

The Gazette

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Crafted from the finest local ingredients since 1885

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EHSYF delivers absorbing musical

by Mike MacDonald
SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

For three days, audiences were wowed by color, comedy, costume, mystery, song, dance and drama thanks to the cast and crew of the East Hartford Summer Youth Festival.

"The SpongeBob Musical" unfolded like Venus from its shell on the shining new stage and up the aisles of the newly-refurbished East Hartford Middle School auditorium.

For over 60 years EHSYF has pulled out more stops than pepperoni pizza from the ovens of New Haven, delivering the magic of musical theater so good you could almost taste it.

This summer's captivating tale unfolded with a full array of zany, loveable and often silly undersea creatures, cartoons in human form. Here they live together, a fin-tastic chorus in a fan-tastical land called 'Bikini Bottom'.

It's a cartoon, OK? And the challenge is to outwit and overcome the dastardly impending doom of a volcano known as 'Mount Humungous'.

Enter the unassuming, spatula-wielding hero, SpongeBob. Played with endlessly amusing antics and powerful vocals by Casey Reid, sidekicks needed. Along for the ride came comedic and talented 'Patrick Star' played by El Roiz, and 'Sandy Cheeks' played by Zianna Miller. With so many comic interactions and charm-

See SPONGEBOB pg. 10

CHILLAXING NIGHT OUT



BAXTER THE STUFFED DOG with East Hartford Animal Control officers was popular Tuesday as were reptiles, at right. Below, EH Police cadets Kamari Perry and Josyah Gionfriddo flank Mayor Connor Martin.



Back-to-school rally in McAuliffe

By Bill Doak

Music blared and bubbles floated in the parking lot in front of Norris School Wednesday for the town's annual Back to School Rally, a massive effort to stuff pencils, notebooks, glue sticks and more into a backpack which was then handed out free to nearly 1,000 of East Hartford's 6,400 students.

Moving the annual Back to School Rally to McAuliffe Park was a good idea. The long lines and problems finding a place to park when the Rally was held on the Town Green were not evident this year, except for the line at the Kona Ice truck on the warm day. The solar panels about the parking area created an ideal shade to set up tables for the library, each school and outreach service in the schools, such as school-based health centers and adult education.

And children, some with a stunned look as realization set in that summer days are numbered loaded up on stickers and entered raffles for a chance on winning school-related prizes. In the park there was no crowding and plenty of space for setting up tables, which were manned by supporting vendors, civic groups, social organizations, the International Association of Machinists hall and town social services department representatives.

Volunteers handed out bottles of warm water, but handing out information was the order of the day.

See BACKPACKS pg. 10

AROUND TOWN

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Estamos comprometidos con la letra y el espíritu de la política de los Estados Unidos para el logro de la igualdad de oportunidades de vivienda en toda la Nación. Fomentamos y respaldamos un programa afirmativo de publicidad y marketing en el que no existan barreras para la obtención de vivienda por motivos de raza, color, religión, sexo, discapacidad, estado familiar u origen nacional.

Senior Picnic tickets on sale Monday

Tickets go on sale August 10th for the East Hartford Senior Picnic Sept. 4 from noon until 3 p.m. at Goodwin University's facility at 3 Pent Road.

Tickets are \$12, \$14 - cash only - for caretakers and guests and must be purchased in advance at the Senior Center of the Raymond Library on Wednesday, August 12 only from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. Raffles, theme prizes, food, music and entertainment!

UR Community Cares is offering workshops to help older adults build confidence and skills using smartphones, tablets, and laptops. Join us for practical, hands-on tech classes at the East Hartford Senior Center. Each session covers useful topics to help you stay connected, informed, and comfortable with technology. To sign up, call the center at 860-291-7492. One on One (bring your device) 1-2:30pm held in Computer Room One on One and group Class 2:30-4pm held in Media Room. Topics include:

Smartphones at a Glance - September 15th; Is that AI? - October 20th; MyChart - November 17th; Understanding Fraud & Scams - December 15th.

Early voting hours

Early voting for the Democratic Primary this August 11 takes place at East Hartford Town Hall Town Council Chambers, 740 Main St. on August 7, 8 and 9 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Extended Days and hours will be TODAY, Thursday, August 6 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

No-excuse absentee ballot applications also are available at the Town Clerk's office.

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



Your Vote Matters

Vote Tuesday, August 11

Polls are open 6am - 8pm

Vote the Democratic Choice

1 Governor Gobernador Vote for One Vota Por Uno	2 Representative in Congress Representante En Congreso Vote for One Vota Por Uno	3 State Representative Representante Estatal Vote for One Vota Por Uno
FIND ANGIE ON 3A ENCUENTRA A ANGIE EN EL 3A		3A *Angie Parkinson

Endorsed by Leaders and Organizations Fighting for a Better Connecticut

Retiring
State
Representative
Henry Genga



AFT Connecticut



PAID FOR BY ANGIE FOR EAST HARTFORD, SIDNEY SODERHOLM, TREASURER. APPROVED BY ANGIE PARKINSON.

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Energize ConnecticutSM – programs funded by a charge on customer energy bills. The Connecticut River Valley Chamber of Commerce and local partners are participating in the Energize Connecticut Community Partnership Initiative, sponsored locally by Eversource and Avangrid subsidiary, CNG, to increase participation in energy efficiency programs.



Sign up:
crvchamber.org/our-partners



FIND YOUR IMPACT

Now Hiring full-time Early Learning Classroom
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Contact: Brianna Johnson
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EAST HARTFORD YMCA

The Gazette

Thursday, August 6, 2026

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SPEAKING OUT!, LETTERS

Service over politics: That's why I'm supporting Tyron V. Harris.

To the Editor:

In a community as diverse as East Hartford, representation means more than checking a demographic box. It means electing someone who knows our neighborhoods because they have lived in them—a leader who has built relationships across our town, listened to residents from every background, and earned trust through years of service, not just during election season.

That is why I am proud to support Tyron V. Harris for State Representative.

I have known Tyron for years, and one thing has always remained consistent: his commitment to East Hartford. East Hartford has never been a stepping stone for Tyron—it has always been home. It is the town where he grew up, where he chose to raise his family, and

where he has spent nearly two decades investing his time, talent, and energy to improve the lives of others.

