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1406 Main Street, East Hartford, Connecticut 06108

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editor@ehgazette.com website: ehgazette.com

## Board budget in green

#### By Robert Kanehl

At its regularly scheduled meeting, the Board of Education was informed that the school department finished the third quarter in the green by \$470,000.

The quarterly report showed that at this stage, the district was showing projected surpluses in such areas, as staffing, utilities and magnet tuition students. The district has overruns in outplacement of students as well as other special education financing and transportation costs. It was noted that traditionally the school department runs a surplus during the third quarter. The report concluded that the finance department will continue monitor and improve approaches in the areas showing overruns for the remained of the year.

The Board also heard a report from the Office of Equity which oversees staff development and evaluation. The District is going to participate next school year in the pilot year of the University of Connecticut 5th year Internship in Residence program being offered to both East Hartford and Manchester. The program will place qualified interns at local schools to finish their education preparation. These interns See **BOARD OF ED**, pg. 10



WELCOME HOME, AND THANK YOU - Above, Secretary of State Susan Bysiewicz sits alongside East Hartford Korean War veteran Gerry Thompson who served in North Korea from 1950-52. Surrounding him are, from left, State Sen. Saud Anwar, Town Councilor Awet Tsegai, Mayor Connor Martin, Dept. of Veterans Affairs Commissioner Ronald Welch, and Town Councilman Harry Amadasun, Jr. Below, Robert Foley, 88, arrived at the East Hartford Korea-Era Veterans Awards ceremony at the Cultural Center Monday in his 1931 Ford Model A.



## Park to become plan bee

On Saturday, June 1 at 10 a.m. volunteers and town employees, led by Mayor Connor Martin, plant bulbs, perennials and shrubs in a pollinator garden being created at Emma and Nicholas DePietro Park on the corner of Silver Lane and Forbes Street.

The garden is the first in a planned series of gardens which will become East Hartford Pollinator Pathways.

This project has been founded by Pollinator Pathways, the East Hartford Beautification Commission, East Hartford Rotary Club, East Hartford Garden Club, East Hartford Lions Club, Hillstown Grange, the Mayor's office and volunteers working together to establish pollinator friendly habitat and food sources for bees, butterflies, hummingbirds and other pollinating insects and wildlife along a series of continuous corridors.

Mayor Connor Martin has been instrumental in marshalling community support for the project, including his design of the gardens and walkways. "I am pleased to see the collaboration and partnership bemany Town tween  $\mathbf{so}$ organizations. This project is important to East Hartford in that it creates an enhanced use of DePietro Park and educates the community on the impor-

EH POLLINATOR PATHWAYS, pg 10



#### THE GAZETTE

### **AROUND TOWN** Eriq La Salle to recieve honorary Goodwin University degree

Goodwin University has scheduled its 2024 Commencement ceremony on Thursday, May 23, at Pratt & Whitney Stadium at Rentschler Field. The ceremony will begin at 4 p.m. as an estimated 375 students will receive certificates and associate, bachelor's, and master's degrees at a commencement which also marks Goodwin's 25th anniversary.

At the ceremony, actor/director/producer and Hartford native Eriq La Salle will receive an honorary degree from the University and address the graduates along with their families, friends, and faculty. La Salle is best known to worldwide televi-

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sion audiences for his award-winning portraval of Dr. Peter Benton on the critically acclaimed medical drama ER. Educated at Juilliard and NYU's Tisch School of the Arts, his credits range from Broadway to film roles opposite Eddie Murphy in Coming to America, Robin Williams in One Hour Photo,

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and Hugh Jackman in Logan. La Salle has maintained a prolific acting career while at the same time working steadily as a direc-

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LA SALLE

tor, taking the helm for HBO, Showtime, NBC, Fox, and CBS. He remains a valued member of the Dick Wolf Entertainment camp after four years as executive producer and director on Chicago PD in addition to directing episodes of Law & Order and Law and Order Organized Crime. La Salle is the author of several crit-

ically acclaimed thrillers published in 2022 and 2023, Laws of Depravity, Laws of Wrath, and Laws of Annihilation. He has also written an episode of The Twilight Zone, which made the Writers Guild of America's List of 101 Best Written TV Series.

Also to be honored is entrepreneur Henry M. Zachs, who made his mark in the wireless industry. In 1960, he was one of the first applicants for mobile telephone spectrum from the Federal Communications Commission in Hartford, Connecticut. He was chairman and founder of Message Center Beepers, which was sold to Vodaphone/Air Touch. He was one of 11 founders of Cellular One in NYC, and has worked in several areas of communications including paging, cellular, wireless, and the internet (Ziplink, Inc.). Zachs promoted the idea that indigenous tribes should receive a preference and arranged for 10 tribes to file for cellular, before the preference was allowed for casinos. He is the founder of Endow Hartford 21, an endowment matching program that has helped more than 60 local non-profits in the Greater Hartford area build their endowments.

### Downtown cleanup Saturday

The town invites residents, businesses, and community members to join Mayor Martin's team for a Community Cleanup Day this Saturday, May 18 from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Main St. at 9:30 to check in and be assigned to one of the teams assigned a cleanup task. Take part and meet your neighbors as you cleanup in and around the park, tidy sidewalks and parking lots, weed and mulch flowerbeds, and help with planting. At the end of the cleanup, lunch provided at Alumni Park.

There is no rain date.



## Help place flags at Hillside **Cemetery**

The East Hartford Veterans Commission invitates you to join us in a memorable experience of honoring our deceased Veterans by placing an American flag at the Veteran's headstones for Memorial Day. The Flag placing ceremony takes place Saturday, May 18 at 8 a.m. at Hillside Cemetery, Hillside St. All are welcome to volunteer. Bring a long screwdriver to help make a hole in the hard earth for the flag shaft.

Your participation is highly appreciated! For additional info, contact John Cook, EH Veterans Commission, at 860-212-9966.

### **ON THE CAMPUS**

Jenna Harper of East Hart ford, a Junior Visual Arts major, was named to the Spring 2024 President's List at Bob Jones University in Greenville, South Carolina. Students who earn a 3.75 or higher grade point average are named to the President's List.

