



CHATTER THAT MATTERS®

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A Message from Greg Smith:

The Connecticut Lottery has long been a leader in the US lottery industry for supporting responsible gaming. We support the organizations that drive the messaging and provide the services when people need assistance in controlling their gambling. We also help with our own suggestions to retail players through lottery terminal printable messages, disclaimers on our tickets and social media messaging.

With the expansion into online gaming through iLottery and sports betting, concerns are often raised with regard to the increase in the amount of gambling problems for who participate in these activities. But I am also regularly reminded of the improvements that online gaming provides to participants through the ability to apply time and spending controls that are easy to deploy and can be personalized by player. Not only are setting limits for deposits to ewallets, purchasing games, and time spent on these online platforms available, but players can also take a much more significant step by designating themselves for Voluntary Self Exclusion (VSE), so they cannot set up accounts at all, or restrict their access if accounts are already in place.

Online players can set themselves up for an enjoyable experience playing our games while using these controls that work for their personal budget and habits. The more aware you are of these controls and the services that

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**PROBLEM GAMBLING
AWARENESS MONTH**

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS #PGAM2023

Vendor Spotlight: Minuteman Press of Hartford

By: Stephen Day

INCLUSION

Minuteman Press of Hartford is a woman-owned, small minority business enterprise offering printing, marketing, mailing, and design services.



PRO BUSINESS

Located on Pratt Street in downtown Hartford with a nearby manufacturing facility in Vernon, Minuteman Press has been providing its products and services throughout the State of Connecticut since 2004.



Minuteman Press' team has the knowledge and expertise, and consistently educates its customer base on the most current changes and trends in the printing industry. Its exceptional customer service further supports its capabilities of producing an extensive range of high quality print products. For example, the CLC needed its "March is Problem Gambling Awareness Month" payroll inserts printed quickly. Despite current business obligations, Minuteman Press' team dropped everything to meet the CLC's deadline requirements.

Help is available for problem gambling. Call 888.789.7777 or visit CCPG.ORG



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CLC helps to fund and provide, the more confident you can be about how seriously we take Responsible Gaming.

March is Problem Gambling Awareness Month and as always, CLC participates in some extra efforts during the month to increase awareness of responsible gambling initiatives and provide resources to those in need. And while March will always hold a special distinction, our RG efforts are year round too, as they should be. Thanks to all who take part in making that happen.

— Greg Smith

Volunteer Spotlight: Pet Fostering with the CT Humane Society

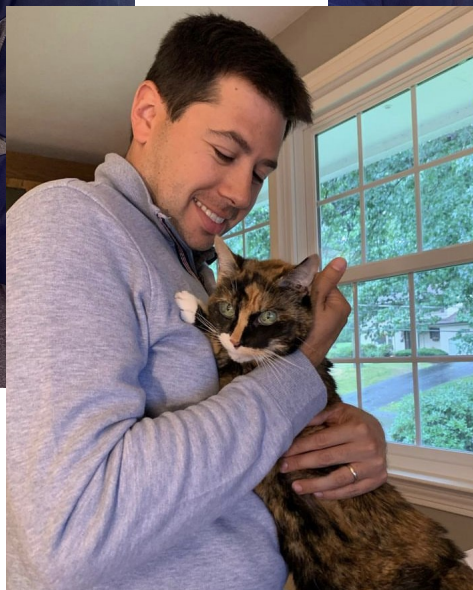
By: Jared Kotler

Almost two years ago, my wife and I were deciding on how to handle our pet situation. We had recently put our cat to sleep and were thinking about what was next. Did we want another cat? Did we want to switch things up and get a dog? Do we go pet free? Well, we found our best option -- fostering with the Connecticut Humane Society. By fostering, we are able to help get pets out of the shelter environment, into a home, and get them ready for adoption -- all while getting some pet companionship at the same time.



Since we have started fostering, we have had a number of different pets come through our house. Whether it was an 18-year old cat Mama (my personal favorite – and she did in fact get adopted!), litters of kittens, dogs for a day out for a hike, and even a couple of rabbits (not my favorite) we have truly enjoyed our fostering experience. One of our most rewarding experiences came from a group of kittens that were not a fan of people. When they first arrived they'd hiss at the first sign of us and try to hide. By the time they were ready to leave our house, they were at the point where they'd climb onto our laps, let us hold them, and ready to be adopted!

