By Woodrow Dixon

Last Friday, January 26 the Bloomfield Messenger published the first in a three part series of articles on the Winter Sports programs at the Capital Region Education Councils’ (CREC) Academy of International Studies (AIS).

Last week’s first article in this three part series focused on the International girls basketball team, which is part of a co-op for the 2023-2024 girls basketball season with fellow CREC School, the Academy of Aerospace & Engineering girls basketball team.

The Messenger was able to publish the first article of the three part series in last week’s paper thanks to an interview conducted via email with new International/AAE girls basketball coach Dhana Tulloch-Reid.

See SPORTS page 6
Parkville Market is excited to announce a new way to eat around the world with the Parkville Market Passport.

Guests can pick up a Parkville Market Passport at The Pint on the first floor of the Market, located at 1400 Park Street in Hartford. When they spend $10 or more at a restaurant vendor, they’ll bring their receipt back to The Pint to earn a stamp on their passport for that specific restaurant. Prizes are awarded for acquiring 5, 10, 15, and 20 different restaurant stamps. Once guests collect 20 stamps, they’ll receive their final prize and turn in their passport to be entered to win our grand prize - a FREE month of Parkville Market!*  

“Our goal is for our clientele to eat around the world, expand their pallets, and try every one of our unique restaurant vendors!” said Ashley McHugh, Parkville Market’s Director of Events and Programming. “Everyone loves a good challenge, so we’re excited to launch the passport as a way to encourage our guests to tap into their competitive sides while also learning about new cuisines. Plus, don’t forget about the prizes!”

Guests have until Wednesday, March 27 to enter to win the grand prize; however, the passport and other prizes will remain ongoing. On Friday, March 29, the grand prize winner will be selected at random. Eat up!

For a complete list of rules, visit www.parkvillemarket.com/passport

About Parkville Market

As Connecticut’s first and largest food hall, Parkville Market celebrates the best the state has to offer, including multi-sensory experiences that highlight food, beverage, art, and entertainment from the local Hartford community and beyond. Parkville Market is located at 1400 Park Street in Hartford, CT. The Market includes 22 unique restaurants, three bars, a variety of event spaces, and outdoor dining. Learn more about Parkville Market at https://parkvillemarket.com

Town of Bloomfield

Salary $15.69 hourly

Pre-employment drug testing. AA/EOE

For more details, visit www.bloomfieldct.org

Helping you outperform your competitors

For good local search engine optimization you need links to your website from well-known sources.

Being present in well-recognized online directories is essential to improving your search engine ranking. With our local SEO citation service, we will ensure your site is listed correctly and consistently across the Internet. We can also optimize your listings with keywords and photos.

HostingC.com

Published by Town News LLC
editor@TheWindsorJournal.com
editor@TheWindsorLocksJournal.com
editor@BloomfieldMessenger.com

John Karas
Editor
Lawrence Jaggon
Reporter
Woodrow Dixon
Reporter

We BUY Houses - $CASH$

- AS IS CONDITION
- NO BANKS
- NO COMMISSIONS OR FEES
- NO REPAIRS
- NO INSPECTIONS
- CLOSE ANYTIME

CLOSE IN SEVEN DAYS - BARILE REALTY - 490-5901
On Thursday, February 8th from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., the Urban League of Greater Hartford (ULGH) will host its 2024 Annual Black History Month Celebration, “A Legacy Revealed | The Dream Reimagined.”

The Free in-person event will be held at the Mark Twain House & Museum on 351 Farmington Ave. in Hartford, Conn., and will feature live music and culturally inspired refreshments, and include the 2024 Legacy Honors Awards. No advance registration is required.

The organization’s annual black history celebration showcases the achievements and contributions of African American, Afro-Caribbean, and Afro-Latino cultures in the Capital Region through interactive exhibits, inspiring entertainment. At 7 p.m., the Urban League of Greater Hartford will present its 2024 Legacy Honors to the following local residents:

- **Economic Impact Award** – Evelyn Sanchez, Connecticut Housing Finance Authority.
- **Community Empowerment Award** – Abdul-Rahmaan I. Muhammad, My People Clinical Services.
- **Seed to Success Award** – Walter Little, Chef Walt’s restaurant in Hartford’s Swift Factory.
- **Entrepreneurial Spirit Award** – Maurice Eastwood, Author, Entrepreneur.
- **Generation Next** Award – Christina Jackson, an ULGH Project Ready Scholar.

