

Martin Park pool closed for season

By Bill Doak

Town pools are set to open Saturday, but one will remain closed for the foreseeable future: East Hartford's oldest outdoor pool in Martin Park.

Workers discovered dirt coming out of the pipe when they went to prepare it for the season earlier this month, and after excavating and repairing the pipes found other problems with the pool pump. Those, combined with crumbling concrete along the pool's edge, and the poor condition of the roof on the locker areas all prompted Mayor Connor Martin and his department heads to put a hold on using the pool until they have a better estimate of the scope of repairs needed and their costs.

The pool was first constructed in 1938, and has been upgraded multiple times to

See **POOLS**, pg. 10

HISTORIC FLAG MARKS FLAG DAY



CONNECTICUT OPEN HOUSE DAY was celebrated at the World War II Legacy Foundation Museum on Saturday, June 13th. Visitors came from as far away as Boston to tour the museum. On Sunday, June 14th, the museum celebrated Flag Day and the 251st birthday of the U.S. Army. The day was dedicated to East Hartford's World War II Army Veteran, Pasquale Dellaripa, who recently passed away. Attendees took part in displaying a huge 48-Star American Flag that was over 67 years old. The flag was owned by an Iwo Jima Survivor and was given to the Legacy Foundation. The ceremony featured "You Raise Me Up" as sung by the Michael MacDonald and the Silver City Singers as well as other patriotic music. WWII Army Veteran, Mario and his wife Irene, were also in attendance. Drone footage was provided by Zack Carroll Visuals. The Legacy Foundation wishes to thank all those who attended which enabled us to display the American Flag.

Juneteenth Saturday to connect community

Reconnecting Hartford and East Hartford with the Connecticut River has long been the goal of Riverfront Recapture, and for nearly four decades the July Riverfest Fourth of July fireworks show did just that.

However, due to the rising costs, constant insurance battles and the growing headaches that came with its success after 36 years the event was canceled in 2017.

Now, in 2026 Juneteenth will provide a cross-river celebratory experience that everyone involved seems to long for, including the two mayors of Hartford and East Hartford.

Two weeks ago, meeting in the middle of the Founders Bridge, Hartford Mayor Arunan Arulampalam, East Hartford Mayor Connor Martin, and Riverfront Recapture announced they will co-host the first cooperative Juneteenth celebration entitled "Bridging Freedom."

Spanning both sides of the Connecticut River, and including ferrying a choir across the water, the event will establish a new spirit of working together for the two chief executives of their municipalities. This Saturday, June 20, from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. at Hartford's Mortensen Riverfront Plaza and East Hartford's Great River Park a full day of culture and celebration are planned.

The daylong celebration will activate the waterfront with an extensive lineup of live programming, including spectacu-



Mural on the Martin Park poolhouse. At right, Martin Park pool.



AROUND TOWN

Goodwin gets APICS grant

Goodwin University was awarded a \$50,000 grant from the American Production and Inventory Control Society (APICS) Hartford County Chapter 6 to launch a manufacturing scholarship fund to support students.

The fund will provide annual financial assistance to students enrolled in Goodwin's Advanced Manufacturing program at the certificate, associate, or bachelor's degree level.

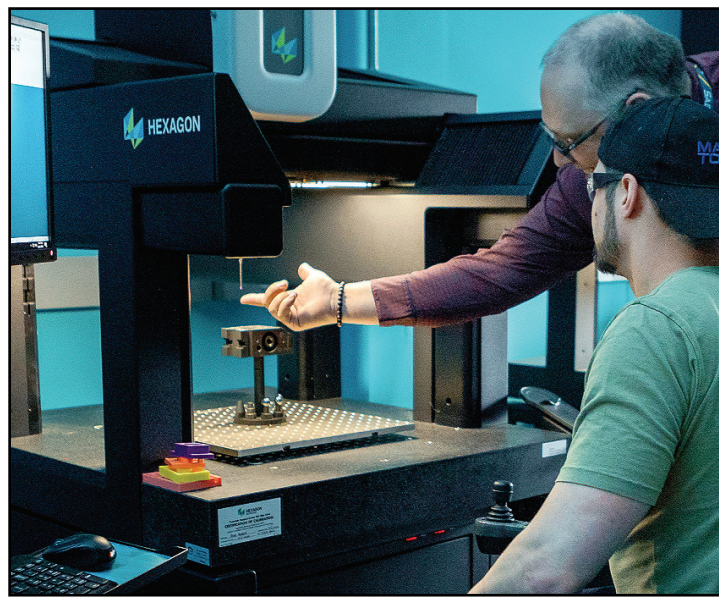
"Through this scholarship, we honor the legacy of the chapter founder, Al Perrault, who was instrumental in promoting training, support, and employment for manufacturing students," said APICS donor Dan Levine. Mr. Perreault was a member of APICS and formerly

served as International President. "Al was a legend, and this fund ensures his commitment to manufacturing will go on," Mr. Levine added.

Goodwin's Advanced Manufacturing programs prepare students with the technical skills and hands-on training needed to meet the workforce demands of Connecticut's growing manufacturing sector.

"We are delighted to partner with APICS and provide much-needed support to our manufacturing students," said Dr. Jade Stoltz, Director of Development at the University. "Goodwin maintains a strong commitment to workforce development, and this collaboration is of great value to our University."

ADVANCED MANUFACTURING



The Advanced Manufacturing lab at Goodwin University.

\$100K grant to clean Silver Lane Plaza

East Hartford received a \$100,000 state grant to conduct environmental assessment and remedial planning on the 20.5-acre site it owns at 832 Silver Lane. The site was formerly part of the Silver Lane Plaza, which was previously occupied by a dry-cleaning business. The grant will enable the town to advance remediation and position the site for redevelopment.

Gov. Ned Lamont announced the release of the funds as part of a total of \$15.2 million in state funding to support assessment and remediation activities at properties across Connecticut. Covering the costs of these unused, polluted parcels will enable them to be redeveloped and returned to productive use, including creation of new housing and development projects

West Hartford political leaders line up to endorse Luke Bronin

Former Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin this week announced endorsements from members of West Hartford's Town Council and Board of Education. The endorsements include Deputy Mayor Deb Polun, Town Councilmembers Tiffani McGinnis,

Barry Walters, and Ben Wenograd, and Board of Education Chair Shannon Marimon, Secretary Jason Gagnon, and member Jonathan Weiner. According to the Bronin campaign, the endorsements "show Luke's continued support

among leaders who have served their communities for years at the local level." Bronin has been endorsed by the mayors of Hartford, Newington, Wethersfield, Rocky Hill, Cromwell, Barkhamsted, among others.

"I'm grateful to have the support of this large and strong group of West Hartford leaders who dedicated themselves so fully to the West Hartford community," said Bronin. "Beyond their elected service, Deb, Tiffani, Ben, Barry, Shannon, Jason, and Jon are deeply involved in the West Hartford community and in our state in so many ways. As a former Mayor, I understand the challenges that local leaders face, and I look forward to working hand in hand with them in the

years ahead to make life easier, healthier, and more affordable for families in West Hartford and across our district and beyond."

"We are proud to endorse Luke for Congress," stated West Hartford's leaders" stated the press announcement. "We respect all the candidates in this race, but Luke is the right candidate to deliver for West Hartford and this district in Congress. Long before he began running for office, he's spent lots of time in our community. As a former Mayor who's also served at the federal and state level, he knows how to build coalitions and get things done. And beyond that, we believe that he's bringing the energy that the party needs."

