preston Pipeline: First of all, I want to congratulate you on your election to be the Preston's State Representative. What does it feel like to win election to an office as important as State Representative?

Mike France: Thank you. I appreciate this opportunity to maintain contact with the residents of Preston through the Preston Pipeline and look forward to continuing the dialogue throughout my term. It is truly an honor and privilege to be able to serve the residents of the 42nd District as their State Representative. I am humbled by the trust that the voters put in me on November 4th to represent their interests in the General Assembly.

PP: What have you done since the election to get ready to go to Hartford?

MF: Over the past two months, I have met with municipal leaders in the towns that I represent. I met with the Preston Board of Selectmen on December 18th. We had a good discussion of issues facing Preston and how I can help at the state level. Based on those meetings and input from several constituents, I have proposed over 20 pieces of legislation for consideration during this session. I have also met with small business owners and regional employers to hear about legislative issues important to the economic growth of the region. I plan to continue these information gathering sessions and meetings throughout my term.

PP: During the campaign, you spent a lot of time and energy going door-to-door talking to voters. What do you think that the voters expect from you?

MF: During the campaign, I personally knocked on over 2500 doors across the 42nd District and volunteers knocked on another 1000 doors on my behalf. When asked what issues or concerns they had, the most common response from voters was taxes, the high cost of living, jobs, and the economy. I told those voters that I would work with the Legislature to put together a balanced budget that did not raise taxes and did not continue the practice of borrowing to pay current expenses. I also committed to not support a budget that did not meet those requirements. I believe that voters expect me to be responsive to their requests for action,

that I will make myself available in the District, and that I will maintain routine contact with their municipal leaders.

PP: Development of the former State Hospital property is an important issue to many Preston residents. How can you help?

MF: Preston Riverwalk (former Norwich State Hospital) is the most significant economic development opportunity in the Town of Preston and in Southeastern Connecticut. The Preston Redevelopment Agency (PRA) has worked diligently to remediate environmental issues and has overseen demolition of 47 buildings over the past several years. On January

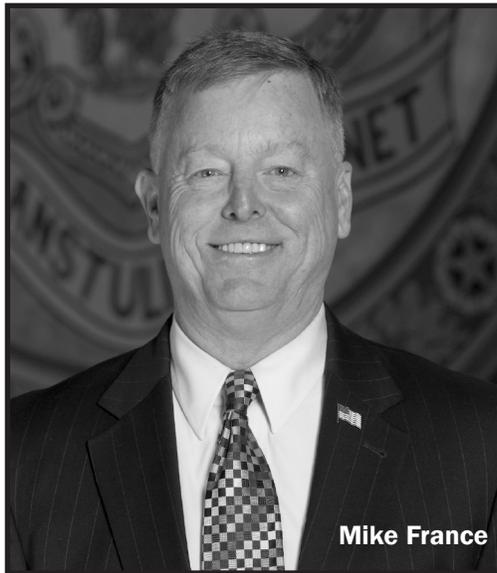
2nd, I toured the property with Sean Nugent, PRA Chairman and saw the status of work to date and received a briefing on the current status of the entire project. Mr. Nugent also provided an overview of the work required to complete the project, including current and planned grant funding applications. After reviewing the current \$500K Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP) grant application and associated endorsement letters provided by Mr. Nugent, I submitted my own letter of endorsement to Governor Malloy and OPM Secretary Barnes on January 8th, the day after I was sworn in. I will continue to work closely with Mr. Nugent, the PRA, and First Selectman Bob Congdon to

ensure successful completion of the Preston Riverwalk project.

PP: You served as a member of the Ledyard Town Council and Chairman of the Finance Committee. How will that experience help you, and us, in Hartford?

MF: I believe that the biggest benefit to serving as a Town Councilor for the past three years is getting the perspective of small town government and dealing directly with residents' issues on a weekly basis. I served as chairman of the Finance Committee, overseeing development of town budgets, balancing the needs for education and town services with the impact of a tax increase on homeowners. Serving on the Finance Committee provided me the opportunity to see the fiscal impact that uncertain state aid and unfunded state mandates have on the ability of towns to plan and execute budgets. My experience in town government enables me to understand the impact that proposed legislation will have on municipal budgets and provides a foundation for discussion with municipal leaders in Preston, Ledyard and Montville on important issues to our towns and the region.

