

The Gazette

VOLUME 140, NO. 23

Thursday, June 12, 2025

Crafted from the finest local ingredients since 1885

1406 Main Street, East Hartford, Connecticut 06108

860-289-6468

editor@ehgazette.com

website: ehgazette.com



EHHS launches Class of 2025

By Bill Doak

Once again the sun shone at just the right time for the 460 members of the graduating class of 2025 Tuesday evening at East Hartford High School.

Class President Israela Anane gave a synopsis of high school life, noting "you are still here" despite the hallway dramas, unexpected changes and times that were a little bit chaotic, but in the end we were always a family."

Remember, she said, "no path is better than yours. There is no set path; walk the path that is yours. Value yourself, value your mental health," she urged, concluding "we are leav-

ing with a story that is better than what is written."

Anane, Jenna Walton, Salutatorian and Afrin Galliwal, Valedictorian, all plan to attend the University of Connecticut, they are among the 78 percent of the Class of 2025 who will attend a two or four-year institution of higher education. Nine percent of the class will attend a trade or technical school, according to Principal Matt Ryan, 5 percent will go into the workplace, and six percent plan to join the military.

Grand Marshall at the ceremony was the high school's teacher of the year, Rebecca Cutkomp, who led the class out

See **CLASS OF 2025**, page 10

The 460 members of East Hartford High School's Class of 2025 rejoice at the epic moment Tuesday night.

Stewey the Duck urges pool safety

U.S. Sen. Richard Blumenthal, a lifetime swimmer, joined Stew and Kim Leonard Monday at Glenbrooke Sports Club off Oak Street Monday to call attention to water and pool safety as the summer swimming season begins.

The occasion was the presentation of a \$5,000 check to the club and Rose Rainville to offer swim lessons to 400 kids this summer which will help address an uptick in child drowning deaths. The senator, Rainville, Mayor Connor Martin and the Leonards gave a united appeal to parents to keep an eye on kids around the water and not get distracted by a cell phone.

"Drowning is preventable. Every single drowning is pre-

ventable," Blumenthal said.

Of the roughly 4,300 drowning deaths reported annually in the United States, nearly 1,000 involve children aged 1 to 4, according to data released by the World Health Organization.

"Drowning can happen in seconds, in literally two feet of water," Blumenthal said. "You don't need a pool to have a drowning. It can happen in a backyard play thing."

Stew Leonard Jr. and his wife, Kim Leonard, whose 21-month-old son Stew Leonard III (Stewie) died in a 1989 drowning accident, have since founded the Stew Leonard III Water Safety Foundation. The organization has raised over \$6

SEE **GLENBROOKE**, p 10



Lauren Toomey teaches Gino, 3, Elais, 3, Claire, 3 and Sofia, 4 how to blow bubbles at Glenbrooke pool.

Sounds of Summer tonight

The annual Sounds of Summer Concert Series returns for 2025! This free summer concert series begins tonight and several more Thursdays through July 31 from 6 to 8 p.m. at Great River Park amphitheater, 301 East River Drive.

Music lineup features a broad range of music acts.

CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

Senior RF Engineer sought by DISH Wireless, LLC in Hartford, CT Perform RF design activities related to building the first standalone 5G broadband network in the US. Optimize the end-to-end RF design, including propagation modeling & prediction, for deployment of Macro Cell deployment. Determine equipment & power configurations. Work with eNB/RAN & UE teams on RF solutions including modifications to RF link budgets on a per site level basis to meet operations requirements. Requires Bachelor's degree (or foreign equivalent) in Electrical Engineering, Electronic Engineering, or a closely related field + 5 yrs of relevant RF engineering experience in job offered or as RF Engineer II. Also requires 4 yrs of work experience with/using the following (which may have been gained concurrently): Providing RF support to Site Acquisition & Site Construction teams. Cellular/ Mobile Technology including 4G or 5G & NR theory. Macro & small cell nominal & final RF designs including development, operations, RF KPIs, & maintenance of RF link budgets for 3GPP technologies. Setting up, calibration, utilization & data processing of various LTE design & optimization equipment & software. Propagation/ planning tools such as Planet or Atoll & model calibrations. Drive test data post-processing, map generation, frequency planning & interference matrix analysis & site database maintenance using Windcatcher/ Actix/ Accuver. Equipment co-location requirements for multiple operators & performing inter-modulation & other external interference analysis. Employment is contingent on successful completion of a pre-employment criminal background check, which may include a drug test. Rate of pay: \$133,616.62. Apply at careers.dish.com. Ref: [2025-92103] if applying externally through careers.dish.com; Ref: [2025-92102] if applying internally. May also apply by emailing resume with (Ref: [2025-92103]) to tasharedservices@dish.com. The posting will be active for a minimum of 3 days. The active posting will continue to extend by 3 days until the position is filled.

GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS GET RESULTS

E-MAIL: ADS@EHGAZETTE.COM
OR CALL 860-289-6468

June 12: Alvin Carter Project
(Jazz)

June 19: Shaded Soul (Vocal & Instrumental)

June 26: The Score (Classic Party Rock)

July 3: Cover 2 Cover (High Energy Dance Music)

July 10: Sound Pipers (Reggae)

July 17: La Choco Band
(Latin Music)

July 24: Mass-Conn Fusion
(Jazz, Motown, R&B)

July 31: Soul Sound Revue
(7-piece Modern Music)

Located at 301 East River Drive, Great River Park's amphitheater seats 350 and also accomodates portable chairs, picnic blankets and dancing.

In the event of rain the concerts move indoors to the East Hartford Community Resource Center, 50 Chapman Place.

Strike cost \$200K

The approximate cost of the 23-day strike at Pratt & Whitney to the East Hartford Police Dept., from Sunday, May 4 at midnight through May 27, was approximately \$200,000.

The town is working to get reimbursed from Pratt and Whitney for approximately \$85,000, according to the Lt. Paul Neves, EHPD Support Services Bureau.

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF
CONSUMER PROTECTION

LIQUOR PERMIT Notice of Application

**This is to give notice that I,
BHAVESHKUMAR B PATEL, 260
ANDREWS RD, MINEOLA, NY
11501-2343**

Have filed an application
placarded 06/09/2025 with
the Department of Consumer
Protection for a
GROCERY BEER PERMIT
for the sale of alcoholic liquor
on the premises at
**1515 MAIN STREET,
EAST HARTFORD, CT 06108-1621**

The business will be
owned by: MAHAKALI 1515 INC

Objections must be filed
by: 07-21-2025
Visit: <https://portal.ct.gov/remonstrance> for more information.

MAHAKALI 1515 INC

Mayor Martin seeking second term in office

Mayor Connor Martin will seek another term at Town Hall, he announced Monday.

Elected in 2023, the Democrat cites accomplishments of his first term as "hallmarked by a dramatic, positive shift in how East Hartford town government does business, and by unprecedented progress" as his ambitious slate of economic development projects continues to move forward.

"I'm so proud of the progress East Hartford has made over the past year and a half," said Martin. "We've made real strides towards completing the major economic development projects that will turn East Hartford into a regional destination for arts and entertainment, all while bringing more than 1,000 units of housing online. We've taken steps to hold slumlords accountable, increased access to our services for families, and made smart investments—both big and small—to improve our quality of life. I'm excited by what another two years will bring. East Hartford's future has never been brighter."

Connor's first campaign focused on five key areas: economic development, fostering equity, improving our quality of life, incorporating our community in decision making, and revitalizing Main St. In his first term, East Hartford has made



Mayor Connor Martin speaking at Glenbrooke Sports Club Monday.

progress on all fronts. Connor's re-election campaign will continue to focus on a message of inclusion, and ask that voters once again support Connor's bold vision for East Hartford's future.

"There's no substitute for a mayor who truly cares about the people he leads," said Democratic Town Committee Chair

Free homebuying seminar Tuesday

Buying your first home is exciting, but can also be stressful and confusing. American Eagle Financial Credit Union is hosting "Pathways to Homeownership Seminar" Tuesday, June 17 from 6 to 7 p.m. at the American Eagle Financial Center. 333

Sebrina Wilson. "Connor grew up in the exact same way as so many East Hartford families, overcoming hardship and really setting an example for what hard work can accomplish. His story is our story. The sky's the limit when it comes to what East Hartford can do with another two years of his leadership."

East River Drive.

Hear from experts about purchasing a home. Speakers include Larry King, Alex Wisz of American Eagle, Realtor Wayne Stapleton, and attorney Greg Shettle. Register at <https://www.americanagle.org/homebuyerseminar>.

The seminar will also be available virtually.

D'ADDARIO'S
Auto Service

117 Burnside Avenue
EAST HARTFORD
860-289-6427

Family Owned and Operated for over 50 years.

