

The Gazette

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Crafted from the finest local ingredients since 1885

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Hnatuk to steer progress for town

East Hartford's new brand promise, "Elevate Here," reflects a commitment to fostering opportunity, growth, and innovation throughout the community. Mayor Connor S. Martin intends to uphold that promise through a continued focus on business attraction, retention, and economic development.

Following the recent departure of Eileen Buckheit, who served as East Hartford's Director of Community Development for 13 years, Deputy Director Steve Hnatuk assumed the role of Interim Director for a 90-day period. Effective July 1, 2026, Hnatuk will officially serve as the Town of East Hartford's Director of Community Development.

Hnatuk's demonstrated commitment to both the position and the East Hartford community, coupled with his experience managing the department's day-to-day operations, distinguished him throughout the selection process. His professional background in planning and zoning provides a valuable perspective on economic development, with a focus on creating a business-friendly environment and removing barriers that can impede growth and investment. His philosophy centers on establishing the conditions necessary for businesses of all sizes to succeed in East Hartford.

Hnatuk will be responsible for the administration and man-

WORLD SWIMMING LESSON DAY



AT GLENBROOKE OUTDOOR SPORTS CENTER Thursday Arian Chavez was one of four lifeguards giving swim lessons to kids on the World's Largest Swimming Lesson day, a global drowning prevention initiative focused on teaching families the importance of teaching and learning this life-saving skill. Drowning is the leading cause of death for children age 1-4 noted Kevin Borrup of CT Children's Medical Center in Hartford.



STEVE HNATUK
New EH Development Director

agement of the Community Development Department, which includes the Economic Development, Planning, Building, Zoning, Property Maintenance, and Grants divisions. He will continue to lead the Town's economic development and redevelopment efforts by guiding policy and regulatory initiatives that facilitate growth and investment, supporting business retention and attraction, and advancing redevelopment opportunities throughout the community.

Prior to his appointment as Director, Hnatuk served as East Hartford's Deputy Development Director, where he led the Town's 10-year Plan of Conservation and Development, the Founders Plaza District Master

Plan, the Affordable Housing Plan, and the comprehensive modernization of East Hartford's zoning regulations. He continues to support the redevelopment of the Church Corners Inn and Founders Plaza, Main Street revitalization efforts, and the Town's brown-field assessment and remediation initiatives.

He also focused department efforts on updating land use administration and enforcement policies, expanding online permitting and development services, and improving development review processes.

Before joining the town of East Hartford, Hnatuk worked for Tyche Planning & Policy Group, where he served as

Fireworks at MCC Hartford

The region will host two fireworks displays in Hartford Saturday at Bushnell Park and next Saturday, July 11 at the bandshell on the campus of Manchester's state community college, formerly known as MCC.

The Manchester event features an afternoon of food trucks and music, and is popular with people from throughout the area. Arrive early for parking as it is always tight.

Also for those interested in marking the nation's 250th, the state Museum of Connecticut History at the Connecticut State Library announces a new exhibit commemorating the nation's birthday. "Connecticut's Revolution" examines how our state's inhabitants played roles in the American Revolution.

Opening to the public on Saturday, July 4 the exhibit will be part of "Hartford Bonanza's 2026 + America 250" commemoration. A Recommitment to the Ideals of the Declaration ceremony sponsored by the America 250 | Connecticut Commission will take place on the steps of the Connecticut State Library & Supreme Court Building at 10 a.m. The exhibit will be launched at the conclusion of the ceremony and will remain open until 4 p.m.

"Connecticut's Revolution" explores the ideas and experiences of the people who made history: Connecticut's soldiers and statesmen, Patriots and Loyalists, painters and printers, farmers and sailors—men, women, and children from America, Europe, and Africa. To try to see the world through their eyes, the Museum of Con-

See HNATUK NAMED, pg. 10

See 250TH EVENTS pg. 10

AROUND TOWN

Correction: Academy at EHMS

The East Hartford Science & Technology Academy (EHSTA), launching in Fall 2027, will be in a dedicated wing of East Hartford Middle School not at O'Brien School as headlines reported incorrectly in last week's Gazette.

The new academy will feature labs equipped with technology for robotics, prototyping, aerospace, data science, artificial intelligence, and biotechnology. The district-operated, school-within-a-school STEM academy will offer students career-connected pathways and project-based learning via university and industry collaborations and be limited to 150-200

students in Grades 5-8, with an initial rollout in Grades 5-6.

"The East Hartford Science & Technology Academy is the latest example of the East Hartford Public Schools investing in its students and community," said Superintendent Thomas Anderson. "This academy will offer our next generation an exclusive future-forward learning experience."

The primary goal of EHSTA is to create a seamless Grades 5-post-secondary STEM pathway that prepares students for high-demand, high-paying careers in robotics, aerospace, data science, artificial intelligence, and biotechnology.

SOUNDS OF SUMMER FAN



AT THURSDAY'S SUMMER SOUNDS CONCERT at Great River Park, World War II veteran Robert Garabedian, a fighter pilot in the war flying P-40s and P-47s in the Pacific Theater, commented that his P-47 was a magnificent aircraft, "Never let me down." The concerts continue this week, but as high temperatures are expected they may be shifted to the air-conditioned auditorium of the Community Center on Chapman Place.

Bronin gets Hispanic support

Endorsed First Congressional District nominee Luke Bronin is also being backed by the state's Hispanic Democratic Caucus, the group announced Friday. Formed in 2003 to generate support for Latinos running for local and state office, the CHDC "is committed to creating political equity, maximizing social impact and addressing the needs of Connecticut's communities."

"Luke has been a partner to the CT Hispanic Democratic Caucus for years, he's delivered for our community time and again as mayor of one of the most diverse cities in the coun-

try, and we're proud to be with him in this fight now," said Maly Rosado and Miguel Castro, chairwoman and vice chairman of the group in Windsor.