Continued on page 11



PRESTON PARKS & RECREATION

COMMUNITY EVENTS

LAKE OF ISLES FAIRWAY 5K & KIDS DASH

The Lake of Isles Fairway 5K race treats runners and walkers of all ages to an exclusive experience within the picturesque grounds of the golf course, with all proceeds benefiting Parks & Recreation. This is a unique opportunity to run through the private course on the golf cart path. The first 100 participants will receive a t-shirt. Kids 1 Mile Dash race starts at 9:30 am and 5k begins at 10 am.



A post-race awards presentation will follow with a cash prize going to overall male and female top finisher. Medals will be awarded for top men and women finishers in the following ten-year age-groups: 14 and under, 15-24, 25-34, 35-44, 45-54, 55 & over.

Date: Sunday, March 29, 2015

Time: Kids race starts at 9:30 am, Adult Race starts at 10:00 am

Where: Lake of Isles • 1 Clubhouse Drive • North Stonington, CT

Race Fees: 5K Pre-registration until 3/28/15 - \$25.00

5K Race Day Registration 3/29/15 - \$30.00

Kids 1-Mile Pre-registration until 3/28/15 - \$10.00

Kids 1-Mile Race Day Registration 3/29/15 - \$15.00

How do I register?? You can download a registration form off Town of Preston's website at www.preston-ct.org and mail registration form and check into the Parks & Recreation office or register online at www.runsignup.com/Race/CT/NorthStonington/LakeofIsleFairway5K

KIDS FISHING DERBY

Join us for our 3rd annual Kid's Fishing Derby! Registration starts at 9:00, fishing will begin at 9:30! Children will compete to catch the shortest fish and the longest fish of the day! Trophies will be awarded to the winners of each age category.



No advanced registration needed for this event...register on-site at Maple Lane Farms on the day of the fishing derby!

When: Sunday, April 19, 2015

Time: 9:30 am - 12:00 pm

Ages: 3-14

Where: Maple Lane Farms • 57 Northwest Corner Road

Fee: FREE to Preston residents, \$5 donation for non-resident

PRESTON PALOOZA

Back by popular demand...Parks & Recreation and Preston Veterans Memorial School PTO will be holding our 2nd Annual Preston Palooza! What's this your ask?? A fun night for the Preston community. There will be food (hot dogs, hamburgers, side dishes, & more), moonwalks, cotton candy, snow cones, cake walk, face painting, games for kids, dunk tank, and more!!

When: Wednesday, May 27, 2015

(Rain date: Thursday, May 28)

Time: 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Where: Preston Veterans Memorial School

Fee: \$5 per person for tickets purchased by May 1

\$7 per person for tickets purchased between May 2 & May 26

\$9 per person for tickets purchased on May 27

We need volunteers & event coordinators. Please contact the Preston Parks & Recreation office by phone at 860-889-2482 x113 or email prestonrec@hotmail.com if you want to get involved in this great community event!!

TODDLER / PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

CRAFTY CREATIONS

Inspiring imaginations and letting kids explore their creativity, while painting, using glue, coloring and making it their own project. Come join us for four weeks of fun!

Instructor: Preston Parks & Recreation staff

Dates: Thursdays: March 5, 12, 19 & 26

Time: 10:00 am - 10:30 am

Ages: 2 1/2 - 4 years old

Fee: \$10 per child for 4 weeks

JAMMING WITH HOOPS

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

Instructor: Judi Jones

Dates: Wednesdays: March 11 - April 8

(no class on March 25)

Time: 5:45 pm - 6:45 pm

Ages: 3-5

Fee: \$30 per child (4 week program)



TUNES & TOTS



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

Instructor: Nicole Clarke

Dates: Mondays: March 30 - April 27 (no class on April 13)

Time: 10:00 am - 10:45 am

Ages: 6 months - 4 years old

Location: Preston Public Library Meeting Room

Fee: \$25 per adult/child team for 4 week session

CHILD PROGRAMS

JUNIOR GOLF CLINICS

Junior golfers are introduced to core movement skills essential to playing golf through a series of fun activities and games. Students will also learn the basics for full swing, pitching, chipping and putting in a fun, friendly, positive environment.

Instructor: Lake of Isles staff

Date: Sundays: March 1, 8, 15, & 22

Time: 10:00 - 11:00 am

Ages: 5 - 11

Fee: \$55 for 4 week session

INDOOR INFLATABLES & TRAMPOLINES

Monday, March 2 = no school for Preston students!! Join Preston Parks & Recreation as we travel to Bounce U (in Rocky Hill, CT) which is sure to be a hit with all the kids as they enjoy indoor Inflatable fun -- gigantic slides, bounce houses, obstacle courses & more. We'll break for lunch in before heading to Flight Trampoline Park (in New Britain, CT) for non-stop jumping fun!!