**Looking for a shop you
can trust? You just
found one!**

We provide high-quality auto repairs
and superior customer service.
Call to schedule an appointment for
all your automotive needs.

'Let our family take care of your family.'
www.daddariosauto.com

K.G. KEENA MEMORIALS, INC.
Monuments · Markers · Cemetery Lettering
Pre-need designs and inquiries encouraged.
Evenings and weekend appointments at our office or at your home. Visit our indoor and outdoor display at
1375 SILVER LANE, EAST HARTFORD • 860-569-3125
Carol A. Keena Kristopher J. Keena Kevin G. Keena

Money • Money • Money

**IF YOU HAVE
A JUNK CAR
AND THE
TITLE WE
HAVE MONEY
FOR YOU
SAME DAY/
NEXT DAY PICK
UP
TOP \$ PAID
\$500
or more complete**

**8525-(JUNK)
99(5865)**

MONEY • MONEY • MONEY

DESDE LA ESQUINA

by Carmen Maldonado

¡Pa' los Papás que no se Quitan!

Hoy se rinde homenaje a todos esos padres hispanos/latinos que, con callos en las manos y amor en el pecho, se fajan día tras día por sus familias. Padres que, aunque la vida les haya tirado piedras, aprendieron a construir con ellas caminos más firmes para sus hijos y nietos.

A veces nos enfocamos mucho en nuestras madres — con todo el mérito del mundo, porque como mamá no hay nadie—, pero de vez en cuando también hay que honrar a papá. Esa figura paterna que se levanta antes de que cante el gallo para ir a trabajar, muchas veces en empleos duros, mal pagados, o sintiéndose invisible.

Padres que regresan a casa sudados, agotados, pero aún con fuerzas para ayudar con las tareas del hogar: arreglar una pluma que gotea o simplemente a destapar una tubería.

Yo podría seguir tirándole flores al padre que me dio la vida, pero aquí no me cabe tanto amor y gratitud.

Este domingo, honro la vida de todos esos padres fajones que, a pesar de todo lo que está pasando en estos tiempos, no se rinden. Que tienen el valor de seguir luchando en un mundo cada vez más exigente.

Hoy, más que nunca, vale la pena detenernos y decir “gracias”.

Gracias a ese papá que nos llevó al parque después de trabajar doce horas.

Gracias al abuelo que nos contó historias de todos los revolúes que hizo en sus tiempos de juventud, manteniendo así viva nuestras raíces.

Gracias al padrastro, al tío, al hermano mayor —a cada figura masculina que ha asumido con amor y responsabilidad el papel de padre.

Ser padre es más que una responsabilidad: es un acto de entrega diaria, de amor sin condiciones y de esperanza sembrada en cada hijo. Así que celebremos este Día del Padre no solo con regalos, sino con palabras sinceras, con abrazos apretados, con el orgullo de saber que nuestras familias tienen cimientos fuertes, forjados por hombres valientes y amorosos.

¡Feliz Día del Padre a todas esas figuras paternas!

Que este Domingo y siempre se sientan vistos y valorados por su familia.

Próximo:

Ven y celebra Juneteenth en East Hartford el 14 de junio desde las 11:00am hasta las 4:00pm en el Town Green, 1047 Main st. Ven y disfruta junto a tu familia de música, entretenimiento y aprende de la historia que nos moldea. La entrada es gratis.

¡Para la edad de oro! Si necesitas ayuda con la limpieza en las afueras de tu casa y físicamente ya no puedes, comunícate con Senior Services al (860)-291-7460. East Hartford quiere ayudar a los residentes de edad avanzada que necesiten ayuda con la limpieza en las afueras de su hogar.

Joyce Carol Oates va a estar dando un “Book Talk” en el Mark Twain House el 20 de Junio a las 7:00pm. La taquilla cuesta \$45. No te lo pierdas.

Ya comenzó “The Off-Main Experience” en East Hartford. Esto es en Bissell st. de 5:00pm a 8:00pm el 27 de junio y la entrada es libre de costo. Habrá food trucks, actividades para toda la familia y música así que si te perdiste el de mayo no te pierdas este.

Conecta Conmigo: cmaldonado8816@gmail.com

Thank you for patronizing our advertisers

Goodwin to present Harry James with Dr.

Goodwin University's 2025 Commencement is at 4 p.m. today at Pratt & Whitney Stadium at Rentschler Field.

Some 312 students are slated to receive certificates and associate, bachelor's and master's degrees.

Goodwin President Mark Scheinberg will deliver remarks and provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Michael Pardales will serve as master of ceremonies.

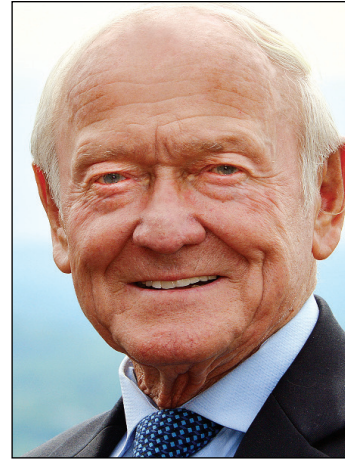
This year's Commencement caps off Goodwin's year-long 25th Anniversary celebration, tracing the school's inception as the Data Institute, its growth as Goodwin College, and its present status as a non-profit, career-focused university with presences in both East Hartford and Bridgeport.

At the ceremony, actress/author Bern Nadette Stanis will receive an honorary degree in Humane Letters and address the graduates. Best known as the quick-witted “Thelma Evans” in the groundbreaking sitcom “Good Times” (1974 to 1979), she was the first African American female teenager to be cast in a full family show.

Among those receiving honorary degrees at the ceremony will be developer and entrepreneur Harry James, who grew up in Mayberry Village.

James is a developer and entrepreneur whose impact extends far beyond the town borders, having built a thriving home construction business that helped shape the landscape of the region. His career accomplishments include the construction of more than 2,500 homes and the development of a hydroelectric plant, a testament to his forward-thinking spirit. Mr. James' philanthropic spirit matches his entrepreneurial drive, noted by his donation of 12.6 acres of land to the town of East Hartford to support the development of Burnside Avenue. With his beloved late wife, MaryAnn, he created Crystal Ridge Winery in South Glastonbury, which has become a destination for locals and visitors.

Others to be honored are community organizer and consultant Janice Flemming-Butler, founder of Voices of Women of Color (VOWOC), an outreach and engagement firm uniting stakeholders to move projects forward. A veteran community organizer, political consultant,



Harry James

and lobbyist.

Also being honored is Alan Lazowski who co-founded LAZ Parking in 1981 while attending the University of Connecticut. Since then, it has grown into the largest privately held parking management, transportation, and mobility company in the country.

Mr. Lazowski is a respected philanthropist focusing on charitable and social justice efforts. In 2009, he created the LAZ Parking Charitable Foundation and is the founding chair of Voices of Hope, which collects and shares the experiences of Holocaust survivors.

Mr. Sparkle Car Wash

230 Tolland St., East Hartford

Touchless Automatic

SAVE \$3.00

On Any Wash with Our

“Advanced Drying System”

Satisfaction
Guaranteed
Offer Good
7 Days 8-5;
Exp. 6-30-2025

38

OUR 40 YEAR ANNIVERSARY!

PETER'S LANDSCAPING, LLC

Landscaping Maintenance, Design and Installation

✿ STARTED IN 1980 - EST. IN 1981 ✿



860-646-1169

806 HILLSTOWN ROAD
MANCHESTER, CT 06040

We are a full-service company, fully licensed and insured, with Workers Comp and Insurance proof provided upon request. References always available.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mowings | <input type="checkbox"/> Walks installed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clean-ups | <input type="checkbox"/> Koi ponds |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aerating | <input type="checkbox"/> Grading |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Overseeding | <input type="checkbox"/> Excavating |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydro-seeding | <input type="checkbox"/> Stumps removed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Liming | <input type="checkbox"/> Clearing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rolling of lawns | <input type="checkbox"/> Demolition work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dethatching | <input type="checkbox"/> Mailbox posts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Low-voltage lighting | <input type="checkbox"/> Fencing of all types |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patios | <input type="checkbox"/> Firepits |

“When landscaping, think Peter’s”

FOUNDED IN 1980 - EST. 1981 - 40 YEARS OF SERVICE

The Gazette

Thursday, June 12, 2025

PUBLISHED BY ACORN MEDIA SERVICES LLC
1406 Main Street, East Hartford, Connecticut 06108
Office: 860-289-6468 ♦ Fax: 888-809-3026

Founded October, 1885 by Henry Bidwell Hale
www.EHGazette.com
'Devoted to Local Interests'

William A. Doak, editor ♦♦ editor@ehgazette.com
♦♦ John Karas, jkaras@ehgazette.com ♦♦ Corinne Horan-Action!
Advertising: ads@ehgazette.com

EDITORIAL

How many more Juneteenths will America require?

