

The Gazette

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Crafted from the finest local ingredients since 1885

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9-11-01 What my day was like

by Richard Gentile
EH PROBATE JUDGE

Twenty-five years ago, in the summer of 2001, I worked part of each week in New York City. My office was at 7 World Trade Center. On September 11, 2001, I boarded an Amtrak train and headed to the city. As it turned out, I was like other fortunate people, who for one reason or another had not yet made it to the World Trade Center when the planes hit. Here is my story of what I saw and experienced that day, and my resolve to just get back to my family in East Hartford. My thoughts continue to go out to those families who lost loved ones, friends and colleagues on 9-11.

As the Amtrak train turned towards Manhattan, near the Hell Gate Bridge, something looked different. Passengers flocked to the right side of the train to get a glimpse of a fire burning on the upper floors of the North Tower. As smoke billowed towards the sky a fellow passenger got off his flip cell phone and announced to the train car that a plane had hit the tower. He had no more details. Back then there were no

See REMEMBERING 9-11 pg. 10



TOW TRUCK OPERATOR CHRISTOPHER TROTTER mourns his friend and colleague Alex Ramos who lost his life Monday in Bloomfield. Trotter holds a wrist band he wears in memory of Officer Pelletier, killed on I-84 in 2024.

AT STADIUM, FRIENDS OF EHHS BAND



PARENTS, MARCHING BAND MEMBERS AND FRIENDS staff a concession stand at Pratt & Whitney Stadium at Rentschler Field Saturday. Show your support by purchasing a lemonade, popcorn and a pretzel!

Local tow operator mourned

by Bill Doak

Colleagues, neighbors, friends and family turned out Wednesday at Krausers and on Risley Street to show support for Alexander Ramos, a tow truck driver who lost his life while giving someone aid on Tunxis Avenue in Bloomfield Monday.

Ramos worked for Governor Street Auto Body, was a graduate of East Hartford High School and the father of two small children.

His friend, tow truck driver Christopher Trotter, was emotional as he remembered the professionalism of Ramos and the nature of the towing business where the danger of the occupation is often inches away traveling at a high speed in all kinds of weather and times of day.

"We're all out here to do a job," said Chris who knew Ramos at EHHS. "He wasn't able to go home to his family, and that hurts. it hurts a lot."

Daryl Granville, a tow truck operator with Quality Car Care and a friend of Ramos, arrived at the scene to finish the job.

"The person that hit him, his vehicle clipped the edge of the bed, and there's a ramp at the edge of the bed. It must've went up that ramp, losing control, and he hit Alex," Granville said.

The owner of the Kia said

See TOW DRIVER KILLED, pg. 10



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MDC ALERTS

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AROUND TOWN

Community Wellness Day September 26 at EHHS

Together We Run For Education Charity Road Race, hosted in partnership with DT Cares and East Hartford Public Schools on Saturday, Sept 26 at East Hartford High School. Registration and check in open at 9 a.m. and the 5K road race and 1.5 mile walk step off at 10.

Bring your family, friends, and neighbors for a day of fitness, fun, and giving back. Let's run together to open more doors for our students' future!

Our annual grant opportunity for staff of the East Hartford Public School system is now accepting applications. Any and all staff of the school district are encouraged to

apply. Applications are due October 15.

The walk and run is part of Celebrate Community Day in East Hartford which will bring education, fitness, family engagement, health services and community resources together at East Hartford High School, coordinated by DT Cares, an organization committed to empowering youth through mentorship, wellness, and leadership development.

The day is expected to bring students, families, educators, alumni, health partners and community organizations together at the high school for a free day centered on education,

wellness, movement and connection. Developed in collaboration with the EH Alumni Association and town schools, it is hoped that the annual event will bring runners, first-time participants, students, families and members of the community together to participate in a day of fitness.

"This event gives our community another meaningful way to rally around East Hartford

9/11 ceremony at Fallen Star

Goodwin University will be hosting its 9/11 Day Of Remembrance Program this Friday, September 11th at 10 a.m. at The Fallen Star Memorial on campus. The program is open to the public and will feature presentations by Mayor Connor Martin, Police Chief Hawkins and Fire Chief Munson as we gather on the 25th Anniversary of 9/11/2001 to pay tribute to and honor our First Responders and Military Servicemembers along with those who perished on that day.

students and educators. The race/walk is a fun way to come together and promote community, health, and education while raising funds to support student scholarships, classroom innovation and educational opportunities," stated Brittney Cavaliere, Board Chair, East Hartford Alumni Association & Education Foundation.

The day is designed to be a "whole-child approach with community impact" by DT Cares. Activities will extend beyond the morning race.

From 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., families will have access to experiences and resources including: 3v3 basketball, kids activities and games, student performances and groups, community organizations and resources, food and refreshments, and get free health and wellness services. A major component of the day will be preventive health access. Hartford HealthCare will provide an on-site mobile mammography service, creating an opportunity for eligible community members to access breast-health screenings directly at the event.

Larson cheers \$240M F-135 P&W contract

Mayberry Village Congressman John B. Larson, Chair of the Bipartisan Joint Strike Fighter Caucus, and Rep. Rosa DeLauro, Ranking Member of the House Appropriations Committee, applauded a \$240 million contract modification for Pratt & Whitney to advance the F-135 engine core upgrade.

The award supports work in East Hartford among other locations.

"It was only two years ago that we rallied lawmakers, industry leaders, and machinists to defeat a costly alternative engine that would have uprooted thousands of Connecticut jobs and devastated our state's manufacturing supply chain," said Larson. "This investment makes good on the promise of the legislation we passed to ensure the next generation of the F-135 engine is developed and built by Connecticut workers."

Larson led passage of legislation in 2024 to fully fund F-135 engine modernization.

In 2026 the Connecticut delegation announced \$4.7 billion in new contracts for engine manufacturing at Pratt & Whitney.

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DESDE LA ESQUINA

by Carmen Maldonado

Una fecha que no se olvida

Septiembre llega todos los años con el comienzo de nuevas rutinas, el regreso a clases y, poco a poco, ese cambio de temporada que ya empezamos a sentir. Pero también trae consigo una fecha que permanece en nuestra memoria y que nos invita a detenernos por un momento, el 11 de septiembre.

Este año se cumplen 25 años de aquel día de 2001 que cambió la historia de Estados Unidos. Y aunque ha pasado tanto tiempo, hay recuerdos que permanecen. Para quienes vivimos ese momento, quizás todavía recordamos dónde estábamos, qué estábamos haciendo o simplemente cómo nos sentimos aquel día.

Con el paso de los años, recordar el 11 de septiembre también se ha convertido en una oportunidad para reflexionar. No solamente sobre las vidas que se perdieron, sino sobre las familias, comunidades y generaciones que han mantenido viva su memoria.

