

The Gazette

VOLUME 140, NO. 22

Thursday, June 5, 2025

Crafted from the finest local ingredients since 1885

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Board honors its own

By Robert Kanehl

It was a night of recognition for the final Board of Education meeting of the school year.

The first award of the evening actually was for the whole school system. The Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE) presented East Hartford with its 2025 Bonnie B. Carney Award of Excellence for Education Communication. The district was cited for its newsletter as well as a middle school communication project.

The Board then honored volunteers and school community leaders. In all 27 volunteers and one dog from across the district were recognized. Each school principal presented their honoree to the Board highlighting the activities their awardee had performed for their schools. The volunteers were given a certificate and an East Hartford sports bag thank you. The following were named:

CT IB ACADEMY: Dr. Shilpa Choudhary; Melissa Combs

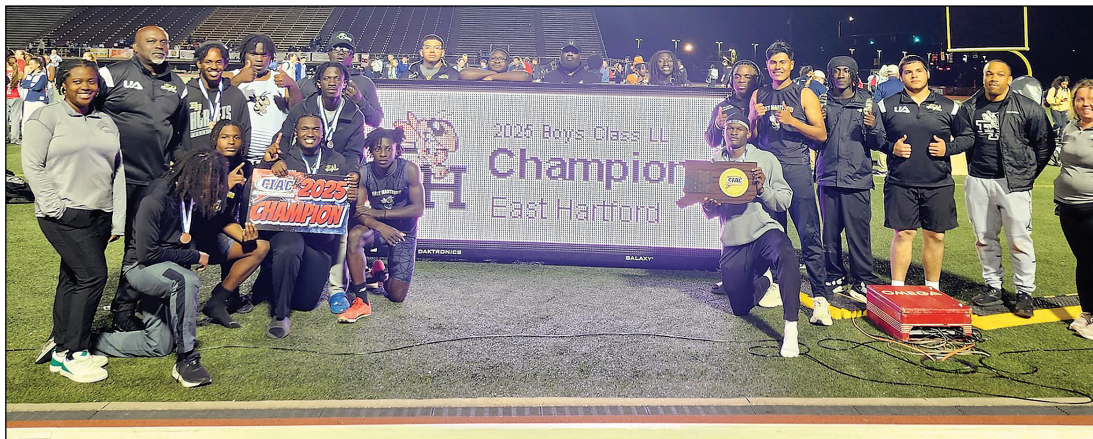
EAST HARTFORD HS: Rebecca Johansen; Carrie McKenzie

EAST HARTFORD MS: Cynthia LaDuca; Nikiesha Gibson

Early Childhood Learning Center: Beatriz Frausto; Mal-

SEE PRINCIPALS, p 10

EHHS BOYS TRACK - CLASS LL STATE CHAMPS



THE EAST HARTFORD BOYS Track Team scored 79 points at New Britain's Willow Brook Park to top Norwich Free Academy's 66 and capture the first state Class LL title for the Hornets since 1990. **Story, Page 8.**

Connecting, stitch by stitch

By Bill Doak

Colorful machines and boxes of bright thread, piles of fuzzy fabric, embroidered stars and patterns being cut. Shoran Graham, who learned her skill as a London tailor, moves from table to table at his shop at 50 Main Street offering a soft suggestion here, or a pointer there as girls concentrate on their projects.

Aaliyah Milleer, 8, from East Hartford is making a robe out of yellow and white material. She bends the fabric as her machine makes a stitch.

Claire Eichelberger, 9, arrived with her own machine and a big box of thread. She has her project well underway while Graham observes from a distance.

Kimora Bennett, 16, is finishing up a pair of pants she made with silver stars on the legs.

"There are plenty of clubs at

SEE SEWING CLASSES, pg 10



Claire Eichelberger with her sewing machine.

Town Green Festival June 14

by Cathy Maldonado

Secretary of State Stephanie Thomas will be one of the featured speakers at East Hartford's 4th annual Juneteenth celebration June 14 on the Town Green.

Festivities, which include music, dancing, games and food, begin at 11:45 a.m. Thomas will address the crowd at 2 p.m.

Juneteenth, a federal holiday, is marked annually on June 19 to commemorate the ending of slavery in the United States. The holiday's name, first used in the 1890s, is a portmanteau of the words "June" and "nineteenth", referring to June 19, 1865, the day when Major General Gordon Granger ordered the final enforcement of the Emancipation Proclamation in Texas at the end of the American Civil War.

Today it offers an occasion to celebrate the journey and achievement of African Americans everywhere. Along with reminders of the pain of oppression are stories of pride, resilience, determination and hope.

All are invited to join in this

SEE JUNETEENTH, pg 10

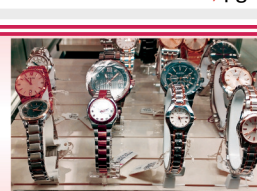
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AROUND TOWN

Six teachers win fellowships

Six East Hartford Public Schools teachers have been awarded Fund for Teachers grants to pursue their self-designed fellowships this summer — that's \$30,000 in professional development that the district doesn't have to cover AND it's unique to the students these educators teach.

Here's what their experiential learning will look like this summer...

Wendy Oakes | J. O. Goodwin Elementary School and Eric Weingarten | Franklin H Mayberry Elementary School

Study the art of storytelling in Scotland and Ireland by attending the Fringe Festival in Dublin to cultivate students' creative writing and oral telling of personal stories, as well as their appreciation of, and discourse on, deeper connections to literary and cultural traditions.

Hiba Sarfraz | Sunset Ridge Middle School

Research Singapore's innovative approaches to environmental conservation and urban planning supporting its Green Plan in 2030 to teach about the

world's sustainability practices and what humans can do to protect our environment for future generations.

This fellowship is funded through the generous support of the Maxwell/Hanrahan Foundation.

Christopher Sparks & Todd Szwed | East Hartford High School

Research across Cambodia the conditions that allowed genocide to unfold, its long-term effects on the economy, politics, and mental health, and how a culture can survive and flourish in the wake of such atrocity. And,

Jennifer Toledo | East Hartford High School

Use Puerto Rico as a case study for how climate change is affecting regions such as the Caribbean, Central, and South America, to demonstrate for students (many of whom emigrated from these regions) the real-time impacts of climate change on places that they know.

This fellowship is funded through the generous support of the Maxwell/Hanrahan Foundation.