The Town of East Hartford will hold its fourth annual Juneteenth Celebration on June 14, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the East Hartford Town Green, 1047 Main Street. The annual celebration, a combined effort of the Public Library, Parks & Rec, Commission on Culture and Fine Arts and the East Hartford Black Caucus, features a wide range of family-friendly activities. The event will be a stage show curated by the library, showcasing local talent and performances that honor the spirit of Juneteenth.

It also honors the spirit of East Hartford.

Along with the entertainment, there is an important, serious message to the storytelling.

It reminds us of the importance of freedom, certainly, but it is also a warning about the message of not being informed, of being kept in the dark, of not believing the changing reality.

Juneteenth, also known as Juneteenth National Independence Day, marks the emancipation of enslaved African Americans in the United States. Also referred to as Jubilee Day, Emancipation Day, Freedom Day, and Black Independence Day. What ought we reflect on today?

This annual event comes as the freedom of peaceable assembly seems threatened in America. It is hard to celebrate freedom when people are being rounded up and deported. Perhaps there will be a new day, another Juneteenth, when these times will have run their course and we can all recognize and pay tribute to the strength, resilience, and contributions of all Americans. For today, this celebration provides an opportunity for East Hartford to come together, remember its shared history, and look ahead to a more inclusive future for all.

Alto
Senior Living by Allegro

Care
INSPIRED BY
his story.

At Alto, we understand that each resident has a unique story, and we take the time to know it. From favorite meals to engaging activities, every detail is designed to create moments of joy, connection and comfort. Discover care that's as personal as it is attentive. **Discover Alto — dedicated to you.**

Live Beautifully!

Visit AltoEvergreenWalk.com or call 860.530.4443.



1000 Cottonwood Lane, South Windsor, CT 06074 | AltoEvergreenWalk.com



Nothing's stagnant when it comes to history

Did you know that history is not stagnant. Each generation approaches it differently.

As we now acknowledge what our fathers tried to ignore, it was William Rogers of Rogers' Rangers who captured Nathan Hale, instead of an anonymous British subject, showing just how mainstream history has changed.

Take Main Street East Hartford, the street we travel today. This is not the "main" street the founders of the town used. That was Prospect Street, much closer to the Connecticut River.

One of the joys of growing old in an area is being able to see landmarks of your past. Sometimes even landmarks of your parents' and grandparents' past. So it is with East Hartford. Many of the 'historic' sites still call to us, like our elementary school and teen hangouts. But of course, with time, other such locations have fallen to remodeling or the wrecking ball. My generation remembers chillin' at J.M. Fields, Bradlees, Friendly's, Knudsen's, Bergren's Dairy, the Charter Oak Mall, the Skating Palace East, Kings, Mammoth Mart, Burnham & Brady Candy Box, Lums, Showcase Cinemas. Such was local life back as early as 1983. Less than four decades ago.

In 1983 the East Hartford Historical Society led a 'house tour.' This event is actually captured in one of their society booklets, a house tour publication. 1983 was a significant year for East Hartford - the Bicentennial of the town officially incorporated in 1783. You paying attention in class know this.

This little booklet lists a dozen homes of historical sig-

DID YOU KNOW?

Looking back at East Hartford

by Rob Kanehl

nificance for East Hartford, opened by their owners for anyone to visit on this May tour:

Mrs. and Mrs. D. Wills on King Street;

Mr. and Mrs. J. Egan on Springside Street;

St. John's Episcopal Church on Main Street;

Mr. Canio Toglia on Burnside Avenue;

Mr. and Mrs. M. Kilgariff on Garvan Street;

Mr. and Mrs. P. Young on Porter Street;

Mr. and Mrs. A. Hollister on Naubuc Avenue;

The Huguenot House and One/Room Schoolhouse at Martin Park;

Mr. and Mrs. M. Thoresen on Holland Lane;

The Fire Museum on Forbes Street;

Hillstown Grange on Hills Street.

The little booklet served as the passport for admission, and also contained a public 'thank you' to all the homeowners for allowing strangers to visit.

In 2025, what has changed? Of these 12 homes and buildings most are still available to admire for one driving past. One is actually up for auction this month.

Located on Springside

Street, the home is traced back to Colonel William Pitkin, the son of Governor William Pitkin. It is described in the booklet as a saltbox design with an 'ell'. The booklet dates its construction between 1750 and 1760.

"The main house is of superior framing and detailed construction and four of the original rooms have fine mid-eighteenth century paneled wainscoting." The booklet states, as well as noting "Connecticut Roses" carved in the pilasters. The 1983 owners were said to be 'restoring the property to its Colonial state.'

Over the years (not just the 42 since the tour) the structure has witnessed many changes, from its beginnings as a single-family dwelling, to being lifted and dismantled to move to its current location. Time found it used as offices for a fertilizer factory and for tobacco storage.

Today, once again, it is a residence. Time for a new owner to either maintain its character - or change it to fit the needs of the times.

Asking my non-history oriented wife if we should bid, and she replied 'we already have a home with a scary fieldstone basement with tree trunks serving as house beams.' She's right. Why start anew.

The reader will note that East Hartford will be 250 years old in 8 short years: 2033. AI now quickly informs that is known as a 'Semiquincentennial'. But it can also be referred to as a 'Sestercentennial' or 'Quarter Millennial'. I don't know about you, but I favor 'Quarter Millennial'. They better not name it after our bygone era - that of the penny.

Businesses: Take advantage of the Job Bank

The Seniors Job Bank, the nonprofit community resource that connects people over 50 seeking paid work with businesses and households looking for workers, has expanded its service to include volunteer positions. With over 1100 registered jobseekers, many of whom have expressed a strong desire to give back, this new service provides a valuable opportunity for organizations in need of dedicated volunteers.

As part of our ongoing mission to serve both seniors and the broader community, SJB now invites non-profits and other organizations to post

their volunteer opportunities on our platform. This service is designed to foster connections between experienced individuals looking to volunteer and organizations that can benefit from their skills and dedication.

"We've seen an increasing number of our jobseekers express interest in volunteering as a way to stay active, engaged, and give back to their communities," said Robin Clare, Executive Director of SJB. "This new feature is a win-win for both our seniors and the organizations they support. It allows us to expand our impact while also providing meaningful op-

portunities for our jobseekers."

Organizations interested in posting volunteer opportunities can do so by visiting our website and clicking on the "Recruit Volunteers for Your Organization" tab. This simple process will enable you to connect with passionate and skilled individuals eager to contribute their time and expertise to causes that matter.

We encourage nonprofits and organizations to take advantage of this new service. The Seniors Job Bank is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping seniors remain active, engaged, and financially secure.



East Hartford Farmers' Market Returns!

Tuesdays, July 8 - Oct 28
2 PM - 4:30 PM

Town Green, East Hartford
1047 Main Street



Benefits Accepted:

- SNAP (and we double!)
- WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program
- Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program

For more
information, visit:
www.easthartfordct.gov/farmers-market



EAST HARTFORD HIGH - CLASS OF 2025



Society

EH LIONS CLUB INSTALLS OFFICERS



THE EAST HARTFORD LIONS CLUB installed their officers for the 2025-2026 year on Tuesday, June 10, at Hillstown Grange. First Row, from left to right, Marie Barrett - 2 Year Director, Eileen Driscoll - President, Leydi Vasquez - Membership Co-chair, Gladys Rivera - 1st Vice-President. Second Row - Suresh Thambirajah 1 Year Director, Steve Crecco - Secretary, Jill Gauthier - Membership Co-chair, Miecha Parker 1 year Director, Don Samartino - 2nd Vice-President, Linda Fenton - Treasurer, Roz White - Immediate Past President, PCC Kathy Randall - Parliamentarian.

'Made With Love' benefit

Healing Meals Community Project announced the return of its Made With Love Benefit, to be held on Tuesday, June 24 at 6:30 PM at 140 Nod Road in Weatogue. This year's Made With Love Benefit features culinary experiences by three celebrated chefs. It's "delivery angels" have delivered to 15 clients in East Hartford thus far in 2025. They served 19 East

Hartford clients in 2024 so will surpass that number in 2025.

Healing Meals Community Project has been honored to serve 89 East Hartford residents since its founding in 2016.