También es una oportunidad para recordar la unidad que surgió en momentos tan difíciles. Personas ayudando a personas, vecinos pendientes unos de otros y comunidades encontrando maneras de acompañarse. En medio de la tristeza y la incertidumbre, también hubo solidaridad, empatía y un sentido de comunidad que todavía merece ser recordado.

Porque muchas veces pensamos que para ayudar tenemos que hacer algo enorme, cuando la realidad es que la comunidad también se construye con pequeños gestos. Estar presente, ofrecer una mano, escuchar, acompañar o simplemente preocuparnos por quien tenemos al lado puede hacer una diferencia.

Venimos de diferentes países, culturas e historias, pero sabemos muy bien lo importante que puede ser la comunidad. Ese sentido de ayudarnos, de estar pendientes y de aparecer cuando alguien lo necesita es algo que podemos seguir llevando con nosotros.

Hoy también hay una generación que no vivió aquel 11 de septiembre y conoce esa fecha a través de lo que ha aprendido, visto o escuchado de quienes sí estuvimos allí. Mantener viva la memoria es también compartir con ellos no solamente lo que ocurrió, sino las lecciones que quedaron.

Veinticinco años después, quizás una de esas lecciones es recordar cuánto podemos necesitar unos de otros.

Este 11 de septiembre podemos sacar un momento, aunque sea en medio del corre y corre de todos los días, para recordar. Para honrar las vidas que se perdieron, acompañar desde la memoria a las familias que continúan llevando esas ausencias y reconocer a quienes estuvieron dispuestos a ayudar.

Pero también podemos recordar que la unidad no tiene que aparecer solamente en los momentos difíciles. Podemos practicarla todos los días, en nuestros vecindarios, nuestras familias y nuestra comunidad. Porque recordar también es honrar, aprender y seguir construyendo comunidad.

Han pasado 25 años, pero hay fechas que el tiempo simplemente no borra. El 11 de septiembre es una de ellas.

Eventos próximos que no te debes perder:

Únete a Goodwin University en conmemorar el 25 aniversario del 9/11 con una ceremonia a las 10:00am en el Fallen Star Memorial. El evento estará abierto al público y contará con la participación de líderes locales.

Vuelve el Festival Latino de East Hartford el 12 de sept de 2026. No te lo puedes perder, estará comenzando desde las 12:00pm hasta las 5:00pm con food trucks, música, y mucho más. No te lo pierdas. Esto será en el Great River Park (301 East River Drive)

No te pierdas La Parada Puertorriqueña y Festival del Coqui este domingo 13 de septiembre comenzando a las 11:00am y el Festival del Coqui comienza a la 1:00pm

No te puedes perder la feria de empleo que se estará 16 de sept. de 2026. La misma será organizada por el Departamento del Trabajo de Connecticut, de 10:00am a 2:00pm en el Trinity Health Stadium en Hartford.

CT State offers accelerated courses

Connecticut State Community College (CT State) will offer accelerated courses during the fall 2026 semester at its campuses statewide, with classes beginning in September and October.

Students can earn up to four credits and take classes online or on campus. Accelerated classes cover the same material as a standard 15-week semester course, but in a shorter time frame, giving students opportunities to advance their studies with greater flexibility. Visiting students are welcome and can check with their home college about transferring credits.

CT State's accelerated

classes span a range of subjects in business, humanities, social sciences, STEM and the arts. Options include accounting, art history, astronomy, business, chemistry, computer programming languages, creative writing, criminal justice, economics, geography, English as a second language, entrepreneurship, en-

vironmental science, history, philosophy, psychology, sociology, statistics and world languages. Financial aid and payment plans are available for full- and part-time credit students who qualify, and eligible students can use veterans benefits. Complete the application at www.ctstate.edu/apply.

Railroad crossing work planned

Two railroad crossings will be replaced this fall through the CT Department of Transportation's Rail Freight Infrastructure Program: Park Avenue: September 24-25, 2026 and Burnham Street: October 1-2,

2026. Both crossings will be closed for two days while crews install new track infrastructure and repave the roadway. Detours and advance signage will be in place, and traffic information will be posted by the town.

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SPEAKING OUT!, LETTERS

Connecticut positioned to make a difference for Puerto Rico

Connecticut has about 300,000 people of Puerto Rican descent, and many more state residents visit the island for its sunny weather and sandy beaches. Now a water crisis is having effects that reach all the way to Hartford.

State Rep. Christopher Rosario, D-Bridgeport, chair of the Connecticut - Puerto Rico Trade Commission, briefed Gov. Ned Lamont and other legislators during a press conference on the issue Sept. 2. "When the Connecticut - Puerto Rico Trade Commission was established, we looked at trade as one of the ways to establish connections," Rosario said. "And one of the things that's happening now is that severe water crisis down on the island that's impacting a third of the island, major economic infrastructure - San Juan, a major tourist destination."

Rosario said Connecticut has the highest percentage of Puerto Ricans of any state. He called

the gathering a message to the people of Puerto Rico that Connecticut was standing by and ready to help. And Connecticut has the ability.

Puerto Rico is in the midst of a record drought, compounded by low reservoir levels and a major aqueduct rupture. The island has instituted water rationing and last week New York sent 45,000 bottles of water to the San Juan area for distribution.

Mellaney Castro, Lamont's director of operations and strategic engagement and a member of the commission, recently returned from the island. She said she watched her family plan their days around when they would have water.

"Witnessing it up close gave me a deeper understanding of what so many families are navigating on the island," she said. "Watching it closely, it just hits differently."

Craig Patla, of Connecticut Water Service Inc., said when water is unavailable, society can break

down quickly.

"To the degree we can help, we ought to. It's a must," he said. "We've got people. Americans, Puerto Ricans, suffering because of a lack of water. We've got resources. We've got technology, and we can help."

CT Water will make a financial contribution toward relief, Rosario said. The amount was not available Wednesday morning, but was expected to be finalized and announced later that afternoon.

Lamont said the state National Guard was ready to help, and reiterated that the water utilities also were standing by to help with infrastructure improvements. Let's go. Enough talk. Action.

"Puerto Rico is an amazing, amazing place and I don't want this ... American island to be defined by a crisis," the state's governor said. "There is a special complementary relationship between Puerto Rico and Connecticut." Let's see it.

Let's get East Hartford's school year off on the right foot

Dear Friends,

Happy New Year!! We are excited to welcome everyone back for a new school year! The year is already off to a fantastic start, and there is a wonderful sense of energy and excitement throughout our schools and community.

On August 26, we welcomed back nearly 6,000 students and 1,300 staff members to our 15 schools. There is so much to look forward to from our PreK learners who are beginning school for the very first time to our high school seniors who are ready to embrace all of the traditions that come with their final year of high school. With the support of our committed team of educators and our supportive community, we know our students will have a year full of learning, growth and achievement.

