The Gazette

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Devoted to Local Interests | 1406 Main Street, East Hartford, Connecticut 06108 | 860-289-6468 | editor@ehgazette.com | ehgazette.com

SOLEMN REMEMBRANCE



EAST HARTFORD REMEMBERS: Guest speaker Tom Hogan reviews the efforts to include five names he researched to the town's WW 1 Honor Roll. Veterans and other residents gathered Wednesday at the statue of 'Ready', East Hartford's memorial to World War I. As the VFW Color Guard stood at attention, Navy veteran Art Parker and Mayor Connor Martin placed a memorial wreath near the statue, then Mayor Martin reflected on the meaning of Veterans Day. The ceremony included reading the names and ringing the bell atop nearby First Congregational Church 19 times for each of the East Hartford war dead memorialized on the statue, and taps played by East Hartford High School marching band students.

Manufacturers summit

Goodwin U forum brings makers, funders and educators together

By Bill Doak

All around Goodwin University's sleek new laboratory annex for manufacturing, new buildings are going up, programs are getting started, new partnerships have been announced and a complete K-12 school system has been put into place here in East Hartford with a focused purpose: to attract all ages into careers they will want to pursue in health care, AI, cyber security, business administration and manufacturing.

On Pent Road the old Wilgoos atmospheric jet engine test cell building is long gone, and a new Technology High School is going up, set to open in 2027. Inside will be a mock up of the Martian surface which educators feel will attract the next generation of learners.

Goodwin University's Magnet School System, the Pitkin Street based Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology (CCAT) and the Manufacturing Employer Partnership hosted the second annual Manufacturers Connect Forum Tuesday morning. Guided panel presentations, followed by question-and answer sessions, introduced local manufacturers to school administrators and career counselors to identify strengths, weaknesses and hear suggestions about educational system and meeting the needs of today's workplace.

For Mayor Connor Martin, who graduated from Goodwin and lives between the campus and Pratt & Whitney, East Hartford's identity has been The Air-

See **MANUFACTURERS,** p 10

'ROLL-IN' HELD FOR NEW TOWER LADDER 1

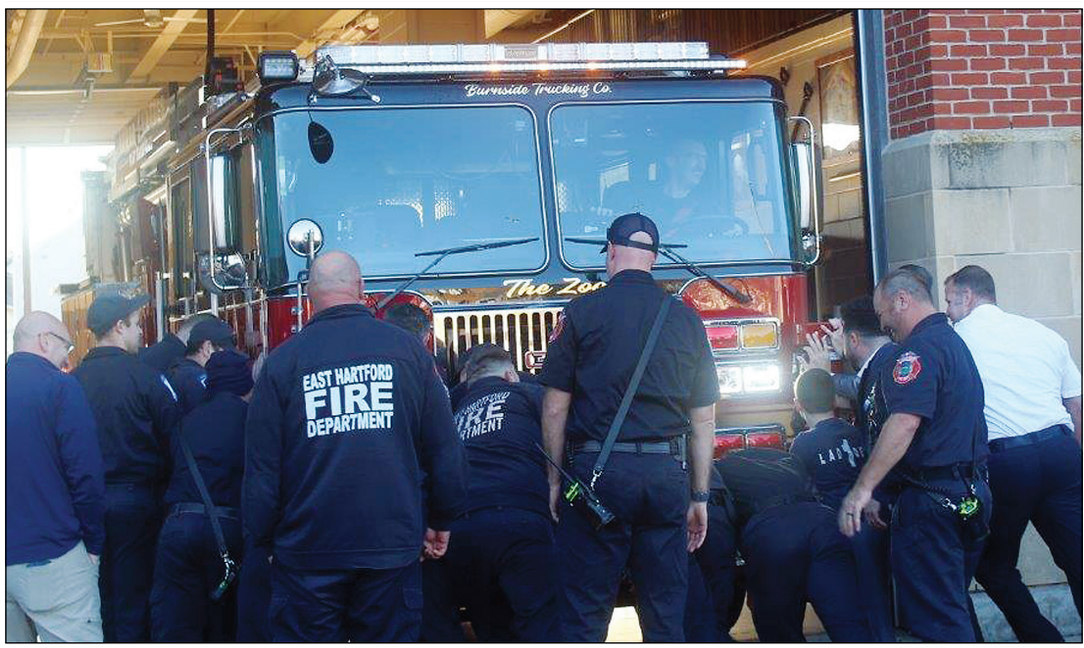


PHOTO BY MIKE BRINIUS

MEMBERS OF THE EAST HARTFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT "ROLL-IN" the new Tower Ladder 1 into the bay at Engine Co. #3 on School Street Tuesday. Tower Ladder 1 is 2026 Seagrave Aerialscope made in Clintonville, Wisconsin. Purchased in January 2023 it was delivered to East Hartford in September and spent the last couple of months getting equipment mounted, radios, and lettering. Firefighters were trained by a Seagrave technician to familiarize them with the $1,996,694 truck, which weighs 80,000lbs. and is 46' 11" long and 11' 05" high. The aerial platform can extend 95' while carrying 5,000 pounds and has the ability to flow water up to 2,000 gallons per minute from its mounted master stream. The truck is expected to serve East Hartford for the next 20 years. This tower replaced Ladder 1, also a Seagrave Aerialscope, purchased in 2008 for around $950,000. It has been in front line service for over 18 years. While the layout of the two apparatus appears similar, the new Tower Ladder 1 meets current NFPA specifications. Ladder 1 will be renamed Ladder 4 and be a spare apparatus.

AROUND TOWN

Race aims for blood record

Officials from the Manchester Road Race Committee are hoping to see a new record set this November—on the day after the iconic Thanksgiving Day run through Manchester's streets.

The committee will sponsor the 40th Ray Crothers Blood Drive in conjunction with the American Red Cross of Connecticut on Friday, November 27, and organizers are aiming to collect 400 pints of blood, which would be a new record for the event.

The blood drive will be held from 8:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. on November 27th at the Manchester High School gymnasium. Manchester High School is located at 134 East Middle Turnpike in Manchester.

Walk-in donors are welcome, but appointments are encouraged. Donors may sign up by calling 1-800-733-2767 or on-line at the Red Cross website. A direct link to the registration site is also available on the Road Race website. Everyone who donates a pint of blood will receive a road race tee shirt. The event will also feature entertainment, refreshments and a raffle.

Race officials began sponsoring the blood drive on the day after Thanksgiving in 1986, and it has been held annually since then. The event is held in memory of Ray Crothers of Tolland, who won the road race in 1965 and competed in it 43 times prior to his death in 2008.

Generous donors contributed a record 385 pints of blood at last November's blood drive. Since the road race blood drive began in 1986, more than 9000 units of blood have been collected.

"This is the 40th anniversary of the road race blood drive drive and we are hoping to celebrate it by setting another record and collecting 400 pints of blood, or more, this year," said Lance Morgan, a physician assistant and Manchester Road Race Committee executive board member who is overseeing the event. "There is a critical shortage of blood in our region and we are urging everyone who possibly can to donate."