Joke of the Week

Wife to ditty husband, "Why did you make the potato soup with 125 small potatoes?"



Husband, "I know it seems like a lot, but the recipe called for five potatoes cubed."

CLASSIFIEDS

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DESDE LA ESQUINA

by Carmen Maldonado

Celebrando a Papá

Llegó junio y, además del calor, llega el Día de los Padres. A veces esta fecha pasa un poco desapercibida. Al contrario del Día de las Madres, no vemos tantos especiales, las farmacias no se llenan de tarjetas ni de regalos por todos lados, y pareciera que hasta se nos hace más difícil encontrar la manera de honrar a papá.

Y la realidad es que no existe una sola manera de ser padre. Algunos lograron estar presentes en cada juego, graduación y actividad escolar. Otros demostraron su amor trabajando largas horas para que no faltara nada en casa. También están los padrastros, abuelos, tíos, hermanos mayores y hasta vecinos o amigos de la familia que asumieron ese papel de guía cuando más hacía falta.

En muchas familias latinas, la figura del padre suele estar muy ligada al sacrificio. Son hombres que trabajaron de sol a sol, que dejaron atrás su país, sus familiares o sus comodidades buscando oportunidades para darle una vida mejor a sus hijos. Tal vez no siempre dijeron "te quiero" con facilidad, pero lo demostraron de otras maneras: apareciendo cuando se les necesitaba, resolviendo problemas o haciendo lo imposible para sacar a la familia adelante.

También hay que reconocer que este día no se vive igual para todo el mundo. Hay quienes celebran junto a su papá, quienes lo recuerdan con cariño porque ya no está, quienes tienen relaciones complicadas con él y quienes crecieron sin una figura paterna presente. Y todas esas experiencias son válidas.

Por eso, el Día de los Padres no tiene que ser perfecto para ser especial. A veces una llamada, una visita, compartir una comida o simplemente decir "gracias" puede significar mucho más que cualquier regalo.

Tal vez la mejor manera de celebrar esta fecha sea reconociendo a esas personas que nos enseñaron con su ejemplo. A quienes nos mostraron el valor del trabajo, la responsabilidad, la perseverancia y el amor por la familia. Porque muchas veces las lecciones más importantes no llegaron en forma de discursos, sino a través de las acciones de todos los días.

Este fin de semana, si tiene la oportunidad, saque un momento para agradecer. Gracias por los consejos, por las enseñanzas, por los sacrificios y por los recuerdos compartidos. Porque al final, lo que realmente permanece no son los regalos, sino el cariño, el tiempo y las huellas que dejamos en la vida de quienes amamos.

Eventos próximos que no te debes perder:

La Sociedad Historica de East Hartford, estará ofreciendo recorridos libres de costo por la casa Selden Brewer, ubicada en el 167 de Main Street. Esto será los sábados. Sumergete en un poco de historia. Este evento comienza a las 11:00am hasta las 2:00pm.

East Hartford estará celebrando Juneteenth en ambos lados del río, Great River Park and Mortensen Riverfront Plaza, el 20 de junio comenzando a las 11:45am. Disfrute de música en vivo, DJs, food trucks, actividades para toda la familia y mucho más.

Conecta conmigo: cmaldonado8816@icloud.com

Post Malone concert Monday night

Post Malone is hosting a concert in Connecticut that will be more like a big party in a huge venue.

The popular musician, who has a record 18 career Grammy nominations but no win yet, is coming to Pratt & Whitney Stadium in East Hartford. Part of his current tour, the show will be Monday, June 22 at 7 p.m.

Plus, his special guests are a big draw. Musicians Jelly Roll and Carter Faith will be in the June 22 lineup as well.

Tickets are still available for the show. On StubHub, the cheapest tickets were about \$100 and the most expensive were over \$1,000 on June 15. Most tickets were under \$250 on StubHub. Some of his betetr recognized songs include: "Congratulations" - 2016,

"Sunflower" - 2018, "Circles" - 2019, "Pour Me A Drink" - 2024, "Rockstar" - 2018, "I Like You" - 2022, and "Wow" - 2018.



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SPEAKING OUT!, LETTERS

Fortune claims she met signature goal in getting on primary ballot August 11

Ruth Fortune voiced her frustration with the process of petitioning her name onto the ballot to take on U.S. Rep. John B. Larson, former Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin, and state Rep. Jillian of West Hartford in the August 11 primary.

But, by her count she collected enough signatures to make the vague and confusing process, and thanked her supporters and those who signed the petitions in 27 towns.

East Hartford verified 116 names and forwarded that number to the Secretary of State's office.

"Together, we submitted 5,700+ signatures from 23 cities and towns in Connecticut's 1st Congressional District, far more than the 3,734 needed to qualify," Fortune stated. "That is extraordinary. You are extraordinary. So many of you signed the petition, helped collect signatures and delivered signed petitions to registrars of voters across the district before the 4pm deadline on June 9.

We're not completely in the clear yet. Registrars have until

today to validate the signatures. We need at least 3,734 of the 5,700+ submitted to be certified. There are many procedural uncertainties in this process. I have learned more about Connecticut's petition rules than I ever imagined possible. Along the way, I've trained our staff, volunteers and even educated some elected officials involved in the process.

What you helped build is real and historic. No one has ever successfully petitioned their way onto a primary ballot to challenge an incumbent congressman in Connecticut. We are on the verge of making history.

The other three qualified by winning at least 15% of the delegate vote at a Democratic nominating convention last month."

But as Fortune is quick to note, the system has potential traps regarding the qualifications of petition circulators and petition signers.

"There's a lot of hiccups that come up in the process," said Fortune, a relative political newbie who now pronounces her-



RUTH FORTUNE

Candidate for Congress (D)

self an expert on petitioning. "I'm probably now in the state one of the top five people with knowledge about this process, maybe top three."

In one town that she declined to identify, the Republican registrar signed the forms that allow circulators to collect signatures in that community, telling her staff that either the Democratic or Republican reg-

istrar could sign. Fortune said state law seems to require that a Democrat sign the forms.

Before learning of the exchange, the forms signed by the Republican registrar were used to collect nearly 2,000 signatures. Now, Fortune says, she wonders if those names will be disallowed.

One of the other hiccups is that state law required registrars of voters to be available only from 1 to 4 p.m. Tuesday, the deadline for filing. Fortune tried to file some petitions Monday, only to find some registrars' offices closed.

Her campaign still was collecting signatures Tuesday afternoon in East Windsor, taking advantage of that town's third budget referendum in a month. Voters leaving the polling place already had been identified as registered voters; her campaign only had to make sure signers were Democrats.

In Bloomfield, the deputy Democratic registrar, Cindy Harrison-Odom, welcomed Fortune, counted the petition pages and gave her a receipt acknowl-

edging the acceptance of 74 primary petition pages at 10:55 a.m. — five hours and five minutes ahead of the deadline.

"You did good," she told Fortune. "Seventy-four pages is a lot."

Bronin narrowly won the endorsement at the Democratic convention, giving him the top line on the primary ballot. Larson, 77, a 14-term incumbent facing a generational challenge from three candidates ranging in age from 38 to 46, is expected to be the beneficiary of a crowded ballot.