Our back-to-school season kicked off with our annual Back to School Rally on August 5, a true community event that brings together families, schools, businesses, and organizations to provide needed resources to our students. We welcomed hundreds of families to our new location at McAuliffe Park, which gave us additional space for engagement. Dozens of local businesses and organizations shared information and resources that will benefit our students and families throughout the year. As an event highlight, our team distributed approximately 2,000 backpacks filled with school supplies to our students.

This annual event is only possible through incredible community effort and support. We are deeply grateful to the individuals who donated, the businesses and organizations that participated, and the

WHAT'S WELL FROM WELLS HALL



Thomas Anderson
Superintendent of Schools



Tyron Harris
Chair, EH Board of Education

volunteers who gave their time. Your generosity and commitment help ensure that our students begin the school year prepared and ready to learn.

As we settle into the new school year, we encourage everyone in our community to stay connected and engaged with our schools. For parents and guardians, that might mean attending family engagement events,

participating in parent-teacher meetings, or joining a parent organization. Please get to know your child's teacher(s), read updates from your classroom(s) and school, and ask your students about what they are experiencing each day. Small acts of involvement can make a big difference. We also encourage families to make sure students arrive to school on time, with the appropriate materials, and ready to learn. Every day matters, and attendance has a critical impact on student success.

You don't have to be a parent or family member to stay connected. Our schools belong to the entire community! Come volunteer at our schools, cheer on our students at an athletic event as the fall sports season gets underway, or attend a concert, performance, or other public event at our schools. Your presence shows our students that their community believes in them and is proud of their accomplishments. Upcoming events can always be found on our district website at www.easthartford.org/calendar.

Here's to a great year! Thank you for welcoming our students and staff back, and thank you for your continued support of our schools. If we can be of service to you, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Anderson's office at 860-622-5107 or superintendent@easthartford.org or Mr. Harris at 860-622-5017 or harris.tv@easthartford.org. With East Hartford Pride!

Tyron V. Harris
Board of Education Chairman
Thomas Anderson
Superintendent
East Hartford Public Schools

SPEAKING OUT!, LETTERS

9-11: An experience that changed my young world, and shaped our lives

by Don Bell
TOWN COUNCIL

Twenty-five years later, we still remember the day that reflected the very worst, and absolute best, of humanity.

September 11, 2001. What started as a beautiful September morning seemingly destined to become just another Tuesday quickly became something very different. At 37, some days I still feel barely a step above a kid, but time is full of irony. I increasingly feel the gradual pull of age. I heard recently that soon, more Americans will have been too young to remember 9/11 than the number of people who remember exactly where they were when they first heard the news. In the unrelenting passage of time that pulls on us all, for those that were there, our collective recollection of that day is gradually moving from a national memory to an historical event we describe to a new generation of Americans.

I was 12 when it happened. I remember the day better than I remember than I remember most of last week. There wasn't a cloud in the sky. I had just started 7th grade at East Hartford Middle School. I was excited for science class, where we were planning to use microscopes. By the time we heard the announcement on the intercom from the principal, the world had changed. Two planes crashed into the World Trade Center in a terrorist attack. The towers collapsed. We had no idea what was coming next. I still remember the look of shock on the faces of everyone, and the concern on the face of our teacher.

Kaisean Hilton's green summer

Kaisean Hilton of East Hartford recently completed Energize Connecticut's Green STEP Summer Program.

Offered by Eversource and Avangrid, Inc. subsidiaries United Illuminating (UI), Connecticut Natural Gas (CNG) and Southern Connecticut Gas (SCG).

The three-week, paid-to-train program prepares Connecticut high school students for careers in energy efficiency and green building. Kaisean joined more than 50 students from across

When class let out and we went into the hallways, I saw a student. He looked like an 8th grader, and he was visibly upset and screaming that he had family there. I never saw that person again, but even as I type I see his face and my eyes well up with tears.

Shortly after, my dad came to pick me up. He had a very old and very small red car, and when he picked me up from school and put me in the backseat, I was shocked by the radio. Reports were coming in quickly. People were in shock. The nation was under attack. At that point, all I had heard was the worst. At home, when we watched the news on television together, I started to see the best.

In the repeating footage on television, I saw first responders running into the towers to save people. I saw people of all backgrounds helping one another get to safety. Even after the towers collapsed and people ran from the cloud of debris, I saw people risk their lives to help others. Then the attacks were over, and we were left with the aftermath.

For anyone that's experienced a tragedy, you know that oftentimes the most indelible moment is the silence that comes after the shock. In that moment, you take stock of what you've lost. You quietly contemplate how different life will be. You mournfully realize that you were wrong in thinking you had more time.

That night, watching the silent sobs of people in Manhattan and around the country, and the wall of faces for missing persons, I went into the bathroom, sat at the edge of our

the state to participate in the program this summer.

Students could choose between two training tracks: Weatherization & Existing Building Upgrades and Green Building & New Construction.

Students were recognized for completing the program during a July 28 graduation ceremony at Yale University, where they received completion certificates and participated in a career expo with area businesses offering internship and career opportunities.



DON BELL

bathtub, and cried. I prayed. I didn't know what else to do. My family prayed, and ever hopeful when I went to bed that night I saw the country come together in a way I hadn't seen before.

I had a limited understanding of what that day would mean, but I saw the worst and very best of humanity that day. I saw what devastation people with hate in their hearts could inflict.

But I also saw the better angels of our nature. Many gave their lives on that day so that others might live. Many went to ground zero in the hours after the towers fell to look for survivors, not knowing that years later they too would become vic-

tims of that day due to the deadly toxins in the air. People invited strangers stranded by air traffic being shut down into their homes. People comforted one another, helped one another, and held one another.

Two and a half decades later, so many things have flowed from that day. For me, I remember not just the tragedy, but the capacity for each of us to be the best version of ourselves in service to others.

Time marches on, but even now as a plane buzzes overhead, sometimes my mind goes back to that day, when I looked up at a cloudless sky and was met with silence. I will never forget.

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ARTS & EVENTS

LATIN FEST BY THE RIVER

FESTIVAL LATINO DE EAST HARTFORD is this Saturday, September 12 from noon until 5 p.m. in Great River Park off East River Drive.

MUSICAL GROUPS will include Carlos Javier and his Mariachi band, Las Nenas del Mambo, Sabor Con Swing, and the Choco Band. DJ Inventoso will be entertaining between sets.

FOOD TRUCKS on hand include El Bori, Taste of Home, Hayllis Italian Ice, and Tacos los Mexicanos, among others. Free! See you there!

