

City makes plans to celebrate 225 years

By **ELIO GUGLIOTTI**
STAFF WRITER

This year marks Bristol's 225th anniversary, and an eight-member committee is working to help the city celebrate in style.

"We want people to feel that this is a special year to them," said Tom Laporte, a member of the Bristol 225th Anniversary Committee.

The committee is working in conjunction with the city to coordinate and host community events throughout the year to commemorate the city's 225th anniversary.

The committee's first order of business was the creation of a 225th anniversary postcard.

The postcard was designed by Laporte and fellow committee member Tom Dickau. It features pictures depicting three city landmarks - the Congressional Church, the original Bristol High School, and ESPN - meant to represent the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries respectively. An artist's rendition of what downtown may look like, taken from Renaissance Downtown's proposal to

develop downtown, fills out the postcard and is meant to represent the city's future.

The committee ordered 5,000 postcards, which are being sold for \$1 a piece to help fund the committee's expenses.

With the postcard complete and selling quickly, Dickau said nearly 900 have been sold thus far, the committee has now turned its attention to reaching out to community organizations to collaborate with on activities.

"We're trying to get as many groups as possible to

engage in the process," said Dickau.

Bob Montgomery, chair of the committee, said the committee has received a positive response from organizations. He said the Exchange Club will help mark the anniversary during its annual carnival later in the year, the Bristol Historical Society will be hosting programs throughout the year marking the anniversary, and the committee has also been in contact with the Mum Festival Committee about incorporating the anniversary

theme into the annual fall festival.

"We want everyone to be aware of the 225th anniversary," said Montgomery.

As the committee moves forward this year with the celebration, the hope is that the anniversary will spark an interest of the city's history within the community.

"If we can get other people and other groups interested in the city's history, that would be our ultimate goal," said Dickau.

Bristol 225th

Anniversary postcards are available at the Bristol Public Library, Manross Library, all Webster Bank branches in the city, the Stafford Diner, City True Value Hardware, Martino's Italian Market, and both Beacon pharmacy locations.

For more information on the 225th Anniversary Committee or to purchase bulk postcards, contact Tom Laporte at (860) 583-2688 or Tom Dickau at (860) 582-1537.

Gov't offers rebates on appliances

By **ELIO GUGLIOTTI**
STAFF WRITER

For anyone looking to replace that old washing machine or refrigerator, now may be as good a time as any.

The U.S. Department of Energy's State Energy Efficient Appliance Rebate Program was launched early last week in Connecticut. The program is designed for people to trade in their old appliances for new energy efficient ones with a rebate as the incentive.

The state received \$3.4 million of federal stimulus

money for phase one of the program, which runs until April 30 or until the funds run out.

The available rebates are \$50 for refrigerators, freezers, and room air conditioners, \$100 for washing machines, and \$500 for central air conditioning units. The new appliances must be Energy Star rated or higher, replace existing non-energy efficient appliances, and be installed in a Connecticut home.

The rebate can't exceed 50 percent of the cost of the appliance.

"These rebates will help consumers purchase new, energy efficient appliances that can ultimately lower their energy bills," said U.S. Sen. Chris Dodd (D-CT) in a prepared statement. "Energy efficient appliances are not only better for the pocketbooks of Connecticut's consumers, but for our environment as well."

For more information visit www.ct.gov/opm/appliancerebates. To receive a rebate form by mail, call (877) 947-3873.

Suspect pleads innocent in murder case

Anthony Johnson pleaded not guilty to the murder of Fred Felix.

Johnson appeared in New Britain Superior Court Jan. 27 where, according to information from the state Judicial Branch's website, he entered a not guilty plea.

Johnson is facing murder charges in connection

with the Nov. 1 shooting of Felix on Davis Drive.

According to Johnson's arrest warrant, a series of arguments between Felix and his friends and members of what police called the "Doo Wops" street gang preceded the shooting. According to the warrant, a witness saw Johnson sneak

up from behind Felix while he was bent over helping a friend in his car who had been punched and shoot him.

Johnson is being held on a \$5 million bond and is scheduled to appear in court again on Feb. 26.

Elio Gugliotti

Man found dead in woods on Emmett

A 33-year-old white man was found dead in the woods behind 422 Emmett St. on the afternoon of Jan. 25.

Police said at about 4:30

p.m. the body was spotted by someone walking through the area. Responding officers found the man, and police said the cause of death appeared to be from a

self-inflicted gunshot wound.

Police didn't release any further information.

Elio Gugliotti

Police investigate accident; Child injured

By **ELIO GUGLIOTTI**
STAFF WRITER

A 1-year-old child was in critical condition following a two car accident on Emmett Street.

Police said that at 5:20 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 31 a 1991 Honda Accord was heading south on Emmett Street when the 27-year-old driver of the car lost control

rounding a curve near Surrey Drive. The car hit a 1992 Honda Accord, slid across the road and crashed into a metal fence police said.

A 1-year-old child, who was in the 1991 Honda Accord at the time of the accident, was taken to the Connecticut Children's Medical Center with serious injuries, police said.

As of press time, the child was listed in critical condition and no further information was available.

The accident is under investigation by the Bristol Police Department Traffic Division. Anyone with information regarding this accident is asked to contact Off. Todd Kozaryn at (860) 584-3036.

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Family Medicine Specialist Maria O'Brien, MD, has established her practice with Dr. Gary Miller and Jodi Walsh, PA, at 61 Bradley Street, Bristol and has joined the medical staff at Bristol Hospital.

- Dr. O'Brien is Board Certified in Family Medicine
- Her clinical interests include women's health and weight loss
- Fluent in English, French and Romanian
- Flexible hours with evening hours available; same day appointments
- Most insurances accepted

Dr. O'Brien is accepting new patients. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call 860-314-6898.



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