

COLUMBIA



UPDATE AUGUST 2023



TOWN OF COLUMBIA OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN & TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

4th ANNUAL SWIM FOR SOUP 2023

James Young, resident of Columbia, will be raising funds for "SWIM FOR SOUP" for those less fortunate. James will start at 6:45 AM on August 12th by swimming the entire perimeter of Columbia Lake. All proceeds from this event will benefit the Town of Columbia Food bank.



There are two options to contribute to this worthy cause, either through [Gofund.me/swimforsoup](https://www.gofundme.com/swimforsoup) or by check, payable to the Town of Columbia, 323 Route 87, Columbia, CT 06237.

Feel free to pick a spot around the lake to cheer him on and thank you for your support!

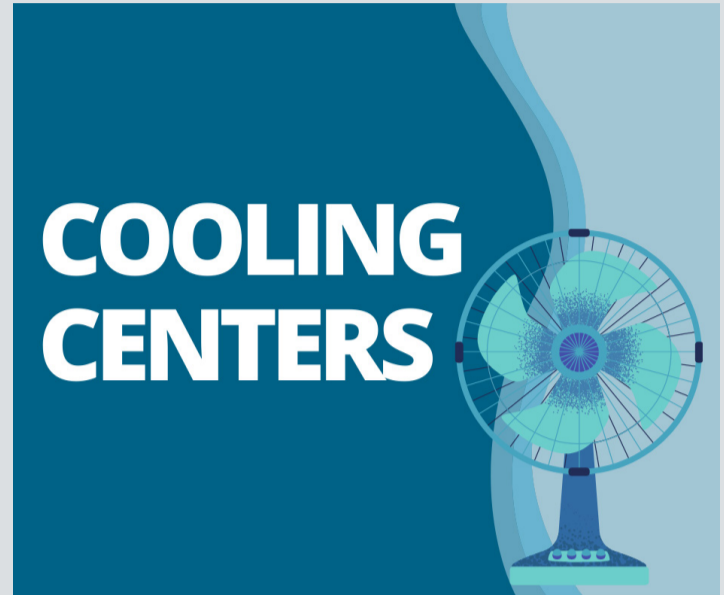


TOWN OF COLUMBIA OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN & TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

This summer we have been experiencing extreme heat events. Anyone in need of a cooling center should call 2-1-1 or look online at 211ct.org to find their nearest available location.

Below are some important precautions to take to stay healthy during extreme heat.

- Drink plenty of fluids, stay in air-conditioned room, stay out of the sun and check on relatives and neighbors
- Never leave children or pets unattended in a vehicle
- Take extra precautions if working outside – schedule strenuous activities for the morning, wear lightweight, loose fitting clothing, take frequent breaks
- Know the signs and symptoms of heat exhaustion and heat stroke
- Call 2-1-1 for locations of cooling centers near you



The two projects highlighted below are examples of the importance on providing our residents with collective solutions to help make our communities a better place to live.

FARM BUILDING TAX EXEMPTION

Jason Arico, from the Conservation and Agriculture Commission (CAC), presented to the Board of Selectman this month a proposal to help preserve farming as vitally important to retaining Columbia's rural character and quality of life with the Farm Building Tax Exemption. The enabling legislature, CGS Section 12-91, states municipalities may provide a tax incentive to support economic sustainability of existing farms and encourage economic development by providing an exemption from property tax on farm buildings used exclusively for agriculture



TOWN OF COLUMBIA OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN & TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

CAC's presentation stressed the importance of promoting economic and environmental sustainability for local farmers that ties into the conservation and development goals of the Town of Columbia's Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD). The Farm Building Tax Exemption would support the POCD's six-point benefits of agriculture that include economic, fiscal, rural, environmental and food security.

The First Selectman, Steven Everett and the Board of Selectmen were unanimously in agreement to support Columbia's farmers and their operations by voting to bring this limited exemption from property tax to the Town for a vote.

HORACE W. PORTER SCHOOL INDOOR AIR QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

PROJECT: The Chairman, Christopher Lent of the Horace W. Porter HVAC Building Committee presented to both the Board of Education and the Board of Selectmen the detailed search to hire a design engineering firm to provide complete design work for Indoor Air Quality System and related renovations and improvements for the Horace W. Porter School. Silver Petrucelli and Associates was the lowest bidder that offered a project schedule that could support the timely submission of a State Grant application in the Fall of 2023.

The selected firm will provide comprehensive Architectural/Engineering services (including civil and environmental) for the preparation of complete drawings, specifications, estimates, State submittals, contract documents, construction oversight and related services.

EVERBRIDGE NOTIFICATIONS: We will from time to time issue an Everbridge Notification with a message from the First Selectman, Steven M. Everett to help keep you informed. If you would like to sign up for Everbridge Notifications please go to the Town's website and on the [Everbridge Notifications](#) tab.

EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS: To receive Town news please go to the Town's website and click on the [Email Notifications](#) tab.

If you need assistance please do not hesitate to call the Town Administrative Office or the First Selectman at 860-228-0110 or email us at townadministrator@columbiact.org.



TOWN OF COLUMBIA OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN & TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

**TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND
FUNDRAISER, THURSDAY,
AUGUST 17, 2023, 4:00-
7:00 pm.** The Trust for Public
Land (TPL) creates parks and
protects public land so that
everyone will have access to
the benefits and joys of the
outdoors for generations to
come. Your tax-deductible
gift will help to advance TPL's
work to design a trail system
throughout the Mono Pond
State Park Reserve - and
connect it to the 50-mile-long
Airline Trail.