For those interested in getting involved, the Humane Society is always looking for fosters. Even better... the Newington location for the Humane Society is right up the road. To learn more visit [their website](#).



Problem Gaming Awareness Month at the Connecticut Lottery Corporation

By Christopher Davis



Each March, the Connecticut Lottery Corporation partners with the National Council on Problem Gambling and lotteries around the country to increase public awareness of problem gambling and the availability of prevention, treatment, and recovery services during our Problem Gambling Awareness Month (PGAM) campaign.

To begin the month, our out-of-home advertisements for lottery games are converted to messaging about problem gambling awareness and the resources available, and the CLC provided payroll inserts for all state employees with information on resources available for problem gambling in our state. Additionally, our Lottery in Motion, self-service vending machines, digital menu boards, and Keno monitors at retail locations across Connecticut featured PGAM messaging throughout the month. Our website and social media channels also shared tips and helpful information. Our lottery sales representatives met with our retailers to provide training on the warning signs and resources available to players.

CLC hosted a team of problem gambling treatment providers and counselors at Lottery headquarters on March 23rd to discuss best practices and how our players in need can access the many services funded by CLC.



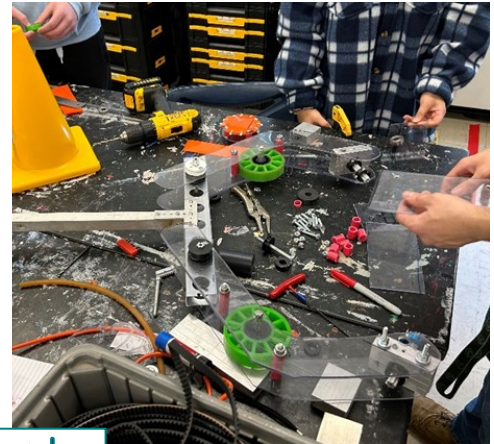
CCPG and DMHAS treatment providers visit Lottery Headquarters

These PGAM efforts came shortly after CLC's all employee responsible gambling training sessions that took place in December with help from the Connecticut Council on Problem Gambling and the state Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Surplus Acrylic Gets New Life

By: Suzanne Colley

The remains of a long since completed Sales project, two hundred ten Lexan (Acrylic) Poster frames became a major surplus score!



From a poster-less frame to a robotic arm!

Emma is a member of the Aetos Dios robotics team. She writes...

"The Aetos Dios Robotics team are a FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) team and part of Connecticut 4-H. We represent East Catholic High School and surrounding high schools in Manchester, CT. Our mission is "To gain practical skills, knowledge, and creative thinking that we can take with us into the real world and promote the excitement and fun of STEM projects." However, FRC incorporates more than just science and technology. Our team functions like a business, including aspects such as managing sponsorships and grants, outreach, and social media. Along with these interdisciplinary focuses, one of our core values is Gracious Professionalism. This expands beyond simply helping others, it is a way of doing things that encourages high-quality work, emphasizes the value of others, and respects individuals and the community.

With the Lexan we have been given, we are able to utilize it for many things. For our robot, the plastic frames can be used to construct different components, protect our electronics as well as provide a space to display our sponsors. Also, we use Lexan for photo displays or artwork. Not limited to those previously listed, this year we are using Lexan to prototype different claw designs. Since we have been given a surplus, our team has been donating the unused Lexan to other teams, an embodiment of Gracious Professionalism."

The CLC Wishes the Best of Luck to the Aetos Dios Robotics Team!



Congratulations Milestone Award Recipients!

Congratulations to each and every one of our Milestone Award Recipients. You have each contributed so much to this organization and the State and we are truly thankful that you are part of the CLC team.

25 Years

Margaret Annino
Robert Balicki
Paul Langella
Lori Ann Motto
David Perlot
Carlos Rodriguez
Ed Socha
Maya Thornton
Lucretia Williams

20 Years

Angel Ayala
Jessica Delgado
Diane Geary
Val Guglielmo
Francine Magnano

15 Years

Irena Baj-Wright
Angel Cuevas
Olga DeLaCruz
Dennis Frank
Ed Hudak
Andrew Walter

10 Years

Cathy DeCarle
Ann Marie Lozada
Nikki Nearing
Robert Olinatz

*“Flo Votino Award for Spirit & Enthusiasm”
2022 recipient, Margaret Annino, with supervisors
Barbara Petano & Cathy Martorella.*



2022 NASPL Powers Award Winner Steve Fox!

The Powers Awards are presented in recognition of the significant contributions lottery and/or vendor employees have made through exceptional job performance. These awards are named in honor of the late Edward J. Powers and are presented to industry stand-outs. This year, the CLC nominated Steve Fox.