### **CLASSIFIEDS**

AUTO BODY PAINT SPRAY NEEDED - for older 2005 Ford F-150 pickup. If you know what you are doing, please give me a call! 860-805-7807

HELP WANTED - LANDSCAPE workers to assist with professional yard work crew. Mowing, weed-wacking, brush trimming, etc. Must have driver's license, be reliable. Start immediately. Call Bill at 860-798-3184

HELP WANTED - Capable young person willing to trim my hedges. South end on Hickory Drive. Call 860-805-7807

FOR SALE - Crock Pot Xtra Large 6 Quart Glass Lid Exc. Mint \$30 860-266-0177

FOR SALE - Brand new box unopened Magnavox DVD player and 4-head VCR with remote \$40. Call 860-895-9214.

GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS GET RESULTS E-MAIL TO ADS@EHGAZETTE.COM OR CALL 860-289-6468



## Service Academy info session Friday

U.S. senators Chris Murphy and Richard Blumenthal, along with Rep. John Larson, Joe Courtney, Rosa DeLauro, Jim Himes, and Jahana Hayes announced their offices will host an informational session for high school freshmen, sophomores and juniors to learn more about the process to apply for the Military Service Academies.

The info session will be held Friday, May 17, at 6 p.m. at the East Hartford Cultural Community Center, 50 Chapman Place.

### Calling All High School Students

Students will have the opportunity to hear from graduates of all five service academies, including the U.S. Coast Guard Academy which does not require a Congressional nomination, and learn about the application and selection process. The presentation will be followed by a question-andanswer session. High school students interested in applying to the United States' service academies must interview for a nomination through their state's Congressional offices as a part of their respective service academy's application process.

Each year, members of Congress nominate candidates for appointment to four of the nation's U.S. service academies: The U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York; the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland; the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado; and the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, New York.

Graduates are commissioned as officers in the active or reserve components of the military or Merchant Marine and serve for a minimum of five years.

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THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2024

Est. 1956 Annual Spring Plant Sale! Saturday, May 18, 2024 9:am - 1:pm

(rain or shine) Sunset Ridge School

Bake Sale, Tag Sale & Drawings!!



### Congressman Larson nominated

Monday East Hartford's own Congressman, John B. Larson, was unanimously nominated for re-election by delegates at the First Congressional District's Democratic nominating convention in East Hartford.

"I proudly accept your nomination to continue to represent the First Congressional District for the next two years. I want to thank all of the delegates who supported me at the Convention and the residents of the First District for the confidence and support you have placed in me as your nominee and representative," said Larson. "Together, Democrats have worked to deliver historic investments for the State of Connecticut and all 169 towns, securing over \$9 billion in critical funding for infrastructure, local projects, and economic growth. I remain

MAIN HARD

steadfastly committed to protecting and enhancing America's number-one antipoverty program for the elderly and for children, Social Security. Democrats are united with President Biden against Republican plans to slash Americans' hardearned benefits and are ready to strengthen Social Security by making the wealthy pay their fair share, not cutting it! In this election, democracy itself is on the ballot, and we must take back the House and send Connecticut's delegation back to Washington, re-elect Chris Murphy to the United States Senate, and send Joe Biden back to the White House for another term. Together, with Democratic leadership, we can protect our democracy, strengthen Social Security, and continue to invest in a strong economy."

## Springtime Bouquet for Mom



The East Hartford Woman's Club/GFWC/CT (EHWC/GFWC) in conjunction with the East Hartford Fire Department (EHFD) is sponsoring a SPRINGTIME BOUQUET in memory or honor of our mothers and other important women in our lives. As Mother's Day approaches, we remember these women who have impacted our lives. For the cost of \$5.00 per name, you may "purchase" a flower and know that your donation will assist the East Hartford Fire Department with the purchase of smoke alarms. Smoke alarms are kept on all fire apparatus and available to any town resident by contacting the Fire Marshall's Office at 860.291.7405. This bouquet will be published in the East Hartford Gazette.



PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: THE EAST HARTFORD WOMAN'S CLUB/GFWC/CT (EHWC/GFWC/CT) Donations will be accepted through May 31, 2024

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### VIEWPOINTS

### In giving military aid to Ukraine, universe works in mysterious ways

By Chris Murphy US SENATOR (D) CT

Last Tuesday night around 9 p.m., I walked up to the desk in the well of the Senate chamber and voted "aye" on the \$95 billion long overdue national security supplemental that sends desperately needed funding to help Ukraine defend itself, dedicates money to the defense of Israel from terrorism, and funds humanitarian needs in Gaza and all around the world.

It was the strangest, longest road a piece of legislation has taken in Congress for quite some time, and at various points I found myself acting as a central character in its formation.

From October 2023 to February 2024, I was the lead Democratic negotiator on the immigration and border reform provisions that Republicans insisted were necessary to win their votes on the broader national security bill. Democrats took them at their word, and for five months I negotiated with Senator James Lankford of Oklahoma. Senator Kvrsten Sinema of Arizona, and representatives from the White House, eventually unveiling a sweeping bill that, if passed, would have given President Biden the tools to help get the border under control.

Those negotiations seemed, at times, like they would never end. They took every possible form. In the most formal setting, we would gather in a big ornate room just off the Senate floor. Lankford, Sinema and I would normally sit next to each other on one side of the table, and staff from Senator Schumer's office and Senator McConnell's



#### SENATOR CHRIS MURPHY

office, along with our staff, would fill in the ends of the big, long conference table. On the other side would sit Homeland Security Secretary Ali Mayorkas and top White House staffers.

Other times, it would just be Lankford, Sinema, me, and our key staff. Those were the times we would have the most honest conversations about what Republicans and Democrats could live with. And then, at the most sensitive moments, it was just Lankford, Sinema and me. I remember when we were at the end of the negotiations - this session was in Sinema's conference room - the three of us went into her personal office alone and went through the handwritten list of open items that Sinema kept. We realized there were no open items, and we looked each other in the eye and pledged to do everything possible to get the votes necessary to pass the bill.

