

REDDING SENTINEL

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Traffic stops by CT State Police increase dramatically

By Mark Pazniokas

Connecticut State Police have more than doubled the number of their traffic stops this year as part of an effort to combat the reckless driving and traffic fatalities that seem to have become endemic since the pandemic year of 2020.

State troopers made 68,196 stops of non-commercial vehicles as of Tuesday, compared to 26,030 for all of 2023, said Ronnell Higgins, who took over in November as the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection.

More than 35,000 of the stops this year were for reckless driving, speeding, or traveling unreasonably fast.

“So, it’s really been a full court press, a focused approach, utilizing data and holding people accountable,” Higgins said Wednesday. “They’re doing it, and I’m proud of them for doing it, and we want to keep it up.”

All police agencies in Connecticut reported a precipitous drop in traffic stops in 2020, when Covid-19 exploded and police were on the defensive after the police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis.

Higgins said the increased stops by his troopers was by design, not happenstance.

“It was clear direction,” Higgins said. “I’m the Commissioner. They’re sworn law enforcement. That’s our work. If not us, then who?”

Overall, traffic stops reported by all police agencies in Connecticut fell from 513,000 in 2019 to 242,000 in 2020, according to numbers analyzed by CTData.org. They have increased each year since to 313,000 in 2022, still significantly below the pre-pandemic numbers.

Traffic fatalities reached a 40-year high of 366 in 2022 and fell to 310 in 2023. As of October 2, the state had 245 fatalities, an average of 27 every month. If that pace continues, the state will end the year with about 327 deaths.

Higgins spoke to reporters Wednesday at a press conference with U.S. Senator Chris Murphy, Governor Ned Lamont, and others about efforts to tame reckless driving. He noted there were local incidents in the previous 48 hours of men arrested after being clocked at speeds of 100, 120, and 126 miles per hour.

Higgins said a pilot program for enforcing speed limits with cameras in highway construction zones has been a success.

“In 2023, there was an 18% drop in average speed in construc-

Continued on page 3



Photo by Hugh Holt

Fall colors reflected in Putnam Pond. If you have a photo you'd like to see featured here, with credit of course, please e-mail editor@reddingsentinel.org.

Early Voting begins Monday

October 21 – November 3 | By Jessie Wright

In the first General Election since the Connecticut legislature approved Early Voting in the state, voters will have the opportunity to go to the polls for 14 days before Election Day.

Early Voting for Redding voters will be held at Redding Community Center (37 Lonetown Road) starting Monday, October 21 until Sunday, November 3. The hours for Early Voting are 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., except on Tuesday, October 29 and Thursday, October 31, when polls will be open from 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Any registered voter can choose to vote on an Early Voting day, without excuse. Early voters

will seal their ballots into an envelope with their voter registration information printed on it and sign the envelope before placing it into a ballot box. According to the Office of the Registrar of Voters, this process allows registrars to verify voter records across the state to ensure that no one has voted in more than one town. Ballots in an envelope without a signature will be rejected and not be counted.

In Redding, all ballots are counted on Election Day (which for this General Election is Tuesday, November 5). Early voting ballots will be secured and stored until Election Day, when they will be opened by trained poll workers

under the supervision of an Election Official and in view of the public and inserted into tabulators for counting.

The last day to register to vote is Friday, October 18, though Same Day Registration will be available at the polls during Early Voting and Election Day for new voters or those eligible to vote who have missed the registration deadline. Those voters will need to show identification and proof of Redding residency before registering and casting their ballot. ■

Learn more at townofreddingct.org/registrar-voters

REDDING’S BIG OUTDOORS

Redding Community Hiking Club to launch *Inaugural hike on Saturday, October 26*

By Jessie Wright



Photo courtesy of Mark Twain Library

Three of Redding’s mainstay organizations – Redding Land Trust, Mark Twain Library, and Redding Neighbors & Newcomers – have come together to form a new Community Hiking Club launching later this month.

The Club will organize regular hikes throughout the year at some of Redding’s most beautiful open spaces. Each trek will be led by a guide, many of whom are volunteer Trail Tenders and have deep

knowledge of the trails on which the group will be traveling.

“We envision eight to 10 hikes a year, some of which may have a particular theme, such as: native plants, ‘Thank Goodness It’s Friday’ with a post-hike gathering at a local pub, scenic vistas, local ecosystems, and spring awakenings,” explained Redding Land Trust Board Member Marjorie Derven. “All will be shaped by each hiking guide’s particular in-

terest, while promoting the restorative power of nature and building community connections.”

As the Club grows, members and outdoor enthusiasts can also try their hand at leading an outing.

“We want the Redding Community Hiking Club to be by and for the community, so over time, others who are interested will volunteer to be hiking guides in the future,” said Derven.

The Club will hit the trails for the first time on Saturday, October 26 at The Rock Lot and the Mary Evelyn Scott Nature Preserve, led by Lee Walters. Participants should gather across from 32 Peaceable Street to leave promptly at 10:00 a.m. for an approximately one-hour hike. The trek’s registration page classifies this outing as “low to moderate” difficulty, and promises views of old stone walls, a wetland overlook, and dappled sunlight.

Continued on page 9

Student test scores show sharp drop at pandemic, steady rebound

By Anne Young Albanese

The Redding Board of Education received a presentation on student testing data over the last decade at a meeting on Tuesday, October 1. The results show a sharp drop in test scores among students in grades three to eight, particularly in mathematics, following the Covid-19 pandemic shutdowns, with a trend of improvement in the last three academic years.

Superintendent of ER9, Dr. Jason McKinnon, presented the assessment results for students in grades three to eight. In Connecticut, these are referred to as Smarter Balanced Assessment Results. These are standardized tests in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics, which are given to students in every grade, and Science, which is given in grades five, eight, and 11. These tests measure student achievement and changes based on the Connecticut Core Standards. More information on the Connecticut Core Standards is available on the State Board of Education’s website at portal.ct.gov/sde/ct-core-standards.

Students are rated as exceeding the achievement standards, meeting the achievement standards, approaching the achievement standards, or not meeting the achievement standards. The goal is for students to exceed or meet the achievement standards in each subject. All scores are reported in percentages of students who exceeded or met these targets. McKinnon shared data from 2015 to 2024 for overall scores.

McKinnon shared the ELA scores broken down in academic years from 2015 to 2024. Starting with the 2015-2016 school year, the Redding school district had 79.2% of students exceeding or meeting the ELA score standards. The 2016-2017 school year had all grades at 76.2%. The 2017-2018 standards were at 79%. The 2018-2019 standards were at 79.1%. No scores were available in any category for 2019-2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic school shutdowns. The standards for 2020-2021 were 73.9%. The standards for 2021-2022 were at 73.9%. The standards for 2022-2023 were 72.3%, and the final year is 2023-2024, when the standards were 74.5%.

The math scores were similar. For the school year of 2015-2016, the standards were met or exceeded at 74%. For 2016-2017, it was 75.4%. The 2017-2018 school year was 77.9%. For 2018-2019, it was 77.8%. The 2019-2020 tests were cancelled. In 2020-2021, the standards were 69.1%. For 2021-

Continued on page 7

Index

Big Outdoors	1	Sports	4	Library Corner	9
Letters to the Editor	2	Business Spotlight	8	The Natural World	10
Legal Notice	2	Book Review	9	Calendar of Events	11



Visit our website



Construction progresses at historic 3 Side Cut Road building

By Donna Christopher



A rendering of the redevelopment project at 3 Side Cut Road.

Construction at the historic building at 3 Sidecut Road, originally built around 1864, is now making significant progress following partial demolition earlier this year.

The building has served many functions over the last 160 years, including housing a general store, post office, train depot, hardware store, restaurant, and apartments, but had fallen into significant disrepair.

The project, led by Greenwich Property Partners, will transform

the structure into a mixed-use development with two large second-floor apartments and three ground-floor retail units.

SC-3 LLC purchased the property from the estate of Barry Finch in April 2022 for \$400,000. Throughout the last year, construction was delayed due to planning challenges. Hendric Vogt, a principal of Greenwich Property Partners, explained that the timeline and execution plans had shifted several times since last spring.

Partial demolition was com-

pleted on the southern section of the building, which mainly housed the former “Bay Window Package Store”. There were some challenges connecting the old building with modern framing techniques to meet modern code requirements, primarily framing- and firewall-related.

“We are pleased to announce that after overcoming some challenges with the old masonry on the east side of the building and the intricate process of merging the new structure with the historic one, we are now ready to complete the framing and move forward with interior work,” Vogt shared in an e-mail update last week.

Vogt also noted that barring any further delays, the project – renamed The Station House – could soon announce an opening date. Tenant selection for the apartments and retail units has not yet begun due to the earlier setbacks. Once a firm completion date is established, a call for applications will be issued, and the developer will review interested candidates.

Vogt said the renovation of this 160-year-old building is a “key milestone in preserving the heritage of West Redding while providing new housing and commercial opportunities.” ■

Help shape Mark Twain Library’s strategic plan *Community Engagement Session to be held on October 23*

By Jessie Wright

Mark Twain Library is in the process of creating a three-to-five-year strategic plan and is seeking feedback and input from community members to help shape its priorities. The Library will be holding a Community Engagement Session on Wednesday, October 23 from 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. in order to solicit input from all members of the community.

The Library hopes to discover what resources Redding residents feel they need to advance their aspirations and to advance the priorities for the town as a whole. Ultimately, by learning what the community wants overall, the Library can be better informed about how it may serve some of those needs and more equipped to

develop goals and objectives for future facility improvements and services.

Members of the Library’s strategic planning committee have already begun this process by personally interviewing various community leaders to incorporate their feedback into the plan.

“It has been so fascinating and such a pleasure to talk to representatives in Redding and to learn what they think would benefit the people in Redding,” said Mark Twain Library Director Erin Dummeyer. “As a Library and as a hub of community activity in this small enclave of Redding, we want to meet the needs of the people living here, and I am excited to be a part of making that happen.”

Some of the leaders being interviewed include the First Selectwoman, the Superintendent, school principals, and directors of various organizations based in Redding, including the Boys & Girls Club of Redding-Easton and New Pond Farm Education Center.