“Our annual Black History Month event is special because it invites the entire community to be a part of a unique collection of cultural experiences,” says David Hopkins, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Urban League of Greater Hartford, which in 2024 is celebrating 60 years of service to the Connecticut community.

The historic organization’s programs and operations impact more than 3,000 individuals and their families every year in the areas of youth development, adult education, workforce development, housing, personal financial management, community health, and social justice.

**6 p.m. to 7 p.m.: Interactive Exhibits** – Explore the rich history, resources, services, and activities offered by individuals and organizations in the Greater Hartford community at different Legacy Stations. Enter to win prizes as you go.

**7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.: Legacy Honors Awards Showcase** – Entertaining and thought-provoking presentations of music, poetry and dance, along with the Legacy Honors Awards presented to individuals committed to the culture.

Admission and parking are Free for the Thursday, February 8th event at the Mark Twain House & Museum. No reservations are needed.

To register, become a sponsor, place an ad, or become an exhibitor go to https://ulghlegacyrevealed2024.eventbrite.com email events@ulgh.org or call 860-969-6303.

---

**Connecticut, Stop Paying Too Much For Dry Cleaning.**

**NOW IN WEST HARTFORD!**

New York’s Premier

ONE PRICE DRY CLEANER

Open 7 days a week

**Dri Clean Depot**

FREE Pick Up and Delivery** $20 minimum order MOST PIECES ARE $5 PER PIECE*

- Dry Cleaning Services
- Wash and Fold
- Tailoring Services
- Shoe, sneaker & boot repair + cleaning

860-904-5318 833-890-1772 toll free
450 New Park Avenue
West Hartford, CT 06110
www.dricleandepot.com

Ask about our subscription program.

*Exclusions apply
GREEN NEWS

Nature Lecture Series
SPONSORED BY BLOOMFIELD PARKS, RECREATION & LEISURE SERVICES
AND TRAPROCK RIDGE LAND CONSERVANCY

CHASING DRAGONS

THIS VIRTUAL PROGRAM WILL BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 7TH, 2023, 6:30P.M.
SIGN UP @ TRLANDCONSERVANCY.ORG

Dragonflies are among the earliest of insects and have been on earth for an estimated 300 million years. The largest fossil dragonfly had a wingspan of over two feet! Although smaller today, dragonflies are the fastest flying insects and, along with their smaller relatives, the damselflies, remain important environmental indicators of the quality of our environment.

Presented by Jay Kaplan, Director, Roaring Brook Nature Center in Canton, CT

Looking for a new dentist?

Mondovi Dental®
860-688-4634

We are trained in the latest advances in dental treatment and are empowered to focus on the best care for you and your family. Our services include:
- Preventive Care
- Oral Cancer Screenings
- Cosmetic Dentistry
- Whitening
- Veneers
- Dentures
- Restorative Care

Mondovi Dental®
860-688-4634
February 2, 2024

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

BLACK HISTORY IS NOT CONFINED IN A SINGLE MONTH. IT'S THE HEARTBEAT OF EVERY MOMENT

By Rickford Kirton

My Fellow Neighbors: As we embark on Black History Month, let us honor the rich tapestry of contributions, resilience, and triumphs woven by Black individuals throughout history. This month is a testament to the strength, creativity, and determination that have shaped our world.

Black History is not confined to a single month; it is the heartbeat of every moment, every innovation, and every stride towards justice. It’s about acknowledging the struggles faced and celebrating the indomitable spirit that rises above adversity.

Let us amplify the voices that history attempted to silence and highlight the stories that textbooks often overlook. Together, let's stand united in fostering understanding, dismantling prejudice, and championing equality.

May this month serve as a reminder that Black History is a shared legacy that enriches us all. Let's honor it not just in words but in our commitment to creating a future where diversity is celebrated, equality is non-negotiable, and justice prevails.