Larson was complimentary of Fortune, saying she's "working her tail off" to qualify. He agreed that historically more candidates in the race tends to bode well for the incumbent.

"The question then becomes — there's three progressives and one moderate, so is it the progressives that divide up the vote? Or is it the anti-incumbent that divides the vote? So it's kind of a mixed bag," Larson said as he exited the House chamber after votes Tuesday in Washington.

Larson says report from Social Security trustees confirms his worst fears

House Social Security Subcommittee Ranking Member John B. Larson led a coalition of Democratic lawmakers, including House Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries (NY-08), and advocates from across the country to call for urgent action to protect Social Security from Trump attacks on the program and enhance benefits by making the wealthy finally pay their fair share.

Larson and Jeffries were joined in their call by Ways and Means Committee Ranking Member Richard E. Neal (MA-01), and Health Subcommittee Ranking Member Lloyd Doggett (TX-37), as well as Reps. Gwen

Moore (WI-04), Terri Sewell (AL-07), and Val Hoyle (OR-04).

"We are in a constitutional crisis. 'DOGE' cut staff at Social Security and stole your personal data. Trump officials are out to privatize your benefits. Speaker Johnson wants to raise the retirement age. Automatic benefit cuts are closer than ever, and Republicans are not only doing nothing about it, they are stealing the American peoples' data and taking an axe to Social Security customer service," said Larson. "Connecticut seniors will be hit the hardest if no action is taken. Democrats are united and ready to act to not only protect

Social Security from cuts, but enhance benefits, by making the wealthy pay their fair share!"

"Republicans cannot be trusted to protect Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid. Their One Big Ugly Bill already enacted the largest cut to Medicaid in American history and jeopardized the solvency of the Social Security trust fund. Now, Deputy Speaker Johnson and Republicans are finally saying the quiet part out loud—they are coming directly after your Social Security benefits," said House Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries (NY-08). "House Democrats will never let them be successful. I'm grateful to

Rep. John Larson for his work to strengthen our Social Security and keep the extreme MAGA Republicans away from the hard-earned benefits that Americans have paid into for their entire lives."

Yesterday's Trustees Report confirmed that Congress must act and that failed Trump policies, including the Big, Ugly Bill, mean that Social Security's insolvency is closer than ever. Inaction will lead to the average senior losing about \$500/month in Social Security benefits.

"Instead of joining Democrats to protect and enhance these programs, Donald Trump and Republicans are busy sabo-

tagging them. After 'DOGE' took a wrecking ball to the Social Security Administration under false pretenses, all Americans got were slashed customer service and their most personal data put at risk—without a penny saved," said Ranking Members Larson, Neal, and Doggett. "Republicans have long sought to destroy Social Security and Medicare but have always been met with an unwavering Democratic fight preventing it from happening. We've never allowed them to take away a lifetime of hard work from America's seniors, and that won't stop for every retiree to come."

Dinosaurs once roamed East Hartford - and their fossils returning July 21

Did you know that East Hartford had dinosaurs too? For years it has been reported that Manchester had dinosaurs, but there were no road signs for the dinosaurs to read to keep them from entering East Hartford. Today Archeologists comprehend that the dinosaurs were here.

So before there was Pratt & Whitney, or even the Pitkin family, at least three small dinosaurs called: Ammosaurus major; Anchisaurus colurus and Anchisaurus solus traveled between the two town areas hunting for food and mates.

The two towns occupy ground that was once a large lake and marshy area. Its red mud became the red stone cliffs found around Wickham Park to the Manchester Mall area. Dinosaurs lived when the rock

was mud, and their bones were preserved as the mud became sedimentary rock.

Why was this not mentioned in Joseph Goodwin's 1879 East Hartford history book? The discovery of bones in Buckland's Charles Wolcott quarry, did not happen until 1884. At that time, Yale Professor Othniel Charles Marsh, the leading dinosaur expert, was contacted.

Marsh ventured north to look at the discovered fossils. Over the next ten years, he conducted excavations of his own. He discovered a nearly complete skeleton of Anchisaurus colurus (the only one is existence) and various other fossils related to the other two specimens.

The Smithsonian Museum in Washington, DC notes that East Coast dinosaurs are rare to find

DID YOU KNOW?

Looking back on our East Hartford

By Robert Kanehl

because people have been building on this part of the country for hundreds of years. The fact that an almost complete skeleton was unearthed makes the discovery even more impressive.

Rumors abound that other dinosaur bones, might be in the

sandstone used for local bridge abutments or house foundations.

Marsh's discoveries lead him to declare that the Manchester dinosaur was unique. Then gathering up all the bones and evidence, he took it back to Yale's Peabody Museum, where it has been in storage ever since.

Over the hundred and thirty years two things have happened to the "Manchester" dinosaur.

One - other related fossils have been found from Springfield, Massachusetts to Middletown, Connecticut. This evidence of the same or similar animal has led scientists to reassess the original declaration of uniqueness. Today the "Manchester" dinosaur has become an inhabitant of the Connecticut River Valley; and is referred

to as Anchisaurus polyzelu.

Right in the middle of that valley is East Hartford - so we had dinosaurs too.

Two - Believe it or not, the local dinosaur is coming for a visit. Representatives from Yale will be in Manchester Tuesday, July 21 with a collection of the bones Marsh unearthed. This will mark the first time that the fossils will be on display outside of Yale. The fossils will be at the Old Manchester Museum located at 126 Cedar Road, from 10 to 2.

Guess we better all check our East Hartford backyards - depending on where you live - you might find: Podunk Artifacts; Revolutionary War encampment artifacts, and now dinosaur fossils.

East Hartford was and still is the migration hub of the state.

SPEAKING OUT!, LETTERS

Harrises named 'Parents of the Year' by city Lions Club

The Hartford Multinational Lions Club has recognized Tyron and Tabitha Harris as "Parents of the Year," honoring their commitment to family, service, and community.

The Harrises, longtime East Hartford residents, were selected for their dedication as foster parents and their ongoing efforts to support children and families in need. While the recognition is deeply appreciated, the couple emphasizes that their journey into foster care was never about accolades.

"We didn't become foster parents for recognition," said Tyron Harris. "We answered a calling. This work is rooted in faith, love, and a commitment to give back. We feel truly blessed to open our home and be part of these children's lives."

The Harris family has played an active role in the East Hartford community through both professional and volunteer service. Their commitment to creating a nurturing, supportive environment for children reflects a broader mission to strengthen families and uplift the community.

"This honor means a great

deal to us," added Tabitha Harris. "But more importantly, it shines a light on the importance of supporting foster families and ensuring every child has the opportunity to feel safe, loved, and valued."

For Tyron Harris, the experiences of fostering children and serving the community have also reinforced his decision to run for State Representative for Connecticut's 10th Assembly District.

"Every child deserves the opportunity to succeed, every family deserves support, and every community deserves leaders who are willing to serve," Harris said. "My decision to run for State Representative comes from the same values that led us to become foster parents—service, compassion, and a belief that we all have a responsibility to help create opportunities for others. Whether it's improving our schools, supporting public safety, expanding workforce opportunities, or helping working families thrive, I want to ensure that every resident has a voice and a fair chance to succeed."

The Hartford Multinational



Lions Club's "Parents of the Year" recognition celebrates families who demonstrate exceptional care, compassion, and dedication to children and community.