I first worked alongside Tyron in 2015 when we served together on the Board of Education. What impressed me most wasn't that he had the loudest voice. It was that he listened carefully, built consensus, and followed through long after meetings ended. Those qualities have remained consistent throughout the years and continue to define the way he approaches public service. Today, as Chair of the Board of Education, Tyron has worked to strengthen our public schools and expand opportunities for all students. In his role as the Town's Human Resources Director, he helps recruit, develop, and support the employees who deliver the services residents

depend on every day.

Beyond his official responsibilities, Tyron has expanded opportunities through workforce development, youth employment, and policies that support working families. He understands that strong schools, good-paying jobs, and affordable communities are essential to East Hartford's future.

East Hartford is home to hardworking families. Whether you're raising children, running a small business, working a trade, serving in public service, or enjoying retirement, we all want safe neighborhoods, strong schools, and opportunities to succeed. We need a representative who understands those realities and is committed to expanding opportunity for everyone.

Our politics today too often become focused on division and

distractions rather than the issues that matter most to residents. East Hartford deserves leadership that keeps the focus where it belongs: on our community.

Campaigns should be about ideas, vision, and service, not distractions and rumors. They should be about earning votes through integrity and respect for the voters. One of the reasons I support Tyron is that his campaign has remained focused on the issues facing our community and the future he wants to help build, even when the conversation has at times been distracted by negativity.

As President of the East Hartford Black Caucus, I was proud that our organization endorsed Tyron because we believe leadership is earned through years of service, demonstrated character, and a

willingness to put the community first. That belief extends beyond any one organization. It is reflected in the countless residents who have worked with Tyron over the years and know firsthand the kind of leader he is.

East Hartford has always been at its best when we come together around shared values: opportunity, respect, and service to one another. Those values are reflected in Tyron Harris's record and in the way he has led throughout his career.

As you cast your ballot, I hope you'll join my family and me in supporting a candidate whose commitment to our town has never been about politics, it has always been about people. That is the kind of leadership East Hartford deserves.

Harry Amadasun Jr.
East Hartford Town Council

Positive values: Angie Parkinson would help make Connecticut better.

To the editor:

I previously wrote on the importance of Angie Parkinson's political values and the intensity to which she adheres to them. Based on her 7-year service on the Town Council, I respect her capacity to focus on the complex pragmatics of town-based governance matters while remaining grounded in her core political values as expressed in a variety of public forums. I appreciate the unique focus she brings as a high school social studies teacher and how her position has opened her students to the greater world around them. I admire her openness to all people and her grassroots approach to coalition building and campaigning. In living out the mantra of thinking globally while acting locally, Angie Parkinson would add a tremendous amount of positive value to the CT legislature as the next

10th District Assembly Representative.

Angie's underlying political passion is based on an inner drive to root out injustice on any level. This desire sparks her belief that in a country as wealthy as the United States, no one should be living in poverty, nor should those in the middle classes experience persistent economic stress. Her specific policy orientation is grounded in the need to spread the promise of equality enshrined in the Declaration of Independence to all people regardless of their background, which has been a central objective of reformers in the U.S. since the 19th century. While this nation has made many advancements during the past 250 years in supporting labor, women's and civil rights for African Americans and other oppressed minorities, the struggle continues as progress remains circumvented by many

oppressive forces. In carrying the work forward into the state legislature, Angie has identified a broad range of proposals around six core priority areas designed to address central matters of social, economic, gender, racial, and political justice. Consider the following policy proposals:

- Assuring health care for all by creating a public option in state funded health care systems along with stronger Medicaid funding and expanded access to affordable coverage for working families.

- Establishing a real affordability agenda by expanding childcare, creating a child tax credit, building more affordable housing, and holding energy companies' profits to a reasonable level.

- Strengthening public education by expanding early childhood education and developing more equitable funding sources

for underserved districts.

- Standing firmly with workers and protecting their rights to collectively bargain for fair wages, strong benefits, and safe working conditions, as well as expanding state-supported apprenticeships and other career development opportunities.

- Modernizing Connecticut's outdated and regressive tax code and fiscal policies so we can invest in our schools, infrastructure, and communities, while creating a fairer tax system that finally asks the wealthiest individuals and largest corporations to pay their fair share.

- Building a clean, affordable energy future by expanding municipal control over local energy choices, investing in solar, and transitioning off natural gas.

- Enhancing human rights and vital democratic values by protecting the right to vote, lim-

iting the influence of money in politics, reforming our justice system, and standing firmly with immigrant communities in treating them with dignity, respect, and fairness.

Angie's priority areas are not separate from her core values; they are a direct expression of them. They are rooted in an impassioned regard for others and a social and political value system grounded in fairness and the pursuit of justice for all. These commitments will play out through collaborative work in the legislature and through sustained engagement with the broader citizenry, reflecting Angie's grassroots approach. Taken together, her legislative practice will position Angie Parkinson to make a significant contribution to building a better society for the residents of Connecticut.

George Demetrior
East Hartford

SPEAKING OUT!, LETTERS

Holding landlords accountable, and making our state more affordable

By Angie Parkinson

CANDIDATE, 10TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Hi East Hartford neighbors. First I want to say thank you. It's been an honor to serve the community we all love as Town Councilor the last 8 years, and it's been an honor to see so many of you this summer at events around town, and knocking doors in neighborhoods across the district.

I'm running for State Representative to fill the shoes of our wonderful Rep. Henry Genga because I understand that so many of the issues we all care about, and the issues you've told me about at the doors all summer and before at Town Hall, are decided at the state



ANGIE PARKINSON

level.

I'm a longtime public educa-

tor, East Hartford Town Councilor, organizer and activist. For 26 years now I've taught social studies at the same school, bringing learning to life through global perspectives, hands-on experiences, and student travel opportunities. I'm proud to help students build curiosity, empathy, and a deeper understanding of the world.

Those skills directly translate to the job of State Representative, and that's become clearer to me as I've traveled the community this summer meeting voters and talking about issues that matter.