Tickets are \$150 and limited, and this event sells out each year. To reserve go to:

<https://healingmealsproject.org/fundraising-events/made-with-love-benefit>

AT THE LIBRARY

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE Wednesday, June 18, 5:30 – 7 p.m. The East Hartford Public Library has summer reading incentive programs with prizes for adults, teens, school-aged children and preschoolers. Registration begins on Monday, June 9 when participants can start logging their reading into our mobile-friendly online system, ReadSquared. Join us at Raymond Library from 5:30 – 7:00 on Wednesday, June 18 to sign up, meet community partners, and be entertained! For all ages. Register for a reminder. Can't make it to the kickoff? Sign up on our website, call us, or stop by the library and a librarian will assist you. The library summer reading program also counts towards the Governor's Summer Reading challenge, a project of the Connecticut State Library and the CT Dept. of Education.

JUNE 19 - SUMMER HULA HOOP PARTY at the Wickham Library Thursday, 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Move, groove, and have a blast with Bring the Hoopla—a high-energy program that uses handmade hula hoops to promote play, fitness, and creativity! You'll learn basic hula hoop techniques, play fun games, and build confidence in a supportive, encouraging environment. Perfect for children preschool through teen—everyone is welcome, and no hula hooping experience is needed. Just come ready to have fun! In the event of inclement weather, the program will move indoors. Register for a reminder.

GARDEN CLUB SCHOLARSHIP



THE EAST HARTFORD GARDEN CLUB is pleased to announce Paige Basquait of Manchester as the recipient of its 2024-2025 annual scholarship award. Paige intends on attending Stone Hill College in Easton, MA. Majoring in Environmental Science. From left: MaryClark, Karen Clark, Paige Busguait(recipient), Kate Forbes and Jean Rinaldo.

Thank you, 'Bouquet' donors

The East Hartford Woman's Club & the East Hartford Fire Department want to thank those who donated to the **2025 Springtime Bouquet for Mom** fundraiser. Through your donations, EHCW presented a check for \$590 to the Fire Department for the purchase of smoke alarms.

A flower was "purchased" in Memory of Lucy Alleano, Leslie Apostalon, Josephine Batchelder, Jane Bowen, Charlotte Bradbury, Ruth Bragg-Scollo, Camella Breton, Robin Breton, Ann Carter, Margaret Casey, Betti Collins, Winifred Conover, Natalie Daries, Ethel Davis, Mytrice Duffy, Jean Foisey, Helen Gingras, Madelyn Hanna, Alice B. Hanson, Mary Hickey, Fayella Hollister, Elizabeth Hornyak, Julia

Hornyak, Lena Stratton Hornyak, Jessie M. Hyatt, Mary Kasparian, Josephine Keegan, Viola Kehoe, Lillian Leonard, Sandra Leonard DeVino, Rosemary Leone, Virginia Lessard, Ruth Benson Matthews, Ann Mazzerno, Nora McIntyre, Eleanor McMahon, Agnes Melikian, Adrine Messikian, Milia Miner, Anna Marie O'Connell, Mary Elizabeth O'Connell, Mary O'Connell Cacchillo, Eleanor Olenick, Pat Olenick, Gloria Ostrout, Beatrice Palmer, Ann Pelligrinelli, Mary Pelligrinelli, Beverly Rinaldi, Amelia Rivers, Mary Rizzuto, Helen Robinson, Josephine Sale, Patty Schwab, Ruth Sheehan, Carmel Skehan, Rose Smith, Evelyn Sogaro, Genevieve St. Amand, Clara Stratton, Marion W. Sullivan,

Bea Thibault & Vera Wing.

A flower was "purchased" in Honor of Alexandra Austin-Grove, Caroline Battle, Angel Beaulier, Adriana Bernabeo, Ana Clara Blesso, Kimberly Breton, Diane Burnat, Monika Chamberlain, Linda Fenton, Kara Filmer, Laurie Fitzgerald, Jill Gauthier, Mary Gingras, Ellen Hart, Cathy Kay, Dolores Kehoe, Sara Kennedy, Eliza Holdbrook LeBeau, Mary Anne Leone, Mercedes McCarthy, Roberta McIntire-Shapiro, Aaliyah Miller, Lynn Anne Mourey, Theresa Mouey, Michelle Mourey-Austin, Lu Rector, Veronica Rosario, Elizabeth "Betty" Kilgariff Russell, Reagan Sundin, Julie Syptak, Leydi Vasquez, Mary Whaples, Rosamond White & Marie Zerba.



EAST HARTFORD SPORTS

Kevin Casey, a fan for all seasons

I've been a presence in the Connecticut sports media for more than half a century. After a few years as a fill-in host on two sports talk shows on WINF radio in Manchester, in the mid 70's, thanks to the efforts of legendary UCONN Huskies voice George Ehrlich, I was given my own show. I hosted the program until I moved on to become the sports director at, then, all news WPOP radio and the voice of UCONN sports on the Connecticut Radio Network.

The first regular caller to my own talk show was a freshman at Penney High School in East Hartford named Kevin Casey. At that time in my career I would

SCOTT GRAY on SPORTS

by Scott Gray



have been grateful for any callers, especially ones who became regulars, but Kevin was special.

I quickly detected that he was multi-faceted, well versed in politics, current events and, especially, sports. Even at a young age he was a sports statistician who was the equal of Bill James before anyone heard of Sabermetrics. If we ever disagreed on a statistical point I always bowed to Kevin, wisely realizing I was not his equal on the subject.

Kevin frequently showed up at high school football and basketball games George and I were calling and took up a seat behind the broadcast locations to feed me up to the minute stats. Whenever I could scrape up a few extra bucks I'd hire Kevin as an official part of our crew as a statistician and spotter. He was also a fountain of inside information on local sports teams and sports personalities. While most people working in sports have a particular strength Kevin didn't have one. He was equally strong in all sports.

One year I convinced WINF to increase our coverage of the annual Thanksgiving Race from one announcer at the start and finish line to on air spotters along the course and I hired Kevin to be one of our spotters. Though he never worked professionally in the sports media I could always count on him to take a job seriously and get it done in a professional manner. Kevin and I remained friends over the years, our paths frequently crossing on my returns to Connecticut.

I was stunned last week when I opened the *Gazette* to my column and saw Kevin's name and picture on the facing page, the Obituaries. Kevin passed away May 26th at the age of 63.

Kevin, it was a pleasure having you as my first regular sports talk caller, a greater pleasure having you as my friend.

On another subject, I would never say shopping at Cabela's in East Hartford is a mistake. It's one of my favorite stores in Connecticut and a "must stop" every time I'm in state. I did, however, make the mistake of shopping there Saturday afternoon, when the U.S. faced Turkey in a Gold Cup tune up game. Despite sitting in a monumental traffic jam it was gratifying to see the massive pilgrimage to Pratt and Whitney Stadium.

I did, after all, play a major role in getting it built.

Türkiye takes 'friendly', 2-1



EH NATIVE Patrick Agyemang attends to a corner kick Saturday.

The U.S. Men's National Team fell 2-1 to Türkiye in East Hartford, Conn., on Saturday in what was the first of two friendlies against UEFA opposition ahead of the 2025 Concacaf Gold Cup. Four players made their senior Men's National Team debuts as the young U.S. team showed an improved effort and determination against an experienced Turkish side.

The scoring started early on Saturday, as midfielder Jack McGlynn netted a goal in the first minute of the game, electrifying the crowd of 34,023. McGlynn took control of the ball off a leading pass from Malik Tillman, and just as the 21-year-old approached the box, he confidently struck from 18 yards. The shot curled off his left foot and into the far side netting away from Turkish goalkeeper Berke Özer's reach. It was McGlynn's second career international goal, while Tillman recorded his first international assist on the play.

However, Türkiye capitalized on two key moments before halftime. The Turks tallied their first goal in the 24th minute after USMNT midfielder Johnny Cardoso's attempted clearance inside the 18-yard box met the

knees of Arda Güler and was redirected into the U.S. net.

Three minutes later, Türkiye found a second goal via Kerem Aktürko lu. As the Turkish attack pressured the U.S. six-yard box, pair of low crosses failed to find their target, instead deflecting off defender Miles Robinson and into the path of Aktürko lu who finished from close range.

The U.S. found a way to halt the momentum against the experienced Turkish side and reassert themselves in the second half, yet ultimately the equalizer remained elusive. Finding space on the wings, the U.S. attackers delivered several dangerous crosses into the area. The team's best chance to level the score came on a late Tillman header, but Özer found himself well-positioned to collect.