Agricultural fair this Saturday

Hillstown Grange's 138th Annual Agricultural Fair is this Saturday, Sept. 12, 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. at 617 Hills St. in the Hillstown section of town. Admission is free. All are welcome to enter and participate for bragging rights and prizes. There will also be raffles at the end of the fair. Craftspeople, artists, gardeners and cooks of all ages may enter their best handiwork and items to be judged for ribbons and cash prize awards. **Entries must be brought to the Grange Hall Thursday, Sept. 10, between 5 and 7 p.m.;** then picked up between 1

and 2 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 12. Garden categories include: Vegetables, fruit, flowers and "Special Contests" in both Adult and Youth award levels. Kitchen categories include: baked goods, canned goods, jelly and jams. Special Contests for 2026 are: Best in Show for: Charlestown Grey Watermelon, Round Zucchini Squash, and Ice Cream Sunflowers. Crafts, hobbies, and photos all can be entered. See entry form for rules. 2026 program guide is posted at www.HillstownGrange.org.

Hillstown Grange is the only local agricultural fair in the area for entries in the Connecticut State Fairs competitions. One Hillstown Grange winner went on to win the state title of best apple pie. Also at the fair,

come hungry as lunch will be served, our famous grilled hot dogs and hamburgers, topped with peppers and onions, 1 a.m. to 1 p.m. Indoor and outdoor seating, depending on the weather, for lunch. Raffle numbers will be pulled at 2 p.m.

A Farmer's Market and Craft Zone will be outside, also weather permitting. If interested in setting up as a vendor, there will be spaces available. Contact them at 860-558-4688.

Hillstown Grange Fair is the Hartford area's oldest agricultural fair. Hillstown is the district encompassing the corner where East Hartford, Glastonbury and Manchester meet. FMI contact Michelle DeDominicis at kma.dedominicis@gmail.com, or call 860-558-4688.

EAST HARTFORD LATIN FESTIVAL



FOOD TRUCKS

El Bori
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MUSIC

12:30 - 1:00 p.m. Carlos Javier – Mariachi
1:15 - 2:00 p.m. Las Nenas del Mambo
2:15 - 3:00 p.m. Sabor Con Swing
3:15 - 4:15 p.m. Choco Band

DJ INVENTOSO ALL DAY LONG!



AT THE EAST HARTFORD SENIOR CENTER 15 MILBROOK DRIVE

Wednesday September 16th at 12 pm

Hispanic Heritage Lunch & Silver City Singers

Join us for a special lunch to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month. After lunch Join the Silver City Singers of EH as they perform hit songs of the Swinging Early 60's. Free Candy & Pizza Raffle. Come and enjoy the show! Menu: Bistec Encebollado/Steak with onions, Arroz Blanco y habichuelas/White Rice and Beans and dessert. Lemon ice-tea and Water will be available. Tickets are \$3.00 and must be purchased at the Senior Center. Seating is limited.

Saturday September 19th 9 am to 12 pm

East Hartford Senior Center 5th Anniversary Party!

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Society

Family History Day Oct. 3

The East Hartford-based Connecticut Society of Genealogists (CSG) proudly announces its Annual Family History Day Seminar, themed "CT 250: The Stories That Made Connecticut," taking place Saturday, October 3 from 9 AM to 3:30 PM at the Hartog Auditorium at Ashlar Village, 74 Cheshire Road, Wallingford.

Featured Speakers & Topics
Eric Chandler - "Cloak & Dagger: Revolution's Secret War": Go beyond the familiar story of the Culper Spy Ring and discover George Washington's role as America's first spy-master, along with the successes and failures of intelligence gathering during the American Revolution.

Mel E. Smith and Damon Munz - "Voices from the Docket: Unearthing Connecticut's Legal Past": Learn how Connecticut court records can add depth and detail to family histories. The presentation will include information about court records held by the Connecticut State Library and examples involving freedom suits, property conflicts, breach-of-promise disputes and other revealing cases.

Pamela Vittorio - "Criss-Crossing Connecticut and New York: Migrations by Stage Coach": Explore the roads, turnpikes and stagecoach routes that connected Connecti-

cut with New York and the rest of New England. Maps, ledgers, ephemera and firsthand accounts will help genealogists better understand how and why their ancestors moved.

The day begins with registration, light coffee and Danish, followed by the morning presentations. Lunch will be followed by the presentation of the 2026 CSG Literary Awards and drawings for door prizes.

Breaks throughout the day will provide time to visit vendors and exhibitors offering books, research tools and local history resources.

Registration is \$63 per person, and advance registration is now open. For complete program information or to register, visit: <https://csginc.org/family-history-day-seminar/>

Founded in 1968, the Connecticut Society of Genealogists is one of the state's oldest and most respected genealogy organizations. CSG's headquarters and specialized research library are located at 175 Maple St. CSG helps researchers discover, preserve and share their family histories.

ROARING 20'S AT THE SENIOR PICNIC



EAST HARTFORD'S 39TH ANNUAL SENIOR CITIZEN PICNIC, sponsored by the Commission on Aging, took place on Friday, September 4, at Goodwin University on Pent Road. The 2026 theme was the Roaring Twenties, and attendees were encouraged to dress the part. Pictured is the Judge of the Costume Event, Gary Roy, who is pointing to his winning choice.

KEY EAST HARTFORD SCOUTING DATES:

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 14 - 7:00 pm First Congregational Church 837 Main St, East Hartford, CT 06108 - Troop 1 Invites 6th Grade kids and up on September 14th starting at 7:00 pm to learn about our organization and receive information on joining the Troop. Boys and Girls welcome to join.

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 16 - 6:30 pm South Congregational Church 1301 Forbes St, East Hartford, CT 06118 Cub Scout Pack 61 Invites Elementary aged kids (K-5th Grade) to join us and learn about our organization and sign up to join!

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EAST HARTFORD SPORTS

The football portal is a wormhole

As my wife and I enjoyed dinner on Saturday night Texas was playing Texas State on television.

"This is a college game, right?" my wife asked.

I didn't have an answer. Having grown up and, later, covered college football, in an era when it was played by college students provided with free tuition, books and room and board in exchange for a four year lease on their talents I barely recognized what we were watching as college football. It was played by mercenary athletes whose talents are paid for with hard cash, amounts determined by bidding

SCOTT GRAY on SPORTS

by Scott Gray



wars waged in transfer portals. Many of them admit to not even enrolling in classes once they select an "institution of higher learning". Their only interest is playing football, academic eligibility no longer a consideration. Many play college football because, for them, it pays better than the NFL.

As for calling it a game, in the fourth quarter Texas State was at least six unanswered touchdowns shy of making it look anything like a game. The outcome, as is the case with so many season openers, was predetermined by a payment north of a million dollars. Texas bought a "lamb to the slaughter" opponent to get a leg up on the necessary six wins for bowl eligibility. The Longhorns don't have a corner on this market. Our own UConn Huskies made an easy victim of FCS Lafayette, winning by 49 points. We'll need more evidence to get a realistic idea of how good, or bad, the Huskies are.

