



Bud Bassoli, of Wallingford, holds a photo of him and wife Bev at his residence on Thursday. Bev Bassoli passed away in September 2021 and as a way to honor her memory, Bassoli is posting photos she took on his personal Facebook page and in the Positively Wallingford group. Dave Zajac, Record-Journal

CHESHIRE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Five-year capital budget approved

By Peter Prohaska
Cheshire Herald

CHESHIRE — The Board of Education recently approved the District’s proposed Five-Year Capital Budget of \$52.3 million, but not without discussion over what the district should be spending on maintenance in the future.

The unanimous vote came at the board’s Feb. 16 meeting, but some board members expressed reservations about large expenditures for infrastructure at school buildings whose long-term futures are uncertain. The Town of Cheshire is currently at the beginning stages of Phase One of its school modernization project, which will see two new elementary schools built in the north and south ends of town, respectively.

Yet, as District Chief Operating Officer Vincent Masciana remarked to the Planning Committee during its Feb. 13 meeting, “The point of the matter is, the requests being made are for things that we need essentially to continue to maintain our buildings and keep them in good repair.”

The budget breaks down into \$3.79 million for fiscal year 2023-24, \$14.595 million for 24-25, \$16.7 million for 25-26, \$9.31 million for 26-27, and \$7.925 million for 27-28. Board member Tim White clarified that for years two through five of the proposed plan, “none of that money would be getting spent or even locked in in any serious

See Cheshire, C5

Widower posts photos taken by his wife; online response ‘healing’

By Jessica Simms
Record-Journal staff

WALLINGFORD — Every Friday since last July, Bud Bassoli has been posting a photograph in the Positively Wallingford Facebook group taken by his late wife, Bev Bassoli.

Bev Bassoli died in September 2021 and as a way to honor her memory, Bud Bassoli started posting photos she took on his personal Facebook page. Due to the response he received from his family and friends, Bud Bassoli got the idea to approach Wayne and Pat Harriman, founders of Positively Wallingford, about posting in that Facebook group.

Bud Bassoli now posts a photo every Friday on his personal Facebook Page and in the Positively Wallingford group.

“I just wanted to put the pictures up. Each picture has the date it was shot, where it was shot, what (Bev) called the picture and then a brief description,” Bud Bassoli said.

Bud Bassoli said he encouraged Bev Bassoli to write a little “story” about her photos.

“Each posting on Facebook ends with either her recollection or her notes or my recollection on what she did,” Bud Bassoli said.

Bev Bassoli had about 20,000 photos she took saved on her laptop, Bud Bassoli said, and she got serious about photography in 2003. In 2007, once she retired, Bud Bassoli said Bev Bassoli got even more serious about taking pictures.

“She found that she loved taking pictures of architecture, animals and people,” Bud Bassoli said. “She was taking classes at night school and her main focus was angle and lighting. That was her main goal.”

Along with doing some photography work for the Record-Journal,

See Photos, C5



Bud Bassoli said this is his favorite photo of him and Bev Bassoli. Bud Bassoli posts one of Bev Bassoli’s photos every Friday on Facebook. Photo courtesy of Bud Bassoli

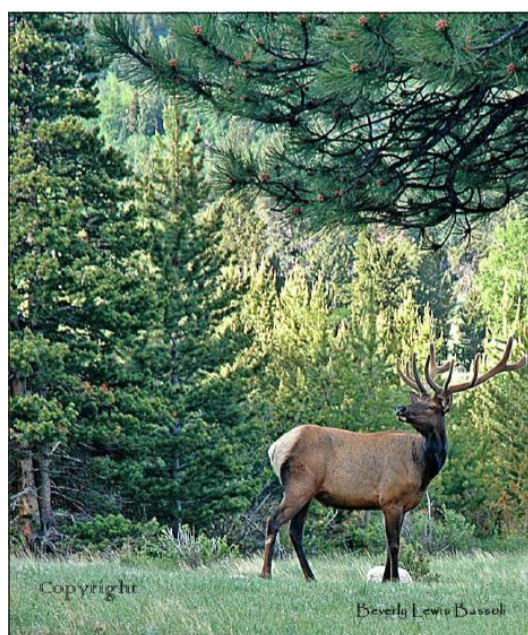


Photo taken by Bev Bassoli at Rocky Mountain National Park in 2008.