For the Harrises, the recognition is not just a milestone, but a reminder of the responsibility and privilege of giving back and continuing to grow their family through service.

Backs Angie

To the editor:

As a former candidate for the 10th district State Representative, I know how difficult it is for the average person to get along in this economy. Our next state representative needs to walk in the shoes of the people to feel their struggle. My choice for that important position is Angie Parkinson. She has the experience to be that person. I believe she has shown her devotion to the people of East Hartford and has proven that by her work as a Town Councilwoman, member of the Democratic Town Committee, State Democratic Central Committee and an educator. She feels the struggle of people because she listens, learns, and leads.

Angie is eager, enthusiastic, dedicated, and understands the issues facing East Hartford and Connecticut. She works well with all people across the state whom she encounters and is someone who is not afraid to speak up for the right things. She is driven to make sure that the voices of the most vulnerable are front and center in her decision making. She knows our community is very diverse and treats every individual the same. Angie, I believe has the best interests of the people of East Hartford and that is why she is my choice for 10th district State Representative.

Marc Weinberg

East Hartford

GAZETTE LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Gazette welcomes signed letters on subjects of interest. Include your phone number, and mail to 1406 Main Street, East Hartford, Connecticut 06108 or e-mail to: editor@ehgazette.com

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Juneteenth Saturday on both sides of the river

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FOUNDERS BRIDGE

11:45 am: Welcome, Pouring of Libations & Honoring Ancestors
 12 pm: Opening Ceremonies w/ Metropolitan AME Zion Choir

HARTFORD HEALTHCARE COMMUNITY STAGE:

11 am: Music Mix
 12:45 pm: DJ Jimmy Jam
 1:20 pm: Voices of Youth - Art Exhibit
 1:50 pm: Giselle "Gigi" Jacobs (Author)
 2 pm: Charmagne Tripp & Band
 2:45 pm: DJ Biggmann
 3:20 pm: Joy Of Life Art Creation
 4 pm: Tchalla (Poetry)
 4:25 pm: DJ Soul Selektah

5 pm: NIA Arts (African Drum & Dance)
 5:35 pm: DJ QBoogie
 6:15 pm: Kelvin Young (Sound Healer)
 6:30 pm: Kentrell Ragin
 7:05 pm: IAMDJDRAKE ft. Nekita Waller (Afro Soul Experience)
 7:30 pm: Jay Aaron (R&B)
 8:10 pm: Stix Bones Band

UPPER STAGE (HARTFORD SIDE)

11:50 am: Transition Music
 12 pm: The Art of Conversation Panel
 12:30 pm: Live Art & Musical Performance
 1 pm: African Drumming Performance
 1:50 pm: Transition Music
 2 pm: Francine's Culture Cuisine
 2:30 pm: Transition Music

2:45 pm: Amistad Youth Panel & Book Giveaway
 3 pm: Transition Music
 3:15 pm: Kemet the World Traveler Experience
 3:30 pm: Conscious Rap & Live Music
 4:30 pm: Amistad Flash Mob
 5 pm: Andre Keith Storytelling Experience
 5:30 pm: Lisa Clayton Singers
 6 pm: Francine's Culture Cuisine
 7 pm: Amistad Presents
 8 pm: Closing Remarks

EAST HARTFORD STAGE

12:30 pm: YACO International Inc. (African Dance & Drums)
 1:30 pm: Grace C. Wright (Caribbean Dance Company)
 2:30 pm: NRGY (Spoken Word)
 3:15 pm: Pat Thompson (Vocalist Extraordinaire)
 4:15 pm: The Geanii Center (Step Dance & Drum)

Springtime Bouquet for Mom

The East Hartford Woman's Club and the East Hartford Fire Department wish to thank those of you who donated to the 2026 Springtime Bouquet for Mom fundraiser as shared in *The Gazette*. Through your donations, EHWC will be able to provide \$765 to our Fire Department for the purchase of smoke alarms.

A flower was "purchased" in Memory of: Lucy Alleano, Leslie Apostalon, Patricia Appicelli, Josephine Batchelder, Jane Bowen, Charlotte Bradbury (2), Ruth Bragg-Scollo, Carmella Breton, Robin Breton, Mary Borozowsky, Ann Carter, Rose Chiapponi, Betti Collins, Winifred Conover, Pauline Corum, Ethel Davis, Peggy Desrocher, Anna Drusbacky, Mytrice Duffy, Barbara Emmith, Nancy Fitzgerald, Vivian Gibson, Helen Gingras, Stephanie Goetz, Shirlye Gula, Alice B. Hanson, Mary Hickey, Julia Hornyak, Lena Stratton Hornyak, Mary Kasparian, Josephine Keegan, Viola Kehoe, Mary Laroche.

Priscilla Lafavour, Lillian Leonard, Sandra Leonard DeVino, Rosemary Leone, Virginia Lessard, Gilberte Levesque, Margaret Levesque, Rosanna Levesque, Madeline Lo-Prete, Marylyn LoPrete, Frances MacClain, Grace Marques, Alice Martin, Lynn Martin, Catherine Massaro, Ruth Benson Matthews, Nora McIntyre, Eleanor McMahon, Agnes Melikian, Adrine Messikian, Miss Mary Morlock, Audrey Morway, Anna Marie O'Connell, Mary Elizabeth O'Connell, Mary Louise O'Connell Caccillo, Eleanor Olenick, Patty Olenick, Gloria Ostrout, Beatrice Palmer, Ann Pelligrinelli, Ann Marie Plaksa, Kathy Quick, Loretta Rice, Charlotte Richemond, Beverly Rinaldi, Amelia Rivers, Althea Rivers Cowles, Beulah Rivers Colli, Adrienne Rivers Alvigini, Mary Rizzuto, Ruth Roberts, Virginia Roberts, Anna Romahn, Josephine Sale, Assuanco Santos, Ruth Sheehan (2), Peg Shuckerow (2), Evelyn Sogaro, Genevieve St.

Amand, Rolande St. Denis, Clara Stratton, Marion W. Sullivan, Maureen Sundin, Kay Turner, Patricia Thibodeau, Jane T. Vanek, Vera Wing, Makfired Zuberi.

A flower was "purchased" in Honor of: Alexandra Austin-Grove, Ana Clara Blesso, Nancy Caye, Kara Chace, Linda Chamberlain, Monika Chamberlain, Miss Anita Deprey, Terry Ehrhardt, Linda Fenton, Ann Ficocelli, Kara D. Filmer, Vivian Gil, Jennifer Gingras, Kristen Gingras, Mary Gingras, Jill Gauthier, Ellen Hart, Dolores Kehoe, Sara Kennedy, Eliza Holdbrook LeBeau, Kay Leone, Roberta McIntire-Shapiro, Cynthia Messikian, Aaliyah Miller, Lynn Anne Mourey, Theresa Mourey, Michelle Mourey-Austin, Marie E. Ortiz, Lu Rector, Veronica Rosario, Elizabeth "Betty" Kilgariff Russell (2), Bonita Shriell, Reagan Sundin, Julie Syptak, Ania Szarejko, Leydi Vasquez (2), Ruth Vasquez, Paula Virtue, Mary Whaples, Rosamond White, Marie Zerba.