The Community Engagement Session will open the feedback process to all community members. All are welcome. For those not able to attend but interested in having their voices heard, please contact the Library at: director@marktwainlibrary.org or (203) 938-2545 ext 110. ■

Learn more at marktwainlibrary.org

REDDING GRANGE

THIRD ANNUAL AGRICULTURAL

FAIR

Sunday October 20 • 11am to 3pm • 399 Newtown Turnpike

ENTER YOUR BEST!

\$2 suggested donation per entry

● Pre-registration for NON-perishable items Friday 10/18 4-7pm

Saturday 10/19 9:30am-12:30pm

● Entry registration Sunday 10/20 9:30-11am

● Judging starts 11am

● Entries can be picked up 3pm

Suggested admission donation: \$2 per adult or \$5 per family

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Most Impressive Produce

Seasonal Flower Arrangement

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Locally Produced Honey

Come Out of the Woodworking

The Greatest Thing Sliced Broad

Jam On

Pretty Pumpkins, Gorgeous Gourds & Sexy Squash

In a Pickle (anything pickled)

Photography (Redding/adjacent towns subject matter)

Needlework (needlepoint, embroidery, cross stitch, felting)

contact community@reddinggrange.org for more information

Traffic stops by CT State Police increase dramatically / continued from page 1

tion zones during a pilot program in Norwalk and other communities. Speed matters,” Higgins said. “The Connecticut State Police is tracking when and where and what days of the week fatalities are most frequent, and we are focusing our resources there, using specialized enforcement.”

The State Police traffic unit has focused on data-driven hot spots such as I-91 between New Haven and Hartford, I-84 from Hartford to the Massachusetts line, Route 9 from New Britain to Middletown, and Route 8 from Waterbury to Torrington.

“The pandemic changed us all, but what we’ve seen change on our roadways is especially concerning, from speeding to distracted driving, to impairment and wrong-way driving,” said Laoise King, the Deputy Transportation Commissioner. “We are employing a range of strategies to prevent these deadly behaviors.”

The State DOT has been installing new signage and other safety measures at on-ramps to protect against wrong-way drivers and recently begin a public-education campaign focused on fatalities.

Murphy, who makes an annual walk across Connecticut, said he is especially sensitive to traffic. He recently asked the U.S. Department of Transportation for recommendations on further strategies in Connecticut.

“I have a group of middle schoolers that I meet with on a regular basis in my neighborhood in the South End of Hartford,” Murphy said. “They talk to me all the time about their safety fears, and they have two safety fears: one, the fear of gun violence; and two, the fear of erratic drivers.” ■

This article originally appeared in CT Mirror



EARLY VOTING
Monday, October 21 -
Sunday, November 3



ELECTION DAY
Tuesday, November 5
6:00 AM - 8:00 PM

Redding Community Center - 37 Lonetown Road

October 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
20	21 Early Voting 10:00 am - 6:00 pm	22 Early Voting 10:00 am - 6:00 pm	23 Early Voting 10:00 am - 6:00 pm	24 Early Voting 10:00 am - 6:00 pm	25 Early Voting 10:00 am - 6:00 pm	26 Early Voting 10:00 am - 6:00 pm
27 Early Voting 10:00 am - 6:00 pm	28 Early Voting 10:00 am - 6:00 pm	29 Early Voting 8:00 am - 8:00 pm	30 Early Voting 10:00 am - 6:00 pm	31 Early Voting 8:00 am - 8:00 pm		
November 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Early Voting 10:00 am - 6:00 pm	2 Early Voting 10:00 am - 6:00 pm
3 Early Voting 10:00 am - 6:00 pm	4 - NO VOTING -	5 ELECTION DAY 6:00 am - 8:00 pm	6	7	8	9

For more information, scan the QR code  or visit www.townofreddingct.org/registrar-voters.

Snap a pic for reference!



SPORTS

Barlow gets sweep on Senior Day

Girls cross country | By Rocco Valluzzo



Photo by Rocco Valluzzo
Joel Barlow High’s Olivia Kotula placed second overall at a girls cross country met on Tuesday, Oct. 8. Barlow defeated Bethel, Weston and Masuk to finish the regular season.

A strong finish to the regular season brought the Joel Barlow High girls cross country team something extra for its efforts last week.

The Falcons capped off their league schedule by defeating the last six opponents they faced, including Bethel (19-36), Weston (25-30), and Masuk (17-35) on Senior Day last Tuesday, October 8, on their home course. Improving their record to 9-4 overall, they placed second in the Patriot Division of the South-West Conference behind undefeated New Fairfield.

All of Barlow’s top seven runners finished within the top 30 overall places, including four in the top ten. The team’s fastest time came from Olivia Kotula, who ran the 2.8-mile course in 21 minutes, 14.09 seconds, second only to

Weston’s Abigail Winslow.

Less than 17 seconds later was Clara Mehner, who was third in 21:31. Two other Falcon runners also broke the 24-minute mark.

With a 22:54.43 time, senior Ally Bardani was sixth overall. Immediately following her was Viv D’Amico in 23:19.19, taking seventh overall.

Completing the scoring for Barlow, Kate Kinyon came in at 24:24, good for 13th overall. Barlow’s other two varsity runners finished in succession, with senior Emily Capeci taking 26th in 25:57 and classmate Alex Keenan following four seconds later.

After the South-West Conference finals this week, the Falcons will take part in the state Class M meet on Saturday, October 26, at Wickham Park in Manchester at 9:35 a.m. ■

Win escapes Barlow in final

Boys cross country | By Rocco Valluzzo



Photo by Rocco Valluzzo
Joel Barlow High’s Stephen Czerkawski finished first for his team and ninth overall at a boys cross country meet on Tuesday, October 8.

The competition did not ease up as the regular season came to a close for the Joel Barlow High boys cross country team last week.

Although victory had eluded the Falcons in their previous dual meets, they had one more chance in their final home meet on Tuesday, October 8. A young and mostly inexperienced group, they were out-matched in losses to Bethel (36-19), Weston (30-25) and Masuk (35-17).

Falcon frontrunner Stephen Czerkawski, one of only two Barlow runners with varsity experience from last year, was his team’s lone finisher in the top ten overall places. Finishing in 18 minutes, 23 seconds, he was ninth overall, three seconds behind Masuk’s Brayden Hershberger.

The only other Barlow runner

to crack the top 20 was George Manna, who also ran last season. A 20:10 was good for 20th, three seconds ahead of Masuk’s Jeremy Gniadek.

Taking 26th, Julian Villanueva crossed the finish line in 21:02. The next three Falcon runners all finished in succession.

Lucas Jandura led the trio in 23:19, taking 42nd. One spot later was Logan Seo to complete the scoring for Barlow.

Also in the varsity race, Hunter Wildgoose finished in 23:38. Ben Azzara rounded out the top seven for Barlow with a 24:08.

Barlow finishes the season on Saturday, October 26 when it runs in the state Class M meet at Wickham Park in Manchester at 9:00 a.m. ■

Jerry Bielizna marks 50 years as coach at Barlow

By Rocco Valluzzo



Photo by Rocco Valluzzo
Joel Barlow High boys cross country coach Jerry Bielizna fires the starting gun at a meet on Tuesday, October 8. This season marks his 50th at Barlow.

to seeing them during the season and competing against them. It’s fun.”

Bielizna first came to Barlow in the fall of 1973 as a history teacher. The following year, he became cross country coach when the previous coach, Warren DeFrank, resigned.

“One day we were eating lunch and I was talking to him about the team, and he said, ‘You know anything about cross country?’” recalled Bielizna. “And I said, ‘I know a little bit.’ He then asked, ‘How would you like to be the coach?’ And I said ‘OK’, and I applied and I became the coach the following year.”

It was not the only sport he would coach at Barlow. In the spring of 1975, he became Assistant Coach for Gene Primavera for the boys track team, becoming the Head Coach years later.

Due to budget reductions, he was one of several teachers cut from Barlow but was re-hired in 1976 when an opening appeared. He was also re-hired as a coach.

Under Bielizna’s guidance, Barlow rose to prominence in boys cross country in 1990. That fall, the team won its first of several state Class M championships, one of the most memorable moments in his career as a coach.

Although most of the runners on that team graduated after that season, Barlow began to rebuild and had one of its best performances in 1994 when it went undefeated during the season and won its first league championship in the final year of the Western Connecticut Conference.

“I was so excited,” Bielizna said. “That was a really big deal to us, because Barlow had never won the league title.”

A year later, the Falcons pulled off an upset in the inaugural season

in the South-West Conference. Despite being without several runners from the previous year, it stunned Newtown (which had beaten Barlow during the regular season) to capture the championship.

“Those were some of the best teams we had in the mid 1990s,” said Bielizna.

Three more Class M titles (and one in Class MM) came between 1997 and 2016. During that span, Bielizna was named Connecticut High School Coach of the Year in 2013 and was also a finalist for National Cross Country Coach of the Year. In 2017, he was inducted into the Barlow Athletic Hall of Fame.

“I can’t tell you what a thrill it is to be at Wickham Park at the state championship and watch the guys finish up a hill – and you’re counting black shirts, and they’re all from Barlow, and you know you have a shot (at winning),” he said. “That’s one of the things that kind of keeps me coming back.”

Bielizna retired from teaching in 2009 and as Head Coach for boys track in 2011, but still continues to coach cross country. In 2021, Barlow again went undefeated and captured the first of back-to-back Class M crowns.

“If you had ever told me I’d be coaching this long, I would have told you that you were crazy,” he joked. “It really comes down to the fact that (Athletic Director Mike) Santangeli won’t let me quit, and they won’t fire me.” ■

Dig Pink game this weekend to raise funds for breast cancer research

Girls volleyball | By Jessie Wright



Joel Barlow High’s girls volleyball team is currently ranked first in the South-West Conference – but they’re bringing more than just skills to the court on Saturday, October 19. The team will be hosting their annual Dig Pink game that afternoon at 12:00 p.m. at Joel Barlow High School to raise funds for the Side-Out Foundation, which provides funding for Stage 4 breast cancer research.