SCORING RUNDOWN:

USA— Jack McGlynn (Malik Tillman), 1st minute: Malik Tillman got the attack started with a pass into space for Jack McGlynn on the right side. McGlynn carried the ball toward goal and unleashed a left-footed shot from distance that hit left side of the net for his second international goal. USA 1, TUR 0

TUR — Arda Güler, 24th

GAZETTE PHOTO - LAWRENCE JAGGON

minute: The ball ricocheted off of Arda Güler after a clearance attempt by U.S. midfielder Johnny Cardoso and found the back of the net. USA 1, TUR 1

TUR — Kerem Aktürkoğlu, 27th minute: Just minutes after the equalizer, striker Kerem Aktürkoğlu scored the go-ahead goal. As the Turkish attack pressured the U.S. six-yard box, pair of low crosses failed to find their target, instead deflecting off defender Miles Robinson and into the path of Aktürko lu who finished from close range. USA 1, TUR 2

Additional notes:

Four players earned their first cap including Matt Freese, Alex Freeman, Nathan Harriel and Quinn Sullivan. Freese and Freeman started while Harriel and Sullivan subbed on in the second half. At 20 years, 303 days, Freeman was the youngest player to earn his first cap under coach Mauricio Pochettino.

East Hartford's Patrick Agyemang earned his fifth cap and made his third start. He roamed the goal line aggressively but was hounded by the defense, however managed to get off one of the more decisive strikes of the second half.

OBITUARIES

Robert D. Welk, Jr., 70

Robert D. Welk, Jr., 70, of Wethersfield, passed away peacefully on Sunday, June 1, 2025. Born and raised in East Hartford, he was the son of the late Robert D. Welk, Sr. and Mary Ellen (Monroe) Welk. For the past 25 years, Bob made his home in Wethersfield. A dedicated and hard-working individual, Bob spent many years employed with NX Technologies in Windsor,



Bob Welk, Jr.

where he was known for his reliability and quiet dedication. Outside of work, Bob was a man of many interests and passions. He had a lifelong love of photography and astronomy, and spent countless evenings observing the night sky through his prized telescope.

His fascination with the stars was matched only by his enthusiasm for trains and railroads. As a proud member of The National Model Railway

Association Nutmeg Chapter, the Railroad Enthusiasts Hartford Davion and the National Railway Historical Society,

Bob found joy in learning, sharing stories, and connecting with others who

shared his interest. He is survived by his loving sister, Margaret McClure of East Hartford, and his nephew, Matthew McClure, who will miss him deeply. Relatives and friends are invited to call Today, June 12, from 4 to 7 pm at the Duksa Family Funeral Home, 20 Bonair Ave., Newington. Memorial donations may be made to the American Cancer Society at www.cancer.org.

Rachel Singer, teacher

Rachel Singer passed away on April 11th. Rachel graduated from Tech High School and went on to UMass and began teaching kindergarten in Deep River in 1948, then in East Hartford for over 30 years. She was an exceptional teacher, enjoyed knitting, gardening and shell collecting and was instru-

mental in bringing Tay-Sachs screening to the Jewish community east of the CT river in 1975. Rachel leaves her only daughter, Deborah Backman, her only grandchild, Rayna Ehrenfeld (Josh), and cherished great grandchildren, Luke & Zoey Ehrenfeld and dog Gonzo. She will be missed.

IN MEMORIAM - Judy Raffalo



Judy although you've been gone for five years you have not been forgotten and you will live in my heart until we meet again. Your children A.J., Gina, and Tracy, your stepchildren Bob Jr. and Kelly miss you along with your grandchildren Chelsea, Carly, Cahalyn, Danny, and Alexander III. You are also missed by our friends from St. Maarten; I still get calls expressing how much you are missed and loved. I know you are in Heaven with your brother Peter looking down on us.

You were to everyone a people person who always gave of yourself rather to receive from anyone. You are remembered still as the hot dog lady at the Lucky Dog cart in Newington, all the hot dogs you served at the East Hartford Little League, working for the Jimmy Fund at the Marco Polo restaurant in East Hartford driving the players from the airport for the fundraisers, the pool parties at your house, and especially remembered for the 50th birthday party you threw for me.

I finally completed our bench at the beach house, sometimes I sit there watching the sunset and I can feel you are there with me.

Enjoy the water view and sunset. Love is forever, Bob.

Brian J. McCann, 71

Brian J. McCann, 71, of East Hartford passed away on May 31, 2025. Brian was born in Hartford to William and Marie (Blaney) McCann. He grew up in East Hartford and graduated from George J. Penney High School in 1973. He went on to become a machinist and spent many years working in the trade.



Brian McCann

Although Brian had a career as a machinist, his one true passion in life was being a father. His kids were his pride and joy.

Lovingly known as "Uncle Moose" by his nieces and nephews, Brian appreciated the simple things in life. He looked forward to peaceful late-night walks, always took a walk during the first snowfall of the season, and was excited about the opening of every new food spot. He always kept up with the latest trends and world news.

A lifelong fan of the New York Giants, Brian enjoyed fol-

lowing sports almost as much as he enjoyed attending sporting events with his family. His recent trips to see the Hartford Yard Goats with his family were among his favorites.

He also looked forward to going to the Big E with his kids every year to try all the new foods. On any given afternoon, you could find him in the den watching TV, out for a drive, or downloading new music to his phone.

He was a friendly guy who introduced himself to everyone he met with his standard phrase - "Brian McCann - Nice to meet you."

Brian had a passion for hats and was always on the lookout for a fun new one to wear on special occasions. For day-to-day wear, you'd usually see him in one of his NY Giants hats, a hat from one of his kids' companies, or one from a place a family member had visited.

Brian is survived by his four

children, whom he lived every day for: Traci Pearson and her husband Tommy; Jennifer Landry; Carlie Bermani-McCann; and Andrew Bermani-McCann, along with their mother/stepmother, and Brian's friend, Cheryl Bermani-McCann.

He is also survived by his grandchildren: Morgan Landry; Zack Pearson and his girlfriend Leslie; Sara Pearson; Jacob Pearson; Makayla Rivera; and Hailey Rodriguez. His sisters, Judith Zimmerman and Linda Belanger, and his sister-in-law, Roxanne McCann, also survive him. Brian leaves behind many nieces, nephews, and other family and friends who will miss him dearly.

He was preceded in death by his father, William McCann; his mother, Marie McCann; and his brother, William "Billy" McCann.

A visitation and memorial service will be held to honor Brian on Saturday, June 21st, at 2 Rivermead Blvd., East Hartford.

Visitation will take place from 3-4 p.m. with a reception to follow.

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



Mayor Martin, Senator Blumenthal, Stew Leonard, Rose Rainville, Kim Leonard with \$5,000 check.

From Page One

million to fund water safety initiatives, according to its website.

Their foundation has provided more than \$1.5 million in Learn to Swim grants to Connecticut-based organizations, resulting in about 155,000 free and low-cost swimming lessons for children across the state, according to their website.

“What Stu and Kim have done with the tragedy that befell them in their own lives is absolutely amazing and inspiring,” Blumenthal said. “They have literally saved thousands of lives.”

On Monday, the foundation donated \$5,000 to Glenbrooke Sports, which will go toward swimming lessons in memory of Ralph Viola, who designed and maintained the facility’s pools for decades. His daughter, Rose Viola, now oversees the center.

“He was so passionate about swimming lessons,” Viola said. “There’s no telling how many children in his lifetime he taught to swim.”

According to data released by the CDC, about 40 million adults reported not knowing how to swim. More than half of adults reported never having taken a swimming lesson.

Leonard emphasized that one of the simplest things parents can do is stay alert around water and minimize distractions.

“We talked about putting cell phones down and being atten-

tive when you’re around the water,” Leonard said. “That’s one thing the young moms and dads can do that are listening.”

Leonard also stressed the importance of early swim lessons.

“Forget the swimming part of it,” he said. “All they got to do is learn to roll over on their back ... about four lessons. You will save their life.”

This press conference was held just months after the Trump administration’s decision to eliminate the CDC’s drowning-prevention team, which had worked with groups like the YMCA and American Red Cross to get at-risk kids

into swim programs.

“There is nothing partisan or political about water safety,” Blumenthal said. “There is no red or blue kind of aura to teaching kids how to swim or preventing them from drowning.”

Leonard reflected on the painful lesson that drives his family’s advocacy.

“Our son slipped in the pool when we were all here, and nobody noticed him for just that little two, three minute window, and he drowned,” he said. “Losing a son, you know, or a daughter, a little child, is probably one of the most devastating things that could happen in your life.”

AMERICA'S ORIGINAL BUTCHER
OMAHA STEAKS
SINCE 1917

All-Time Grilling Faves **SAVE 58%**

- 4 Butcher's Cut Top Sirloins (5 oz.)
- 4 Air-Chilled Boneless Chicken Breasts (4 oz.)
- 4 Boneless Pork Chops (5 oz.)
- 4 Gourmet Jumbo Franks (3 oz.)
- 4 Potatoes au Gratin (2.8 oz.)
- 4 Caramel Apple Tartlets (4 oz.)
- 1 Omaha Steaks Seasoning (3 oz.)
- 8 FREE Omaha Steaks Burgers** (4 oz.)