Juneteenth brings back river celebration akin to Riverfest

Celebrate Juneteenth across both sides of the river at Great River Park and Mortensen Riverfront Plaza—hosted with the City of Hartford, Town of East Hartford, and Riverfront Recapture, with Music is Life curating the Hartford mainstage entertainment, plus live music, DJs, food trucks, a mental health wellness village, and family-friendly fun.

The concept of a celebration on both sides of the river is similar to that of Riverfest, a fire-

works celebration in July that ended due to the cost and the growing crowds it attracted. But the regional walkways now connect the city and town better than ever before.

Parking: Free on-street parking is available on both sides of the river. Paid parking is available in the CT Convention Center Garage — park on the fifth floor and exit via the north side for direct access to the Convention Center, Science Center, and Mortensen Riverfront Plaza.

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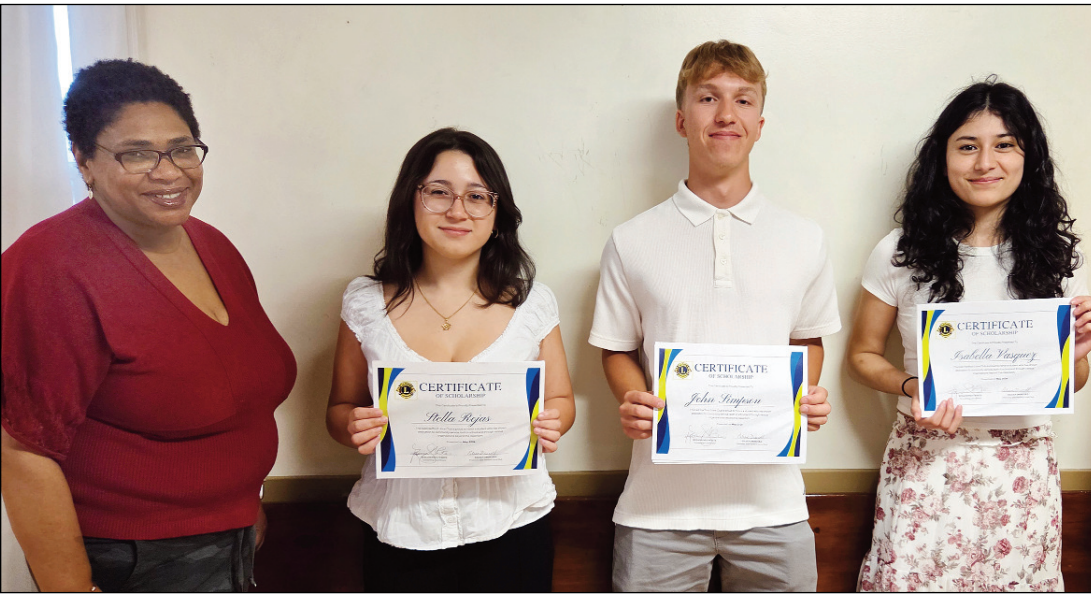
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Society

LIONS CLUB SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED



THE EAST HARTFORD LIONS honored three 2026 East Hartford high school graduates at their Installation Scholarship celebration held at the Hillstown Grange on Tuesday, June 9. From left to right, Lion Roz White, Scholarship Chair; Stella Rojas recipient of the Kehoe Scholarship, John Simpson recipient of the Lions Club Book Scholarship, and Isabella Vasquez, recipient of the Lions Club Scholarship.

EAST HARTFORD ON THE CAMPUS

Alexia Phipps graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Bianca Dixon with a Bachelor of Science from American International College May 9 at the Mass Mutual Center in Springfield, Mass.

East Hartford's Rachel Osei graduated from Colgate University May 17. Osei, a graduate of Capital Preparatory Magnet School in Hartford, majored in Sociology at the Hamilton, NY school. This year was Colgate's 205th commencement.

Mary R. Poirier, of East Hartford received a degree during Clark University's Commencement exercises on Monday, May 18. Poirier graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. Poirier is a member of the Phi Beta Kappa honor society.

Connecticut students who completed requirements for degrees and graduated from the University of Connecticut included Joanna Braga, Ayanna Collymore, Eduardo Gonzalez, Sade' Lawson, Emily Llantín, Baotien Nguyen, Mackenzie Simpson, Praise Uwaya, John Vo, Jason Cantwell, Nadine Hamilton, Roderick Samuda.

The University of Hartford is pleased to announce that 2,332 students have been named to the Dean's List and President's List for the spring 2026 semester.

Rhamsez Batchelor, Dean's List and President's List; Kerine Beckford, Dean's List; Brandon Bourne, Dean's List; Khanikée Cammock, Dean's List and President's List; Kkaitlyn Caplette, Dean's List; Ari Carter, Dean's List; Roselyne Collado, Dean's List and President's List; Valeria Colon, Dean's List; Trinity Cordero, Dean's List and President's List; Vanessa Daley, Dean's List and President's List; Bintu Darboe, Dean's List and President's List; Ale De Jesus Caraballo, Dean's List and President's List; Cole Gabriel, Dean's List and President's List; Perci Galindo, Dean's List and President's List; Sontay Isaacs, Dean's List and President's List; Christian Jackson, Dean's List; Olivia Marcano, Dean's List; Gloribel Martinez Albanez, Dean's List; Brendan Mojica, Dean's List and President's List; Kylie Norton, Dean's List; Alexandra Oki, Dean's List; Melvin Sanchez, Dean's List and President's List; Vanessa Sanchez, Dean's List; Omar Thomas, Dean's List and President's List; Cebrina Torres,

Dean's List; Claudia Ugarte, Dean's List; and Julisa Woodard, Dean's List.

Brewer House celebration June 27

On June 27 there will be a Brewer House Renovation Ribbon Cutting hosted by the town and the East Hartford Historical Society. At 2 p.m. Mayor Connor Martin will conduct the ribbon cutting at the Selden Brewer House to celebrate the culmination of the complete renovation of this historic 1827

home at the corner of Main Street and Naubuc Avenue. All are welcome.

Also, on Saturdays the Historical Society of East Hartford offers free tours. See period furnishings and photographs from the 1860s to the 1930s adorn the home. Tours begin at 11 a.m. Saturdays until 2 p.m.

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TWO PASTA DINNERS: \$25.95*

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The Annmarie Viola Memorial Adult Swim Classes

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outdoor sports center

429 Oak St., East Hartford, CT

6 FREE Sunday Afternoon Swim Classes

Classes start Sunday June 28 | No swim experience necessary

CLASS 1	Women ages 19-40	3:00 - 3:45pm
CLASS 2	Women over 40	3:00 - 3:45pm
CLASS 3	Men ages 19-40	3:45 - 4:30pm
CLASS 4	Men over 40	3:45 - 4:30pm

Simply scan the QR code to register.

Need help to register? Call or text Rose 860-682-8265

EAST HARTFORD SPORTS

The pleasure of just catching up

I spent much of this month visiting my past. That began with paying a visit to my 98-year-old fifth grade teacher. Two wonderful hours with Dick Curland. Nothing to do with sports. But he hadn't lost his fastball.