I want to share with you the stories of a few voters I've met this summer. One, a woman in her sixties, has lived in her Silver Lane Apartment for decades

and works a full time job as a caregiver. Her building was recently purchased by a New Jersey holding company, and they plan to raise her rent by \$500 a month. She's worried about losing her home.

That's unacceptable. This woman, like all residents in East Hartford, deserves to live in safe, affordable housing.

And she deserves a State Representative who will find to hold bad landlords accountable, keep rent increases reasonable, and protect residents from evictions.

I'm also reminded of the many residents at Riverside Center who shared their concerns with me about the cost of living after almost all of their Social Security payments are

garnished to pay for their housing and meals. The amount they're left with is negligible...just \$75 per month. Along with so many other residents, affordability is at the top of their minds.

I'm going to do everything I can to fight for East Hartford families, seniors, and our young people so folks can afford to grow up here, live here, and stay here. And so our community members can build our lives and give back, not worry about keeping the lights on or if they can ever retire comfortably.

Thank you so much for your support throughout this campaign. I hope I've earned your vote on Primary Day, Tuesday August 11, to represent this town we all love.

Tyron Harris has led Board of Education with empathy, understanding

To the Editor

I have had the privilege of working alongside Tyron Harris through our shared service on the Board of Education, and I have witnessed firsthand his commitment to leadership rooted in service, collaboration, and a genuine connection with families. What stands out most about Tyron's leadership is his ability to listen first. He understands leadership begins by creating space for people's voices,

especially parents, students, educators and all affected by decisions we make. Throughout our work together, I have seen his commitment to making leadership more accessible and inclusive. He has consistently emphasized the importance of engaging in families, strengthening partnerships, and ensuring that community members feel welcome in conversations that shape the future of our schools.

Tyron also brings a trauma-

informed approach to leadership. He recognizes that behind every challenge is a person, a family, and a story. His ability to approach difficult conversations with empathy while still focusing on solutions has helped foster a culture of collaboration and trust.

In a diverse community, leadership requires humility, accountability, and a willingness to continue learning. Tyron exemplifies these qualities

through his dedication to building relationships and finding common ground. That is why I am voting Row B for Tyron Harris for State Representative.

East Hartford deserves a leader who listens, brings people together, and works tirelessly to create opportunities for every family. Tyron has demonstrated those qualities throughout his public service, and I am confident he will bring the same thoughtful, commu-

nity-centered leadership to Hartford. The measure of a leader is not only the decisions they make, but the people they bring together and the positive impact they create. Through our shared work, I have seen Tyron demonstrate a commitment to thoughtful, people-centered leadership that strengthens our community, and I am proud to support his candidacy.

Becca Betancourt, LMFT
EH Board of Education

East Hartford has given me so much, and that motivates me to fight for you

By Tyron V. Harris

CANDIDATE, 10TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

With just one week until Election Day, I want to thank everyone who has welcomed me into your neighborhood, answered a phone call, or shared your concerns with me at your doorstep. Listening to you has only strengthened my commitment to serve as your next State Representative.

I am running because East Hartford deserves experienced, thoughtful leadership that understands how decisions made in Hartford impact our schools, local budgets, businesses, and working families. My nearly 20 years of public service, from serving on the Democratic Town Committee to being elected to the Board of Education in 2009 and now serving as Chair, have prepared me to deliver results from day one.

As your State Representative, I will fight for the issues that matter most to our community: fair education funding, affordable healthcare, economic opportunity, housing affordability, responsible budgeting, and investments that strengthen East Hartford's future.

I have already been working to advance these priorities. I have advocated increasing the foundation amount in the Education Cost Sharing (ECS) formula, so communities like East Hartford receive the resources needed to support our students. I support finding new ways to provide property tax relief, including allowing municipalities to receive a portion of sales tax revenue or dedicating a portion of the meals and beverage tax to local communities.

I have also been a strong advocate for housing affordability. I submitted testimony in support of HB 5114, which would



TYRON V. HARRIS

establish a Renter's Tax Credit to provide relief for residents facing rising housing costs. I also support HB 5395, legislation that would expand the use of modular and prefab housing as part of Connecticut's strategy

to increase housing supply and affordability.

Healthcare is personal for every family, and I believe healthcare is not a privilege—it is a promise. I will work to protect and strengthen Medicaid and Medicare so seniors, individuals with disabilities, and low-income families continue to have access to the coverage and essential services they depend on. I also support efforts, including the Governor's and Senate Democrats' Connecticut option proposals, that move us toward more affordable and accessible healthcare.

Leadership is about more than votes in Hartford. It is about showing up, solving problems, and creating opportunities. That is why I created the Prison to Paycheck workforce initiative to help formerly incarcerated residents reconnect with employment and rebuild their lives. I have also worked to

create apprenticeship opportunities for students and residents, expand summer youth employment through partnerships with Connecticut Workforce Partners and the Connecticut Opportunity Project, and support Ready CT to create career pathways for our young people.

I believe economic development must create opportunities for everyone. I have worked to promote new business ownership in East Hartford and support workforce development initiatives that connect residents with meaningful careers.

East Hartford has given me so much, and I have dedicated my career to giving back. I will continue to be a leader who listens first, works collaboratively, and always puts our community before politics.

On Tuesday, August 11, I respectfully ask to vote Row B Tyron Harris.

DESDE LA ESQUINA

by Carmen Maldonado

Brincando del español al inglés

Hay algo bien interesante cuando uno habla más de un idioma, muchas veces brincamos de un lenguaje a otro sin pensarlo.

Al menos a mí me pasa constantemente. Empiezo una oración en español, la termino en inglés y sigo hablando como si nada hubiera pasado.

Y es que, para alguien como yo, que utiliza ambos idiomas todos los días, tanto en el trabajo como en la vida diaria, llega un momento en que las palabras simplemente salen entrelazadas. A veces quiero decir algo y la primera palabra que me viene a la mente está en inglés. Otras veces es en español. Y, de vez en cuando, sale una combinación de ambos que ni siquiera sabía que existía... hasta que la dije en voz alta.

Y por aquí llegamos al spanglish.