75432SWY separately \$240.93
SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY PRICE \$99.99

8 FREE BURGERS (\$22 value)

ORDER NOW! » OmahaSteaks.com/GrillFaves1645
1.855.375.9938 Ask for 75432SWY

Savings shown over aggregated single item base price. 8 free 4 oz. burgers will be sent to each shipping address that includes SKU 75432. Limit 2 on select items at these exclusive prices. While supplies last. Items may be substituted due to inventory limitations. Standard shipping rates will be applied and are subject to change. Minimum purchase and other restrictions may apply. Some products may not be available for sale in your area. Sales are subject to OmahaSteaks.com/terms-of-use. Expires 06/30/25. | 25M8070 | Omaha Steaks, LLC

100% GUARANTEE
Anytime

You'll love it or
your money back!

Graduates of Class of 2025

From Page One

onto the field with the mace.

EHHS Class of 2025:

Jheyimi Jared Abanto Alvarado, Anthony AcostaOsorio, Nialani Ivonne Acosta, Derrick Adjai, Javin Adji, Ophelia Dankwaa Adu, Samuel Agosto, Shadenne Shamylly Agron, Jaiyynn Alize-Marie Aguilar, Jeremiah Osei Asibey Agymang, Benya Carolina Alcantara Reyes, Ruth Meri Alcantara Reyes, Danielys M. Alera Rivera, Alexsandro Luis Alfonso, Xavier Moises Alica, Wilianys Alica-Cabezudo Jr, Catherine Patrice Allen, Shaniya Jaloni Allen, Ibrahim Cedar Amadu, Arcangel Daniel Amaro Diaz, Rahman Abdul Aminu-Jimbah, Chloe Alexis Amos, Israels Ama Duah Anane A, Esdras Nehemias Antonio Francisco, Brayan Fernando Arana Argueta, MDselin Andrea Argueta Samayoa, Tyrese Nana Asomani, Quincy Arget Atkings, Valeria Grace Ayala, Derek Kwadwo Baadu, Jezleebeth Bacchus-Vazquez, Yadiel Miguel Badillo, Luwayne Odane Bailey, McKenzie Iona Balbur, Sephora Aiven Vonne Ball, Alondra Del Carmen Balzan Perez, Anaiyah Denise Barnes A, Chelsea Keyanna Bartley, Carmelo James Bass, Michelle Leola Baumann, Jaycen Armon Belair Jr, Enoch Elijah Bell, Jaydah Ah'ryel Bell, Jayden Angel Bennett, Ethan Luis Bernal, Elianny Bido Cepeda, Cora Bonetas, Cwen Shanise Bonner McLaughlin, Aaliyah Naakwarteaki Bryhet-Owuo A, Jayden Tyree Brown, Jordyn Alexis Brown, Olivia Linda Brown, Zavion Re'ne Brown, Jenyia Raven Bryan, Isaiiah-Michael Jerome Butler, Jarellis Marie Cadiz Santiago, Nathaniel Caez, Nizel Ishan Caldwell, Amanie Christopher Campbell, Damion Alexander Campbell A, Antowne Evelio Caravallio Jr, Donna Ann Marie Carey-Lang, Zuleyma Marilu Carranza Gil, Julea Rae Casaol A, Victorya Rose Marie Cauley A, Fabio Cesaro Chavez, Gina Vanessa Chavez Chuan, Arian Jose Chavez, Samuel David Christian, Chidimma Christine, Chukwuocha, Aiden Seth Alexander Clarke, Hiralline Andrea Claudio Figueroa, Tonybel Naana Aboagye Coffie, Nya Adanna Cohen, Jaiyla Sanai Coleman, Cameron Wayne Collmore, Noelani Isabel Colon, Georgina Contreras & Julian Nathaniel Cooper, Lizmarie Annette Cora A, Priscilla Cordero, Ana Lisbel Cosme Lima, Ayla Mary Coulombe, Brianna Michelle Coyle, Anthony Brandon Cristobal, Jose Antonio Cruz Pena, Xenia Nicole Cruz Pineda, Juletsy Marie Cruz, Julianna Nicholle Cruz-Mojica, Jahziel Angel Cuadrado, Kaelen Joelle Cumento, Brooke Shanai Dacres, Hajrah Mubark Dalai, Amari Deon Daniels, Trinity Michelle Renee Daniels, Michael Adrian Davis, Tyler Kacie Davis, Ziyera Ashari Davis, Joao Victor De Bern Barrin, Gabriel Alfonso De Los Santos George, Jeremiah Antonio DeJesus, Jose Antonio DeJesus Jr, Isiah Daniel Delgado A, Oscar Daniel Deras Martinez, Carolina Diaz, Karen Daniela Diaz A, Saniyah Amelia Dickerson, Zion Tyrek Dowie, My'keem Rory James Drummond, Christopher Gene Dubay DeLaura, Mikaela Zoraida Dunn, Manuel Angel Echevarria, Jasmiea Helena-Marie Edwards, Jasmine Lamaryah Edwards, Milagros Alexa Egocheaga, Jaden Daniel Enriquez, Willmer Yael Espino Lora, Nicolas Espinoza Escarrunz, Angela Akua Essel, Jahzeel Samir Esteban Montero, Daniel Estremera IV, Tyrell Deyvne Eugene, Diego Cesar Fabian-Ramirez, Adria Isaac Figueroa, Jaylene Kioni Flecha, Jaiir Lamar Fleming, Zariah Symone Fleming, Alexis Adriel Flores, Aniyahilis Mari Flores, Selena Cecilia Flores, Nevaeh Hava Fofanah, Kimani Kalonji Foster, Lenise Anastacia Foster, Sade Cameshia Francis, Sylia Cynthia Francis, Demetri Jerome Franklin, Alroy Jahlive Freeman, Joy Brago Frimpong, Katerin Nicol Funes Caceres, Cole Leighton Gabriel S, Afrin Habib Galiwala, Tirth Parimal Gandhi, Anelisse Nayeli Garcia Gonzalez, Charly Garcia, Lenaiya Arielys Garcia, Javon Antonio Geathers, Anjono Jordan Genus, Patrick Seven-Thomas Gilbert, Juan Alfredo Gomez Salazar, Jayson Jeremiah Grades Torres, Philip Rolando Greenland Jr, Justin Alfredo Guardado, Jesus Enrique Guerra Escobar, Maria Anayeli Gutierrez Flores, Nemuel Antonio Guzman, Oswaldo Guzman S, Kyla Lynette Hamblin, Raymond Maurice Harrington II, Giovante Kenneth Harris, Jared Alexander Harris, Kenneth Elijah Lee Harris, Nashyra Blossom Harris, Odell Ivan Harris, Omari Malik Harris, Zaniyah Joelynn Harvey, Jaidon Demetri Haughton, Graci Mae Hawkins, Gerrell Antoine Hayles, Clint James Haynes, Daniella Olevette Iris Heath, Dashon Clayton Henry, Traycen Henry, Anjenie Marie Hernandez, Kaylee Marie Hernandez, Maliah Virginia Hernandez, Fredy Emiliano Hernandez-Ruiz, Kiara Nashe Herndon, Christopher Herrera Guillen, Guillermo Enrique Herrera Landaverde, Damir Warrand Hudson, Rosario Alessandra Hurtado Castro, Joshua Kelechii Ichechukwu S, Westley Griffin Jackson, Olivia Lauren John S, Alyssa Dionna Johnson, Amerie Lynn Johnson A, Dashaaria Armani Johnson, Rodney Artez Jones, Trejoure O'marion-Spencer Jordan, Cherlin Dallana Juarez Vasquez, Nerio Gabriel Justiniano Cardona, Joshua DeAndre Ka'Mal Keaton, Lushawna Alicia Kerr, Cidney Alexandra King, Nevaeh Nicole King, Simeon Emanuel Knight, Cassandra Doan Ky, Christian Lamptey Jr, Khalid Odarteye Lamptey, Beatrice Nigella Laryea, Ariana Star Lazzerow, Diane Catherine Lebron-Cubas, Briana Letrice Legg, Michael Angel Leon, Joshua Isaiiah Little, Alexis Alaine Lloyd, Laura Michel Loaliza Londono, Xavier Curtis Anthony Lockhart, Januel Lopez Serrano, Alexis Antonio Lopez, Gisselle Gabriela Lopez, Justin Deonel Lorenzo, Marcela Lozada A, Zue Stefany Lozano Vargas, Maurice Wallace Lynn, Damian