I also visited with old colleagues whose sports media roots carried me all the way back to my own. One of them has one of the most familiar voices in Connecticut sports. In 1981 I relinquished my position on the UConn basketball and football broadcasts to accept the morning sportscaster job at WTIC radio. I convinced the Connecticut Radio Network, which owned the

SCOTT GRAY on SPORTS

by Scott Gray



UConn rights, there was only one logical replacement. Since then Wayne Norman of WILI radio in Willimantic has been the one constant through several network changes, manning my old position for 45 years. Already signed for next season he told me, "I'll stay on the broadcasts as long as they want me."

In other words he'll probably die behind the mic. He's seen a lot of UConn history, Tate George at the Meadowslands, Ray Allen at Madison Square Garden, but he says the number one moment in UConn hoop history was Braylon Mullins shot against Duke. My close friendship with "Wano" has passed the half century mark. It's always a hoot catching up with him.

I later visited with one of the best, most honest sports-writers in Connecticut history. Former *Journal Inquirer* sports and media writer and longtime East Hartford resident Matt Buckler, who spent many summer nights manning the P.A. for baseball games at Ray McKenna field, is retired and living in Stafford, where, for several years, he was the track announcer at Stafford Speedway. Racing fans still quote many of his most famous glib and entertaining ad-libs. Our long conversation, re-living many entertaining, shared moments of our careers drew an appreciative audience. Bystanders closed in. They pressed for details, asked for more. Former readers and fans of Matt will be happy to know that he hasn't lost his razor sharp wit nor sense of humor.

I met Matt on a Whalers charter flight to Portland, Maine. He introduced himself and told me he'd been hired by Randy Smith to write for the *J.I.* He then spent his career proving Randy was a great judge of talent.

Old friend Bob Rumbold, of Channel 61 and Channel 8 sportscasting fame, dropped in at a recent Willow Inn Hot Stove League meeting. Bob got his start in the sports media in 1975 when entered the booth at a Manchester High-Fermi football game I was broadcasting with George Ehrlich. Still in high school, Bob asked if he could spot for us. He'd drawn up spotter boards for both teams and insured our play-calling accuracy. We kept him on - and eventually even paid him. Bob retired last year. He is happily devoting most of his time to his family.

We've been great friends since that day he walked into our booth. He maintained the standard of excellence of our first meeting throughout his career.

Never skip an opportunity to visit old friends. Dick Curland, my fifth grade teacher, passed away last week.

CHAFFEE TOURNAMENT ATTRACTS A CROWD



EAST HARTFORD GOLF COURSE welcomed 136 golfers Saturday, plus 180 people for dinner, the largest event at the golf course in last 10 years. The occasion was a charity, the Josh Chaffee Memorial, sponsored by Square Peg pizza's owner Jay Maffe, fourth from left in the photo at right.



OBITUARIES

Wayne Townsend; Navy vet

Wayne D. Townsend, age 67, of East Hartford passed away Sunday, May 24, 2026 at Saint Francis Hospital after a long battle with cancer.

Born in New Mexico to Susan E. and Kenneth W. Townsend, Wayne grew up a farm boy in Bentonville, Arkansas. In high school and college, he enjoyed bowling

and playing catcher for the school baseball team. He joined the United States Navy in 1981 and served on a submarine until 1987 when he was discharged honorably as an EM1 - Enlisted Petty Officer First Class, Electrician's Mate. He then worked briefly for Chubb as a boiler inspector before becoming a boiler inspector for the State of Connecticut where he worked for 25 years until his retirement in 2020.

Wayne was a man of integrity who sought to uplift those around him. He was an avid fan of the Boston Red Sox, Arkansas Razorbacks, Dallas Cowboys and UConn basket-



Wayne Townsend

ball. He enjoyed science fiction novels and shows like NCIS, Frasier, Firefly, Battlestar Galactica, Star Trek, and Babylon 5.

He is survived by his daughter, Amanda Townsend of Cleveland, Georgia; and extended family in Connecticut and Arkansas.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made

in memory of Wayne D. Townsend to Cancer Care at the Saint Francis Foundation, 95 Woodland St., 2nd Floor, Hartford, CT 06105 or online at <https://giving.trinity-healthofne.org/hartford/donate>. There will be no calling hours, and the burial will be private. Wayne will be buried in the veteran's section at Silver Lane Cemetery in East Hartford, CT. The D'Esopo East Hartford Memorial Chapel, 30 Carter Street, East Hartford, CT has been entrusted with the care of the funeral arrangements. For on-line expressions of sympathy to the family, please visit www.desopoe.com

Constance 'Connie' L. Graham, 79

Constance "Connie" L. Graham, 79, of South Windsor, beloved wife of 57 years to Peter Graham, passed away peacefully at home on Monday, June 8, 2026.

Born in Altoona, Pennsylvania, on July 23, 1946, she was the daughter of the late George and Helen Wigfield. Connie spent her childhood living in many different states before settling in South Windsor where she raised her family. She worked for many years as a secretary at the Hebrew Academy in Bloomfield.

Connie loved with all her heart, especially her family. She passed along many cherished traditions to her grandchildren, including baking coffee cake for Christmas morning, bargain shopping, vacationing on Cape Cod and in Maine, making gingerbread houses, decorating her Christmas tree. She loved cheering on her grandchildren at sporting events, playing dominoes, doing word searches, watching UConn Women's Basketball games with Pete and visiting her siblings in Virginia.



Constance Graham

More than anything, Connie cherished spending time with her family, who were the center of her life. She was known for welcoming others into her family, and many of Abby, Tyler, and Katie's friends affectionately called her "Grandma." She was there for her loved ones every step of the way and fought courageously to the very end to remain with them.

In addition to her loving husband, Peter, Connie will be forever missed and loved by her sons, Jeff Graham and his wife, Dina, and Rob Graham and his wife, Rebecca; her adored granddaughters, Abby Graham and Katie Graham; and Dawn Petrucci, who was cherished as part of the family. She is also survived by her brother, Tom Wigfield and his wife, Annie; her sisters, Pam Koblitz and her husband, Gary, and Pat Fattahian, all of Virginia; as well as several nieces, nephews, extended family members, and dear friends.

She was predeceased by her

beloved grandson, Tyler Graham; her son-in-law, Robert Deyber; her brother-in-law, David Fattahian; and her in-laws, John and Barbara Graham.

The family extends their sincere gratitude to Dr. Alekshun and Dr. Bertsch for their exceptional care over the past 14½ years. They also wish to thank the nurses and staff of Hartford HealthCare Hospice for the compassionate care they provided during Connie's final months. They are truly angels on earth. The family is deeply grateful to their relatives and friends for the love and support shown during these past few months. Celebration of Life for Connie will be held TODAY, June 18 from 2 to 5 p.m. at D'Esopo East Hartford Memorial Chapel, 30 Carter St.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Connie's name to Hartford Healthcare at Home c/o Department of Philanthropy, 80 Seymour Street; PO Box 5037 Hartford, CT 06102 or to the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 6704, Hagerstown, MD 21741.

For on-line expressions of sympathy to the family, please visit www.desopoe.com

Pasquale 'Pat' Dellaripa, 102; WWII Army veteran, builder

Pasquale (Pat) Dellaripa, 102, of East Hartford passed away peacefully in his home on June 6, 2026. He was born on July 10, 1923, and was the son of the late Anthony and Mary (Nardella) Dellaripa. He grew up in East Hartford and after finishing trade school he worked as a carpenter for other builders before starting on his own to build and sell houses with the help of his father-in-law Frank Francini.