"Connecticut is home to a proud, diverse Latino community, but too often, we are relegated to the sidelines of politics. Luke listens to us, he understands us, and he's done more than give us a seat at the table - he's helped make sure that we are truly represented in leadership. At a time when Latino voters are skeptical of the Democratic Party, we need someone like Luke in Congress to regain ground we've lost."

Recycling, trash pick up as usual July 3

Town offices are closed July 3 the day before Independence Day. However while town employees get the day off, the private company which does trash and recycling collection will be out collecting town garbage and picking up recycling July 3. To schedule a bulky waste pickup, call All American Waste at 860-289-7850.

Wickham Library closed on Fridays

The Wickham Library will be closed on Fridays, the town announced in its newsletter.

Effective July 1, 2026, open hours at the Wickham Memorial Library will be Monday & Wednesday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Tuesday & Thursday, 1 - 8 p.m.

According to Library Director Sarah Kline Morgan, "since Wickham Memorial Library reopened in 2022, we have been tracking building usage to see which programs, services, and open hours are in highest demand by the community. Effective July 1, we will be offering expanded hours for meeting room use as well as reducing our open hours by eliminating Fridays (our least busy day)."

"This shift will allow us to offer more programs and accommodate more community meetings (a high demand service)," Morgan added.

Joke of the Week

Why do women prefer rocks to minerals?

Because typically, mineral the same.



CLASSIFIEDS

LANDSCAPING - weekly mowings (\$45-\$55) spring cleanup, mulching, bush and hedge trimming, etc... call (860)985-6361 for a quote.

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.

GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS GET RESULTS



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DESDE LA ESQUINA

by Carmen Maldonado

Celebrando el 4 de Julio

Llegó el 4 de julio y este año la celebración tiene un significado especial, ya que se conmemoran los 250 años de la Declaración de Independencia de los Estados Unidos. Ya me imagino a muchos calentando el grill, preparando la neverita o buscando el mejor lugar para ver los fuegos artificiales en familia. Después de todo, es un día perfecto para reunirnos con nuestros seres queridos, compartir con amistades y disfrutar de un descanso bien merecido.

Pero hay momentos en los que ni el revolú de los fuegos artificiales logra silenciar lo que llevamos por dentro.

Y es que, como comunidad latina, muchas veces vivimos con el corazón dividido. Hacemos nuestra vida aquí, trabajamos aquí, criamos a nuestros hijos aquí, pero nunca dejamos de mirar hacia esa tierra donde nacimos o donde todavía viven muchos de nuestros seres queridos.

Por eso, este 4 de julio, una fecha que representa tanto para millones de personas puede sentirse diferente para muchas familias.

Mientras unos preparan la parrillada o acomodan las sillas para esperar que caiga la noche, otros siguen pendientes de un familiar en Venezuela, donde los recientes terremotos han dejado comunidades afectadas que aún continúan en labores de rescate y recuperación. En Puerto Rico, miles de familias enfrentan interrupciones en el servicio de agua potable que han alterado su rutina diaria y han obligado a distribuir agua de emergencia en varias comunidades. Y aquí, en Estados Unidos, muchas familias latinas viven con la incertidumbre que generan las noticias relacionadas con inmigración, preguntándose cómo podrían impactar a un ser querido, un vecino o un compañero de trabajo.

Quizás ese sea el verdadero reto: celebrar con el corazón preocupado. Admirar un cielo lleno de luces mientras una parte de nosotros sigue pensando en quienes enfrentan incertidumbre, pérdidas o simplemente esperan que mañana sea un día mejor. Habrá quienes celebren con más entusiasmo que nunca. Habrá quienes estén atravesando un duelo y no encuentren ánimo para hacerlo. Otros preferirán un día tranquilo en casa. Y también estarán quienes vivan ambas emociones al mismo tiempo: sonreirán en la foto familiar mientras, por dentro, esperan una llamada, un mensaje o simplemente una buena noticia.

La verdad es que una emoción no cancela la otra.

Podemos agradecer las oportunidades que este país nos ha brindado y, al mismo tiempo, preocuparnos por nuestros familiares, nuestros amigos y nuestras comunidades. Podemos disfrutar de una tarde en familia sin dejar de sentir empatía por quienes hoy atraviesan momentos difíciles.

Eso no nos hace menos agradecidos. Nos hace humanos.

Quizás este 4 de julio, mientras el cielo se ilumina de colores y el estruendo de los fuegos artificiales llena la noche, también sea un buen momento para recordar que hay personas que agradecerían una llamada, un mensaje o simplemente saber que alguien está pensando en ellas.

Porque, al final, los fuegos artificiales duran apenas unos minutos. La solidaridad, la empatía y el cariño por nuestra gente pueden durar mucho más.

Y tal vez esa sea una de las mayores fortalezas de nuestra comunidad: la capacidad de celebrar sin dejar de sentir, de encontrar esperanza sin ignorar el dolor y de recordar que, aunque muchos hemos construido un hogar en este país, el corazón siempre encuentra la manera de cruzar el mar y las fronteras para abrazar a quienes amamos.

Este 4 de julio, mientras levantamos la vista para admirar el cielo iluminado, quizás también podamos mirar a nuestro alrededor. Celebrar las oportunidades, agradecer lo que tenemos y, al mismo tiempo, extender una mano, una oración o un pensamiento a quienes hoy necesitan un poco de esperanza. Porque, al final del día, esa también es una forma de celebrar.

Conecta conmigo: cmaldonado8816@icloud.com

POETS SALUTE TOWN'S FIRST POET LAUREATE



THE EAST HARTFORD COMMISSION ON CULTURE AND FINE ARTS presented a Launch Party for the Town's First ever Poet Laureate on Sunday, June 28, at the Wickham Library. Poets and lovers of poetry from across town and across Connecticut came to witness the celebrating of Elizabeth Thomas, whose roots are firmly planted in East Hartford, as East Hartford's inaugural Poet Laureate. To celebrate, a number of Poet Laureates from across Connecticut came to support Elizabeth, and presented her with a special cup to commemorate the occasion. Left to right, Steve Straight, Poet Laureate of South Windsor, Faith Vicinanza, Poet Laureate of Southbury, Pegi Deitz Shea, Poet Laureate of Vernon Emerita, Elizabeth Thomas, Poet Laureate of East Hartford, Susan Powers, Poet Laureate of Scotland, CT, and Victoria Nordlund, Poet Laureate of Glastonbury.