I still don't have an answer for my wife.

I was sad to learn over the weekend of the death of former Red Sox coach and manager Joe Morgan, the architect of "Morgan Magic" when he took the reins of a stumbling team in 1988 and immediately led them to 12 straight wins on the way to nineteen wins in his first twenty games and, subsequently, the American League East championship.

I first met Joe in 1982 when he managed the Pawtucket Red Sox. He was genuine, old school all the way, managing from his gut, not some book of contrived data. He frequently explained managerial decisions with an old horse racing term: "Six, two and even", leaving head scratchers wondering what that meant. It was never a mystery to Joe.

No one was more Boston than Joe. He worked for the state in a variety of capacities, from collecting tolls to driving a snowplow. He was as regular a Joe as any guy in the Fenway bleachers, a "working man's hero" in every sense of the phrase. He carved himself an indelible place in Beantown lore, leading the Sox to another AL East title in 1990. Both times the Sox were swept by Oakland in the League Championship Series, but it did nothing to diminish Joe's standing with the Fenway faithful.

Joe Morgan passed away at age 95. He never thought of himself as anything special. Those of us who cherish the golden era of baseball to which he was one of the last links know how wrong he was.

Huskies dominate Leopards

UConn football took the field Saturday at Pratt & Whitney Stadium at Rentschler Field, for Huskies fans the formal introduction to an entirely new football team from the sidelines to the line of scrimmage.

The result was picture perfect as the blue and white defeated the Leopards of Lafayette 56-7.

Welcome Coach Jason Candle and his Toledo Transfers.

Lafayette won the coin toss, and that was about it for their day. Husky quarterback Kalieb Osborne's first pass found Javon Brown on the left sideline for 29 yards. It was a smooth throw and slick catch sending a message that the team was prepared and eager for this introduction to their fans. Osborne found Brown again on third-and-9, and the Huskies were at the 10, then he broke a tackle and ran in for the 24-yard TD at 2:13 into the contest.

After a Lafayette three-and-out, Osborne stretched his legs. He reeled off 30-yards, then on fourth down, running back Kenji Christian broke two tackles on the way to his first score of the season.

Lafayette's punted again, giving the Huskies great field position. Osborne found JD Willoughby for a 19-yard pass, then on third-and-goal waited patiently for an open receiver before slashing to the right and an open lane to the end zone.

It was 21-0 before Lafayette had a first down, the quarter ended with UConn having a 209-13 advantage in offensive yards.

The second quarter started out with the first penalty of the game, which slowed, but did not stop Connecticut. Osborne hit Brown for 17 yards bringing up fourth down. The offense stayed on the field and Christian once again converted on fourth down, dragging a defender. Willoughby came down with a 20-yard pass, then two plays later Cyncir Bowers shed Leopards on his way to a 16-yard TD.

The Leopards had the ball at their own 30 when defensive coordinator Ryan Manalac dialed up back-to-back blitzes. John Lista and K'Von Sherman



QUARTERBACK KALIEB OSBORNE spins to hand the ball off Saturday at Rentschler Field as Connecticut beat Lafayette 56-7.

PHOTO BY LAWRENCE JAGGON

notched their first career sacks as Huskies on ensuing plays. Suddenly, Lafayette was out of scoring range and punted once again.

The pressure finally got to Osborne as he got hit throwing a pass over the middle which was intercepted by Beckham Dee. Osborne's team picked him up as a three-and-out saw Bush punting towards returner Julian Allen. Allen cut down the sideline before being stopped by the punter for a gain of 49.

On the second play of the drive, Christian took a handoff and found a hole. The speedster went 19 yards untouched into the endzone for his second score of the day.

UConn jogged off to the locker room at halftime with thunderous applause from The Rent up 35-0.

A quick three-and-out gave Osborne and the Huskies the ball back. He hooked up with Wheeling transfer Alex Godavitarne for 37 yards. Osborne then connected with Brown for the final time for a 14-yard gain. With the ball 11 yards from the endzone, Osborne elected to do it himself again. He took it up the middle and decided to go airborne, twisting midair and landing in the endzone for his second rushing touchdown of the day.

After praising the young

quarterback's performance, coach Candle discussed the play. "I would prefer he doesn't try to hurdle everybody from the five-yard line," Candle said.

Osborne's final stat line in his UConn debut was 19-26 for 265 yards, 2 passing touchdowns and 1 interception. He ran 8 times for 90 yards and 2 touchdowns.

"I was having a lot of fun out there being away from the game for so long," Osborne said. "It was instincts — I just jumped. I don't know why."

Tucker McDonald took over at quarterback for the Huskies with Tennessee transfer Jake Merklinger inactive.

His first drive under center was capped off by Trey Cornist's 55-yard touchdown, bringing the score to 49-0 in favor of Connecticut.

McDonald threw an interception in the fourth, but he would quickly shake that off and answer with a 60-yard touchdown pass to Raymond Liggins III where the true freshman made multiple men miss.

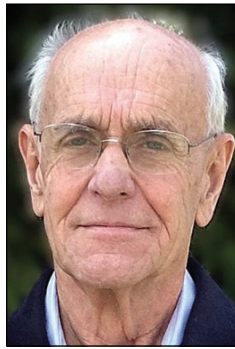
The extra point made it 56-0 before Lafayette scored in the final minute of play to make it 56-7.

UConn plays at The Wrench this Saturday against Maryland. The game is set to kickoff at 3:30 p.m. Gates open at 11:30.

OBITUARIES

John T. Baracchi, Sr.; 99

John T. Baracchi Sr., 99, of East Hartford, beloved husband of 77 years to Nancy Leone Baracchi, passed away on August 31, 2026 at St. Francis Hospital in Hartford. Loving father of John (Donna) Baracchi Jr. and Susan (Thomas) Carini all of Portland and Michael (Lisa Sabatella) Baracchi of Suffield. Beloved grandfather of Francesco (fiancé, Beth Calderoni) Falanga of Marlborough, Thomas (Heather) Baracchi of Southington, Arielle (Paul Sr.) Balducci of Plainville and Michael Baracchi Jr. of Enfield. John is also survived by his grandson's former wife, Michelle Falanga, who remains a loved member of the family. Cherished great-grandfather of Taylor Falanga of Colchester; Joshua, Griffin and Brody Falanga all of Marlborough; Trevor, Hadley and Harper Baracchi all of Southington; Giselle Rivera of Cromwell; Paul Jr. and Gianna Balducci of Plainville and the late Joseph Balducci. Brother of the late



John Baracchi, Sr.

Rita Toce, Josephine Baracchi, Marshall and Albert Mariglione. Loving uncle of Paula (Victor) Puia and Michael (Cathy) Toce. He also leaves a very special friend, Ronnie Pelletier. John was born in Hartford on September 2, 1926 son of the late John C. and Asunta

Defazio Baracchi.