Attendees can enjoy watching the game while supporting the cause through a 50/50 raffle, the purchase of baked goods and concessions, and a raffle for specialty baskets at the end of the game.

Founded by a high school volleyball coach whose mother was diagnosed with metastatic breast cancer, the Side-Out Foundation helps to galvanize communities to raise funds, awareness, and advance the science of beating breast cancer. Dig Pink is one of its central programs, which includes dedicated volleyball matches across the U.S. to fundraise for breast cancer research. ■

To learn more or to donate visit giving.side-out.org/campaigns/21341

Sports stats and schedules



Field hockey

Results:
October 7:
Joel Barlow 4 / Masuk 0
October 9:
Joel Barlow 1 / New Fairfield 1
Record:
Joel Barlow 7-4-3
Next game:
October 21 at 6:00 p.m. (TBA)
SWC quarterfinals

Boys soccer

Results:
October 8:
Joel Barlow 2 / Kolbe Cathedral 0
October 10:
Joel Barlow 1 / New Fairfield 0
Record:
Joel Barlow 7-4-2
Next game:
October 17 at 7:00 p.m. (home)
versus Stratford

Girls swimming

Results:
October 8:
Joel Barlow 95 / Bunnell 69

Girls swimming (continued)

October 11:
Brookfield 96 / Joel Barlow 82
Record:
Joel Barlow 5-3
Next meets:
October 15 at 6:30 p.m. (away)
versus Stratford
October 18 at 5:30 p.m. (away)
versus Lauralton Hall

Girls volleyball

Results:
October 8:
Joel Barlow 3 / Stratford 0
October 10:
Joel Barlow 3 / Newtown 0
Record:
Joel Barlow 12-2
Next matches:
October 17 at 7:00 p.m. (away)
versus New Milford
October 19 at 2:00 p.m. (home)
versus Pomperaug

Note: Some sports had a bye week last week due to the holidays.

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New Pond Farm Education Center

Redding Garden Club

Girl Scouts enjoy fall “Camporee” at Firehouse

By Rob Sample



Photos courtesy of Michele Van Steinburgh

Fall is a wonderful season for camping – with cool temps perfect for huddling by a campfire and shadowy nights for stories and singalongs. All this was what greeted Girl Scout troops from Redding and Easton this month, who held their first fall “Camporee” in several years at the West Redding Firehouse Friday, October 4.

The event drew about 60 participants from the troops that make up the Girl Scouts’ Falcon Service Unit, including 30 girls who camped overnight and another 30 who joined in the campfire fun. The Falcon Service Unit, headed by Unit Manager Stephanie Gregory, runs Girl Scout troops in each grade from kindergarten through sixth grade in both towns.

“The West Redding Fire Department has a big open space that’s perfect for tent camping,” noted Kaitlyn Tagarelli, leader of Redding’s third-grade Brownie troop and one of the event’s coordinators. Although the service unit had a campout last spring, these larger Camporees have been rare in recent years. They became

a bit of a casualty of the Covid shutdowns of 2020 and 2021.

“The troops used to do them all the time before Covid,” said Tagarelli. “So, all of our troops were very eager to come together and have this Camporee.”

Girl Scout troops are set up to be led by the girls who participate in them and planning ahead is one of the things they emphasize. This was certainly the case for the Camporee, as each troop had its own distinct responsibility.

Tagarelli’s co-leaders for the troop – Redding’s 31491 – are Michele Van Steinburgh and Anna Hurley. Tagarelli’s daughter, Elliot Brimacombe, is a member. Her Brownie troop made “walking tacos.” Campers took a snack-size bag of nacho chips, smashed it, and added meat and other taco fixings to the bag.

“It was surprisingly delicious, and the girls had lots of fun doing this!” said Tagarelli.

Redding’s Cadet Troop 31492 consists of sixth graders and was the oldest group in attendance. They organized a flashlight hike for the campers, which included

placing animal markers on glow sticks throughout the property. “That troop also brought s’mores for when we gathered around the fire,” said Tagarelli.

Breakfast was organized by Meredith and Isla Ahlberg of Junior Troop 50959 in Redding; Meredith Ahlberg is the group’s co-leader. Campfire songs were led by Kristin Everett’s fifth grade Junior Troop 31495 from Easton.

Other activities – each organized by a different troop – included skits, making friendship bracelets, and creating beaded bandannas. Within each troop, each girl has an individual assignment, which is a key part of being a Scout. They also snacked on brownies, which were baked in a handmade oven made by Unit Co-leader and Fire Department liaison Masako Vigneault.

“Masako made it from a cardboard box lined with foil with a rack made from wire hangers,” said Tagarelli. “Coals went into the bottom to bake the brownies.”

That next morning, the Scouts enjoyed a breakfast consisting of hot chocolate, bagels, muffins, and fruit. The Firehouse is equipped with an outdoor shed/snack bar with running water.

“Having that snack bar made it a bit like glamping,” said Tagarelli. “Still, overnight camping was a great experience for all the girls who stayed. Everything went so smoothly – which was great, because this was something all the girls wanted to do for a long time.”

Girls are always encouraged to sign up for Scouting – and the troops can always use adult help as well. Tagarelli said there is a particular need for volunteers at the first-grade level. If you’re interested, contact Tagarelli by e-mail at kaitlyn.tagarelli@gmail.com ■

Make Redding Glow on Halloween

Add your Jack-O-Lantern to the Town Green display
October 29th or 30th

Redding Garden Club
will keep your Jack-O-Lantern lit through October 31st

Questions: ruthmoran@gmail.com

Safe Rides is back for Redding and Easton students

By Anne Young Albanese



Seniors Lauren Klein-Wassink and Ella Hotchkiss are Co-Presidents of the Safe Rides program this year.

The Redding and Easton Safe Rides program is up and running for the 2024-2025 school year to provide free rides to Easton and Redding teenagers who may need them. Reasons may include the loss of a ride, not feeling safe driving with a planned ride, students who cannot drive after curfew, or even discomfort being driven home from babysitting. The program is not affiliated with Joel Barlow High School (JBHS), and although most students who work with the service or use it are students from the high school, Redding and Easton resident students who attend other high schools are encouraged to participate as well.

According to Ella Hotchkiss, Co-President of Safe Rides and a senior at Joel Barlow High School, “There is a narrative that has been pushed surrounding Safe Rides that it encourages kids to drink or engage in substance use. But I think the biggest thing I would say is, it’s just a safe way for your kids to get home whether or not they’ve been drinking.” Lauren Klein-Wassink, the other Co-President, also a senior, added, “We’re here to support the community, not further encourage any behavior.”

The program is mainly student-run, but Beatrix Erickson and Maya Furrer are adult advisors this year. They help with management, community outreach, and other areas where the students might need guidance. In addition, a parent volunteers each night that Safe Rides operates.

The program has partnered with the Boys & Girls Club of Redding-Easton, which provides a location where the students and captain on duty can prepare for any rides. Safe Rides also works with the Redding Police Department and uses a special cell phone that is kept at the Redding Police Department building when not in use. The Redding and Easton Police Departments are both notified when Safe Rides students are on duty and may be on the road.

Students can call the Safe Rides line and provide their name, cell phone number, address, and destination. The call is confidential. Once a call has been received, the Safe Rides captain

sends out a driver and a navigator. The combination may be a boy and a girl or two girls. Two boys are never sent out together.

When asked about liability, Klein-Wassink responded, “We have a partnership with the Kiwanis Club, and they have an umbrella insurance policy for us.” If the driver and navigator were to get into an accident, the driver’s auto insurance would cover it. Students are required to show proof of insurance before participating. The group is also protected by Connecticut’s Good Samaritan law, which further shields the participants.

While Redding and Easton offered a Safe Rides program in the late 1990s to early 2000s, it eventually slowed to a stop and shut down. In 2016, there was a serious drunk-driving accident in Redding that included students from Redding, Easton, and Fairfield. Barlow students Michael Klein-Wassink and Luca Cerbin were deeply affected by the accident and wanted to do something positive to honor the students from JBHS and prevent it from happening again. In January 2017, they revived Safe Rides to offer their fellow teenagers a free, non-judgmental, and safe way to get home. Michael Klein-Wassink believed that reviving the Safe Rides program could prevent a serious accident from happening again.

Safe Rides is available on Friday and Saturday nights except during school holidays. It runs from 10:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. Messages with updates will be posted on the Safe Rides Instagram page at [instagram.com/saferidesreddingeaston](https://www.instagram.com/saferidesreddingeaston). The group is always looking for additional volunteers. If a student or parent wants to volunteer, they should send a direct message to the Safe Rides Instagram page. To request a Safe Ride, students should call (203) 308-0604. Many students keep the number programmed into their phones for easy access ■

ER9’s strategic plan – one year into implementation

By Anne Young Albanese

In 2023, the Easton, Redding, and Region 9 (ER9) administration launched a three-year strategic plan to raise district test scores and improve the schools’ educational programs. The plan will continue until the school year ends in June 2026.

ER9’s strategic plan is focused on student achievement and experience. It is primarily driven by the ER9 staff, which includes Superintendent Dr. Jason McKinnon, Assistant Superintendent Sara Scrofani, and Alisha DiCorpo, the new Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction.

The process began with McKinnon asking students, faculty, and community members, “What does the ideal school look like?” and “What skills and dispositions do students need to be successful when they graduate?” After reviewing hundreds of responses, three district goals and six priorities were identified.

The plan identified district-wide goals, including high-impact in-

structional strategies, student achievement, and family engagement and climate. This led to six priorities for achieving these goals. The priorities are: Offer high-quality teaching and learning; develop a culture that promotes a nurturing and welcoming climate and deeper, more engaged learning; improve school facilities to ensure student safety and long-term sustainability and enhance student learning; meet the needs of all learners; develop a K-12 portrait of a graduate that emphasizes real-world experiences and innovative learning; and promote effective operations and skillful staff.

McKinnon, Scrofani, and former Assistant Superintendent Stephanie Pierson Ugol also created a district improvement plan for the Redding school district. They then worked in conjunction with the Redding Elementary School (RES) Principal Melissa Labrosciano and John Read Middle School (JRMS) Principal Jennifer Desmarais, to create the school improvement

plans. (Improvements in student test scores are examined in detail in the article on page 1 and 6 of this week’s *Sentinel*.)