NO RUST ON THESE IRON HORNETS



EAST HARTFORD HIGH SCHOOL held its Iron Hornet obstacle race in the rain May 22 with dozens of students and teachers competing to raise money to help the Disabled American Veterans Unknown Soldier Chapter 12. Students made a display to honor EHHS Staff Sergeant Frank J. Tedesco, EHHS Class of 1941, who was just identified and buried in Arlington April 23, 2025.



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CLASSIFIEDS

ESTATE SALE - SATURDAY, JUNE 7 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. 168 Britt Road, East Hartford. Furniture, household items, collectables, etc. Rain or shine.

LIGHT MAINTENANCE / PERFECT FOR SEMI-RETIREES Maintaining commercial properties, outside cleaning, light repairs, painting, etc. 15-20 hr./week 860-881-7479

Gazette Classifieds get results. E-mail to ads@ehgazette.com

DESDE LA ESQUINA

by Carmen Maldonado

De fiesta en Junio

Junio es un mes que no solo te da la entrada al verano y a la despreciada temporada de huracanes, junio es un mes lleno de celebración. Es el mes que te trae la celebración del orgullo LGBTQ+, la parada puertorriqueña en Nueva York, el Día de Padres, Juneteenth, y si quieres seguir celebrando, junio te trae mi cumple.

No importa que celebres, este mes es un recordatorio de que, aunque nuestras historias son diversas, nuestros corazones laten por lo mismo; justicia, reconocimiento, amor, y la libertad de ser quienes somos.

Porque, aunque nuestras experiencias sean distintas, todos anhelamos lo mismo: ser vistos, ser valorados, ser libres. Este mes nos recuerda que la diversidad no nos separa, nos enriquece. Que celebrar al otro no resta, sino que multiplica. Y que las verdaderas victorias, las que dejan huella, son las que se comparten.

Junio nos enseña que, en este mundo, hay espacio para todos (me emocione escribiendo aquí, pero tu entiendes el mensaje).

Así que, en medio de las celebraciones, de los desfiles y las memorias que no se nos olvide lo esencial; estamos aquí para darnos la mano los unos a los otros y celebrar nuestras victorias. Porque a la hora de la verdad, unidos somos más, y este mundo está muy algarete como para tener más comunidades divididas.

Próximo:

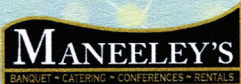
Ven y celebra Juneteenth en East Hartford el 14 de junio desde las 11:00am hasta las 4:00pm en el Town Green, 1047 Main st. Ven y disfruta junto a tu familia de música, entretenimiento y aprende de la historia que nos moldea. La entrada es gratis.

¡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



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Legislation promises to lower electric bill

Gov. Ned Lamont said he will soon sign into law legislation that takes a step forward in reducing electric bills, delivering Connecticut consumers nearly \$400 million in annual savings, as well as laying the groundwork for longer term reductions in public benefits charges and cuts in supply, delivery, and transmission fees.

The legislation is Senate Bill 4, An Act Concerning Energy Affordability, Access and Accountability. It is the result of a collaboration between the Lamont administration and Democratic and Republican lawmakers. It was approved in the Senate yesterday by a vote of 34 to 1, and in the House of Representatives this evening by

a vote of 144 to 3.

"Like many people, I think electric bills are too damn high, and this bipartisan bill is a first step in addressing a complex issue that is the result of policy decisions made years ago by legislators in both parties that have continued to impact our utility rates," Governor Lamont said. "I want to be clear - this legislation is one step in the effort to make energy rates more affordable and we should not stop here. This legislation is the result of cooperative input, and I am encouraged that we can continue taking additional steps that will lower electric bills further. I thank Democrats and Republicans in the General Assembly for approving this leg-

islation and I will sign it into law when it is transmitted to my desk. Let's keep doing more to reduce electric rates."

The savings achieved in the legislation are in addition to the recent 25% reduction in the public benefits charge that the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA) approved in the May 2025 rate adjustment mechanism and to the upcoming 13% reduction in supply rates on July 1, 2025.

As required under legislative rules, now that the bill has been approved by the General Assembly it will be transmitted to the nonpartisan Legislative Commissioners' Office for engrossing and supervision of printing in its final form.



SENIOR YARD SUPPORT

East Hartford Health & Human Services and The Commission on Aging

Attention all East Hartford Senior
Residents who may be physically
unable to perform Spring yard clean-
up activities!

This program will provide volunteers that will do general
yard cleanup, such as raking, weeding, and clearing debris
from the yard.

Eligibility Criteria:

1. Persons 55+ years of age and older
2. Currently an East Hartford resident and owns a property where a front and/or back yard is in need of clean-up
3. Experiencing barriers that limit the ability to receive assistance for yard clean-up and maintenance, including:
 - Underlying health conditions or disability that limits mobility and ability to perform yard clean-up activities
 - Social isolation (lives alone, no family in the area that can assist with yard clean-up);
 - Low-income, financial limitations, and barriers to hiring yard clean-up services (Limited financial supports, such as food assistance, social security, or disability benefits)

TO CONFIRM ELIGIBILITY AND TO
REGISTER, PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE



This is a new pilot program, we will try to accommodate all needs based on availability, depending on volunteers. This volunteer service might be delayed and might not happen on Spring.

For more information email
socialservices@easthartfordct.gov or call
860-291-7248

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EDITORIAL

Tragic shooting aggravated by social media ignorance

June is a month full of fledging birds and all the new growth that comes with late spring. In the nesting box outside, the baby birds chirp loudly each time the adults take rotating turns popping into view with a grub in their beak. Ducklings huddle by their mother, paddling as one downy fleet along the river bank. A prom-filled month leads up to high school graduation where our town's finest product, its young adults, shine as they walk across the stage.

June is an auspicious month; for that reason, it is also a tragic time. It is month of dreams so close they seemed already realized; just teasingly within reach but fleetingly gone in an instant. The loss of a young man in an accidental shooting on Main Street Sunday morning is one such tragedy.

And as social media echoes with comments quick to condemn what happened and offer simplistic and heartless explanations, the tragedy is compounded for that young man's family at a time when they are already devastated and hurting.

Is this the society we have become?

