

STOP THE PRESS: TOWN HAS POET LAUREATE



SHARING HER EXPERIENCES, inaugural East Hartford Poet Laureate Elizabeth Thomas speaks to the Creative Writing Group meeting this week at the East Hartford Senior Center. Thomas led the discussion of poetry as a writing form showing the group a "portal" to spark their creative energy. One of these writing starters was: "Describe yourself as a color, at the time in your life, you consider yourself the most robust." The group meets weekly at the Senior Center to share their writing and ideas, not just poetry but all sorts of writings.

Tierinni launches campaign for 10th Assembly District

Chris Tierinni, a lifelong East Hartford resident, community leader, and Vice President of J J & C Contractors, announced today that he is running for State Representative in Connecticut's 10th District. Rooted in faith, service, and a deep commitment to the town he calls home, Tierinni enters the race with a clear vision to strengthen East Hartford and ensure every family has the opportunity to thrive.

"I have lived, worked, and raised my family in East Hartford, so I understand the challenges our community faces — and I believe in our strength to overcome them," Tierinni said. "This campaign is about service. It's about listening. And it's about building a town where integrity, compassion, and oppor-

tunity guide every decision."

Chris Tierinni brings decades of experience across both the private and public sectors. As a leader at J J & C Contractors, his family's locally owned small business, he understands firsthand the importance of supporting local employers and keeping jobs rooted in the community. His public service includes roles as a Member of the East Hartford Board of Education, Justice of the Peace, MDC Commissioner, Planning & Zoning Commissioner, Inland/Wetlands Commissioner, and Redevelopment Agency Member.

Known for asking tough questions and challenging the status quo, Tierinni has earned a reputation as an independent, principled leader who puts the



CHRIS TIERINNI
CANDIDATE, 10TH ASSEMBLY (R)

Schools convene to tackle school climate

What is the climate in your local school?

It has nothing to do with temperatures, rising oceans or tornadoes. School climate is defined by state law as the quality and character of life at school. It reflects shared norms, goals and values, as well as interpersonal relationships, teaching and learning practices, leadership, and the overall organizational structure shaping students' and staff members' experiences.

As the Gazette has been reporting, East Hartford schools have been discussing this issue for months now. State-mandated school climate policy took effect this year, and our town district formulated policies, have aligned staff, and provided training about the many aspects of this new approach.

So it was only natural that representatives from other

school districts, including Vernon, Manchester, Windsor, New Britain, Hartford and Bloomfield, came to the town's new professional training center at Norris School to hear about local successes, and ask about ongoing obstacles in implementing the policy. The Tuesday roundtable was hosted by East Hartford Public Schools.

The new school climate policy, passed into law in 2023, redefined terminology on what is considered "challenging behavior" and the role of climate personnel. It also established new training requirements on social and emotional learning, school culture and evidence-based interventions that staff can use to address a behavioral issue.

One of the biggest shifts with the new law, districts say, has involved training staff.

See **SCHOOL CLIMATE**, page 10

community first.

Alongside his wife, Tierinni actively supports local families through initiatives such as the weekend backpack program, which provides meals to students outside of school, and the East Hartford Farm to School program, connecting children with fresh, locally sourced food. As dedicated members of the East Hartford Lions Club, they continue a shared commitment to service with humility and purpose.

Chris Tierinni's campaign centers on four key priorities:

Strong Schools & Student Success

Ensuring every child has access to a high-quality education and the support they need to grow academically, socially, and emotionally.

Safe, Thriving Neighborhoods

Strengthening public safety, revitalizing neighborhoods, and building pride across East Hartford.

Economic Growth, Local Jobs & Small Business Support

Championing entrepreneurship, supporting local employers, and keeping opportunity rooted in East Hartford — including the small businesses that form the backbone of the local economy.

Community Health, Local Food & Well-Being

Expanding access to healthy food, supporting local farms, and promoting programs that help families live, grow, and thrive.

See **TIERINNI**, page 10

AROUND TOWN

Romance scammer gets 9 year sentence

An East Hartford man has been sentenced to nearly a decade in federal prison for his role in a large-scale romance scam that targeted victims across the country.

Thirty-year-old Naabanyin Aniagyei-Cobbold received a nine-year prison sentence on March 5 in a federal court in Des Moines, Iowa. He had previously been convicted on charges including wire fraud and money laundering.

According to the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Iowa, Aniagyei-Cobbold played a central role in a sophisticated online romance scam operation.

Investigators said he and his associates created fake profiles on dating websites and social media platforms. These profiles were used to build emotional relationships with victims and eventually persuade them to send money.

Prosecutors revealed that Aniagyei-Cobbold operated a fraudulent company called Alpha Distributions LLC, which

served as a front for receiving funds from victims. He also recruited others to participate in the scheme and set up a website and bank accounts linked to the fake business.

Authorities said the operation generated more than \$1.5 million from victims nationwide. Over \$400,000 of that amount came from a victim in the Iowa district where he was ultimately sentenced.

Victims believed they were helping romantic partners they had met online, often sending money with the hope of eventually meeting them in person. In many cases, the financial impact was devastating.

Prosecutors said some victims drained retirement savings, sold their homes or vehicles, returned to work after retirement, or borrowed heavily from friends and family members to continue sending money. Adding to the case, investigators found that Aniagyei-Cobbold produced and appeared in a music video titled "S.C.A.M.". In the video, he

rapped about receiving "scam money" and laundering it while living a lavish lifestyle. At one point, he posed beside a car with the word "SCAM" spelled across its hood using \$100 bills.

When questioned by FBI agents, Aniagyei-Cobbold falsely claimed that Alpha Distributions was a legitimate company that sourced electronics for customers in Africa. He also submitted forged invoices and receipts after a federal grand jury subpoena in an attempt to mislead investigators and obstruct the investigation.

FBI Omaha Field Office Special Agent in Charge Eugene Kowel said romance scams often target people at their most vulnerable.

Scammers build trust with victims by pretending to form genuine relationships, he said, only to exploit that trust and steal their savings.

Polk County Sheriff Kevin Schneider also emphasized the emotional toll of such crimes, noting that many victims were elderly or living on fixed incomes. Beyond the financial loss, victims often suffer broken trust, emotional trauma, and long-term hardship.

In addition to his prison sentence, Aniagyei-Cobbold was ordered to pay \$1,544,442 in restitution to victims. After completing his sentence, he will serve three years probation.

Register for Kindergarten now

Kindergarten Registration in East Hartford is now open!

East Hartford Public Schools is excited to welcome our new Kindergarten students and families! Parents are encouraged to register their student by June in order to prepare for the upcoming school year. For the 2026-2027 school year, your child must turn 5 on or before September 1, 2026 to start kindergarten.

Children who turn 5 between September 2 and September 30, 2026 are eligible for a waiver. Families must apply for the waiver and fully complete the registration process by March 30, 2026 to be eligible.

Children will be given an assessment to determine kindergarten readiness.

Assessment does not equal admission: The assessment is to ensure the placement is developmentally appropriate and does not guarantee a waiver for kindergarten entry.

All children turning 5 after September 30, 2026 will enter kindergarten in the 2027-2028 school year.

The registration process begins online. For more information on kindergarten at EHPS and how to register visit easthartford.org/kindergarten

https://www.easthartford.org/kindergarten/sign_up_for_kin

Memorial Day Parade sign up

East Hartford's Memorial Day Parade will be Monday, May 25 along Riverside Drive in front of the Goodwin University campus buildings and Fallen Star Memorial.

The parade steps off at 10 a.m. and concludes with a ceremony of remembrance at the Fallen Star followed by a celebration of East Hartford.