Hiking history

Grab your walking shoes and join a series of hikes highlighting a few of Connecticut's historic locations!

The Museum of Connecticut History, located at the Connecticut State Library, is Hiking Through History.

Museum Curator Patrick Smith leads a hike in Hartford July 24 to uncover the impact of the Revolution including a visit to the museum exhibit commemorating the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.

All Hiking Through History walks begin at 10 a.m. and are approximately two hours in duration. There is no fee to participate, but registration is required. Participants may choose one, some, or all the hikes. Space is limited; first come, first served. Upon registration, additional information will be shared about each hike. Most hikes are designed for a leisurely to moderate walking pace. Sign up at Patrick.j.smith@ct.gov or call 860-757-6534.

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'When landscaping, think Peter's'

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

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SPEAKING OUT!, LETTERS

Flip the Congress, not the Congressman

By Maura Fitzgerald

This is not a normal election cycle. Donald Trump is dismantling democratic institutions, threatening Social Security, and treating Congress like an obstacle to be eliminated. In that environment, the First Congressional District has a choice to make, and it is not the choice Luke Bronin wants you to think it is.

Bronin's entire campaign rests on a single argument: that John Larson is too old, too familiar, and that "fresh energy" is what this moment demands. It's a tidy message. It's also exactly what Donald Trump is counting on.

Let's be honest about what "change for change's sake" actually costs. It means handing a

safe Democratic seat to a candidate with few relationships in Washington, no seniority, and no leverage at the precise moment when leverage is everything. It means starting over at the bottom of the committee ladder while Trump's agenda is moving at full speed. New energy doesn't stop a freight train. Relationships, experience, and a seat at the table do.

John Larson has been the top vote-getter across all 27 towns in this district since 2018. That doesn't happen by accident. It happens because people know he shows up, not for a headline, not for a social media post, but because that's who he is and how he was raised. Just last month, Congressman Larson scored \$550 million for the non-profit Our Piece of the Pie,

to connect youth in Greater Hartford with educational and job training opportunities. During his tenure, he delivered over \$1 billion in federal dollars to Hartford alone, a lifeline for then-Mayor Luke Bronin who was presiding over the state bailout and takeover of Hartford's finances to prevent the city from declaring bankruptcy. Age is not the enemy here. Donald Trump is.

Now look at who is actually funding Bronin's campaign.

According to a May 2026 investigation by The American Prospect, before launching his congressional campaign, Bronin earned \$237,000 consulting for The Connecticut Project, a civic organization funded in large part by billionaire hedge fund manager Stephen Mandel and

his spouse Susan, who then maxed out their contributions to Bronin's campaign, donating \$14,000 total.

It doesn't stop there. Clifford Asness, co-founder of AQR Capital Management, and his spouse maxed out their individual contributions to Bronin's primary, convention, and general campaigns, donating \$21,000 in total. Asness is a longtime GOP mega-donor who recently donated to GOP Winning Women and the Sentinel Action Fund, organizations that exist to support conservative Republican candidates.

Bronin's campaign also paid \$10,000 to Precinct LLC, a consulting firm with direct ties to a dark-money network founded by Seth London, who wrote a memo calling for deregulating private industry, rejecting universal publicly funded health care, housing, or education, and embracing privatization and austerity.

This is what's powering Bronin's "fresh energy." It isn't grassroots. It's billionaire-backed, dark-money-fueled, and in some cases tied directly to donors who fund Republican candidates. When Bronin talks about change, voters deserve to ask: change for whom?

John Larson has spent nearly three decades fighting to protect Social Security, expand healthcare access, and deliver real federal dollars to every corner of this district. He doesn't answer to hedge fund managers or dark-money networks. He answers to the people of the First Congressional District, and they know it.

On August 11, voters will make a decision that extends well beyond this race. With Con-

gress potentially flipping, every seat matters. Every relationship, every committee assignment, every phone call to a colleague that only gets returned because of 28 years of trust, matters. This is not the moment to trade that away for a slogan.

John Larson is not a relic. He is a weapon. He grew up in Mayberry Village in East Hartford, attended public school, came back to teach in those same schools, and has never once forgotten where he came from or who he works for. While Luke Bronin was collecting \$237,000 from a billionaire-backed dark money network and cultivating relationships with GOP mega-donors, John Larson was delivering over \$1 billion in federal dollars to Hartford alone and showing up, at funerals, at job fairs, at kitchen tables, because that is what the job actually looks like.

A slogan doesn't protect your Social Security. A slogan doesn't stop the privatization agenda or get a constituent's call returned at 11pm. A proven fighter with 28 years of relationships and a record that speaks for itself does.

Luke Bronin is asking you to take a leap of faith. The people funding that leap have already told you where they want him to land.

Don't let them. On August 11, flip Congress, not the congressman.

Maura Fitzgerald is a resident of South Windsor, the former chair of the East Hartford Democratic Town Committee and now serves as a member of the South Windsor Town Council.

Tyron Harris brings much talent to the table

To the Editor:

Rousseau once noted that true collective decisions are not just about the will of the majority, but about what genuinely supports the well being of the entire community. That idea feels especially relevant as we approach this important moment.

Like many across our district, we are all working people doing our best to balance responsibilities, care for our families, and contribute to the neighborhoods we call home. In times like these, thoughtful and grounded leadership matters.

Tyron Harris is someone worth thoughtful consideration for the 10th District Representative. His reputation reflects a leader more than capable of handling the responsibilities of public service.