Durante años, el Spanglish ha sido criticado. Hay quienes dicen que es "hablar mal" el español o el inglés. Pero muchos no lo vemos así. Lo vemos como el idioma con el cual crecimos, vivimos o trabajamos entre dos culturas. Es la prueba de que nuestro cerebro hace malabares todos los días con dos formas distintas de comunicarse.

Porque seamos honestos, ¿quién no ha dicho, "texteamé", "parquéate", "voy para el mall", "tengo un meeting" o "déjame chequear"? Quizás esas palabras no aparezcan en un diccionario tradicional, pero forman parte de la conversación diaria de millones de latinos en Estados Unidos y Latinoamérica. Nos entendemos perfectamente y, en muchos casos, no nos percatamos que estamos hablando de esta manera, de que cambiamos de idioma a mitad de una oración.

Y es que hablar de esta manera es tan normal en nuestro diario vivir.

Eso sí, creo que también es importante recordar que el Spanglish no sustituye el valor de hablar bien español ni el de dominar el inglés. Al contrario. Mientras mejor conocemos ambos idiomas, más herramientas tenemos para comunicarnos y más fácil resulta movernos entre dos culturas. El Spanglish no nace de la falta de conocimiento, nace precisamente de tener dos idiomas tan presentes en nuestra vida que ambos compiten por salir primero.

Al final, hablar dos idiomas es un privilegio. Nos abre puertas, nos conecta con más personas y nos permite ver el mundo desde perspectivas diferentes. Y si de vez en cuando se nos escapa un "voy a parkear el carro antes del meeting y después te texteo", no pasa nada. Es un reflejo de quiénes somos: una comunidad que vive con un pie en el español y otro en el inglés.

Eventos próximos que no te debes perder:

La biblioteca pública de East Hartford te invita a su evento Celebrando el final del verano "Ice Cream Picnic: End of Summer Reading Party" Este evento se llevará a cabo el 20 de agosto a las 2:00pm en las afueras de la biblioteca. Para más información accede

<https://easthartfordct.libcal.com/event/16848920>

No te pierdas el Farmers Market. Esto será todos los martes de 12:00pm a 2:30pm en el Town Green, ubicado en el 1047 de Main Street. Se aceptan los beneficios de SNAP, WIC y Senior FMNP.

El departamento de Parks & Recreations de East Hartford a planeado mas actividades acuáticas con el fin de disfrutar del cierre de verano. Las fechas próximas serán 10 de agosto 9:00am a 12:00pm, Actividades acuáticas, además de actividades especiales organizadas por la Biblioteca Pública de East Hartford y el Departamento de Policía de East Hartford. 11 de agosto 5:00pm a 7:00pm Actividades acuáticas y presentación musical de Alvin Carter Band and Friends. 12 de agosto 5:00pm a 7:00pm Actividades acuáticas con los inflables acuáticos de Party People Water Slides. 13 de agosto de 9:00am a 12:00pm Actividades acuáticas y Día de Deportes Juveniles, en colaboración con el Equipo de Intervención en Crisis de East Hartford.

Conecta conmigo: cmaldonado8816@icloud.com

Going back to school here for 400 years

Did you know East Hartford students have been returning to school for nearly 400 years? Being part of the Puritan settlement of Hartford, and Boston, East Hartford carried that lifestyle across the river.

As the summer ends, and the school year approaches, it is common to note that education was a foundation stone of the Puritan life. It was believed that both genders had to learn to read if for no other purpose than to study the Bible. That focus changed by the 1700s to studying reading, writing and math in order to be a productive citizen.

Hartford's first schools opened in the late 1630s, only a few years after settlement. A school tax is recorded as being assessed in 1642. Even a familiar name, William Pitkin, was approved as a teacher in 1660. According to Goodwin's history of the town, the first schools across the river were opened by 1708.

This demand for education brought forth two distinct actions in the Colonial years in New England:

First, because settlers in the new world did not want children to be sent back to England, Boston established an institution for educational instruction three years after establishing the Colony. We call that institution Harvard.

The second action, a law, affects East Hartford children today. This law mandated construction of a school if any settlement reached 50 residents or more, and the additional requirement for a college preparatory school at 100 residents.

Sorry children, but education was the focus of the founders of this town, and remains one of the largest sections of the town budget to this day.

By the mid-1800s 10 school districts – generally with one-room schools, were situated around the town. The structure at Rev. C. Martin Park is one of these. The Goodwin School was constructed in 1815, located originally near the Goodwin Homestead alongside were today's middle school is on Burnside Avenue. It was preserved by the Goodwin family, and eventually donated to the town. Students who were not working in a nearby factory, or out planting or harvesting a crop in field were taught math

DID YOU KNOW?

Looking back on our East Hartford

By Robert Kanehl

and reading.

Just a few years before we entered public school as a kindergartener, the November 9, 1961 Gazette, had a report on the changes in East Hartford's education approach since the 1943 state audit. Among the highlighted improvements, were a list of seven single-digit classroom schools being discontinued: Mayberry Community; Norman House; Little Red School; Old Center School; Union School Second North (rear) and Burnside School (wooden front).

It reports that in the ten years from 1949 – 1959 East Hartford constructed the following new schools: Hockanum, Sunset Ridge, East Hartford High School (on Burnside),

George Slye, John McCartin, Willowbrook, Percival S. Barnes, Anna E. Norris, Dr. Franklin H. Mayberry, Stevens and Dr. Thomas O'Connell schools. Prior to that the town had the Union School on Burnside, the original Woodland School and the seasonally-flooded Meadows school on Darlin Street.

During this time significant classroom and multipurpose room additions were built at Woodland, Goodwin, Silver Lane, Burnside, Slye, the old and new high schools, Sunset and Hockanum.

In 1961 the town was also building the George J. Penney High School, then designed as a junior high school, and added 12 classrooms to the Robert O'Brien School. Later came Langford elementary school off Alps Drive and finally the CT IB Academy adjacent to EHHS.

Ok - how many schools on the list do you remember? Or attend?

All this education expansion was due to the increase in manufacturing and engineering employment within the town. Today the East Hartford Public School system oversees 16 schools.

Welcome back teachers and students. Have a good year.

CALL FOR COMMUNITY ARTISTS

Elevate Here: VISIONS IN ART community banner project

The Town of East Hartford invites community artists of all ages and experience levels to submit artwork for a community banner project celebrating the identity of East Hartford.