Sponsors of the Ray Crothers Blood drive are Hartford HealthCare and Eastern CT Pathology Consultants.

PAYING RESPECTS



Could this turkey be looking for a friend left here last November? He was seen reading the grave stones in the Silver Lane Cemetery this week.

Town Hall elevator is broken again

The elevator at the Town Hall's main entrance is out of service again. This happened during election week. For elevator access, please use the south side entrance of Town Hall. If questions or need assistance, please call the Town Hall at (860) 291-7100.

Wish List

The East Hartford Commission on Aging is once again hosting their annual Christmas Tree Wish List program to support residents of Riverside Health. Donations are accepted through November 22. You can find additional details on the Town website here www.easthartfordct.gov/commission-on-aging/news/5th-annual-christmas-wish-list-program.

33rd year of Holiday Fest December 4th thru 7th

Wishing you the Magic of the Holiday Season with our Magical Gingerbread House!

The East Hartford Holiday Fest 2026 will be our 33rd year of celebrating the Holidays thru out our town.

Holiday Fest has been sponsored by the East Hartford Beautification Commission and supported by many town and civic organizations, churches and community clubs.

It is a four-day event held on the first full weekend in December to start off the Holiday season with tree lightings, dinners, children programs, concerts, church fairs and many other Holiday events.

There will be a total of 24 events this year. The Traditional Tree lighting will be the **Kick Off on the Town Green on Friday night, December 4th at 6 p.m.** this year. Please don't forget to bring a non-perishable food item to all the events. All food items will be donated this year to the East Hartford Food Pantry to help our neighbors in need. Share your Holiday spirit. Brochures will be distributed thru out town after November 16th. The brochure can also be found on the East Hartford Town website at www.easthartfordct.gov

SAVE THE DATE AND COME join us as we celebrate 33 years of the East Hartford Holiday Fest and Feel the Magic of the Holiday Season!

OUR 40 YEAR ANNIVERSARY!

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6236-0625

CLASSIFIEDS

ONCE-FIRED DOUBLE-A HULLS
860-649-9340

Free firewood. Leave message.
860-649-9340

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.

TIFFANY'S TEENY TOTS
HOME DAYCARE AGES 0-5
ENROLL TODAY
860-519-1098

GAZETTE CLASSIFIEDS GET RESULTS

DESDE LA ESQUINA

by Carmen Maldonado

Un día para honrar, todo un año para agradecer

Hay fechas en el calendario que nos invitan a detenernos un momentito y reconocer a personas que, de una manera u otra, han dejado su huella en nuestra historia y en nuestras comunidades. Algunas las celebramos con grandes actividades, otras con pequeños gestos y, en ocasiones, con unas simples palabras de agradecimiento.

El Día de los Veteranos es una de esas fechas. Cada 11 de nov., vemos banderas, ceremonias, homenajes y mensajes dedicados a todas las personas que han servido en las Fuerzas Armadas de Estados Unidos. Y aunque todos estos reconocimientos son importantes, también nos dejan una pregunta que vale la pena hacernos, ¿por qué limitar nuestro agradecimiento a un solo día?

La realidad es que, después de todo, un gesto de gratitud no tiene que esperar a que llegue una fecha especial en el calendario. Detrás de cada uniforme hay una persona con su propia historia, una familia y un montón de experiencias que quizás nunca lleguemos a conocer.

Están las despedidas en los aeropuertos, los cumpleaños que se perdieron, las llamadas a larga distancia y esas reuniones familiares en las que alguien no pudo estar presente. Y ni hablar de las familias, porque mientras una persona sirve, ellos son los que viven esa experiencia desde el otro lado. Son quienes esperan noticias, mantienen las rutinas del hogar y cuentan los días para volver a tener a sus seres queridos cerquita.

Para nuestra comunidad puertorriqueña y latina, esta fecha tiene un significado especial. Miles de boricuas han servido en las Fuerzas Armadas de Estados Unidos, incluyendo al reconocido Regimiento 65 de Infantería, conocido como los Borinqueneers. Su historia de compromiso y sacrificio forma parte de nuestro legado y continúa siendo motivo de orgullo para muchas generaciones. Siempre debemos tener presente que, aunque el servicio militar termine, la vida continúa, y con ella llegan nuevas experiencias y, en ocasiones, nuevos retos.

Para algunos veteranos, regresar a la vida civil significa comenzar una etapa completamente diferente. Encontrar empleo, adaptarse a nuevas rutinas, atender su salud física, emocional y volver a acostumbrarse a una vida distinta puede tomar mucho tiempo. Y aunque cada experiencia es diferente, todos merecen contar con el respeto, la comprensión y el apoyo de sus comunidades. Por eso, agradecer no tiene que limitarse a una ceremonia, una publicación en las redes sociales o un saludo durante el mes de noviembre.

A veces pensamos que para demostrar agradecimiento tenemos que hacer algo grande, cuando realmente los pequeños gestos también cuentan. Escuchar la historia de un veterano que quiera compartirla, interesarnos por sus experiencias, conocer los recursos disponibles en nuestra comunidad o simplemente dedicarle un ratito de nuestro tiempo son maneras de demostrar que nuestro agradecimiento va más allá de las palabras.

Tampoco se trata de hacer algo extraordinario todos los días. Pero si lo quieres hacer, la puerta siempre está abierta para el party. Se trata más bien de recordar que, aunque el calendario siga corriendo y las celebraciones terminen, las necesidades y las historias de nuestros veteranos siguen presentes.

Así que esta semana, entre banderas, homenajes y mensajes de agradecimiento, tomemos un momentito para reconocer a quienes han servido, a sus familias y a las historias que llevan consigo. Porque un "gracias por su servicio" siempre será un bonito gesto, pero acompañarlo con respeto, apoyo y reconocimiento durante el resto del año puede tener un significado mucho mayor.

Eventos próximos que no te debes perder:

No te pierdas de la Feria de Navidad el 21 de Nov. Auspiciada por El First Congregational Church, ubicada en el 837 Main St. Esta celebración comenzara a las 9:00am hasta las 2:00pm. Participantes podrán disfrutar de artesanías, decoraciones, canastas de regalos, postres y dulces. También habrá opciones de almuerzo. No te lo pierdas.

Conecta conmigo: cmaldonado8816@gmail.com

Funeral homes, school collect donations

D'Esopo East Hartford Memorial Chapel at 30 Carter St. and Goodwin University Funeral Services Program on the Main Campus at 1 Riverside Dr. in East Hartford are two members of the Connecticut Funeral Directors Association (CFDA) across the state who are hosting a holiday toy and gift card collection for military families and for children receiving medical care.