The district improvement plans are then individually personalized further for RES and JRMS school improvement plans. At RES, the achievement goals include high-impact instructional strategies, improving student learning outcomes on standardized tests, improving student learning outcomes through RES and JRMS measurements, and family engagement and school climate.

RES will focus on four areas with numerous subgroups. The first area comprises four ways to improve professional learning communities, data teams, and multi-tiered systems of support (MTSS). The second area is Smarter Balanced Assessments claims and targets. This will include analyzing data and tools for teachers. Next is a professional learning plan that will have high-impact instructional strategies.

Continued on page 8

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Family 5

Trick-or-treating spots | By Jessie Wright



Photo by Jessie Wright

Many Redding families enjoy the space and privacy that two-acre-minimum zoning provides, but for holiday traditions like trick-or-treating, the long drive-ways and lack of sidewalks can present a challenge. Below are five trick-or-treating experiences for those looking for a spooky and pedestrian-friendly Halloween.

Trick or Treat with the Rescues
Rising Starr Horse Rescue –
93 Silver Spring Road, Wilton
October 18-20 and 25-27 from
3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Animal lovers, or just those families looking for a unique alternative to traditional trick-or-treating, will enjoy going stall-to-stall at Rising Starr Horse Rescue on the two week-ends before Halloween. Treats, activities, and Halloween fun included. Admission is \$10.

Trunk or Treat Street
Redding Community Center –
37 Lonetown Road
Saturday, October 26 from
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Presented by Redding Neighbors & Newcomers and the Park and Recreation Department, the Redding Community Center parking lot will become a colorful trick-or-treating destination with

children buzzing with Halloween excitement. Community organizations, businesses, and families all volunteer to decorate their car trunks, handing out candy to eager costumed little ones. Registration is required at [reddingneighborsandnewcomers.org](#) – just bring one new bag of candy per child as your price of admission.

Drummer Lane
Thursday, October 31

The few dozen houses that sit on the short cul-de-sac of Drummer Lane, just off Gallows Hill Road, take their Halloween hosting duties seriously. Every year, many decorate for the holiday and prepare for droves of Redding families to make their way from house-to-house for a quintessential trick-or-treating experience. For those wishing to help support the “candy pool” that will be shared among the homes, please drop off candy donations in the blue bin located at 6 Drummer Lane from now until Tuesday, October 29.

Portland Avenue and GVFC
Halloween Party
Thursday, October 31

Spend Halloween night down in Georgetown, with traditional trick-or-treating up and down Portland

Avenue (no minimum two-acre zoning here!) and ending up at the annual Georgetown Volunteer Fire Company Halloween Party, hosted at the Georgetown Firehouse. Details for this year’s party have not yet posted, but the festivities are fun for all ages and typically start around 6:00 p.m. Check [@gtownfire](#) on Instagram for details.

Halloween on Main Street
Main Street, Newtown
Thursday, October 31 from
4:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Nearby Newtown is known for its spooky season events and Halloween spirit. The homes along historic Main Street host annual trick-or-treating for thousands of community families, with games and activities sponsored by local businesses. To donate money to help offset the cost of candy, visit [halloweenonmain.com/donate](#). You can also donate new, unopened bags of candy to Newtown Parks and Recreation (8 Simpson Street, Newtown) or Trinity Episcopal Church (36 Main Street, Newtown). ■

Great Turkey Escape

race named in honor of Joyce Allen | By Jessie Wright

An annual racing tradition in Redding will return this fall with a new name. The Thanksgiving morning 5K and 3/4-mile Kids Fun Run will be named The Joyce Allen Great Turkey Escape from this year on, race organizer John McCleary announced.

Allen was an avid runner and participated in several Redding road races over the last several years. She tragically died in December after being struck by a car while participating in the Key West Triathlon.

“Terri and I met Joyce and her husband Bill when she ran our first Redding Road Race in 2012,” wrote McCleary in this year’s event announcement. “Over the years, Joyce participated in 14 Redding races, winning Age Group awards (mostly first place) in 13 of them... Away from competition, Joyce cherished her family and friends and had an uncanny ability to bring people from all walks of life together. It’s

often said but may never be truer – there’s nobody like Joyce.”

This year’s race will continue the event’s history of donating proceeds to community organizations and non-profits. The Joyce Allen Charitable Trust, which supports many charities selected by Allen’s family, will match donations made by the race and its runners.

Registration for this year’s race on Thursday, November 28 is now open. The course begins and ends at Redding Community Center, and each runner will receive a T-shirt, an embroidered winter hat and gloves, and a finisher’s medal. The 3/4-mile Kids Fun Run begins at 8:00 a.m., while the 5K begins at 8:30 a.m. Participants also have the option of running a virtual 5K or 1K that day from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. ■

Learn more and register at [runsignup.com/Race/CT/Redding/TheGreatTurkeyEscape](#)

Harvest Festival | By Jessie Wright

New Pond Farm Education Center will host its annual Harvest Festival – Science and Nature Day on Saturday, October 19 from 11:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at 101 Marchant Road. Families can enjoy historical demonstrations like broom making, blacksmithing, and Make & Break engines; livestock encounters including sheep shearing, cow judging, and learning about honeybees; and science fun including exploring New Pond Farm’s weather station, looking through solar filtered telescopes, and more.

Master falconer Brian Bradley from Skyhunters in Flight will also be showcasing several beautiful raptors at 1:30 p.m., including falcons, hawks, and owls.

Attendees can also make autumn-themed crafts, play old-fashioned games, walk through New Pond Farm’s Woodland Indian encampment, and enjoy warm chili and sweet treats while listening to live music.

A ribbon cutting ceremony with local and state leaders for the non-profit’s Wetland Project will immediately precede the Harvest Festival activities at 11:00 a.m. This work, funded in part by an American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant, restored eroded edges around the Farm’s namesake pond, created vernal pools for wildlife, and added native pollinator plants. ■

For more information, visit [newpondfarm.org](#)

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New state grant program benefits Barlow robotics

By Rob Sample

Joel Barlow High School’s FIRST Robotics team is off to a great start this season, thanks in part to a new state program that provides funding for both new and existing school robotics teams.

This funding is part of a \$2.27 million initiative funded by the Connecticut Manufacturing Innovation Fund to expand robotics statewide. Part of the Connecticut Business and Industry Association (CBIA), the Connecticut Manufacturing Innovation Fund is a state-subsidized initiative to support innovation and growth in the state’s manufacturing sector.

The money assists existing teams with certain costs, in addition to encouraging the formation of new teams throughout the state. A third part of the initiative involves helping to find and develop places where robotics teams can practice operating their robots – and better prepare for state, regional, and international tournaments.

“Any robotics team in existence during the 2024 season will have its entry fee paid,” noted Bill Kinahan, the lead mentor for the Barlow robotics team and a retiree from Sikorsky Aircraft. “That comes to about \$6,000, which is about one-third of the funding that comes to the team in any given year. So that is the one element of the program that will affect us in a very positive way.

“It will give us the latitude to build better, more sophisticated robots to enter in each year’s competition,” Kinahan continued. Numerous parts go into building a robot for entry into a tournament, and teams will be better able to purchase and install those parts in time for each level of competition.

At the same time, eventually there will be more competitors. The state initiative aims to see the launch of 20 robotics teams

statewide, six of which will be high school-level FIRST Robotics teams. The balance will be FIRST Lego League teams, at the elementary school level, and FIRST Technical Challenge teams, for middle schoolers.

“Those new teams will have zero cost to get started,” said Kinahan. “The state will cover all startup costs, robotic kits, and entry fees as well.”

Additionally, because many FIRST Robotics teams have difficulty finding a large enough place to practice, the third element of the Connecticut Manufacturing Innovation Fund initiative aims to identify and develop such forums.

“We don’t know where these are going to be put yet, and how that will impact us,” said Kinahan.

The Barlow FIRST team is beginning the year with more good news. It received two sizable corporate grants this year: \$2,500 from Raytheon and \$1,500 from Lockheed Martin. In addition, the “Great Turkey Escape” race on Thanksgiving Day will again donate a portion of its proceeds to the team. (See article on page 6.)

Last year’s race raised \$6,500, which benefits a variety of community groups in addition to Barlow FIRST. “Members of the Barlow team give back by helping out on the day of the race,” Kinahan noted, “with registration, giving out swag, and other assistance.”

“The Barlow team is in the middle of our pre-season period right now,” said Kinahan. The team began the year with a dozen new members out of a total of approximately 25 students. Kinahan expects more students to still join.

“A lot of students are heavily involved in fall sports,” he said. “They’ll start coming in after those activities begin winding down.”

The newcomers, some of whom are Barlow freshmen, take part in a crash course called “Robotics 101”. The other five mentors and Kinahan provide them with a series of challenge problems to help them develop creative problem-solving skills.

“They’ll be asked how they might design a robot that can pick up a pool noodle off the floor, and then to address how to pick it up in a parallel position, perpendicular, or at a 45-degree angle,” explained Kinahan. “This gives them the foundation so they can become productive contributors to a robotics project.”

Similar exercises cover other fundamental elements of robotics, such as wiring and software design. “By surveying these different topics, everyone is able to understand these applications and their importance to the overall project,” he noted. “It also lets students make a more informed choice about what they will want to do later on when team roles are assigned.”

Among other developments, Kinahan said the team currently plans to modify the team’s name – which is currently “BARlow RobAutics.” The team’s consensus is that it is too difficult to spell.

“That has created lots of problems with finding the team’s name online due to misspellings,” said Kinahan.

While the group benefits from the support of the existing team of mentors, Kinahan said he can use some additional resources. Talent is especially needed in mechanical design and engineering, fabrication, and electronic wiring. Anyone interested is invited to contact Kinahan by phone at (203) 243-4254 or by e-mail at kinahawi@yahoo.com. ■

Scam aware

Staying alert and informed of the latest scams and rip-offs

By Anthony Freyberg

In the aftermath of a disaster, it doesn’t take long for bad people to try and exploit vulnerable individuals and good people anxious and eager to help. This is especially true now following the devastation in the wake of Hurricanes Helene and Milton.