Family-oriented events will take place including food trucks, music, activities for kids, and local vendors. Any groups that wish to participate by marching are asked to register by Wednesday, April 1. <https://www.easthartfordct.gov/>

2026-memorial-day-parade-participant-registration

Volunteers are needed as well. If interested sign up by Monday, May 15. <https://www.easthartfordct.gov/2026-memorial-day-parade-volunteer-registration>

Sponsorship opportunities are needed to help defray the expenses of the parade. Local businesses and organizations wishing to be a sponsor or to offer in-kind services should go to <https://www.easthartfordct.gov/2026-memorial-day-event-sponsorships> by Monday, April 27.

If you want to qualify as a vendor, please contact Jenilee Tedesco via email at jtedesco@easthartfordct.gov.

Registration must be completed by Monday, May 4. If questions, e-mail Event Coordinator Jenilee Tedesco at jtedesco@easthartfordct.gov.

To receive the latest updates on the Town's news and events, visit www.easthartfordct.gov

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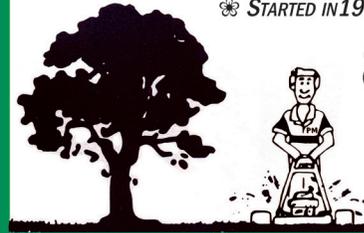
LOST DOG? ITEM FOR SALE? - A \$12 ad in the Gazette makes more sense than spending for markers, staplers, etc to place ugly signs on telephone poles.

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DESDE LA ESQUINA

by Carmen Maldonado

En español hay Riqueza

Muchas veces hablamos del español como si fuera un idioma uniforme, correcto o incorrecto, fijo en reglas y diccionarios. Pero basta con brincar el charco, o incluso saludar al vecino para darse cuenta de algo bien claro, el español no es solo uno. Es una mezcla viva de voces, ritmos y maneras de ver el mundo.

En México alguien te dice “¿qué onda?”, en Argentina te sueltan un “che, ¿todo bien?”, en España un “¿qué tal?”... y en el Caribe, fácil escuchas un “¿todo bien, mano?” o “¿qué es la que hay?”. Ninguna forma es mejor que la otra. Cada una nace de su historia, de su gente, de su calle. Ahí es donde el idioma deja de ser teoría y se vuelve vida.

La jerga esa forma más suelta, más creativa de hablar muchas veces se mira por encima del hombro, como si fuera un “mal uso” del idioma. Pero la realidad es otra. La jerga no daña el español, lo llena de sabor.

Es donde el idioma se reinventa y se adapta. Donde conecta de verdad con la gente. Vamos a hacer realistas, la gente no habla como en los libros.

No es lo mismo decir “amigo” que “pana”, “parce”, “bro” o “mano”. Cada palabra carga una “vibra” distinta, es como una cercanía diferente. Una forma de decir “soy de aquí”, “esta es mi gente”.

En muchos espacios, especialmente entre jóvenes o comunidades que han tenido que hacerse su propio lugar, la forma de hablar se convierte en una bandera, en algo que no se negocia.

Entonces, ¿de dónde sale eso de que hablar diferente es hablar mal? Muchas veces viene de una idea bien limitada de lo que es “hablar bien”, “hablar correcto”, “hablar normal” o “hablar bien”.

Pero el idioma no vive ahí nada más. Vive en la música, en los memes, en la conversación diaria, en cómo la abuela cuenta una historia o en cómo un “chamaco” inventa una palabra nueva.

Defender el español no es encerrarlo ni volverlo rígido. Es entender que tiene muchas formas, muchos acentos, muchas maneras de sentirse. Claro que hay momentos para hablar más formal y otros para soltar la lengua como salga.

Esa flexibilidad no es un problema; es parte de su fuerza.

Al final del día, el español es de quien lo habla. Y mientras más lo usamos, lo adaptamos y lo hacemos nuestro, más vivo está. Vamos a vivir orgullosos del mismo y llevarlo a todos lados. Que no nos silencien.

Eventos próximos que no te debes perder:

Desayuna junto al Conejo de Pascua. Ven y disfruta de este evento para la familia. Desayuno seguido de fotos junto al Conejo de Pascua, el 28 de marzo a las 9:00am en el Senior Center.

¿Necesitas asistencia para el examen de ciudadanía? LEAD está aquí para ayudarte. Ofreciendo clases comenzando el 28 de marzo a las 12:00pm. Para más información comunícate al 860-357-4701

Ven y lee con Beacon el perro. Este evento será el 26 de marzo a las 5:30pm hasta las 7:00pm. En la Biblioteca Raymond este evento es patrocinado por el departamento de Policía de East Hartford.

El Garden Club tiene su primera reunión en 23 de marzo a las 6:30pm en el Hillstown Grange, 617 Hills St. Ven y únete.

Conecta conmigo: cmaldonado8816@icloud.com

Hydrant flushing scheduled around town

The Metropolitan District is beginning its annual hydrant flushing program, although it will be a while before East Hartford hydrants are flushed.

The MDC flushes approximately 11,000 fire hydrants in member towns, spring through end of summer, each year to maintain water quality and ensure fire hydrants are functioning properly.

When fire hydrant flushing takes place in your neighborhood, it may temporarily result in discolored water. If you see that in your home, run cold water in your bathtub for approximately 20 minutes until the water runs clear.

This discoloration is not harmful and is due to sediment and iron that collects in the



pipe throughout the year which is disturbed and removed by the flushing process.

If you happen to run this discolored water through a sink faucet, sediment may get clogged in the filter at the end of the faucet spout. Typically those can be easily removed, and the filter flushed clear.

Take care not to drop it down the drain.

As part of the MDC fire hydrant flushing process, the MDC continuously takes water samples throughout the area to ensure that the sediment has been cleared from the system.

If discolored water persists, call the MDC's 24-Hour Emergency Command Center 860-278-7850, then press 1.

The schedule and flushing area maps are available on the MDC's website: <https://themdc.org/utility-services/hydrant-flushing/>

A video on hydrant flushing is available on the MDC's YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MuY-3RCWIAw>



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KINDERGARTEN
REGISTRATION

OPEN NOW!

Your child must turn 5 on or before **September 1, 2026** to start kindergarten.

Children who turn 5 between September 2 and September 30, 2026 can apply for a waiver by **March 30, 2026**. Children will be given an assessment to determine kindergarten readiness.



¡ABIERTA AHORA!

Su hijo(a) debe cumplir 5 años el **1 de septiembre de 2026** o antes para comenzar el Kindergarten.

Los niños que cumplan 5 años entre el 2 y el 30 de septiembre de 2026, deben solicitar una exoneración antes **del 30 de marzo de 2026**. Los niños recibirán una evaluación para determinar si están preparados para el Kindergarten.

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFORMATION & TO BEGIN THE REGISTRATION PROCESS
 ESCANEE EL CÓDIGO QR A CONTINUACIÓN PARA OBTENER MÁS INFORMACIÓN Y COMENZAR EL PROCESO DE REGISTRO

The Gazette

Thursday, March 19, 2026

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

SPEAKING OUT!, LETTERS

'I still believe in the promise of America'

by Ruth Fortune
CANDIDATE, 1ST CONG. DIST.

Today, the U.S. Supreme Court will hear a case determining whether and how the TPS of hundreds of thousands of Haitians and Syrians could be revoked by the Trump administration.

The Supreme Court said it would review whether the administration could terminate deportation protections for more than 350,000 Haitians and thousands of Syrians, making possible a shift that could trans-

form the families of people across the country.

TPS provides legal residence and employment access for people from countries experiencing war, natural disasters, or humanitarian crises in the United States.

Haiti received TPS in response to the earthquake in 2010, which shook its residents and left them in extreme turmoil and terror. Fortune, who was born in Haiti and then gained legal status through TPS before being legally recognized as a U.S. citizen, stressed the human dimension of the

Court's ruling.

This case is not abstract to me. It is personal. As a child, I migrated with my family to this country looking for a new life full of safety and opportunity. TPS was a source of stability for my family at a time of need. It provided us time to rebuild, to work, and to dream in terms of a possible future. Without it, there wouldn't be my story, and the stories of hundreds of thousands of Haitian families.

