

friends and helpers ready and willing to help plan and execute her campaign.

"Lisa does real well reaching out to people," said Ina Patel Lawrence, a friend and campaign committee member who helped develop the campaign's Facebook page.

Honestly, I just felt compelled," she said. "If you send a child to half-day, it's a step backward. I started reflecting on why things are this way and I see a common thread that we don't have a written, comprehensive capital improvement plan. When I mention it to

current mayor, are Barbara Surwilo, Joseph Kochanek, William MacDonald, Alan Mordhorst and Kevin Clements. Vassel's slate includes Frank Szeps, Nadine Bell, Catherine Vargas, Guy Drapeau and Meg Casasanta.

## MANCHESTER

# Enjoy Market, Music At First Thursday

By **JESSE LEAVENWORTH**

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**MANCHESTER** — A farmers market is among the highlights planned for Imagine Main Street's First Thursday events.

The market will open at 5 p.m. Thursday in the Forest Street parking lot with a pumpkin art competition. Bring your own pumpkin.

Music at the market is to include Avery Devine followed by the Blue Grass Jam.

At 8 p.m. at MCC on Main's Dehn Gallery, Theresa Wright, an R&B and jazz entertainer, is to perform music from the 1930s and '40s. Wright has

performed at the Greater Hartford Jazz Festival and has worked with artists such as Jaimoe from the Allman Brothers Band and the J. Geils Band.

Other scheduled events:

- ▶ A wine tasting and gift and basket sale to benefit local charities at Anne Miller Real Estate, 975 Main St.
- ▶ A cocktail tasting at Forest Street Package Store, 1065 Main St.
- ▶ "All that Glows on an Autumn Night" at M. Dougan Art and Framing, 1071 Main St. Artists are to create and sell works based on the theme. Discount coupons will be available for those who want works framed.
- ▶ Art and craft vendors displaying and selling their works along the

Johnson Block sidewalk, from 687 to 713 Main St. City Steam Brewery will provide tastings of Naughty Nurse, Blonde on Blonde, Innocence and Creme De La Creme.

- ▶ An art exhibit by the Manchester Art Association at Katherine's Hair Design, 695 Main St.
- ▶ Chips and salsa tasting at Los Serapes, 697 Main St.
- ▶ "Untamed and Loose" artists, vendors and musicians at 50 Purnell Place.

For more information or to volunteer, call Steve Gates at 860-306-2104.

Information is also available at [www.imaginemainstreet.com](http://www.imaginemainstreet.com) and on Imagine Main Street's Facebook page.

widespread voter discontent with both parties in Congress, and the Republican strategy in particular, in the budget fight that has led to a partial government shutdown.

According to the poll, voters oppose a shutdown of the federal government to block implementation of the Affordable Care Act by a 77 percent to 22 percent.

The poll also found that voters are sharply divided on Obamacare, with 45 in favor and 47 percent opposed. But, by 58-34 percent they oppose Congress acting to cut off funding for the new health care law.

Both Democrats and Republicans in Congress remain unpopular, the survey said. For example, voters disapprove of the job Republicans are doing by 74-17 percent. The numbers for Democrats are a little better: voters disapprove of the job Democrats are doing by 60 percent to 31 percent.

— **Bernie Davidow**

## Refusing Paychecks

With thousands of government employees now on furlough, The Washington Post is tracking senators and representatives who say they won't accept a government check while the shutdown is on. Tuesday evening, U.S. Sen. Richard Blumenthal said he plans to donate his pay to the Wounded Warrior Project, U.S. Rep. Jim Himes also tweeted that he won't accept a paycheck.

— **Rick Green**