Selected designs will be reproduced (printed) on light pole banners along the Town Green corridor creating a vibrant visual connection throughout the community.

Public unveiling during the annual Fall Fest!



learn more: easthartfordct.gov/visionsinart

Society

State library launches laptop program

More Connecticut residents will soon have greater access to technology thanks to an innovative new program from the CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP).

August 3 DEEP announced the launch of Laptop ConneCT. This program, in partnership with the Connecticut State Library, will put laptops and related accessories in the hands of the state residents who need them most. After two introductory webinars, over 100 principal public libraries have already signed up to participate in this long-term lending system, and DEEP is continuing to accept applications from libraries. The program aims to expand digital opportunity and connect more people to education, employment, healthcare, and essential resources.

"A laptop can be a lifeline. From accessing a child's school portal to managing a job search, access to technology is a core need in daily life," said Emma Cimino, Acting Commissioner of DEEP. "This program will have a significant impact on

many Connecticut residents, and it furthers DEEP's efforts to ensure all Connecticut residents have access to technology to fully participate in their communities."

"Laptop ConneCT is an exciting opportunity to further close the digital divide in our state," said Andy Frank, Deputy Commissioner of Energy and Technology at DEEP. "Many individuals and families will benefit from receiving a laptop that will serve as a tool for homework help, accessing healthcare, and so much more."

Residents are eligible to receive a laptop if they:

- Are at least 18 years old
- Have a valid library card with a participating library

Participate in one of the following assistance programs:

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

- Connecticut Energy Assistance Program (CEAP)

- Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

- Medicare - HUSKY Health (Medicaid/The Children's Health Insurance Program)

The program is distributing Dell Pro 16 computers with a Windows operating system.

Laptop ConneCT is administered by CT DEEP and the Connecticut State Library. The program is funded by the 2021 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund. It is approximately a \$7 million initiative that loans laptops and related accessories to eligible Connecticut residents through public libraries. The program aims to expand digital opportunity and connect more people to education, employment, healthcare, and essential resources.

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Mums can be picked up Saturday, September 12, 2026 between 9 a.m. and noon at Leonards Farmstand, 264 Forest Street.

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EAST HARTFORD SPORTS

WNBA: Box out negative images

There's some misunderstanding here, so let's get into the history of the thing.

In June 1972, my first year in this business, President Richard Nixon put his signature on a 37-word bill sponsored by U.S. representative Patsy Mink and U.S. Senator Birch Bayh, creating a landmark federal law known as Title IX. The new law prohibited sex based discrimination in educational programs or activities that received federal financial assistance, establishing equal opportunities for women in sports, college admissions and campus safety. The ensuing growth in participation in women's sports was astronomical.

SCOTT GRAY on SPORTS

by Scott Gray



Nine years later women's collegiate sports took another major step, leaving the AIAW and becoming fully recognized NCAA sports, sharing the same guidelines and benefits as men's sports. In 1995 the UConn women, an NCAA afterthought less than a decade earlier, won their first NCAA basketball championship demonstrating the power of the advances in women's sports. From that new power another opportunity was created for female athletes: The WNBA was born.

A quarter of a century later, the WNBA plays to sellout crowds and players have more control of revenue as each year's draft generates new layers of marketable stars who play the game at a competitive level equal to that of other major league sports. Young girls rabidly support their teams and their favorite players. They've entered an era ready to recognize female athletes in team and Olympic sports on an equal plane with male counterparts. As the Virginia Slims slogan proclaimed, "You've come a long way baby!"

Now, do you really want to move backward?

Being taken seriously has to begin with the WNBA taking itself seriously. Young girls who can finally dream dreams of athletic greatness on a stage of their own shouldn't have those dreams dashed by being pressed into competition with athletically-superior biological males. And they certainly shouldn't be berated by league officials for not wanting to bear that burden. We should have crossed that bridge years ago. It's time for the WNBA to legislate eligibility rules. That legislation should begin at the top. So far the response has come from the league.

It's time for Commissioner Cathy Englebert to demonstrate she stands with her players by creating a competitive venue for biological women. It's their sport, their league. And lay down the law, with strict penalties for the backstabbing and backfighting, verbal and literal, that's allowed pettiness and jealousy to overshadow the product on the court. She should revisit the 'just in fun' bet between Paige Bueckers and Angel Reese on the outcome of a late-July game between their teams, and enact a penalty that demonstrates an understanding of the serious side effects of gambling in sports, and sends a message that - even in jest - it will not be tolerated in her league.

The WNBA Players Association and Englebert spent the last off-season working hard to create labor harmony and enhance the market value of their league. It took more than a half-century of giant steps.

For the WNBA every giant step now must be a step forward. Don't go backward.

Open gates at Wrench August 15

A new era of UConn Football begins in September, and those running the program are making the case for welcoming more fans into the 40,000-seat facility in the center of town.

But before Pratt & Whitney Stadium at Rentschler Field opens its 23rd season off Silver Lane the team will be in action on Saturday, August 15 at 11 a.m. for a UConn Football Open Practice. Free admission and free parking with tailgating encouraged. Those interested in seeing the 2026 Huskies, which have mostly transferred in from throughout the country, and see new Head Coach Jason Candle put them through their paces can get to experience the excitement of game day and preview the team just three weeks before the home opener against Lafayette on Saturday, September 5.

If you want to make it a morning at The Wrench, arrive early and take advantage of free tailgating in Blue Lot, which opens at 9 a.m.

Parking is complimentary and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Stadium gates open at 10 a.m. with concessions available.

Bring your family, friends, and fellow Huskies as we celebrate the beginning of a new chapter for UConn Football and start building the home-field advantage together. "We can't wait to see you at The Rent as we kick off the Countdown to the 2026 season and the home opener against Lafayette."

Other events include:

Saturday, Sept. 12 is Community Day at the stadium, October 3 at noon is UConn Homecoming weekend, Friday, Oct 23 at 7 p.m. is Cancer Awareness night, Saturday, November 7 at noon is Junior Husky Club Day, Saturday, Nov. 14 at noon it will be "Huskies and Heroes" kicking off at P&W Stadium at the Wrench, and lastly November 21 at 3:30 p.m. kickoff it will be Senior Day in the house.