#BlackHistoryMonth
#CelebrateEquality
#UnityInDiversity

---

PANTRY ORGANIZATIONS

Pandemic Breakfast on Sunday, February 4th, 2024, at The Memorial Hall, 1 South Main Street.

All members of the Post, Auxiliary and Families as well as all area Veterans are welcome.

The menu includes Pancakes or French Toast, Juice, Coffee, and Tea.

The cost is $5.00 for adults, per person and $4.00 for Children, per person, under the age of 12.

Breakfast will be served from 8:30 am until 11:00 am.

We hope you will enjoy the meal and socialize with others.

FOUR CHAPLAINS DINNER

Gensi-Viola Post No. 36, The American Legion of Windsor Locks will host their Annual Four Chaplains Dinner on Saturday, February 17th, 2024, serve time of 6:00 pm at the Memorial Hall, 1 South Main Street.

This dinner honors the Four Chaplains who served aboard the U.S. Army Transport Dorchester and their selfless act of distributing life jackets.

When they ran out, they removed theirs, gave them to four young men, then linked arm in arm praying together as the ship sank.

Menu includes a complete Pork Roast Dinner with Dessert. All members of the Post, Auxiliary and Families as well as all area Veterans are welcome.

The event is capped at 80 dinners for a donation of $15.00 for adults, and $10.00 for children (under 12 and per person) with take-out available.

Please come and join us paying tribute to these four courageous chaplains.

---

Let Your Home Pay YOU Back

With A Reverse Mortgage

Borrow your Equity with no Monthly Mortgage Payment

- Payoff an Existing Mortgage
- Afford In-Home Care
- Make the Best of your Retirement
- Age in Your Home Safe/Secure

Mark Harrington
34 Bloomfield Ave.
Windsor, CT 06095

860-285-0635
CREC'S ACADEMY OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES WINTER SPORTS TEAMS

From Page One
- The purpose of this three part series of articles is to not only make Bloomfield residents aware of the fact that another high school resides in the town, but to also highlight International's growing athletic programs.

While Petroski has been coach of the Dragons boys and girls indoor track and field teams at the Academy of International Studies, the Messenger's focus is on the Dragons boys and girls indoor track and field teams.

The boys team is coached by Andru Suarez and the girls team is coached by Lindsay Petroski.

Both Suarez and Petroski are veteran track and field coaches at the Academy of International Studies (AIS).

Suarez has been coaching high school boys track at International for eight years while Petroski has been coaching high school girls track at the school for the last three years.

Prior to their high school track and field coaching careers, both Suarez and Petroski coached track together at CRECs' International Middle School.

"We both coached middle school track at the Academy of International (AIS) before we moved to the high school level," stated Petroski. "We have been coaching indoor and outdoor track together for the last three years."

One of the challenges that both programs face is the small number of student-athletes that are on both squads.

Both International teams are classified as CIAC Class S, which is the smallest class designation numberwise no matter what the sports is.

Coach Petroski, who worked with coach Suarez in answering the interviews questions, noted that it is difficult to focus on overall team placements in meets, explained Petroski. "We focus more on individualized placement in each event (with the exception of relays.) Our main goals throughout the season is for athletes to improve their performances in their individual events and qualify for the division, class and state meets."

Coach Petroski also noted that the coaches continue to encourage and work with their student-athletes to compete in other events; in short the student-athletes are encouraged to step outside their comfort zones.

"Throughout the season, we always encourage our athletes to participate in a variety of both familiar and unfamiliar events, noted Petroski. "We push our athletes to not only compete at a higher level, but to continually build on their technique while competing."

Petroski sighted the following example. "We have a new high jumper, who completed in the NCCC Meet on Saturday, Jan. 13. Throughout his time jumping, coach Suarez continually refined the jumper's approach, jump and finishing techniques. This athlete jumped 5'9" during his first ever high jump competi-
tition. We anticipate if he continues to work hard, he will be jumping over six feet by the State Open.

With the 2024 indoor track and field regular season quickly winding down with individual conference and leagues indoor track and field meets looming on the horizon, followed by the State CIAC Class S Meet on February 9 then the CIAC State Open Indoor Track and Field Championships on February 17, 2024 - both Petroski and Suarez are getting their athletes prepared for these meets.