Maximum of 35 kids — register early to reserve your child a spot.

Date: Monday: March 2

Time: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Grades K - 5

Fee: \$30

Before Care 8:00-9:00 and After Care 4:00-5:00 available for an additional fee of \$4 each.



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

ADULT PROGRAMS

ZUMBA

Are you ready to party yourself into shape? Forget the workout and just lose yourself in the music. This class requires no previous dance experience and is effective for all levels of fitness abilities. Zumba features exotic rhythms set to high energy Latin and international beats. Ditch the workout and join the Zumba party.

Instructor: Sharon Brouillard

Time: 5:45-6:45 pm

Fee: \$41 for first session six week session, \$36 for each additional session you register for or \$10 fee per class for walk-ins

Session #2 ~ March 5 - April 9

(If there is a cancellation due to inclement weather during this session, make up class will be held on April 16)

Session #3 ~ April 23 - May 28



BALLOON TWISTING

Join us for a fun, four week course to introduce you into the creative world of modern balloon twisting. Registration fee includes balloons and balloon pump to keep.

Instructor: April Brunelle (www.aprilsballooncreations.com)

When: Wednesdays: April 1 - April 29 (no class on 4/16)

Time: 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Fee: \$60 for 4 week class (includes all materials)

A MEDITATION ON DRAWING

Calling all adults that want to express their creative side! Learn basic drawing skills or advance the one's you have from still life. The class will start out with basic shapes using line and form and work up to more challenging still life.

Instructor: Eleanor Miller

Date: Tuesdays: March 3 - March 31

Time: 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Registration Fee: \$70; 5 week session

Materials needed: vine charcoal, kneaded eraser, & drawing pad.



YOGA BASICS

For beginners & experienced students. Practice includes a variety of foundational postures (standing, seated and on the floor) that focus on balance and alignment. Breathing techniques, yoga philosophy, meditation and deep relaxation are woven into each class.

Modifications are offered to optimize each individual's experience. Please wear comfortable clothing and bring a yoga mat, 2 blocks, and a blanket.

Instructor: Sandra Hartnett

Time: 6:00 - 7:00 pm

Fee: \$28 for 4 week session

Session #1 ~ March 16 - April 6

Session #2 ~ April 20 - May 4

HOOP FIT

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

Instructor: Judi Jones

Dates: Wednesdays: March 11 - April 8
(no class on March 25)

Time: 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Registration Fee: \$30; 4 week session



ADULT SPORTS

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Weekly recreational pick up games

When: Thursdays: October 2 - May 28

(Not 11/13, 11/27, 12/25, 1/1, 1/29, 2/12, or 4/16)

Time: 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Ages: 18+

Where: Preston Plains Middle School Gym

Fee: \$20 per person

CO-ED VOLLEYBALL

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

Tuesdays: January 6 - May 26 (not 4/14)

Time: 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Where: Preston Veterans Memorial School Gym

Fee: \$12 per person



SENIOR ACTIVITIES ~ AGES 60+

(Programs offered at discounted rates for PRESTON seniors)

CHAIR YOGA

Join us for a fun, four week A complete yoga practice using the support of a chair. Breathing techniques, yoga philosophy, meditation and deep relaxation are woven into each class. In this fun and informative class students will take home tools for mindfulness and relaxation as well as movements for energizing and stretching the body. This class is appropriate for all ages and abilities.

Instructor: Sandra Hartnett

Time: 10:00 - 11:00 am

Fee: \$12 for 4 week session

Session #1 ~ March 16 - April 6

Session #2 ~ April 20 - May 4

GET MOVING WITH HOOPS

Get Moving With Hoops class will keep you moving with both on-body and off-body moves, improving your stamina, all-over muscle tone, balance and flexibility.

Instructor: Judi Jones

Dates: Wednesdays: March 11 - April 8 (no class on March 25)

Time: 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm

Registration Fee: \$16; 4 week session

EMPLOYMENT

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

- ** Summer Camp Director
- ** Summer Camp Assistant Director
- ** Summer Camp Counselors



Camp counselor applicants must be 16 years of age or older. Summer Camp Director & Assistant Director must be 21 years of age or older. All applications are due by April 1, 2015. Applications and job descriptions are available online at www.preston-ct.org. Applications may be mailed to Preston Parks & Recreation, 389 Route 2, Preston, CT 06365. No emailed or faxed applications will be accepted.