Now through Wednesday, December 2, funeral homes and related businesses across Connecticut are welcoming toys and gift cards from the public for the Connecticut National Guard's Operation E.L.F. (Embracing Lonely Families) Service Member & Family Support Center for military families, and toys for young patients at Yale New Haven's Children's Hospital's Toy Closet Program AND Connecticut Children's Medical Center.

Note: Donations for Goodwin University can be place in a lobby collection box.

Also, on Thursday, December 3 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., the public can drop items off to CFDA's 138th Convention at the Bristol Event Center on 112 Century Dr. (off of Enterprise Dr., near ESPN and Doubletree Hotel) in Bristol.

On that day, funeral directors from around the state will carry in all of the items that were donated, as well as toys and credit cards that they themselves will contribute.

THE EAST HARTFORD LIONS CLUB'S ANNUAL

HOLIDAY POINSETTIA SALE





Cheer up your home - or give floral cheer to others while supporting the good works East Hartford Lions deliver not just at the Holidays - but throughout the year!





Order your Poinsettia today!

Order by: DECEMBER 1ST, 2026

Pickup* on: DECEMBER 3RD & 4TH

PICKUP LOCATION: Hillstown Grange Hall,

617 Hills St., East Hartford (*Pickup hours: 11 a.m. until 1 p.m.)

SINGLE POINSETTIA 15" tall with 4-6 blooms in a 6.5" foil wrapped pot. Cost: **$12**

COLORS: Red ____ Qty White ___ Qty Pink ___ Qty Jingle Bell (Variegated Pink/White) ___ Qty

MIXED POINSETTIA CENTERPIECE in an 11" round bowl.

Contains a popular combination of seasonal holiday plants. Cost: **$27** ___ Qty

THREE 24" TALL POINSETTIAS 10-15 blooms in an 8" foil-wrapped pot. Cost: **$27**

COLORS: Red ____ Qty White ____ Qty

Mail this form with a check payable to:

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

Questions? Contact Lion Don Samartino at 860-416-9636
or e-mail **lionseasthartford@gmail.com**

NAME: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Notes: _____

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SPEAKING OUT!, LETTERS

We owe a debt of peace to our veterans

At "the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month" of 1918, guns officially fell silent across Europe and The Great War came to a military end (the political finish came in 1919 with the Treaty of Versailles). The following November 11, the winning nations commemorated the final ceasefire with the first "Armistice Day" events. These were not celebrations. Observances were – and in some countries at least partially remain – somber remembrances. The UK and Canada - remember our former friend up north? - November 11 is still "Remembrance Day".

What do they remember and honor? The same thing East Hartford remembered Wednesday at the Raymond Library statue of "Ready" the bronze statue of the doughboy bearing the names of 19 East Hartfordites. These 19 were a small fraction of the 20 million who were sacrificed in "the war to end all wars."

World War II was brewing in 1927 when East Hartford erected that statue, and soldiers who fought in Europe and returned home were still camped out on the mall in Washington, D.C awaiting their promised benefits. Then came the Korean Conflict, the Forgotten War to veterans, the Cuban Missile Crisis, Bay of Pigs, Vietnam, Operation Desert Storm, war in Afghanistan and the current conflict with Iran all placing Americans in harms way. No wonder why Congress decided to rebrand Armistice Day in 1954 as a day to celebrate victory and the warrior. And Veterans Day was born.

East Hartford is an outlier. The rest of America stopped mourning. That's why Pete Hegseth and his pals pose for photos at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier on the fields of Robert E. Lee's former farm, now planted with America's sacred dead. And the President takes the opportunity to deliver a political speech.

Perhaps it is right to celebrate veterans. Even better would be to take the day to care for those veterans harmed, traumatized, homeless or living on the edge.

If we think about the day the guns went silent on the Western Front, celebrate that silence. You can hear it echo as taps are being played. Armistice has a sound as lonely as the echo that fades in the bells which rang 19 times for the 19 dead from First Congregational Church Wednesday. The sounds of war faded as softly as the remaining leaves fell around the lovely green grass in front of the Raymond Library.

Like those leaves, we wage war against them and yet return they do just as countless wars seem to do. The wage we pay is, around the globe, American lives and millions of foreigners' lives. Where's the beef?

The US armed forces' oath of enlistment binds future veterans to "support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic." A worthy goal, in fact, there is none higher most military men, women and the rest of us agree.

Consider the way East Hartford commemorates veterans and still marks "Armistice Day". American should make commemoration day a call for peace and a rejection of war. Use diplomacy where diplomacy is called for. That not only avoids giving gallons of free coffee away on future Veterans Days - it saves lives.

Planning for the future may include replacing some elementary schools

WHAT'S WELL FROM WELLS HALL

Dear Friends,

We hope that everyone took the opportunity to recognize the veterans around us for their service and commitment this week. Thank you!

We are proud to celebrate two of our schools that have been named Schools of Distinction by the Connecticut State Department of Education for their growth and achievement last school year. This recognition is a tremendous accomplishment, particularly given that only 138 schools out of more than 1,000 statewide earned this distinction by achieving scores within the top 10% in the state's Next Generation Accountability System.

Connecticut IB Academy earned this distinction for the fifth consecutive year, achieving an impressive accountability index score of 94.7, well above the state average of 72.2.

We are equally proud of Silver Lane Elementary School, which was recognized for its exceptional growth in English Language Arts among high-needs students. Silver Lane improved its performance by three percentage points, from 53.7 to 56.7, surpassing the state average of 55.4.

Congratulations to both school communities! These accomplishments serve as a reminder of what can be achieved through strong partnerships, dedicated educators, and a shared commitment to student success. We are proud of this momentum as we turn our attention to planning for the future.

Our teams are currently developing the Fiscal Year 2028 (FY28) budget for next school year. Our focus remains on aligning district resources with our priorities, while ensuring we operate as efficiently and effectively as possible. This process includes a continued review of staffing structures and an examination of opportunities to streamline operations, improve efficiencies, and ensure resources are directed where they have the greatest impact on students.



Thomas Anderson
Superintendent of Schools



Tyron Harris
Chair, EH Board of Education

Our investment priorities are instruction, strengthening student supports, building organizational capacity, expanding meaningful opportunities for students, and maintaining the operational systems necessary to sustain the progress we have made. These decisions require thoughtful consideration and a clear understanding of both our current needs and our long-term responsibilities.

In addition to budget development, we are taking a closer look at our district's Capital Plan and what our facilities should look like over the next decade. Our initial focus includes exploring the potential replacement of three to four elementary schools, taking advantage of the current opportunities for state reimbursement.

As we move forward, clarity in planning, careful assessment of needs, and accountability in decision-making will guide this work. The investments we make today will have an impact far beyond the current budget year. Our responsibility is to ensure that our schools, programs, and resources position students, staff, and the broader community for success well into the future.

As always, if we can be of service to you, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Anderson's office at 860-622-5107 or superintendent@easthartford.org or Mr. Harris at 860-622-5017 or harris.tv@easthartford.org.

With East Hartford Pride!