Earlier this month (January 13), both Dragons indoor track and field teams sent a small contingent of student-athletes to participate in the important North Central Connecticut Conference (NCCC) Meet in preparation for International's three post season track and field meets that will be held at the Floyd Little Athletic Center as follows; the Connecticut River Athletic League (CRAL) held yesterday (Jan.31); the CIAC Class S Championship on Friday, Feb.9 at 4:30 pm and the State Open Championships on Saturday, Feb.17 at 12 noon.

Heading into yesterday's CRAL meet, the Dragon boys 4x200 relay team was looking to successfully defend their title, and the boys SMR and 4x400 relay teams "were expected to have fast races and place in the top of the field" like the boys 4x200 relay team.

Also both coaches were anticipating a good performance from the International girls 4x200 relay team, who were heading into their second meet "ever" as a quartet. It was anticipated they would post a fast time.

With an 18 day lag between the NCCC Invitational and the CRAL meets, both coaches were asked about the positive and the negative impacts on their student-athletes, who had to endure such a lengthy time frame.

They sighted the following positives and negatives effects.

Positive:
- Practice time (refining skills)
- One more competition day
- Sickness (winter chill etc.)

"To be honest, our kids are ready," explained Petroski. "We aim to have them peak at the end of January. They have been building speed and strength throughout the last few months. The gap in between the two meets (the NCCC and CRAL) gave us more time to rest, build endurance and get our team healthy. We only had 10-14 athletes qualify for the CRAL. They will continue to practice while the (regular)season ends for the other 20-25 kids. As our team shrinks, we can specialize on the individual events and athletes."

(NOTE: The last meet of any importance for the 2023-2024 regular indoor track and field season is the NCCC Last Chance Qualifier scheduled for tomorrow, Saturday, February 3, 2024 at Hartford Public High School. This meet will give student-athletes, who participate in individual track and field events as well as athletes who participate in team relay events one last opportunity to qualify for the 2024 State Open Championships.)

From Page One
- Trees

Trees

The focus of the amended ordinance is on those seeking to develop or improve property, not on property owners who need to take down a failing or dangerous tree. Replacement determinations will be made by existing staff as part of existing plan review procedures. The creation of a tree replacement fund to enable off-site planting by those who find it difficult to meet the replacement calculation onsite is currently under consideration. Said fund would then allow for additional tree planting by the town.

It should be worth noting that since TFB began its volunteer efforts, residents from the towns of Suffield and Windsor Locks have created their own tree programs using information shared by TFB. TFB is a joint effort initiated by the Bloomfield Beautification Committee and Conservation Energy and Environment Committee.

Your home is your castle. We'll insure it like one.

PROVIDING PROTECTION TO INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES & BUSINESSES FOR OVER 35 YEARS

Rabbett Insurance Agency
PO Box 665
Windsor, CT 06095
(860) 688-1303 tel
shannon@rabbett-insurance.com
www.rabbett-insurance.com

Before you make your next insurance payment contact us for a quote

6 BLOOMFIELD MESSENGER  February 2, 2024
BLOOMFIELD DTC ENDORSES 65 TO SERVE

From Page One

In this election, the ballot consisted of three groups of candidates: a list of 65 names recommended by the current DTC; a challenge list of 47 people; and six names of people nominated from the floor as write-in candidates.

The conduct of the meeting, the ballot counting, and the next day’s verification procedure were conducted in accordance with rules affirmed by the statewide Democratic Party DTC committee rules and are consistent with state law governing primaries and elections. At every step of the way, Bloomfield DTC chairperson Lynette Eason was in communication with state party officials to make sure matters proceeded legitimately and fairly.

While the total number of ballots cast was never in question and all ballots were counted, it turned out that some of those ballots were, at first, not included in the final total tabulation when a preliminary announcement of the highest vote getters was made that night. There was nothing official about the statement, the results had not yet been certified, and it was readily obvious when the totals were reviewed that votes were missing. Review of the tally sheets and spreadsheet entries quickly produced the correct totals.

The decision to undertake a verification count was affirmed by the State Central Democratic Committee the day after the caucus. It took place in Town Hall, with participation by representatives from all the lists. That vote total confirmed the caucus results. The caucus results were then certified with the Town Clerk before the 4 PM deadline.