Be aware of calls or e-mails soliciting funds for hurricane relief. These calls often impersonate real charities or use names similar to well-known organizations. They offer bogus details or apply high-pressure tactics to avoid providing information about how the money will be used. Always research charities before donating, avoid giving over the phone, and verify if the organization is legitimate through platforms like Charity Navigator or the Better Business Bureau. Another good source is Trustpilot, a review site where you can read what real customers have to say about websites, products, and services. Confirm FEMA donations through official channels.

When making a donation, it’s best to use a credit card rather than a debit card, because if you do get scammed, it’s much easier to get your money back. As cardinal rules of thumb, never provide personal information to unsolicited callers or click on links or attachments contained in unknown e-mails. Limit as much as possible the amount of personal information you share online and be cautious about what you post on social media. That’s important advice for the entire family.

Remembering to monitor your credit reports, freeze, and lock your files are some of the best protections you can have. I don’t want to sound like a Cassandra, but when it comes to technology, a reasonably cautious mindset empowers you to critically assess advancements and potential risks without fear. By staying aware and informed, you can embrace and enjoy today’s incredible world-changing technological innovations. ■

Student test scores show sharp drop at pandemic, steady rebound / continued from page 1

2022, the standard was 71.5%. For 2022-2023, the score was 71.3%, and the final score for the 2023-2024 school year was 76.5%.

Data were also classified by cohort. This allows the schools to track each class’s progress through the Redding school district and into Region 9, the district for Joel Barlow High School. (The high school scores were on the agenda for the Region 9 Board of Education meeting on Tuesday, October 15 at 7:00 p.m.)

Redding students in the grade three cohort in 2018-19 scored 72% for the ELA standards. No tests were administered in any grade or subject in 2019-20 due to Covid-19. The 2020-21 combined score for these students, who were in fifth grade at the time, was 72%. For the 2021-22 school year, it was 68%. For 2022-23, it was 69%, and for 2023-24, it was 72%.

The next cohort, which was in fourth grade for the 2018-19 school year, had 83% of students meeting or exceeding achievement that year in ELA. In 2020-21, the percentage of students at or above standards was 76%. For 2021-22, the percentage was 76%. The 2022-23 percentage was 70%. These students then graduated to high school, where scores are calculated separately.

The following cohort consists of students in grade five in 2018-19. ELA scores showed that 80% of students scored above or at achievement level for that year. The following school year, tests were not administered. In the 2020-2021 school year, this cohort was at 73%. In the 2021-22 school year, which was this cohort’s last year in the Redding school district, this cohort was at 75%.

Then came the ELA scores for the students in grade six in 2018-19, which came in at 79%. In 2020-2021, these students were at 84%, and then moved on to high school.

The grade seven cohort scored 84% in 2018-19. That was the final test for those students while in the Redding school district because the pandemic cancelled their testing in grade eight.

Finally, the ELA score for students in grade eight in 2018-19 was 77% before moving on to high school.

The Redding school district also explored math scores for these same students. For students in grade three, the combined score in 2018-19 was 90%. The score in 2020-21 was 64%. When this cohort was in fifth grade, their percentage was 69%. In 2022-23, the scores were 73%, and the 2023-24 scores were 76%.

In 2018-19, 86% of fourth-grade students exceeded or met achievement goals. For the 2020-21 school year, the cohort scored 65%. The next year, this cohort scored 70%. For this cohort’s final year at John Read Middle School, the 2022-23 scores were 67% before graduating from the middle school.

The 2018-19 score for fifth-grade students was 71%. The 2020-21 percentage for this cohort was 74%. For 2021-22, the cohort’s last year at John Read Middle School, the score was 58%.

For students in grade six at John Read Middle School in the 2018-19 school year, 75% met or exceeded the standards in math. The class’s final score at John Read Middle School in 2020-21 was 71%.

Next was grade seven, which only had one year of tests because of the pandemic. The students reaching or exceeding the required standards was 83%.

The grade 8 student cohort in 2018-19 scored 68% in their final year at John Read Middle School.

Science tests are given in grade five and grade eight. The reported scores are not per cohort because of the years that are tested. In 2018-19, grade five students scored 70.7%. In the testing conducted in 2020-21, grade five students scored 63%. The 2021-22 grade five scores were 75%. In 2022-23, grade five scored 68.8%. The grade five students in 2023-24 had 76% of students reaching or exceeding standards.

Science results for students in grade eight were also presented beginning in 2018-19. These scores were 71.9%. The 2020-21 eighth graders scored 72%. The 2021-22 eighth graders scored at 72.3%. The score for the 2022-23 grade eight class was 70%. The science scores in the 2023-2024 grade eight class were 76%.

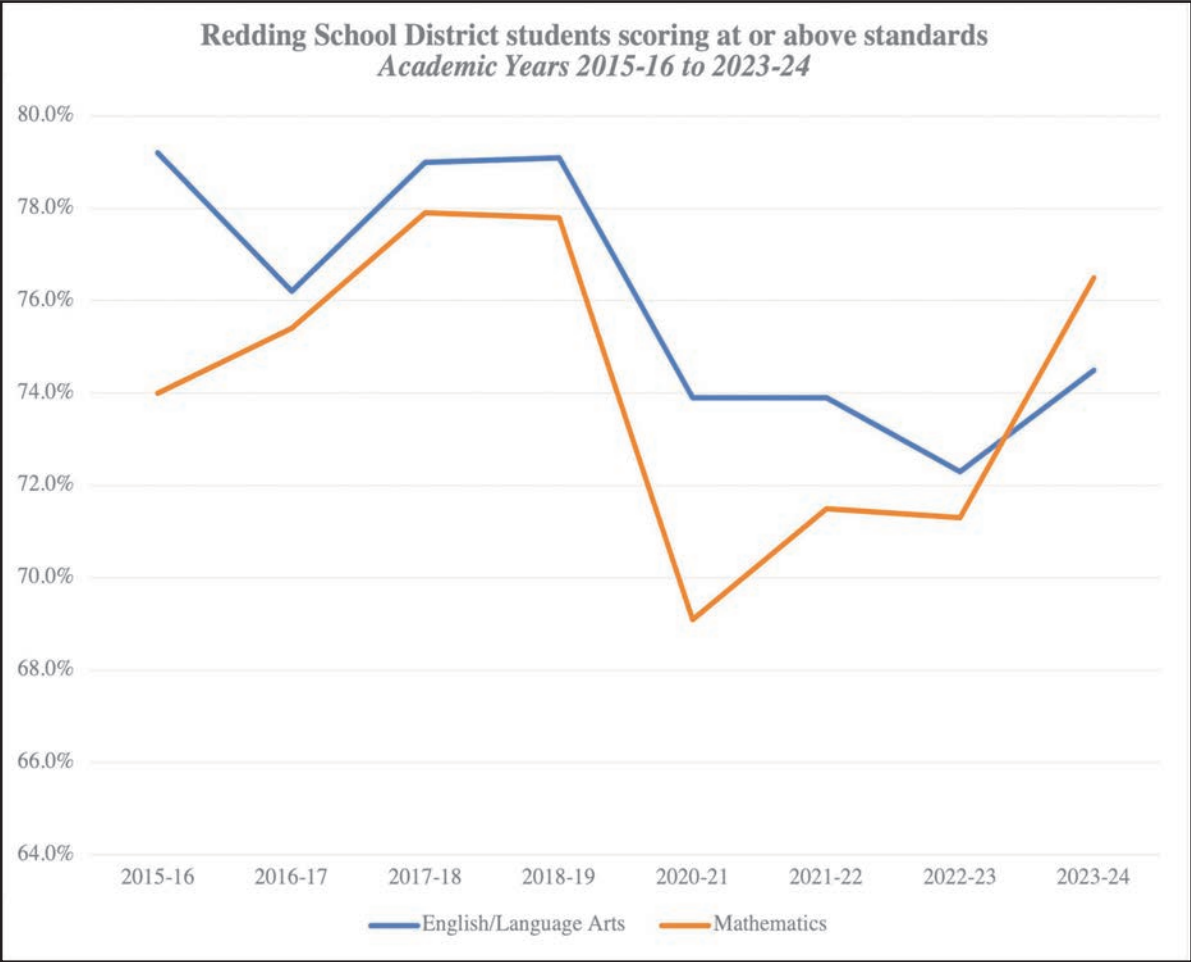
The schools use the testing data in a variety of ways. They track scores by cohorts, grade, school, and district. This data is used to discover any challenges students may face.

The second type of assessment is summative. It occurs after a lesson or unit and summarizes student achievement at a particular time.

According to research, summative assessment has the greatest impact on student learning because it puts that information in the hands of teachers, allowing educators to focus on the students in front of them. Standardized test results do not come in until the summer when cohorts have moved to the next grade. At that point, students may already be behind. ■

For a visual representation of Redding School District student test scores in English/Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics over the last nine academic years (excluding 2019-20), please refer to the graph on the left side of this page.

Test scores recovering from pandemic





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BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Tati Sine Photography
Capturing families’ precious moments

By Justin Reynolds



Photos courtesy of Tati Sine Photography

Tatiana Sinienok has always loved working with people. In 2011, she took up photography as a hobby while living in her home counry of Ukraine and fell in love with "seeing the beauty in small things." A few years later, she brought those two passions together when she left her office job to pursue photography as a full-time profession. She hasn't looked back since.

Fast-forward to today, and Tatiana is now the owner of Tati Sine Photography, a family portrait, maternity, and newborn photography business with studio space at 112 Main Street in New Canaan. She launched the business in 2019 after moving to the United States, opening her studio in 2021.

“Sixty to 70 percent of my photography is families, and I also do portraits,” said Tatiana, who moved to Redding with her husband, Saudin, and infant daughter, Lily, in March 2024. “It was always my dream to open a studio for maternity portraits. At the time, I didn’t have kids, but I wanted them, so I spent my time surrounded by people who had kids.”

When she was starting out as a photographer in Ukraine, she loved when the medium tapped into her creativity.

“When I moved to the U.S., I wanted to continue to do that,” she said. “I was interested in learning more about the U.S., the culture, and its people, and photography is a great way to do that.”