In an attempt to take control of the narrative - really, in response to commentary by people who don't know what they were talking about - the mayor ordered the release of police bodycam footage. At Tuesday's Town Council meeting he told the public that this fatal shooting "is being treated as a suicide." At some point there will be the release of an official investigation. Until then, what? Each of us divides into liberal or conservative points of view?

At some point the piling on of remarks such as "Play stupid games, win stupid prizes" ceases to be witty, sardonic or amusing to the mother of

a dead child. Or do those making such remarks on television station news websites such as Channel 3 believe the hundreds of posted remarks ease the pain she feels or will aid in the raising of her other children?

It is a human tragedy, one stemming from the stark divide in our society. No, not the online hate but the daily life we see in Hartford and East Hartford and pretend not to see. The life of being a teenager, surrounded by temptations and the allure of flash and cash; the fast life that is a false illusion. It is a too human condition, one Shakespeare wrote about in the urban world of Romeo and Juliet.

"We see the ground whereon these woes do lie;

but the true ground of all these piteous woes we cannot without circumstance descry."

In Verona, where he set his scene, young men carried swords and knives, and as happenstance place mortal family enemies in ordinary places, conflict was quick and tragic all around and outside of the tragedy of the love story. We have the play, not the bodycam footage. Unlike our reliance on bits of information and an incomplete story, in a 425-year-old play we see the logic that leads to what would be - spoiler alert, or as television news so often warns-teases, the following scenes some viewers may find disturbing - the penultimate expression of love by two young people that most find unmistakably tragic.

East Hartford Police did what they were trained to do, and they did it right. Thankfully our officers were safe and they, too, had to endure the circumstances involved with this tragic accident.

Tragedy is the right word. We should find the

chain of events that resulted in the death of a 17-year-old bright light tragic. No Montague or Capulet, but a child of our community, a church, a family which loved him, a brother and son cherished for his easy-going spirit, a gentle giant who loved to sing and tease. A man-boy a year younger than those who we just honored on Memorial Day. No war hero, but does a grave know?

We do not know how he came to possess a stolen firearm. But jumping to conclusions is not helpful. This young man's world was beckoning outside his nest one moment, and then was gone forever, tragically cut short by a mishandled gun at the end of a series of preventable events.

Perhaps we could reflect on words written long before social media made our world so advanced noting that is not to say it is a better world:

Sonet 34

By William Shakespeare

*Why didst thou promise such a beauteous day,
And make me travel forth without my cloak,
To let base clouds o'ertake me in my way,
Hiding thy bravery in their rotten smoke?
'Tis not enough that through the cloud thou break,*

*To dry the rain on my storm-beaten face,
For no man well of such a salve can speak
That heals the wound and cures not the disgrace;*

*Nor can thy shame give physic to my grief;
Though thou repent, yet I have still the loss:
The offender's sorrow lends but weak relief
To him that bears the strong offence's cross.*

Ah! but those tears are pearl which thy love sheds,

And they are rich and ransom all ill deeds.

Senior Spring Yard Support Program welcomes residents, volunteers

The town Commission on Aging and Dept. of Health & Human Services invites seniors who qualify, to participate in the Spring Senior Yard Support Program. The purpose of this program is to assist East Hartford seniors, who are experiencing financial and / or physical barriers with front and/or back yard clean-up.

Volunteers will do general yard clean-up, such as raking,

weeding, and clearing debris from the yard. The targeted population for this program are East Hartford senior residents who may be physically unable to perform Spring yard clean-up activities, may not have the financial means to hire yard service companies, and do not have family in the area that are able to assist with yard clean-up.

Volunteer teams will be comprised of at least one adult who

will oversee the safety and clean-up assignment of assigned youth. Senior residents who are selected for the program will complete a waiver that permits volunteers on the property. All volunteers will be required to complete an East Hartford volunteer form and liability waiver.

Eligible residents can sign-up for this program by completing the PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION LINK. Residents can also

contact Senior Services at (860) 291-7460 or Youth & Social Services at (860) 291-7248 for assistance completing the form.

Residents interested in participating as volunteers for yard clean-up can register can fill out an online application.

Eligibility:
Persons 55+ years of age and older;

Currently resides in East Hartford and owns the property

where a front and / or back yard is in need of clean-up; and

Experience barriers that limit the ability to receive assistance for yard clean-up and maintenance, including:

Underlying health conditions or disability that limits mobility and ability to perform yard clean-up activities;

Social isolation (lives alone, no family in the area that can assist with yard clean-up).

Your newspaper carrier may surprise you

Did you know that meeting an old newspaper carrier may surprise you? I met my first Gazette carrier in my driveway the other day. A rather well to do business woman and neighbor of mine waved me down to say she was enjoying my writing in the Gazette.

This is strange because I do not live in East Hartford. She added that she just loved reading the paper having done so since she was a kid in town, and as a newspaper "boy." In respect to her privacy, she'll remain nameless.

She was not the first newspaper carrier I have known. I was one as a young boy in the 1960s. We had a *Hartford Courant* route. I say we, for my older brother did it a few times a week, but generally left Sunday for just me. After school I helped my best friend the Manchester Herald newsboy. But this nameless neighbor was the first newsgirl I met.

That is strange considering I was active in some of the larger papers in Maine where the circulation department was almost as big as my local news department. I can still picture the Lewiston Sun's circulation manager sitting each weekend,

DID YOU KNOW?

Looking back at East Hartford

by Rob Kanehl

begging for young people to come ask for a route. This circulation manager happened to be an old math teacher, providing a goal for my retirement.

At the Glastonbury paper, the circulation desk was the whole department, with two of the printers willing to join once a week to drop off the papers to the different stores which sold it. Most of the other papers were moved to their intended readers.

Even here at the *Gazette*, the paper is no longer walked around and dropped (I never once threw a paper) upon the front stoop. In fact, if I remember correctly, my clients demanded that the paper be placed between the storm door and the regular door, no throwing involved in that placement

act.

Today most of the papers have gone away from the school age carriers to people with cars, willing to drop off the papers at locations throughout a town or city. This job is currently being done by the editor of the *Gazette* - plus his sisters and a few dedicated carriers - each Thursday morning.

Gone are the days of my neighbor's experience asking for a dime to cover this weekly paper. "One man always told me the time, and I would have to repeat it is a dime for the paper," she joked. She didn't know that I hated going to the house she lives in now, because that person when I was a carrier had two large dogs who did not particularly like to welcome me.