John was a proud and honorable United States Army veteran who dedicated himself to serving his country as a Sergeant during World War II. Stationed in Osaka, Japan, he served with courage and distinction, carrying with him a deep sense of pride in his service to our nation. He was a long-time and devoted member of the Knights of Columbus and loved playing his guitar and harmonica surrounded by his family and dear friends. Prior to his retirement, John was a union electrician and member of IBEW Local 35 for 60 years.

Funeral services were Sept. 5 with military honors in Silver Lane Cemetery.

Edward N. Cadorette, 73

Edward N. Cadorette, 73, of Glastonbury, beloved husband of Carol Cadorette, passed away in the comfort of their home on Wednesday, August 26, 2026. Born on May 31, 1953 in Hartford, Ed was the son of the late Herman and Helen (Marchand) Cadorette. Ed grew up in East Hartford and graduated from Penney High School, class of 1971. He worked and lived in NH for several years before returning to CT where he had several jobs over the years finally landing back at Pratt and Whitney where he retired from in October 2020.

Ed loved his family and friends. He was sometimes quiet in nature, but ever observant. He was a diehard NY Yankees and New York Giants Fan. Ed enjoyed traveling. He

loved the road trips he and Carol took over the years. They shared and enjoyed the splendor and beauty of many of the U.S. National Parks.

Ed is survived by his wife Carol, siblings Jeanne Maloof of East Hartford, Janet Peltier of Lincoln, NH, Mary Cadorette of East Hartford, Joseph Cadorette of Thornton, NH and Theresa Cadorette of East Hartford. He also leaves his brother-in-law and sisters-in-law, Ronald Stocker of East Hartford, Lisa Tubiak of Glastonbury and Linda Bushey-Cadorette of Thornton, NH, many nieces and nephews and great nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his sisters Claire Ward of Johnstown, Colorado and Aline Stocker of East Hartford.

Stanley A. Tillotson, Sr., 86;

Stanley A. Tillotson Sr., 86 years young of Windsor Locks, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by loved ones on Sunday, August 30, 2026. Born in Newport, VT, he was the son of Charles and Catherine (Hines) Tillotson and grew up in Vermont. Stanley proudly served his country in the U.S. Army under JFK, stationed in Europe during the Cold War. He was a heavy vehicle driver and was issued a Good Conduct Medal, Marksman (rifle M-14).

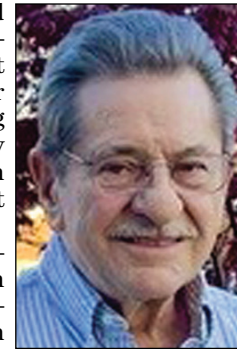
After moving to Connecticut he worked for 42.5 years as a machinist for Pratt & Whitney building jet engines.

He also spent over 30 years as a school bus driver and instructor for East Hartford where he won many awards in excellence for driving and safety, multiple competitions state and nationally three times placing in the top 10 in 1993.

Stanley was very proud of his family and loved them deeply. His passion for winter

was expressed through snowmobiling. You could bet your bottom dollar he would be sledding up North at any given opportunity on one of his Arctic Cat snowmobiles.

In the summer-time Stan was an avid camper, planning trips from Vermont to out west visiting the National Parks with his family. He started out small in a pop up camper and went out BIG with a leisure camper trailer. Stanley was a man you could always depend on and would come through for you with anything from fixing something to just showing up to support you. Stan had a real soft spot in his heart for his furry friends; his dogs over the years brought him much happiness. Stanley leaves to cherish his memory his beloved partner of 22 years, Maria Messemer; his three chil-



Stanley Tillotson Sr.

dren: Stanley Tillotson Jr., John Tillotson and Lynn Cadorette along with their spouses Lisa Tillotson and Steven Cadorette. Also Steve and Aimee Messemer; Tim Messemer and spouse Rachel Rossi; grandchildren Samantha Ashley, Samantha Ann, Brooke, Miley,

Zachary, Merek, Benjamin, Ava, and Abby. Stanley was predeceased by his brother, Mahlon Tillotson, and sister, Faye Tillotson. Survived by siblings Charles Tillotson, Silvia Pitisci and Janet Rogut; many nieces, nephews and great grandchildren. His family will receive relatives and friends Saturday Sept. 19 from 2 to 4 p.m. at Leete-Stevens Enfield Chapels, 61 South Rd, Enfield. A celebration of life follows at The Elks Club, 138 N. Maple St., Enfield.

Thomas C. Hatcher; was Moose governor

Thomas C. Hatcher, born April 22, 1936, in Scranton, Pennsylvania, passed away on August 23, 2026.

Tom was renowned for his expertise in the metal plating industry and was contacted by the U.S. Government to assist with the plate finishing on both the Bunker Buster and the Patriot Missile – making him the only civilian granted clearance to work on both.

His true passion, however, was the Moose. Tom joined

East Hartford Lodge in 1957 and held various titles throughout his life, including Supreme Governor of the International Moose Association – an honor held by only approximately 100 people out of millions worldwide.

Tom was married to the love of his life, Audrey Ann (Zadrozny) Hatcher, for 53 years before her untimely passing. He is predeceased by his beloved wife Audrey, his youngest son Daniel, his sister

Margarie, and his parents Wayne and Lorraine Hatcher.

He is survived by his two sons, Thomas C. Jr. of Glastonbury and Timothy A. of Cromwell, along with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren – whom he adored completely. His laugh was contagious and his smile could light up any room; those who were lucky enough to know it will carry it with them always.

Burial with military honors was Sept. 1 in Glastonbury.

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Carol A. Keena

Kristopher J. Keena

Kevin G. Keena

'Watching my workplace fall, I resolved to get home'

From Page One

iPhones or instantly available internet news. Before anyone on the train could gather further information, the train headed underground and arrived at Penn Station.

Penn Station looked like a scene out of a movie. Crowds of panicked people were running aimlessly, hoping to get any train home before it was too late. I still had scant details of what happened and planned to head to the office. Two co-workers that I ran into convinced me otherwise. They told me a commercial plane hit the North Tower (by that time both towers were burning). "Do not go near the place" was their warning.

With trains cancelled, subways and buses shut down, and me still in the dark as to the full extent of the attack, I headed above ground for a trek to the Sheraton Hotel in midtown. Office workers who had left their buildings filled the streets. I joined a group moving north. Eyes were on the sky, looking for more planes (especially near the Empire State Building). As I moved north, emergency vehicles headed south. Travel was slow, as I had to navigate through sidewalks jammed with people.

The lobby of the Sheraton was full. There were two lines. One for guests with reservations and one for those looking for a room. I felt fortunate to get to my room quickly. I turned on the television and began to learn the horrific details. I tried calling my wife Joan at her office...but the hotel landline did not work, and cell phone service was down (It was not until 11 a.m. that I got through on a payphone. That call was short, as there were other people waiting to use the payphone).