There was never a recount. A recount only takes place after certification. Unfortunately, the sloppy characterization of “recount” was used to describe events, but the term is misleading. There was simply a verification of the previous night’s final corrected tabulation to make sure all parties were satisfied that all of the ballots cast had been properly counted. Claims by some that there was an “illegal recount” are wrong.

Likewise, the claim that the unofficial results announced the night before should stand as the certified result is not only unfounded, but contrary to the rules and procedures under which the Democratic Party functions. Knowing a certifying erroneous results is not only wrong, it’s a Class D Felony in the state of Connecticut.

These claims were made in a complaint to the state-level Democratic Party. Last Sunday, the party rejected them and unanimously upheld the caucus’s certified results.

As it turns out, 64 of the 65 recommended DTC nominees were endorsed. One person who had not been recommended by the DTC also made it in. As no candidates subsequently petitioned for a primary, these 65 will become your new Bloomfield Democratic Town Committee on March 6.

Congratulations to all. As one of those who was endorsed – this will be my fourth term on DTC – I can assure you that we all look forward to working together in bringing to Bloomfield the best of representative democracy.

Bradley S. Klein
List of 65 endorsed DTC members for 2024-26

Ola Aina
Pansy Archer
Charles Bates
Ava Biffer
Femi Bogle-Assegai
Stephanie Calhoun
Chandler ‘Chip’ Caton
Joy Chance
Doug Clifford
Erica Coleman
Todl Cooper
Erin Corbett
Pat Davis
Suzette Debeatham-Brown
Kimberly Dunbar
Lynette Eason
Weslie Michael Flippin
Hugh Freney
Harvey Frydman
Howard Frydman
Joan Gamble
Ed Garcia
Bobby Gibson, Jr.
Antoinette Gooley
Kevin Gough
Claudia Gwardyak
Anthony Harrington
Henriette Herzfeld
Joseph Homelson
Reginald Taij Howe
Kevin Hussain
Jacqueline Isaacson
Renae James
James Jenkins
Paula Jones

Jorge Calderon
Laurie Julian
Bradley Klein
Byron Lester
Cindi Lloyd
David Mann
Lesley Mara
Jennifer Marshall-Nealy
Shelby Maybin
Kenneth McClary
Frank Merblum
Tollie Miller
Brenda Milner
Tiffany Mohammed
Michael Oliver
Leon Peters
Kelli Plummer
Angel Rodriguez, Sr.
Shawn Samuels
Ed Savage
Syd Schulman
Joe Suggs
Tamarah Swan
George Tate
Dwight Washington
Joe Washington
D’Andra Whyte
Ruth Wilkinson
Vanessa Williams
Danielle Wong

CHASING DRAGONS

You are invited to a Zoom webinar.
When: Feb 7, 2024 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Topic: Chasing Dragons - Dragonflies & Damselflies
Description: Dragonflies are among the earliest of insects and have been on earth for an estimated 300 million years. The largest fossil dragonfly had a wingspan of over two feet! Although smaller today, dragonflies are the fastest flying insects and, along with their smaller relatives, the damselflies, remain important environmental indicators of the quality of our environment.

Presented by Jay Kaplan, Director, Roaring Brook Nature Center in Canton, CT

Register in advance for this webinar:
https://bloomfieldct.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_IYwl2AgQ-Gmmu63HVvMg or scan the QR code below.

Kindergarten registration has opened for the 2024-25 school year! Students in Bloomfield registering for Kindergarten will attend Laurel Literacy Academy, home of the Owls, which provides education for over 300 Bloomfield students from Pre-K through Grade 2.

“Kindergarten is a time when students start to develop as young learners as they build the foundation of their education” said Laurel Principal Jennifer Dwyer. “At Laurel, we strive to learn about your child as an individual and help each owl grow and meet their unique potential.”

Recent legislation (Public Act 23-208) changed the Kindergarten starting age. Beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, children attending kindergarten must turn 5 on or before September 1 of that school year. However, there is a provision in the legislation that provides students previously eligible to request early Kindergarten admittance. To do so, a family must submit a written request to the principal, and the school district completes an assessment that confirms the child is developmentally ready for kindergarten. Any family with a child born on or after September 1 who is interested in the early admittance will need to follow this process.