Let's be clear. Ending TPS isn't just about policy change. It tears families apart, destabilizes communities, and sends people

back into crisis.

Haiti continues to experience exceptional violence, political chaos, and human disaster. It is not just wrong to send people back now. It is dangerous.

Congress cannot leave families in limbo. We need a permanent path to security and citizenship for those TPS holders who have built their lives here.

I am running for Congress because I know what is at stake. I've lived it. And I will never stop fighting for families like mine, families who still believe in the promise of America.



RUTH FORTUNE
Candidate for Congress (D)

Help plant cherry trees

On Sunday April 19, the US & Japan Society of Connecticut will plant 50 cherry trees at Rentschler Field, 615 Silver Lane in collaboration with the town and Oak View Group.

The event is orchestrated with the former Japanese prime minister Fumio Kishida's pledge at the White House when he visited the US in 2024 to donate 250 cherry trees to Washington DC for the commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the US founding. Connecticut is regarded as the Constitution State, and Rentschler Field is owned by the State of Connecticut. This is our organization's pledge and America250/CT campaign with the Town of East Hartford to solidify our grass-root-based USA and Japan Friendship diplomacy.

On Earth Day of year 2024, we donated and kicked of the planting of 35 Yoshino cherry trees, joined by Gov. Lamont and his Chief of Staff, the East Hartford Mayor and his Chief of Staff, the Japanese Consul General and the Deputy Consul General in Boston and Hon. Consul General of Japan Gregory Boyko for the Consulate-

General of Japan in Boston. We planted 30 more trees in the fall of 2024 and last year, we planted 75 trees. Volunteers came from a range of backgrounds, representing different ages, ethnicities and towns.

"For many years I was persuading my close friends that our ultimate goal as to beautifying the Greater Hartford area is to cover the Rentschler Field ground with an abundance of cherry blossom trees creating spectacular, profound, serene ambiance of scenery. This will have a ripple effect on our town, creating beauty for local communities, attracting visitors from other towns and states, creating new jobs, and promoting a safer, community-focused environment."

Hana no kage / aka no tavin wa / nakari keri. English translation: "Under the cherry blossoms, there are no total strangers - Poet Issa Kobayashi

Join us to plant cherry blossom trees at the Rentschler Field for America250/CT. Contact: Toshiko Uchino

Us & Japan Society of Connecticut, (860) 290-9414, e-mail: t.uchino7@icloud.com



Rediscovering the new stories behind the stories that we thought we knew

Did you know that history is like fashion – what is old can be new again? With the 250th focus on the Revolutionary War, the internet has rediscovered a forgotten Revolutionary soldier's grave here in town? The story is not new, it was in fact, written about in Joseph Goodwin's 1879 history.

Just so we understand not all heroes make it home, one is buried here in town, on the P&W campus, well away from home and family. It is a soldier, who only made it to East Hartford, on his homeward trip to Tolland.

The soldier, one of thousands who had been a British prisoner in New York, suffered from small pox contracted while onboard the notorious prison barges or hulks in New York Harbor.

These prison-ships are also described in Goodwin's history. Quoting an East Hartford soldier, Captain Lemuel White, one of 350 prisoners crammed in a

vessel's hold. "The air was so foul that a lamp would not burn there. Some lay ten days dead before they were discovered and taken out." White survived but Stephen Buckland of town did not, he died in a prison-ship in 1782.

The rediscovered internet interest is of Herman Baker Junior of Tolland. According to Goodwin, he died in town January 21, 1777 shortly after being dropped off at Hockanum by a boat sailing up the Connecticut River. Goodwin writes: "On the south bank, near Willow Brook, and many rods from Main Street, stands a leaning flagstone with inscription 'In memory of Serg't Herman Baker Jr, he was captivated by ye British troops, Sept. 15th 1776... he died on his way home, with ye small-pox.' Baker was 29.

Small-pox was a deadly contagious disease, so feared that East Hartford had its own "pox-hospital" near Glastonbury, with a cemetery alongside to

DID YOU KNOW?

Looking back on our East Hartford

By Robert Kanehl

keep the rest of the community 'safe.' Quoting Goodwin, "This was oftenest done to prevent the spread of infectious diseases." Goodwin writes of the "Pock-House Hill" and the burials near the small-pox hospital. Another such graveyard was "on a hillside east of Ellington Road, north of Gilman's Brook," used to contain family members who all died of the disease.

Small-pox devastated the Revolutionary Army sent to at-

tack Quebec and Montreal under General Benedict Arnold. This weakened army could not capture and hold the Canadian cities, sealing Canadian support for the British throughout the war.

Connecticut folklore speaks of another famous small-pox casualty of the war, who did make it back to Tolland, Elisha Benton. He reached home, to be nursed by his intended bride Jemina Barrows. Unfortunately for the two, Benton died in Jan-

uary of 1777, and Barrows joined him a month later.

The love story has been transformed into a ghostly event, making Benton Homestead in Tolland one of the states most famous acclaimed 'haunted' locations. We'll leave it up to you if you want to visit the homestead which is now a museum.

If you do say hello to the two for us, and let us know if they responded to your kindness.



Waging war in Iran based on the feelings in the President's bones

To the editor:

In 2015, then-President Barack Obama's administration negotiated an agreement with Iran which resulted in the regulation and reduction of that nation's nuclear program, a program capable of producing weapons-grade nuclear material, in exchange for relief from sanctions. Specifically, the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) plan was concluded by the governments of the U.S., China, Russia, France, the United Kingdom, and Germany, and coordinated by the European Union. It resulted in a significant reduction of Iran's ability to enrich uranium and sharply limited the amount of enriched material it was permitted to retain. It also established strict monitoring of its nuclear activities.

The agreement had the objective of extending that nation's "breakout" time from a few months to a year before they would reach capacity to acquire the material and technical capability to build a nuclear weapon should the agreement be broken. At the time of the deal, Iran possessed a uranium stockpile that, if further enriched, could have yielded enough fissile material for roughly 8–10 nuclear weapons – a stockpile the JCPOA reduced by about 97%. The

JCPOA was far from perfect, but it did place significant controls on Iran's nuclear capability. It also had the advantage of reinforcing an international consensus among partners and adversaries to further stabilize the agreement.

The critique from the Republican Party was fierce, but largely reactive, which, in minimizing the importance of reducing Iran's nuclear program, did not seem to appreciate the significance the actual specifications of the agreement. The JCPOA was designed to remain in effect for 10-15 years which would have kept Iran's nuclear capability severely restricted throughout much of that period.

In 2018, President Trump removed the U.S. from the JCPOA and set off an increasingly confrontative stance toward Iran. In viewing the agreement as effectively over in response to Trump's "maximum pressure" campaign, Iran began to revamp its nuclear program. In sacrificing the good for some maximum pressure campaign, the president's nihilistic instincts dissolved a workable but imperfect deal for nothing of con-

structive value that was put in its place.

Clearly, Iran has been a problem. Their ongoing backing of terrorist groups throughout the Middle East during the past eight years and their support of Russia's military efforts in its war against Ukraine would have made any revision of the JCPOA exceedingly problematic—especially for the Biden administration—matters that the initial agreement was not designed to tackle. In principle, these issues could have been addressed in a revamped agreement through a discerning carrot/stick approach—an orientation that was largely missing in Trump's singularly focused "maximum pressure" stance.

Iran's brutal crackdown resulting in the deaths of thousands of protestors in that beleaguered country during the first two months of this year was an outrage of highest magnitude. While Trump declared that the U.S. would intervene in some capacity to support the protestors, such assistance was not forthcoming. That aside, working out of a singular confrontative stance throughout the first 13 months of his sec-

ond term, the Trump administration continued to press on its stated policy of maximum pressure toward Iran.