Race night Friday

This Friday, August 7th will see Stafford Speedway hosting the biggest SK Modified® race of the season, the 13th Annual NAPA SK 5k. Drivers will compete for their share of over \$35,000 in total posted awards, adding extra intensity to an already thrilling event.

Among the total posted awards is a \$2,500 bonus courtesy of John and Maina Rufrano from Wheelers Auto Service in Hamden, CT. That bonus will be distributed among the top-three finishers in each SK Modified® heat race — with \$300 to the winner, \$200 for second place, and \$125 for third. Wheelers Auto Service has proudly supported the heat race bonuses every year since the very first NAPA SK 5k back in 2014, and their continued sponsorship plays a key role in making the SK 5k a marquee event for teams.

Last year's edition of the NAPA SK 5k saw Max Zachem take the checkered flag. The defending race champion is not expected to be in the field for this year's NAPA SK 5k, but there are four former winners in the forms of Michael Christopher, Jr., Todd Owen, Keith Rocco, and Marcello Rufrano who will be part of the starting grid. Rocco is the most recent SK Modified® feature winner,

scoring his third win of the 2026 season last Friday night, July 31st. Rocco's three wins leads all drivers this season while Rufrano and Troy Talman are the only other multiple feature winners this season with 2 wins each. Other drivers with a single feature victory in 2026 includes David Arute, Tyler Chapman, Owen, and Jon Puleo for a total of 7 different winners through the first 11 races of the season.

Rocco currently leads the SK Modified® standings going into the NAPA SK 5k feature event. Rocco holds a 38-point advantage over defending SK Modified® track champion Jon Puleo with Glen Reen only 2 points behind Puleo in third place. Owen is fourth in the standings, 54 points behind Rocco with Rufrano fifth, 88 points behind. Talman's back to back victories on July 10th and 24th have boosted him up to sixth in the standings with Tyler Chapman, Alexander Pearl, Mikey Flynn, and Christopher making up the top-10 in the standings. SK Modified® drivers will also be racing to be top dog in the Sign Pro Triple Crown standings in order to win an over 19,000-piece Mac Daddy JR Fastener Assortment from BoltsandNuts.com valued at \$4,500.

Martin Park Summer Splash

Parks and Recreation plans four weeks of cooling water activities to help offset the closure of Martin Park Pool. Wear your bathing suit and bring a towel because water-based activities are going on every day through Thursday, August 13th.

The full list of programs is below. Note that some may require pre-registration, which

will be indicated on the Town website, as it becomes available. Children ages 11 and under must be accompanied by an adult age 16 or older. Children 12 and older may attend the programming independently.

For more information on these programs visit: www.easthartfordct.gov/home/news/summer-splash-and-play

SUMMER SPLASH AND PLAY in Martin Park

DAY	DATE	TIME	PROGRAM
Thursday	6-Aug	9 to Noon	Water Activity - HOOPLA!
Monday	10-Aug	9 to Noon	Water Activities with Library and Police Department activities
Tuesday	11-Aug	5 to 7 pm	Water Activities and music by Alvin Carter Band and Friends
Wednesday	12-Aug	5 to 7 pm	Water Activities featuring Party People Water Slides
Thursday	13-Aug	9 to noon	Water Activities and Sports Day EH Crisis Intervention Team

OBITUARIES

Anita (Richard) Leone, RN

Anita (Richard) Leone, 87, of Rocky Hill and formerly of West Palm Beach, FL and East Hartford, loving wife for over 65 years of Sam Leone, was peacefully reunited with her beloved daughter, Suzanne, on Thursday, June 25, 2026 surrounded by her loving family. Born in Hartford on



Anita Leone

September 2, 1938, she was the daughter of the late Hector and Denise (Caron) Richard. Anita was a graduate of Hartford High School, class of 1956 and was awarded a full scholarship and subsequently graduated in 1960 from Hartford Hospital School of Nursing. Nursing was a calling for her; she served as an RN at several area continuing care communities for many years and taught at the Hartford Hospital School of Nursing. She later owned and operated Caring Nurses, a nurse staffing service, with her business partner and best friend, Nancy Bracken. She enjoyed knitting and made

blankets for all her grandchildren. She was an avid reader and loved cooking, going to the theater, walking and traveling with Sam, family and friends, playing golf and watching golf, the Boston Red Sox and the UConn women's basketball team. Most of all, Anita was a caring, helpful woman who was a nurse to all. She cherished her family, especially her grandchildren and she loved cheering for and supporting them in all their activities. Anita epitomized selfless and unconditional love.

In addition to her devoted husband Sam, Anita will be forever missed by her children, Lisa Pizzoferrato and husband Rudy of Avon and Richard Leone of East Hampton and her four adored grandchildren, Andrew Pizzoferrato of New York City, Taylor Abrahamsen and husband Jakob of Hartland, Jenna Basil and husband Josh of Marlborough and Jamie Leone of East Hampton.

She is also survived by her brother, Donald Richard and wife Suzanne of Williamsport, PA; her sister, Lorraine Rubinow of Wethersfield; her sister-in-law, Diane Clark of Palm Coast, FL; her best friend and former business partner, Nancy Bracken of St. John, IN and many nieces, nephews, cousins and dear friends. In addition to her parents and daughter, Anita was predeceased by two brothers, Robert and Normand Richard; her sister, MaryAnn Guerrini; her sisters-in-law, Patricia Metcalf and Wendy Richard and her brothers-in-law, Robert Metcalf and Edward Clark.

Anita's family would like to thank Dr. Michael DeShaies for the many years of excellent care and compassion, Hartford Home and Hospice Health Care and Nutmeg Home Assistance.