PROGRAM REGISTRATION POLICY

All registrations are due at least one week prior to the start date of class. Early registration helps ensure the success of programs



Preston Historical Society

Preserving The Past for Future Generations

News from the Preston Historical Society

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Preston Historical Society is scheduled for **Wed., March 18, 2015 at 6:30 pm at the Preston Public Library on Route 2.** All members and interested persons are welcome to attend. Interested in joining? Please check out our website though the town's www.preston-ct.org for information and an application. Look for us on Facebook at Preston Historical Society of Connecticut.

Long Society

Have you noticed a change on Long Society Road? The PHS has recently obtained the deed for the Meetinghouse and cemetery. We're doing lots of research into the building's history and structure and looking for ways to share this community gem with Preston residents.

Please keep an eye out for upcoming news about our latest project.



**Preston Birch Mill
1919-1949**

The Preston Birch Mill which operated for thirty years was located at the south side of Rte. 2 near the present Dunkin Donuts. The mill was owned by the Wm. S. Merrell Co. of Cincinnati, Ohio.

During the winter months when the mill was in operation, the birch brush could be seen piled quite neatly around the mill and at times almost hiding the building. The "birch" season began in the fall after the leaves were off the trees. The farmers, by cutting black birch trees, not only got excellent firewood, but a bonus of a few dollars for the branches from the tops of these trees when they were trimmed out and delivered to the mill.

After the trees were cut they were loaded onto horse-drawn wagons or trucks, hauled to the mill where the vehicle was weighed and then a space in the yard was assigned to the driver where he had to unload the brush. The vehicle was weighed again when empty and the net weight of the birch brush could be determined and payment was made accordingly.

The next step in the operation was to chop the birch brush into two inch pieces. After the chopping, the "chips" were loaded into large vats to be steamed. This steaming was the beginning of the distillation process that extracted the birch oil. The distilled oil was then sent to the main plant in Cincinnati, Ohio where it was used in medical preparations prescribed for arthritis or sore muscles.

Many people in the area can probably recall hauling birch bush to the mill and upon entering the building remember the pleasant steamy aroma that prevailed in the building known as the Preston Birch Mill.

Preston Historical Society Membership Application

\$5-Senior (55+) /Student • \$10-Single membership • \$15-Family • \$100-Lifetime membership

Name: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

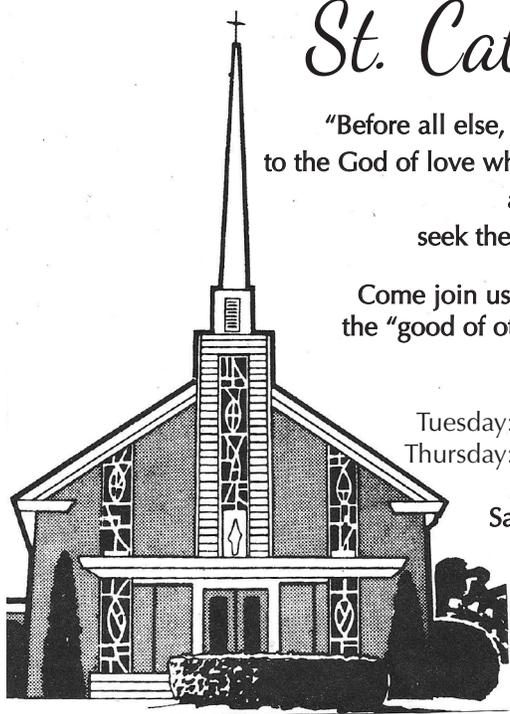
Donation to the Preston Historical Society _____

Please make checks payable to PHS. Remit to: Mark Christensen, Treasurer 15 Amos Rd, Preston, CT 06365

St. Catherine of Siena Church

"Before all else, the Gospel invites us to respond to the God of love who saves us, to see God in others and to go forth from ourselves to seek the good of others." - Pope Francis

Come join us at St. Catherine of Siena to seek the "good of others". Our door is always open!