How this U.S. and Israeli initiated war becomes resolved remains to be seen. While it's conceivable it could work out for the better, there is a distinct possibility that in unleashing the furies, Trump set in place a set of severe economic and political ruptures of the first order, which is a high price to pay for a war of choice with no imminent threat warranted to provoke it. Among much else, what remains unclear is whether the U.S. objective is that of permanently eliminating Iran's nuclear capability, gaining control of that nation's oil fields, or seeking a broader regime change. These are maximal goals in their own varied ways. Each requires distinct policy strategies in how they would be carried out in the political, economic, international, and military spheres, all of which would likely require boots on the ground.

What is evident is that in leaving the JCPOA and enacting a policy of "maximum pressure," Trump played a major

role in unleashing the crisis, which, as he contends, only he alone can resolve, even as it remains unclear what specifically provoked this war of choice as well as the uncertainty as to the end game. According to his press secretary, Trump "had a feeling based on facts" that taking on this war was the right thing to do in view of what the president contended was an imminent attack by Iran on U.S. assets in the Middle East and the prospect of rebuilding their nuclear weapons program. As he asserted, "they were going to attack first, I felt strongly about that" (NPR, 3-4-2026). Evidence to back up his claims was not forthcoming.

One thing we do know; when asked to discuss how he makes decisions on issues related to the international arena, he referred to his own morality, as his ultimate arbiter of public authority—in his words, "my own mind. It's the only thing that can stop me" (New York Times, 1-10-2026). As Trump assured us, the war will end "when I feel it... in my bones."

I submit that we need a far broader frame of reference for establishing a sound foreign policy, especially for a nation as consequential as the United States of America.

George Demetrior
East Hartford

LETTERS.POLICY: *The Gazette* welcomes signed letters on subjects of interest to our readers. Remember to also provide a daytime phone number. Mail to: **The Gazette, 1406 Main St., EH, CT 06108** Or e-mail to **editor@ehgazette.com**

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March 26 Humanities Festival at Goodwin

On Thursday, March 26, Goodwin University will hold its annual Humanities Festival from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. at its main campus at One Riverside Drive.

Faculty, staff, and students from Goodwin University and the University of Bridgeport – as well as community participants from the Hartford area – will deliver interactive presentations and performances.

These presentations will consider essential questions about the role of the arts and humanities from their earliest expressions into the twenty-first century.

From ancient epics to feature films, from ceremonial drums to electronic dance music, the humanities have connected us across



Dr. Robin Shahverdian

millennia. As we face a future of machine learning and virtual reality, we are rediscovering that the humanities have always served the same essential purpose. Art, literature, music, and tradition help us to discover who we are, make connections with others, and imagine what might be.

The festival is honored to welcome Dr. Robin Shahverdian, ATR-BC, (she/her) as its keynote presenter.

Dr. Shahverdian is a board-certified practicing art therapist and assistant professor of Psychology at Goodwin University. Her research focuses on the power of creativity as a life-altering force. She holds degrees

from Smith College, Springfield College, and California Southern University.

Dr. Shahverdian will begin her presentation at 12:30 p.m. in Goodwin's Community Room.

Her presentation will explore the essential idea that creativity is a natural ability that all people possess, not a gift some are born with, but an essential, healing, and unifying thread within the fabric of humanity.

By reframing creativity as a shared birthright rather than a selective privilege, this presentation invites participants to reclaim their creative confidence and recognize how their unique contributions can make a lasting mark on the world.

Members of the public are welcome to attend the keynote as well as any of the presentations throughout the day for this free event. A pizza lunch will be served at 12:15 p.m.

Registration is required. To register, please visit <https://forms.office.com/r/ddPmrDHj47>.

To learn more about the sessions offered at the Goodwin Humanities Festival, view the digital program at https://padlet.com/humanities18/Goodwin_Humanities_Fest_2026.

For questions about the Goodwin Humanities Festival, contact Ellen Swider at humanities@goodwin.edu.

EHHS STUCO BUNNY BREAKFAST

FOOD AND DRINKS | FUN GAMES | PRIZES
| ARTS & CRAFTS | MEET THE EASTER BUNNY | THE EASTER EGG HUNT

\$5 AT THE DOOR

28 MARCH 2026 | 9AM - 12PM

AT EAST HARTFORD HIGH SCHOOL
ENTER THROUGH THE GYM LOBBY

869 Forbes St., East Hartford, CT 06118

Questions? Contact:
ziemak.mg@easthartford.org

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CHARLIE'S PIZZA TWO PASTA DINNERS: \$25.95*

Chose any two of these Baked Pasta pleasures:

- ♦ Pasta Marinara with Meatballs or Sausage
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INCLUDES SOUP OR SALAD, BREAD & BUTTER

FRIDAY HAPPY HOUR SPECIALS!
OPEN SUNDAYS

*Dine-in only. Must present coupon, valid thru March 15, 2026

386 PROSPECT ST., EH - 860-528-0111

Society

AT THE LIBRARY

Read with Beacon the Dog, Thursday, March 26, 5:30-7 p.m. at the Raymond Library Children's Dept., 840 Main St. Meet Beacon and Officer Caruso in a new library partnership with the East Hartford Police Department! Children can read aloud to Beacon, EHPD's community engagement dog, in short, one-on-one sessions that build confidence and fluency. Bring a favorite book or borrow one from the library. For children ages 5 and up. Register in advance to receive a reminder. Sign up in person for a reading timeslot on the day of the event. <https://easthartfordct.libcal.com/event/16309786>



Beacon

Kindergarten registration time

Kindergarten Registration in East Hartford is now open!

East Hartford Public Schools is excited to welcome our new Kindergarten students and families! Parents are encouraged to register their student by June in order to prepare for the upcoming school year. For the 2026-2027 school year, your child must turn 5 on or before September 1, 2026 to start kindergarten.

Children who turn 5 between September 2 and September 30, 2026 are eligible for a waiver. Families must apply for the waiver and fully complete the registration process by March 30, 2026 to be eligible.

Children will be given an as-

essment to determine kindergarten readiness.

Assessment does not equal admission: The assessment is to ensure the placement is developmentally appropriate and does not guarantee a waiver for kindergarten entry.

All children turning 5 after September 30, 2026 will enter kindergarten in the 2027-2028 school year.

The registration process begins online. For more information on kindergarten at EHPS and how to register visit [easthartford.org/kindergarten](https://www.easthartford.org/kindergarten)

https://www.easthartford.org/kindergarten/sign_up_for_kindergarten

EAST HARTFORD GARDEN CLUB

First meeting Monday, March 23

The East Hartford Garden Club will meet Monday, March 23 at 6:30 p.m. at the Hillstown Grange, 617 Hills St. Gardeners are welcome to listen to this month's presentation on Connecticut Butterflies with Pam Cooper from the UConn Home and Garden Center. Pam will offer helpful tips and advice about ways to attract more butterflies to your yard. Admission is free to all. New members always welcome to join this great East Hartford club as it continues to pursue productive pathways to elevate the flowers, plants, birds and bees in our town.

Connecticut Horticultural Society continues its 2025-2026 season of speaker meetings on Thursday, April 16 at 7 p.m. with "The Past, Present, and Future of the Keney Park Sustainability Project" with Herb Virgo. His presentation will be in person at CNTR (725 Main Street, Middletown) and broadcast live via Zoom. The presentation will conclude with a Q&A. The talk is free for members and \$10 for non-members. FMI go to cthorth.org.

Pre-register for Egg Hunt at McAuliffe

The Annual Egg Hunt hosted by East Hartford Parks and Recreation will be held at McAuliffe Park, 30 Remington Road, on Saturday, March 28, Rain Date is Sunday, March 29).

