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First Selectwoman's Corner

Here we are, heading into fall again!

The trees are starting to turn, kids are back at school, and we are breaking out the sweaters. You will see a lot of road, tree and drainage work being done in preparation for winter; please be patient with any disruption and let us know if you see a problem that needs town attention.

What is Community?

Some words get thrown out in conversation so often that they risk losing any real meaning or context, or become cliché, like the words transparency, sustainability, etc. One of these buzzwords is the word "community." Sometimes it is used to describe a church, a school, a fraternal organization, or other things. We think of it something that is special and must be protected. But what do we really mean when we are talking about Chester? Chester is inclusive – everyone here is integral to its success. While we may have different or competing priorities, politics, opinions, religions or lifestyles, none of us would deny that the others belong. We are

committed to our place and its people, even when we disagree or life becomes difficult to manage. We count on each other for help all of the time – if a child is sick, your car gets stuck in the snow, or there is a damaging storm. We come from different backgrounds and have different beliefs about the world, and it is only natural that we will disagree on how to handle the challenges put before us. We talk together, and sometimes argue, about the right way to solve a problem. There are a million points of view and the best solution is usually some version of all of them. Chester as a community is a place where everyone can say "I feel safe here" and "my point of view matters."

Here is what is happening in our community: Hurricanes and snow storms - Emergency Communications

As we discover again every year, communication during emergency weather events is difficult. Police, the Chester Hose Company, our Emergency Management Director and others continue to work diligently to institute plans and procedures for communi-

cating with Chester residents during these events. We utilize our Townwide email, Town website, and Facebook page and utilize the Everbridge platform to send important health and



Lauren Gister, First Selectwoman

safety messages to individual cell phones and email addresses. We post emergency messages and instructions on television and radio news stations, our town website and Facebook page. None of these communication methods will work, however, without your help. Please help our Townwide communications get to you by doing the following: Call or email Jenny at the Selectman's office and ask to be put on the Townwide email list and get instructions to go online and sign up for Everbridge alerts. If you are not comfortable with the internet, but have a phone that you would like to enter for emergency communications, we will help you to get entered into the continued on page 4



events

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CONTENTS

First Selectwoman's Corner	3
Freedom Isn't Free	
Tax Collector	6
Registrar of Voters	7
A Thank you Note for a Huge Success	7
Parks and Recreation	8
The Meeting House Players Present	9
Community Listings	9
Chester Historical Society	10
BRAYCE - Hosting International Students	11
Robbie Collomore Concert Series	12
The Shoreline Soup Kitchens & Pantries	12
United Church of Chester	13
St. Teresa of Calcutta Christmas Fair	13
The Chester Hose Company	14
Absentee Ballots	15
Chester Library	16
Tri-Town Cub Scout Pack 13 ~ Chester -	
Deep River - Essex	
Probate Court and You	
The Chester Land Trust	
News from BRAYCE	
Tri-Town Youth Services	
Troop 13 - Chester/Deep River Boy Scouts	21
The Last Word The Hartford Whalers - Forever	
and Always	22

First Selectwoman... continued from page 3

Everbridge system for emergency calls.

Our goal is to keep our residents informed and safe during times of emergency. Thanks for your attention to this in advance of any emergency.

Main Street Project Update

We are approaching a completed final design and documentation for the upcoming phase of the Main Street project. This is the most difficult section of the project, as it will affect downtown Chester from the bridge to the Laurel Hill Cemetery, along with short spans of both Maple and Spring Streets. We are buttoning up the details of easements and engineering, and have a potential construction schedule. But due to the fact that this project is mostly funded by a state LOTCIP (Local Transportation Capital Improvement Program) grant, we are somewhat at the mercy of the state DOT to be timely in their approvals so that we can stay on schedule. I imagine I will be calling and writing them almost every day to keep them on it.

October 2019 - Final design and proposed bid documents to DOT for approval. CWC begins work on replacement of the water main - major construction to occur at night, connections and pressure testing during the day.

Nov/Dec 2019 - Project bidding

Jan 2020 - Recommended bid to DOT for approval

Mar 2020 - Construction begins - stages for traffic flow, hoping to keep at least one lane open for 90% of the project, and some downtown parking and space for deliveries. Coordination of work schedule in tandem with merchants and property owners as much as possible.

June 2020 - Major construction and road disturbance complete, with additional 1-2 months of "punch list" and decorative items (benches, bike racks, planting, etc.) remaining. Streets open and parking available.

We are very conscious of the events and cycle of downtown life, including First Fridays, farmer's market, Four on the Fourth, early morning coffee, lunch and dinner business. We have formed a group of stakeholders (merchants, landlords, tenants, town committee members, etc.) to help plan and coordinate every available opportunity to keep Chester Center vital and active during this time.

Maple Street Parking Lot and Path to Main Street

In anticipation of the upcoming Main Street construction, and our already limited parking downtown, we felt it was important to make some basic changes and repairs to the Maple Street parking lot and the pathway to Main Street to make them more attractive for people to use. The walkway has been widened, drainage improved, trip hazards removed, and the surface refinished to allow for winter maintenance (which was not being done previously). The lot was regraded, the corner raised for proper drainage, and surface process

will be laid in the spring. Lighting upgrades and better wayfinding signage are also in the works. This project was coordinated between our Public Works Department, Chester's tree warden, and Jacobson & Associates (who own the land that the walkway is on). A very big thank you to all of them for their expertise and cooperation in these very busy times.

Chester is run by volunteers!

Municipal elections are coming up on November 5th, as they do every two years. There are many qualified candidates running for elected boards and commissions, and I hope that everyone will come out to vote. These are our neighbors and friends, who are willing to sacrifice their limited free time to work on our behalf, some of them for years and even decades. Chester's paid staff is very limited; most of the word that gets done is planned and accomplished by these dedicated volunteers. Not everyone who volunteers is filling an elected position, however. Many of our commissions and committees are run by volunteers who are appointed for specific terms of office. This November, for example, there are more than 30 appointed positions whose terms are expiring. Many may want to continue, some may not. If you are interested in volunteering on a board or commission, please let Jenny in my office know and she will assist you in finding out what opportunities exist and how to apply.

I hope you find time this fall to participate in some of the fun activiactivities going on around town, to perhaps try something new, and to spend quality time with friends and family.

Best, Lauren









PEG MITCHEL, BROKER-ASSOCIATE

860-391-1701 | peg@mitchel.net

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860-391-1896 | myshorelinehome@gmail.com







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Freedom Isn't Free



Monday, November 11th. <u>All</u> veterans are welcome. *New location!* Muster at St. Joseph's Parish Center in Chester at 10:30 am.