As a seasoned Human Resources and DEI professional, he has led multi union negotiations, demonstrating both skill

and fairness in complex environments.

His service extends even further: board member of the East Hartford Board of Education, Chairman of the East Hartford Board of Education, Former Chairman of the CREC Council, member of the East Hartford Lions Club, Elected Officials to Protect America, and a 2022 cohort participant in the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia's Reinventing Communities initiative.

These roles speak to the depth of experience and substance he brings to the table.

As voters, it's essential that we ask questions, connect with the candidates, and carefully review their experience and record. Know who has the power to make decisions for you because they know what you are experiencing or have engaged with you to understand who you are and your concerns. You know someone

you can depend on who will actually call you back or show up. Making an informed choice ensures that our collective future reflects the best interests of everyone.

On August 11th, your voice matters – whether you are working, between jobs, caregiving, or facing challenges that make daily life harder. Why? Because we all matter. Every one of us deserves to be heard.

Your voice is important, too. Make the effort on August 11th to go vote, because the path to the voting poll was not an easy one for many of us. Generations fought, sacrificed, and endured barriers so that we could stand in that line and cast a ballot freely.

Honor that history. Honor yourself. Your vote carries power.

Vote Tyron Harris, Row B.
Thank you

Roz White
East Hartford

Email letters to editor@ehgazette.com

Who led the local East Hartford militia to answer the Lexington Alarm?

Did you know who lead the East Hartford militia to Concord and Lexington?

This was a question asked by a volunteer erecting a 250 Anniversary display at the museum I play docent at once a month. She was working on a Revolutionary display of the local militia marching out of East Hartford to answer the Lexington and Concord Alarm.

Easily answered I thought and blurted out Pitkin. A running joke, is that one of the numerous members of East Hartford's leading family held front place for most significant events. It is true several Pitkins were officers serving in the East Hartford and Orford Parish Militia companies. Naturally one would be the officer leading the way.

But second thought, recalled basic camp's combat infantry training - where was the slap happy second lieutenant positioned - between his two squads, generally near the front, alongside of his radioman - but not as the point man.

The Vietnam experience taught the US to have a point man - scout - first target - in the lead by a few meters. (Ok the radioman was the first target one could not miss that whip antenna or the officer standing next to him).

But this practice was for combat situations.

The responding colonial militia started here in East Hartford far away from the actually fighting. Would the commander need to be near his "radioman."

Yes, we know that there were

DID YOU KNOW?

Looking back on our East Hartford

By Robert Kanehl

no radiomen during the 1775 Alarm - not even a cellphone among the troops. Still the commander would need to be near his equivalent of a radioman - the fife and drum players.

According to a Colonial Williamsburg website: "In the 18th century, fife and drum

corps were an integral part of colonial militia and military life, marching alongside troops and serving as both a musical and signaling force."

In the colonial army, messages were sent by either sound or runners. A commander would need to be near his fife and drum section for his orders to be heard across the battlefield. He would be near them even for the march to Lexington starting in non-hostile territory.

The website explains that each Colonial era company of 50 to 75 men had its own fife and drum sections. "The fife and drummers would typically march directly with the company. They were physically present in the march, with the soldiers."

These musicians, boys ages

10 to 18, wore "uniforms with inverted colors," making them stand out - similar to those whip antennas.

They were the vanguard setting a pace for either quick or routine marching feet. According to the Williamsburg website: the music was used to "keep the company's pace and formation steady."

So, to answer the question who led the men out of Orford Parish and East Hartford? Not the Hollywood handsome colonel, or captain or even a lonely lieutenant on a well-trained white steed. It was the fife and drummers.

According to the Joseph Goodwin 1879 history that would be Timothy Olmsted - fifer and Gurdon Burnham - drummer.

SPEAKING OUT!, LETTERS

Why we are 'all in' for Angie

To the Editor:

When I walked into Angie's "Summer Campaign Kickoff" I expected to see the usual 4-6 volunteers for Angie Parkinson, Democratic Nominee for CT's 10th Assembly District, a seat currently held by Henry Genga. I was not expecting almost 50 people! Included were statesmen like Senator Anwar, Rep. Genga, Rep. Doucette, and former candidate for CT Governor, Bill Curry. Unions sent members from AFT, AFSCME, the Machinists and Teamsters. More than a half a dozen folks from the CT Working Families Party showed up, a group whose endorsement Angie has sought from the beginning.

Also, activists from East Hartford's own Democratic Town Committee, who endorsed Angie in a landslide vote. Picture a rainbow coalition

of young and old ready to volunteer. How did this happen?

Angie has been laying out the groundwork for this since I first met her 11 years ago. She helped us organize the state for Bernie Sanders and was a 2016 delegate to the Democratic National Convention. After the campaign, Bernie told his volunteers to run for office, and that's what Angie's been doing since. She joined the EH DTC, was appointed to P&Z, and currently serves on our Town Council.

As a teacher she strives daily to make a positive difference in young people's lives, and now she wants to do it for us. That means being a legislator working for fair taxation that will lessen our property taxes and fighting to lower utility costs. She will get there with your help, so please don't forget, vote



on Tuesday, August 11.

Mark your calendar now because it's summer and things can sneak by.

One more thing, you won't see any "Angie" signs in front of town parks or on town property because it is against the rules,

and frankly, she just doesn't need to. Haven't you noticed?

Dan Durso
East Hartford

Fortune, Larson blast decision ending Haitians, Syrians Protected Status

Congressional candidate Ruth Fortune and Congressman John Larson both condemned the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling terminating Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Haitians and Syrians in America. Some 350,000 Haitians and 6,800 Syrians are affected.

"I need to be clear about what this ruling means because I lived it. I was on TPS. My parents were. My brother was. My only path to citizenship was marrying my husband, who is a

U.S. citizen. I know firsthand what it means to want to build a life in this country without a guaranteed path to stay.