Find us on 

Steven M. Everett, First Selectman
Mark B. Walter, Town Administrator
323 Route 87
Columbia, CT 06237
860-228-0110

Fundraiser for the **Trust for Public Land**



And its work to develop trails throughout

Mono Pond State Park Reserve

Thursday, August 17, 2023, 4:00-7:00pm

Heartstone Winery, 468 Route 87, Columbia, CT

Tickets include a glass of Heartstone **Wine** and a
sumptuous Catered **Buffet**. **Music** by Bruce John.

To purchase **Tickets** @ \$60 each, go to—or mail a check
to--the Town Administrator's Office,

323 Route 87, Columbia, CT 06237

Checks should be made payable to the *Town of Columbia*.

Donations can be made at
www.tpl.org/state/connecticut.



UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS

Many meetings will be held by utilizing remote access; however, some meetings are being held in-person. Please check the Town calendar and the Agenda posted for directions on login information if virtual, or the meeting location if in person. Each board or committee will provide the information needed to join using an on-line conferencing platform. Please check the Town of Columbia's [website](#) for updates.

UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS

- 8/01/23 Tue: Board of Selectmen, 7:00 PM (Cancelled)
- 8/02/23 Wed: Lake Management Advisory Committee, 7:00 PM
- 8/07/23 Mon: Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission, 7:00 PM
- 8/07/23 Mon: Horace Porter School HVAC Building Committee, 6:00 PM
- 8/07/23 Mon: Board of Education, 7:30 PM
- 8/09/23 Wed: Fiscal Policy Board, 8:30 AM
- 8/09/23 Wed: Economic Development Commission, 7:00 PM
- 8/14/23 Mon: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7:00 PM
- 8/15/23 Tue: Board of Selectmen, 7:00 PM
- 8/15/23 Tue: Hop River Preserve Committee, 5:30 PM
- 8/16/23 Wed: Financial Planning & Allocation Commission, 7:00 PM
- 8/17/23 Thur: Open Space Committee, 9:00 AM
- 8/21/23 Mon: Horace Porter School HVAC Building Committee, 6:00 PM
- 8/24/23 Thur: Zoning Board of Appeals, 7:00 PM
- 8/28/23 Mon: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7:00 PM

Public Comment will be accepted by our dedicated email at PublicInput@columbiact.org or by USPS mail to 323 Route 87, Columbia, CT 06237 and must be received prior to the meeting (public comment received after the meeting will be shared at the next meeting).

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

ASSESSORS OFFICE:

MOTOR VEHICLE ADJUSTMENTS

In order to have a motor vehicle bill adjusted we need **two** forms of proof. The first is a copy of the vehicle plate return receipt that you get from DMV when you return your plates. The second is something proving you got rid of the vehicle. Accepted proofs are a copy of the bill of sale, an out-of-state registration, an insurance statement that specifically states your vehicle was removed for sale or because it was sold, stolen or totaled. You can also submit a junked vehicle statement from the junk yard or a copy of your purchase agreement if you traded in a vehicle and bought a vehicle with lower value. If you traded a vehicle and kept the same plate do not bring us any documentation because DMV will process it.

The Assessor's Office is open Monday through Wednesday from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m., Thursdays 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. and Fridays 8 a.m. until Noon. Our telephone number is 228-9555.

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

BECKISH SENIOR CENTER: The First Annual Intergenerational Health & Wellness Day that was held on Monday, July 17, 2023 at Columbia's Recreation Park was a great success! Community members of all ages came out to help celebrate and join in all the various events of the day! We had residents painting the beautiful landscapes of the park, a yoga class



under the trees, pickleball, walking groups, disc golf, corn-hole, giant Jenga and so much more. The Columbia Lions put a tent up to provide shade for our vendors. A huge thank you to all our vendors for taking part in this wonderful day! CT Care Partners, SERAC, AHM, Saxton B. Little Library, EHHD, Vale Soccer, RHAM Youth Football & Cheer, Marlborough Rehabilitation and Colebrook

Village. We had live music by Columbia's own November Sound! We are looking forward to expanding our Intergenerational Health & Wellness Day for next year and hope you all join us!



TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

BECKISH SENIOR CENTER (continued):

I'm grateful for everyone who joined us and so very thankful to all the volunteers that helped to make this day such a success! It was so much fun collaborating with Katie Wilt, our Community Social Services Coordinator and Debbie Fiske, Columbia's Recreation Director. I am looking forward to collaborating on many more Intergenerational Health & Wellness Days!



Bernadette Derring, Director Senior Services and Transportation

Beckish Senior Center

188 Route 66

Columbia, CT. 06237

860-228-0759

bderring@columbiact.org

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

FIRE MARSHAL:

LITHIUM-ION BATTERIES

Lithium-ion batteries power many parts of our everyday lives. While very useful, these batteries can be dangerous if not used correctly. It is important to educate yourself on proper use and disposal of these batteries to minimize any potential hazards. Here are a few tips that will be helpful for your home.

- Always use the charger that was supplied with the battery. Do not use any aftermarket chargers.
- Avoid damaging or dropping batteries.
- Do not overcharge batteries/charge batteries overnight.
- Follow the manufacturer instructions for battery charging, storage, and replacement.
- Keep batteries at room temperature and away from any heat source or direct sunlight.
- Never charge a battery or device under your pillow, on your bed, or near a sofa.
- Plug batteries directly into a wall electrical outlet for charging. Do not plug into a power strip.
- Store and charge batteries away from anything flammable.
- Do not dispose of batteries in the trash or regular recycling bin. Batteries can be recycled through the RBRC program by calling 1-800-8BATTERY or through the Call2Recycle website at www.call2recycle.org.

Mike Lester, Fire Marshal

FireMarshal@columbiact.org

860-228-0440

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

SOCIAL SERVICES: Mental Health First Aid Virtual Certificate Training. Click [here](#) to register, or scan QR code below.