Kickoff at 11:00 am. Please bring your families and join us. **Parade Route:** St. Joseph's Parish Center, onto the Chester

Memorial and then downtown to the flag pole. Transport vehicles for veterans who cannot march will be provided.

Dress code: uniform or khaki pants and white shirt, Call Jane (Deuse) Cable (usn 1968-1971) at 860-204-9473, text 602-622-5946 or email <u>cable_jane@yahoo.com</u> for any questions.

Tax Collector

The Tax office is pleased with our new collection agency.

As I mentioned in a former article, we had to use a collection agency to collect some back motor vehicle (MV) and personal property (PP) taxes and they have been successful in finding people who were delinquent and might have moved out of Chester, or out of the state. So far they have not collected a huge amount of back taxes but they have indeed collected from several people. This will, in the long run, help the Town and help our collection rate be even higher than it already is.

But at the same time, this means that some people will have to pay more since the collection agency charges 15% on top of both the tax amount due and the interest due. This will just make it harder for people to pay and more expensive. So, the best advice is for all taxpayers to pay their MV & PP bills as soon as possible, since I will be sending more and more delinquent accounts to CIB, which is the Credit Information Bureau out of Rhode Island.

With DMV going to a three year registration process for each MV, the amount of tax and interest will accumulate. If people wait and only pay at the time registration is due, it will be quite high. The delinquent person will allow a larger amount of money to accumulate with the added interest over the extended time frame. Don't let this happen. Please be smart and pay right away. When a tax bill arrives for a MV or PP, pay it that same exact month when it is due. This will save you money and it will save you from having to pay cash in order to have DMV clearance for you to register your MV. It will also guarantee that your bill will not be sent to the collection agency. Taxes are due at the time they are produced which is usually July in most cases or January for the supplemental bills. Pay them in July when due or in January when due....

think outside the box



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DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE MV REGISTRATION IS DUE!

Delinquent persons are causing a larger amount of interest to be paid and you are taking the chance that the bills might go to a collection agency. Be smart and pay your bills on time or talk to the Tax Collector so that the tax office knows you are struggling to pay, and will try to hold off on sending that particular delinquent MV or PP bill to the collection agency.

Also keep in mind that every delinquent MV bill that did not get paid this July has already been sent to DMV and therefore, those delinquent taxpayers will not be able to register until the taxes are paid. If instant clearance is needed, it will have to be in cash. Otherwise, it takes sometimes a full week if paid by check before the clearance takes place. So another suggestion is to hurry up and pay any bills that have not been paid, so you can have clearance before you need to register or buy a new MV. Good luck with all of this! But at the same time, a very big & sincere THANK YOU to all who did indeed pay on time. It sure has helped keep the Town collection rate up for Chester & that helps all involved in our small town!

Sincerely, Madaline Meyer, Tax Collector and Susan Shrack, Tax Clerk

Registrar of Voters

The next election will be November 5, 2019. This is a Municipal Election for First Selectman, Selectman and membership to the various boards and committees responsible for town governance. The polls will be open from 6 am – 8 pm on the 2nd floor of Town Hall.

The last day to register to vote in this election is Tuesday, October 29, 2019. Election Day Registration will be available on November 5 in the Registrars' Office for residents who did not register by October 29. Residents will be required to provide a form of identification and proof of residential address.

If you wish to vote by Absentee Ballot, applications can be picked up in the Town Clerk's office. They can also

be obtained online at https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/Voter-Information/Absentee-Voting/.

Looking ahead to the Presidential Election in 2020: There will be a Presidential Preference Primary on April 28, 2020. You must be enrolled with a party to be eligible to vote in their primary.

The deadline for enrolled party members to transfer enrollment from one party to another and be eligible to vote in their "new" party's presidential primary is January 28, 2020.

Any person aged 17 who will be 18 by election day, November 3, 2020 is eligible to vote in the Presidential Preference Primary. Registration and enrollment for those persons may be done after the November 5, 2019 election.

Registration can be done in person at Town Hall during regular hours, by mail, or online with the Secretary of the State's website: https://voterregistration.ct.gov/OLVR/welcome.do.

You can check your registration online at https://portaldir.ct.gov/sots/LookUp. aspx or by calling our office at 860-526-0013, ext 211.

The Registrar of Voters office is on the 2nd floor of Town Hall. Our office hours are most Thursdays from 2-4 pm. We can be reached by phone at 860-526-0013, ext 211 or by email at registrar@ chesterct.org.

A Thank you Note for a Huge Success



Chester held its 49th Annual Lobster Festival on September 7th and for the first time the event was a many of whom have been coming for years. The new tent set up and the ever popular "Old Dog, New Trick" performing out of doors on the bandstand plus the addition of an area for playing Corn Hole created a truly festive atmosphere.

We want to express our gratitude to each of our sponsors; Whelen Engineering, Zanardi Oil, Aaron Manor and West Main Auto, who have been our patrons for many years, and new sponsors, Ashfield (a division of UDG Healthcare) and Adams Hometown Market. Your generosity provided the foundation for this successful fundraising event. This year Adams Hometown Market supplied the delicious lobsters & steaks for this fabulous event. The support that Adams' management and staff provided to the Chester Rotary was outstanding.

We look forward to continuing our partnership, providing top quality fare to future festival attendees. To Lark and The Chester Package Store who provided us a place to sell tickets downtown, to Camp Hazen who prepared the potatoes, to the Boy Scouts who cover tables, shuck corn and park cars, to All Waste who provide our trash services and to the Valley Regional Interact Club and all the selfless volunteers who assist with the cooking and food service we say thank-you.

You are all why this is such a successful community event. Next year we celebrate our 50th Lobster Festival so start designing your table decor and plan to get your tickets early. Our 2020 Lobster Festival promises to be an event not to be missed!

Chester Parks and Recreation

Celebrating Community through People, Parks and Programs!

860-526-0013 extension 223, parkrec@chesterct.org

Visit our website for additional program information and registration forms: http://chesterct.org/town-government/parks-recreation-commission/

NORTH QUARTER PARK AND PELLETIER PARK AT CEDAR LAKE ARE UNDER RENOVATION. PLEASE DO NOT APPROACH THE CONSTRUCTION SITES.

Coming soon... a basketball court and a 9-hole family disc golf course at North Quarter Park.