I also remember the night

when we finally released the text of the bill publicly. I was in my office at the Capitol late that Sunday night, and I started to scroll through social media to find Trump's immigration team tearing the bill to shreds online and threatening to destroy any Republicans who would support the bill. I remember texting Sinema, "they are going to burn this bill down tonight, before the sun even comes up." And that's exactly what Trump and his henchmen did - they told Republicans that it would be bad for Trump if more law and order was brought to the border, they wanted to kill the bill to keep the border a mess.

After our immigration compromise was torpedoed by Trump, Republicans came to their senses in the Senate and voted for the Ukraine bill without the immigration proposal they had earlier demanded. The House dithered over our bill for months, insisting that they still wanted an immigration reform proposal. I kept pointing out that there was, in fact, a bipar resan immigration and border

form bill ready to go. House Republicans ended up doing the exact same thing as Senate Republicans – backing down from voting on our proposal because they feared that Republicans' election prospects would be hurt if they could no longer use the border to cut campaign ads.

But the truth is that we had to go through the exercise of showing Republicans that they weren't actually willing to vote for a bill to fix the border. We had to call their bluff. That was the only way to get them to actually vote for the Ukraine bill. I wish all my efforts hadn't been for naught, but I'm glad to have played a central role in getting the bill across the finish line. It is not too late for Ukraine. But it almost was. By April, Russian forces were firing five times as much artillery on a daily basis as Ukrainian forces. Consequently, the Ukrainians have recently lost ground in the war, and even though U.S. weapons are now flowing again, it will take time and many lives to make up the time lost.

But recall that most serious military analysts thought Russia would overrun Ukraine in the first few days of the war in 2022. That did not happen. Why? Because the Ukrainian people rose up and fought with every ounce of their being to defend their homes and their country. And they will continue to do so. Until they win.

It matters to the U.S. because if we return to a world in which big nations are allowed to invade and annex smaller nations, then the entire post-WWII world order falls apart. The U.S. could very well find itself at war with Russia or China or another big power. And in the nuclear age, that would be a cataclysm.

I was proud to play a small but significant role in getting the Ukraine bill across the finish line. As I walked out of the Senate on Tuesday night, I passed Senator Lankford. I grabbed his shoulder.

"The universe works in mysterious ways, James," I told him.

### Donate to Backpack program

#### To the Editor:

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

J J & C Contractors LLC has been collecting food to donate to the East Hartford Public Schools Backpack Program. Every year many families need a little extra help, and it is our mission that every child in our school has a well-balanced meal, even when they are not school.

For the first time in 12 years, our backpack program (EHPS) has run out of food! We help over 100 children each week with healthy meals over the weekends.

We are seeking donations of:

• Granola bars or oatmeal (individual)

• Ramen noodles/ Read to eat meals (small) NO GLASS

- Cereal
- Mac & Cheese

Canned chicken/tunaCanned or individual

fruit/applesauce Monetary or gift card donations are always welcome!



Amazon Wishlist: https://www.amazon.com/h z/wishlist/ls/2QNFCPF-BELUVP?ref\_=wl\_share

Please feel free to email Chris Tierinni at ctierinni@jjccontractors.com or Ashley Tierinni at Ashley.tierinni4454@hotmail.c om with any questions. Thank you for helping us

help our local community.

**The Tierinni Family** J J & C Contractors LLC We truly appreciate your support! East Hartford Backpack Program

#### THE GAZETTE THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2024 Hoffman reveals new Lexus showroom

### East Hartford men may not have fought at Gettysburg

**DID YOU** 

**KNOW**?

Looking back on

#### by Robert Kanehl

Did you know that it appears East Hartford residents did not fight at Gettysburg.

The largest land battle of the Civil War drew together hundreds of thousands of soldiers from across the nation, but East Hartford residents appear to have avoided the conflict.

This fact is reinforced by Gettysburg missing from the inscribed 1867 Civil War obelisk

located atop the himm in Center Cemetery.

During the Civil war, fighting units were generally raised as a local collective. such as the 16th Connecti-

cut Volunteer Infantry. This unit was recruited from men in the Manchester-East Hartford area, its commander being Frank W. Chenev.

According to multiple sources, around 1,270 Connecticut soldiers participated at the battle of Gettysburg. These soldiers served in the following **Connecticut Volunteer Infantry** Units: 5th, 14th, 17th, 20Th, and 27th as well as the Connecticut 2nd Artillery. A quick internet search of these unit's rosters, found one East Hartford resident John Smith, who joined the 5th Infantry, after Gettysburg.

The majority of East Hartford's over 300 Civil War veterans served in the 21st Vol. Inf. (59) and the 25th Vol. Inf. (25). The 16th also saw a number of local recruits, according to the two town histories; Lee Paquette's Only More So: The History of East Hartford 1783-1976, and Joseph Goodwin's East Hartford: It's History and Traditions.

The 16th (active 8/24 1862 -6/24 1865) fought at Antietam, where Cheney was shot, and left for dead on the field. He eventually crawl his way back

to an aid station, surviving to command the Cheney Silk Mills. The unit also saw action at Fredericksburg, before being transferred to the North Carolina campaign where it helped

ville death; George E. Brewer of the 21st Connecticut Infantry.

other to our East Hartford

of Connecticut Who Suffered in Southern Mili-

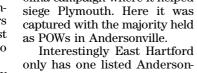
The 25th (11/11 1862-8/26 1863) saw action in the Bayou Teche Campaign in Louisiana. It fought in the battles of Irish Bend, and the siege of Port Hudson.

The 21st (9/20 1862 - 6/16 1865) saw action first at Fredericksburg, then headed to North Carolina, to fight. It then traveled across Virginia to participate in the siege of Richmond, Cold Harbor and Appomattox Court House.

In all, East Hartford lost around 30 soldiers in the war. This number is debated because only 23 names are listed on the memorial in Center Cemetery, but at least another eight names are give in town histories and records.