Mental Health First Aid Virtual Certificate Training

Mental Health First Aid is an evidence-based, certificate course that teaches participants how to respond to signs of mental health and substance use challenges. The training teaches skills needed to reach out and provide initial help and support to someone who may be developing a mental health problem or experiencing a crisis. Founded in Australia in 2000, Mental Health First Aid is managed in the U.S. by the National Council for Behavioral Health. Participants will complete a two-step process, comprised of a 2-hour self-paced online class, followed by a 7-hour, instructor-led class on Zoom.

Step 1

Scan or Click to Register:



Step 2

Self-paced online coursework through MHFA Learning Management System (2 hours)

Step 3

Live instructor-led online class
Monday August 14
8:30 to 3:30

Contact Instructor, Valerie English Cooper, at venglishcooper.mhfa@gmail.com, if you have questions.

For more information about Mental Health First Aid, visit www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org.

Training brought to you by:



Katie Wilt | Community Social Services Coordinator

kwilt@columbiact.org

860-228-1008

(Office hours: Monday - Thursday 8:30 am - 4:30 pm and Friday 8:30 am to 12:30 pm)

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT: Once again, summer fun is flying by. Tie Dye Tuesday, Concert at Rec Park, Hiking, Paint-a-Rock and Beach Party II, swim lessons, a basketball camp, beach fun and more have all been taking place. When you visit Columbia Beach see if you can spot some of the beautiful rocks that were painted and left to beautify the gardens. Here are some memories Columbia has been enjoying over the past month:

TIE DYE FUN:



TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT:

WINS FOR LIFE BASKETBALL CAMP:



SWIM LESSONS:



TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT:

HIKE #1 @ REC PARK & HIKE #2 @ MONO POND ~ ALL AGES ENJOYED!:



TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT:

THE SUMMER CONCERT SERIES BROUGHT OUT COLUMBIA RESIDENTS TO ENJOY THE BAND AUDACITY:



TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT:

INTERGENERATIONAL WELLNESS DAY AT REC PARK:



TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT:

ROCK PAINTING:



TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT:

BEACH PARTY DAY II:



TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED):

UPCOMING EVENTS: NEW! Tai Chi at the Beach ~ Saturdays, July 22nd – August 19th :

See flyer for details.

early bird Tai Chi



Saturdays 8:00-9:00 am

July 22nd through August 19th

Columbia Town Beach

2 Lake Rd, Columbia CT 06415

Feel your inner morning energy! We'll follow and enjoy simple, gentle, rejuvenating exercises from the centuries-old arts of Tai Chi and Qigong.

These practices are shown in studies to strengthen your balance, improve your heart rate, enrich your breathing and deepen your mind-body connection.

Read more: <https://www.consumerreports.org/alternative-medicine/benefits-of-learning-tai-chi/>

No experience necessary. Beginners and all levels are welcome.

\$10 per session, or \$40 for all five sessions

sponsored by the Columbia Recreation Department (860)228-8513



Taught by Ashford resident Joe Pandolfo. A certified Instructor with the American Tai Chi & Qigong Association and the CDC's 'Moving for Better Balance' program, Joe has taught tai chi and qigong for over a decade in town centers, professional continuing ed programs, hospital and corporate exercise facilities, and holistic health centers. Joe is also a Board Director for the Connecticut Society of Acupuncturists and certified Acupuncture Detoxification Specialist, and a certified Reiki Practitioner.

Questions? Feel free to contact Joe at joetaichi@gmail.com, or (959)444-3979

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED):

UPCOMING EVENTS:

August 1st ~ Nature Trail Hike ~ 9:00 a.m. @ Rec Park: Looking for some company to exercise and explore Uteley Preserve Trail? Meet at the Trail entrance (near Facilities Garage and information board) and enjoy!

August 3rd ~ Volleyball @ Rec Park ~ 9:00 a.m. Take advantage of an opportunity to free play rounds of volleyball. All welcome. Meet at the sand volleyball court.

August 8th ~ Calling all Artists and Authors: Pete the Cat story time followed by a book making workshop. Write your own stories, poems, recipes or make a picture book. Illustrate them with a variety of art media. Come join the fun at the beach, 1:00 pm.

August 16th ~ Final Concert of our Summer Series. Join us for an evening of Live Music by Cover2Cover, food (Jay's Little Red Trailer), ice cream (Jumping Cow), beverage (Columbia Package Store) and community gathering. The music gets pumping at 6:00 p.m. at Rec Park by the upper pavilion.

Columbia Summer Concert Series

COVER COVER



Wednesday, August 16th
6:30 – 8:30 pm
@ Rec Park




An eclectic collection of tunes to suit all audiences!

Bring a chair and settle down for an evening of live music, food, beverage, and community fun.

Jay's Little Red Trailer

THANK YOU, PLATINUM SPONSORS!

Discovery Learning Center * Columbia CrossFit * Titan Energy



TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED):

UPCOMING EVENTS:

August 19th ~ Columbia Splash! Test your endurance on the lake with ½ mile and 1 mile swim races. All abilities are welcome. Come out and enjoy the festivities. To Register: <https://columbialakesplash.itsyourrace.com/>. If swimming is not your 'thing', get involved as a volunteer or sponsor. We need you! Contact the Parks and Recreation Department with questions on how to get involved: recdirector@columbiact.org or 860.228.8513.



Columbia Splash!