Early School Dismissal Field Trips

Directly following the early school dismissal 1:15 pm until 6:00 pm departing from and returning to Chester Elementary School, SpareTime Entertainment Thursday, October 17 and Mystic Aquarium Friday, October 18, for grades K through 6.

Youth Basketball for grades 2 & 3: girls and boys in grades 2 & 3, directly following school dismissal - 4:15 pm on Wednesdays or Thursdays November 13 through February 28 in the Chester Elementary School gym. Friday evening games after January 1, \$45, please add \$10 if you need a new shirt. Registration due October 29.

Rookie Basketball for grades K & 1: girls and boys in grades K & 1, directly following school dismissal - 4:15 pm on Fridays January 10 through February 28 in the Chester Elementary School gym. \$25 fee and registration due January 3.

Karate: ages 5 through 12, 5:00-6:00 pm on Mondays, Session 2: October 28, November 18, 25, December 2, 9, Session 3: January 6, 13, 27, February 3, 10, Session 4: February 24, March 2, 9, 16, 23, Session 5: March 30, April 13, 20, 27, May 4, Session 6: May 11, 18, June 1, 8, 15 at the Chester Town Hall Community Room. \$47 per session payable to the instructor Tammy Marino.

American Red Cross CPR/AED/First Aid Certification: classes at the Chester Town Hall, CPR/AED 5:30-8:30 pm on Wednesday, October 2, add First Aid 5:30-7:45pm on Friday, October 4, \$45 for CPR/AED, \$50 for CPR/AED and First Aid.

Ballroom Dancing this fall! All levels, 6:30-7:30 pm on Mondays at the Chester Meeting House, Session 2: October 21, 28, November 4, 18, \$40 per 4 class session payable to the instructor Karen Pfrommer.

Yoga: all levels welcome, 6:00-7:00 pm on Tuesdays September 10 through May 19 at the Chester Town Hall Community Room. attend any class for \$10 per class payable to the instructor Annette Babek.

Martial Arts Fitness for adults and teens this summer: This introductory program includes basic Karate techniques, conditioning exercises, noncontact Kickboxing skills, target & air shield drills, and self-defense awareness, Mondays, Summer: July 8, 15, 29, Session 2: October 28, November



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18, 25, Session 3: January 13, 27, February 10, Session 4: February 24, March 9, 16, Session 5: March 30, April 13, 20, Session 6: April 27, May 11, 18, 6:15-7:15 pm at the Chester Town Hall Community Meeting

Room, \$27 payable to instructor Tammy Marino, please register in advance

Adult Recreational Basketball: ages 16 through adult, 7:00 pm-9:30pm on Thurs

days November 14 through February 27 in the Chester Elementary School gym. \$10 for Chester residents and \$15 for nonresidents for the season, advance registration required.

The Meeting House Players Present...

The Meeting House Players is proud to present "THE DIXIE SWIM CLUB," a heartwarming, laugh-out-loud comedy, by Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope and Jamie Wooten.

Five Southern women, whose friendships began many years ago on their college swim team, set aside a long weekend every August to recharge those relationships. Free from husbands, kids, and jobs, they meet at the same beach cottage on North Carolina's Outer Banks to catch up, laugh, and meddle in each other's lives.

The play focuses on four of those weekends and spans a period of thirty-three years. "THE DIXIE SWIM CLUB" is a hilarious and touching comedy about friendships that last a lifetime and beyond. Directed by Chester resident Debbie Alldredge, the production showcases an ensemble cast of talented area actors featuring Nancy Cardone, Karen Sutton, Courtney Coleman, Elizabeth Alvord and Vickie Blake.

The production opens at the Meeting House in Chester on Friday, November 8th, continuing November 9th, 15th & 16th, 2019 with both a matinee and an evening performance on November 16th. Reservations will be available beginning October 9th at www.TheMeetingHousePlayers.com or by calling 860-526-3684.

The Meeting House Players is a learning community as well as a performing community. We are a small, non-profit, all volunteer community theatre organization whose goal is two-fold. We endeavor to produce great theatre to delight our audiences and we strive to bring the joy, the fun and the comradery to all those involved in the creative process that brings our productions to life. We pursue the theatre arts with the talents and the interests of people throughout Connecticut. We look forward to having you join us at the Chester Meeting House!

Chester - Community Listings

Chester - Community Listings			
CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS	LIBRARY		
Chester Land Trust(860) 526-2775	Chester Public Library (860) 526-0018		
Chester Fair(860) 526-5947			
Chester Democratic Town Committee laclymas@gmail.com	POST OFFICE		
Chester Republican Town Committee (860) 398-0690	Chester Post Office (860) 526-2780		
Chester Garden Club(860) 526-2998			
Chester Historical Society(860) 526-5781	SCHOOLS		
Chester Merchants Association www.visitchester.com	Superintendent of Schools District 4 (860) 526-2417		
Lions Clubdeepriverchesterct.lionwap.org	Chester Elementary School (860) 526-5797		
Deep River and Chester VFW (860) 526-3521	John Winthrop Middle School(860) 526-9546		
Tri Town Youth Services Bureau(860) 526-3600	Valley Regional High School(860) 526-5328		
Chester Meeting House(860) 526-0013			
	WORSHIP SERVICES		
USEFUL NUMBERS	St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church (860) 526-5495		
Consumer Protection	Congregation Beth Shalom - Temple (860) 526-8920		
Community Foundation of Middlesex County (860) 347-0025	United Church of Chester (860) 526-2697		

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Today is Tomorrow's History

News from the Chester Historical Society

Visiting the Museum

It's our 50th year sharing and making history! Be sure to visit our museum as well as come to our programs as we celebrate this important milestone. If you haven't taken the time to visit our Chester Museum at The Mill since we opened for the season in June, please take the time now! Our redesigned first floor - thanks to Sandy and Marilena Vaccaro and Keith and Sandy Dauer - features new displays about what's happened in each decade since our 1970 founding. The exhibit is also a tribute to Jan and Peter Good who have generously created posters, logos and more for the Historical Society and the town for the past 50 years.

Upstairs, our award-winning, long-running "Streams of Change" exhibit has something for everyone, including brandnew attractions. Picture yourself getting your hair curled with the (then) latest technology at Andy's Beauty Shop. Learn of Chester's four early school districts, the Union School and the evolution of education sites since.

The museum is open every Saturday afternoon from 1 to 4 and every Sunday from 10 to 4 until the end of October, at no charge (but donations are always welcome!). The museum will also be open on the Friday and Saturday after Thanksgiving so you can visit with your out-of-town guests.