Anyone who has worked an office job knows how tedious and monotonous the routine can be. For

Tatiana, one of the biggest draws about photography is the freedom it affords — and how each day is entirely different.

“I love that the job has flexibility,” she said. “I can work from home and don’t have to go to the office full time – which is great for me as a new mom.”

While some clients visit Tatiana in the studio, she also meets with clients at specific locations or travels to their homes.

“It’s completely up to the customers’ preferences,” she explained.

“The best part about being a photographer is seeing your work bring so much happiness to other people,” Tatiana said. “You create a story through photos, and you help preserve memories. I have regular clients that come back every year. It’s incredible to see the kids growing, the family growing — to be part of that is really amazing and makes me so happy.”

Tatiana describes her style as “very minimalist.” With each engagement, she works around client needs and treats each customer the way she wants to be treated.

“I understand families are busy, and I try to be as flexible as I can,” she said. “I just want to make them comfortable, treat them well, and do my best job. There are a lot of photographers out there like me. I think people come back because of my style, the quality of my photos, and the fact they just like working with me.” ■

To learn more, visit tatisine.com

Wellness center to open in Georgetown
Yoga Station & Wellness finds permanent home

By Justin Reynolds

A wellness center has found a long-term home in Georgetown.

Sometime next month, Redding resident Whitney Coccoaro hopes to host a grand opening at 9 Brookside Road to celebrate a dedicated new space for Yoga Station & Wellness, a center dedicated to health and wellness.

The journey to this point has been anything but smooth sailing.

In January 2023, Coccoaro signed a five-year lease for a 1,600 square foot space in West Redding. She planned to open her business there in September of last year, but after persistent construction delays at 3 Side Cut Road, she ultimately realized fortune had other plans.

After a fruitful conversation at Old Mill Market in November 2023, Coccoaro learned there was 400 square feet of space available for rent at 4 Old Mill Road, and she jumped on the opportunity.

“Although it wasn’t what I had initially envisioned, it was a place to start,” she said.

Initially, Yoga Station launched with nine weekly classes and two teachers. Often, there were only a few students, but “we kept on,” Coccoaro continued.

“Over time, our community grew, and by early 2024, we expanded to 16 classes per week with seven teachers and over 60 members,” she said. “Many classes are now fully booked. But more importantly, we’ve built a true sense of community among our members, which was always our deepest hope.”

As the business grew, the construction project in West Redding remained in flux.

“I made the difficult decision to withdraw after a year of waiting,” Coccoaro said. “I was crushed but determined to bring my vision to life, and my search continued.”

In February, a student mentioned that a building was for sale in Georgetown on Brookside Road.

“Though it was just steps from the heart of Georgetown, I had never heard of it,” she said. “Upon pulling in, I knew right away that this was meant to be the home of Yoga Station & Wellness. The rest is history.”



Photo by Whitney Coccoaro

The building at 9 Brookside Road will open soon as the permanent home for Yoga Station & Wellness, along with space for other wellness practitioners.

Coccoaro and her husband, Dean, purchased the building in June and have spent the summer transforming the 4,000-square foot space “into a welcoming retreat for our community,” Coccoaro explained, adding the new location will have two studio rooms, a reception area, tea room, retail space, and an outdoor area.

“My hope for this space is that it offers a local retreat for movement and community,” she said. “Our studio values the philosophy and origins of yoga, believing that everyone can benefit from mindful movement, moments of quieting the mind, and a supportive, safe space to practice. We offer a wide range of classes to suit diverse needs and aim to dispel the myth that flexibility is required for yoga. Yoga is about so much more than balance or physical ability.”

As an example, Coccoaro says their Yoga Nidra class is a 60-minute guided meditation where members lie on their mats, supported by props, which allows the mind and body to fully rest.

“For those seeking movement, we have Vinyasa Flow classes with an emphasis on alignment and support, as well as a popular Pilates Mat class, Foundation of Vinyasa, and Yin Yoga,” she said.

In addition to offering its own classes, Yoga Station & Wellness also includes four rooms for rent to other wellness practitioners; currently, two are occupied and two are still available.

“Ideally, we’re looking to welcome a massage therapist or acupuncturist — services [that] are highly requested by our yoga community,” Coccoaro explained. “We’re open to other wellness specialties as well.” (Those interested in learning more should inquire by e-mailing info@yogastationct.com.)

Currently, the Brookside Road space is in the final stages of renovation. Until the new building is open, classes will still be available at 4 Old Mill Road. ■



Photo by Hungry Studio

Yoga Station & Wellness has grown in its offerings since opening at its temporary Georgetown location last year.

For more information, visit yogastationct.com or follow the business on Instagram and Facebook @yogastationct

ER9’s strategic plan – one year into implementation / continued from page 5

The final area at RES is family and student engagement. The RES Parent Teacher Association (PTA) offers Parent University, which brings Labroschiano to PTA meetings monthly to focus on subjects of interest to elementary school parents. These are recorded and posted on Facebook. The school has a climate committee to maintain a safe and positive student environment. Rocky’s Weekly Roundup e-newsletters and classroom newsletters are sent home to keep parents informed. Last year, Labroschiano introduced the PAWS program to help RES students remember the school’s vision. PAWS stands for Positive attitude, Act responsibly, Work

hard, and Spread kindness. Numerous volunteer opportunities include classroom helpers, room parents, the PTA, and special events. Finally, parents will be invited to attend some classroom events, exhibits, and other ways to celebrate students’ learning.

JRMS also has a school improvement plan. Its goals are high-impact instructional strategies, improving student learning outcomes, and improving family engagement and school climate. Each child’s records are reviewed every couple of months to improve student learning. This will allow the school to address any learning needs before a child falls behind.

In addition, Desmarais and her team are reframing how students think about certain challenges; for example, how to approach a test without being overwhelmed. JRMS professionals suggest to the student that the teacher wants to know what was learned and that the student should be very proud. It is an opportunity for students to show off their knowledge.

The JRMS team reviews the school schedule every year with teachers providing input. One important schedule change has been the addition of professional learning communities schedule blocks. These are weekly meetings of grade-level teams for professional learning.

Like RES, JRMS is also focusing on school climate. This year, the focus is on the student voice and the building. JRMS has a school climate committee comprising teachers, students, and parents. The administration wants to ensure that every student has a trusted adult at JRMS. Counselors will reach out to those students who do not. The school climate also focuses on families. Since there aren’t as many volunteer opportunities in middle school as in elementary school, the staff offers some nighttime fun and informative activities for families.

Last year, the school started hosting pep rallies for the students. The students come out with

renewed energy, caring for each other, and excitement about being in school. The administration is starting to see a shift in the student and teacher culture because of the fun they are having in school now.

These improvement plans are designed to create a warm, safe, and fun learning environment while meeting or exceeding educational goals. The teams worked together to identify those areas that will help each child reach their highest achievements. Parents should e-mail their children’s teachers for additional information regarding specific class information. ■

To read ER9’s strategic plan in full, visit er9strategicplan.org



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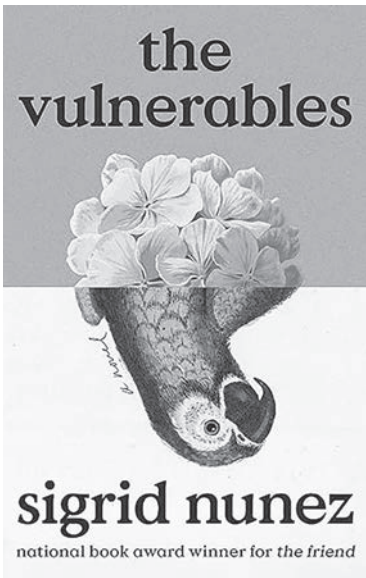
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BOOK REVIEW

The Vulnerables

By Sigrid Nunez

Riverhead Books / 256 pages / \$28



This latest novel by National Book Award winner Sigrid Nunez is set in New York City during the Covid-19 pandemic. The narrator, a writer, walks the city for hours during lockdown.

Her mind wanders as much as she does. She thinks about writing, why some people become writers, what makes for good writing. She ponders flower names, why some flowers are popular, how to get the color names of flowers right and remembers people named after flowers. Why did Madonna say she loathes hydrangeas? And on she continues, in a familiar, knowledgeable, and intelligent way. Those of us who know New York – and knew it during Covid – walk along with her.

A young friend admonishes

her, telling her she is “a vulnerable” and that it’s time she starts acting like one. She does not, and keeps walking and ruminating.

After a while, she agrees to look after a parrot, Eureka, belonging to an acquaintance who has decamped from the city. A young man was supposed to take on this responsibility but leaves to stay with his family. The narrator moves into the apartment and learns about parrot care and Eureka’s personality. The young man – named Vetch, a notably unpleasant plant name – returns after his family kicks him out. The two figure out how to avoid each other while slowly becoming not quite friends but cohabitants.

Nunez drops into the narrative small stories the narrator makes up about people she sees on her walks, as well as updates on the lives of old friends. She explores and reports on her relationship with young Vetch. Throughout the novel she points out other authors’ thoughts about writing. “The problem with any first sentence, said Joan Didion, is that you’re stuck with it.”

There’s not all that much that happens in this engrossing novel, but in that, it is a perfect reflection of life in New York during the pandemic. Nunez’s writing is like sitting down for a chat with an old friend, something we all missed during that time of isolation. ■

Review by Susan Clark

Calling all artists! MTL Art Show Deadline is October 24

By Lisa Goldstein



Photo by Sandi O'Reilly
Juror David Dunlop (right) and artist Carmanie Bhatti (left) with her 3rd place winner Snow and Woods from last year's Art Show.



season in Redding for more than half-a-century. No digital art, computer-generated images, or photographs are permitted. The art adorns the walls and additional panels in the Mark Twain Library and will be on display and for sale from December 7-15. The exhibition is open to the public during regular Library hours and may also be viewed and purchased via the virtual gallery on the Library’s website.