Tyron V. Harris
Board of Education Chairman
Thomas Anderson
Superintendent
East Hartford Public Schools



WPA art depicts East Hartford history

DID YOU KNOW?

Looking back on our East Hartford

By Robert Kanehl

Did you know East Hartford has a number of WPA art pieces in full view for the public? This week, local art historian Ray Tubbs conducted a tour of WPA murals located in the Raymond Library. There are six paintings, displaying a wide range of topics such as: a Podunk land Agreement; a Revolutionary War naval battle of East Hartford native Gideon Olmstead; the paying of French Troops while camped in East Hartford; local tobacco farming; and airplane production.

The Works Project Administration (WPA) was a federal government program set up during the Great Depression to provide jobs to local artists, craftsmen and others.

The six library murals were all painted by Ralph Lewis Nelson, born in Coal City, Illinois but a Connecticut resident when he died in 1967. Besides his work during the Great Depression, Nelson is most famous for his "Uncle Sam - I Want You" recruiting poster first used during WW1. Nelson lived in Wilton and Bethlehem. He began working for the WPA in 1935, producing 118 easel works given to public places throughout the state. The state achieves notes that though he completed many murals during the same time frame, "some have been lost."

Raymond Library has six, thanks to the restoration work of Tubbs who was instrumental in removing them from the walls of Center and Silver Lane Schools, and reframing them.

Lee Paquette's 1976 history of town recalls these East Hartford WPA projects: the tennis courts, baseball diamond, and swimming pool at Martin Park; site work at Hillside Cemetery; the Main Street Town Hall and Fire Department buildings on Main Street.

Another WPA project was the Main Street Post Office where you can see another WPA artist's work. Alton Tobey's "The Last Halt" is a mural depicting Thomas Hooker and his followers as they stopped in East Hartford before crossing the river to establish their settlement in Hartford. Alton's painting covers the south wall of the 1930s building, oil on fiberboard, completed in 1939.

It was common to find mural art in WPA post offices. The WPA funded over $300 million artistic projects during the Great Depression under the idea of bring art to the people.

Tubbs was also involved in the restoration of the Tobey mural in East Hartford.

Tobey was born in Middletown in 1914 and died while living in Mamaroneck, New York in 2005. His later fame came from portrait paintings among his subjects are: Pope John Paul II; Scientist Albert Einstein and Poet Robert Frost.

Tobey has murals in the Smithsonian Museum in Washington D.C., as well as one concerning the writing of Mark Twain in Hartford's Camp Field Library.

In the 1970s Tubbs was employed by the town to remove and restore the Nelson murals which had been completed in the artist's studio in Wilton before being pasted to the local school walls. This was a different approach than the Tobey mural which was painted directly onto the wall at the post office. Today the Nelson murals are found on various levels of the library alongside purchase award-winners from the East Hartford Art League shows.



Help us support veterans

To the editor and our East Hartford community:

Each year on National Wreaths Across America Day, the mission to REMEMBER, HONOR and TEACH is carried out by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as more than 1,600 additional locations in all 50 states, at sea and abroad.

The Student Leadership Team at O'Connell Elementary School has proudly participated in the Wreaths Across America initiative for the past 10 years. Each year, fifth grade students at O'Connell have raised over $5,000 to purchase the wreaths to honor over 590+ veterans laid to rest at Silver Lane Cemetery in East Hartford.

The entire O'Connell School community is deeply committed to continuing their support and participation of Wreaths Across America 2025 scheduled for Saturday December 19, 2026

The students and faculty are kindly asking the East Hartford community to help us continue our participation in Wreaths Across America, 2026. Our goal is to raise $6,000 in order purchase wreaths for all the veterans currently laid to rest at Silver Lane Cemetery.

We are reaching out to ask for your support of Wreaths Across America, 2026.

Please consider donating, any amount, to support this important VETERANS project.

You can send your donations to: O'Connell School PTO, 301 May Road, East Hartford, CT 06118.

We are truly thankful to be a part of an amazing community!

Respectfully,
Greg Fox
Principal
Dr. Thomas O'Connell
Elementary School



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TWO PASTA DINNERS: $25.95*
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ARTS & EVENTS

Light show opens Nov. 27

This is the sixth season for Magic of Lights, adn new this year will be a Reindeer Rest Stop and a UConn Husky-themed light tunnel.

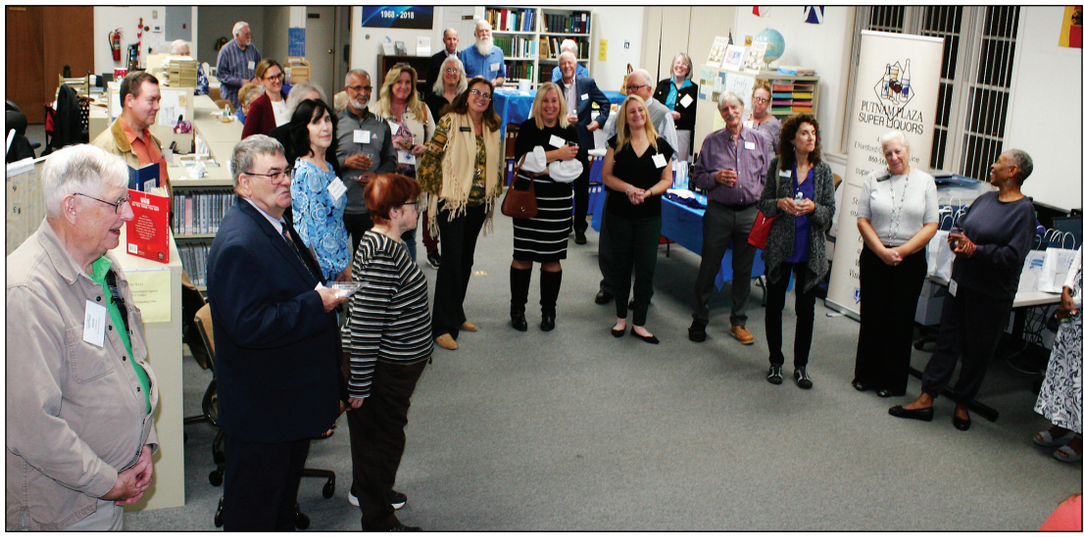
"Magic of Lights continues to be a place where families in the Greater Hartford area come together to create cherished memories and start new traditions," said Ken Hudgens, CEO of Family Entertainment Live. "We're proud to return to Pratt & Whitney Stadium and help this community celebrate the season together."

Guests can soak in Magic of Lights' most beloved holiday scenes without ever leaving their vehicle, from the whimsical Prehistoric Christmas and enchanting Winter Wonderland to the timeless 12 Days of Christmas, cheerful Toyland, playful festive Elves and the magnificent Reindeer Road. Drive through the breathtaking 200-foot Enchanting Tunnel of Lights, plus several more illuminated tunnels that carry guests into a world of holiday wonder.