Strange how our first jobs, change in appearance with the passage of time. I went on to teaching and writing, my elementary school friend recently retired as a CEO of a major retailer and my neighbor purchased an old newspaper owner's home, but still enjoys visiting her mother to see the latest *Gazette*.

Hope she still is talking to me after this column.

AG Tong: 19th suit of Trump administration

Attorney General William Tong joined a coalition of 15 other attorneys general in suing the Trump administration to stop its illegal attempts to cut critical National Science Foundation (NSF) programs and funding that help maintain the United States' position as a global leader in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM).

For Connecticut's top lawyer, this is the 19th lawsuit his office has brought against the White House.

On April 18, NSF began terminating projects focused on increasing the participation of women, minorities, and people with disabilities in STEM fields. On May 2, NSF announced that it would also cap "indirect costs" of research projects like laboratory space, equipment, and facility services at 15 percent. This arbitrary limit on indirect costs would slash millions of dollars for groundbreaking scientific research across the country, jeopardizing national security, the economy,

and public health. With this lawsuit, Attorney General Tong and the coalition are seeking a court order blocking the implementation of NSF's new directives to eliminate programs dressing diversity in STEM and cut vital funding for research and across the country.

This includes tens of millions of dollars to Connecticut's public universities for a broad array of groundbreaking research, including projects to improve storm prediction, grid resiliency, drought-resistant forest management, technological improvements to air traffic control and product delivery, support for minority students in STEM education and careers, and many more.

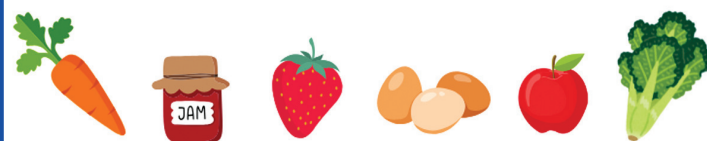
"The Trump Administration is arbitrarily and lawlessly knee-capping scientific advancement in our country. These cuts hit Connecticut hard. We're suing to stop Donald Trump from breaking the law, and to protect millions of dollars in jobs and groundbreaking scientific research nationwide," said

Attorney General Tong.

Since its creation in 1950, NSF has been an independent federal agency crucial to maintaining the United States' dominance in S

TEM. From developing artificial intelligence (AI) technology to creating innovative solutions to environmental and energy challenges, NSF-funded research at American universities is vital to addressing the nation's biggest challenges and maintaining the country's competitive edge.

NSF also has a Congressionally-mandated focus on improving diversity in STEM fields. Congress has instructed in law that a "core strategy" of NSF's work must be to increase the participation of people who have historically been left out of STEM occupations. This policy has been a success. As the coalition of attorneys general notes, between 1995 and 2017, the number of women in science and engineering occupations, or with science or engineering degrees, has doubled.



2025 East Hartford Farmers' Market

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

Town Green, East Hartford
1047 Main Street

CALL FOR VENDORS:

- Cottage Bakers
- Food Trucks
- Crafts
- Sauces, spices, canned goods

APPLY TODAY!



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



Society

Intergenerational Breakfast Saturday is hosted by Lions

The East Hartford Lions Club invites all to an Intergenerational Breakfast Saturday, June 7, from 9 to 10 a.m. at the East Hartford Senior Center, 15 Millbrook Dr.

This breakfast aims to bring together people of all ages together for food and conversation. Enjoy sandwiches, coffee, tea, juice, yogurt and fruit.

The Lions hope to strengthen community relationships and introduce residents to the work being done by Lions here in East Hartford.

"This breakfast is more than

just great food - it's an opportunity to bring generations together, share stories, and celebrate the spirit of community," said Roz White, President of the club.

Register by Friday either by visiting the Senior Center front desk or call 860-291-7460.

To make donation to the East Hartford Lions, mail to PO Box 380765, East Hartford, CT 06138 or visit them online at the Lions e-Clubhouse, http://e-clubhouse.org/sites/east_hartford/

LIONS PLANTS SELL OUT



WHO IS BEHIND MOTHERS DAY FUNDRAISING? You may have seen the East Hartford Lions selling blooms to assist in their charitable kindness work. Pictured at the Aircraft Federal Credit Union are left to right, Lions Patricia Sirois, Roberta McIntire-Shapiro, and Sally Benoit.

STILL FRIENDLY

The East Hartford High School Class of 1975 50th Year Reunion will be August 23, 2025 at Georgina's Restaurant, 275 Boston Turnpike, Bolton from 6 to 10 p.m. Join the Class of 1975 for plenty of food, music, dancing and fun. Cash bar. Cost is \$75 per person. Please remit by July 15 and make checks payable to "EHHS Class of 1975" and mail to Sue Tyska-Wood, 441 South Main St., Unit 26, Manchester CT 06040. If questions e-mail kaizenmachine@yahoo.com. Start following the class on Facebook - East Hartford High School Class of 1975.

AT THE LIBRARY

CT MUSEUM OF CULTURE AND HISTORY PRESENTS: THE HARTFORD CIRCUS FIRE

Wednesday, June 11, 6:30 p.m. In 1944, one of the worst fire disasters in American history occurred in Hartford. The circus fire has lived in the memories of survivors and the imaginations of Connecticutans ever since. In this presentation, photos and artifacts from the Connecticut Museum's collection will help tell the stories of that day. The presentation will examine the ways in which Connecticutans have continued to identify, honor, and bring justice to the victims in the intervening decades. Registration required.

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 Department 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.

Bluegrass summer at South Congregational

South Congregational Church, located at 1301 Forbes St., presents a summer of bluegrass music, as our MOSAICS Concerts series kicks off its 4th season. Tell all your friends and come on down and join us for toe-tapping, hand-clapping music by local folk and bluegrass bands. All concerts begin

at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$20 each, at the door, or in advance online at mosaicconcerts.com.

The concerts begin Sat., June 21 with Amy Gallatin and Stillwaters. Amy's Stillwaters Band includes guitar, mandolin, fiddle, banjo and bass, and blends seamlessly with her heartfelt vocals and harmonies,

East Hartford Summer Youth Festival
invites you to join
our summer musical theater
production of...