Services took place August 4 with a Mass of Christian Burial at St. James Church of St. Josephine Bakhita Parish, Rocky Hill. D'Esopo Funeral Chapel, Wethersfield, handled arrangements. Donations in Anita's memory may be made to: East Hartford Alumni Association and Education Foundation, P.O. Box 380803, East Hartford, CT 06138-0803. Scholarships will be awarded to East Hartford Public School students who pursue a career in nursing or teaching. Visit www.desopofuneralchapel.com

Annette (LaMonda) Dulude

Annette Marie (LaMonda) Dulude, 90, of Glastonbury and formerly of Manchester and East Hartford, peacefully entered into eternal rest on Thursday, July 30, 2026, at a local rehabilitation center. Annette was the loving wife of over 59 years of the late Clement C. Dulude. Born in Sheldon JCT, Vermont on January 17, 1936, a daughter of the late Wilfred and Mary (Bergeron) LaMonda, she had been a resident of the East Hartford and Manchester area for most of her life prior to moving to Glastonbury three years ago.



Annette Dulude

A highly dedicated employee, Annette worked at Waldbaum Food Mart grocery stores for over 34 years where she retired as the office manager. Since 1970, Annette was an active member of the Women of the Moose Club. She was an avid Boston Red Sox fan and loved watching the game of golf on television. She also enjoyed going to area casinos to play her favorite slot machines. Most of all, Annette was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, and friend who loved spending time with her family and close friends.

Annette is survived by her

three beloved daughters, Nancy J. McClung of Dunnellon, FL, Jeanne M. Dulude of Port Richey, FL, Cathy A. Guidotti and her husband Mark of West Hartford; a sister, Lauren Young and her husband Robert James of Vermont; a sister-in-law, Joyce LaMonda of Vermont; ten adored grandchildren; six cherished great-grandchildren; many nieces, nephews, cousins, former co-workers, and dear friends. In addition to her husband and parents, Annette was predeceased by a brother and four sisters.

Funeral service will be Wednesday (August 5th) at 11 am at the D'Esopo East Hartford Memorial Chapel, 30 Carter Street, East Hartford. Burial will follow at 12 noon at the State Veterans' Cemetery, 317 Bow Lane, Middletown. Her family will receive relatives and friends on Wednesday morning from 10 - 11 am at the funeral home chapel. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Annette's name may be made to Moose Haven, 1701 Park Avenue, Orange Park, FL 32073. For on-line expressions of sympathy to the family, please visit www.desopoe.com

Marilyn K. Turner, 94

Marilyn K. Turner, 94, of Manchester, beloved wife of the late Allan Turner, passed away peacefully at her home on Thursday, July 30, 2026, just shy of her 95th birthday. She now joins the two favorite men in her life-her husband, Allan, and her beloved cat, Riley.

Marilyn was born in East Hartford on August 8, 1931 and graduated from East Hartford High School. On August 20, 1955, the day after the Great Flood, she married Allan, beginning a loving marriage that would span more than 52 years, until Allan passed away in 2008. After graduating from high school, Marilyn worked for a short time at The Travelers before leaving to raise her family. Caring for children became the defining passion of her life. Raising her own five children brought her the greatest joy,

and she also enjoyed gardening, spending time with her beloved cats, and enthusiastically cheering on the UConn Huskies and New York Yankees. She worked at The Children's Place and later volunteered at Center Church Nursery School.

She is survived by her children, Scott Turner and his wife, Heidi; Craig Turner and his wife, Christine; Brian Turner; Christopher Turner and his wife, Kathleen; and Heather Turner. She also leaves behind her seven cherished grandchildren-her most prized possessions-John, Matthew, Jillian, Joseph, Zachary, Kristen and her husband, Devin, and Evan and his wife, Laura; as well as her great-grandchildren, Charles, Isabella, and Leo. She is also survived by her sister-in-law Phyllis Turner, and many loving nieces and nephews.

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Carol A. Keena

Kristopher J. Keena

Kevin G. Keena

'The SpongeBob Musical' an absorbing show

From Page One

ing stage-musical numbers like BFF [yes, "Best Friends Forever"] and others.

And the trio somehow overcomes community discord from the profit-seeking, but still likeable, Mister Crusty Krabs and the fantasy ego-driven rock group the 'Electric Skates' (played to perfection by Patrick Connelly, Finn Lambert, Eli DeMeo, Saory Otero-Chavez and Sabina Stone) sliding all over this aqua-adventure. Four-legged Squidward, a self-described 'loveable loser', was played by EHSYF favorite Tim McGrath, and Mr. Crusty Krab's golden-voiced teenage high-energy daughter, played by Maraiyah Farmer, brought their vocal chops bubbling up from the deep. The Mayor of Bikini Bottom, played by Lillian La-Caprucia-Hull, deservedly earned high-five kelps of applause.

Then there was the truly masterful Dr. Evil performance of Louis Haberlandt, last year's 'Cat in the Hat'. As Plankton Haberlandt brought a sly, sophisticated bad-guy charm and comic timing to the role in his dangerous baritone and superb singing. All the characters danced as well, and Louis delivered some serious hip-hop moves! Playing off his sparkling sidekick spouse 'Karen' - a witty humanized computer played very convincingly by Lucy Alford - the plotters hauled up lots of laughs. These two with their constant scheming and rapping dance numbers almost stole the show. But there was so much in addition to enjoy and marvel at.

The foundation of EHSYF is direction, talent, teaching and

experience. Returning from the also spectacular 'Seussical' production last year was Valerie Nettleton who provided unerring and careful direction to the 70-member cast.

Working hand in hand with superb and very extensive choreography and movement by Anne Kane, with assistant Mallory Cunningham, plus the jaw-dropping, multi-colored costume creations of Greer Cunningham-Pattison, Darcey Lovell, Ellen Parker, Mallory Cunningham, and Nancy Tomaselli - it takes an ensemble to make a complicated show such as SpongeBob happen.

Then one looks up to the intricate lighting and multi-spotlights designed and operated by Charles William O'Connor. And the truly super set design with gorgeous full color luminescent ocean-background screen, catwalk, stage elevations and even an undersea mountain creation - all so dramatic and pretty convincing - in a fantasy sense...

What's a musical without the music? Soaring melodies, horns and powerful percussion? This challenging soundtrack was delivered thanks to the supervision of Sarah Vespa and superb instrumentalists who carried this story to the end, in stereo sound directed by Evan Bellman.