I later learned that Joan did not realize that my office was in 7WTC, not the Twin Towers. I also learned the principal of my children's school had talked with them and told them that their mother had not yet heard from me. Fortunately, my son knew that I worked at 7WTC which, at that time, appeared safe.

Soon, I headed upstairs to the Sheraton guest lounge. The room was full of business travelers, watching two large screen televisions. It was there that I learned that both towers had collapsed and first saw the haunting video of dust covered



Pedestrians stand motionless as the World Trade Centers burn September 11, 2001.

people running from the site.

The World Trade Center, a huge magnet for activity, with office workers, tourists and shoppers co-existing in a daily ballet of moving feet and flailing arms, was now gone. I did not yet understand the human tragedy that was unfolding. In those first two hours, the thought never occurred to me that so many people were unable to evacuate from the Twin Towers and would perish.

Soon, reports started speculating that more attacks, including chemical ones, were possible. My mind was set. Somehow, I was getting home that day. Before leaving the hotel, I was able to call Joan again and reassure her that I was fine. I also spoke with a colleague from my office who told me that everyone was able to get out without incident. I did not want to risk checking out, and losing my room, so I just headed downstairs with my suitcase and laptop bag.

Finding a taxi near the hotel was impossible. I walked north for twenty blocks, doing the obligatory NYC taxi hand wave, hoping that I would get lucky. Overhead, military jets patrolled the city. Finally, my waves worked and a taxi approached. I got in and saw a handwritten note, on a piece of cardboard, taped to the plexiglass that separated us: "I am a SIKH not a Muslim." Sadly, the hatred had started, and he was frightened as he went about his job that day. When his "where to?" was met by my "125th Street Station," he told me no

trains were running and asked where else I wanted to go. So, it was back to the Sheraton.

The news was more distressing by the minute. Around 5 p.m. the news started to focus on the uncontrolled fires at 7WTC. 7WTC was not a pretty building, but an important one all the same. Security was always extremely tight, with young men in suits and earbuds often stopping you and asking to see not only your company ID but sometimes your driver's license. In addition to financial services companies, various local and federal agencies had offices at 7WTC. I saw 7 WTC fall, live on television, at approximately 5:20.

Seeing 7WTC collapse increased my resolve to get home. I asked the front desk if trains were running again and he indicated that the Metro North trains were running again. With no taxis or, to my knowledge, subways running I decided to walk to 125th Street. I knew that Grand Central was much closer, but I figured that if another attack were to occur, Grand Central was a bigger tar-

get than the small outdoor train platform at 125th Street. I did not really have a plan but thought I would head north again and figure out how to get through or around Central Park.

At 86th Street I saw a cross-town bus. I got on and took the ride across Central Park. Once on the East Side, I got off and looked for a northbound bus. I do not remember which avenue I was on, but a bus came. I was the only one on the bus. I chatted with the driver. I do not remember what about, although I am sure it was about the events of the day. I got off at 125th and walked the remainder of the way to the station.

A Metro-North train headed to New Haven (close enough I thought) came quickly. I made my way to the last car and took a rear facing seat. Out the window, two tall plumes of smoke and debris were visible where the towers once stood. That was a haunting image to see as I left the city that day. I called the hotel and told them they could give my room to someone else. I was headed home.

Tow operator

From Page One

the driver who hit Ramos had a Vermont license plate and was moving fast. The driver stayed on the scene, and no charges have been filed.

Tow truck drivers in Connecticut have complained for years that drivers fail to follow the state's move over law.

The state law requires drivers to slow down and move over one lane when approaching emergency vehicles, highway workers and tow trucks stopped on the side of the road with flashing lights.

"No one wants to break down, so you can't control where you break down. But the things people can control, they don't do. Moving over more, being aware of our lights, hazard signs, stuff like that," Granville said.

A GoFundMe has been set up to help Ramos' family with funeral costs.

The organizer wrote, "At an age when their biggest worries should be bedtime stories, toys, and what they want for breakfast, these children are now facing life without their dad."

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF
**KARON T. GANATCHIAN,
AKA KARON GANATCHAIN
(26-00278)**

The Hon. Richard P. Gentile, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of East Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated **September 8, 2026**, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Tobi Dolan, Assistant Clerk

The fiduciary is:

Robert Benedict Bellitto, Esquire; Willinger, Willinger & Bucci PLLC, 1000 Bridgeport Avenue, Suite 501, Shelton, CT 06484

LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Court of Probate, District of East Hartford Probate Court

NOTICE OF HEARING

JOSEPH WRIGHT, DECEASED (26-00329)

Pursuant to an order of the Court dated September 4, 2026, a hearing will be held on an application for Custody of Remains as in said application on file more fully appears, at the East Hartford Court of Probate, 740 Main Street, East Hartford, CT 06108 on September 17, 2026 at 2:20 PM.

By Order of the Court,

Idaliz Gomez, Chief Clerk

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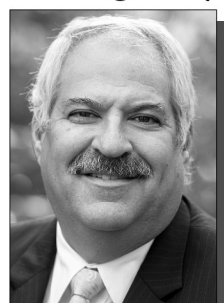
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WHERE THE ACTION IS!

BY CORINNE HORAN

SEPT 11 - 9/11 REMEMBRANCE DAY at Goodwin University's Fallen Star Memorial at 10 a.m. The program will feature presentations by Mayor Connor Martin, Police Chief Mack Hawkins and Fire Chief Kevin Munson as all gather on the 25th Anniversary of 9/11/2001 to pay tribute to those lost that day.

SEPT 12: FESTIVAL LATINO DE EAST HARTFORD Saturday, noon 'til 5 p.m. in Great River Park off East River Drive. Musical groups will include Carlos Javier and his Mariachi band, Las Nenas del Mambo, Sabor Con Swing, and the Choco Band. DJ Inventoso will be entertaining between sets. Food trucks on hand include El Bori, Taste of Home, Hayllis Italian Ice, and Tacos los Mexicanos, among others. Free.

SEPT 12: HILLSTOWN GRANGE 138TH ANNUAL AGRICULTURAL FAIR Saturday, 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. at 617 Hills St. All welcome to enter and participate for bragging rights and prizes. There will also be raffles at the end of the fair. Craftspeople, artists, gardeners and cooks of all ages may enter their best handiwork and items to be judged for ribbons and cash prize awards. **Entries must be brought to the Grange Hall Thursday, Sept. 10, between 5 and 7 p.m.** At the fair, enjoy a famous grilled hot dog or hamburger, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Indoor and outdoor seating. Raffle numbers pulled at 2 p.m. Farmer's Market and Craft Zone outside. Vendors call ahead to 860-558-4688.