Signature attractions bring the show to life, including the towering 32-foot animated Mattel's Waving Christmas Barbie®, a larger-than-life Prehistoric Christmas scene with life-sized dinosaurs celebrating the season, and the iconic BIGFOOT® Monster Truck display.

Lit up by more than two million twinkling lights, Magic of Lights offers a warm, festive experience families will treasure for years to come. For tickets go to MagicOfLights.com/EastHartford to purchase.

CHAMBER GATHERS AT CT GENEALOGISTS



THE CONNECTICUT RIVER VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE held after hours networking at the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, 175 Maple Street, on November 4. Chamber members met several experienced genealogists, discovered benefits of membership, one of which is access to the library and useful website research subscriptions. FMI visit https://csginc.org/event/in-person-monday-mini-workshops-2nd-and-3rd-mondays-at-csg-2/2023-05-08/ call 860-569-002 or email csginc@csginc.org

TREE OF LIGHTS 2026

THE EAST HARTFORD WOMAN'S CLUB/GFWC celebrates each Holiday Fest season with the Town of East Hartford by sharing our feelings for those we cherish, and supporting the work of our local churches and synagogues.

FOR THE COST OF $5.00 PER NAME, you may honor or memorialize your loved one(s) and know that your donation will help with the needs and well-being of others, because all the proceeds collected from the Tree of Lights go to the East Hartford Outreach Partners for the Human Needs Fund.

WE WILL OBSERVE THIS YEAR'S LIGHTING OF THE TREE OF LIGHTS at the tree which will be lit in front of Town Hall, 740 Main Street, MONDAY DECEMBER 7TH AT 5:30 P.M. Come join us as we celebrate with music & light, honoring loved one(s), deceased or living.

We Thank You for Your Generosity in Giving to the Tree of Lights!

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: ***THE EAST HARTFORD WOMAN'S CLUB (EHWC/GFWC/CT)***

Donations will be accepted through December 31, 2026

Please print first and last names

IN MEMORY OF	IN HONOR OF

SPONSOR'S NAME _____ PHONE # _____ AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____.

Please complete the above form and mail it along with your check to:

East Hartford Woman's Club, PO Box 380401, East Hartford, CT 06138-0401



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Society

AT THE LIBRARY

Explore Culture and Art

EVENT	DAY & TIME	BRANCH LOCATION
Greater Hartford Legal Aid Hours	Nov. 13 at 9 AM	Raymond Lib.
Film Series: Sugarcane	Nov. 17 at 6 PM	Raymond Lib.
Poetry Corner with Eliz. Thomas	Nov. 19 at 3 PM	Raymond Lib.
EH Democratic Town Committee	Nov. 19 at 6 PM	Wickham
Legal Aid Open Hours	Nov. 20 at 9 AM	Raymond Lib.
Book a Genealogist	Nov. 21 at 10:15 AM	Raymond Lib.
EH Lions Club	Nov. 24 at 5:30 PM	Wickham
Adult Writers with Eliz. Thomas	Nov. 21 at 10:30 AM	Raymond Lib.
Film: Little Women (PG)	Dec. 8 at 6 PM	Raymond Lib.
EH Hartford Quilt Guild	Dec. 9 at 12:30 PM	Wickham
Poetry Corner with Eliz. Thomas	Dec. 17 at 3 PM	Raymond Lib.
Picturing America: Sculpture	Dec. 17 at 6 PM	Raymond Lib.
Older Writers with Eliz. Thomas	Dec. 19 10:30 AM	Raymond Lib.
EH Lions Club	Dec. 22 5:30 PM	Wickham
High School Art Exhibit Recep.	Jan. 12 at 5:30 PM	Raymond Lib.
Older Writers with Eliz Thomas	Jan. 16 at 10:30 AM	Raymond Lib.
Poetry Corner with Eliz. Thomas	Jan. 28 at 3 PM	Raymond Lib.
Older Writers with Eliz. Thomas	Feb. 20 at 10:30 AM	Raymond Lib.
Poetry Corner with Eliz. Thomas	Feb. 25 at 3 PM	Raymond Lib.
Stories of CT's Black Patriots	Feb. 27 at 2 PM	Raymond Lib.

Classes demystify technology

UR Community Cares has teamed up with the East Hartford Senior Center to bring the nationally recognized Senior Planet curriculum to town.

The program offers free, hands-on technology classes built specifically for seniors who want to feel more confident in a digital world.

Classes meet at the senior center, 15 Millbrook Drive, on the third Tuesday of every month. Each session runs from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. in the Computer Room for one-on-one tech support, followed by a group class from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m. in the Media Room; so participants can get personalized help and then learn alongside neighbors at a relaxed, friendly pace.

Ever wish someone patient would just sit down and show you how your smartphone works? Or explain what the fuss over AI is all about?

The topics are practical, timely, and designed around real life, not jargon.

Leading the classes is Michelle Puzzo, Executive Director of UR Community Cares. Her teaching style emphasizes patience, practice, and peer support, no one gets left behind, and everyone leaves with something useful they can try right away.

Space is limited, and advanced registration is required. To reserve your spot, call the East Hartford Senior Center at 860-291-7460. The program is made possible by a grant from the Ensworth Charitable Foundation, which supports organizations promoting education and health in the Hartford area.

ROTARIANS SUPPORT CLARK FOOD CO-OP



MEMBERS OF THE EAST HARTFORD ROTARY CLUB meet Wednesdays at noon.

The Rotary Club of East Hartford is proud to announce a $2,000 donation to The Ann B. Clark Co-op, supporting its important work helping local individuals and families facing financial hardship and food insecurity.

The contribution reflects the Rotary Club's continued commitment to serving the East Hartford community and supporting organizations that make a meaningful difference in the lives of neighbors in need.

"The Rotary Club of East Hartford truly appreciates the generosity and community commitment of Goodwin University," said Rob Rosa, Rotary Club of East Hartford member. "We are grateful for the opportunity to contribute and support the community alongside them. By helping ease financial burdens and addressing food insecurity, we can help make a real difference for families who need it most."

The Ann B. Clark Co-op provides vital support and resources to members of the Goodwin University community, helping individuals and families access food and other necessities during challenging times. The Rotary Club of East Hartford continues to seek opportunities to partner with local organizations, strengthen the community, and put Service Above Self into action.

For more information about the Rotary Club of East Hartford, please contact Rob Rosa at 860-558-2122.





EAST HARTFORD SPORTS

UConn's Fagnano amswers the call



SCOTT GRAY on SPORTS

by Scott Gray

The Frank Merriwell story of former UConn quarterback Joe Fagnano hit a snag last Thursday, just when everything was going his way. It was almost as if Fagnano's story was being written by Merriwell author Burt Standish himself. A Pennsylvania high school sports star, Fagnano dated the prom queen, an athletic star in her own right. After high school he parlayed walk on status with the University of Maine football team into a full scholarship and the backup, and eventually, starting quarterback job. That led to an offer from the University of Connecticut where, as a sixth year senior, he lit up division one stat sheets while leading UConn to its second straight bowl appearance.