The aqueous adventure was narrated with sophisticated charm and excellent vocal clarity by the longest serving actress and board-member Joan Coates, who goes all the way back to her early teens performing in EHSYF shows, a famous East Hartford tradition.

I only wish we had the space to name and describe the im-

mense contribution of the Chorus - players and engaging character sub-groups - like the 'Teen Fans' and the Sardine devotees and soloists - who populated, danced and sang their way into the audience's hearts through this huge extravaganza.

Yes - they made the whole thing look and feel big and filled with emotion every step of the way. The full listing of all these amazing theater performers who dedicated most of their summer to write another wondrous chapter in the EHSYF story can be found on the official website at : ehsyf.org

Bravo, East Hartford Summer Youth Theater - We'll all be looking for You right back here Next Year !

Backpack Rally at McAuliffe

From Page One

Superintendent of Schools Thomas Anderson noted that the rally was special for him as a native of East Hartford. He gave credit to the schools readiness and outreach workers who have been working for days to load up backpacks and organize volunteers.

"Michelle Texidor coordinates this rally every year, and she and her staff pull it all together with the thanks of many businesses in the community, large and small," said Anderson. Texidor also supports the bilingual specialists for the schools and the information booths for services and programs were favorites of the

crowd. The main feature was backpack distribution. This was the 10th year of giving away stuffed backpacks to any East Hartford School child who wants one, and the ages lining up ranged from entering preschool to students attending high school. Over 2,000 backpacks were prepared by dozens of volunteers, many from local businesses, who met at the East Hartford Community Cultural Center in advance to stuff them in advance for distribution.

Organizations focused on community affairs and local merchants welcomed visitors.

The giveaway event lasted three hours, and no one who attended went home without a backpack.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF
**MICHAEL REGIS GLOEKLER,
AKA MICHAEL R. GLOEKLER,
AKA MICHAEL GLOEKLER
(26-00191)**

The Hon. Richard P. Gentile, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of East Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated **July 28, 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:

Francis X. Gloekler, 141 Hunters Lane, Williamsville, NY 04221

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF
**KATHRYN L. KIRO
(26-00282)**

The Hon. Richard P. Gentile, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of East Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated **July 31, 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:

Lisa M. Kiro, 106 Cheney Lane, East Hartford, CT 06118

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF
**MARIA A. DININNI
(26-00283)**

The Hon. Richard P. Gentile, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of East Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated **July 31, 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:

Elena Benson
c/o Deborah M. Rose,
Esquire; Klemons & Rose
Law Offices, LLC, 555
Heritage Road, Unit #6,
Southbury, CT 06488

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF
**JANET FERNANDEZ
(26-00157)**

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

Juan Fernandez, Sr.
c/o Alyson Rebecca
Marcucio, Esquire; Chipman
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Old Ridgebury Road, 320,
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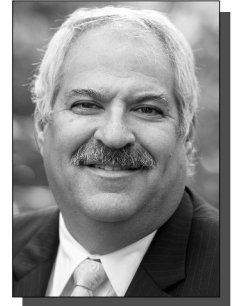
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WHERE THE ACTION IS!

BY CORINNE HORAN

AUG 6: TODAY! INTERCOMMUNITY ART OF WELLNESS DAY, a huge, free summer block party at 281 Main St. takes place August 6. All are invited starting at 11 a.m. until 7 p.m. for this community extravaganza featuring free health screenings, info, music, food, activities and a chance to view and purchase unique and affordable art from local artists. This is the debut of InterCommunity Gallery's "LIVE!" Exhibition. Join us, bring friends and neighbors for a day of health, wellness and discovering the healing power of art during National Health Center Week!

AUGUST EVENTS AT THE WORLD WAR II LEGACY FOUNDATION MUSEUM, 102 Pitkin St., Saturday, **August 8th** open for visitors 9 - 11 am. Sunday, **August 9th**: The Foundation will be marching in the Victory over Japan, V-J DAY PARADE in Moosup. This is one of the only V-J Day parades left in the country. It first started in 1961. Contact us for details.

Saturday and Sunday, **August 15th - 16th**: The museum will be open both days, 2 - 6 p.m. See displays for Victory Over Japan Day (V-J Day). "Navajo Code Talkers of World War II" Sunday at 3 p.m. **August 22 - 23**: Open in the afternoon, hours to be announced.

AUGUST 12 - WICKHAM DAY QUILTERS of East Hartford meets from 1:30-3:30 pm at the Wickham Li-

brary, 656 Burnside Avenue. If you like to sew and are interested in quilting join us to see what quilting is all about. All skill levels welcome. Meeting are on the second Wednesday of the month. The August program features a video "Textile Talks." Bring a hand sewing project to work on. FMI E-mail Wickhamdayquilters@gmail.com

AUG. 13: THE EAST HARTFORD ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AND EDUCATION FOUNDATION (EHAAEF) will host a presentation at 1 p.m. at the East Hartford Senior Center, 15 Milbrook Dr. Hear about the ways that this group of East Hartford alumni, parents, teachers and community members support students and staff in town. To register, call 860-291-7460 Ext. 0. To find out how to get involved, talk to Brittney Cavaliere, chair at 860-402-7612.

AUGUST 15: SAZZY BRASS, 7 p.m. at South Congregational Church, 1301 Forbes St. Not just a band; it's a musical experience of jazz-infused standards with R&B Classics. Sazzy Brass features: Linda Ransom vocals, Bob DePalma saxophone, Chris Casey Piano, Tyler Sherman bass, Rose Roy trombone and Dawn Zukowski trumpet. \$20 at the door or in advance go to <https://www.mosaicsconcerts.com/event-details/sazzy-brass>

HISTORY TOURS: The East Hartford Historical Society at Martin Park is open from 1 to 4 pm Sundays for tours, 307 Burnside Avenue. The 1761 Makens Belmont House, also known as the Huguenot House, is restored to its original 18th century appearance with period furnishings. Also open is the 1821 Goodwin Schoolhouse and the 1850 Burnham Blacksmith Shop. Tours free, donations accepted. Call 860-528-0716 or visit www.historicalsocietyofeasthartford.org

AUGUST 15: Hare Krishna Charlot Festival, Riverfront Park in Glastonbury on Saturday August 15 from 11:45 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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.

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