There is not an explanation as to why these names were not included when the monument was dedicated shortly after the end of the war.

1911 photo of town Civil War veterans gathered at Main and Burnside during a patriotic parade. As a colleague once noted, old soldiers never die, they just gather and rehash the past.



He died June 16, 1864. No local name is associated with the notorious POW camp, according the 1908 book "In Memory of the Men

tary Prisons 1861-1865.

The Gazette does have a





HOFFMAN LEXUS GRAND REVEAL of their new showroom took place Tuesday evening on Connecticut Boulevard Invited guests enjoyed sushi rolling, intricate origami making, music, food, drinks and custom cookies and fortune cookies, all in homage to the brand's Japanese roots. Above, Matthew Hoffman stands alongside one of the latest floor models. Below left, Connecticut River Valley Chamber of Commerce leaders Guy LaBella, Jay Margnelli and Eric Judge. Below right, Ethan making origami gifts. Raffle winners were Thaddeus Zebrowski and Stan Livingston, with prizes a weekend with a 2024 Lexus RZ and stay at Winvian Farm in Litchfield.



### Attention high school seniors: Do you know story of an East Hartford Gold Star veteran?

The East Hartford Veterans Commission invites all high school seniors who reside in East Hartford to participate in the 2024 "Gold Star Essay Contest".

The purpose of the contest is learn about town residents who sacrificed their lives in service to our town, state, and country.

The winner will be awarded a oneyear scholarship of \$1,000. The contest will be judged and is sponsored by the East Hartford Veterans Commission.

Rules of the contest can be found at: https://www.easthartfordct.gov/veterans-commission/pages/east-hartford-veterans-commission-gold-star-honor-rollessay-scholarship

Essays must be submitted by the end of June, and mailed to: Veterans Commission, Town of East Hartford, 740 Main St., East Hartford, CT 06108.



## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

### **CHARLIE'S PIZZA ANY TWO FULL-SIZED** PASTA DINNERS: \$23.90 Baked Stuffed Shells Meatball Parmesan

Cheese Ravioli Baked Ziti

Sausage Parmesan Eggplant Parmesan

Dinner includes soup or salad, bread & butter. PLUS: DELICIOUS CHARLIE'S SPECIALS DAILY! (CLOSED MONDAYS) Dine-in only. Must present coupon, valid thru June 30, 2024. 386 PROSPECT ST., EH 860-528-0111

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## at Wickham Library Sun.

The East Hartford Commission on Culture and Fine Arts presents Talcott Brass in a free concert this Sunday, May 19 at 4 p.m. at the Wickham Library. 656 Burnside Avenue.

The concert, titled "Brass Quintet through the Ages" will include music from Bach and Holst to Bernstein. Quintet members are Matthew Guevara (trumpet), Maggey Mangold (trumpet), Danielle Kendall (tuba), Adam Myers (trombone) and Shondra Texeira (French horn).



Over 250 auditions whittled down to an "Elite 10" for the Season 2 Finals for Hartford's Got Talent! (HGT!).

The finalists take the stage on Friday, May 31 at 7 p.m. in the Belding Theater of The Bushnell, 166 Capitol Ave., Hartford.

The finals competition will feature the winners of the semifinals showcase held in December. Finalists will be showcasing song, dance and other unique talents, competing for \$15,000 in prizes and awards.

Performing in the Season Two Finals Showcase May 31 will be: Samantha Acosta. Singer: Dionev Gonzalez.

Singer; Sebastian G. Graceson singer; Kings Soldiers, rappers/movement; David Lally, singer; Joy Monroe, body painter; YM Myla Neaj, unique talent; Nadia Sims, poet; Vasyl & Khrystyna, dancers; WHS Teens of Praise, Gospel Choir.

Joe Young, President and CEO of HGT! shared his pride in the performers and their journey.

"I have seen these young people mature and grow in their talent. Each artist is distinctive. What you will see on this stage will only confirm the quality of talent we have in the Greater Hartford region." Admission is \$20.

### Auditions for EHSYF Footloose!

Auditions for the East Hartford Summer Youth Festival's 60th Anniversary Summer Production of Footloose! will be held Saturday, June 1st between 10am and 5pm at East Hartford Community Cultural Center, with callbacks by invitation on June 2nd.

Children & adults ages 8+ welcome- no experience necessary! Go to www.EHSYF.org for more info and to sign up for your 90 minute slot! Reach out to ehsyf.inc@gmail.com with any questions or concerns!

EHSYF had to raise \$8,000 to put on this summer's show.

### Strange inducted into Sigma Delta Pi

Steven Strange of East Hartford was recently inducted as an honorary member of the Iota Zeta Chapter of Sigma Delta Pi National Collegiate Spanish Honorary Society held at the State University of New York at Oswego.

Steve, a 1972 alumnus of SUNY Oswego, was the keynote speaker at the ceremony which took place at the university on April 17.

Steve is currently the vicepresident of the Historical Society of East Hartford.



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East Hartford

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\*For students not enrolled at ECLC

East Hartford Public **Schools** 

Society

7

### **COMMUNITY RELISHES HEALTHY OPTIONS**



THE EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING CENTER hosted the second annual InterCommunity Health Fair Thursday. Hundreds of families took part, visiting two dozen local service providers and receiving free vegetables and information about everything from Parks and Recreation to counseling, planting seeds, and healthy pointers from the East Hartford Hunger Action Team and ShopRite dieticians.





### **CitySingers at South Saturday**

The well-known choral group CitySingers of Hartford presents their Spring Concert, "The Merry Month of May" at South Congregational Church, 1301 Forbes St., Saturday, May 18 at 7 p.m. Through a variety of madrigals and 19th century works, this concert is designed to celebrate Spring, Mothers, and those who have served our country. The concert will be

conducted by Jeff Cregeur, Minister of Music at South Congregational Church. Suggested donation: \$20.

South Church is handicap accessible and parking is available behind the building. Follow the paved walkway from the parking lot to enter the church. For more information about any South Church event, call the church office at 860-568-5150.