Ignored in the NFL draft Fagnano signed as a free agent with the Baltimore Ravens. The next chapter even Standish himself couldn't have improved on. In May Fagnano married his high school sweetheart, Lydia, a health care management MBA who turns heads with her cheerleader looks and enthusiasm in support of her husband's career. She spent their honeymoon helping Joe absorb the Ravens play book. Three months later that hard work paid off. Joe called most of the signals in preseason games, putting up numbers that left the Ravens with no choice but to go against their own philosophy and take three quarterbacks into the regular season rather than risk losing him on waivers.

The next chapter only Burt Standish could ink. It was right out of a Hollywood script with Jimmy Stewart playing Joe Fagnano. Starting quarterback Lamar Jackson went down early in a Sunday game in Buffalo and landed on injured reserve. Second teamer Snoop Huntley stepped in and, suddenly, Fagnano, who most didn't expect to see much of, was the backup quarterback.

Standish would have developed writer's cramp penning what came next. Late in the Bills game Huntley joined Jackson on the I.L. and Fagnano was pressed into the first regular season action of his NFL career. It was immediately evident that, not having worked with the first team, he was out of sync with his teammates in a loss to the Bills. In just four days the Ravens faced a Thursday night test against the Jacksonville Jaguars. While they were in the process of working out a deal with veteran Jacoby Brissett Joe Fagnano would be the guy over center against the Jags. It didn't go well.

Fagnano managed just sixty aerial yards on 10 of 18 passing while throwing two ugly interceptions as the Jags romped 33-10. At that point the Ravens caught a break, getting ten days off between the Thursday game against Jacksonville and Next Monday's home game against the Chargers, more than enough time to install Brissett as the starting quarterback. Due to injuries Fagnano will be backup for that game. But he may have seen his last action this season though it's unlikely the Ravens have given up on him. Hopefully Burt Standish has enough time to write another heartwarming chapter in Joe Fagnano's Frank Merriwell story.

Mullins agrees to help Finex

Finex Credit Union announced it has signed an endorsement deal with University of Connecticut basketball star Braylon Mullins. Muillins, a guard, made the now-infamous three-point shot against Duke with .3 seconds left in the game which sent the Huskies into the Final Four. Finex said the Name, Image and Likeness endorsement deal will promote its commitment to helping its credit union members succeed.

Mullins will spread the word about the Burnside-Avenue based Finex to a wider audience. Finex banners already can be spotted at the Huskies home games, including at the Hartford Civic Center arena this preseason. Finex spokesman Sunny Nariyani stated that Mullimns will help the credit union introduce its industry-leading technology to new audiences while highlighting the value of credit union membership.

Mullins will appear in advertising and at events throughout the basketball season.

"Finex has a great story to tell and strives to come up big for its members each and every day, but sometimes you need someone special to help spread the word," added Joe Bartolotta, president and CEO of Finex.

"We decided that no one better symbolizes that commitment to delivering in the clutch than Braylon."

UConn's national NCAA basketball star will emphasize "benefits of belonging to a member-owned financial institution" stated a press release, "where personalized service and convenient technology help members manage everyday banking and prepare for life's challenges."

EHHS GIRLS IN GLASTONBURY



East Hartford took on Glastonbury this week in an away meet. Above, Coach Dan Corvo leaps as he encourages the Hornets to finish strong.

JOSEPH A. ZEBZDA PHOTOS





OBITUARIES

Eugene Schempp, Sr., 92


Eugene Schempp, Sr.

Eugene Schempp, Sr., 92, beloved husband of the late Jacqueline B Schempp, of East Hartford, passed away peacefully on October 16, 2026.

Gene, as he was known to everyone, was born in Chicago on August 28, 1934. He proudly served his country in the U.S. Navy. After his military service, he turned his passion and self-taught abilities into fixing cars and trucks.

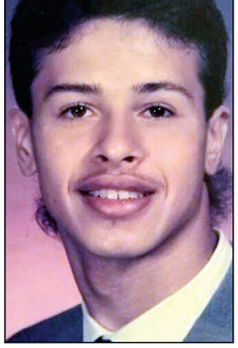
Fixing cars and spending time with family was his life. He was always willing to help anyone in need and will fondly be remembered as gracious and kind. Gene is survived by his daughter, Christine Hancock and her husband David of Waterbury Center, VT; his grandchildren Amanda Moreau, her fiancé Dan Cudo, and their two dogs Maizy and Luna, Jacob Moreau and his wife Sabreena, Dylan Hancock, and Cameron Hancock; and his great-grandson Landon Moreau. He also leaves behind his niece Cindy Bjerkle and her husband Dave.

Alongside his beloved wife, Jacqueline, Eugene was predeceased by his children Marlene Schempp, Eugene Schempp, Jr., and Dorene Moreau and his brother and sister-in-law Edward and Joanne Schempp.

Friends and relatives were invited to call on the Schempp family on Saturday, Nov. 7 at the Farley-Sullivan Funeral Home, Glastonbury which was followed by a Mass of Christian Burial celebrating Gene's life at St. Christopher Church of North American Martyr's Parish and burial at Silver Lane Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Gene's name to the Covenant House New York, at ny.covenanthouse.org or by mail to 460 W 41st St, New York, NY 10036. To leave a condolence, or to share a memory with the family, please visit FarleySullivan.com.

Timothy A. Gage


Timothy Gage

Timothy A. Gage, of Hartford was born December 7, 1970, and passed away after a serious brief illness on September 22, 2026.

Tim grew up in East Hartford and graduated from East Hartford High School in 1988. He continued his education at Manchester Community College, Central Connecticut State University, and Muhlenberg College. Fluent in Spanish, he studied abroad in Spain, and continued to travel throughout Europe, including Germany and Nepal, as well as across the United States.

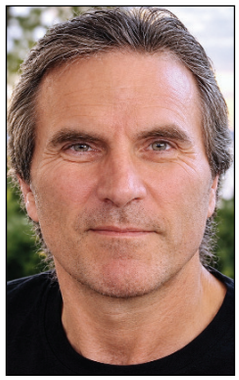
Tim was self-employed in Hartford County as well as teaching in the East Hartford school system. Tim enjoyed soccer, biking and running, photography and good sharing good food with friends. A friend to many, he will be remembered for the connections he made throughout his life and for many personal challenges he faced.

Tim is survived by his girlfriend, Ruth Matos of Hartford; his father, Norman Gage of East Hartford; his sister, Amy; his niece, Taylor; his great-nephew, Cameron; his uncles and aunts Michael and Maureen Hicks, Stephen Hick and Stephanie Hicks and Roger Barrera and cousins Asia, Meagan and Matt Hicks and special friends Ed, Jason, Suzie and Fran. His mother, Marlis Gage, preceded him in death earlier this year.