Join us for swim races at **Columbia Beach!**


August 19th
9:00 am

1 mile race (9am) & ½ mile race (10am)

To register: <https://columbialakesplash.itsyourrace.com/>

Register by:

June 30th	July 1 st – Aug. 4 th	August 5 th – Race Day
\$20 for one race \$35 for both	\$25 for one race \$40 for both	\$30 for one race \$45 for both

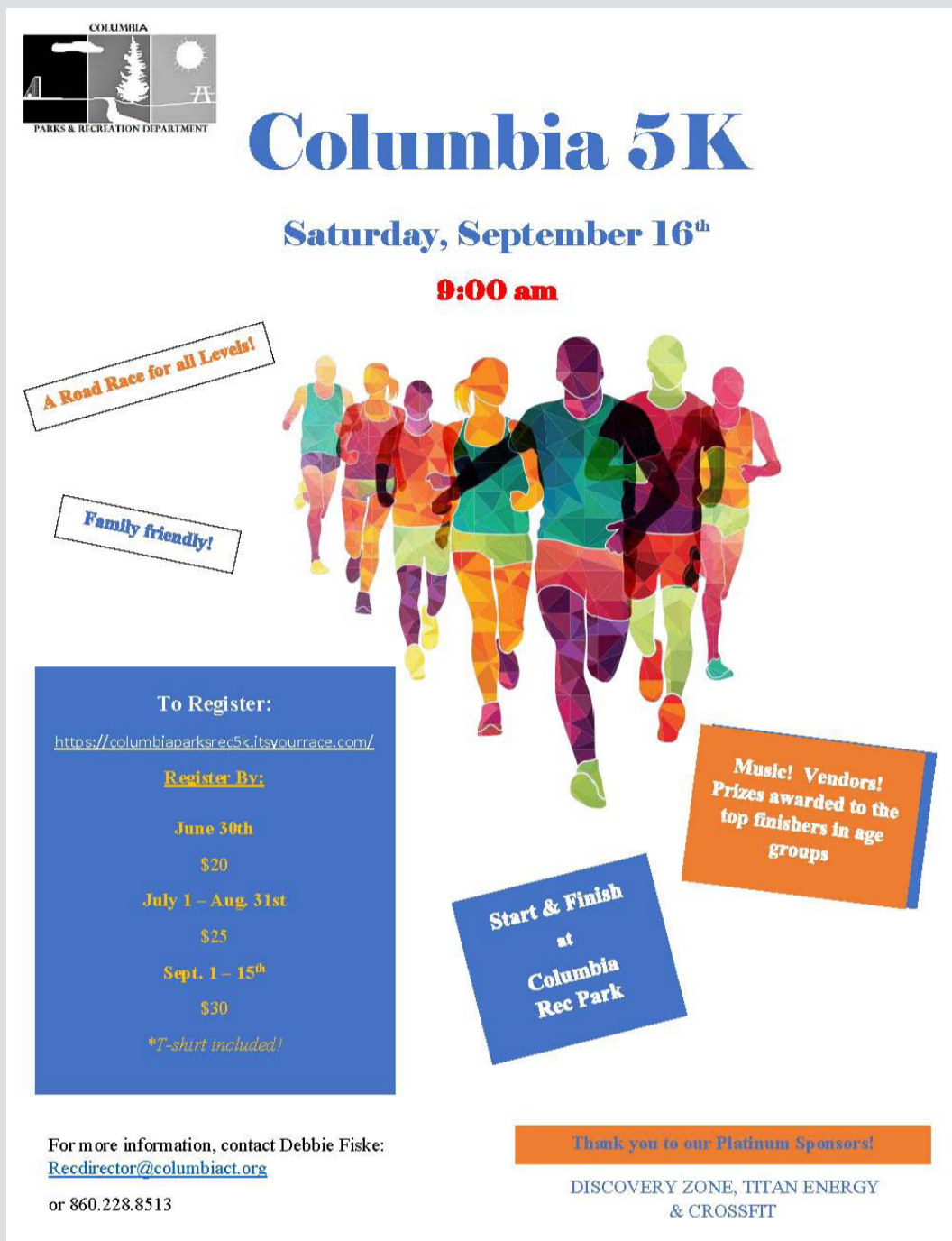
 For more information: recdirector@columbiact.org; 860.228.8513 or visit www.columbiact.org/recreation

August 22nd ~ Monarch Butterfly Arts and Crafts; Have fun learning about the monarch butterfly on Tuesday, August 22 at 1:00 pm @ Columbia Beach.

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED):

UPCOMING EVENTS:



The flyer for the Columbia 5K race features a central illustration of a diverse group of runners in various colors. The text is arranged around this central image. At the top left is the Columbia Parks & Recreation Department logo. The main title 'Columbia 5K' is in large blue letters. Below it, the date 'Saturday, September 16th' and time '9:00 am' are listed. A blue box on the left contains registration details. Callout boxes provide additional information like 'A Road Race for all Levels!', 'Family friendly!', 'Start & Finish at Columbia Rec Park', and 'Music! Vendors! Prizes awarded to the top finishers in age groups'. At the bottom, there is a thank you message to platinum sponsors: Discovery Zone, Titan Energy & CrossFit.

COLUMBIA
PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Columbia 5K

Saturday, September 16th
9:00 am

A Road Race for all Levels!

Family friendly!

To Register:
<https://columbiaparksrec5k.itsyourrace.com/>

Register By:

June 30th	\$20
July 1 – Aug. 31st	\$25
Sept. 1 – 15 th	\$30

**T-shirt included!*

Start & Finish at Columbia Rec Park

Music! Vendors! Prizes awarded to the top finishers in age groups

Thank you to our Platinum Sponsors!
DISCOVERY ZONE, TITAN ENERGY & CROSSFIT

For more information, contact Debbie Fiske:
Recdirector@columbiact.org
or 860.228.8513

Columbia 5K ~ Saturday, September 16th ~ 9:00 a.m.: Not into running? Get involved as a volunteer or sponsor. We need you! Contact the Parks and Recreation Department with questions on how to get involved: recdirector@columbiact.org or 860.228.8513. A special thank you to Casella Waste Systems for donating reusable water bottles for our road race. To register: <https://columbiaparksrec5k.itsyourrace.com/event.aspx?id=15804>

SPORTS galore: 2-4-1 Sports Camp ~ August 14th – 18th

Looking for a unique, fun-filled camp for your child this summer? 2-4-1 Sports Camp may be what you are looking for. See flyer for more information.