Fall Programs

On Sunday, Oct. 20, at 3 pm, in collaboration with the Deep River Historical Society, we'll be showing some of the old films of our two towns (including the '36 flood and '38 hurricane) that have been digitized and edited, thanks to our collaborative grant from the Community Foundation of Middlesex County. This free program will be held in the Auditorium of the Deep River Town Hall.

On Monday, Nov. 11, at 7 pm at the Meetinghouse, we'll be hosting the Tuxedo Junction Big Band for the third time this fall. You can dance or just toe-tap as you enjoy the wonderful variety of music the band plays. Refreshments are available or you can bring your own. The event is free.

On Sunday, Nov. 17, at 4 p.m. at the Meetinghouse, Jan Cummings Good and Peter Good will reflect on some of their favorite Chester designs from the last 50 years. The program is free.

Membership Opens Our Doors for Special Times

Having a gathering of family or friends? Wish to share Chester with others? Chester Historical Society members can consider a visit to Chester Museum at The Mill at times other than normal museum hours (Sat 1-4, Sun 10-4). In season, offseason, we'll work with you to schedule a visit tailored to your needs and times. Call Diane Lindsay at (526-2443) to start the process.

Want to help?

Our curator, Diane Lindsay, can use assistance in our archive room. She's there on Tuesday afternoons and Friday mornings. If you want to know more about what's involved and how frequently you'd be needed, please give Diane a call at 526-2443.

Want to help us tape the memories of our longtime citizens so we can preserve their oral histories? Please call Cary Hull at 860-558-4701. And don't forget, we are always looking for old (and not-so-old) Chester photos that we would scan and return to you. Please let Diane Lindsay know you've got something to share.

Stay in the know through our facebook page (Facebook.com/chestercthistoricalsociety) or our monthly e-news (to receive it, sendyour email address to chesterhistorical society@gmail.com). You can also watch our website, chesterhistorical society.org.

Helping Women at Risk for Breast Cancer

Middlesex Health Cancer Center's Comprehensive Breast Center helps identify women who may be at high risk for breast cancer due to family history or benign breast disease. It also monitors and treats women who have an established high risk for breast cancer and helps patients in treatment or recovery.

Women who are identified as being high risk, or who think they might be at high risk, are encouraged to either make an appointment with the center directly or ask their primary care physician for a referral. Within the center, the scheduling of diagnostic tests and a meeting with a breast surgeon can happen on the same day.

Middlesex Health Cancer Center is accredited by the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers. The Comprehensive Breast Center is located at 540 Saybrook Road in Middletown. The same services are also offered at the Middlesex Health Shoreline Medical Center in Westbrook. To contact the center, call 860-358-2780.

United Church of Chester

United Church of Chester Worship Services and Events:

Sunday Worship, 10 am - All are welcome. Sunday, October 6, 10 am: Mission Trip Celebration. See pictures and hear stories from our most recent trip to Volusia County Florida.

Sunday, October 6, Crop Walk to end hunger. Registration starts at 12:30 pm. Rain or shine at Chatfield Hollow State Park on Rt. 80 in Killingworth.

Wednesday, October 16, 4 - 6 pm. Flu shot clinic with The Visiting Nurses of the Lower Valley.

Saturday, October 19, 6 pm: Pot-roast supper - get tickets early!

Saturday, November 16, 7 pm: "Tellabration with Val Tutson!" Tickets at local stores and the church office are \$10. Come out and enjoy this exceptional show, while helping fundraise for both the UCC and the Connecticut Storytelling Center! Sunday, November 17, 10 am: Val Tutson will be our special guest speaker. Sunday, November 17, 4 pm: Inter-Faith Thanksgiving Service with choirs from area churches and synagogue. Location TBD. Saturday, December 7, 9-2 pm. Annual Christmas Fair! Come get into the Christmas spirit and enjoy locally handcrafted

amazing array of Christmas items for sale. Sunday, December 22, 10 am: A Christmas cantata, "The Song Heard Round the World," performed by the UCC choir, soloists, and an instrumental ensemble. Directed by Karli Gilbertson. Music lovers delight! Tuesday, December 24, 5 pm: Christmas Eve Family Service. Families are invited to celebrate and sing together. Choir and Christmas meditation.

United Church of Chester 29 West Main Street / 860-526-2697 unitedchester@uccchester.org, Uccchester.org



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ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK Sharon Echtman	510	
TREASURER Elizabeth Netsch	214	Treasurer@chesterct.org
WPCA		wpca@chesterct.org

www.chesterct.org

Robbie Collomore Concert Series

The remaining two concerts for the 2019 Robbie Collomore Concert Series are coming up in November. Both concerts are at 5 pm in the Chester Meeting House.

Our first November concert, on the 3rd of the month, features J2B2, an all-star bluegrass group (also known as the John Jorgenson Bluegrass Band). This concert is sponsored by the Robert J. Semrad Foundation. Four legendary musicians: John Jorgenson on acoustic guitar, mandolin and vocals; Herb Pedersen on banjo, acoustic guitar and vocals; Mark Fain on bass; and Patrick Sauber on acoustic guitar and vocals, join together to form a union of impeccable musicianship. Their debut album, From the Crow's Nest, was recently recorded in Sheryl Crow's Nashville recording studio.

We end our season with wonderful cello and piano recital, featuring Carter Brey and Benjamin Pasternak performing works of Debussy, Britten, and Mendelssohn. This concert is sponsored by the Chester Bocce Club, in memory of Donald Hanson. Carter Brey was appointed principal cellist of the New York Philharmonic in 1996 and has appeared as soloist with many of America's major symphony orchestras, and performed and recorded with many well-known artists. Benjamin Pasternack, pianist, has performed as soloist, recitalist, and chamber musician on four continents, and has won numerous awards. Together they will make some incredible music!

Every concert is followed by a reception in the hall, where you can meet the performers. The John Jorgensen Bluegrass concert will be catered by Masonicare at Chester Village. The Brey/Pasternak recital will be catered by The Wheatmarket.

Individual tickets are \$30 each; student tickets are \$5. Purchase your tickets online at www.collomoreconcerts.org or call 203-488-8403.

The Robbie Collomore Concert Series is presented under the auspices of the Chester Historical Society.

St. Teresa of Calcutta Christmas Fair

St. Teresa of Calcutta (formerly St. Joseph's) Christmas Fair will be held on Saturday, December 7th, 48 Middlesex Turnpike in Chester, and will run from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm. There will be several craft vendors, homemade luncheon, baked goods and and handmade items, beautiful greenery with wreaths for sale, a large basket raffle, a large White Elephant sale, and more! If you need more information, please feel free to contact me.