The family extends special thanks to Valerie Manor in Torrington and for the above and beyond care given by Dr. Kevin Becker, APRN Kate, RN Samantha, and Social Worker Amanda-as well as the excellent staff at AccentCare Hospice.

Calling hours will be held on Saturday, Nov. 14 from 2 to 4 p.m. at Farley-Sullivan Funeral Home, 50 Naubuc St., Glastonbury.

Jeffrey Dubois


Jeffrey Dubois

Jeffrey Dubois, a cherished son, father and brother, passed away peacefully on October 30, 2026 surrounded by the love of his family after a courageous battle with multiple sclerosis. Born October 13, 1957 in Hartford, Jeff was predeceased by parents Henry N. Dubois and Pauline Prescott Dubois.

Jeff's spirit and determination were evident from a young age. He graduated from Penney High School in 1975 where he played football and formed friendships that lasted a lifetime. His passion for broadcasting led him to the CT School of Broadcasting where he spent some time on air at a local college, captivating audiences with his charismatic presence.

For most of his adult life, Jeff was dedicated to his work as a welder in Facilities Maintenance at Pratt & Whitney Aircraft where colleagues held him in high regard, and his work ethic and dedication left an indelible mark on all who knew him.

Jeff was a man of many passions. As a member of the Virago Motorcycle Owner's Club, he enjoyed riding his motorcycle alongside his sister Val and brother-in-law Gordie, often serving as an escort for charity walks and bike rides. His heart for service extended to his involvement with the MS Society where he helped raise funds for research long before his own diagnosis. A devoted member of Blessed Sacrament Church, Jeff taught CCD classes and delivered meals to those in need, embodying the spirit of kindness and generosity.

An avid bicyclist, Jeff once rode from Connecticut to Florida with friends, showcasing his adventurous spirit. He found joy in long motorcycle rides, skiing, music, concerts, traveling, and spending time at the beach. Above all, he cherished moments with family and friends, creating memories filled with laughter and love. His dry and sarcastic sense of humor was a hallmark of his personality, and he had an uncanny ability to make friends wherever he went.

Jeff is survived by his son, Corey, whom he loved dearly; his daughter-in-law, Cristina; and grandchildren Jamie and Gracie of Tariffville. He is also survived by his sisters, Valerie Henley and her husband Gordon of Marlborough, Heidie Endrelunas and her husband Gregory of Marlborough, Wendie Dubois of Manchester and Patricia Drum and her late husband Dale of Marlborough. He also leaves behind his many nieces and nephews and a very special family friend Pamela Hall of Maine, who all held a special place in his heart.

A service to celebrate Jeff's life is TODAY - November 12, at noon at the D'Esopo East Hartford Memorial Chapel, 30 Carter St. Burial will follow in Silver Lane Cemetery. A calling hour will be held at 11 a.m. Donations may be made to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, P.O. Box 91891 Washington, D.C. 20090.

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Manufacturers Connect

From Page One

craft for 80 years.

"Manufacturing is an important part of East Hartford's economic identity and future," he stated. Hosting the forum, which included a brief presentation of the town's designated manufacturing incentive zones by the town's new Director of Development Steve Hnatuk, was a way of signaling that the town is open for business.

"Bringing together employers, educators, workforce partners, and resource organizations creates valuable opportunities to strengthen relationships, address shared challenges and ensure our businesses have the support they need to grow and succeed," the mayor added.

On the first panel presentation, Workforce Attraction moderated by Alyssa Adler of Goodwin Magnet Schools, Sarah Eiseman of East Hartford Works, Mike Craig of the town school system, Lishamarie Cruz of Ready CT, Greg Treacy of Pratt & Whitney and Kyle Zachary of incumbent Worker Training at Goodwin and Keith Sevigney of Goodwin Magnet Schools were asked to identify strengths and weaknesses they see in today's student.

"Supporting the job seeker, getting them to show up on time," stressed Eiseman. "I want to be able to say this person does well. The challenge is to find the right person for the right job."

Computer literacy is a learned skill, and training includes giving a job candidate computer access and even a laptop.

"East Hartford High School has hallways full of curious teenagers," noted Mike Craig. "They grew up in East Hartford; they want to live in East Hartford. Sometimes all you need to do is expose them to the industry in East Hartford, that's why internships are so valuable."

Treacy of P&W noted they train people all the time. "The manufacturing floor is very different from what it once was. It is sterile, automated. It's a career, not just a job."

Asked how to best expose students to industry and what they saw as gaps in education, Kyle Zachary of Goodwin said he sees the impact of education at Goodwin, and the value of math skills. "Learn how to make an Excel spread sheet. Excel should be a topic taught in school. It shows students how they are going to use math in a practical, real-world way."

The forum presented funding and resource opportunities available in the community from CCAT, CONNSTEP, Advance CT, SBDC, Horst Engineering and Skyre. The businesses leaders discussed their individual needs and strengths they saw in the area and their path to success.

"All of this comes down to relationships. We all want to see a student succeed. They meet an engineer, and that can be mind blowing. It opens doors.'



WORKFORCE ATTRACTION PANEL discussed what it takes to fit into a modern manufacturing work space.

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF
ROSEANN KNOWLEN
(26-00337)

The Hon. Richard P. Gentile, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of East Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated **November 5, 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:

Trudy Soucy, 99 Herons Bill Drive, Bluffton, SC 29909

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF
CARMEN HAYDEE MARQUEZ
(26-00324)

The Hon. Richard P. Gentile, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of East Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated **November 9, 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:

Jordan Maldonado, 89 Spring St., Willimantic, CT 06226

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF
MARY D. KEENAN
(26-00448)

The Hon. Richard P. Gentile, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of East Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated **November 9, 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:

Brendan P. Keenan
c/o Anna-Liisa Nixon, Esquire; Kirschbaum Law Group, LLC, 935 Main St., Level A, Manchester, CT 06040

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF
RICHARD ROGER RIVARD
(26-00451)

The Hon. Richard P. Gentile, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of East Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated **November 9, 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:

Alisa Danuta Aljuaily
c/o Suzann Leigh Beckett, Esquire; Beckett Law LLC, 543 Prospect Ave., Hartford, CT 06105

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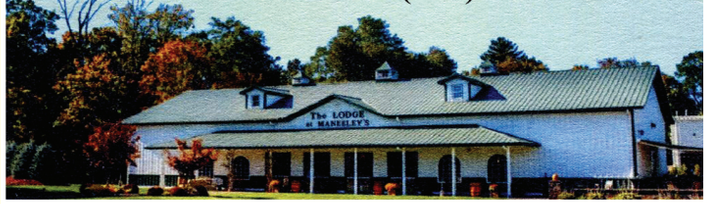
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SE HABLA ESPAÑOL

WHERE THE ACTION IS!