****Stay tuned for 'Lifeguard Battles'. More details to follow.**

For more dates and offerings, please visit our [Website](#), follow us on Instagram and/or Facebook.

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED):

NEED EQUIPMENT? Parks and Recreation has you covered. Stop by our office for loaned equipment with a refundable deposit.

BEACH PASSES: Beach passes are now on sale and can be [purchased online](#) or at the Parks and Recreation Department. ****Day passes are the only passes that are sold directly at the beach.***

LIFEGUARD HOURS OF OPERATION - *Weather Permitting*

JUNE 12TH – AUGUST 18TH ~ FULL SCHEDULE

AUGUST 19TH – SEPTEMBER 4TH ~ **WEEKENDS ONLY**

10:30 A.M. – 6:15 P.M.

MARINE PATROL: The mission of the Marine Patrol Unit is to promote safe and recreational boating on Columbia lake by conducting regular safety inspections of recreational vessels. Inspections are completed to ensure proper safety equipment, compliance with boating regulations and licensing and to educate boaters while promoting safety on the water. The marine Patrol is observant of boating violations that hold the potential to cause a hazard or danger to others using the water.

2023 MARINE PATROL SCHEDULE -

Weather Permitting

May 26th – September 4th ~ 11:00 – Sunset
(*gate monitoring begins at 10:00 a.m.*)

September 9th – October 9th ~ 11:00 a.m.

WEEKENDS ONLY – Sunset (*gate monitoring begins at 10:00 a.m.*)

MARINE PATROL NUMBER 860-256-9720

Please call the Marine Patrol number if assistance is needed for boating violations or to assist operators with disabled watercrafts at 860-256-9720.

If there is an emergency, please call 911.

The Marine Patrol is on duty:
weekends from 11:00 am to 8:30 pm
and on weekdays 5:00 pm to 8:30 pm.

If you need assistance with the Gate or have questions regarding the town beach, please contact the Recreation Department at 860-228-8513.

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED):

ADULT PROGRAMS: Registration open for all adult programs can be done online through RecDesk or a walk-in option. Register [online](#).

EXERCISE PROGRAMS:

Yoga @ the Beach! NEW day—NOW MONDAY MORNINGS @ 8:30 a.m. Looking for a great way to start your day? Try Yoga on Monday mornings with instructor Laura Jacques. Wear comfy clothes, bring a mat/towel and water bottle..

FIT FUSION ~ *Mondays/Wednesdays/Fridays, 4:30-5:30 PM @ the Beckish Senior Center for the summer months. Join instructor Carolyn Ritchie for a total body workout for all fitness levels.

ZUMBA ~ Tuesdays, 7-8 PM @ Yeoman's Hall. Join instructor Martin Ricardo for an exhilarating, heart pumping dance class. Fun & Fitness all in one!

COMMIT ~ NEW START TIME! Wednesdays, 6 - 7 PM @ Yeoman's Hall. Join Instructor Karen Ricardo for a fun, high intensity interval training style dance class from music all over the world. All ages, fitness levels and abilities welcome!



TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED):