The Class of 1974 of Penney High School will soon be celebrating their 50th Class Reunion! On October 5, 2024 alumni will gather at Georgina's Restaurant in Bolton from 6 to 11 p.m. For more information, please contact Dawn (Kelly) Erikson at dkellverikson@vahoo.com or Deb (Russell) Henderson at dhenderson128@comcast.net. The invitations will be going out via email or snail mail in July. They hope to have pizza gatherings on Friday night and Breakfast on Sunday morning with their classmates too, but those details have yet to be established. They're looking for volunteers to plan those! Join their FB page George J Penney Class of 1974 Reunion for more details.

East Hartford High School Class of 1974 will hold its 50th reunion, "The Biggest We've Had", on Sunday, August 25, 2024. East Hartford High School Class of 1974 needs your help. They are looking for contact information for people who graduated in the class. If you know someone, or were a graduate of the class, please send the name (include maiden if changed), address, email and phone number to: ehhs1974.classreunion50@gmail.com Confirm your e-mail address now to ehhs1974.classreunion50@gmail.com and follow the reunion page on Facebook.



#### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5TH 3:45-6:30PM RAIN DATE: THURSDAY, JUNE 6TH

GOODWIN ELEMENTARY

AROUND THE BACK OF THE SCHOOL

Come and help us support local & your community!

- ↔ Seedlings for sale
- ~Free~ food bag filled with non-perishables
- Face painting for kids



Seedlings for planting Pre-planted seedlings in buckets will be available

Seedlings grown & donated by Handel Farm

All proceeds go back to fund our school garden









First come, first served for all plant varieties

Herbs: Basil, Parsley, Dill, Oregano

Tomatoes & Cherry Tomatoes

**Bell Peppers** 

Eggplant

Sunflowers



#### THE GAZETTE

## **EAST HARTFORD SPORTS**

### My closet Tee-shirt Hall of Fame

Do you have a closet you haven't gone through for some time?

My wife and I had the closet in our master bedroom redone this week. Some of the boxes on the upper shelves were packed two moves ago and hadn't been opened in nearly two decades. One of them produced a Memory Lane of Hartford sports, mint condition T-shirts.

Remember the Hartford Hellions, our entry in the

Major Indoor Soccer League? They played their 1978 home games at the New Haven Coliseum before moving to the Hartford Civic Center for their final two campaigns. Owned by Glastonbury

### SCOTT GRAY on SPORTS

#### by Scott Gray

businessman Bill Chipman, their captain was Keith Toser. Keith and I lived in the

same condo complex in Manchester where we hung out at the pool on summer days.

Two decades ago I took part in an expansive scavenger hunt. One of the items, the only one no one could produce, was a Hellions T-shirt. I knew I'd had one but could never find it, until this week.

I also found a red and white Travelers Championship Tshirt from the first year of Travelers sponsorship, and four unwrapped Heisman Trophy T-shirts, which I received annually over three decades as a Heisman voter.

I found two T-shirts of remarkably good quality from the Connecticut Pride of the Continental Basketball Association. In the waning days of the CBA former East Hartford High star Tyler Jones was their GM and head coach, leading them to the final league championship, remarkably motivating the players after informing them there was no money for their final paychecks. Their owner was Farmington businessman Brian Foley, whose wife, Lisa Wilson-Foley, also owned the World Team Tennis Hartford Foxforce and Blue Fox Run golf course.

One T-shirt I'd completely forgotten depicts a Whale's tail sinking into the ocean while a puck with a Carolina Hurricanes logo emerges above the water line. No explanation necessary.

Another historical shirt marks the inaugural game of the USFL Orlando renegades in March of 1985. That night they hosted the Jersey Generals, quarterbacked by a friend from my Boston media days, Doug Flutie. WBZ radio's Johnny Miller and I, covering Red Sox spring training down the road in Winter Haven, contacted Flutie at the team hotel and he landed us credentials and sideline passes. We watched from the Generals sideline as Flutie and running back Hershel Walker led them to a win.

The Hartford connection? My old friend Charlie Steiner, the Gens play-by-play guy was previously the news director at WPOP radio. He's now the voice of the Los Angeles Dodgers, the successor to the legendary Vin Scully. We had a great opportunity to catch up before the game.

Also of note, the Generals were owned by a New York real estate developer named Donald John Trump. I purchased a T-Shirt for historic reasons. It was too small, but it was all that was left when I got to the concession stand.

Have a closet you haven't been through for some time? Start rummaging. You might find some hidden treasures. I did.

## Tickets for military, first reponders offered by Travelers Championship

The Travelers Championship offers tickets to military members and veterans, health care workers, first responders and children 15 and under.

Tournament week is June 17-23 at TPC River Highlands in Cromwell, with spectators allowed on-site starting Wednesday, June 19.

The first round will begin Thursday, June 20, with the final round scheduled for Sunday, June 23.

One-day grounds tickets will be available to active, guard, re-

Hornet swim team, coach honored by pool officials association

East Hartford High School Coach Dan Corvo and the EHHS Swim Team received the Robert Springer Award for 2024.

The Springer Award is the highest honor a team can receive, and it is presented by the Hartford area Connecticut Swimming Officials Association to a team which exhibits the highest attriutes of sportsmanship, perservance and respect for other teams and their coach.

Coach Corvo was a member of the EHHS Hornets swim team back in the early 2000's, serve and retired military service members, along with U.S. veterans, thanks to Trinity Health Of New England. Advance registration is required and proof of eligibility will allow recipients to secure one digital ticket for the day of their choice, as well as up to two tickets for their dependents.

Active guard, reserve and retired military service members and U.S. veterans will have complimentary access to the Patriots' Outpost, a hospitality venue located to the left of the ninth fairway that will offer free lunch from Wednesday, June 19 through Sunday, June 23. Guests will also be able to watch the tournament from an open-air, covered seating area.

Health care workers and first responders can also receive a one-day grounds ticket, compliments of SERVPRO. Advance registration is required and a maximum 400 tickets will be available each day, Wednesday, June 19 – Sunday, June 23. This program is available to licensed medical professionals.



