

# ***TOWN COUNCIL WEEKLY STATUS REPORT***

November 27, 2019

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## **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, Town Council, 6:30 p.m., Town Hall Annex, CR1

## **THANKSGIVING FOOD BASKETS**

The Thanksgiving Distribution of food baskets was held on November 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Human Services Building. On the distribution day, 387 households (956 persons) received food baskets; 416 households had signed up but there were 29 no-shows. Department staff were assisted at the distribution by 21 Fitch High School students, several officers and staff from Groton Town and Groton City Police Departments, the Athletic Director from UConn/Avery Point and local residents. Many individuals, community organizations, service clubs, scout troops, schools, banks and businesses contributed money, non-perishable food, frozen turkeys and food store gift cards. Monetary and gift card donations to the Groton Food Locker and the Human Services Discretionary Fund amounted to \$11,655. The Human Services Department also received two significant donations towards its holiday distributions from the Mystic Rotary and the Groton Rotary on November 27<sup>th</sup>.

Included in the total contributions received to date was \$5,700 from Pfizer employees whose donations will be matched by Pfizer. Approximately 200 frozen turkeys were also donated. The department spent \$13,425 on the distribution from its Discretionary and Food Locker accounts, including the purchase of 205 vouchers worth \$15 each which are redeemable at any local food store towards the cost of a turkey or any food item. Recipients of food baskets are given the option of receiving a frozen turkey, while supplies last, or a \$15 voucher along with their food basket. Other distribution expenses included breakfast and lunch refreshments for the volunteers, the purchase of specific canned and non-perishable food needed for the baskets and the purchase of the individual boxes used to distribute the food. The department is now gearing up for its December 21<sup>st</sup> Holiday Distribution of food baskets and toy bags. Sign-ups for the December Distribution will continue through November 27<sup>th</sup> and food and toy donations will be accepted through December 18<sup>th</sup>. Anyone interested in volunteering at the December event should contact Human Services at 860-441-6760.

## THIRD ANNUAL CIRCLE OF FRIENDS WINTER BAZAAR

On December 7<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. the Groton Public Library will hold their Circle of Friends Winter Bazaar featuring handcrafted goods and promoting the talented, creative people from our community. From pet gifts, jewelry, books, and ornaments to knitted scarves, crocheted legwarmers, and primitives, there is something for everyone. Popular vendors, such as Texas Roadhouse, will also be on hand. The Friends will sell fresh popcorn and baked goods, and there will be a performance by the St. Luke's Hand Bell Choir from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Free craft activities for children will be provided by the Groton Marine Science Magnet School Interact Club.

### ATTACHMENTS

1. Attachment 1 is an announcement from State Senator Heather Somers on the Maintenance on I-95 Gold Star Bridge Northbound.
2. Attachment 2 is a flyer from the Southeastern Connecticut Television Studios for their Holiday Party and Art Opening on Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

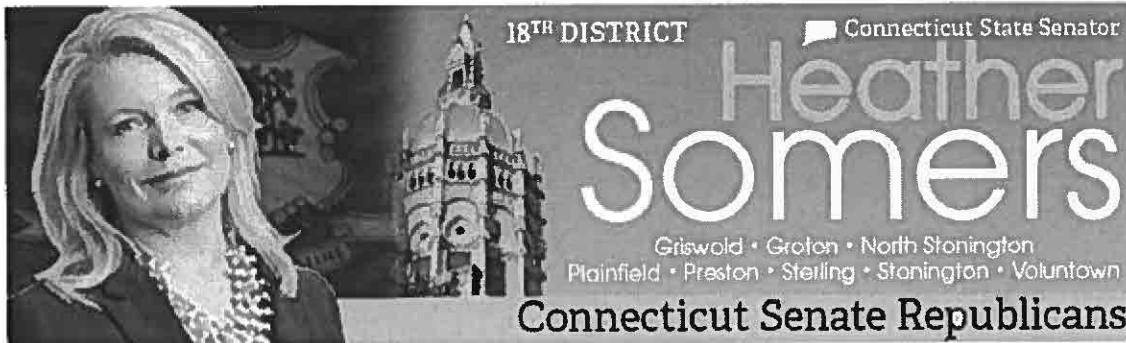
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## Maintenance on I-95 Gold Star Bridge Northbound

The Connecticut Department of Transportation is announcing that a bridge maintenance project will continue on the I-95 Northbound Gold Star Bridge in New London through Friday, December 13.

### LANE CLOSURE INFO

Motorists can expect various lane closures on Interstate 95 Northbound from Exit 82 to Exit 85 in Waterford, New London and Groton.

Traffic control personnel and signing patterns will be utilized to guide motorists through the work zone.

The regular work schedule for this project is from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Motorists should be aware that modifications or extensions to this schedule may become necessary due to weather delays or other unforeseen conditions. Motorists are advised to maintain a safe speed when driving in this vicinity.