COLUMBIA PARKS & RECREATION

YOGA

July 31st – August 28th
Monday 8:30 A.M.
**Weather Permitting*

**WEAR COMFORTABLE CLOTHING, BRING A TOWEL/YOGA
MAT, AND WATER BOTTLE**

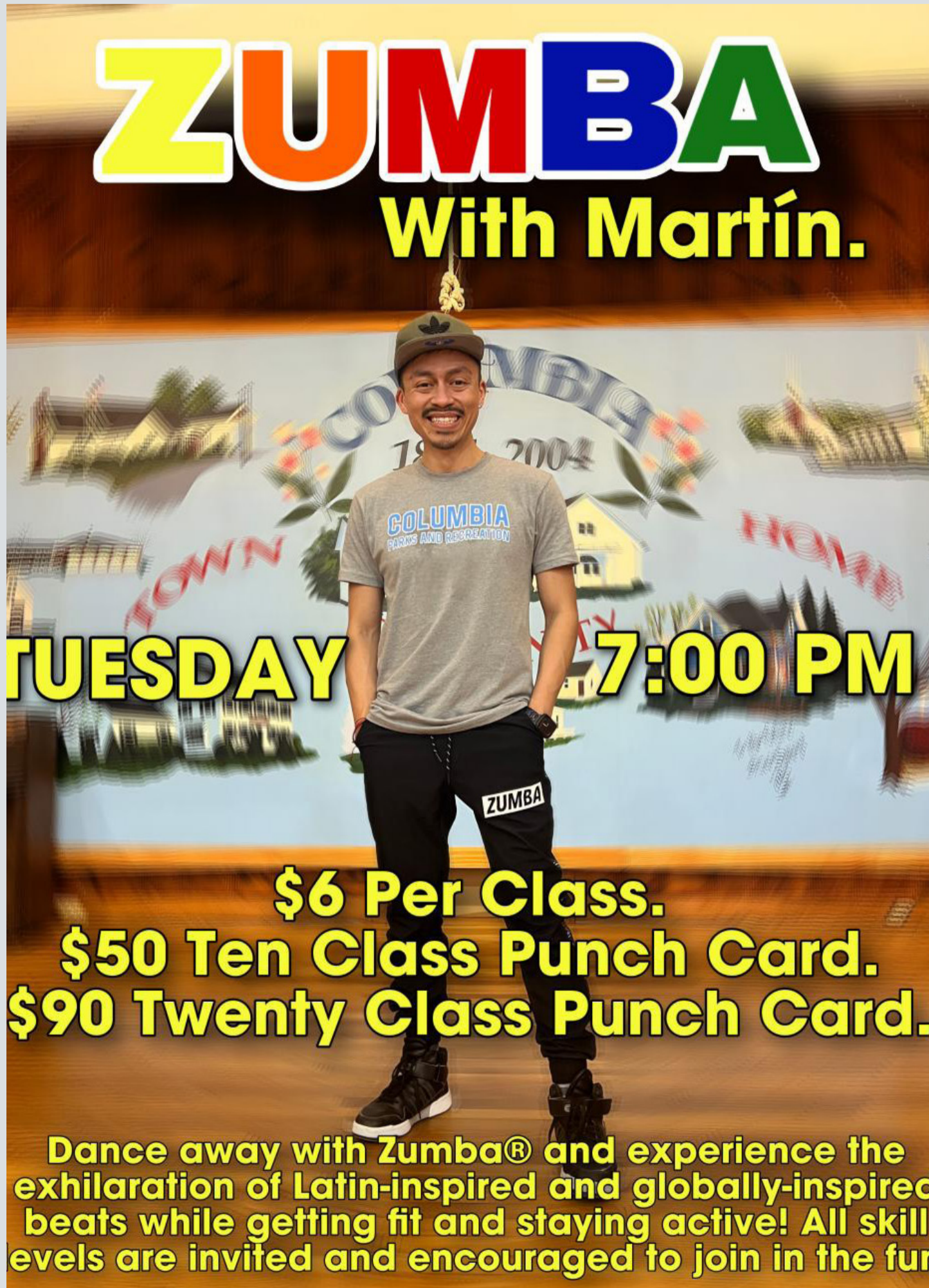
\$10 WALK IN

**@ Columbia Beach
by the Water**

860-228-8513
recreation@columbiact.org
<http://columbia.recdesk.com>

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED):

A promotional poster for a Zumba class. At the top, the word "ZUMBA" is written in large, colorful, outlined letters (Z is yellow, U is orange, M is red, B is blue, A is green). Below it, "With Martín." is written in yellow. In the center, a man named Martín is smiling, wearing a grey t-shirt with "COLUMBIA FARMS AND RECREATION" on it, black pants with a "ZUMBA" patch, and a grey cap. He is standing in front of a backdrop that features a stylized illustration of a town with houses and trees, and a banner that says "COLUMBIA TOWN 18... 2004". The text "TUESDAY" and "7:00 PM" is written in large yellow letters across the middle. At the bottom, pricing information is listed in yellow: "\$6 Per Class.", "\$50 Ten Class Punch Card.", and "\$90 Twenty Class Punch Card.". A short paragraph of text at the very bottom describes the class as Latin-inspired and globally-inspired, suitable for all skill levels.

ZUMBA
With Martín.


TUESDAY 7:00 PM

\$6 Per Class.
\$50 Ten Class Punch Card.
\$90 Twenty Class Punch Card.

Dance away with Zumba® and experience the exhilaration of Latin-inspired and globally-inspired beats while getting fit and staying active! All skill levels are invited and encouraged to join in the fun!

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED):



COLUMBIA PARKS AND RECREATION

COMMIT

DANCE FITNESS

COMMIT IS A DYNAMIC, FUN-FILLED HIIT- STYLE (HIGH-INTENSITY INTERVAL TRAINING) DANCE WORKOUT. EACH ROUTINE FOCUSES ON ESSENTIAL FITNESS ELEMENTS, CREATED TO A VARIETY OF POPULAR MUSIC FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD. CLASSES ARE TAUGHT IN LEVELS, ALL AGES, ABILITIES AND FITNESS LEVELS ARE WELCOME!