"The people whose lives are now at risk are not strangers. They are the workers caring for our seniors in nursing homes, driving the school buses our children ride every morning,

and keeping this economy going even when they don't always get to share in the prosperity they helped build. To say that these people can now simply be deported to a country that is not ready to receive them, or worse, sent to third countries they have never set foot in breaks my heart.

"James Baldwin once wrote that he loved America more than any other country in the world, and precisely for that reason, he reserved the right to criticize her. That is where I stand today. I love this country. I'm grateful for the opportunities that made my life possible. And because of that, I feel obli-

gated to call what we are doing to the most vulnerable immigrants right now exactly what it is: absolutely cruel. When I get to Congress, we will fight for real immigration reform - a path to citizenship for the people who have sacrificed so much and contributed so much, without ever fully benefiting from what they built."

Democrats in the 1st Congressional District will vote in August for either Fortune or Larson.

The Gazette welcomes **signed** letters on subjects of interest. Include your phone number and e-mail to: editor@ehgazette.com

Society

Scholarships awarded to 17 by EH Alumni Association & Educational Foundation

The East Hartford Alumni Association and Education Foundation awarded \$34,000 in scholarships to 17 graduates of East Hartford Public Schools including 12 graduating students from the class of 2026 and five alumni this year.

Twelve graduating students from East Hartford High School and the CT International Baccalaureate Academy received a combined \$26,500 in May.

Awardees are:

East Hartford Alumni Association and Education Foundation Scholarship \$2,500 each - Viedina Doe, Victoria Moffie, Samsthitha Ramasubramaniam, Farah Shahab, Tahsin Subah, Pamela Yankson

Alicea Scholarship for Redefining Norms \$1,000 - Tahsin Sabah

Coach Konopka 'For the Team' Scholarship \$1,000 - Angel Sanchez

Dotson-Renta Family Fund \$500 - Ama Ennin

Koski-Bissonnette Business Scholarship \$1,000 - Angela Adu

Liz Agosto Leadership Scholarship \$2,000 - Delilah Cartagena

Melissa Mateo Blank Award \$1,000 - Delilah Cartagena

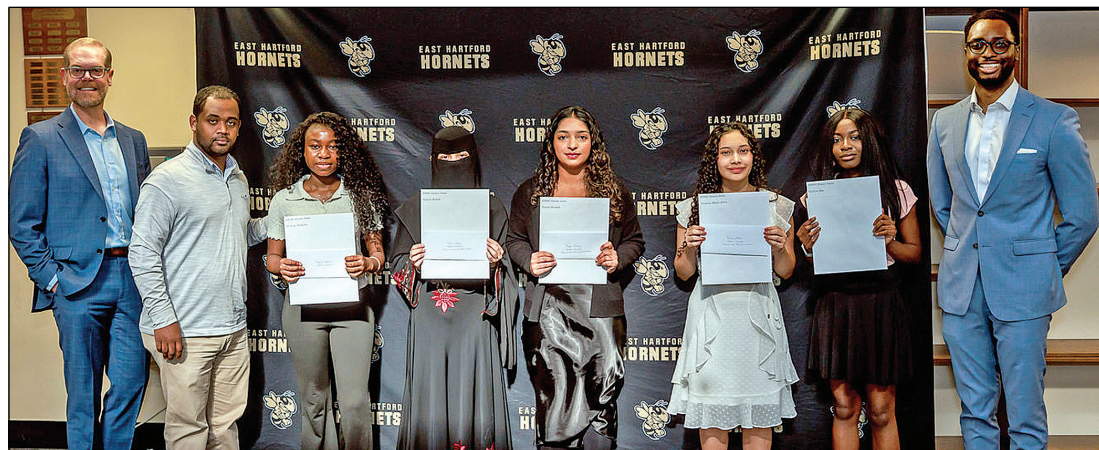
Melody A. Currey Public Service Scholarship \$1,000 each - Denese Chisholm, Victoria Moffie, Farah Shahab

Richard D. and Shirley A. Veltri Memorial Scholarship \$2,000 - Fantasia Asante

Scholarships Awarded to EHPS Alumni

For the third year, the East Hartford Alumni Association and Education Foundation offered the East Hartford Alumni Legacy Scholarship to East Hartford Public School graduates pursuing an undergraduate degree, graduate or professional degree, or a certification through a vocational training program. This year's five recipients received \$1,500 each and include:

Faith Anane, class of 2022, University of New Haven Master's in Medical Science, Physician Assistant; Tazhana Charles, class of 2018, University of Saint Joseph's Master's in Public Health; Sebastian Mardales, class of 2025, Duke University Bachelor's in Pre-medical Studies; Shakir Pike, class of 2021, University of Rhode Island PharmD; and Victoria Silva-Soto, class of 2023, UConn Bachelor's in Communications.



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EAST HARTFORD SPORTS

Another exciting Travelers

Taking up where we left off last week, what lures you to the course for a PGA event? An elite field? The prospect for an exciting finish? The chance to see history in the making?

This year's Travelers Championship provided all three. 72 of the world's greatest golfers invaded the TPC River Highlands and it's hard to find a finish more exciting than a two man playoff on Monday morning to determine a winner after a string of challengers were knocked off one by one until only world #1 Scottie Scheffler and Norwegian hero Victor Hovland were left



SCOTT GRAY on SPORTS

by Scott Gray

standing at 21-under-par on the far side of a rain delay that forced an extra day and sudden death.

U-S Open champ Wyndham Clark and rising stars Akshay Batia and Matt Fitzpatrick hung around until being knocked out of contention on the final hole while Collin Morikawa waited in the clubhouse one shot off the lead, hoping the leaders would stumble and add him to the playoff. As for the finish, Hovland sank an 8-foot birdie putt on Monday's first playoff hole, similar to the putt Scheffler sank on the edge of darkness Sunday night to force the playoff, to claim his eighth PGA Tour win when Scheffler missed a six-footer.

Sheffler gave the Travelers galleries a shot at witnessing history in round two when he came within inches on the final hole of carding a sub-60 round.