Elizabeth Gunn, left, and Janet Romayko, right, present EHHS Swim Coach Dan Corvo and his team with the Springer Award Friday. and has been coaching the high cut Swimming Officials associaschool swim team for two years. tion officiates meets for 35

eam back in the early 2000's, The Hartford area Connecti- **P&R camps open June 24; sign up now** Fast Hartford Parks and

East Hartford Parks and Recreation Summer Camps will open Monday, June 24 and will run 7 consecutive weeks, ending on Friday, August 9th. Camps are open to East Hartford residents only and serve children and teens entering grades 1 – 9 and participants with special needs ages 6 -21.

Little Rec'ers Camp for children entering grades 1-2 will be located at Goodwin Park/ Goldstar Pool, \*Silver Lane during inclement weather days.

**Fun Days Camp** for children entering grades 3 – 4 will be located at Gorman Park / Lord Pool, \*Sunset Ridge School during inclement weather days.

**Explorers Camp** for children entering grades 5 – 6 will be located at McAuliffe Park / Drennan Pool, \*Langford School during inclement weather.

**Teen Camp** for teens entering grades 7 – 9 will be located at Hockanum Park/ Terry Pool,

\* Community Cultural Center during inclement weather. Camp Sunburst for participants with special needs ages 6 - 21 will be located at McAuliffe Park, Drennan Pool, \* Wickham Library during inclement weather days.

Breakfast and lunch is provided for all campers through the Summer Meals Program!

For more information about camp, join in the Virtual Camp Open House Monday, May 13th at 6:30 p.m. hosted via Zoom by the East Hartford Public Library, 860-290-4330.



### Shirley M. Berner, 96; was deaconess at South Church

Shirley M. Berner - loving wife, mother, grand and greatgrandmother - passed away after a brief illness on May 5, 2024, at Hartford Hospital. She was 96.

Born in Hartford on June 1, 1927, Shirley was the daughter of the late John and Elizabeth (Dixon) Jepsen. She was raised and lived in East Hartford, graduating from East Hartford High School in 1945. Shirley worked as a key punch operator at Aetna and for customer service at Connecticut Bank & Trust until her retirement.

Shirley loved to travel and found great peace at the family cottage in New Hampshire. She enjoyed cooking, entertaining family and friends. She loved her Dachshunds. Shirley enjoyed playing golf, bowling, sewing and knitting.

She was a dedicated supporter of the Boston Red Sox and UConn Women's Basketball.

Shirley considered South Congregational Church in East Hartford as her second family.

For over 70 years she remained active singing in the church choir and serving in various positions including deaconess. She volunteered with the Red Cross, local food Bank, Meals on Wheels and was an active member of the International Order of the King's Daughters & Sons and their fundraising efforts for overseas Christian ministries.

Shirley had a kindhearted smile and offered generous words of encouragement. Her positive attitude enabled her to be happy and enjoy her life. She would often say" I have had a wonderful life." It is a life that will not be forgotten.

Shirley is survived by her daughters, Sherry Loomis (Stephen) and Judith Zuniga; her son, William C. Berner (Brigitte); her sister-in-law, Pat Jepsen; her grandchildren, Andrew Loomis (Amber), Sarah Loomis, Jeffrey Zuniga, Erika Zuniga, Carl Berner



Shirley Berner

(Michelle), and Jessica Berner (Jay Bardell); her great-grandchildren, Jared Loomis, Lucy and Mia Flowers, Logan Zuniga and Paisley Clark; and many cherished nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents and her husband of nearly 65 years, William "Bill" Berner, Shirley was predeceased by her brothers, Robert, Richard, and John Jepsen, her son-in-law, Ballardo Zuniga and grand son-in-law Robert Flowers.

Shirley's family would like to thank the staff and residents at Apple Rehab in Colchester for their care and friendship.

A Memorial Service celebrating Shirley's life will be celebrated at 11 AM on Saturday, June 8, 2024, at South Congregational Church, 1301 Forbes St., East Hartford, CT 06118. A private burial will be held at the convenience of the family in the church Memorial Garden. In lieu of flowers. donations in Shirley's honor may be made to the South Congregational Church Memorial Fund. The Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home of Colchester is in care of the arrangements. To share a memory of Shirley or condolence message with her family, please visit www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

### Stephanie 'Babci' (Gula) Wisz, 90

Stephanie Helena "Babci" Wisz (nee Gula), 90 years young, passed away peacefully on Thursday, May 9, 2024, surrounded by family at Hartford Hospital. She was born on September 11, 1933, in New Bedford. Massachusetts. to her parents Apolonia Gula (nee Jagiello) and Stanislaw Gula. She was a 1951 graduate of New Bedford Vocational High School. She later married and moved to East Hartford. Connecticut in 1959 where she lived as a proud resident. Once her five children were all in school, she entered the workforce and became a beloved member of the cafeteria staff at Goodwin Elementary School in East Hartford and later at Connecticut Bank and Trust. Stephanie was a kind and caring soul, the definition of selflessness. She loved spending time with and guiding her family as living example of religious faith, good behavior and loving support. Her siblings, kids, grandkids and greatgrandkids were her greatest joy in life. She loved being the Nanny to all of her grandkids at various years of their lives. She



Stephanie Wisz

always had the ability to make anyone smile. She was predeceased by her six siblings Boleslaw, Adolph, Zbigniew, Genowefa, Ferdinand and Irena; and two sons Steven and Joseph.

She is survived by her five children, Carolyn (Glen) Ritchie, Michael (Karen) Wisz, Wanda (Daniel) Polinski, Alesia Wisz (caregiver), and Alexander (Dawn) Wisz. Her Brandon grandchildren, (Jessica) Ritchie, Jordan Ritchie (Vaclav) Malek, Heather Ritchie, Adam Polinski, Emma (Bryan Trudel) Polinski, Hannah Polinski, Jessica Wisz, Evan Wisz, Kayla Wisz and Alison Wisz; great grandchildren Apolonia, Atlas, Aelin, Amara, Nathan, Aaliyah, Bernard, Lukas, Josey, and Theodore. She also leaves many nieces, nephews, cousins, and dear friends.