6PM

WEDNESDAYS

YEOMAN'S HALL

323 JONATHAN TRUMBULL HWY

COLUMBIA, CT 06237

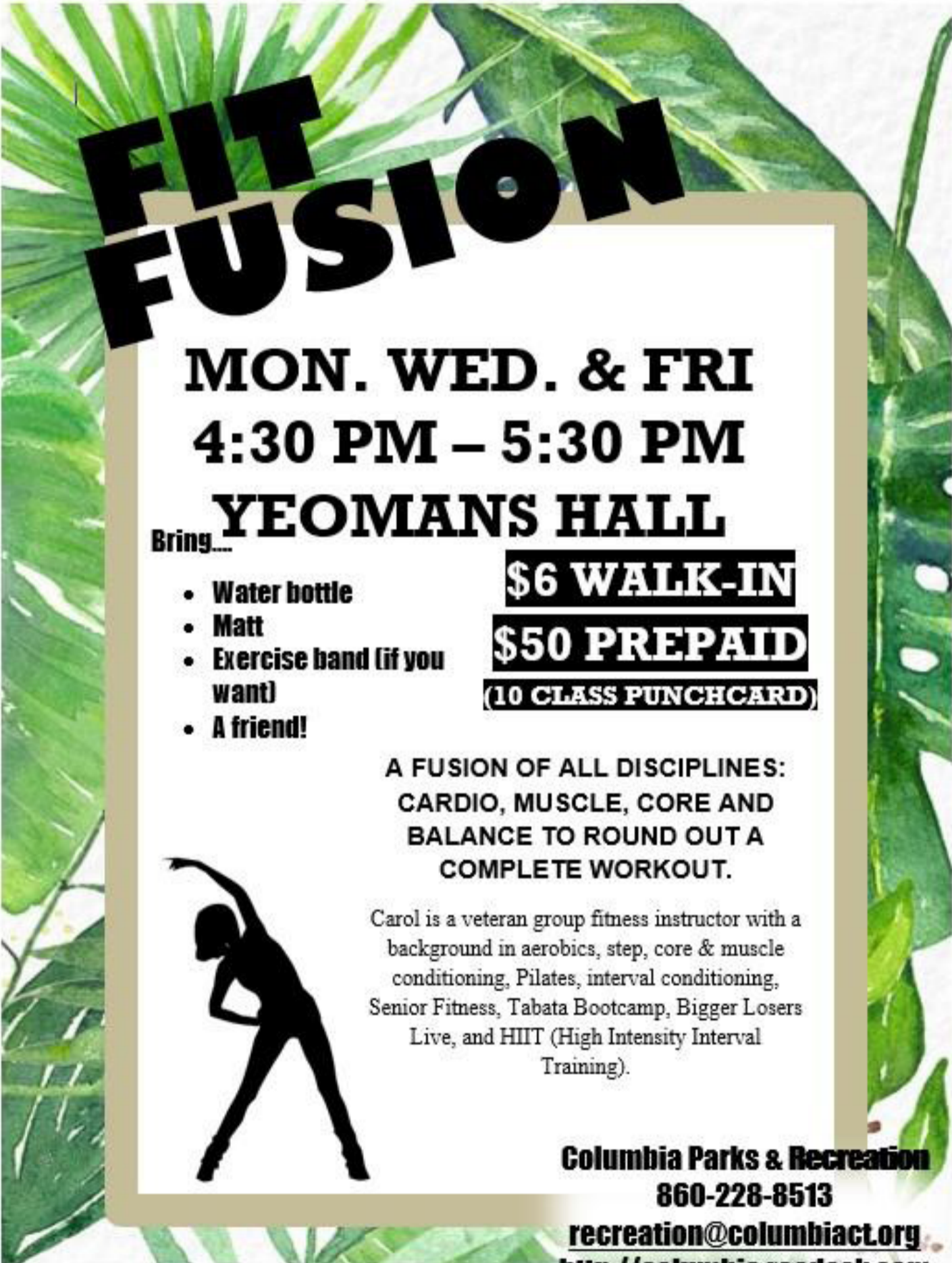
\$6 DROP-INS

MULTI-CLASS PUNCH CARDS AVAILABLE:

\$50/10 CLASSES • \$90/20 CLASSES

INSTRUCTOR KAREN RM

RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED):



FIT FUSION


MON. WED. & FRI
4:30 PM – 5:30 PM
YEOMANS HALL

Bring...

- Water bottle
- Matt
- Exercise band (if you want)
- A friend!

\$6 WALK-IN
\$50 PREPAID
(10 CLASS PUNCHCARD)

**A FUSION OF ALL DISCIPLINES:
CARDIO, MUSCLE, CORE AND
BALANCE TO ROUND OUT A
COMPLETE WORKOUT.**



Carol is a veteran group fitness instructor with a background in aerobics, step, core & muscle conditioning, Pilates, interval conditioning, Senior Fitness, Tabata Bootcamp, Bigger Losers Live, and HIIT (High Intensity Interval Training).

Columbia Parks & Recreation
860-228-8513
recreation@columbiact.org
<http://columbia.recdesk.com>

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED):

More Beach Fun: The Concession stand is open at the Beach! Thirsty or looking for a snack when you are enjoying the beach? Be sure to stop by the concessions window during lifeguard hours to treat yourself to chips, candy, ice cream and beverages.



TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED):

AT THE BEACH:

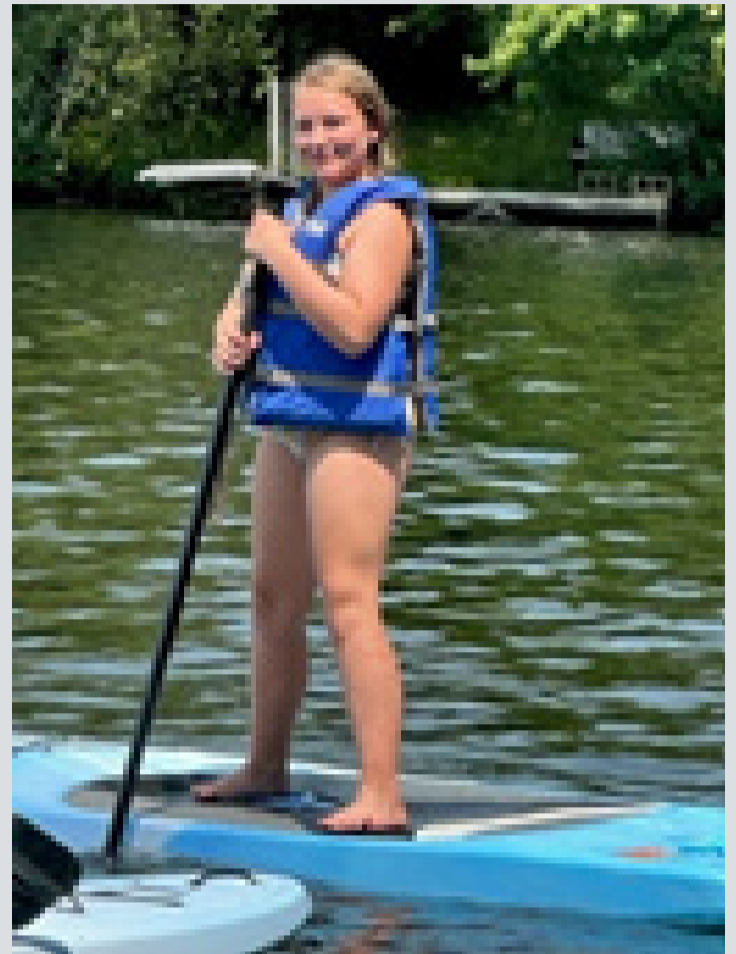


TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED):

KAYAK AND PADDLEBOARD RENTALS: Explore Columbia Lake from a kayak or paddleboard. Rentals for Kayaks are \$10 for two hours and are on a first come, first served basis during lifeguard hours. Due to a generous gift from the Eastern Highlands Health District, as an initiative to encourage active lifestyle living, paddleboards will be 'rented' free of charge.

