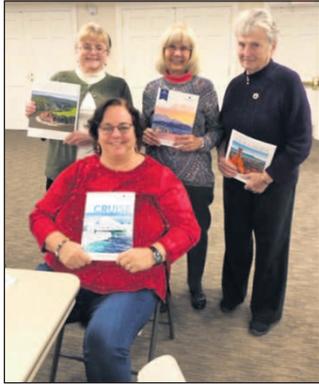


OUT & ABOUT

Somers Women's Club hosts travel seminar



The Somers Women's Club recently welcomed Lorna Shaker from Ellington Travel LLC to its November luncheon and meeting. Shaker brought club members and guests up to date on changes in the travel industry over the last 30 years and emphasized the role that the travel consultant continues to play even as many book their own trips online. Pictured are Monique Lussier, seated. Back row from left: Mary Sersanti, Lorna Shaker, and Ginny Basch.

USJ breaks ground on athletic center expansion

University of Saint Joseph (USJ) recently celebrated the official groundbreaking of its expansion to the O'Connell Athletic Center. The building, designed by JCJ Architecture, will provide nearly 40,000 square feet divided between two levels. The space will encompass a new gymnasium, a multipurpose classroom, student health services, a student-athlete training suite with a nutrition center, a hydrotherapy area, and more. O&G Industries Inc. will begin construction in December and plans to complete the project by January 2021. Pictured from left to right are: Amanda Devitt, USJ athletic director; Michael Morris, managing director, Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority; Jason Travelstead, vice president, O&G Industries Inc.; Rhona Free, USJ president; Ken Bedini, vice president for student affairs; James LaPosta, principal, JCJ Architecture; and Shawn Harrington, senior vice president for finance and strategy.



Rail path event attracts Manchester hikers

On Nov. 9, about 55 people came out for a free hike on the historic Cheney Railroad in Manchester, a 2.25-mile spur built in 1869 to connect the Cheney silk mills with the main railroad. The spur is now a rail trail, owned jointly by the Manchester Land Conservation Trust and the Town of Manchester. The trail is open to the public for hiking. A self-guiding map is on the Trust's web site: www.manchesterlandtrust.org. Site visitors should click on "Maps & Flyers" at the top of the home page and look for the railroad map. The Nov. 9 hike started in the South End and paused at the Bigelow Brook bridge, where this picture was taken. Scheduled hikes are on the events page of the website and on the Manchester Land Trust Facebook page.



Tolland Lions sponsor peace poster contest

The Tolland Lions Club sponsored the Tolland Middle School sixth-grade art class in the Lions International Peace Poster contest. The annual contest is held worldwide for students ages 11-13. This year's theme was "Journey of Peace." The local winner advances to the district contest. Award certificates and cash prizes were presented at the school for the top three posters. Pictured with their winning posters left to right are: Madison Stirt, first place; Michaela DiCicco, second place; and Natalie Klember, third place.



Community Child Guidance Clinic marks 60 years

On Nov. 4, Manchester Mayor Jay Moran delivered an official proclamation congratulating Community Child Guidance Clinic (CCGC) on celebrating 60 years of providing mental health services to children and families in Connecticut. Founded in 1959 by local community leaders, CCGC now works with more than 1,000 children and families from upwards of 50 cities and towns on an annual basis. To meet diverse mental and behavioral health concerns, CCGC offer a wide range of child-centered and family-focused programming, including outpatient, home-based and special education services. In the community, they collaborate with law enforcement and various agencies to support children and families who have been victims of trauma and violent crimes, and provide therapy and social work services to Manchester Public and Parochial schools. Additionally, the agency collaborates with several colleges and universities as a training ground for up-and-coming professionals in the fields of special education, mental health and social work. Pictured top right is CCGC staff with Moran. Bottom right is CCGC CEO Jamie Bellenoit receiving the proclamation from Moran.



EMAIL US YOUR SOCIAL EVENT PHOTOS

Photos must be color jpegs. Photos should be close-up views in sharp focus and must be accompanied by full identifications (first and last names) of all people pictured; a description of the event, including its date and location; and the name and telephone number of someone who can provide more information. Photos that do not include identifications will not be published.

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