He built over 30 homes in East Hartford, South Windsor and the surrounding area. He was a proud veteran who served two weeks shy of three years in the US Army during WW II. He was in the Pacific mostly in the Philippines and also served with the Air National Guard at Dover Air Force Base during the Korean War and was discharged from the Guard in June 1952.

Pat is survived by four children: Lorean Dwyer and her husband William of Florida,

Peter Dellaripa and his wife Karen of South Glastonbury, Angela Dellaripa and her wife Linda of North Carolina, and David Dellaripa and his wife Jeanette of Tolland. He had 7 grandchildren - Keith, Brian and Michael Dwyer, Nicholas Dellaripa, Nadina and Malachi Dellaripa and Abigail Ekstrom-Dellaripa; five great-grandchildren - Caroline and Dominick Dwyer, Bobby and Emma Dwyer, and Nathaniel Dwyer; and several nieces and nephews.

Pasquale was predeceased by three sisters: Christine Graham, Terry Congelosi and Philomena Wade.

Pat had a great sense of humor and enjoyed talking with people. He enjoyed betting on dog races, slots at the casi-



Pasquale Dellaripa

no, and happy hour at Carmines. He also loved going to the shore to visit his niece, Trish Graham, and a glass of red wine on the deck. He also liked going to events held at the WW II museum on Pitkin Street. Dad would regularly quote Brad Davis from WDRC: "Take care of yourself, you couldn't do it for a better person."

The family would like to thank Dr. Patricia Cioffi for her care over the many years and Dr. Marc Nespoli as well as the many others at the Veterans health care. The family would

like to especially thank Mario Almeida for his love and care of Pasquale. Mario was his main caregiver but more important than that he was Pat's friend and buddy!! We would also like to thank his niece Trish for all she did for Pat, shopping and great cooking, and all the social invites over the years.

Burial will be private at the convenience of the family. There are no calling hours. If desired, contributions in his memory can be made to the World War II Legacy Foundation Inc., 61 Matthew Rd, East Hartford, CT, 06108 or to a charity of choice. D'Esopo East Hartford Memorial Chapel, 30 Carter St., is entrusted with funeral arrangements. www.desopoe.com

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East Hartford obituaries are free of charge.

Juneteenth party to bridge East Hartford, Hartford Martin Park

From Page One

lar mainstage performances from regional recording artists, dynamic live stage shows, and sets from the Hartford region's premier DJs. Families from across both towns can look forward to a wide array of hands-on activities, interactive storytelling experiences, and a vibrant community marketplace showcasing Black-owned businesses, local crafters, and food trucks featuring African cuisine.

"Juneteenth is a time to remember our history, honor the strength of those who paved the way, and celebrate our shared

freedom," said Hartford Mayor Arunan Arulampalam. "By bridging the river and partnering with East Hartford and Riverfront Recapture, we are sending a message that our communities are stronger when we work together. This waterfront is a shared space for all our residents, and there is no better backdrop to showcase the exceptional artistic talent, diverse cultures, and vibrant neighborhoods that make our capital region thrive."

"I cannot think of a better event to lean into the spirit of collaboration than Juneteenth as we move forward in our vi-

front as a truly regional destination." said East Hartford Mayor Connor Martin. "We are reframing the river from a divider to a point of connection, opportunity, culture, and community. I want to thank our partners in this event including Riverfront Recapture, the East Hartford Black Caucus, the Amistad Center for Arts and Culture, and Music is Life, because without this meaningful collaboration, this event would not be possible. At its core, this event is about celebrating Black joy, freedom, resilience, and communal wellbeing."

"On behalf of Riverfront Re-

capture, an organization dedicated to connecting people with the Connecticut River, we look forward to this landmark event." said Mike Zelski, CEO of Riverfront Recapture.

"The River does not divide us, but instead unites us. I applaud the leadership of Mayor Arulampalam and Mayor Martin for working together to unite the region as one community."

For more about Juneteenth and the full lineup of stage performances, vendors, and more, visit riverfront.org.

Angie gets funds

The State Elections Enforcement Commission (the "Commission") voted at its June 10, 2026 regular meeting to approve public grant payments under the Citizens' Election Program ("CEP") for candidates in the August 11, 2026 primary and November 3, 2026 general election. Included was Angie Parkinson (D - 10th District).

The CEP is a voluntary public financing program designed to help candidates for the General Assembly and statewide Constitutional offices run competitive campaigns without relying on large private contributors. To participate, candidates must demonstrate that they have substantial local support from the public by raising small-dollar contributions from individuals.

Candidates for state representative accomplish this by raising \$6,700 in contributions from individuals, with at least 150 coming from individuals residing in municipalities in their districts. Participating candidates may only accept small dollar contributions from certain individuals—the maximum contribution is \$340—and no contributions from state contractors or PACs.

From Page One

keep it open. But this year the list of deficiencies is prompting the town to weigh whether the repairs are worth doing, or if the money would be better spent on replacing the pool. A consultant will be retained to evaluate the options, according to the mayor's office.

"Martin Park pool has been a cornerstone of the neighborhood and a place where children, families and neighbors gather throughout the summer. We understand that its closure creates real challenges, particularly for families who rely on it as an affordable and accessible place to stay active, stay cool and connect with their community. The mayor's office said the decision was not made lightly to close the pool but "safety must remain our top priority."

The mayor's office also stated it is working with residents and community partners to identify alternatives for this summer and to evaluate long-term options for the future of the facility."

Hours at Drennan Pool have been extended, "and we will be doing more programming there this summer," said the mayor's spokesperson, Marissa Baum.

Recreation staff will be shifted to other town pools, and since the town was still looking to hire lifeguards the closure will not impact the numbers of lifeguards the town uses, about 40 full and part-time for the summer season.

Admission to town pools requires a town ID. Otherwise, the cost is \$15 to swim for non-residents.

Splash parties and special swim activities are planned at the other neighborhood pools.

The full schedule of town pools is posted to the town's Parks website, easthartfordct.gov/parks-recreation.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF
JANICE ALLISON,
AKA JANICE M. ALLISON
(26-00226)

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

Jenna M. Allison
c/o Lee W. Reiber, Esquire;
Mahon Quinn & Mahon P.C.,
636 Broad St., P.O. Box 2420,
Meriden, CT 06450

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF
DANTE DIOR BARNES
(26-00225)

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

Evette Murtha, 43 Harbor Drive,
Unit 503, Stamford, CT 06902

sion for investing in the river-

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF
BARBARA ELIZABETH STONE
DRESSER, AKA BARBARA
ELIZABETH DRESSER,
AKA BARBARA S. DRESSER
(26-00227)

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

Deborah Elizabeth Dresser
McNamara, 25 Country Lane,
East Hartford, CT 06118

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF
WAYNE D. TOWNSEND, AKA
WAYNE DALE TOWNSEND
(26-00232)

The Hon. Richard P. Gentile, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of East Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated **June 12, 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:

Amanda Townsend
c/o Michael J. Trella, Esquire;
Talcott Law Group, P.C., 11
Talcott Notch Road,
Farmington, CT 06032

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF
MICHAEL SAWKA, AKA
MICHAEL STEPHEN SAWKA
(26-00230)

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

Michelle Sawka
c/o Thomas Auger Robinson,
Esquire; Falkenstein,
Meggers, Paul & Robinson
PC, 113 East Center St.,
Manchester, CT 06040

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF
ADRIENNE DAVIS, AKA
ADRIENNE JACQUELINE DAVIS
(26-00224)

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

Salema Davis, 11 Springside
Avenue, East Hartford, CT
06108



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WHERE THE ACTION IS!