11:00 AM - Ages 3 and Under; 11:30 AM - Ages 4 - 6; 12:00 PM - Ages 7 - 10; 1:00 PM - Special Needs Division.

Each group will begin promptly at the scheduled time. Please arrive early, as hunts will not be delayed for late arrivals.

Ages 3 and Under and Special Needs Divisions

will be allowed one adult on the field with them. Participants should bring a bag or basket for collecting eggs and dress appropriately for the weather. Limited spaces are available in each division.

Registration is required for each child participating. This event is for East Hartford residents only. Registration is required and must be completed online at ehparks.org

If you have any questions, please call the Parks and Recreation office at 860-291-7160

THE EAST HARTFORD LIONS CLUB

Spring Hanging Plant Sale

Get ahead of the pack with Mother's Day cheers!

PLACE YOUR FLOWER ORDERS TODAY!

DEADLINE FOR ORDERING: MAY 1ST, 2026

AVAILABLE FOR DELIVERY OR PICKUP MAY 7TH OR 8TH, 2026



11" Premium Hanging Baskets only \$23 each

Connecticut-grown from Cheshire, CT

Hanging Basket choice:	Quantity	per pot	amount
Selection 1) Geranium Basket	_____	X \$23	_____
Selection 2) Impatiens Basket	_____	X \$23	_____
Selection 3) Trailing Petunia	_____	X \$23	_____
Selection 4) Calibrachoa Basket	_____	X \$23	_____
TOTAL:			_____

Mail this form with a check payable to:

East Hartford Lions Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 380765
East Hartford, CT 06138-0765



Questions? contact Lion David at 860-944-5498 or Lion Roberta - 860-212-3229
All Funds raised go back to the East Hartford Community.

NAME: _____
Address: _____
Telephone: _____
Notes: _____

EAST HARTFORD SPORTS

It's a mad, mad basketball world

Are you mad? How mad? Have you reached the level of madness that overtakes the sports world this time every year without being so mad you can't calmly and sanely assess it all?

That's the state of frenzy local fans work up to every March. There are few places where March gets madder than Connecticut, where high expectations times two dominate the basketball landscape. Both UConn teams are capable of winning national championships, even with the roads to Indy and Phoenix lined with booby traps and pitfalls.

The UConn men are seeded second in

SCOTT GRAY on SPORTS

by Scott Gray



the East, where 32-2 Duke is the top seed. The Huskies can win it all, or they're capable of going home early. That "go home early" UConn team was on display Saturday at Madison Square when they were out muscled and out hustled by St. John's in the Big East Championship game. That UConn team that looked soft at critical times can survive the opening game against Furman Friday night but if they continue to show up as the tournament progresses they'll be looking for the exits while others in their region advance to the elite eight.

UConn caught a break by not being seeded in the Midwest. Top seed Michigan and second seed Iowa State are both final four capable. I've liked Michigan all season but right now I like Iowa State to emerge from the Midwest. If the Huskies who won the second meeting with St. John's, lost shorthanded to Arizona by four and are in the top ten nationally in three point defense show up they'll bypass Duke for the final four berth from the East. A lot depends on Tarris Reed Jr. and Alex Karaban. I trust them both. UConn, Iowa State, Arizona, #1 in the West, and Florida, #1 in the South, are my final four. When they get to Indy I like Iowa State.

In the women's tournament, does this sound familiar? UConn, South Carolina, UCLA and Texas.

It should. They were last year's final four. They're this year's top seeds and they all look better than they were a year ago. They'll all be in Phoenix.

Can you imagine a team losing Paige Bueckers and coming back even better? I can. That team is UConn, for three reasons that don't even scratch the roster depth, Azzi Fudd, Sarah Strong, Serah Williams. Nobody's better in the front three and Geno Auriemma has been playing ten and eleven deep in double digit minutes

In January I floated the idea of UConn meeting Shea Ralph and Vanderbilt in the tournament. Guess who's seeded second in UConn's region? But that'll have to wait. UConn's road to Phoenix begins Saturday against UTSA at Gampel Pavilion. Don't worry about the wimpy Big East schedule, the Huskies did what they had to do against all comers, beating nationally ranked opponents by an average of twenty points while leading the nation in every offensive and defensive category on the way to a 34-0 record.

I'm confident picking a repeat final four. I'm even more confident picking UConn to claim national championship number thirteen.

Valiant run by Hornet hoopsters falls short of reaching the finals

Luck wasn't with the Hornets on St. Patrick's Day.

The East Hartford boys, who defeated Bloomfield on Zashem "Dougie" McCoy's logo three pointer at the buzzer, and defeated Windsor outright to capture the CIAC Division II Championship at the University of Hartford, could not find the shot of gold at the end of the rainbow Tuesday.

The Hornets magical trip in the 2026 CIAC state basketball tournament came to an end Tuesday in the quarterfinals at Wilby High School in Waterbury, 58-55, to Bunnell. And the Bulldogs, defending CIAC D III champs last year, march on to confront Windsor at the state final at Mohegan Sun.

The outcome of this one rested not on who had the best sharpshooting team but on who could make foul shots. Both squads missed a combined 31 free throws (19 by East Hart-

ford, 12 by Bunnell).

The Hornets were up by 4 at halftime.

Bunnell was at the foul line for two shots with 3.7 seconds left, but missed both. East Hartford had the ball, and a chance, down by a point. Bunnell junior Rody Ricketts Jr. then crashed in for the steal.

There was confusion as to whether time had run out, if Ricketts was fouled before time ran out, or maybe even if Ricketts traveled. One second was put back on the clock. Ricketts stepped to the line, made both free throws, then a long desperation 3-pointer from East Hartford came up well short.

Windsor was a 56-39 winner over new Canaan.

East Hartford finished up a fine season under Coach LeRon Gittens, one that had many take notice as they were ranked third in the state. Representing East Hartford, they won the

first CIAC Division Championship since 1998 with a 24-4 record and had a legitimate shot at winning the first state basketball championship for East Hartford High School since 1939.

BUNNELL 58, EAST HARTFORD 55

Bunnell 15 7 12 4 - 58
E. Hartford 8 18 7 22 - 55

Bunnell (22-5): Brandon Acosta 2 2 3-3 13, Rody Ricketts 2 2 4-9 14, Rickie Miller 3 0 4-8 10, Shelby Pitard 3 1 2-3 11, Jonathan Irby 0 0 0-0 0, Dominic Laros 0 0 0-2 0, Brody Biggs 2 0 6-6 10, David Chimsunum 0 0 0-2 0.

Totals: 12 5 19-31 58.

East Hartford (24-4): Deondre Storey 3 0 0-2 6, Malachi Hymes 2 0 2-8 6, Zashem McCoy 7 2 3-6 23, Anthony Akerson 3 0 0-1 6, Jaiden Bolling 0 0 0-0 0, Walker Gilzene 0 0 2-6 2, Kehari Walker 4 0 0-0 8, Joel Opoku 0 0 0-2 0, De'Mar Moore 1 0 2-3 4.

Totals: 21 2 9-28 55.

3-point field goals: B—Acosta 2, Ricketts 2, Pitard 1; E—McCoy 2.

Spring Game returning to Wrench

UConn Football will welcome fans to East Hartford's Pratt and Whitney Stadium off Silver Lane Saturday, April 11 for their Spring Game.

Back after being moved to the UConn campus for the past four years, with departure of Coach Jim Mora to the western conference and the arrival of Coach Jason Candle from Toledo, the Spring Game football fun is back in town!

Eagerly anticipated by football fans near and far the game pits the Blue against the White, and will be a great way to get to see the dozens of new players, many former Mud Hens, coming to play football in New England this fall.

Parking and admission will be free, but tickets should be obtained online in advance. The stadium will have limited concession stands, but the real fun will likely begin in the parking lots where everyone is welcome to enjoy springtime tailgating.