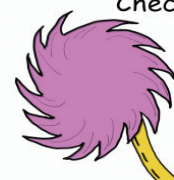


Seussical™

Rehearsals begin June 16th at
East Hartford High School
Head to www.ehsyf.org
for more info & to sign up!
Questions? Email EHSYF.inc@gmail.com



ALL are welcome to join our cast,
ages 8-adult! No experience necessary.
Check out our website
to sign up!



Show dates:
July 25, 26, & 27

EAST HARTFORD SPORTS

TPC looking good

I had a chance to visit the TPC River Highlands last week and I'm happy to report all systems are go for the Travelers Championship in two weeks.

Construction of all temporary facilities, including sponsor and retail pavilions and media facilities, is nearly 100% complete and the pre-tournament process of manicuring the course to Tour standards is well underway. As always the galleries will be well accommodated and the Travelers is prepared to maintain its status as the biggest single event on the Connecticut sports calendar and one of the "Signature" stops on the PGA Tour.

I had a chance to visit Dunkin' Park

SCOTT GRAY on SPORTS

by Scott Gray



last weekend and am happy to report it's still one of the best minor league baseball facilities in the nation. Every night they offer a family friendly bill of fare before the game that continues with fan involved promotions throughout the game.

Saturday night the Yard Goats put on a show for the fans with a 15 hit 14-5 rout of the New Hampshire Fisher Cats that got them back to .500 on the season. A light, but steady rain did little to dampen fan enthusiasm.

A night at "The Dunk" is an old fashioned baseball experience with the city skyline creating a background for the stadium, reminiscent of the great downtown ballparks in the major leagues. And every Rock Cat home run is punctuated by "Brass Bonanza", which has become one of the most prominent staples of sports arena anthems, played at venues worldwide. It gave me goosebumps to think it debuted fifty years ago just two blocks from the Yard Goats stadium.

I also had a chance to visit with Yard Goats broadcasters, and old friends, Jeff Dooley and Dan Lovullo, and am happy to report they're still one of the best listens in baseball, seamlessly and flawlessly bringing every nuance of every game to life. It's also a pleasure to report they are two of the nicest guys working in the media today. My two grandsons, pretty good budding baseball players themselves, always enjoy the Dunkin' Park experience and always look forward to spending time in the booth with Jeff and Dan. I mention that because, to me, they're every sports teams target audience.

Congratulations to West Hartford's Jack Kane, freshman third baseman at the University of St. Joseph. Jack became the first Blue Jay ever to be selected for the New England Intercollegiate Baseball Association All Star game. Jack hit .428 on the season with 27 multi-hit games, nine games with three hits or more. He was named GNAC Rookie of the Year and secured a spot on the all-conference first team.

Mark your calendars for June 28th at 11 a.m. That's when the baseball field at Eastern Connecticut State University will be named for legendary Eastern coach Bill Halowaty. The honor is long overdue. Bill led Eastern to three Division III World Series championships and was named national Coach of the Year four times while compiling more wins than any coach, in any sport, in New England collegiate history.

Congratulations Bill. The immortality is well deserved.

Hornet Track takes LL title

By Kevin Roberts

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

NEW BRITAIN — Two teams ended long state championship droughts at Monday night's Class LL outdoor track and field final at New Britain's Willow Brook Park.

The Greenwich girls scored 105 points to best second-place Glastonbury's 95 and won the first state title for the Cardinal since 1983 in Class L. Greenwich also won Class L in 1980 and 1981, and it was the runnerup in Class LL in 2016, 2019 and 2022.

Glastonbury won Class LL last year. Southington was third this year with 60 points, followed by Manchester in fourth with 56.

The East Hartford boys scored 79 points to top second-place Norwich Free Academy's 66 and capture the first state title for the Hornets since 1990.

Hall won the boys team championship last year. In third place this year was Hamden with 64 points, followed by Ridgefield in fourth with 60.

East Hartford was led by junior double-winner Davian Johnson (110 and 300 hurdles), who was also third in the triple jump. Emmanuel Frimpong was second in the 300 hurdles while Tyrell Cunningham claimed second in the discus. Isaiah Tripp was third in the 100 and fourth in the 200.

The team state championship is the second for the boys in program history.

Glastonbury senior standout Brooke Strauss owned the distance races, and as the sun set on Monday's meet, she finished off a trio of gold medals.

Strauss started her day by just getting past Conard senior

Liv Sherry in the 1,600 meters with a winning time of 4:54.40. Sherry was right behind her at 4:54.98. Sherry pushed Strauss hard again in the 800. Strauss was able to just pass Sherry in the final straightaway and won gold in 2:12.77. Sherry took silver in 2:13.17. In the 3,200, a freshman teammate, Lauren Parrett, tried to keep pace with Strauss. In the end, Strauss captured her third gold medal in 10:55.54. Parrett claimed silver in 10:56.59.

Amy's big throwing day

After NFA senior standout Chris Amy let rip his first shot put attempt, there was a collective buzz from those surrounding the throwing circle.

Amy's first toss sailed 61 feet, 7 3/4 inches, outdistancing the meet record of 60-4 3/4 thrown by Hartford Public's Melmoth Taylor in 1969. Amy had a big day with gold medals in the shot put and discus throw. Amy's next four attempts in the shot put went 60-3, foul, 60-0 3/4 and 59-4. His last throw in the discus throw earlier in the afternoon, Amy's best attempt was also his last. He let out a roar as the discus left his hand, and it came to a rest at 164-4.

More double winners

East Hartford junior Davian Johnson, Manchester junior Samiya Eady and Greenwich senior Sophia Riche all captured two gold medals.

Johnson advanced to the final of the 110 hurdles with a record time of 14.06 seconds. He followed that up with a record 13.87 and a win in the final. The record going into the meet was 14.17 by NFA's Myles Bradley in 2005.

In the 300, Johnson outraced senior teammate Emmanuel Frimpong at the end to win in 38.11. Frimpong finished

in 38.39.

Eady won the 100 in 12.11, then later captured gold in the 200 in a record time of 24.46. The previous record was 24.65 by Danbury's Alanna Smith in 2022.

In a great race in the 100 hurdles, Riche outkicked Norwalk junior Gabriella Rivera, 15.39-15.46, for the gold. In the 300 hurdles, Riche again finished ahead of Rivera, but this time it was 45.73-47.38.