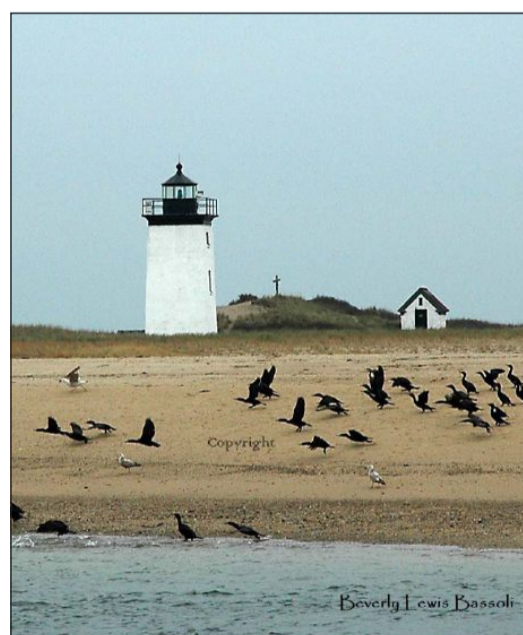


Photo of a lighthouse in Provincetown taken by Bev Bassoli in 2008.

Labor asks CT to regulate Amazon warehouse quotas

By Mark Pazniokas
© The Connecticut Mirror

Connecticut legislation aimed at regulating Amazon’s use of quotas and biometric surveillance to keep warehouse workers “on task” drew dramatic testimony Thursday from labor and silence from Amazon.

Testifying anonymously by video, one worker described working for “the app,” an Amazon program that clocks them in to highly automated warehouses, monitors the speed of their work, clocks them out and, on occasion, fires them.

Using the bathroom in Amazon’s massive fulfillment center requires a 10-minute round trip, a period marked as “time off task” by his electronic minder, said John Doe. His quota remains the same: packing 160 boxes an hour.

“I have to work twice as hard when I get back so I don’t lose my rate,” he said. As a result, he said, workers try to hold off on bathroom breaks until meal time.

See Amazon, C3

Tweed airport publishes draft environmental assessment

By Thomas Breen
The New Haven Independent

After roughly a year and a half of study, Tweed New Haven Airport and a national aviation consultant have published a federally mandated environmental assessment of the airport’s expansion plans—opening the review up to 45 days of public comment, and bringing the airport one step closer to constructing a new terminal and extending the current runway.

The Morris Cove regional airport announced the publication of Tweed’s draft Environmental Assessment (EA) in an email press release Thursday morning.

The airport’s operators celebrated

it as finding that a larger terminal and a longer runway would reduce noise and air pollution caused by an airport that plans to expand its operations no matter what. Airport expansion critics, meanwhile, lambasted it as a classic example of “greenwashing,” downplaying the environmental harms of increased airplane traffic in and out of a wetlands-adjacent property.

This draft EA has been in the works since Nov. 18, 2021. The airport conducted it along with consultants McFarland Johnson in line with requirements laid out by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), all to determine the impacts of a planned new four-gate terminal on the East Haven side of

the airport property and a planned extension of the airport’s main runway to attract more commercial airfare.

With Thursday’s release of the draft EA, members of the public now have 45 days to weigh in on its findings—including at a planned April 1 public meeting at East Haven High School—before the federal government takes a final look to determine whether or not it agrees with its findings.

“Completion of this Environmental Assessment marks another successful milestone in our work to enhance HVN and fully realize a \$100+ million investment in south-



Tweed New Haven Airport.

Nora Grace-Flood, New Haven Independent

See Airport, C4