Mach S, Andre Augustus Maize Jr, Damien Allyn Maldonado, Nelson Noe Manchame Duque, Jeniah Damalia Marshall, Tatiana Makayla Marshall, Geovanni Joel Martin, LaTajnia Destanee Mabee Martin, Tristen DeChase Martin, Glibel Rubi Martinez Albanez, Diego Fernando Martinez Hernandez, Christopher Alexander Martinez Herrera, Anaira Arysha Martinez, Brenda Jamileth Martinez A, Carlos Isaac Martinez, Giovanni Roberto Martinez, Isis Liara Martinez, Jorge Martinez, Mason Byron Martinez, Taniz Anastacia Martinez, Jarelys Fidelina Martinez-Fuentes, Connor Jacob Mason, Italia Anuscha Mason, iviuiacii iviuiacii iviDiue ill, Jalani Owen McDonald, Tani Marie McClashan, Scarlett Rose McKennie S, Eric Simon McMillan, ZanT Stacia Meade, Sebastian Leo Medina Soria, Riana Marie Medina, Raymi David Mejia Paulino, Sionesty Mejias, Angelo Cenuel Mendez, Jaeckez Eiedel Mendez, Hayden Hector Mendoza, Alissia Taina Mercado, Teniyah Denise Mighty, Joyanet Nuria Minter, Jorge Eliseo Miranda & Dylan Alexander Mojica, Ricardo Noel Molina, Sabino Morales Dorado Jr, Melki Rubi Morales Calvez, Francis Marie Morales Santos, Xavier Lucien Morales, Kelvin Daniel Moran Recinos, Nataleena Alexis Moudratty, Toryann Makyla Mullings, Sharifa Adam Neini, Rayon Riquelme Newman, Kayleigh Vandy Ngov, Britney Nguyen, Parris Milan Nicely, Julissa Nichole Nicholson, Esteban Nieves-Rivera, Sanai Nicole Nijel, Luis Cerardo Nunez Jr, Ezekiel Oduro, Janelly Melissa Oquendo, Johnny Alexander Orellana, Derek Jandriel Ortega Rivera, Keira Ljzania Ortiz Otavalo, Anaria Serenity-Marie Ortiz, Jayden Lennix Ortiz, Jeremias Mawuto Ortiz, Keondre Elijah Owens, Truly Owusu, Abdiel Pacheco-Bernard, Keyla Pamphile, Ericka Yamileth Paredes Landaverde, Adrian Eran Paredes, Julian Zavior Paredes, Pari Parikh, Damion Recaldo Parker Jr, Riley James Pederzani, Joao Lucas Pereira Silva, Yezion Josue Perez Garcia, Erick Alexander Perez Jimenez, Fatima Anelly Perez Villegas, Alex Luis Perez, Cynthia Eire Perez, Carlton Barry Perkins Jr, Tuan Kiet Pham Lam, Cherish E. Phifer, Thanakon Phisowang, Bianca Pineda Flores, Ever Esai Pineda Perez, Jennissa LJlJa Pinthieire, Nevaeh Daviana Pinto, Tequan Omari Fitter, Brade De Jesus Polanco Diaz, Harrison Antonio Polanco, Avery Josiah Porter, ixaciL ruiuiyuu wuncs, Camila Sofia Quinones, Joshua Albeiro Quispe Bocanegra, Alyssa Monet Rabb, Ayesha Sadik Mohamad Rahe-manwala A, Iy'sus Purcell Raines, Ariel Neveah Ralph, Yaritza Lee Ramirez Ortiz, Jeisser Johan Ramirez, Loriannee Pauleth Ramos Ortiz, Dennis Ramos Suarez, Abryanna Marie Ramos, Eva Miranda Ramos, Thomas Ramos Jr, Mark Chrystopher Rea Ortiz, Maylin Yeseli Recinos Reyes, Oswaldo Guadalupe Recinos, Teshura Tracyann Reid, Haitlee Elenah Resto, Martin Enrique Reyes Orta, Aslin Dayani Reyes Ulloa, Faith Marie Reyes, Jasmari Reyes, Leland Eugene Reynolds A, Luiz Felipe Ribeiro Totola, Jaliyah Michelle-Leslie Rios, Elysa Azaniah Richards, Nahiera Rioja Ribera, Amari Evett Rios, Josarie Candelario Rios, Yaneliz Rios, Felicia Viola Ritchens, Xayier Rivera Diaz, Eric Samuel Rivera Torres, Angel Rafael Rivera, Liana Rivera, Cody Mathew Leon Roberts, Drayvn Isiah Roberts, Daran Tristan Robinson, Jordan Jonathan Robinson, Andre Gianni Rodriguez, Daniel Jose Rodriguez, Dantes Raul Rodriguez, Emily Marie Rodriguez, Jaiden Horacio Rodriguez, Jenessia Liz Rodriguez, Joshua Adriel Rodriguez, Kayleen Anahy Rodriguez, Taymarie Liz Rodriguez, Sebastian Matias Rojas Asencio, Yohairo Ismael Rolon Burgos, Xavier Manuel Rolon Jr, Natalie Kashmire Rosa, Thomas Allen Ross, Anthony Rotaru-Barac, Jenica Annalise Russo, Javion Lee Ryals, Evan Pal Salami, Ana Isabel Salinas Correa, Anna Elizabeth Sanchez, Vanessa Sanchez, Sheyliann Santana Lebron, Jesus Manuel Santana, Yadielvys Nahir Santhia Sanchez, Sarai Santos Ortiz, Yaneth Del Carmen Saravia Cruz, Sabrina Pinamang Sarfb, Ethan Amankwa Sargeant, Joy Elizabeth Scheer, Nathan Francis Schroeter & Daniel Paul Senior, Brandon Myles Shannon II, Elijah Jakhi Sherman, David Santiago Sifuentes, Nazaree Paden Simms, Jayden Lovell Simpson, Emaily Cassandra Singh, Jaiden Deron Skipper, Khaliya Imani Smith, Assir Eljihad-Thomas Snell, Curtis William Sorensen, Dylan Travis St John, Dereon Makai Steele, Juan Romeo Sunux Reyes, Xavier Alexander Tasayco, Kayla Maria Tavares A, Mariah Joy Luz Taylor, Serenity Autumn Teasley, Daniel Anthony Telfer, Darian Antonio Telfer, Tajuan Tyreke Temple, Eliana Marie Tena A, Briseis Zaniah Terrero, Ashley Rihanna Thezan, Earl Andre Thompson, Kaydrian Sashawna Thompson, Temera Tassia Thompson, Ava Destiny Thorns, Nyasia Rayahanna Thorns, Nathan Gregory Tipton, Isamerlays Maria Torres Pratts, Thompson Tran S, Jaysen Trong Truong, Rishabandun Tumma, Dillon John Ursin, Neishawn Qualle Valentine, Andrew Jowell Vargas-Goiococha, Galexis Alize Vazquez Santana, Miguel Yandel Vazquez, Bryan Velasquez, Matthew Velazquez, Justin Fabian Victorin, Gabriella Bianca Vidal, Danilo Estefano Villalobos Maytaahuari, Juan Carlos Villanueva Martinez, Christian Villanueva, Allison Edith Villegas S, Elijah Jordan Camilo Volmar, Isaiiah Dontell Waden, Xavier William Walker II, Jenna Patricia Walton, Tristan Jermaine Walton, DeMetris Lee Warren, EmaneeKi-NisaWatkins, Ja'Kari Shamar Weaver, Dallas Daniel West, Caden Thomas Williams, Dazzanay Ethesia Williams, Imani Monet Williams, Isaiiah Mekhi Williams, Nadia Rose Williams, Sahmyah Rshae Williams, Elijah Mandel Wilson, Sherdae Kristian Wilson, Tah'Jon Isaac Wilson, Tanaira Diane Wilson, Stephanie Isakor Yankson, Sydniee Ronnae-Zacatellec Yebaoth, Ashley Michelle Zacatellec-Chinchilla, Lityana Rose Zaiakarite and Fernando Jose Zea Sanchez.

Local Services You Can Trust

L & L LANDSCAPING, LLC
 QUALITY WORK - REASONABLE RATES
Spring & Fall Cleanups
 Shrub & Tree Removal
 Mulching · Stones
 Pruning · Brush Clearing
 Dethatching · Paver Walkways
 Sidewalk Edging · Patios & Retaining Walls
"LICENSED & INSURED"

Call Chris: 860-644-2595

Rob Rosa
 EAST HARTFORD'S CARING REALTOR
 Call or text: 860-558-2122
<http://CTRealEstateSelling.com>
"I live in town, too!"