BOYS

Team scores: 1. East Hartford 79; 2. Norwich Free Academy 66; 3. Hamden 64; 4. Ridgefield 60; 5. Danbury 54; 6. Greenwich 51; 7. New Britain 43; 8. Southington 37; 9. Fairfield Prep 29; 9. Hall 29; 11. Amity 25.5; 12. Bridgeport Central 21; 12. Westhill (CT) 21; 14. Fairfield Ludlowe 16.5; 15. South Windsor 16; 16. Trumbull 15; 17. Wilbur Cross 14. Individual events: 100: 1. Jack Davis (Fairfield Prep); 10.83; 2. Octavius Richard (Manchester) 10.92; 3. Isaiah Tripp (East Hartford) 10.98; 4. Jabari Hypolite (Hamden) 11.03; 5. Kieran Boyle (Ridgefield) 11.07; 6. Walker Mierzejewski (Southington) 11.12; 200: 1. Jack Davis (Fairfield Prep) 21.76; 2. Kieran Boyle (Ridgefield) 22.42; 3. Mitchell Dinkins (Wilbur Cross) 22.43; 4. Isaiah Tripp (East Hartford) 22.47; 5. Jayvon Thompson (NFA) 22.49; 6. Walker Mierzejewski (Southington) 22.50; 400: 1. Cameron Williams (Greenwich) 49.11; 2. Isaiah Lefers (Hamden) 49.27; 3. Mitchell Dinkins (Wilbur Cross) 49.48; 4. Cory Bates II (New Britain) 50.53; 5. Justin Steele (Trumbull) 50.55; 6. Vill-Andre Harris (Hamden) 50.60; 800: 1. Alexander Medina (Hamden) 1:52.58; 2. Yendri Ruiz (New Britain) 1:53.60; 3. Charles Lovett (Ridgefield)

Silver Lane Junior Bowlers to compete for title

Ten local youth bowlers have secured coveted spots to compete in this summer's 2025 Junior Gold Championships, the nation's top annual youth tournament.

Nine bowlers from the Connecticut ICS Youth Bowling League and one from the REVS Youth Bowling League are

among 38 from Connecticut who will participate in the highly competitive event, which takes place in July in Green Bay.

Youth bowlers compete in local tournaments for a limited number of spots in Junior Gold. It runs over nine days and includes qualifying rounds, ad-

vancer rounds, match play, and nationally televised finals.

Supporters of the 10 local bowlers are raising funds to help offset the cost of their participation through a GoFundMe campaign and other events.

All are members of the Connecticut ICS league based at Hall of Fame Silver Lanes.

OBITUARIES

Robert 'Bob' Mayo, Jr.



Robert 'Bob' Mayo, Jr.

Robert "Bob" F. Mayo, Jr., 70, of East Hartford, loving husband and best friend of over 50 years of Denise M. (Tamiso) Mayo, passed away unexpectedly on Friday, May 23, 2025. Born in Hartford on June 6, 1954, a son of Norma (Breen) Mayo-Wells of East Hartford and the late Robert F. Mayo, Sr., he had been a life-long resident of East Hartford.

Truly a hard-working gentleman, Robert was a dedicated employee for 52 years at Pratt & Whitney Aircraft in East Hartford. A voracious reader, he often would have three novels started at the same time. He was a member of the American Pool Association and liked to fish, "people watch", listen to music and attend hard-rock concerts. He loved automobiles, motorcycles, and animals, especially his cats. He was a loyal fan of the Boston Red Sox and UConn Men's and Women's bas-

ketball teams and was also an avid golfer who loved golfing with his beloved wife Denise. Most of all, Robert was a devoted and proud husband, father, and grandfather who cherished every moment spent with his entire family.

Along with his beautiful wife Denise and mother, Robert is survived by his two adored daughters, Cheryl L. Mead, Lieutenant Colonel with the Connecticut Air National Guard and her husband Joshua of Windsor, and Stephanie R. Mayo and her boyfriend Anthony Filiault of East Hartford; and three precious granddaughters, Tori Pilletere, Lily Mead, and Emma Mead. He also leaves a sister, Lori Cabrera and her husband Tony of East Hartford; a brother,

William Mayo and his wife Ellen of Groton; sister-in-law, Lynn A. Klock and her husband Jared of Avon; brother-in-law, Mark S. Tamiso; several nieces, nephews, cousins, co-workers, and dear friends. Besides his father, Robert was predeceased by his father-in-law and mother-in-law, Stephen A. and Mary (Del Rocco) Tamiso of East Hartford.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Saturday (June 7, 2025) at 10:30 am at St. James Church of Saint Teresa of Calcutta Parish, 896 Main Street, Manchester. Private burial will be held at the convenience of the family. There are no calling hours. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Robert's name may be made to St. James School Scholarship Fund, 73 Park Street, Manchester, CT 06040. The D'Esopo East Hartford Memorial Chapel has been entrusted with funeral arrangements. For on-line expressions of sympathy to the family, please visit www.desopoech.com

Kevin Robert Casey, 63



Kevin Casey

Kevin Robert Casey, 63, of East Hartford, passed away peacefully on Monday, May 26, 2025, surrounded by his loving family at Salmon Brook Rehabilitation and Nursing Center after a courageous battle with a neurodegenerative disease. Born on February 17, 1962, Kevin was the beloved son of Barbara Smith Casey, and the late Bernard J. Casey.

Kevin graduated from George J. Penney High School, Class of 1980, earning a Bachelor of Arts and MA in History from Central CT State. Kevin loved to discuss the latest current events whether it be sports, politics or world events. He was a very spiritual individual and was strengthened in his strong devotion to Padre Pio. The youngest of five siblings, Kevin leaves behind his sister, Susan Skipp of Newington; his brothers, Bernard Casey, Jr.

(Marcelle) of Wallingford; James Casey (Marcy) of Rocky Hill; and Jerome Casey (Donna) of Natick, MA. Kevin was a proud uncle and is survived by his nieces and nephews Barry, Laura, Peter, Caitlin, Gregory, Michael, Josh, Sarah, Jake, Samuel, Simon and Amelia along with several great nieces and nephews. Besides his father, Kevin was predeceased by his brother-in-law Barry Skipp, Sr.

Kevin's family would like to extend special thanks to his lifelong friend, Paul Fitzgerald, for his unwavering support. Funeral services took place June 4 with Mass at St. Christopher's Church and burial at Silver Lane Cemetery. Gifts in Kevin's name may be made to the Office of Radio and TV, Archdiocese of Hartford, 15 Peach Orchard Rd, Prospect, CT 06712. www.desopoech.com.