Cindy Stevens, Co-Chair



goPINK celebrates the 10th anniversary of supporting people with cancer. You can support cancer patients this fall during the 10th anniversary of goPINK. Donations help cover the costs of integrative medicine therapy for all cancer survivors served by Middlesex Health Cancer Center, including those with breast cancer.

Integrative medicine complements conventional cancer treatment. It focuses on the whole person - mind, body and spirit, and can help many patients find relief from pain, neuropathy and other cancer-related symptoms. Patients who are cared for by Middlesex Health Cancer Center in Middletown and Westbrook can choose from acupuncture, reflexology, massage therapy and more.

The local community has donated more than \$215,000 to goPINK since 2010, which has helped more than 1,200 cancer patients receive free integrative medicine therapy. To learn more about the month of activities visit gopinkproject.com.



A Round of Applause... For Supporting Our Animal Friends.



(860) 347-0025 www.MiddlesexCountyCF.org It takes a community to improve the quality of life for all – neighbors and friends who give their time and resources to support a passion or area of interest. We applaud the good people who are working in partnership to protect wildlife and help provide for the basic needs of animals and their human friends.

Together, we are making a real difference. Thanks to our donors, our nonprofit partners, and the Animals: Respect & Friendship Fund (ARF!), our neighbors in need are able to keep their animals and benefit from their companionship. Together, we are increasing access to veterinary care, keeping pets in homes, and supporting pop-up veterinary clinics for pets owned by seniors living in fixed-income housing.

Thanks to you, by combining our resources, we are able to make even the smallest gift have a big impact - through charitable funds that support not only animal welfare, but also arts and culture, health and social services, education, the environment, history, civic improvements, recreation, and economic security and opportunity.

We celebrate all of you who share the same desire to help our local community thrive today, and tomorrow.

We invite you to learn more by calling us or visiting us online.

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The Chester Hose Company

The Chester Hose Co. had its elections in July. Congratulations to the new Officers:

Fire Chief: James Grzybowski

Deputy Fire Chief: Charles Greeney Jr.

Assistant Fire Chief: John Ahearn Battalion Fire Chief: Brian Ahearn

Captain: Dylan Grzybowski

Lieutenant: Ben Belisle

Deputy EMS Chief: Geoff Vincelette Assistant EMS Chief: Sara Blaschik

President: Vinny Germini Secretary: Karen Graham

Treasurer: Ben Belisle

Trustees: Edward Calamari Chuck Tower Denise Sypher

We would like to thank our past officers for their hard work and dedication: John Brainard, Kimberly Brainard, James Schaefer, and Scot Mills.

We would like to remind everyone that if we cannot find you, we cannot help you. Please make sure your homes are clearly marked with your house number and it is visible from the street. If you are in a wooded area, make sure your driveway is clearly marked. Clear away any debris that may be covering your house number.

Thank you to all of you who stopped by our NEW Grinder Booth at the Chester Fair, as well as those of you who dared dunk our members at the Juniors Dunk Tank. Special thanks go out to the Chester Fair Association, Tim Comstock, Jeff Greider, Bob Burton, Jim Kraczkowsky, Bruce Sypher, and Scot Mills for their hard work and time building our new Grinder Booth. We really appreciate everyone's support.

Some upcoming events to watch for: We are selling "Responders and Rescues" 2020 calendars for \$20 that support both the Chester Hose Co. and Homeward Bound. If you are interested, please contact us at 860-526-0019, the Website: Chesterhoseco.org or visit: The Homeward Bound website: https://www.homewardboundct.org/2020-calendars/. Calendars are also available at several downtown merchants, including The French Hen, Chester Package Store, and Strut Your Mutt Pet Store. A calendar would make a fun holiday gift...and support a great cause!

Watch your mailboxes for our letter-drive newsletter coming out in the fall.

December - we will be selling our wreaths starting the first weekend in December. Please watch our sign board or go on to our website for details.

Our new website is up and running, but please follow us on Facebook for more behind the scenes and updates on our department!

Craft Fair - The Chester Hose Company Incorporated invites you to our "Fall Back, Spring Ahead" Art & Craft Fair on Sat., Oct. 26th from 10 am to 3 pm. Located at our firehouse, 6 High Street in Chester. There will be a variety of one-of-a-kind items available from local handcrafters. You'll find something for everyone on your list including your best friend Fido. We're excited to announce that the Chow Food truck from Clinton will be serving up spectacular breakfast and lunch items. Weather permitting, Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream truck will also be present. Come for a fun-filled day, and check out our Prize Drawing. Free parking and admission.

Absentee Ballots

Absentee ballots for the November 5, 2019 election become available on Friday, October 4, 2019 from the Town Clerk if you are going to be out of town during the hours of voting.

Debra Germini Calamari, Chester Town Clerk



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Chester Library

Adult Programs

Oct. 23 – "Furious Hours by Casey Cep." Facilitator and discussion leader Marsha Bansavage is back for our fall book discussion. This program will take place at the library from 6:30 to 8:00 pm and is free, but registration is encouraged. Books will be available at the library on a first-come, first-served basis.

Nov. 12 – "Shoreline Ringers." Learn about the art of handbell ringing with the Shoreline Ringers with demonstrations and hands on audience participation. They will go over the history of bells, various techniques, play a few songs, and more. This program will take place at the Chester Meeting House, 6:30 pm. This is a family event.

Nov. 17 – "Shoreline Pallet Design." Abigail Roccapriore is back from Shoreline Pallet Design for a fun-filled Sunday as we create one-of-a-kind artwork on reclaimed wood. Perfect holiday gift. There will be 2 sizes available, \$10 or \$25 for materials fee payable in advance. Town Hall, 11 am.

Dec. 8 - "Shoreline Pallet Design." If you've missed the last two sessions, here's your chance to create one-of-a-kind artwork on reclaimed wood. Perfect holiday gift. There will be 2 sizes available, \$10 or \$25 for materials fee payable in advance. Town Hall, 11 am.



Children's & Teen/Tween Programs

Oct. 10, 17 & 24 – "Arduino Coding." This new STEM/STEAM pilot project made possible by a grant from the Community Foundation of Middlesex County will introduce Arduino coding using our new Chromebooks to create fun projects. Class is limited to 12 students, ages 12+ and registration is required. 4 pm at the library.