A portion of all art sales will benefit the Mark Twain Library. Awards include first, second, and third places, as well as a Juror’s Award. For the second year in a row, the Juror of Selection and Awards is acclaimed landscape painter David Allen Dunlop of Wilton. According to Baumgartner, “David brings his deep knowledge of art history and his enthusiasm for emerging artistic talent to the jurying process.” The deadline to submit entries is 11:59 p.m. on Thursday, October 24. The entry fee after October 16 is \$30. For more details and instructions regarding submission, interested artists can visit the Artist Entry Portal at mtlartshow.org ■

Redding's Big Outdoors: Redding Community Hiking Club to launch Inaugural hike on Saturday, October 26 / continued from page 1

The next two hikes are already on the schedule, so mark your calendars:

**Saturday, November 9
at 10:00 a.m.
Norwalk River Valley Trail**
Led by lepidopterist
Victor DeMasi

**Saturday, December 7
at 11:00 a.m.
Turkington Falls Family Hike**
Led by Trail Tender
Scott MacMillan

This hike will be followed by an optional lunch with separate checks at Redding Roadhouse.

Redding Community Hiking Club outings require registration, which can be completed at marktwainlibrary.org/events ■

*Do you like to hit the trails?
The Sentinel is looking
for additional volunteer
contributors for Redding's
Big Outdoors. E-mail
editor@reddingsentinel.org
for more information.*

LIBRARY CORNER

By Erin Shea Dummeyer

I have had three dreams about strategic planning this week. Who dreams about strategic planning? Well apparently, I do, as Mark Twain Library is in the middle of our strategic planning process, and I am loving the work much more than I thought I would. This fall, the Library was accepted into the CT Library Consortium’s strategic planning cohort. Along with four other small public libraries and under the guidance of Maureen Sullivan, a renowned library consultant, we are collecting data that will shape the strategic priorities of the Library for the next three years. Our team, which is made up of Library staff and Board mem-

bers, has been meeting weekly to plan our process. We will be hosting sessions throughout the month of October with key stakeholders to solicit feedback about the future of Redding and how the Library can respond to community needs.

Along with workshops for both the staff and the Board, we invite community members to attend our public engagement session on Wednesday, October 23 at 4:00 p.m. Our strategic planning team will lead participants in a guided discussion of our hopes and aspirations for Redding, as well as our dreams for what a thriving relationship between Mark Twain Library and our community will

look like. Keep an eye out for suggestion boxes around town where people can share feedback and a way to participate online in shaping our future. Our planning team is also conducting interviews with Town leaders, and the ones I have done have been my favorite part of this process so far. I have had the opportunity to sit down with people who also love Redding and chat about what makes this place special. What’s not to love about that? ■

Erin Shea Dummeyer is
Director, Mark Twain Library

Good books for good readers | By Margi Esten

I am a huge fan of author Peter Heller, and as I am currently waiting on the arrival of his newest book, *Burn*, I thought it was time to highlight his previous must-read novels. Like *Burn*, which is a dystopian novel about a familiar landscape wracked by bewildering violence, Heller’s first book, published in 2012, *The Dog Stars*, is a post-apocalyptic story. It follows a pilot who has survived a flu pandemic and lives in an abandoned airplane hangar with his dog. Themes of compassion, self-protection, and human nature

keep the reader completely engaged throughout this brilliantly written book. *The Dog Stars* was followed in 2014 by *The Painter* about a famous artist living a quiet life but who then must return to the high-profile life he left behind in New Mexico.

In 2018 he published *The River* which is, I think, his finest book – and that bar is pretty high. *The Denver Post* said, “A fiery tour de force...I could not put this book down. It truly was terrifying and and unutterably beautiful.” *The Guide* and *The Last Ranger* are

sort of thrillers about a young man hired to work at an elite fishing lodge in Colorado who encounters menace amid the beautiful streams and forests.

Heller is an award-winning fiction writer and an adventure writer who is also known for his literary non-fiction. He grew up in Vermont, attended Dartmouth College, and earned an MFA at the Iowa Writers Workshop. He is a passionate outdoorsman and now lives in Colorado. ■

Secret gardens of imagination Who was Tasha Tudor? | By Carter Wiseman



A Tasha Tudor illustration in *The Secret Garden*.

When our children were little, my wife and I read to them regularly at bedtime. One of their favorite books was *The Secret Garden* by Frances Hodgson Burnett, first published in book form in 1911. The kids loved the story about Mary Lennox, an upper-class English girl who was born in India and shunned by her family. When her parents died of cholera, Mary was sent back to England to live with a reclusive uncle. There, she made friends with a “common” boy from the moors who opened her eyes to flowers, animals, and love.

The romantic tale was entertaining in itself, but it was the sweet, soft-focus illustrations in the 1962 edition that kept our children asking to turn the pages. Little did we know that the artist, Tasha Tudor, had once lived in the neighborhood, or that her personal life was not quite as idyllic as her illustrations.

In a time now when the lives of even toddlers are focused on electronic screens, it is easy to lose touch with the magic of hand-illustration. Tasha Tudor captivated generations of young people with images for some 100 books, including such titles as *Pumpkin Moonshine*, *Mother Goose*, and *Corgiville Fair*.

Tudor was born in Boston, MA in 1915, but spent part of her youth in Redding with family friends after her parents divorced when she was nine. When her mother joined her in Redding in 1930, she



“The Rain Secret”, originally printed in *Springs of Joy* in 1979.

bought a 1790 house called “Seven Maples” – now 19 Tudor Road – where Tasha grew up enjoying the pleasures of rural life... looking after animals, making her own clothes, and baking. She won first prize in the Danbury Fair for her oatmeal bread.

In her day, Tudor was part of a group of creative artists who had moved out of New York City to Connecticut to find peace and inspiration in nature. Prominent among them in the Redding area was Edward Steichen, a pioneer in establishing photography as a recognized art form. One of Steichen’s colleagues was Nell Dorr, a gifted photographer who lived just down the way in Westport. When Steichen organized the landmark “Family of Man” exhibition at New York’s Museum of Modern Art, he included four images by Dorr.

Among Dorr’s dreamy pictures of rural living were many of her friend Tasha Tudor. Both women were drawn to idyllic scenes of country life, not to mention pictures of unclothed children romping in the woods.

Tudor moved to Webster, NH in 1945, then to Marlboro, VT in 1972. Nell Dorr followed, capturing gauzy images of a kindly lady preparing food in the “old” house her son had built for her as a replica of an 18th-century farmhouse nearby. For some years, the house had no electricity or running water. Tudor favored aprons and hand-knitted

sweaters and often went barefoot, cultivating her luxuriant gardens with the help of young girls dressed in white linen.

It was a carefully curated image of a life of tranquil simplicity, and it created a worldwide following that thrives to this day. But for someone with such an idealized vision of family bliss, Tudor had a surprisingly tangled record of relationships. Married and divorced twice, Tasha was estranged from three of her four children, and when she left the bulk of her \$2-million estate to her son Seth, the others sued, accusing him of exerting “undue influence” over Tasha in her declining years. As her daughter Efner said, “When you grow up and you have a parent who absolutely refuses to talk to you about real-life issues, it’s a problem.” Tudor’s other daughter, Bethany, described her mother as a “two-faced eccentric.” The dispute was settled out of court.

Tudor was apparently not unaware of her shortcomings as a parent. She reportedly had a favorite saying: “Everyone is like the moon and has a dark side, which he never shows anybody.” The source of the quote: Mark Twain, who lived in Redding toward the end of his life. Tasha died in June of 2008 at the age of 92 from complications following a stroke.

Tudor was often quoted as saying that she thought she had been the reincarnation of a 19th-century sea captain’s wife, and that she wanted to go back to the 1830s when she died. Her descendants now oversee a website called Tasha Tudor and Family, which promotes her legacy and sells reproductions of her work.

Whatever the contradictions of Tudor’s life, her books are a powerful reminder of the allure of a colorful realm before CGI and AI threatened to eliminate the mark of the human hand from the world of fantasy.

Think of this as you drive by Tudor Road, and see if your children can put their screens aside long enough to explore Tasha Tudor’s “secret garden” of the imagination. ■

THE NATURAL WORLD

The Northern Lights dazzle and delight residents



(Clockwise, from top left): Photo by Michele Van Steinburgh, taken above First Church of Christ on Cross Highway; Photo by Stephen Bonomo, looking east on Wagon Wheel Road; Photo by Ethan Parisen, taken on Newtown Turnpike; Photo by Jen Wastrom, taken on Diamond Hill Road; Photo by Louis Ng, taken on the railroad walk at exit 1 on I-84W; Photo by Marla Wendell, taken at Lonetown Farm; Photo by Karen Feld, taken at Redding Center; Photo by Rachel Staffier, taken at New Pond Farm; Photo by Ilona Struzik Wolfe, taken at Collis P. Huntington State Park; (Center) Photo by Katie Barraco taken at Collis P. Huntington State Park.



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

\$ = fee applies
R = registration required

This Week’s Featured Events

Harvest Festival Science & Nature Day

Saturday, October 19
11:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Family friendly event with livestock encounters, historical demonstrations, harvest crafts, food, and science fun.
Rain date: Sunday, October 20.
New Pond Farm Education Center
101 Marchant Road
newpondfarm.org

JBHS Girls Volleyball Dig Pink Game

Saturday, October 19
12:00 p.m.
Proceeds to benefit the Sideout Foundation, funding research for Stage 4 breast cancer.
Joel Barlow High School
100 Black Rock Turnpike
giving.side-out.org/campaigns/21341

Redding Grange 3rd Annual Agricultural Fair

Sunday, October 20
11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Enter to win ribbons in 13 different categories, and enjoy agricultural products from all over Redding.
Redding Grange #15
399 Newtown Turnpike
facebook.com/GrangeReddingCT

Want to feature an upcoming event?

E-mail us at advertise@reddingsentinel.org for more information.