Family, friends, and others are invited to attend the Mass of Christian Burial at St. Christopher Church of St. Edmund Campion Parish, 538 Brewer St., Tuesday, May 21, 2024 at 11 a.m. Everyone is asked to please go directly to the church. A gathering will follow in the church hall to reminisce and honor the life of Stephanie. There are no calling hours and burial will be at the convenience of the family. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Stephanie's name may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis TN 38105. D'Esopo East Hartford Memorial Chapel has been entrusted funeral arrangements. On-line, please visit www.desopoeh.com

# If you've been putting off prearranging because of the expense, we have good news...

Prearrangement doesn't *have* to cost anything.

What many people don't know is that you need not prepay when you prearrange. We're happy to record your wishes and hold them on file at no charge. Call our funeral home for details.



D'Esopo-East Hartford Memorial Chapel 30 Carter Street 860-568-9420 Desopoeh.com



### 10 THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2024 THE GAZETTE DePietro Park first step on 'Pollinator Pathway'

#### From Page One

tance of pollination" said Mayor Martin.

Patricia Sirois, Chair of the East Hartford Beautification Commission says "We were the first organization to sign on to the Pollinator Pathways project. We are excited that Parks and Recreation is involved in our first pollinator project at De-Pietro Park, and look forward to more native pollinator plants being planted on our Town lands and schools. Every East Hartford resident can play a part and make a difference even if you have only one or two pollinator plants in the ground or in pots.

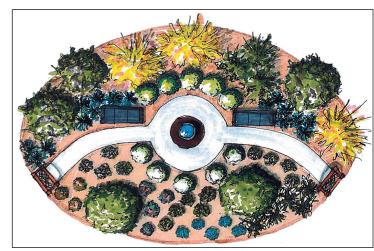
A parking area has been established and the turf has been removed for the planting areas and walkways. The garden area is being prepared for the Saturday, June 1 planting. A sign has been erected to announce the coming of the pollinator garden to the public.

The Rotary Club is making a sizable contribution to make the pollinator garden a reality. Alex Wisz, Past President of the Rotary Club announced their contribution to the project and added "The Rotary Club of East Hartford is thankful for the opportunity to assist with this project and continue our legacy of providing meaningful projects that benefit the citizens of this town. This club has been doing impactful work in East Hartford for the last 95 years and we will continue that journey into the future".

East Hartford Garden Club President Sue Kies agreed, saying "East Hartford Garden Club members know the important relationship between pollinators and plants must be encouraged and nurtured to combat our disappearing habitat. We are lending our expertise and plants to the first Pollinator Pathways garden in East Hartford at DePietro Park to ensure we grow native plants. We are excited to be a part of this innovative project, and urge every East Hartford resident to grow native pollinator plants."

Roz White, President of the East Hartford Lions Club announced their financial support of the project. "The Lions Club is proud to be a supporter of the pollinator garden at DiPietro Park, and we are excited to see this project replicated in other East Hartford parks."

Without pollinators, we can't feed ourselves. Pollination enables the plants in our yards, parks, farms and orchards to reproduce. Bee populations, both native and honey bees, have seen sharp declines. Monarch



butterflies have declined by 94.6% in the last 20 years, according to the US Wildlife Federation. A recent German study shows a 75% decline in all flying insects in the last 25 years. The threat to pollinators is a threat to us!

### Playscape contracts awarded by Board of Education

From Page One

are all working on their masters in education in either elementary education or a specific subject area. Their workload would include three days a week as building substitutes and two days for their degree requirements. East Hartford is planning on placing these interns with teachers at the high school, middle school and Pitkin Elementary School. These placements were selected based on subject matter and veteran teachers' availability.

The District is also looking into similar programs offered

15% off Total Purchase\*

by Hartford University, Saint Joseph and the Connecticut State University Network. The district has student teachers from these programs throughout the district.

In other business, the Board approved two construction contracts. The first was a contract with Richard's Corporation of Terryville, Connecticut for the East Hartford Middle School pool locker room renovation. Richard's Corporation was the lowest qualified bid at \$361,865.00. The district received five bids on the project which will be renovating the pool area locker rooms including showers and steel door frames this summer. The funding for the project is already in the town's school capital reserves.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF

JOHN C. CONDRON, AKA

JOHN CHARLES CONDRON

(24-00187)

The Hon. Richard P. Gentile.

Judge of the Court of Probate,

District of East Hartford

Probate Court, by decree dated

May 6, 2024, ordered that all

claims must be presented to

the fiduciary at the address

below. Failure to promptly pres-

ent any such claim may result

in the loss of rights to recover

Malcolm F. Barlow, Esquire;

Malcolm F. Barlow, Attorney at

Law, 172 East Center St.,

Manchester, CT 06040

Matthew E. Cella, Clerk

on such claim.

The fiduciary is:

The second contract was awarded to Creative Recreation LLC of Newington, Connecticut for the replacement of four playscapes. The company will be replacing one playscape at Goodwin, O'Connell East, and two at O'Brien Elementary Schools. Creative Recreation was one of two companies that bid on the project. Creative will be paid up to \$345,079 depending on the options selected by the district for the project. Construction on these playscapes will happen in the summer of 2025.

Finally the Board heard from concerned high school sophomore Aiden Paradis about a policy change. Paradis, addressed a change that did not permit students to attend summer school for physical educa-

tion credits. He noted that in the past he and other AP students would take their physical education credit in the summer so that during the regular school year he could fill his schedule with advance academic classes. He explained that this year that policy had changed at the high school "because the school was concerned with students filling their schedules with an extra study hall." He noted advance academic students needed to fill the physical education slot with required classes for college. He hoped that the Board could look into the new change, because the district was producing students who clearly had achieved advance college placement through the use of the old procedure.

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Receive a \$50 Visa Card with your FREE in-home estimate

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\* Guaranteed not to clog for as long as you own your home, or we will clean your gutters for free.