SEPT. 12: CHICKEN BBQ DINNER at South Congregational Church, 1301 Forbes St., 6 p.m. Menu includes fresh corn-on-the-cob, pasta, salad, rolls, dessert and beverage. \$15, \$5 for children 10 and under. FMI call 860-568-5150, or visit southucc.org

SEPT. 12: THE WORLD WAR II LEGACY MUSEUM will be open from 2 until 6 p.m. On Sunday, Sept. 13 the museum will be open from 5 until 7 p.m. The following weekend the museum will be open the same hours, plus a "POW/MIA Missing Man Table" ceremony will take place Saturday, **Sept. 19** at 3, 4 and 5 p.m.; and Sunday, **Sept. 20** from 2 - 6 p.m. Located at 102 Pitkin St., admission is \$5. FMI call Gary at 860-810-8736.

SEPT 15: TECH FOR SENIORS at the East Hartford Senior Center. Sign up by calling 860-291-7492. One on One (bring your device) 1-2:30pm held in Computer Room One on One and group Class 2:30-4pm held in Media Room. Topics include Smart-phones at a Glance, October 20 - Is that AI? Nov. 17 - MyChart. Dec 15 - Fraud & Scams.

SEPT 16 at the East Hartford Senior Center, 15 Millbrook Road, **LIVE CONCERT: SWINGIN' EARLY 60'S HIT SONGS.** Free show Wednesday at 1 p.m. Color, costumes, lights as 11 All-Star singers offer songs from The Beach Boys, 4-Seasons, Leslie Gore, Johnny Rivers, Mary Wells & more. Free drawing for pizza! Stay Cool & Be Cool - Come to the Show! Remember all Health & Exercise programs are FREE to all EH Seniors over 55. Easy sign-up at front desk.

SEPT. 16: PRATT & WHITNEY AND UTRC RETIREES meeting, 9:30 a.m. for coffee and doughnuts. Chris Marolda on guitar. FMI 860-565-6236.

SEPT. 16: HIRING EXPO hosted by the CT Dept. of Labor from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at Hartford's Trinity Health Stadium. Employers and recruiters may reserve a table by going to the Hartford Athletic Hiring Expo website at www.HartfordAthletic.com/expo. Table reservations are available until Sept. 7. Job seekers are encouraged to bring copies of their resume and dress for success; hiring managers may be on site. Free and open to all.

SEPT. 16: UOFH COLLEGE OF LIFELONG LEARNING Get-to-Know-Us Fall Kickoff Wednesday, 4:30-6 p.m. There'll be 30 minutes of wine and munchies, then an hour of Director Michele Troy on stage doing mini-interviews with 6-8 of the instructors in fall pro-

ROAD RACE AND 1.5-MILE WALK, hosted by the East Hartford Alumni Association & Education Foundation in partnership with DT Cares and East Hartford Public Schools. Race registration opens at 9 a.m., with the 5K and walk beginning at 10. The broader community wellness event continues until 2. Participants can choose between a 5K route throughout the East Hartford High School campus or a 1.5-mile walk on the school track, creating an accessible opportunity for experienced runners, first-time participants, students, families and community members to participate together. To register for the walk go to www.dtcare.org/events/together-we-walk-run-for-education

SEPT. 26, BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS AND PET FOOD DRIVE at 10 a.m. at South Congregational Church, 1301 Forbes St. Pet blessings will take place promptly at 10 a.m. All well-behaved pets are welcome! If your pet is unable to attend or has passed away, you may bring a photograph to be blessed. Volunteers will be on-site collecting donations for the Protectors of Animals Cat & Dog Pet Food Pantry until 12 Noon. Bags or cans of unopened cat and dog food are greatly appreciated. Representatives from Protectors of Animals will be on hand with information about their organization, and you will also have the opportunity to **meet Beacon**, the East Hartford Police Department Community Engagement Dog. Whether you bring a pet, or simply come to celebrate the animals who enrich our lives, all are welcome!

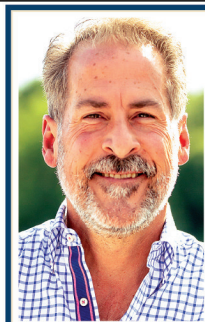
OCT 3: THIRD ANNUAL EAST HARTFORD WALK FOR HOPE breast cancer awareness event takes place October 3. Event check-in begins at 8:30 a.m. at 50 Chapman Place, the Community Center building. After a brief program at 9, with testimony from breast cancer survivors, the walk begins at 9:15 with a one mile walk starting and ending at the front steps of the

Community Center. Walk, run, or cheer from the sidelines, your participation will make a significant impact. Together, we can make strides towards a future without breast cancer. FMI https://ehparks.myrec.com/info/activities/program_details.aspx?ProgramID=30081

OCT 3: MEMORY IN MOTION bike ride hosted by UR Community Cares, 9 a.m. to noon along the Cheney Rail Trail in Manchester. Participants are encouraged to park at Center Springs Park, Little Theater of Manchester or Vaz House Cafe and enjoy a 1 to 3 mile walk or bike ride, choosing a distance that best fits their abilities and comfort level. Memory in Motion is designed to bring together individuals and families of all ages and abilities for a morning filled with movement, connection, nostalgia, and new experiences. Whether lifelong cyclists, casual walkers, caregivers, or simply looking for a fun community event, everyone welcome.

THURSDAYS - SOLDIERS & SAILORS MEMORIAL ARCH TOURS, Bushnell Park. noon until 1:30 p.m. The Arch is open for FREE tours on Thursdays from 12-1:30 pm through October.

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grams. No charge but you do need to register.

SEPT 19: APPLE FAIR AT ALL SAINTS CHURCH, 444 Hills St., outdoor and indoor Fair and Tag Sale from 9 a.m. 'til 1 p.m. Delicious baked goods, Cookies, Jams, Pickles, Fudge and Fun Stuff. Homemade Soups, Chili (both to go and to eat in) and Apple Crisp, Lunch and a Raffle. Tag Sale spaces are \$10 per 10' x 10' area. Vendor registration? Call or text 1-860-490-3270. No rain date. See you there!

SEPT. 26: BOLTON CHURCH CRAFT AND HARVEST FAIR at St. George's Episcopal Church, 1150 Boston Turnpike, Route 44, Bolton. 50th Annual, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on church lawn. Craft items include knitted and crochet, quilts, wood crafts, Home Decor, Notebooks, Florals, Handbags & Tote bags and our Book Nook. In addition to a luncheon, there will be a home-baked goods table, including a large selection of delicious desserts. St. George's delicious homemade Apple Pies and homemade baked beans will be offered. FMI call 860-643-9203 or visit www.facebook.com/StGeorgesBoltonCT.

SEPT. 26: TOGETHER WE RUN FOR EDUCATION 5K