Also back bigtime will be UConn special activities such as Fan Fest games and attractions, the opportunity to get a preview of the 2026 UConn Football team in action, and chance to meet the players.

Parking lots open at noon, and the Blue Lot will be avail-

able for tailgating with spaces are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Stadium gates open at 1 p.m. Fan Fest will be set up under the scoreboard at the western end of the stadium where there will be face painters, temporary tattoo artists, caricature artists, photo booths, and lawn games.

At the conclusion of the scrimmage, fans can go to the Section 111 concourse for a meet and greet session, including autograph and photo opps.

Fans who attend will get a special ticket offer to use during the season.

Go to <https://uconnhuskies.eventue.net/events/FBSG>, or get tickets at UConnTickets.com.

The 2026 season kicks off Saturday, Sept. 5 as Connecticut hosts the Lafayette Leopards. That will be the first of seven home games here in East Hartford.

To get season tickets go to UConnHuskies.com/Football. Don't forget to tell them the Gazette sent you.

OBITUARIES

Katherine Ebersold Cunningham, 86; RN

Katherine Ebersold Cunningham, 86, of East Hartford, loving wife of the late Gerald F. Cunningham, Sr., slipped away peacefully March 8, 2026 surrounded by her family. Kay was a generous woman who deeply loved her family and had a special way of embracing others, welcoming them into her home and into her



Katherine Cunningham

heart. She was born in Hartford April 26, 1939, the daughter of William and Lucille (Blythe) Ebersold. As a Girl Scout she represented Hartford, New England, and the United States at local, regional, and international encampments. She continued in leadership roles within Scouting, CCD, and PTA. She was a graduate of Mount Saint Joseph Academy and Saint Francis Hospital School of Nursing. On March 23, 1958, Kay met the love of her life, Jerry, on a blind date. He was

the highlight of her life from the minute she met him until the day he died. They were married on November 26, 1960. Kay devoted her life to the loving care of her family and others. She loved being a Labor and Delivery Nurse at Saint Francis Hospital for 40 years. In retirement she volunteered

for Habitat for Humanity, Doctors without Borders in the Dominican Republic, House of Bread, and Malta House of Care. She is survived by her five children and their spouses: Kerry Pellicane and husband Robert of Holland, MA; Brian Cunningham and wife Kelly of Hebron; Daniel Cunningham and wife Amy of Middletown; Gerald F. Cunningham Jr. and wife Ann of East Hartford; and Maureen Fleming and husband David of Coventry. She was blessed with 15 grandchildren: Christine and husband David,

Robert and wife Meg, Kyle and wife Erin, Colton, Christian and wife Shannon, Molly, Alan, Rose, Thomas, Caitlan, Natalie, Nathaniel, Nolan and wife Grace, Blythe, David Jr., and 11 great grandchildren - Kail, Fira, Nils, Tavi, Artemis, Tre, Kaelyn, Caroline, Kelsey, Henry and Gavin; her brother John Ebersold and wife Mary Kay; and many nieces and nephews. She is predeceased by her brother William Ebersold and wife Victoria.

Funeral Mass will be celebrated TODAY (Thursday, March 19, 2026) at 10 a.m. at SS. Isidore and Maria Parish in St. Paul Church, 2577 Main St., Glastonbury. Burial will be in Mt. St. Benedict Cemetery, Bloomfield. Calling hours will be Wednesday, March 18, 2026, from 4 to 7 p.m. at Mulryan Funeral Home, 725 Hebron Ave., Glastonbury. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to Malta House of Care in West Hartford. Online, please visit www.mulryanhf.com.

Janet 'Jan' Lynch

Janet M. Lynch (Gosse) passed away peacefully on December 10, 2025, in Norwell MA. She was born in Boston, MA, on October 16, 1936, to James and Mary (Murray) Gosse.



Jan Lynch

Beloved wife of the late Walter F. Lynch Jr. Devoted mother to sons Mark (Janice) of Richmond, VA and Bill (Leigh) of Winchester, MA. Loving grandmother of Dylan, Brian, Kevin, and Kerri Lynch and great grandmother of Conner, Rowan, and Nolan Lynch.

She is survived by her sisters Grace (Lawson), Karen (Maguire), and many nieces and nephews, including Amy, Karen, Katy, Patrick, and Daniel. She was preceded in death by her siblings Robert, Marie (Murphy), and James and sister-in-law Marie Gosse.

Janet and Walt settled in East Hartford from Boston and were actively involved in the

community. Janet was a volunteer in the schools and in the East Hartford Democratic Party. She served in leadership roles on the Town Committee. Everyone who knew Janet understood that her family always came first. She was warm-hearted, willing to help neighbors, friends, and family.

She had a passion for reading, politics, her dogs, and family.

When her sons entered high school, Janet joined Connecticut Bank & Trust, where she was named an officer of the bank during her 20+ year career. At the bank, she helped launch the first ATMs in Connecticut, "Barney."

Her family would like to extend its gratitude to the staff of Southwood Nursing Home in Norwell MA for their love and care during her stay.

Private services will be held later.

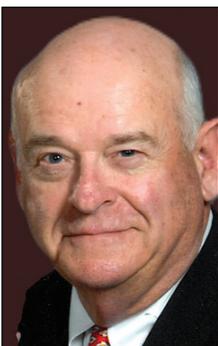
Charles 'Chuck' Goding, Sr.

Charles (Chuck) Coolidge Goding, Sr. passed away on March 10, 2026, at Pilgrim Manor in Cromwell.

Chuck is survived by his beloved wife, Nancy (Kreider) Goding, with whom he recently celebrated 61 years of marriage; his daughter, Kimberly McMenamin; his son, Charles ("Charlie") Goding, Jr.; and his brothers, Jeffrey Goding and Lyman S. Goding. He was predeceased by his parents, Kenneth and Charlotte Goding.

Chuck was born on July 18, 1939, in Attleboro, Massachusetts. He graduated from Otterbein College in Ohio with a Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology, psychology, and economics.

Chuck devoted his professional life to the YMCA, serving for 35 years in leadership roles. During his career, he served as Executive Director in Greenwich, Rochester, New York; and with the Greater Hartford YMCA, where he



Charles Goding

worked to strengthen community programs and outreach.

Chuck was known for his caring nature and genuine compassion for others. In his quieter moments, he enjoyed reading the obituaries in the *Hartford Courant*, often spending hours reflecting on the lives and stories of others.

He was a faithful member of South Congregational Church where he served as chair of the Church Growth committee.

A service and burial took place at South Congregational Church, 1301 Forbes St., Saturday, March 14, at 10 a.m.

There were no calling hours. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Jewish Association for Community Living, 34 Jerome Avenue, Suite 109, Bloomfield, CT 06002.

D'Esopo East Hartford Memorial Chapel was entrusted with funeral arrangements.

On-line, go to www.desopoeh.com

Felicia Rose 'Dolly' (DeCorleto) Stanizzi

Felicia Rose "Dolly" (DeCorleto) Stanizzi, of East Hartford was called home to the arms of Our Lord on March 8, 2026, surrounded by her loving family.

Born July 5, 1927 in Hartford Dolly was the daughter of the late Theresa (Cirone-DeCorleto) DeFeo and Leonard Anthony DeCorleto.

Dolly is predeceased by her younger sister, Mildred "Lit" (DeCorleto) Aiello and her husband Augustino (Gus) Aiello.

Dolly and her beloved husband, John William (Giovaninno Emmanuel) Stanizzi were married for 64 years before his passing in 2011. They were married on October 25, 1947, and the couple has one son, John Leonard Stanizzi of Coventry.

Dolly's life was deeply rooted in her Catholic faith, and she was a devoted parishioner of St. Anthony's and St. Patrick-St. Anthony's churches in Hartford, and finally a long-standing member in the parish of the Church of St. Mary's in



Felicia Stanizzi

East Hartford.