Elite field - check. A chance to see history - check. Exciting finish - check. Three for the show. Leave it to the Travelers. Don't be surprised if they do it again next year.

Travelers Championship week opened on a sad note when one of the giants of Connecticut golf passed away last Monday at age 77 following a long, courageous battle with cancer. Edwin "Ted" May III was the son of one of the tournament's founders, former U.S. Congressman Ed May. For decades Ted was a major force behind the event, twice saving it from extinction, leading the effort to piece together enough sponsorship to bridge the year between Canon and Buick, then keeping it alive by spearheading the campaign that brought Travelers into the fold when given just one weekend to find proper sponsorship to stave off removal from the Tour schedule.

Ted was the tournament chairman for the Greater Hartford Jaycees in 1983, the final year the event was played at the Wethersfield Country Club. I accompanied him on a helicopter ride to get a good look at the new digs in Cromwell. For several years he served as the tournament's PGA Tour Liaison.

I met Ted when we worked at Boy Scout camp together in the early 1960's. We've been friends ever since. There was always something special about him, an inner confidence, intelligence and humility that would lead to major contributions to his community, contributions like founding and overseeing The First Tee Connecticut, using golf to create life lessons for young people who may have no other avenue to those experiences.

This may be one void too big to fill.

Summer basketball offered for girls

East Hartford has partnered with Inspire Girls Basketball, the Hartford Parks and Recreation and West Hartford to offer Summer Girls Recreation Basketball League.

This is an opportunity for girls, entering grades 6-9 to play basketball, learn new basketball skills, play some games and enjoy time with their friends. Shirts are included.

Practices will be once a week at Hockanum Park. Practice times will be determined once players sign up.

Game days will be Wednesdays, starting next week on July 8 and continuing through until August 12. Game sites will be decided. Time slots are 5, 6 and 7 p.m. and the fee will be \$25 which includes a shirt.

Call East Hartford Parks and Recreation for more information or to register. Or stop by the office at 50 Chapman St. in the lower level of the Community Building.

Online, register here: <https://ehparks.myrec.com/info/default.aspx>

THROWING HEAT AT GORMAN



PHOTO BY JOSEPH A. ZEBZDA
JAIS SANTIAGO OF EAST HARTFORD LITTLE LEAGUE delivers a pitch June 30 at Gorman Park. East Hartford took on the Wethersfield Red Onion.

Chapman leads standings halfway

In only his second full season of competition in Stafford Speedway's ultra-competitive SK Modified® division, Ellington, CT native Tyler Chapman finds himself leading the points standings as the 2026 season closes in on its midway point. Following a second place finish on May 22nd and his first career win on May 29th, Chapman and the #41 Chapman Apartment Homes team have climbed their way to the top of the points and Chapman holds the lead by 2 points or one position on the track over Keith Rocco heading into the Friday, July 3rd Lincoln Tech Kids Night feature event.

"I wouldn't say we're surprised, but we're happy to be

where we are right now because we put so much time and effort into the car every week," said Chapman. "

After winning the SK Light track championship in 2024 with a 10-win season, Chapman made the move into the SK Modified® division for the 2025 season. Chapman and the #41 team were able to post 3 podium finishes with a best finish of second, but little else went right for them.

"Last year was horrible for us, I think we wrecked more than we finished races," said Chapman. "I think this year has been down to luck where last year people were wrecking right into us and this season so far people have been wrecking

around us."

Having won the SK Light championship in 2024, Chapman and his crew know what it takes to win a championship. The challenge for them now will be to continue posting consistent top-5 finishes just as he has done through the first 7 races of the 2026 season.

"We've been very happy not wrecking the car this season so far. We like having our Saturdays back to spend time with family rather than working on the car like we were last season. I would say we're a laid back team and right now I feel like we're the most laid back we've ever been in the last four or five years. If we finish races then the points will come."

OBITUARIES

Michael J. Esteves, 59

Michael Joseph Esteves, 59, of Avon, beloved husband of Kathleen "Kathie" A. Byrnes-Esteves, passed away Wednesday, June 17, 2026. Born in Hartford, son of the late Joaquim and Hilda (Querido) Esteves, he was raised in East Hartford where he received the Eagle Scout award.



Michael Esteves

He earned his BA from Central Connecticut University and his MBA in finance from Purdue University and also his designation as a CPA. After college he started his professional career with Arthur Anderson in

Hartford, became CFO for Metro Toledo in Maryland, and finally director of finance for the Barnes Group before retiring for health reasons in 2016.

Michael enjoyed all things outdoors. He loved his boat, 43' Tiara that brought him and Kathie to Nantucket to spend time on the water which he loved for its peace and tranquility. He enjoyed cars of all vintages with his special knack to fix anything. He loved skiing, both on snow and water, but time at the beach, on the water was his happy place.

Besides his beloved wife Kathleen he leaves his sister-in-law Deborah Esteves, nieces Lisa Esteves and her daughter Rosalie, and Kristin Glatte and her husband Stephen.

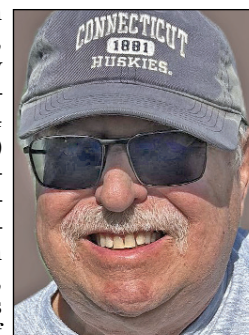
His family will receive friends Tuesday, June 30 from 4-7 p.m. at Carmon Funeral Home & Family Center, 301 Country Club Road, Avon.

Family and friends may also gather July 1 at 9 a.m. at Carmon's by Mass of Christian Burial at 11 a.m. at Our Lady of Knock Parish, Saint Patrick's Church, 101 Main St., Farmington.