Pamela (Lyles) Scheinfeldt, 77; teacher, singer

Pamela (Lyles) Scheinfeldt of Ocean Park, ME and long-time resident of East Hartford died May 27, 2025 at age 77 from complications of Parkinson's disease.

She passed peacefully surrounded by family, friends, song, stories and lots of love. A long-time elementary and middle school teacher, Pam taught a generation of East Hartford students, primarily sixth through eighth grade.

Pam was always taking care of others - friends, family, students - sharing her compassion, insight and generosity.

She was a room parent, PTO leader, Girl Scout troop leader, church choir singer and children's choir director at First Congregational Church of East

Hartford, town election worker, and volunteered in numerous other capacities in and around East Hartford.

Pam received her bachelor's and master's degrees in education from Central CT State, was an avid bowler and tennis player, had a beautiful singing voice, and shared her musical gifts with a variety of choral and musical theater groups. She loved playing cards, time at the beach, traveling and being Nana to her grandkids.

Pam was the beloved wife of Jerry Scheinfeldt for more than 52 years and devoted mother to Liz Davenney, Lauren Martin, and Mandy Brush. She was dot-



Pamela Scheinfeldt

ing "Nana" to Nora & Sam Davenney, Jack, Ryan, & Kasey Martin, and Alex & Evan Brush, and loving sister of Christine Williamson and her husband Greg.

Pam is predeceased by her parents, Calvin Lyles and Mary Lou (Fleming) Lyles St. Laurent. She will be remembered fondly by sisters-in-law Karen Howe and Valerie Scheinfeldt, nieces and nephews, great-nieces and nephews, as well as numerous cousins, in-laws, great friends, and past students.

A memorial service will be held at First Congregational Church of East Hartford June 21, 2025 at 11 a.m. with a celebration of life to be scheduled this summer in Old Orchard Beach, ME.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to First Congregational Church, 837 Main St., East Hartford, CT 06108 or The Salvation Army of Old Orchard Beach, 2 Sixth St., Old Orchard Beach, ME 04064

Hope 'Henri' (Bason) Firestone



Hope Firestone

Hope "Henri" (Bason) Firestone, 82, of West Hartford, died peacefully Saturday, May 31, 2025 with her family by her side. She was the beloved wife, for 61 years, of Daniel S. Firestone, CPA. Born in Hartford and grew up in West Hartford, she was the daughter of the late Judge Daniel Bason and his wife, Gertrude (Golden) Bason. She was a graduate of Conard High School in West Hartford and attended the State University of New York, SUNY and earned a BA in Education from Eastern Connecticut State University. Early in her career, she co-owned and operated Pinewood Furniture in Canton, Ct. Hope had a natural gift as an incredibly talented artist. At the age of 50, she received a master's degree in art history, from the Central Connecticut State University. Hope proceeded to teach art at the college level as an adjunct professor. Hope was also a "firecracker" of energy as

a residential sales agent and office manager at area offices including William Ravis Real Estate. She was a beautiful outgoing woman who would light up the room with her personality and she loved decorating. Hope and Daniel were members of the B'nai Tikvoh Sholom synagogue in Bloomfield for 20 years. Hope and Daniel shared many happy family times at their former summer home on Cape Cod and later enjoying the Ocean Beach area. Hope's passion in art created many paintings of landscapes, nature and seascapes using watercolors.

Besides her husband, Daniel, she is survived by her two children: Andrew Firestone and his wife Alyssa (Lint) and Michelle Avers and her husband, Lawrence, five cherished grandchildren: Samuel and Jacob Avers, Benjamin, Rachel and Emily Firestone as well as 13 nieces and nephews and many dear friends.

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Tom Sullivan
Brendan J. Sullivan

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Learning skills, creativity, at sewing classes



Vanessa Gletzakos lays out a pattern. At right, Kimora Bennett.

EHHS, and most are crowded. There's more room here, and I wanted to be able to make stuff," Bennett explains as she sews a seam by hand.

Vanessa Gletzakos, 13, has been taking sewing classes since she was 11. So far she has made a dress and several small

projects.

"I really love it. It's fun. The biggest challenge is sewing perfectly straight," she said, smoothing the brown tissue of a pattern on a large table.

Shoran Gram, who owns Michael's Tailoring and Alterations, said the Saturday

From Page One

classes are no obligation and students can come and drop in when they wish. She is just getting through the busiest time of the year - prom and spring wedding season. Along with the alterations and adjustment services she just started offering gowns for rent in her spacious shop.

Shoran has a small class size limit as she wants to provide one-on-one instruction. Saturday is reserved for teaching the skills she has learned from a lifetime of tailoring work, and she loves what she does.

"Come in to the store. You have the opportunity to sign up for the first class and if it doesn't work out that is fine," she said. "Try it out and if you like it you can keep booking class time for the month."

If interested call 860-263-8825 or e-mail Mtasc21@gmail.com.



Juneteenth festival June 14 on Town Green

From Page One

important acknowledgement of our history through poetry, music, dance and song. And so East Hartford's Town Green will host many activities, a variety of vendors, food, entertainment, a bounce house, face painting, and entertainment all afternoon. Following opening remarks, Yaco International will

take the stage, then will be followed by energetic dancer and performer Grace C. Wright.

Secretary of State Thomas will then speak. Hartford's Super Icon Thomas Lumpkin and Friends will take the stage at 2:20 p.m. before a exciting demonstration by the Black Diamonds Double Dutch Team at 3, then NRGY spoken word at 3:30. In case of inclement

weather, Juneteenth will move indoors to the nearby East Hartford Community Resource Center, 50 Chapman Place.

Juneteenth is presented by the town's Public Library, Parks & Rec Dept., Commission on Culture and Fine Arts and the East Hartford Black Caucus.

FMI call 860-291-7160 or visit www.easthartfordct.gov/parks-recreation.