243 Route 164 • Preston CT
Telephone: 860-887-9966

Pastoral Associate: Nancy Mignault

Weekday Masses:

Tuesday: 9 am in Rectory Meeting Room
Thursday: 9 am in Rectory Meeting Room

Saturday Confessions: 3:30 - 4pm

Weekend Masses:

Saturday: 4:30 pm Vigil Mass
Sunday: 10 am Mass

Pastor: Fr. Ted Tumick

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Steve Gulino

LENT BEGINS:

ASH WEDNESDAY at

St. Catherine of Siena Preston:

February 18: 3:30pm - 4pm Service or 7pm Mass

PALM SUNDAY WEEKEND: Palm Distribution

Saturday March 28: 4:30pm Mass

Sunday March 29: 10am Mass

HOLY WEEK:

CHRISM MASS, Tuesday March 31: 10am

at St. Patrick's Cathedral

Bishop Cote Blesses Parish Holy Oils

HOLY THURSDAY - April 2: 7pm

Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

St. Mary's Church Jewett City

GOOD FRIDAY - April 3: 3pm

Service of The Lord's Passion

St. Mary's Church Jewett City

HOLY SATURDAY April 4:

Easter Vigil Mass at 8pm

St. Mary's Church Jewett City

EASTER SUNDAY: The Resurrection of The Lord

10am Mass at St. Catherine of Siena, Preston

Meet State Representative Mike France, cont. from page 7

PP: What are your committee assignments?

MF: I am fortunate to have been assigned to three important committees: Planning & Development, General Elections & Administration, and Appropriations. Organizational meetings were held for each committee on the first few days after the new legislative session convened to introduce committee members and to set the calendar for the session. The Planning and Development Committee has cognizance of all matters relating to local governments, such as: housing, urban renewal, fire, sewer, metropolitan districts, home rule, planning and zoning, regional planning and development activities, the State Plan of Conservation and Development, and economic development programs impacting local governments.

The Government Administration and Elections Committee has cognizance of all matters relating to the Department of Administrative Services, including: purchasing, central collections, the Department of Public Works, state government organization and procedures, matters relating to state property and facilities, the Freedom of Information Commission, the Ethics Commission, state and federal relations, inter-state compacts, compacts between the state and Indian tribes, constitutional amendments, and all matters relating to election laws.

The Appropriations Committee has cognizance of all matters relating to appropriations and the budgets of state agencies,

as well as state employees' salaries, benefits and retirement, teachers' retirement, veterans' pensions, collective bargaining agreements, and arbitration awards for all state employees.

PP: How can Preston residents contact you?

MF: The residents can follow my activity in Hartford and in the district on my web site, RepFrance.com, where they can also sign up for an e-mail newsletter or via Facebook at www.facebook.com/repfrance. They can reach me via e-mail at Mike.France@housegop.ct.gov or via phone at home, (860) 464-9229, or at the Capitol, (860) 842-1423. They can follow activity at the General Assembly at www.cga.ct.gov.

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Preston, CT

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Preston Pipeline²
please contact Tracy
at 860-889-0238.**

tracylyndesigns@comcast.net



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

Thank You!

News From The Preston City Congregational Church Two Can Food Pantry



Over the holidays, the PCCC Food Pantry provided regular food bags and the "fixins" for turkey or ham dinners for between 80 - 100 families. We received many donations of turkeys, hams, potatoes, winter squash, turnips, cranberry sauce, gravy, and stuffing mixes from the generous people of our town. Our "regular" monthly bags include pasta, sauce, canned vegetables, tuna, peanut butter, jelly, fruit, mac & cheese, baked beans, and canned pasta. An additional bag contains cereal, bread and toilet paper (the only non-edible item). Again, a big "Thank You" to all who have helped in any way.

Preston City Congregational Church

Reverend Stanley E. White, Minister



"Where Friends
Become Family"

Worship times:
9 am, 10:30 am
Sunday School 8:45 am
Ages 3 to High School

"Bring It"
A contemporary worship
10:30 am
service for teens through age 22
2nd & 4th Sundays of the month

For more information, check out our website:
prestoncitycongregational.org Check us out on FACEBOOK!!!

Join Us This Sunday!

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

MARIAN ARICO – Established Preston Resident

Marian Arico, a long-time resident and employee in Preston, passed away this past September, at the age of 91. She was born on June 17, 1923 in Ledyard, CT to the late A. Gilbert Hagen and Mary (Gemeasky) Hagen. She graduated from Norwich Free Academy in 1941.

During WWII, she was employed at Electric Boat where she also played on the softball team. In the late 1940's Marian worked at Longo's Trucking in Preston. This is where she met her future husband, John Arico. Then she worked at Poquetanick School.