Oct. 16 – "Read the Nutmegs Book Club!" Students in grades 4-6 are welcome to join Stephanie, our children's librarian, to read this year's Nutmeg Book Awards nominees. At our introductory meeting we will get to know each other and vote on which picks to read. We will meet once per month to discuss the choices and vote for our favorites in the spring. Bring a friend or two or three! 4:30 p.m.

Oct. 19 – "Nail Polish Pumpkins." Join us at the library from 10:30 am – 11:30 am as we create magical designs on pumpkins using nail polish. Suitable for ages 8+.

Oct. 30 – "Harry Potter Party." Calling wizards of all ages. Dress as your favorite Harry Potter character and join us for a themed party at the library. We will have potion and spell stations, wand making and more! 4-6 pm.

Nov. 2 – "Kid Yoga." All levels are invited to have fun, stretch, and relax; parents are welcome to join in. Please bring a yoga mat if you have one or a towel if you don't. This event will take place at the Meeting House at 10:30 am. Ages 6+.

Nov. 6 – "The Seamen's Church Institute's Christmas on the River Card Making Project 2019." The Seamen's Church Institute provides pastoral care to our United States Merchant Mariners working on boats and ships on our Rivers and Gulf. They deliver gift boxes to their boats to help them cope with being away from home on Christmas Day. Packed by church and civic organizations, the boxes contain knitted hats and scarves, Christmas cards made by children of all ages, and a few other items. We need your help in making enough cards for thousands of our mariners. Families are welcome to stop by the library from 10-5 and show your support by creating a homemade card which we will collect and send off.

Dec. 3 – "The Nutcracker Ballet." Eastern CT Ballet is back with their rendition of The Nutcracker with a costumed dancer from the company. Children will be guided through movement based on the story. Real props from the theater will also be used to enrich the program. This will be held at the Chester Meeting House, 4:30 pm.

**Meet our new Children's Librarian, Miss Stephanie with Story Hour every Monday at 10:30 am. All children welcome.

Tri-Town Cub Scout Pack 13 ~ Chester - Deep River - Essex

Tri-Town Cub Scout Pack 13 Chester-Deep River-Essex is dedicated to the growth and development of boys and girls in grades K-5. Through close interaction with our local schools, towns people and the Chester/Deep River Boy Scout Troop 13, Cub Scouts in Pack 13 are exposed to wonderful opportunities for physical, mental and intellectual development. Most of all everything is focused on FUN! Boys & girls involved with Cub Scouts are all given the opportunity to learn to be a leader.

During this summer the pack stayed active by offering activity events. In July we held Rocket Launch event at Haddam Meadows. In August we held a Campfire & Knots Night at the Boy Scout Troop 13 building where the Cubs learned how to tie knots and helped to construct a Knots Display Board for the Chester Fair where they won a first prize Ribbon in H-4 Category Junior Club Division and at the Haddam Neck Fair where they won third place ribbon in the Educational Exhibits Category. The knot board can be seen at the United Church of Chester.

This year we have community service projects planned, camping trips, Veterans' Day Programs, parades, rocket day, and the always popular Pinewood Derby.

For more information or to join Cub Scout Pack please email Cubmaster GR Nash Jr. or Pack Committee Chair, Lianne Rutty at cdrcubscoutp13@gmail.com.

Pack 13 welcomes and serves <u>all</u> youth grades K-5 in Chester, Deep River, Essex & any surrounding towns. Families can sign their children up to join Cub Scouts at anytime in the year.

The Pack meets once a month as a large group and Dens are made up of youth of the same school grade. Dens meet 1-3 times each month to work on requirements, field trips or do service projects.

Training is required for all adult volunteer leaders, and is provided by both the Pack and the Boy Scouts of America Council office.

Visit the Chester website at www.chesterct.org







The Probate Court and You



Judge Jeannine Lewis, Saybrook
District Probate Court

The classic definition of real property is land and everything attached or affixed to it by nature or the hand of man, from the core of the earth to the center of the heavens. When a person dies owning real property in Connecticut, the Probate Court assists in a number of ways to ensure title to that property is either distributed to the heirs or beneficiaries of the

person who died, or by helping to ensure clear title so that the property can later be sold.

A common scenario arises when one spouse in a married couple passes away, and all assets, including their home, are jointly titled. It is a mistaken belief that because the real property is held jointly, that probate involvement is unnecessary. The Probate Court is designated by the legislature to determine whether a decedent died with a Connecticut taxable estate. When an estate is deemed

to be nontaxable, the Probate Court issues a release of lien that gets recorded in the land records in the town where the decedent owned the real property. This release of lien is required for the eventual sale of the home. In the scenario where all assets are jointly owned between spouses, full probate may not be needed, and a Tax Purposes Only Estate may be appropriate.

Tax Purposes Only Estate – If a person dies owning no solely owned assets (can own joint assets or assets that pass by beneficiary designation such as life insurance), the Probate Court can issue a release of lien for any real property jointly held once the following paperwork has been filed: certified copy of the decedent's death certificate, the deed to the real property, and a Connecticut Estate Tax Return (Form CT -706 NT) if assets total \$3,600,000 or less in 2019. For further information, contact the Saybrook District Probate Court at (860) 510-5028.

Please note: The Saybrook District Probate Court serves 9 towns: Chester, Clinton, Deep River, Essex, Haddam, Killingworth, Lyme, Old Saybrook and Westbrook.

Contact: Sharon Tiezzi, Chief Clerk at 860-510-5028 stiezzi@ctprobate.gov.



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The Chester Land Trust

The Chester Land Trust's annual meeting will be held at The Chester Meeting House on Thursday, November 21 at 6:30 pm. Please join us for our brief business meeting, audience participation topics and trivia, and of course, homemade refreshments. 860.526.2775 RSVP.

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BRAYCE, Hosting International Students



The BRAYCE Cultural Exchange Program provides scholarships for high school students from favela communities in Brazil to Camp Hazen and a week's homestay with local families. Sarah Waterhouse, writes about her experience:

When I was asked last summer if I would consider hosting a student from Brazil for a week, I was a little hesitant but as I mulled it over, my mind was flooded with fond memories of my family

hosting students when I was a kid. I quickly agreed, although still feeling unsure of what to expect. To my relief BRAYCE, the hosting organization, explained the details and even provided information on my students likes,

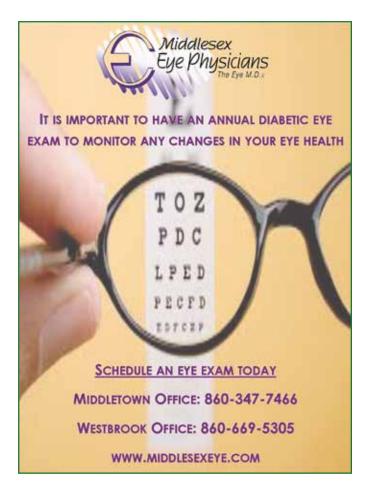
dislikes, goals and aspirations. I felt I had a good sense of my student and was so excited to get the opportunity to meet him in person.