Laurel Literacy Academy will hold its first Kindergarten Open House on Thursday, February 15 for interested families to tour the school and gain more information about what Laurel has to offer.

Kindergarten registration, and the early admittance process, begins with registering your child at the Bloomfield Public Schools Central Office. Scan the QR code below or visit the district website at www.bloomfieldschools.org to register your child today!

Nature Lecture Series
SPONSORED BY: BLOOMFIELD PARKS, RECREATION & LEISURE SERVICES
HOSTED BY ROARING BROOK NATURE CENTER
CHASING DRAGONS
THIS VIRTUAL PROGRAM WILL BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 7TH, 2023, 6:30PM
SIGN UP @ TRLANDCONSERVANCY.ORG

Dragonflies are among the earliest of insects and have been on earth for an estimated 300 million years. The largest fossil dragonfly had a wingspan of over two feet! Although smaller today, dragonflies are the fastest flying insects and, along with their smaller relatives, the damselflies, remain important environmental indicators of the quality of our environment.

Presented by Jay Kaplan, Director, Roaring Brook Nature Center in Canton, CT
**PARKINSON’S DISEASE**

**DEEP BRAIN STIMULATION**

Join us for an informative program and overview of the revolutionary treatment for Parkinson’s Disease and Essential Tremor.

**Wednesday, February 28th at 5:30 pm**

**Presented by Dr. Christopher Conner, Neurosurgeon**

INDEPENDENT LIVING  ASSISTED LIVING  MEMORY CARE

**INDEPENDENT LIVING**

860-690-7660  StonebrookVillage.com

550 Old County Road  Windsor Locks, CT 06096

**ASSISTED LIVING**

**MEMORY CARE**

RSVP by 2/23 to 860-690-7660

**STONEBROOK VILLAGE**

An Everbrook Senior Living Community

**THIS SENIOR LIFE PAGE IS SPONSORED BY**

Weatherby & Associates, PC
Counselors at Law

Helping families preserve and Protect Assets and Values

Bloomfield location:
693 Bloomfield Avenue, Suite 200
Bloomfield, CT 06002

(860)769-6938
February 2, 2024

YOUR LIBRARY: BRINGING YOU THE WISDOM OF THE AGES - AND A LOT OF FUN TOO!

WINDSOR PUBLIC LIBRARY

By Denise Ricotta
IT Librarian Windsor Public Library

INTERNATIONAL GIRLS IN SCIENCE DAY

Wednesday, February 14, 4:00pm - 5:00pm
Ages 6 to 11

FRIENDSHIP BRACELETES

OPEN TO AGES 10-18
SATURDAY, FEB 17
3:00-4:00 PM
MEZZANINE MAKERSPACE
REGISTER AT WINDSORLIBRARY.COM

WINDSOR LOCKS LIBRARY

Author Lauren Asher
On Monday, February 5th at 6:30 PM, the Windsor Locks Library, Inc. will be hosting New York Times bestselling author Lauren Asher via Zoom. Lauren’s 2023 release “Love Redesigned” was the #3 best-selling book in the Paperback Fiction category, and she has also published the Booktok-famous “Dreamland Billionaires” series. Lauren’s books are available to check out from the library in print and online. Register online at www.windsorlockslibrary.org/programs to receive a Zoom link or call 860-627-1495 to attend and watch in person at 28 Main St, Windsor Locks.

Free Trivia Night
On Monday, February 12th at 6:30pm the Windsor Locks Library, Inc. located at 28 Main St, Windsor Locks will be hosting a free trivia night! Questions will be "general knowledge", teams of 1-4 people are welcome to join. The individual or team with the most points will win a prize! Register online at www.windsorlockslibrary.org/programs or call 860-627-1495.

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY

Tanglewood Marionettes presents,

THE DRAGON KING

FRIDAY
FEBRUARY 9
6:30 PM

Location:
Metacomet Elementary School
185 School Street
Bloomfield, CT

All ages welcome!

