

## BRIEFS

### Calling all runners

**DARIEN** — The 31st annual Darien Road Race will take place Sunday, Sept. 19 at 1 p.m. at Pear Tree Beach. The race route, which stretches along scenic waterfront roads, includes two wheel measured events, a 10-kilometer (6.2 miles) and a 1.5 mile fun run called "The Loop." The race benefits the Community Fund of Darien, as well as the Bennett Cancer Center at Stamford Hospital and the Whittingham Cancer Center at Norwalk Hospital. For more information, call (203) 655-8775, or visit [www.DarienRoadRace.org](http://www.DarienRoadRace.org).

### Woman's Club to meet Sept. 15

**NORWALK** — The Norwalk Woman's Club will hold its first meeting of the "new" year at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 15, at the Norwalk Senior Center, 11 Allen Road. Lunch and program will follow. The club will celebrate the 100th birthday of one member.

### AARP talk to cover driving service

**WESTPORT** — The new ITN CoastalCT driving service for seniors over age 60 and visually impaired adults in Norwalk, Weston, Westport, Wilton, Fairfield and Easton will be discussed at the Westport-Weston AARP Chapter No. 1588 meeting at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 15, at the Westport center for Senior Activities, 21 Imperial Ave. All welcome to attend. For information, call (203) 226-2564.

### Columbiettes plan meeting, ice cream

**NORWALK** — The Monsignor Thomas J. Finn Council No. 46 Columbiettes will hold a general meeting at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 15, at 16 Hendricks Ave. Events for the coming year will be discussed. The meeting will be followed by an ice cream social. All members urged to attend. For information, call (203) 847-7977.

### Aqua-duck raceway construction in Norwalk

**NORWALK** — The Norwalk Boat Club is sponsoring a Duck Race Raffle to help Norwalk's food bank and homeless shelter. Norwalk's Manna House of Hospitality and Open Door Shelter have joined efforts with Norwalk Boat Club to raise funds to support Norwalk's needy, homeless and hungry.

Norwalk Boat Club will host a Ducky-Derby Party on race day for all participants to view the race at Freese Park (corner of Main Street and Wall Street) and the NBC club house on 11 Wall St. noon until closing. Aqua-Duck race raffle tickets can be purchased at Norwalk Boat Club (203) 642-4011, Fat Cat Pie Co. (203) 523-9389, Fountainhead Wines (203) 854-9138 or at the Norwalk Boat Show (Sept. 23-26) Norwalk Boat Club booth. Contributions greatly appreciated. Raffle ticket are \$5.

### Library, museum plan special programs

**NORWALK** — Programs scheduled by the library and Stepping Stones Museum for Children include "Movers and Shakers" at 10 a.m. on Friday, Sept. 17, for children age 3 to

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### Government Today

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2010

Republican Caucus  
Caucus Room 1, City Hall;  
7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

# Coffee talk to be held for residents

## Residents invited to chat with city officials at City Hall

**NORWALK**  
By **ROBERT KOCH**  
Hour Staff Writer

Residents are invited to City Hall on Tuesday night to ask questions, air their concerns and hear from Common Council members about what elected officials are focused upon.

"Coffee with your Councilmen" is set for Tuesday, Sept. 14, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the Common

Council chambers of City Hall, 125 East Ave. Coffee and cookies will be provided at the forum.

While residents are always welcome to speak during the public participation portion of the city's semi-monthly council meetings, they are limited to several minutes speaking time and may address only matters on the council agenda.

That won't be the case at Tuesday night's open forum,

according to council President Douglas E. Hempstead.

"The idea behind this is to allow the public a little bit more of a forum. Our regular council meetings are restricted to the items on the agenda," Hempstead said. "So we want to allow them (on Tuesday night) to hopefully come with some ideas and suggestions to make things better, and we'll listen to some of their con-

cerns."

Hempstead, an at-large councilman, held forums for District D residents when he represented that district on the 15-member legislative body. Four years ago, he and then-Councilman Michael W. Coffey arranged government informational forums aimed at getting residents to submit resumes for service on city boards and commissions.

Tuesday's forum, hosted

by Hempstead, Majority Leader Richard J. Bonenfant and Minority Leader Laurel E. Lindstrom and other council members, is being presented as an open forum "to listen to concerns from the citizens of Norwalk" and "give an opportunity for the citizens of Norwalk to ask questions to the council."

According to Lindstrom, it's again time for residents and council members to sit

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Hour photos / ALEX von KLEYDORFF

## Concours d'Elegance

Above, Rowaytons Paul and Hadley Veeder help set the scene for Manny Dragone's entry, a 1931 Cadillac V-16 Torpedo Victoria in the Styled by the Wind section on the show field at the Fairfield County Concours d'Elegance in Westport Sunday. At left, famed motorsports photographer and featured artist, Jesse Alexander shows the exact camera he used to capture years of famous images, like the photo of formula One Racer Phil Hill in his first Grand Prix for Ferrari at the Nurburgring in 1958. Below, Stamford's Jerry Charlup gets his 1957 Porsche Carrera ready for 'Reville' as all entrants start their cars at noon during Sunday judging at the Concours.



# Linda McMahon embraced by Tea Party

**SOUTHINGTON**  
By **Mark Pazniokas**  
The Connecticut Mirror

The Tea Party may have preferred to see the full-throated, anti-government zeal of Peter Schiff in the U.S. Senate, but its adherents demonstrated Tuesday night they will accept Linda McMahon's milder brand of conservatism.

McMahon headlined a fundraiser for Tea Party organizer and Republican state Senate candidate Joe Markley, drawing a standing-room crowd of 200 people who applauded a speech devoid of the fiery attacks

on Washington that are a staple of many Tea Party events.

Unlike Schiff, who promised to heave a wrench into the machinery of Congress, McMahon described herself as a conciliator who wants to reach across party lines and make Washington work, not exactly Tea Party dogma.

No matter. The audience applauded, then lined up for pictures.

"She's a freakin' rock star," said Mark Boughton, the GOP nominee for lieutenant governor.

Boughton was one of three Republicans on the

statewide ticket who showed up. The others were Martha Dean, the nominee for attorney general, and Jeffrey Wright, the nominee for treasurer.

In McMahon, the conservatives see a well-funded Republican nominee in a position to do what no Republican has done in Connecticut since Lowell P. Weicker Jr. in 1982: Win a seat in the U.S. Senate. And this year, that is enough.

"In Connecticut, we have two choices, Dick Blumenthal and Linda McMahon," said Tom Scott, a conservative activist and former state senator. "And

on the big issues, she is on our side."

Scott, who led the opposition to the income tax Weicker pushed through as governor in 1991, organizing a rally that drew a crowd of more than 40,000 to the State Capitol, said McMahon is the potential 51st Republican vote in the Senate.

"There is a realization among a lot of the folks who are not establishment Republicans that, at a minimum, we need a rear-guard action," Scott said. "We need to stop the bad stuff, and that's why I am embracing her candidacy."

Unlike many in the Tea Party movement, McMahon favors gay rights and a women's right to an abortion. But even self-described social-conservatives like Neal Welch of Cheshire said social issues are "very secondary" this year.

"If we don't control the House or the Senate or, hopefully both, there will be so much damage done in the following two years, we'll never recover," Welch said. "We'll be so buried in debt. We'll be so weak in foreign policy. It has to happen now."

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