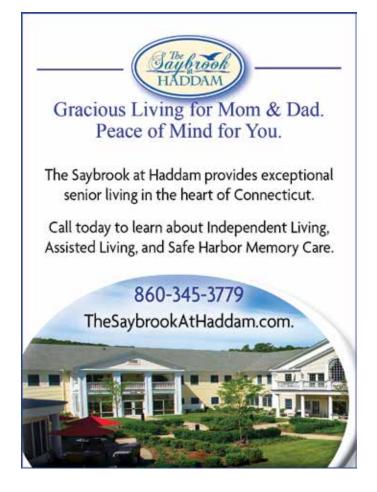
The hosting experience is truly a wonderful opportunity, a way to bring another culture and experience into your home without even having to travel! We learned about Brazil, their culture, their music and their food. It was fun to explore our small towns and see the

wonderment of what we take for granted through the eyes of our Brazilian friend. We have now hosted two boys from Brazil, last summer and this summer. I am so thankful that I didn't let my hesitation stop me from agreeing to host, it truly is a fabulous experience, building life long memories and bonds. The students are polite, respectful and speak great English.

If you have an opportunity to host a student I would encourage you to consider it. Our family is so grateful for the experiences and can't wait to meet the BRAYCE students next summer!

To learn more about becoming a Host Family please call Margot Calder at 860-575-8967 or email mcalder@brayce.org.





Tri-Town Youth Services

Congratulations to Melanie Meyer, LMFT
Tri-Town Youth Services is pleased to
announce that Clinical Director, Melanie
Meyer is a newly licensed Marriage and
Family Therapist! We are extremely proud
of her hard work, determination and passion
for helping children, teens, families and
couples in our community. As a Licensed
Therapist, Melanie will soon have the
opportunity to bill insurance companies for



her services, making counseling more accessible and affordable for the residents of Chester, Deep River and Essex. Melanie works with clients of all ages and is particularly skilled at connecting to adolescents struggling with anxiety, depression, anger or school avoidant behavior. If you are concerned about a young person in your life, contact Melanie for a free initial consultation to see if therapy may be able to help. She maintains a confidential phone line and voicemail at 860-526-3971.

In addition to her full-time position at Tri-Town Youth Services, Melanie serves as Chair of the Valley Shore Collaborative, a local coalition of mental health providers, youth service bureaus, parents, state agencies and recovery specialists dedicated to ensuring that comprehensive mental health services are accessible to families along the shoreline. Members of the Valley Shore Collaborative provide a forum for improving mental health

services through networking, sharing resources and information, offering professional development and hosting programs for the broader community.

On October 15, the Valley Shore Collaborative will be hosting a screening of the documentary, Resilience: The Biology of Stress & The Science of Hope which chronicles the birth of a new movement among pediatricians, therapists, educators and communities, who are using cutting-edge brain science to disrupt cycles of violence, addiction and disease. As the documentary will reveal, extremely stressful experiences in childhood can alter brain development and have lifelong effects on health and behavior. These Adverse Childhood Experiences are now known to be one of the leading causes of everything from heart disease and cancer to substance abuse and depression. However, as experts and practitioners profiled in RESILIENCE are proving, what's predictable is preventable. Communities are now daring to talk about the effects of divorce, abuse and neglect on our collective health, and they're using cutting edge science to help the next generation break the cycles of adversity and disease.

Please join us for this powerful documentary on October 15 from 6:00 - 8:00 pm in the Old Saybrook High School Auditorium, at 1111 Boston Post Road, Old Saybrook, CT 06475. Contact valleyshorecollaborative@gmail.com for more information.

Over \$1000 Raised for Alzheimer's Association!

On Saturday, August 10th, car enthusiasts, local businesses, and volunteers came together at The Saybrook at Haddam for a car show benefitting the Alzheimer's Association. There was a DJ, live music, food, and a raffle. Approximately 59 classic, vintage, and cool cars, trucks, fire trucks, and even an ambulance, showed up to raise money to help end Alzheimer's Disease.



Everyone enjoyed seeing the variety of vehicles, learning the stories behind them, and felt an overall sense of community; all while listening to music and eating burgers and hot dogs grilled to

perfection by none other than the Executive Director, himself – Perry Phillips.

At the end of the day, over \$1000 was raised. The Saybrook at Haddam continued to raise funds for this very important cause with activities such as Dress Down Friday, a raffle drawn on October 16th, and participation in the Walk to End Alzheimer's on September 14th at Ocean Beach Park in New London. "We couldn't be more pleased with the response and support that we received from the community," said Kathy Hallett, Safe Harbor



Director. "The Saybrook at Haddam wishes to thank everyone - the car owners, local businesses, and volunteers - for making this event such a tremendous success," says Phillips.

The Saybrook at Haddam is

a premier senior living community located in Haddam, Connecticut, founded in 2009 to help older adults maintain their independence and enjoy a high quality of life. There are 79 spacious independent and assisted living apartments where residents enjoy three meals per day, weekly housekeeping, transportation, social and recreational programs, and 24 hour nursing staff. Safe Harbor, a secure memory care neighborhood, provides specialized care for up to 26 residents suffering from Alzheimer's, dementia, or other memory-related conditions.



For more information, please visit www.TheSaybrookAtHaddam.com or like us on FaceBook.

Troop 13 - Chester/Deep River Boy Scouts

Troop 13 Boy Scouts serves the boys ages 11-18 of Chester and Deep River. The purpose of the Boy Scouts of America is to help young men develop their character and life skills all while having fun. There is much emphasis placed on assisting these young men to develop into strong healthy citizens who will lead our communities and country in the years ahead. The Boy Scout methods help to promote these ideals through the challenge of putting them into practice with the Troop Program. This is done in a way that is both challenging and fun.

Philmont Scout Ranch Trip - 2019

On June 22, 2019, a crew of nine Boy Scouts from Troop 13 along with Assistant Scoutmasters Mike Rutty, Robert Hart, and Matthew Raymond went to the Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimarron, NM this summer to hike in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains of the Rocky Mountains. After a tour of the US Air Force Academy, Garden of the Gods and a White Water Rafting trip they hiked 80 miles on this trip.