Please register online at
https://bplt.evanced.info/signup/

Special BPL Storytime:
“Dollars & Cents”
February 7 @ 10:30 AM
Bloomfield Human Services Building
330 Park Ave., Room 152/153

MON-THUR 10 AM-6:30 PM
FRI 10 AM - 5 PM

FULL-SERVICE LIBRARY: COLLECTIONS, TECHNOLOGY, CHILDREN’S PLAY AREA

VISIT US at OUR TEMPORARY LOCATIONS

MON/TUES 10 AM-6 PM, W/TH 10 AM-8 PM,
FRI 10 AM-2 PM

TECH EXPRESS CENTER: COMPUTERS, PRINT, COPY, SCAN, FAX

330 PARK AVENUE, ROOM 117
Human Services Building

Used books & board games

OPEN
Saturday 11am-5pm
Sunday 11am-5pm
Curbside pick up always available

1073 Palisado Ave,
Windsor
860-219-0393

Former MetLife Building, Cigna Campus
MS. HOLMES & MS. WATSON - BRILLIANT COMBINATION OF WITS AND COMEDIC BANTER

By Howard Steven Frydman
aka “The Howard”

Production:
Ms. Holmes & Ms. Watson - Apt. 2B
Playhouse On Park
Theater:
Kate Hamill
Playwright:
Kelly O’Donnell
Director:

Oh, those sweet mysteries of life- who built the Pyramids? Is there Treasure on Oak Island? What is hidden in “Area 51”? and what to get POP co-founders Mesdames Zoller and Flater for their 123rd combined birthday - (it’s on Feb 18th btw). Not to worry, the world’s greatest detectives are on the case in a new production at POP. Well, who can they be? is it those intrepid duo detectives, Batman and Robin? - nah, Cagney & Lacey-nope, Not even Darlene or Tracy! It’s- nah, Cagney & Lacey-nope, detectives, Batman and Robin? - nah, Cagney & Lacey-nope, it’s Sherlock Holmes- and his trusty loyal scribe Watson, at their digs at 221B Baker Street London along with the doting Mrs. Hudson. Yep- something’s afoot, the world’s greatest detectives are on the job and in a bit of a twist by playwright Kate Hamill, she portrays them as women of the modern day - circa London-

BBC’s Benedict Cumberbatch as an ultra-modern sleuth, and even Gene Wilder took a “walk-about” in “The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes’ Smarter Brother”- btw - it was a musical! And no, I didn’t forget that our own William Gillette from the great State of Connecticut performed “Holmes” for over 30 years!

Yes, so many have carried the characterization of the great master of deduction- Sherlock Holmes- and his trusty ed loyal scribe Watson, at their digs at 221B Baker Street London along with the doting Mrs. Hudson. Yep- something’s afoot, the world’s greatest detectives are on the job and in a bit of a twist by playwright Kate Hamill, she portrays them as women of the modern day - circa London-

and as they say – “truth is stranger than fiction “Judgy Wudgy!”

“Infamy Infamy, everyone has it “In for me”! there’s the rub-what is a story about Sherlock Holmes and Watson without a Moriarty? - am I right my friends! Within this 2 hour and 30-minute performance we are introduced to “Mr. M.”- yes its Sherlock’s mortal enemy Moriarty- we all have them don’t we- here it’s in the guise of “Inspector Lestrade je Moriarty (deliciously played by Nick Nueller- yes- Snidely Whiplash and Hedley Lamarr would be so proud of his characterization. Joining the “Big M.” is the hot-to-trot “pinkhair” adorned Irene Adler (Megan McDermott)- with her own games to challenge the stoic detective. Folks, I guess the inner story regarding Holmes and Watson, no matter what the interpretation consists of, that each has found a soulmate – a true friend in deed! And that’s the whole truth!!! A couple of afterthoughts on this production – Folks, its long, as stated its over two hours yet its rapid fire dialogue keeps one awake and alert to the action on stage- by the way there is a bit of the atrhal haze and if you are lucky you can watch one of the actors utilizing props to highlight an on-stage fight. My other thought – in a production that has a reversal of role-playing, I wish Playwright Hamill had additionally “shocked” the audience by having “Irene Adler” be found out as the real “Moriarty”- it cer-

tainly makes sense to me.