**Steve Fox with Supervisor,
Lauren Perrotti.**

Steve began his fascination with Lottery Technology immediately following earning his Bachelor's Degree in Information Systems, by taking a position with Scientific Games. For over ten years Steve dedicated himself to bettering processes, ensuring accountability in testing and leading project management at SG, rising through the ranks to Software Development Manager. As he continued to grow and deepen his knowledge and commitment to increasing the quality of gaming systems, he moved to Intralot as Project Leader/Software Support Director. Steve found his true home at the CLC in 2011. His work over the years in Vendor Compliance has filled the critical role of ensuring the integrity of the game for our players. In his latest assignment, Steve has taken the lead role in the Gaming System Conversion Project. He has made this project his own and we will all reap the benefits of his efforts for years to come.

Steve has dedicated his professional career to making the Lottery not just function better but protect the public, create a path for others to follow in this industry and bring intense intellectual curiosity and humor to our everyday work life. Steve is the GO-TO guy, whose 'coined phrases' will live on at the CLC for many years to come... "Sure we can do that, with a BIG HOWEVER!" When you do ask Fox a question, be ready for the ultimate complete answer; the Year, the Day, who was in the room, the Page, the Policy,

the line in the Policy and possibly the weather that day. Always there with his invaluable advice that often begins with "Well, since you are asking, I will tell you what Steve Fox thinks..." And when you hear those words, you know the next few sentences will not only give you the solution to your problem but there is a good possibility that you will be moved to tears of laughter! The CLC is more than lucky to have this larger than life Team Member here that makes us all better, every day.

— Lauren Perrotti

9th Annual “Give a Child a Toy, Not a Ticket” Holiday Toy Drive Benefits Connecticut Children’s

By: *Christopher Davis*

The Connecticut Lottery Corporation hosted its 9th annual “Give a Child a Toy, Not a Ticket” holiday toy drive this past holiday season to collect new toys to benefit patients across Connecticut Children’s network while also spreading the responsible gambling message that lottery tickets are not suitable gifts



for children. This year’s partners included Connecticut Children’s, iHeartRadio, and, for the first time, FOX61/ CW20.

Throughout the campaign, the public dropped off new toy donations at nearly 50 designated sites throughout the state, including at the Hartford Yard Goats front office, many U-Haul locations, our retail sportsbooks, and all Geissler’s Supermarkets. CLC also hosted its first day of action on “Giving Tuesday,” Nov. 29th, inviting members of the public to bring a new, unwrapped toy to CLC’s headquarters.

In total, over 5,000 toys were collected during the 2022 toy drive, and money raised by CLC employees during the campaign was used to purchase additional toys for the young patients.



The Corporate Responsibility Team:

- Irena Baj-Wright
- Karen Chambrello
- Suzanne Colley*
- Anmarie Daigle*
- Christopher Davis*
- Stephen Day
- Pete Donahue
- Kendra Eckhart
- Bryan Figueroa
- Steve Fox
- John Gasparini
- Valerie Guglielmo
- Jodi Ganzer*
- Rebecca Lambert
- Violetta Lukin
- Zuleika Mercado
- Nikki Nearing
- Lauren Perrotti
- Barbara Petano
- Robin Raboin
- Janet Rocco
- Greg Smith
- Linda Tarnowski
- Steve Wagner
- Mark Walerysiak
- Jeff Yue

**Editors of Chatter That Matters*

CLC Launches New Sportsbook at Arooga's in Shelton

By: Christopher Davis

In early February, the Connecticut Lottery Corporation launched its latest retail sportsbook at Arooga's Grille House and Sports Bar on Bridgeport Avenue in Shelton. The recently constructed sportsbook is a fully immersive, state-of-the-art sports entertainment space within Arooga's existing sports bar, featuring a two-story video wall, dozens of televisions, multiple self-service kiosks and teller windows, full food and drink service, and more than 50 beers on tap.



A grand opening event was held in conjunction with the Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce and featured a ribbon cutting and ceremonial first bet placed by Shelton Mayor Mark Lauretti.



AROOGA'S
GRILLE HOUSE & SPORTS BAR