Summer Camp 2019

Troop 13 attended June Norcross Webster Scout Reservation in Ashford, CT for Summer Camp on July 18-22. The boys enjoyed swimming, boating, archery, sports, and camping. 13 scouts earned 38 merit badges during the week. Here is a sample of what they earned: Golf, Swimming, Digital Technology, Fish



Chester/Deep River Boy Scouts Troop 13 on the trail at Philmont Scout Ranch, Cimarron, NM with Baldy Mountain in the background.

and Wildlife Managment, Environmental Science, Sculpture, Art, Robotics, Basketry, Electronics, First Aid, Welding, Chess, Leatherwork, Metal Working, Fishing, Camping, Rifle & Shotgun Shooting. Four scouts completed the Paul Bunyan Woodsman Program.

Information

To learn more information about joining Troop 13 please contact our Scoutmaster, Steven Merola @ 860-526-9262.



The Hartford Whalers – Forever and Always

by Sigrid Kun





The iconic logo is omnipresent. There are Hartford Whalers hats, t-shirts, and sweatshirts seemingly everywhere. It doesn't take much to get the conversation going. Bumping into someone with Whalers' gear spawns a trading of stories, a bonding moment full of laughs and nostalgia. Why do we still care so much, yearn for the past, and continue to hope for the future?

Alums like Chuck Kaiton, the beloved voice of the Whalers and John Forslund, former Whalers PR director/television broadcaster and now television broadcaster for the Carolina Hurricanes and NBC, provide some answers.

They fondly recall the Whalers as a pioneering organization that focused its efforts around the community and the fans. Together, they can compile a number of firsts: the first National Hockey League (NHL) team to earmark a charity as its own (the UConn Children's Cancer Fund); the first NHL team to have a team store right in the arena; the first NHL team to boast a blimp that dropped prizes and gift certificates to the crowd. Kaiton points out that the Whalers came up with the idea for a skills competition for the 1986 All-Star game held in Hartford. The team spearheaded youth hockey development that ultimately evolved into today's local elite programs. "We were ahead of our time," said Kaiton. "Speaking engagements, school visits. It cemented the relationship between the team and the community. The 1980s were a great period with a lot of innovation that has carried into today."

Forslund agrees. The tradition continued into the 1990s with events like the "Tip-

a-Whaler" fundraiser (soon after adopted by the Kings) and Casino Nights (also later in vogue). "When we had PR and marketing meetings, we talked about programs with high schools and boys and girls clubs. It was grass roots." The community connection remains, he says, due to the hands on nature of the team.

The history is also special - beginning with the upstart World Hockey Association (WHA) to become the only U.S. based WHA team to enter the NHL in 1979. There are so many names and moments. Gordie Howe, of course. The playoff run in 1986. And there were the low moments. The Ron Francis trade in 1991. The ultimate heartbreak? The move to Carolina.



Ulf Samuelsson signing a hockey puck at the "Tip-a-Whaler" fundraiser. Photo by Diane Sobolewski Photography.

The Whaler passion endures. For the past three years, the Hartford Yard Goats host a Whalers Alumni Weekend. "It's terrific," says Kaiton. He, among other Whalers, attends every year. The weekend kicks off with tradition - visiting patients at the UConn Health Center. A luncheon on Saturday precedes the first pitch that is thrown out by the Whalers alumni. There is an autograph session.

The Whalers Booster Club continues a presence. Once down to 30 or so members it is 140+ strong.

The club meets monthly. It provides for an annual scholarship for a CT student, organizes a trip to see at least one NHL game a year, and continues to hope for a Whalers return. "We do what we can to try to bring back a team," says Mark Anderson, a member since 2011. "Since we can't do it with money, we keep the name out there. We keep the spirit alive."

There are Whalers, too numerous to mention, still making a hockey impact. A few examples include; Joel Quenneville (Florida Panthers' coach), Dave Tippett (Edmonton coach), Ron Francis (Seattle GM), Mike Liut (agent), Ray Ferraro (broadcaster), and Mark Johnson (University of Wisconsin women's coach).

Both Kaiton and Forslund refer to the Whalers in terms of "we." Kaiton was there for the NHL start. "I was the luckiest person to be chosen and to broadcast from day one. I will never forget it. The relationships with management, the players, the fans ... so passionate. I really cherish the memories. 18 years - I wish it were 28 or 38." Forslund joined the Whalers shortly after the Francis trade. "We were doing damage control," he recalls. The ticket base went from over 11,000 to around 6,000." But there were still high moments. "We got through a lot of adversity. The fans came back. We wanted to be more competitive. The team was good enough to make the playoffs."

Forslund vividly recalls broadcasting the last Whalers game. It took

him until a few years ago to actually watch. He wasn't sure he had done the moment justice. "It was the toughest thing I've ever done in my career," he notes. "How do you go on the air for the last game? There's no playbook for closing a franchise and leaving a city. How do you present that so it makes sense...is poignant. No one wanted to see it happen. We did [the broadcast] in the right way. You could feel the emotion of the fans."

As Kaiton puts it the Whalers years "were special years and it was a special place." The same goes for Forslund. "That's the one thing to convey, how special that time was...It was like family."

The Chester Democratic Slate of Candidates are Dedicated to Serving YOU by Protecting & Preserving Our Beautiful Town

The Chester Democratic Town Committee (CDTC) endeavors to seek out knowledgeable and experienced individuals to represent us in our town. Our committee, elected and appointed representatives, and candidates strive to work and bring our fellow residents together in civil involvement and decision making.

We take great pride and are pleased to announce the Democratic slate of candidates in this municipal election.

As you will see our slate of candidates are both familiar and new to running for office. All our candidates are competent, knowledgeable, experienced and dedicated to serving our town for the collective good of our community - always moving forward to improve our future while protecting and preserving what we cherish about Chester.



Election Day is almost upon us. Your individual opinion is important so please vote on Tuesday, November 5th at Chester Town Hall. Polls are open from 6:00 am to 8:00 pm. Show your support for your fellow residents who volunteer their time to serve you and our town - VOTE!

Please feel free to contact the Chester Democratic Town Committee for information or assistance with registering to vote, absentee ballots, upcoming meet and greet candidate events, volunteering at the polls, or if you need a ride to the polls. Contact Lori Ann Clymas at: laclymas@gmail.com or at: 860-526-8171 or Ed Meehan at: emeehanrox@yahoo.com or at: 860-526-2938.

Lori Ann Clymas, Chair CDTC

Election Day is Tuesday, November 5th Please VOTE!

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