Board of Ed principals

From Page One

donado Alycia St. John
GOODWIN ES PTO: Kayla Hernandez; Katie McLarney; Jerri Sayers

LANGFORD ES: Joan Craig of Our Savior Luther Church
MAYBERRY ES School: Nicole Cook; Amanda McDonald; Sade Smith; Ana Deoliveira
NORRIS ES: Olivia Carranza
O'BRIEN ES: Angelica Diaz; Jennifer Anglim of First Church of Glastonbury

O'CONNELL ES: Sue Wilkos; Christina Maya
PITKIN ES: Natalie Fairbanks; Angel Beaulier
SILVER LANE ES: Jay Stange

SUNSET RIDGE MS: Amy Soto; Linda Chamberlain
WOODLAND SCHOOL: Meredith McKenna & Oakley the therapy dog

The Board also thanked all

the district's principals for their work this year, with a small "beach pail" filled with fun summer-oriented novelties.

The one item of actionable business the awarding of a contract for the renovations to the high school boys and girls bathrooms was tabled until the next meeting because the review subcommittee had not been able to meet to review the bids received.

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LEGAL NOTICE

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF
BARBARA S. HOOKER
(25-00179)**

The Hon. Richard P. Gentile, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of East Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated **May 29, 2025**, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciaries 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 fiduciaries are:

Jean A. Burdick
c/o Brian J. Murphy, Esquire;
Brian J. Murphy Law, LLC,
945 Main St., Ste 304,
Manchester, CT 06040
and

Nancy Shanahan
c/o Brian J. Murphy, Esquire;
Brian J. Murphy Law, LLC,
945 Main St., Ste 304,
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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF
JEAN M. FOISEY,
AKA JEAN MORGAN FOISEY,
AKA JEAN FOISEY
(25-00184)

The Hon. Richard P. Gentile, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of East Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated **May 29, 2025**, 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:

Sharon Lichota
c/o Adam J. Teller, Esquire;
Leone Throwe Teller & Nagle,
33 Connecticut Blvd, P.O.
Box 280225, East Hartford,
CT 06128

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF
KEVIN F. O'CONNOR
(25-00157)

The Hon. Richard P. Gentile, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of East Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated **May 29, 2025**, 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:

Seth Yeakley
c/o Kevin Joseph Hecht,
Esquire; Law Offices of Kevin
J. Hecht, 220 South Main St.,
Cheshire, CT 06410

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF
ANTHONY P. MERRILL
(25-00134)

The Hon. Richard P. Gentile, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of East Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated **May 13, 2025**, 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:

Theresa Bourgojn, 10 Bliss
Street, East Hartford, CT 06108

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF
BARBARA MARLENE BENIGER
(25-00180)

The Hon. Richard P. Gentile, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of East Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated **May 29, 2025**, 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:

Doreen E. Burton
c/o Monique R. Polidoro,
Esquire; Rogin Nassau LLC,
185 Asylum St., Cityplace I,
22nd Fl., Hartford, CT 06103

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF
MARY ASUNTA ZDROJOWY
(25-00207)

The Hon. Richard P. Gentile, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of East Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated **May 29, 2025**, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciaries at the addresses 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 fiduciaries are:

Keith Zdrojowy
c/o Melissa Nixon, Esquire;
McCabe, Wikstrom & Barney,
LLC, 112 Broad St., Milford,
CT 06460

and

Kimberly Seward, 101
Montague Circle, East Hartford,
CT 06118

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 7: IMAGES OF D-DAY: Documenting the Greatest Amphibious Invasion in History with speaker Thomas Hogan at 1 p.m. at the newly opened, World War II Museum at 102 Pitkin St. Hogan has spent years researching the efforts and experiences of the American servicemen who were behind the cameras during Operation Overlord, including the personnel of the Field Photographic Unit from the Office of Strategic Services led by the acclaimed Hollywood director John Ford. Email sosiwojima@yahoo.com or call (860) 810-8736 for a reservation. \$5 admission.

JUNE 7: HARE KRISHNA CHARIOT FESTIVAL at Riverfront Park in Glastonbury Saturday, noon to 5pm. Free. Rain or shine. The festival begins at noon with Ratha Yatra, a colorful chariot parade accompanied by lively singing and dancing. The parade route begins at the Hare Krishna Temple, 40 Naubuc Avenue, in downtown Glastonbury, and then proceeds along Naubuc Avenue to Riverfront Park at 300 Welles Street. All are encouraged to participate in this festive parade. Free parking is available at the park. Following the parade, festivities in the park begin with a free vegetarian meal of delicious Indian cuisine and drinks. Be entertained by stage performances of traditional Indian music, dance, and drama, and participate with us in lively kirtan or devotional chanting. There's also fun activities, games, and face painting for the children, and stylish henna body art for all ages. Many Indian-style goods will be available for purchase from vendors, featuring books, music, clothing, jewelry, drinks, vegetarian snacks, and more.

JUNE 7: AN EVENING OF WORSHIP, STORIES & SONGS WITH DAVE PETTIGREW at Burnside United Methodist Church, 16 Church St., 7 p.m. Free. An offering will be taken.

JUNE 8: SUPPORT OUR TROOPS collection and packing event Sunday, noon until 3 p.m. at Hillstown Grange Hall, 617 Hills St. Donations of socks, towels, twin bed sheets and pillowcases (new items only, please); and snack items, such as beef jerky, nutrition bars, iced tea and lemonade mixes, microwave popcorn, small jars of peanut butter are being sought. Bring them down early or on the day of the event before 1 p.m. Frank Forrest, organizer of this collection event, should be called or texted at 860-690-2845 to arrange drop-offs. Frank is also requesting cards and children's drawings to go with the packages with the theme of "Flowers in the Garden." Volunteers also needed to help sort and pack boxes starting at noon. It costs

about \$750 to ship the packages, and donations to help defray postage are welcome. Checks should be made out to SOS Connecticut and mailed to: SOS Connecticut, c/o Frank Forrest, 165 Maple Street, EH, CT 06118. FMI or to donate call/text Frank, 860-690-2845 e-mail sosconnecticut@aol.com.

JUNE 11 - WICKHAM DAY QUILTERS OF EAST HARTFORD meet from 1:30-3:30 pm at the Wickham Library meeting room at 656 Burnside Avenue in East Hartford. Like to sew? Interested in quilting? Not a fan of driving at night? Attend a meeting to see if you would like to join us. Any skill level welcome.

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We meet the second Wednesday of the month. Wickham Day Quilters is a chapter of the Greater Hartford Quilt Guild. Program will include a game with a yard of unwanted fabric and ice cream social. ? E-mail Wickhamdayquilters@gmail.com

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.

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