BY CORINNE HORAN

SATURDAYS: The Historical Society of East Hartford offers free tours of the Selden Brewer House, 167 Main St. Furnishings and photographs from the 1860s to the 1930s adorn the home. Free tours begin at 11 a.m. Saturdays until 2 p.m. Donations accepted. Learn more about your home.

JUNE 20: JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION, East Hartford and Hartford's riverfronts will be the venues for this first-ever combined celebration of freedom across the Founders Bridge. Day of music, entertainment, food and reflection starts at noon until 5 p.m.

JUNE 20/21: The World War II Legacy Foundation Museum will be open for visitors 2 - 6 p.m., 102 Pitkin St. FMI call 860-810-8736.

JUNE 20: MANCHESTER LIONS CLUB ANNUAL DUCK RACE fundraiser Saturday at Charter Oak Park, 50 Charter Oak St. in Manchester. At 2 p.m., hundreds of rubber ducks will be released to race down Birch Mountain Brook through the park. The family-friendly event will be held rain or shine. Tickets are \$5 for one or more ducks, and ducks can be purchased race day or at <https://www.manchesterlionsclub.org/duck-race> or contact David DuBaldoat 860-250-1500 or 860-645-1500.

JUNE 20, AMY GALLATIN AND STILLWATERS performs at South Church, 1301 Forbes St. at 7 p.m. as part of the MOSAICS series of concerts. Gallatin returns for another rollicking evening of bluegrass. \$20 at the door.

JUNE 22: POST MALONE & JELLY ROLL concert, 7 p.m. at P&W Stadium at Rentschler Field.

JUNE 25: SOUNDS OF SUMMER concert, 6 p.m., Great River Park. This week featuring the **Chris Marra Band**. In case of inclement conditions the concerts move indoors to the auditorium of the Community Center at 50 Chapman Place.

JUNE 25: IMMIGRATION AND THE ORIGINS OF AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP - at the Mark Twain House, Farmington Avenue, Hartford with author Anna O. Law, 7 p.m. Conversation with Prof. Anna O. Law on her new book Migration and the Origins of American Citizenship: African-Americans, Native Americans, and Immigrants. As the US Supreme Court considers a case that could significantly change the meaning of citizenship, we invite you to join us for a discussion of the long history of citizenship in America and the ways it continues to shape modern day immigration policy. See website for info.

JUNE 27: MEDITATE IN THE PARK Saturday at 11 a.m. near the blooming rose gardens of Elizabeth Park, West Hartford. Enjoy a guided meditation and short talk on how to keep a peaceful mind. Afterward, time to socialize and potluck. Bring a chair or blanket. Everyone welcome, kids and pets included. Free. FMI go to meditationinconnecticut.org

JUNE 27: BREWER HOUSE RENOVATION RIBBON CUTTING - Join the East Hartford Historical Society for a ribbon cutting at the Selden Brewer House, at 2 p.m. Come celebrate the culmination of the complete renovation of this historic 1827 home at Naubuc Avenue and Main Street.

JUNE 27, 28: THE WORLD WAR II LEGACY FOUNDATION MUSEUM will be open 3 - 7 p.m., 102 Pitkin St. The museum will be remembering World War II veterans born in June, commemorating their heavenly birthday. Stop by to share your photos.

JUNE 28: MEET ELIZABETH THOMAS, EAST HARTFORD'S POET LAUREATE June 28 from 2 until 4 p.m. at the Wickham Memorial Library, 656 Burnside. Thomas is the first official Poet Laureate of

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East Hartford. If so inclined, bring a short (one page or less) poem to possibly share. The names of five readers will be drawn from a hat throughout the event. Refreshments. 656 Burnside Avenue.

JULY 2: SOUNDS OF SUMMER concert, 6 p.m., Great River Park. This week features the rollicking band, the **Sound Pipers**. In case of inclement conditions the concerts move indoors to the auditorium of the Community Center at 50 Chapman Place.

JULY 6: CONCERT FOR AMERICA'S 250TH by the Windham Concert Band at Great River Park, Monday, July 6 at 6 p.m. (rain date: July 7) and "Sharing the Spirit of America," a nationwide simultaneous reading of the Declaration of Independence at the East Hartford Raymond Library Wednesday, July 8 beginning at 5:45 pm. Don't miss these events!

JULY 7: FARMER'S MARKET, TUESDAYS, 12-2:30 p.m. on the Town Green, 1047 Main St. SNAP, WIC, Senior FMNP benefits accepted. No market August 4. www.easthartfordct.gov/farmers-market for info.

JULY 8 - WICKHAM DAY QUILTERS OF EAST HARTFORD meet from 1:30-3:30 p.m. at the Wickham Library meeting room at 656 Burnside Avenue.

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 meet the second Wednesday of the month. Wickham Day Quilters is a chapter of the Greater Hartford Quilt Guild. July program consist of a video on the History of American Quilts, and we will do a wire ring wreath project. Questions? E-mail us at Wickhamdayquilters@gmail.com

JULY 9: SOUNDS OF SUMMER concert, 6 p.m., Great River Park. This week features salsa band **Socky Y la Nueva Creacion**. In case of inclement conditions the concerts move indoors to the auditorium of the Community Center at 50 Chapman Place.

JULY 16: SOUNDS OF SUMMER concert, 6 p.m., Great River Park. This week, the ever-popular group **Cover 2 Cover** performs. In case of inclement conditions the concerts move indoors to the auditorium of the Community Center at 50 Chapman Place. July 23's concert is **The Score** followed by the **Soul Sound Review** on July 30. Enjoy the concerts, bring a picnic.

AUG 16: BUTTERFLIES WITH LEPIDOPTERIST VICTOR DEMASI Sunday, 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the Bush Hill Preserve, 871 Hillstown Road, Manchester. Join Victor DeMasi of the Peabody Museum of Natural History and Land Heritage Coalition of Glastonbury on a walk through Manchester Land Conservation Trust's Bush Hill Preserve, to observe butterflies and learn about their ecology and conservation. Interested children are welcome! Wear sturdy shoes and long pants. Tick repellent is recommend. The field walk will start promptly at 10 a.m.

THURSDAYS - SOLDIERS & SAILORS MEMORIAL ARCH TOURS, Bushnell Park. noon until 1:30 p.m. The Arch is open for FREE tours on Thursdays from 12-1:30 pm, May through October. Volunteer Arch Guides share the history behind the design and construction of the monument, along with the meaning behind its symbolic carvings and statuary. Tours last approximately 15-30 minutes, no pre-registration is required. Only have a few minutes? Climb the 96 steps to the top for the view.

GET A FREE CHECKUP - The Malta House mobile health care van parks on the 2nd and 4th Monday mornings at St. Mary's Church.

VISITING NURSE AND HOME HEALTH SERVICES are looking for Hospice volunteers to provide companionship and support. If interested, please contact John Roush at jroush@ech.org or 860-682-3405.

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

FOSTER FAMILIES needed for children in DCF care in every town. FMI or to register for a meeting, contact Annie C Courtney Foundation, 475-235-2184.