Some who are long-time Preston residents might remember Marian working in the Preston Town Hall. In the 1960's, she worked as a bookkeeper at the old town hall when it was located on Long Society Road. In the 1970's she worked for the First Selectman in the new town hall at 389 Route 2. She worked several years at Analysis and Technology until her retirement after which she worked part time for the First Selectman.

Marian loved her work at the Preston town hall where she would see many of her fellow residents. When she wasn't at work, she never sat still. She always had a

home improvement, or sewing project in the works. She enjoyed collecting thimbles, stringing beads, gardening, spending time with friends at Amos Lake, attending many church functions, and cooking Sunday dinners for her family. She was a member of Ledyard Center Congregational Church where she was active and involved throughout her life. She led a 4-H group for years and also enjoyed running a weekend flea market. Her children remember their mother as someone who was always supportive whether it be making Halloween costumes, watching their softball and baseball games, or taking them to Holdridge's to pick strawberries that they would sell in front of their father's business on the Norwich-Westerly Road.

Marian is survived by her children, John Arico Jr. and wife Mary Ann of Franklin, Mary Ann Arico of Birmingham, AL, and James A. Arico and wife Victoria of Lisbon, 3 grandchildren; Jason Arico, Bethany Arico, and Emily Arico, 2 great grandsons; Gabriel Thomas Arico and Samuel Joseph Arico along with several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her former husband, John Arico Sr., brothers; Arthur J. and C. Gilbert Hagen, and one sister; Virginia Manizza.

Preston Redevelopment Agency Update

By Merrill Gerber

As I've run into people in town over the Christmas holiday, I heard the same questions. So what's all the activity at Preston Riverwalk? What are they doing to the Kettle Building?

If you've driven by you've noticed a lot of activity at the intersection of Routes 2A and 12. What you've actually seen is the final leg of the abatement of the Kettle Building. Demolition of this building started in early January and will be completed by the end of March. This is a major accomplishment in moving the site closer to being 'shovel ready!' At the end of October we completed the demolition of the Lodge Building (behind the Kettle Building). When the Kettle Building is down we will have demolished 49 of the original 57 targeted structures (since 2010). This represents 78% of the total footprint (square footage) of the buildings included when the Town purchased the property.

While this is a fantastic accomplishment, we know that more work is required to be 'shovel ready'. To address this, we have submitted for or are in the process of submitting for additional funds from the State and Federal Government to allow us to



Kettle 2011



Kettle Demo Begun 2015

continue the clean up on the remaining structures and the Areas of Concern (AOC's). We are working closely with DEEP (CT Dept. of Energy & Environmental Protection) and our LEP (Licensed Environmental Professional; Tighe & Bond) to finalize the AOC clean up requirements, plans and cost estimates. In addition we are working through a 'clean site verification' process on our satellite parcels.

JLL continues to aggressively market the property and we are seeing an increase in requests for information and site tours as we progress the clean up. As the effort by the Agency is shifting from clean up to development, we are seeking professional input and guidance to ensure the property, the Agency, the Town and the Region are well positioned to move forward quickly

with development proposals.

Should you have any questions, suggestions or comments, please attend one of our meetings at Town Hall on the second or third Wednesdays of the month or contact our Chairman Sean Nugent at 860 917-6567 or me at 860 887-7169.

Win a \$25.00 Gift Certificate to Village Pizza!

What is your favorite vacation destination?

Your answer: _____

From: _____

Phone: _____

Please mail your entry to:

Tracy Lyn Designs, 211 Rt 164 Preston, CT 06365

Or Email me at tracylyndesigns@comcast.net

A Poem

from one of our readers...

Through a child's eyes
looking up to you on your black beauty
backlit by bright sky
together you tower against the blue void

desire to go, the need to run, go your way...fast
and beautiful.

power beneath you, wind in your face
as if still a boy riding with the sky in your hair
holding onto the motion of thundering hooves
your black beauty runs with the grace of angels.

sometime in the sun
think of me standing there
looking up at you on your black beauty
through a child's eyes.

Your Town Government - New Registrars Take Office

By Norman Gauthier

On January 7, 2015 the office of Registrar of Voters for the Town of Preston changed hands for the first time in more than 10 years. On that day, Len Spencer and Joanne Eisenhard, who were elected in the November 2014 general elections, took over the office managed by Parke Spicer and Ellie Michaud for the last decade. The election of Registrars (one Republican and one Democrat) is usually uncontested, leaving the selection of registrars to the party town committees and the party caucuses. However, party politics do not exist in the Registrars' office. The registrars ensure that the laws concerning voting rights are applied fairly to everyone.