Donations may be made to the American Cancer Society in Michael's memory. For directions or to leave condolences please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com

Keith 'Survivor' Henson, 74

Keith John "Survivor" Henson, 74, of Glastonbury and Old Lyme, loving husband of 54 years of Rita (Ianni) Henson, passed gently in his sleep surrounded by his caring family on Wednesday, June 24, 2026, at St. Francis Hospital after a brief illness. Born in Hartford on October 7, 1951, a son of the late Richard W. and Lillian (Fischer) Henson, Sr., he had been a resident of the East Hartford/Glastonbury area for most of his life. A beach enthusiast, he loved spending his summers the past 50 years at the family cottage at Miami Beach in Old Lyme. He also became a "snowbird" four years ago and looked forward to spending the winter months down at The Villages in Florida.



Keith Henson

A devout Catholic, Keith was a communicant of St. Paul's Church in Glastonbury, and a former communicant of St. Augustine Church in Hartford and served as an altar boy as a young boy. He also attended St. Augustine Elementary School in Hartford where he was a member of the Boys Brigade. Keith was a graduate of East Hartford High School, class of 1969 and was a captain and star of the boys' basketball team. He was the longtime record holder for the greatest number of consecutive foul shots made in school history. Keith was a proud U.S. Army National Guard veteran and a member of the American Legion Post # 347 in Lady Lake, FL. Keith was the owner and operator of Douglas Garage Door Center, Inc. in East Hartford for over the past twenty years and he formerly worked for over eleven years at Lavalley Overhead Door, Inc. in South Windsor.

An avid sports fan, Keith was a loyal fan of the UConn men's basketball team, New York Giants football team, and golf. He enjoyed playing golf with his friends and family, especially when he was in Florida. He enjoyed grilling and eating good food, and regularly patronized Bricco's Restaurant in Glastonbury/West Hartford, and Augie & Rays in East

Hartford. Most of all, Keith was a devoted husband, father, grandfather and family man who cherished each moment spent with his entire family.

Along with his beloved wife Rita, Keith is survived by a daughter, Dineen H. Fichman and her husband Jon of Spring Hill, FL; a son, Keith J. Henson, Jr. of Manchester; and three adored grandchildren, Isabella Fichman and Grayson Fichman both of Spring Hill, FL, and Elliana Villegas of Pawtucket, RI. He also leaves behind one brother, Jeffrey M. Henson, and his wife Jennifer of Somers; several nieces, nephews, cousins, former customers, and dear friends. In addition to his parents, Keith was predeceased by a brother, Richard "Rick" Henson, Jr. of East Hartford; a sister, Gail Henson-Rosati and her husband James Rosati of Manchester.

Funeral services were June 30 with a Mass of Christian Burial at St. Isidore and Maria Parish at St. Paul's Church, Glastonbury followed by military honors after Mass. Burial will be private at the convenience of the family. D'Esopo East Hartford Memorial Chapel handled arrangements. Gifts in his name may be made to Boy's Town, P.O. Box 6000, Boys Town, NE 68010 or American Heart Association, P.O. Box 840692, Dallas, TX 75284.

Arlene Outlaw; owned Barbecue House

The Life of Arlene J. (Warren) Outlaw, devoted wife to the late Charles M. Outlaw, began on March 18, 1948, in Hartford, CT. She was the second child born to her mother, Rhoda J. Warren-Ford. Her stepfather was Charles J. Ford.

She was known throughout the surrounding towns of Hartford. She departed her life unexpectedly on June 10, 2026. Arlene was educated in the Hartford school system and graduated from A. I. Prince Technical High School.

Arlene was employed at UTC Technologies, retiring after many years of service.

Arlene was baptized into Christ at The First Baptist Church of Hartford, now The First Cathedral, under the leadership of Archbishop LeRoy Bailey, Jr, where she served faithfully for many years as an Usher.

Arlene was the owner of the Swanky Franky Food Truck, and the Barbeque House in East Hartford, CT.

Arlene leaves to celebrate her memory her loving children; (daughter) Nicole L. Outlaw and her significant other Stacey Moore of Windsor,

CT and (son) Tylon C. Outlaw and his wife Kimberly Outlaw of Wethersfield, CT. She leaves behind her adoring grandchildren; Jaz S. Outlaw-Moore, Malik V. Outlaw, Jinyree D. Outlaw-Moore, and Ty Outlaw, and her great-granddaughter; Kehlan L. Outlaw-Moore.

She is also survived by her loving siblings; Lamont V. Warren and Jack Carroll of Medford, MA, Roxanna Ford Jackson of Middletown, CT, Kimberly Caloway of San Diego, CA, Denisa Calloway Sheets of Casa Grande, AZ, and Dennis, Daniel and Glen Ford of Hartford, CT as well as a host of nieces, nephews and cousins.

She loved her family and enjoyed family gatherings and cherished her many friendships, making lasting memories. Arlene especially loved cooking, shopping, bowling and swimming. She was a loving and devoted mother, grandmother, sister, aunt and friend



Arlene Outlaw

and will be sorely missed.

Arlene gave herself in love to her family and friends. It is written in the first Commandment, "You should love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and mind and your neighbor as yourself."

Arlene, our sister, has completed that goal in life in love which echoes the teachings of Jesus.

She was predeceased by her mother, Rhoda J. (Warren) Ford and stepfather, Charles J. Ford and her brother, Charles (Chucky) Ford.

Arlene's family will receive family and on Wednesday, July 1, 2026, from 10am-11am, followed by a funeral service at 11am, at The Lodge Community Chapel, 130 Deerfield Road, Windsor, CT.

The interment will follow immediately after in Connecticut State Veterans Cemetery, Middletown, CT.

For online condolences visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com

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'CT Revolution' exhibit opens July 4

From Page One
necicut History's exhibit team, including Connecticut State Historian Andy Horowitz, has drawn on the tens of thousands of documents and objects in the Connecticut State Library's museum, archival, and printed materials collections. Some of these materials make it possible to retell old stories in new ways, others make it possible to recover previously untold stories.

Taken together, they reveal how Connecticut changed during this revolutionary time and how Connecticut, in turn, changed the world.