BY CORINNE HORAN

THE EAST HARTFORD COMMISSION ON AGING is once again hosting their annual ***Christmas Tree Wish List*** program to support residents of Riverside Health. Donate now through Nov. 22. You can find additional details on the Town website: www.easthartfordct.gov/commission-on-aging/news/5th-annual-christmas-wish-list-program.

***

LUNCHTIME MEDITATION at Odiyana Tues/Thurs, 12:15 – 12:45 pm. Guided meditation. Info at meditationinconnecticut.org

***

EVENTS AT THE WORLD WAR II LEGACY FOUNDATION MUSEUM, 102 Pitkin St., Saturday, Nov. 14: The Museum will be open 9 a.m. - noon. Nov. 15: The Museum will be open 2 - 6 p.m. Nov. 19: Film screening with Italian producer Luciano La Valle, "Bob Dole - A Walk Through History". The true story of the 10th Mountain Division in WWII. 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Nov. 21: Gary's 64th Birthday Celebration. Help raise funds for the WWII Museum. 1 - 5 p.m. Visit and explore the displays. Admission $5. FMI call Gary, 860-810-8736.

***

NOV. 14: HELP CLEAN OUR PARKS & STREETS (Rain date Nov. 15) noon until 2 p.m. at 235 East River Drive garden near the mural under the Founders Bridge. Casual/work clothes and closed-toe shoes, gardening gloves, sun hat, etc. Bring shovels, shears and outdoor broom. We will work to clean up the street and curbside along East River Drive. If you wish, donations may be made to the UJSC, 235 East River Drive #1307, East Hartford, CT 06108. Join us in helping to keep our neighborhood clean.

***

NOV. 14: "SOULFIRE" PRESENTED BY CITYSINGERS OF HARTFORD at South Congregational Church, 1301 Forbes St., 5 p.m. Billed as a "choral celebration of wellness of the mind" this unique sonic experience is for "mental centering and wellness" and is a continuous performance with electronic and acoustical accompaniment. Tickets are $20 in advance, $25 at the door. citysingers.org.

***

NOV. 17: WANGUNK TRIBE - UNEARTHING THEIR HISTORY. Thursday, Nov. 17, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Long before Dutch or English settlers arrived, the Wangunk, "people at the bend in the river," thrived along the Connecticut River corridor from Hartford to Middletown. Though central to early Connecticut history and the founding of Hartford, their story is too often untold.Discover the Wangunk past and present with three expert perspectives: Sarah Sportman (CT State Archaeologist) on recent excavation findings, Gary Red Oak O'Neil (Wangunk Elder) on oral tradition and art, and Tom Wickman (Environmental Historian) on early village dynamics. The panel will conclude by discussing contemporary Wangunk cultural preservation and modern sovereignty. President's College Lifelong Learning at U of Hartford. Hartford.edu/pc. Questions? Email pcollege@hartford.edu or call 860-768-4495.

***

NOV 18: MEETING OF THE P&W AND UTRC RETIREES Wednesday at 10 a.m. at the P&W Club, 200 Clement Road. Conversation, coffee and doughnuts at 9:30, Jeff Wieselberg, piano. 860-565-6236 for more info.

***

NOV. 18: SEARCH FOR EXTRATERRESTRIAL LIFE. Wednesdays, Nov. 18, Dec. 2 & 9, 2-3:30 p.m. Are we alone? The 1995 discovery of exoplanets radically accelerated our search for life beyond Earth. Join University of Hartford Professor Michael Robinson for a fascinating exploration into modern scientific search techniques, from SETI radio signals to exoplanetary biosignatures. Discover how our understanding of ET has evolved over time, along with the captivating new questions modern science raises. Sponsored by President's College Lifelong Learning at the University of Hartford. Hartford.edu/pc. Questions? Email pcollege@hartford.edu or call 860-768-4495.

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NOV. 21 - HOLIDAY FAIR at First Congregational Church, 837 Main St., 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Come visit for gift ideas, handmade wreaths, Christmas decor, special cookie booth, sweet candy booth, and homebaked goods. Why not sit a spell and have lunch while you visit? Sample your choice of chili, soup and more. Lots of wonderful crafts, thoughtful gift baskets for a perfect present, evergreen boxes plus the jewelery booth. Explore Grandma's Attic for a one of a kind treasure, and duck into the Children's Corner for a memorable gift. See you there!

***

DEC. 1: MINI-COURSE: THE CHANGING BROADWAY. Tuesdays, Dec. 1, 8, 12:30-2 p.m. at the University of Hartford's President's Lifelong Learning program. Broadway is a-changin.' A slew of wild new shows and radically reimagined classics are revitalizing Broadway this season. From Cats: The Jellicle Ball and Oh, Mary! to Titanique, Schmigadoon!, and The Rocky Horror Show, these high-energy productions are drawing lively audiences looking for a party. Join longtime Variety theater critic Frank Rizzo for a two-session deep dive into Broadway's boldest new hits—including local connection highlights like the Hartt School faculty member who won a Tony for Schmigadoon!. Discover what's driving this theatrical revolution and get an insider look at upcoming tours headed to Hartford. Sponsored by President's College Lifelong Learning at the University of Hartford. Hartford.edu/pc. Questions? Email pcollege@hartford.edu or call 860.768.4495.

***

DEC 3: WINE, WOMEN & WISDOM WOMEN'S CONFERENCE Thursday, December 3 from 5 to 8:30 p.m. at Little Theatre of Manchester at Cheney Hall, 177 Hartford Road, Manchester. Hosted by the Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce, Sharonda Carlos, Commissioner of the CT Dept. of Correction, will deliver the keynote address. "Giving back" is the theme of the event. Guests are encouraged to bring women's personal-care and toiletry items to support women preparing for a new chapter in their lives. Tickets, $75, and the event features restaurant tastings, wine and specialty beverages, networking, vendors. To register - https://business.manchesterchamber.com/ap/Events/Register/xRFRgbkSMCYC7

***

DEC. 4 - 7: EAST HARTFORD HOLIDAY FEST sponsored by the East Hartford Beautification Commission, four days of events begins with a Friday tree lighting on eh Town Green. Concerts, church fairs and other Holiday events. Look for the guide around town beginning Nov. 16 as well as in the Gazette. Bring a non-perishable food item to each event for the East Hartford Food Pantry

***

DEC. 9 WICKHAM DAY QUILTERS of East Hartford meets from 1:30 until 3:30 p.m. at the Wickham Library meeting room, 656 Burnside Avenue. Like to sew? Interested in quilting? Not a fan of driving at night? Come and see if you would like to join us. Any skill level welcome. Wickham Day Quilters is a chapter of the Greater Hartford Quilt Guild. The December program will be a Zoom presentation by Mary O. Gregg on exploring 3D art quilts. Refreshments will be English High Tea. Questions? E-mail Wickhamdayquilters@gmail.com.

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GET A FREE CHECKUP - Malta's Mobile Clinic is open from 9 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month, by appointment. Call 860-725-0171 to register. Van parked in the lot on Maplewood Avenue off Main Street.

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

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

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