ARTS

Saturday, September 21 – Saturday, October 19

Grashow at The Granite: Jimmy’s World
10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
(Wednesdays-Saturdays)
10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. (Sundays)
The Granite
5 North Main Street
thegranitechurch.org

Thursday, October 17

Visiting Artist Reception with Allyson Monson Fine Art Photography
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Jill Rae Designs
19 Governor Street
Ridgefield
instagram.com/ridgefieldguildofartists

Friday, October 18

John Lehmann-Haupt at The Granite
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Mix of classical guitar repertoire and arrangements of popular songs.
The Granite
5 North Main Street
thegranitechurch.org

Sunday, October 20

Danbury Concert Association - Pianist Andrew Armstrong & Violinist Abigél Králik
3:00 p.m.
WCSU Visual & Performing Arts Center
43 Lake Avenue Extension
Danbury
danburymusic.org

Thursday, October 24 – Sunday, November 17

“Igniting Reverie: Works in Wax” A Group Show of Women Encaustic Artists
12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Thursdays and Fridays
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Saturdays
Opening Reception on Saturday, October 26 from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Anonymous Society
268 Simpaug Turnpike
anonymoussocietygallery.com

CHILDREN | TEENS

Saturday, October 19

Grashow at The Granite: For Kids!
10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Jimmy Grashow will host a lecture and craft for kids and families.
The Granite
5 North Main Street
thegranitechurch.org/events

Wednesday, October 30

Family Bingo Bonanza
6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Grades K-4, parent or adult must also attend.
Redding Community Center
37 Lonetown Road
townofreddingct.org/parks-and-recreation

FOOD | WINE

Thursday, October 24

Ancona’s Fall Wine Fest
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Wine tasting, craft beers, cheese, charcuterie, and more.
The Granite
5 North Main Street
thegranitechurch.org/events

HEALTH | WELLNESS

Saturday, October 19

JBHS Girls Volleyball Dig Pink Game
12:00 p.m.
Proceeds to benefit the Sideout Foundation, funding research for Stage 4 breast cancer.
Joel Barlow High School
100 Black Rock Turnpike
giving.side-out.org/campaigns/21341

Thursday, October 24

Explorations in Energy and Intuition with Dr. Wendy Hurwitz
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Learn about energy’s role in the body and ways of augmenting perception.
Heritage Center
37 Lonetown Road
RSVP to mstillman@townofreddingct.org or (203) 938-9725

NATURE

Tuesdays – Sundays

Open Farmhouse Farm Stand
10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Summer veggies and produce
Open Farmhouse
11 John Read Road
openfarmhouse.com

Saturday, October 19

Fall Migration: Birding with Joe Bear
7:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
Leisurely walk through diverse habitats.
New Pond Farm Education Center
101 Marchant Road
newpondfarm.org

Saturday, October 19

Ribbon Cutting for Wetlands Project
11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Celebrate completion of wetlands restoration project, funded in part by ARPA grant.
New Pond Farm Education Center
101 Marchant Road
newpondfarm.org

Monday, October 21

National Reptile Day: Animal Meet and Greet
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. or 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Meet resident turtles, snakes, and lizards.
New Pond Farm Education Center
101 Marchant Road
newpondfarm.org

SEASONAL | HOLIDAY

Friday, October 18

Halloween Spooktacular
6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Crafts, games, trick-or-treating, a haunted house and more.
Riverbrook Regional YMCA
404 Danbury Road
Wilton
wiltonymca.org

Saturday, October 19

Harvest Festival Science & Nature Day
11:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Family friendly event with livestock encounters, historical demonstrations, harvest crafts, food, and science fun.
Rain date: Sunday, October 20.
New Pond Farm Education Center
101 Marchant Road
newpondfarm.org

Sunday, October 20

Redding Grange 3rd Annual Agricultural Fair
11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Redding Grange #15
399 Newtown Turnpike
facebook.com/GrangeReddingCT

Thursday, October 24

Scarecrow Decorating
5:00 p.m.
Family scarecrow decorating. Post, hay, and string provided, bring your own clothes and accessories.
Redding Community Center
37 Lonetown Road
townofreddingct.org/parks-and-recreation

Friday, October 25

Diwali Celebration
11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Athithi Indian cuisine, henna, and Bollywood dancing.
Riverbrook Regional YMCA
404 Danbury Road
Wilton
wiltonymca.org

Friday, October 25

Pumpkin Carving at Heritage Center
11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Pumpkins and utensils are provided.
Heritage Center
37 Lonetown Road
RSVP to mstillman@townofreddingct.org or (203) 938-9725

Saturday, October 26

Trunk or Treat Street
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Co-hosted by Redding Neighbors and Newcomers and Redding Park and Recreation.
Entry fee is one new bag of candy per child.
Redding Community Center parking lot
37 Lonetown Road
reddingneighborsand-newcomers.org

Saturday, October 26

Redding Neighbors & Newcomers Halloween Costume Party
7:00 p.m.
Annual adult Halloween party with DJ, prizes, and more.
RSVP by October 19
Party at resident’s house – address shared with attendees
reddingneighborsand-newcomers.org

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Thursday, October 17

Antisemitism in America - Conversations: Truth, Myth & Democracy
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Virtual
Mark Twain Library
439 Redding Road
marktwainlibrary.org

Sunday, October 20

Paranormal Legends Festival
11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Paranormal investigations, Ouija boards, haunted house stories, and more.
Edmond Town Hall
45 Main Street
Newtown
edmondtownhall.org

Wednesday, October 23

MTL Community Engagement Session
4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Give feedback to help shape Mark Twain Library’s strategic plan.
Mark Twain Library
439 Redding Road
marktwainlibrary.org

Wednesday, October 23

Archaeologist Casefiles: Vampires in New England
7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Mark Twain Library
439 Redding Road
marktwainlibrary.org

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Sundays at 10:00 a.m. (in person) or 10:15 a.m. (Zoom)
44 Portland Avenue
bethlehemplutheranct.org

Calvary Independent Baptist Church
Adult and Child Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. / Worship Sundays at 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday prayer meeting at 7:00 p.m.
Nursery provided for all services.
711 Redding Road
cibcredding.org

Christ Church, Episcopal
Sundays at 9:00 a.m.
184 Cross Highway
christchurchredding.org

First Church of Christ, Congregational
Sundays at 10:00 a.m.
25 Cross Highway
firstchurchredding.org

Long Ridge United Methodist
Sundays at 11:30 a.m.
201 Long Ridge Road
Danbury
longridgeumc.com

Sacred Heart / St. Patrick Parish

Sacred Heart Church:
Saturday Confessions: 10:00 a.m. at Pryor Hubbard Hall
Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:00 p.m.
Saturday Eucharistic Adoration: 6:00 p.m.
Sunday Mass: 9:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
12:00 noon LATIN
Weekday Mass: Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8:30 a.m.
Wednesday 6:00 p.m. LATIN
30 Church Street

St. Patrick Church:
Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:00 p.m.
Saturday Confessions: 4:00 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.
Sunday Mass: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 5:00 p.m.
Weekday Mass: Monday – Friday at 8:30 a.m.
Weekday Confessions: Mondays and Thursdays: 7:30 p.m., before or after mass, or by appointment
Eucharistic Adoration: Mondays and Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.
169 Black Rock Turnpike
sacredheart-stpat.org

Temple B’nai Chaim
Friday, October 18 at 5:30 p.m.
Sukkot Shabbat and Pizza in the Hut
82 Portland Avenue
templebnaichaim.org

MEETINGS

Thursday, October 17

Long Range Financial Planning Special Meeting
3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Town Hall / Conference Room
100 Hill Road

Friday, October 18

Last Voter Registration Session
9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Town Hall / Hearing Room
100 Hill Road

Monday, October 21

Early Voting
10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Same Day Registration*
Redding Community Center
37 Lonetown Road

Monday, October 21

Board of Selectman
7:30 p.m.
Town Hall / Hearing Room
100 Hill Road

Tuesday, October 22

Early Voting
10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Same Day Registration*
Redding Community Center
37 Lonetown Road

Wednesday, October 22

Planning Commission
7:30 p.m.
Town Hall / Hearing Room
100 Hill Road

Wednesday, October 23

Early Voting
10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Same Day Registration*
Redding Community Center
37 Lonetown Road

Wednesday, October 23

Zoning Commission
7:30 p.m.
Town Hall / Hearing Room
100 Hill Road

Thursday, October 24

Early Voting
10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Same Day Registration*
Redding Community Center
37 Lonetown Road

Thursday, October 24

Democratic Town Committee
7:30 p.m.
Town Hall / Hearing Room
100 Hill Road

Friday, October 25

Early Voting
10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Same Day Registration*
Redding Community Center
37 Lonetown Road

Saturday, October 26

Early Voting
10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Same Day Registration*
Redding Community Center
37 Lonetown Road

Sunday, October 27

Early Voting
10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Same Day Registration*
Redding Community Center
37 Lonetown Road

Monday, October 28

Early Voting
10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Same Day Registration*
Redding Community Center
37 Lonetown Road

Monday, October 28

Region 9 Finance and Operations Committee
5:30 p.m.
ER9 Central Office
654 Morehouse Road
Easton

*Same Day Registration is available to new voters and voters who missed the registration deadline. These voters must provide identification and proof of Redding residency



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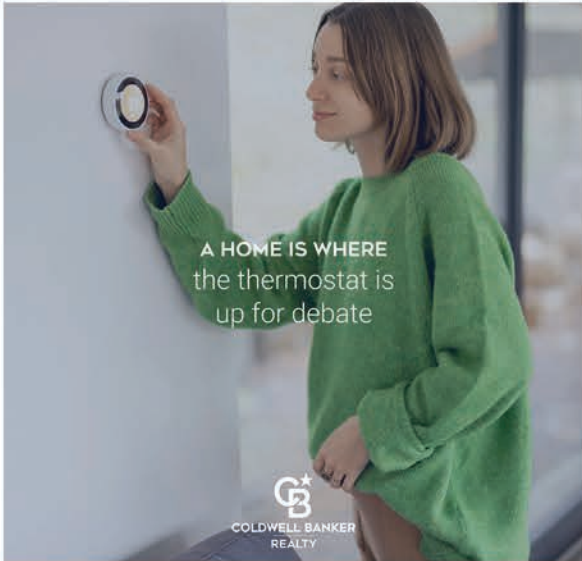
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Marilyn Sloper
203.770.6240



Ira Stone
203.240.5754



Adrian Voss
203.241.7957



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joe.porricelli@cbrealty.com
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