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HOMESERVICES | **NEW ENGLAND PROPERTIES**

FREE ESTIMATES FULLY LICENSED

JR MASONRY EXPERTS

SIDEWALKS · PATIOS · BRICK · STAIRS · JUNK REMOVAL
 CONCRETE REPAIRS · CHIMNEYS · PAINTING
203-401-1976
Jrmasonryexperts@gmail.com

Got Stumps



Stump Grinding Call Dwayne - Ed Manager
860-670-6293

BRUCE LITVINCHYK **860-646-3425**

 **B & L ENTERPRISES**

TREE REMOVAL · STUMP GRINDING
 TREE CARE · BRUSH AND FIELD MOWING

CT LIC. #2176 LICENSED ARBORIST

Interior & Exterior
 Texture / Wallpaper Removal
 Cabinet Painting

 **Jake's Painting & Power Washing**

Licensed & Insured
 HIC.0701317

Call today for a free estimate
(860) 878-7777

Consumer Cellular®

BIG WIRELESS COVERAGE, WITHOUT BIG WIRELESS COST.

Plans start at just \$20/month.

Switch & Save Today.
833-654-2028

Gazette
 Classified
 Ads. They
 work for you.
 E-MAIL TO:

ADS@EHGAZETTE.COM



Let your loved ones care for you - and get paid!

Funded by Medicaid,
 choose FAMILY or FRIENDS
 as your paid caregiver.
Your caregiver gets paid same day!

 **OVER 5,000 5-STAR REVIEWS!**

 **FreedomCare**
 COMPASSION · INDEPENDENCE · CHOICE

Find out if you are eligible today.
CALL 855.267.6776

WHERE THE ACTION IS!

BY CORINNE HORAN

SOCIAL DANCE TUESDAYS AT FIRST CHURCH: Gentlemen, It's Time to Become James Bond! Imagine walking into a room with confidence, charm and style - just like James Bond. What's his secret? Presence. Poise. And the ability to sweep a lady off her feet. Tuesday Nights, First Congregational Church, 837 Main, Lessons 7 and 8, dance 9 p.m.

JUNE 14: OPEN HOUSE at the Huguenot House, Martin Park, 1 and 4 p.m. Take a guided tour of our town's 1761 Makens Bemont House. Guests can also visit the 1821

Goodwin Schoolhouse and 1850 Burnham Blacksmith Shop. Complimentary brochures, post cards and other merchandise half price.



JUNE 14: COMMUNITY TAG SALE: All Saints Church, 444 Hills St., Annual Community Tag Sale takes place June 14 from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. This is a great way to meet your East Hartford neighbors while clearing out your home of unwanted, unnecessary or surplus possessions. There is no charge to vendors to set up a table or two in a 10-foot by 10-foot space. Parking is free, and - best of all - delicious lunch is available for nominal fee or to take home. Come and enjoy a wonderful Flag Day with us! Rain date is June 21. To reserve a free space, text or call 860-490-3270 and leave a message.

JUNE 14: THROUGH THE GARDEN GATE TOUR - Grab your hat and join Perennial Planters Garden Club of Manchester for their biennial garden tour. See six diverse, beautifully designed and landscaped private sanctuaries, pocket-sized gems to large, manicured plantings. Visit an inspiring vegetable garden and meditation garden, fairy garden, beach glass stream. \$25 in advance. https://www.manchester-gardenclubs.org/perennial_planters.htm

JUNE 14 - SYMPHONY IN THE PARK, Bushnell Park bandshell, Hartford, 2 p.m. Featuring Carolyn Kuan, conductor, the Hartford Symphony Orchestra, Michael Sigal, violin, the 2024 Young Artist Competition Winner, Schauntice Shephard, soprano and the Hartford Gay Men's Chorus. In case of rain, concert will take place at The Bushnell.

JUNE 14: NOOK FARM LAWN PARTY adjacent to Twain House, 11 a.m. til 3 p.m. Free.

JUNE 15 - FATHER'S DAY BEHIND THE SCENES TOUR & MINI GUEST MOTORMAN DAY AT THE CT TROLLEY MUSEUM in East Windsor - Get an exclusive look at our ongoing restoration and maintenance projects—including the incredible 123-year-old Connecticut Company Car #3001. You will also enjoy a guided tour of the Fire Truck Museum's restoration work and explore areas of the museum grounds usually closed to the public. Enhance your visit with our Mini Guest Motorman Experience—just \$25! Step behind the controls and operate a trolley under the guidance of our expert motormen. Each Motorman Experience includes a commemorative 85th Anniversary Pin and a 75th Anniversary Legacy Pin. Available at 10 AM and 1 PM. \$13. Dads and granddads free when accompanied by a paying adult. FMI www.ct-trolley.org or call 860-627-6540.

FRIDAY, JUNE 20, BOOK TALK. Author Joyce Carol Oates will be at the Mark Twain House at 7 p.m. Tickets, \$45.

sold all day for eat-in or to-go. See you there! Admission to the Fair is free.

JUNE 21 -Bluegrass with Amy Gallatin and Stillwaters at South Congregational Church as part of their Mosaics series. Stillwaters Band includes guitar, mandolin, fiddle, banjo and bass, and blends seamlessly with her heartfelt vocals and harmonies, creating a unique style of country and bluegrass music. All concerts begin at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$20 each, at the door, or in advance online at mosaicconcerts.com. FMI 860-568-5150.

JUNE 24, TROUBLE BEGINS at 7 p.m. at the Twain House off Farmington Avenue in Hartford with a lecture, "ENOUGH IS ENUF: OUR FAILED ATTEMPTS TO MAKE ENGLISH EASIER TO SPELL" Tickets \$10 - \$33.

JULY 13: FAMILY FUN DAY at Dunkin' Stadium in Hartford with traditional baseball as played in the 1800s starting with a 1 o'clock game against the historic baseball club The Providence Grays. The Rhode Island base ball team will square off against The Tunnelmen from Lisbon, Conn. Teams will play by 1884 National League rules, which includes a 6-ball, three strike count on the batters, called zones, and no gloves. Games, crafts, inflatables, and mascots; \$10 at yardgoatsbaseball.com.

CENTRAL CONNECTICUT HORSESHOE CLUB has moved to 50 Oakland St. (off Park Avenue). Interested in playing horseshoes indoors? E-mail debbiescully@comcast.net; or call 860-778-1057.

VETERANS COFFEE HOUR at the Senior Center, 15 Milbrook Dr., 10 a.m. third Tuesday of the month. For East Hartford residents only.

MY SISTERS' PLACE: To help provide affordable housing and services for families mail donations to: Community Housing Advocates, 221 Main St., 4th Floor, Hartford, CT 06106. FMI call 860-808-2048.

FOSTER FAMILIES needed for children in DCF care in every town. FMI or to register for a meeting, contact Annie C Courtney Foundation at 475-235-2184. Annie C works with the Dept. of Children and Families to find foster parents for over 3,000 children. FMI see www.anniec.org

INTERVAL HOUSE helps victims of domestic violence, advocacy, legal rights. 860-527-0550.

PROJECT LINUS delivers blankets to local hospitals. We are always looking for people to donate handmade quilts or afghans. Blankets need not be fancy, just colorful and washable, any size, receiving to twin. To donate call 860-649-5513.

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP at Riverside Health & Rehab Center meets the second Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m., 745 Main St. Facilitated by Scott Ginter. RSVP: 860-289-2791.

Do you own
a single family home,
multi-family or small
apartment building?
I need inventory!
'Call Felix First.'

#1 LOCAL REALTOR; #9 AGENT IN CT

860-652-4521

INSTAGRAM: @felixduverger_realtor

FACEBOOK: @felixduvergerrealtor

felixduverger.bhhsNEproperties.com



FREE SWIM LESSONS - Glenbrooke Outdoor Sports Center, 429 Oak St., is offering free swim lessons in memory of Ralph J. Viola who believed every kid should know how to swim. The Red Cross Certified swim lessons in the evenings for ages 3 and up Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Email roseviola66@gmail.com or call 860-682-8265.

JUNE 21: RIVERFRONT AREA AND NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN UP with the US & Japan Society of CT, at 235 East Riveer Drive. Join us for weeding, replanting, and trimming shrubs of mini-gardens, and sweeping the shoulder and sidewalk under the Founders Bridge near the Racial Equity Mural, 10 a.m to noon. Wear casual work clothes & closed-toe shoes, gardening gloves, mask etc. Bring shovels, shears and outdoor brooms.

JUNE 21: STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL at South Congregational Church, 1301 Forbes St., 10 AM - 2 PM. Boutique with handcrafted jewelry, items for gift giving. Pick up a treat at the baked goods table or find the perfect houseplant at the plant sale. If you're feeling lucky, buy a couple of raffle tickets. Get lunch at the Chuck Wagon - hamburgers, cheeseburgers, hot dogs and more. Have fun playing outdoor games with your kids. Don't leave without strawberry shortcake, made with from-scratch biscuits and real whipped cream. Shortcake will be