Let me tell you, from its rapid-fire dialogue and luscious spontaneity between our on-stage foursome, this production uniquely makes “Ms. Holmes and Ms. Watson” Apt. 2B a “properly brilliant” combination of Wits and Comedic banter. Speaking of our actors, we give kudos to our four leads including, Kirsten Peacock as Sherlock and Nick Nueller who inhabits numerous roles throughout. Once again, we must state that Kelly Letourneau, (who we had last seen in POP’s “Pride and Prejudice”) as “Watson” is an effervescent “Phenom” and a joy joy joy to see her perform on stage- she is a WOW!! Our “Howard Noticed You Award” aka “The HNY’s” is duly presented to Megan McDermott in her various incognitos of Irene Adler, Mrs. Hudson, the Dead Guy- and so many more – Irene, Let me tell you “You stole the show” – and we thoroughly enjoyed all your fast-paced transformations. As stated, the games afoot at POP- enjoy!!

Tickets are now on sale for MS. HOLMES & MS. WATSON - APT. 2B, and range from $45-$55 (plus a $2.50 service charge). Group rates available! Student and Senior discounts are also available. For information on deeply discounted tickets including Lunch Time Special and Student Rush, visit playhouseonpark.org. 2pm matinees are on Tuesday, Saturday, and Sunday. Evening performances are at 7:30pm on Wednesday and Thursday, and at 8 pm on Friday and Saturday. There will be a talk back with the cast after each Sunday matinee.

For more information or tickets, call the Box Office at 860-523-5900 x10 or visit www.playhouseonpark.org

Playhouse on Park is located at 244 Park Road, West Hartford, CT 06119.

Howard Steven Frydman is General Manager and Executive Director of BATV - Channels 5, 95 & 96 and a member of the CCC. Please feel free to contact Mr. Frydman with your thoughts and ideas at TheHoward24@gmail.com
Behind the glamor and applause, the life of a classical musician is a mix of unpredictable hours, daily practice, and constant pressure to be at the top of one's game in a relentlessly competitive field. In this special Presidents’ College presentation, cellist and concert producer Laura Metcalf, who was born and grew up in West Hartford, talks about her musical development and her demanding, sometimes surprising, professional life. Her father, Steve Metcalf, leads the onstage interview. Well known as the longtime music critic for the Hartford Courant and commentator on WNPR (and former director of the Presidents’ College), Steve draws on his own deep knowledge of music for this lively discussion of the music profession—its challenges and rewards. Join in this rewarding experience, in which the father/daughter duo will also spice up their presentation with a few short musical selections. Then attend Laura’s performance at the Hartford Symphony Orchestra with Boyd Meets Girl, her duo with her husband, classical guitarist Rupert Boyd. In this rare performance, they premiere a double concerto written especially for them by the internationally celebrated Brazilian-American composer Clarice Assad.

LECTURE ONLY:

Tuesday, Feb. 6
4 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Wilde Auditorium
Harry Jack Gray Center, $30

All registrants for the “lecture only” option will receive a discount code to purchase tickets for the Hartford Symphony performance of Boyd Meets Girl—Laura Metcalf’s duo with her husband, classical guitarist Rupert Boyd. Performances are Friday, Feb. 9, Saturday, Feb. 10, 8 p.m., and Sunday, Feb. 11, 3 p.m. In this rare concert, they premiere a double concerto written especially for them by the internationally celebrated Brazilian-American composer Clarice Assad.

LECTURES + PERFORMANCE:

$60

For more information, please visit https://www.hartford.edu/academics/library/presidents-college/course-listing.aspx or scan the QR code below.
"I am an alumni of Touchpoints at Chestnut. I recently spent two weeks recovering as a result of COVID-19. I would like to say thank you to all of the nurses that attended to my recovery. They are highly trained and skilled. They are respectful and professional.

“In addition, the kitchen staff are very professional as well and the food was good. I cleaned every plate. Also my advocate and the front office personnel were very helpful in answering my questions.

“The physical rehabilitation team were excellent in my physical progress. They were very knowledgeable and caring in helping me to regain health. Thank you Nathalie and your great staff. Thank you one and all.”

-David Paradis