### LEGAL NOTICES

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF BARBARA GRACE MULE (24-00183)

The Hon. Richard P. Gentile, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of East Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated **April 30, 2024,** ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Matthew E. Cella, Clerk

The fiduciary is:

Rev. Jeremiah Murasso c/o Ariana Francesca Ceneviva, Esquire; Ceneviva Law Firm, LLC, 721 Broad St., Meriden, CT 06450

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF HENRY J. SALVATORE, AKA HENRY J. SALVATORE, JR. (24-00198)

The Hon. Richard P. Gentile,



Brown & Barbarotta, LLC, 22 Elm St., Windsor, CT 06095

The Gazette

THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2024

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#### ESTATE OF MARCELLE DION, AKA HUGUETTE DION, AKA HUGUETTE P. DION (24-00212)

The Hon. Richard P. Gentile, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of East Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated **May 8, 2024,** ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Matthew E. Cella, Clerk The fiduciary is:

Alice Ivy

c/o Robin Murdock-Meggers, Esquire; Falkenstein Meggers Paul & Robinson P.C., 113 East Center St., Manchester, CT 06040

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF FRANCES J. AMENTA (22-00423)

The Hon. Richard P. Gentile, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of East Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated **April 30, 2024,** ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Matthew E. Cella, Clerk

The fiduciary is:

Constance Amenta

c/o Donna M. Britschgi, Esquire; David A. Zipfel and Associates, LLC, 84 Connecticut Blvd., East Hartford, CT 06108

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF M.B. BAKER (24-00194)

The Hon. Richard P. Gentile, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of East Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated **May 1, 2024,** ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Matthew E. Cella, Clerk

The fiduciary is:

Christine C. Baker c/o Jacqueline Marie Reardon, Esquire; Jacqueline M. Reardon, P.O. Box 778, Windsor, CT 06095

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF JAMES A. BIRTLES, AKA JAMES ALFRED BIRTLES (24-00165)

The Hon. Richard P. Gentile, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of East Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated **May 1, 2024**, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Matthew E. Cella, Clerk

The fiduciary is:

Charlene S. Birtles c/o Erik S. Young.

c/o Erik S. Young, Esquire; Erik S. Young, P.C., 11 South Main Street, Marlborough, CT 06447

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF DREDA ANN HENDSEY, AKA DREDA ANN SCHIAVETTI HENDSEY (24-00188)

The Hon. Richard P. Gentile, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of East Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated **April 25, 2024**, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Matthew E. Cella, Clerk The fiduciary is:

#### Lise Gillian O'Neill

c/o Gary R. Kevorkian, Esquire; Kevorkian & Associates, LLC, 18 Hartford Avenue, P. O. Box 449, Granby, CT 06035



## WHERE THE ACTION IS!

MAY 16: GLASTONBURY GRANGE Social Evening (public invited) at 7 p.m. at the Masonic Hall 895 Main St., South Glastonbury.

MAY 18: ANNUAL PLANT SALE - Garden Club of East Hartford, Saturday, 9 a.m. until 1 p.m., rain or shine, Sunset Ridge School. Bake sale, tag sale and drawings.Come early for the plants!

MAY 18: DOWNTOWN CLEANUP DAY - The town invites residents, businesses, and community members to join Mayor Martin's team for a Community Cleanup Day this Saturday, May 18 from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. Gather at Alumni Park, 1021 Main St. Lunch follows.

MAY 19: 11TH ANNUAL STRONG FARM CHICKEN RUN Help keep the Strong family 7th generation farm going as an agricultural learning center. Upgrades anad a restroon are needed to their old yellow barn. Register at www.strongfamilyfarm.org/annual-5k-chicken-run.

MAY 17-25: GIANT BARN TAG SALE to benefit the Manchester Land Conservation Trust and its work to preserve open space lands. Shop Friday, May 17 through Saturday, May 25, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day at 330 Bush Hill Road, Manchester in the cider barn. 5,000 square feet of books, games, dishes, tools, artwork, jigsaw puzzles, toys, furniture, household and sports items, near-antiques, glassware, holiday décor, and items useful and decorative. Shop and hike the same day. FMI www.manchesterlandtrust.org.

JUNE 2: SUPPORT OUR TROOPS Summer collection and packing event, Sunday from noon until 2 p.m. at Hillstown Grange Hall, 617 Hills St. Sponsored by SOS Connecticut, the summer collection seeks non-aerosol donations of: (Special Request From 272d Regional Support Group) Freeze pops/ SPF 50+ lotion and lip balm/ Aloe Cooling Lotion/ Rechargeable mini fans/ Reusable water bottles/ Water squirters/ Antichafing cream/ Moleskin/ Frisbees/ Foot powder/ Bug spray/ Board/card games/ Popcorn/ Gatorade/ mio hydration packets/ Pringles/ small décor items/ Ziplock bags/ Small magnets/ and snack items, such as beef jerky, nutrition bars, iced tea and lemonade mixes,

### **BY CORINNE HORAN**

microwave popcorn, small jars of peanut butter, etc. Feminine items that are not aerosols. Also requested are cards and children's drawings to go with the theme of "Flowers in the Garden." Volunteers start at noon to sort and pack. To donate or volunteer, call Frank Forrest at 860-690-2845, or e-mail sosconnecticut@aol.com.

JUNE 9: SOUTH WINDSOR GARDEN TOUR & PLANT SALE Sunday, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visit 8 beautiful gardens, including on historic Old Main Street. Tickets \$20 in advance, \$25 day of tour. FMI https://www.swgardenclub.org/2024-garden-tour.

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#### JUNE 15: HARE KRISHNA CHARIOT FESTIVAL,

Riverfront Park, Glastonbury Saturday from 11:45 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free. The public is cordially invited to attend. Rain or shine. The festival begins at 11:45 a.m. with Ratha Yatra, a colorful chariot parade accompanied by lively singing and dancing. The parade begins at the Hare Krishna Temple, 40 Naubuc Avenue and proceeds along Naubuc Avenue to Riverfront Park at 300 Welles St. All are encouraged to participate.