Over the next few years Len and Joanne can expect to see many changes in the way voters are registered and elections are conducted. They will oversee more use of electronic methods for voter registration and at elections. Already, on-line voter registration is possible and a system for electronic reporting of election results is available. Elections themselves may become very different as the state adopts more electronic voter processing and electronic reporting of election results.

Another big decision facing the new registrars is whether or not to find a new polling place. The town hall is experiencing growing pains and the space available for conducting elections is closing in. Moving the polling place to one of the schools or a fire house is under consideration. The selection of a new polling place requires a review of space available, phone and computer hook ups, handicap accessibility, and must be approved by the Secretary of State.

The registrars perform their duties year-round, not just at election time. They must constantly keep the list of approximately 3,200 registered voters up-to-date in order to support any special elections or town referenda which may be called on short notice. New voters are added and those who have past or moved out of town are removed. An annual canvass is conducted to ensure that the list of voters is accurate. People are always on the move, changing addresses and names. The registrars are also responsible for assigning and training the poll workers who ensure that the voting process moves along smoothly and all ballots are counted.

YOU CAN HELP

The registrars need your help. On election day it takes about 10 people to process voters and ballots. More poll workers are needed to help in various ways. No special skills are required. Training is provided and you will be compensated for the day. Republican, democrat, independent, or unaffiliated, it makes no difference; your help is needed. If you are usually available on election day and can help, please contact the registrars by email at registrar@preston-ct.org for more information.

**We welcome your questions and comments.
You can contact the author at N.Gauthier@usa.net**

KRISTA PARK - PHYSICAL THERAPIST

By Eleanor Miller

A physical therapist plays an important role in the recovery of people who are discharged from a hospital or nursing home that are recuperating from various injuries such as stroke, falls, hip replacements, etc. Therapy can include home safety evaluation, establishing an exercise program, and instruction on adaptive equipment.

Krista Park has been a physical therapist for twenty-one years. In her teenage years, she was very active in sports, especially judo. While in high school, she went to the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs where she observed physical therapists and athletic trainers working on athletes that had injuries. This impressed her and caused her to become interested in this field of work.

Krista graduated from E.O. Smith High School in 1989 and attended UCONN. She was awarded a BS Degree in Science and a Major in Allied Health. Then she was contracted at Griswold Visiting Nurse Association and Backus Home Health Care for several years. Presently, Krista is employed at Ledyard Visiting Nurse Association where she provides home care therapy to the towns of Preston, Ledyard, and Gales Ferry. On an average, Krista makes five to six calls a day. To qualify for this care one has to receive an order from a doctor.

Krista moved to Preston in 2012 and has three children - Ryan, age 15 - Eric, age 13, and Kayla, age 11. They keep her busy bringing them to soccer games and Krista also plays adult soccer.

I met Krista this past summer while recovering from a hip fracture and found her to be very knowledgeable and professional.



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Troop 75 Events and Activities

By Scoutmaster Wess Ludlow and Committee Member Merrill Gerber

2014 has come and gone, and we enter 2015 with a continuation of our program and the enthusiasm of our Scouts. Much has happened since the last Pipeline. We'll summarize some key events to keep you apprised of our activities, recognizing we could probably fill all the pages of the Pipeline with pictures of our efforts to provide a first class program for the youth of Preston.

Let's start with Thanksgiving in the woods. The Troop cooked five turkeys in garbage cans and fed approximately 100 people at our favorite camping site on Mr Benjamin's property. Thanksgiving in the woods also included a flag retirement ceremony with approximately 100 flags retired under the watchful eyes of the Scouts, several members of Pack 75 and seven members of our local V.F.W. Post. Special thanks to Ms Holly Cyr for her donation of deserts for all! They were great! That event was followed by our annual tree and wreath sale. Many Scout family members donated long hours to making the wreaths whose sales are a major troop fundraiser. Also, the sale wouldn't have been a success with out the donations of Christmas trees and evergreen boughs from the Lamberts, the Dudeks and the Fessendens. We held our Christmas Party on December 17th and followed that with a movie night on December 20th in the dining hall of old Camp Quinebaug, now Hidden Acres Campground. Our thanks to Bob and



William Leo Carver Receives Eagle Scout award. On the 50th Anniversary of Boy scout troop 75 William Leo Carver, Son of George and Sylvia Carver of Preston attained Boy Scouts Highest Rank "Eagle Scout" recently at re Congregational Church. Williams Eagle Project was to install shelves and lighting in the PCC Food Pantry.