Dolly loved to work as hard as she loved to play. She spent 20 years working at Royal Typewriter and 35 years at Hartford Distributors where she made many loving and life-long friends. Dolly retired from Hartford Distributors in 2009 at 82. Athletics played a major role in Dolly's life. She was a UConn Women's basketball fan, loved the New York Giants, New York Yankees, and was an avid golf fan with a particular affinity for Fred Couples. Dolly was also a fine golfer in her own right. She and her husband, John, played tournaments around Connecticut.

Besides her only son, Johnnie and his wife, Carol of Coventry, Dolly also leaves four loving grandchildren: the twins, Erin Stanizzi-Hart and Jason Stanizzi, as well as Alison Stanizzi-Butler, and Jonathan Stanizzi, and their spouses, Patrick Hart, Jessica Stanizzi, Patrick Butler, and Jill Stanizzi.

Dolly was blessed with 9 great grandchildren: Taylor

Stanizzi, Mikalah Stanizzi-Bortz and her spouse Nicholas, Janae Stanizzi, Michael Stanizzi and his spouse Joylissa, Zachary and Samantha Hart, Jonah Stanizzi, and Elijah and Raelle Stanizzi. She leaves four great-granddaughters who affectionately called her GGG - they are Braelynne, Kaiah and Mo Stanizzi-Bortz and Odessa Stanizzi. She also leaves her niece Sandra (Stanizzi) Pezzente and her late husband, Joseph, her niece Rose Marie (Aiello) Gianni and spouse her spouse, Vincent, and her nephew Christopher Aiello and his spouse, Amy.

Felicia's family will receive relatives and friends Thursday, March 26, at D'Esopo East Hartford Memorial Chapel, 30 Carter St. from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 11 a.m. at St. Mary's Church of North American Martyrs Parish, Main Street and Maplewood Avenue. Burial will be at Silver Lane Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Felicia's name may be made to the Alzheimer's Association of CT, 10 Executive Drive, Suite 202, Farmington, CT 06032.

Roundtable on School Climate convenes here

From Page One

Joseph Pearce, principal of East Hartford Middle School, said the district has adopted a trauma-informed approach that focuses on repairing harm and rebuilding trust after students engage in challenging behavior. East Hartford officials said they've provided training to teachers, administrators and more than 100 behavioral support staff. The district also partnered with the Capitol Region Education Council to align practices across schools.

Even when a student has met with a counselor and apologized for challenging behavior,

Pearce said reintegration can be difficult for both the student and teacher. At the middle school level in particular, students struggle to reintegrate because they often face additional external pressures, such as family dynamics and social media, that may impact their behavior, he noted.

Although most staff are understanding of the students' situations, Pearce said some educators struggle to move forward after an incident. This highlights the need for continued support and training, he said.

Similarly in New Britain,

Keira Soler, assistant coordinator of school culture, said climate specialists and noncertified staff have undergone intensive training. However, she said taking the interventions from training into real-life classrooms remains a challenge.

Michael Savignano, assistant principal of Vernon Center Middle School, said some educators find it difficult to respond with empathy in the moment, so the district is working to help staff better understand the "why" behind student actions.

Ensuring each school follows a similar intervention protocol

remains an issue because how staff responds to behavior can vary, said Tyrone Richardson, academic and accountability officer for grades 6-12 at New Britain schools.

He said administrators are given some autonomy, but the district is developing clearer guidance for staff. Students involved in more serious incidents are assigned mental health and social-emotional learning through Vector Solutions, Richardson noted.

"We assign them Vector videos to watch as a way to inform them or educate them on the mistake they made," he said.

Tax programs

The town is accepting applications for the following programs: State option for Elderly/Disabled Homeowners, Town of East Hartford Local Option for Elderly/Disabled Homeowners, and additional State and Local Veterans programs. Elderly/Disabled Homeowners must apply between February 1 and May 15, 2026. The qualifying criteria for such relief are as follows: Owner or spouse must be 65 years of age as of December 31, 2025. Homeowners with 100% total disability from Social Security are qualified regardless of age. This program is based on income limits of \$56,500 for married couples and \$46,300 for singles.

The Town will also be accepting applications for its Local Option for elderly/disabled homeowners. The application window for the local option for elderly/disabled homeowners is also February 1 through May 15, 2026. This program is based on income limits of \$71,500 for married couples and \$61,300 for singles. Residents must qualify for State Elderly/Disabled program.

In addition to meeting the State criteria, eligible homeowners shall not have individual or joint assets (other than their principal residence and any tax deferred retirement investments) for more than \$100,000. Veterans may apply for additional State and Local benefits between February 1, 2026, and October 1, 2026.

Income requirements are the same as stated above for State and Local programs.

Homeowners who are presently on the State Eld-

Central CT offering summer exploration camp for youth 8 to 18

Central Connecticut State University is inviting young learners to explore emerging technologies this summer through a series of hands-on youth programs offered through Central U, the university's community learning program.

Running from June 29 through August 14, the week-long programs are designed for students ages 8 to 18 and provide immersive experiences in areas such as esports, virtual reality, artificial intelligence, robotics, 3D design, and digital art. Programs take place on Central's campus from 9 a.m. to

3 p.m., offering students the opportunity to learn new skills in state-of-the-art labs while working alongside experienced instructors.

Space in each program is limited, and early registration is encouraged. Registration closes on May 15.

Students can explore a wide range of topics, including building underwater robots in the SeaPerch program, piloting drones and programming machines in VEX, Robotics & Drones, designing original characters in Heroes & Villains Pixel Lab, and competing in the fast-

growing world of esports. Other offerings introduce students to virtual reality environments, 3D printing and modeling, and artificial intelligence models.

Each program emphasizes hands-on learning, teamwork, and experimentation, encouraging students to turn curiosity into real-world skills while connecting with peers who share similar interests.

Programs are offered in

weeklong sessions throughout the summer and cost \$400 per program. Discounts are available, including \$50 off second- and third-program registrations.

Central U will offer educational opportunities, programs that allow participants to explore, experience, and engage in hands-on learning. FMI and to register, go to www.ccsu.edu/youth-programs or email browningj@ccsu.edu

Chris Tierinni running

From Page One

"East Hartford's best days lie ahead," Tierinni said. "Together, we will build a stronger, safer, healthier community — one rooted in faith, service, and the belief that no family should

ever be left behind."

Tierinni encourages East Hartford neighbors to stay connected through his website for updates, events, and ways to get involved in elevating East Hartford together.

LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Court of Probate, Hartford Regional Children's Probate Court District

NOTICE TO CLIFTON ALLEN TEASLEY, JR.,

whose last known address is unknown to the Court.

Pursuant to an order of Hon. Richard P. Gentile, Judge, a hearing will be held at Hartford Regional Children's Probate Court, 50 Chapman Place, Suite 109, East Hartford, CT 06108 on **May 12, 2026, at 1:30 PM** on a petition for Continued Removal of Guardian of the Person concerning a certain minor child born on September 25, 2014. The court's decision will affect your interest, if any, as in the petition on file more fully appears.

RIGHT TO COUNSEL: If the above-named persons wish to have an attorney, but are unable to pay for one, the court will provide an attorney upon proof of inability to pay. Any such request should be made immediately by contacting the court office where the hearing is to be held.

By order of the court,

Kemston N. Best, Esq., Chief Clerk

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Court of Probate, District of East Hartford Probate Court

NOTICE OF HEARING

ESTATE OF **EARL J. SCHOFIELD**, deceased (22-00404)

Pursuant to an order of the Court dated March 17th, 2026, a hearing will be held on an application for Removal of Fiduciary and Appointment of Successor on the Court's Own Motion as in said application on file more fully appears, at the Court of Probate on **April 8, 2026 at 3:30 PM**.