Exhibited through a 21st-century lens, this grouping of over 100 Revolutionary War-era objects and documents has never before been collectively displayed. Highlights include the Connecticut State Archive's "Goddard Broadside," one of

only nine copies of the Declaration of Independence printed by Mary Katharine Goddard; Connecticut's resolution of June 14, 1776 sanctioning the state's Continental Congressional delegates to vote for independence; the Museum of Connecticut History's Second Regiment Light Dragoons Standard, one of only 30 extent flags from the war; a fragment of the King George III sculpture that was torn down in 1776; a pocket watch that crossed the Delaware River with its owner and George Washington; the plow that General Israel Putnam dropped when he heard the Lexington Alarm (loaned by the Connecticut Military Department); a powder horn gifted to Benedict Arnold (loaned by the Henry Whitfield State Museum); a cloak worn by Deborah Champion on a mission across British lines (loaned by the Connecticut Museum of Culture and History); a cannon and other period armaments; a military uniform and accoutrements; and much more.

Connecticut's Revolution will run through July 9, 2027 at the Museum of Connecticut History, located within the Connecticut State Library at 231 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106. Hours are Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. with select Saturdays. Admission is always free! Learn more at museumofcthistory.org.

Support for Connecticut's Revolution is provided by Connecticut Humanities.

Hnatuk development head

Town Planner and led planning efforts for several Connecticut municipalities. His work included Plans of Conservation and Development, municipal Housing Planning, and land use policy initiatives. He also worked for the Town of Newtown, where he supported planning and zoning, inland wetlands, and land use administration.

He holds dual Bachelor of Science degrees in Natural Resources and Applied Economics from the University of Connecticut and a Master of Science degree in Geography from Central Connecticut State University.

Under the East Hartford Town Charter, the Mayor has the authority to appoint and remove department directors.

"This appointment reflects the bold direction I know our economic development efforts can achieve," said Mayor Martin. "Under Steve's leadership, we have an opportunity to build on our momentum with fresh ideas, new perspectives, and a continued commitment to excellence. His focus will be on strengthening the department's capacity and reinforcing East Hartford's reputation as a business-friendly community. The message is clear: East Hartford is open for business. Whether you're opening your first storefront, expanding your footprint,

From Page One
or locating your next headquarters, this is a place where businesses can grow, succeed, and Elevate Here."

As Director, Hnatuk's immediate priorities will include filling the department's two current vacancies: the Economic Development Coordinator position, which became vacant earlier this year following the departure of Mike Daniels, who now serves as the Director of Economic Development in Chicopee, Massachusetts, and the Deputy Director of Community Development position previously held by Hnatuk.

Hartford's mayor performing at Theater

Hartford Mayor Arunan Arulampalam will take the stage at Thertterworks in the city Thursday, July 16 at 6:39 p.m. playing the guitar.

The Mayor of Hartford will perform as part of 25/26 Living Room Concert Series at TheaterWorks Hartford in a special performance.



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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF
DOROTHY M. THIBAUT
(26-00246)

The Hon. Richard P. Gentile, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of East Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated **June 30, 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.

Idealiz Gomez, Chief Clerk

The fiduciary is:

Reginald Thibault, 42 Chester Street, East Hartford, CT 06108

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF
MARC ALDERUCCI
(26-00231)

The Hon. Richard P. Gentile, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of East Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated **June 26, 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:

Dean Alderucci
c/o Sharon Marie Jones, Esquire; Jones Washburn-Gonzalez, LLP, 1853 Post Road East, Westport, CT 06880

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF
COLETTE SUZANNE PARE,
AKA COLETTE S. PARE
(26-00228)

The Hon. Richard P. Gentile, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of East Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated **June 30, 2026**, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciaries at the addresses below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Tobi Dolan, Assistant Clerk

The fiduciaries are:

Michael D. Pare, 71 Pine Street, Plantsville, CT 06479

and

Linda J. Grimard, 18 Kenwood Drive, Vernon, CT 06066

and

Nathalie T. Laprise, 50 Woodycrest Drive, East Hartford, CT 06118

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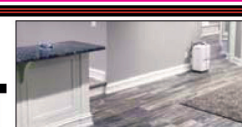
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BY CORINNE HORAN

WHERE THE ACTION IS!

TONIGHT- JULY 2: SOUNDS OF SUMMER concert, 6 p.m., Great River Park. This week features the rollicking band, **Sound Pipers**. In case of inclement conditions, concert will be in 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 Raymond Library Wednesday, July 8 at 5:45 p.m.

JULY 7: FARMER'S MARKET, TUESDAYS, 12-2:30 p.m. at the front of the Town Green, 1047 Main St. SNAP, WIC, Senior FMNP accepted. www.easthartfordct.gov/farmers-market for info.

JULY 8 - WICKHAM DAY QUILTERS OF EAST HARTFORD meet at 1:30-3:30 p.m. at the Wickham Library meeting room at 656 Burnside Ave. Program consist of a video on American Quilts, and wire ring wreath project. 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 over to the auditorium of the Community Center at 50 Chapman Place.

JULY 15: "FABULOUS HIT SONGS OF THE 1980'S" Free show at the East Hartford Senior Center, Wed 1-2:15 p.m. Color, costumes, lights as 11 All-Star Singers offer songs by Bon Jovi, Billy Joel, Dolly Parton, Bangles, Journey, Tina Turner, Kenny Rogers, & more. Free drawing for 10 Popeye's Chicken din-

ners! Stay Cool and Be Cool - Come to the show! 15 Milbrook Drive. And remember: EH Senior Center Health & Exercise programs also offered, free to all EH Seniors over 55 - Easy signup at front desk!

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. Bring the family, meet friends, bring a picnic basket.

JULY 18: SIMON BROGIE AND THE XLT'S at South Congregational Church, 1301 Forbes St. Traditional bluegrass band. \$20 at the door or in advance at mosaicconcerts.com.

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750 ml

\$25.99

All Items Subject To Availability. Not Responsible For Typographical Errors.