Bette Migliachio for the "use" of the former dining hall!

On December 28th we celebrated Will Carver's Eagle Scout Court of Honor at the Preston City Congregational Church. Will's Brother Michael, another Troop 75 Eagle scout, pinned on Will's Eagle badge. (It was good to see Mike again.) Gabe Hopkins Gray was the "clerk" of the Court.

Gabe is well on his way to Eagle and is writing up his Eagle project that was building "meditation benches" around the "field of dreams" behind the Preston City Congregational Church. Following right behind Gabe is Noah Cyr. Noah has been building an announcers booth in Griswold at the town soccer field. After the project is complete, it must be documented and presented to a Board of Review.

A major "ongoing" effort is preparation of an anniversary book celebrating Troop 75's 50th anniversary. The book will be available soon and will be filled with pictures and a summary of the troop's past 50 years of providing a quality program for our most important asset - our youth! That pretty much sums up our recent activities. We hope you enjoy this article.



Members of troop 75 recently went on their Annual Ski trip to Mt. Wachusett.



To celebrate 50 year Anniversary members of troop 75 spent their Annual Movie night at Hidden Acres family Camp ground. The troop slept in the old Camp Quinebaug Mess Hall and Craft shop. Dwight E. Hopkins camped in this Mess Hall (now Hidden Acres Recreation Hall) 50 years ago with SM Gene Wolters.

Spring Back To The 50's & 60's Dance!

Hosted by the Preston VFW Ladies Auxiliary



**Saturday
April 25**

7 p.m. - 11 p.m.

Preston VFW Hall
28 Spicer Road
Preston, CT 06365

Cash Bar, Appetizers, Desserts • Music by DJ Tim Cuff

DONATION OF: \$12.00 per person • \$20.00 per couple

Last Day to Purchase Tickets is April 15, 2015

Proceeds to benefit the Preston VFW Ladies Auxiliary and VFW Hall Renovation

For Tickets Call: Maureen: (860)334-7061 Sarah: (860)367-5869

-OR- Stop by the Preston VFW and see the bartender

ADULTS 21 AND OVER* *Themed Attire Optional



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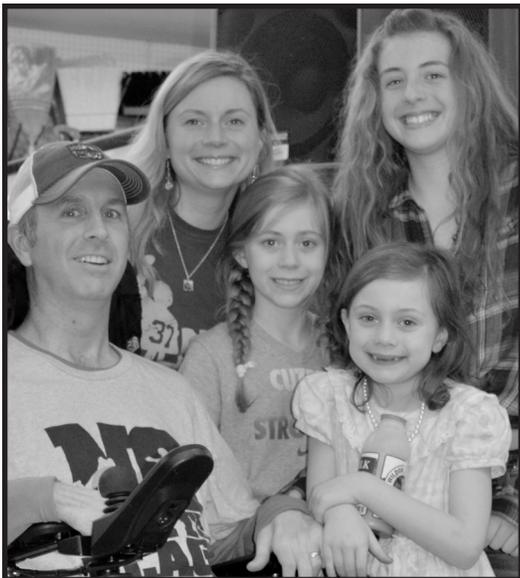
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3rd Annual Irvine Family Fund Month

"Shop at Fleming's all month to help support a local family"



\$2 automatically donated to the family with any purchase of 10+ lb cat food, 20+ lb dog food, 20+ lb wild bird seed & weekly in-store specials!

**Stock up now for a good cause!
Cash donations welcome!**

Many of you probably know Rob, Melissa, and their three young girls. For those of you who don't, they are a local family who have been hit with a traumatizing disease, ALS, aka Lou Gehrig's Disease. The battle is constant and on-going. With physical struggle, emotional turmoil, and monetary hardships, anything that we can do as a community to help support this family is greatly appreciated.

Please consider shopping with Fleming's this month to help us reach our fundraising goal in our **3rd Annual Irvine Family Fund Month**. For more information on the Irvine family, visit: facebook.com/weloverobirvine

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50 flavors to choose from!
Limit 5 Cases
39¢ each
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PRESTON RESIDENTS ONLY!
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