By Order of the Court,

Tobi Dolan, Assistant Clerk

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF
JOHN HENRY FARRELL, III
(26-00085)

The Hon. Richard P. Gentile, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of East Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated **March 11, 2026**, 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.

Tobi Dolan, Assistant Clerk

The fiduciary is:

Wendy Farrell
c/o Thomas Lyndon Brayton,
Esquire; Law Offices Thomas
L. Brayton, III, 678 Chase
Parkway, Waterbury, CT
06708

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF **RAYMOND G. FISCK,**
AKA RAY G. FISCK, AKA
RAYMOND GREGORY FISCK,
(26-00044)

The Hon. Richard P. Gentile, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of East Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated **March 11, 2026**, 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.

Tobi Dolan, Assistant Clerk

The fiduciary is:

Paul G. Fisk
c/o Timothy A. Daley, Esquire;
Timothy A. Daley, 123
Mountain Rd., P.O. Box 431,
Suffield, CT 06078

Kevin M. Sullivan
Tom Sullivan
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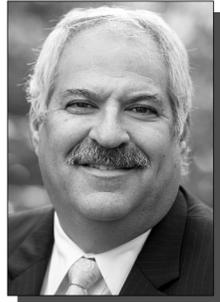
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CRIBBAGE, Mondays at 7 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 1831 Main St. Enjoy a fun time with other local cribbage players. Players of all age and ability welcome. Daily prizes, season honors and lifetime awards. FMI contact Phil Martin, 860-768-2681, philm298@gmail.com

MARCH 14: CAT AND DOG FOOD COLLECTION at South Congregational Church for Protectors of Animals Pet Food Pantry. Drive into our parking lot at 1301 Forbes St. Saturday between 10 a.m. and noon with contributions. You do not even need to get out of your car! Any donation appreciated. See poainc.org for specific recommendations.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AT THE WORLD WAR II Legacy Foundation Museum: Saturday, March 21st, 3 p.m. - Documentary about one brave Marine and his experiences in the Battle of Iwo Jima. "In the Shadow of Suribachi: Sammy's Story" is about a young Jewish boy from New London. A story you will never forget. **Saturday, March 28th, 1 p.m.** - "Victory at the Battle of Iwo Jima" commemoration. The 36-day battle ended March 26, 1945. Pay tribute to those who fought and died for our freedom. The WWII Legacy Foundation Museum located at 102 Pitkin St. FMI call Gary Roy, 860-810-8736.

THURSDAY, MARCH 19 - IRISH DINNER AND A SHOW at the East Hartford Senior Center, 15 Millbrook Drive - Join us for a night of fun as we celebrate the Irish Culture with Food and Music. Special Irish Meal: Corn Beef and Cabbage, including Beverage & Dessert, cooked by Wayne Domins. After Dinner, Pierce Campbell will entertain us with music from Ireland! Cost: \$8 (Members Only) Dinner is at 5:50 p.m. and music starts at 6 p.m.

MARCH 22 - SUPPORT OUR SOLDIERS - CT Easter-Spring collection Sunday, March 22 from noon to 2 p.m. at Hillstown Grange hall, 617 Hills Street. Donations of Easter candy, Peeps, & drawings of spring flowers needed. Donations can be dropped off that Sunday, 3/22, by noon or by special arrangement. Volunteers are always needed & appreciated to help sort and pack items. FMI please call Michelle DeDominicis, 860-558-4688 or e-mail kma.dedominicis@gmail.com or Jen Marino 860-558-5897. This is a wonderful event supporting our troops stationed away from home during the Easter holiday. Organizations interested in helping, please contact us. Shipping packages costs about \$900 so monetary donations are also needed to help defray postage expense. Checks should be made payable to "SOS CONNECTICUT" and mail to SOS-CONNECTICUT, C/O Michelle DeDominicis, 56 Hills St., East Hartford, CT 06118.

MARCH 22: THE SHELEST PIANO DUO performs at 2 p.m. at Evergreen Crossings, 900 Hemlock Ave, South Windsor. The free concert is presented by South Windsor Cultural Arts, and donations will be welcomed. Reception follows. The program will in-

clude Leonard Bernstein's "Overture to Candide"; Aaron Copland's "Variations on a Shaker Melody from Appalachian Spring"; Zoltan Almashi's "Carpathian Song"; Cécile Chaminade's "Pièces romantiques, Op. 55"; Camille Saint-Saëns' "Danse macabre"; Theodore Akimenko's "Six Pièces Ukrainiennes"; and Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue". FMI, SWCA Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/SouthWindsorCulturalArts/>

MARCH 26: DECODING SHAKESPEARE'S HAMLET - To be, or not to be? That isn't the only question. Behind the world's most famous play lies a web of

French toast, sausage, etc. followed by pictures with the Easter Bunny! Tickets are at the Senior Center front desk in advance; not at the door. So hop on down and we will see you there!

MARCH 29: COLOR EGGS at South Congregational Church, 1301 Forbes St. starting at 11 a.m. until noon. This Egg Coloring Extravaganza features multiple egg coloring stations. All materials, including hard boiled eggs, will be provided. Light refreshments. Free and open to all, but if you plan to attend to ensure enough supplies are on hand contact Lisa at community@southucc.org, or call 860-568-5150. Also, South invites the community to stop by the Lenten Cross which is displayed on the front lawn of the church at 1301 Forbes St. All are welcome to visit, say a prayer, or simply meditate for a moment, and then leave a ribbon tied to the structure as a visible sign of your sacred Lenten journey. You may bring your own ribbon or take one from the container next to the cross. The cross will be in place through Easter Sunday, April 5th.

MARCH 30: PHILOSOPHICAL LESSONS ON RESISTANCE - Widespread unemployment, poverty, and the shadow of totalitarianism defined 1930s Europe. But amidst the chaos, a group of brilliant philosophers — including Walter Benjamin, Hannah Arendt, Simone Weil, and Jean Amery — were asking a radical question: What does it mean to resist? Professor Benjamin Berger leads this three-session exploration into the strategies and ideologies used to counter oppressive regimes.

Mondays, March 30, April 6, 13, 2-3:30 p.m. Sponsored by President's College. Lifelong Learning at the University of Hartford. Visit Hartford.edu/pc. Questions? Email pcollege@hartford.edu or call 860.768.4495.

APRIL 1: MUSIC AS A CATALYST FOR CHANGE - From 14th-century plague melodies to the civil rights anthems of the 20th century, music has been a weapon, a prayer, and a protest. Join University of Hartford Professor Karen Cook as she takes us on a journey through pivotal moments in history where the score met the struggle. Wednesdays, April 1, 8, 15, 10:30 a.m. - noon. How Music Reflects & Provokes Historical Change is sponsored by President's College Lifelong Learning at the University of Hartford. Visit Hartford.edu/pc to check this out as well as lots of other winter/spring courses & lectures. Email pcollege@hartford.edu or call 860.768.4495 to be added to the mailing list.

APRIL 15 - WICKHAM DAY QUILTERS of East Hartford will 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. We normally meet the second Wednesday of the month. The date has changed this month due to the AQS Quilt Show in Hartford April 8-11.

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MARCH 28: Meet the Easter Bunny at the annual **BUNNY BREAKFAST** March 28 at East Hartford High School, 869 Forbes St., from 9 a.m. until noon, just \$5, sponsored by the EHHS Student Council. Enjoy breakfast, create arts and crafts, get a chance to win prizes and pose for selfies with EBun. Then take part in an awesome Egg Hunt! Enter through the door near the cafeteria. If questions e-mail ziemak.mg@easthartford.org

MARCH 28 - BREAKFAST WITH THE RABBIT, AKA the Easter Bunny! At the East Hartford Senior Center, 15 Millbrook Drive, beginning promptly at 9 a.m. Tickets must be purchased in advance for \$5 with kids 12 and under free and only \$3 for members of the Senior Center. Gather up the kids and grandkids or a guest for a delicious breakfast of