SWIM LESSONS AT COLUMBIA LAKE: Session III begins August 14th. Classes are scheduled Monday - Thursday with Friday reserved for make-up if a class is canceled due to inclement weather. Register online at: [Programs \(recdesk.com\)](http://columbia.recdesk.com)



Swim Lessons

Session III
August 14th – August 17th
(Fridays reserved for make-up)

Level 1: 10:30am
Level 2: 11:00am
Level 3: 11:30am
Level 4: 12:00pm

Fees: Residents \$40 per session/ Non-Residents \$45 per session
Class Session: Classes are Monday – Thursday each week with Friday reserved for make-up if a lesson is cancelled due to inclement weather.
Please note: Swim lessons are non-refundable and non-transferrable.
In the event of a schedule conflict or your child being unable to participate, we cannot be held responsible for missed days.
Requirements to enter class: A completion card or mastery of skills of previous level

Adult Programs: Registration open for all adult programs can be done online through RecDesk or a walk-in option.

Register online: <http://columbia.recdesk.com>

Register online at
<http://columbia.recdesk.com>
Phone: 860-228-8513
Email: recdirector@columbiact.org



TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

TAX DEPARTMENT: Tax bills for the 10/1/22 Grand List were mailed on June 28, 2023 with a due date of July 1, 2023. The last day to pay without a penalty will be Tuesday, August 1, 2023. Bills are available online at www.columbiact.org.

Failure to receive a bill does not invalidate the tax or interest per CT State Statute. If you have not received your tax bills, please contact the tax office at 860-228-0230 or taxcollector@columbiact.org.

If you are coming to pay in person in July and on August 1, 2023, please be aware that there may be a line and you may have to wait for service. Please plan your visit accordingly.

Property taxes on the Grand List of 10/1/22 became due and payable on July 1, 2023. Real estate and personal property taxes (other than registered motor vehicles) may be paid in two installments if the total tax due is over \$250.00. The second installment of these taxes will become due January 1, 2024.

All motor vehicle taxes, the first installment of real estate and personal property taxes will become delinquent on August 2, 2023. Mail must be postmarked on or before August 1, 2023 to be considered paid on time. **By law, this office uses the USPS postmark as the payment date. If you are waiting until the last few days to pay, it is recommended that you have your envelope hand stamped in the Post Office. Putting your envelope in a blue postal box may not guarantee an on-time postmark.**

Taxes may be paid by mail or put in one of the drop boxes outside of the Town Hall; or online via www.columbiact.org and service fees apply. The Tax Collector's office hours in the Town Hall, 323 RT 87 Columbia in **July & Aug 1st are Monday through Wednesday 8AM to 4PM, Thursday 10AM to 6PM and Friday 8AM to 12PM.**

If taxes are not paid on or before Aug 1, 2023, interest is charged at the rate of 1.5% per month (18% per year) from the due date of July 1st. On August 2nd, the interest will be 3% (1.5% for July and 1.5 % for August). The minimum interest charge is \$2.00 (per vehicle).

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

TAX DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED): Tax office hours beginning Aug 2, 2023 will be Monday through Wednesday 8AM to 2PM, Thursday 10AM to 6PM and closed on Friday.

Carol Price, Tax Collector

taxcollector@columbiact.org

860-228-0230

Hours: Mon-Wed 8:00-2:00, Thursday 10:00-6:00 and Friday Closed

NON-MUNICIPAL SERVICES PROVIDERS AND NON-PROFIT NEWS AND INFORMATION

COLUMBIA CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH:



325 Route 87
860 228 9306



2nd Saturday Community Breakfasts

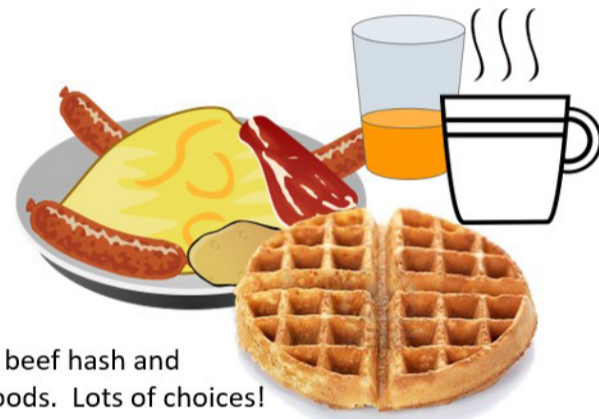
Aug. 12 Sept. 9 Oct. 14 Nov. 11



Share Food and Joy with
Family and Friends

NEW TIME: 7:30 AM to 10 AM

All you can eat \$12; Special Rates
for Families with Children



Buffet includes design-your-own omelets, Belgian waffles, corned beef hash and two other meats, hash browns, scrambled eggs, fruit and home baked goods. Lots of choices!



325 Route 87
PO Box 177
Columbia, CT
06237

860 228 9306
ccchurch@snet.net

Columbiacongregational
church.org

Find us on Facebook and
on You Tube

WELCOME!

UPCOMING HAPPENINGS



Services 10 AM Sundays with Rev. MaryAnn Purtil
Live & on YouTube

2nd Saturday Breakfasts 7:30 – 10 AM
July 8th August 12th September 9th October 14th

Shred-a-thon Saturday 16th 9 AM – Noon

Bible Study, Watch Parties & Sunday School
will resume in the fall.

Check our website for details.

Simple Sustenance Pre-ordered Soup & Bread
September 24th October 22nd

Holiday Craft Fair Saturday November 4th 10:00 – 3:00

For details check out our webpage: Columbiacongregationalchurch.org

NON-MUNICIPAL SERVICES PROVIDERS AND NON-PROFIT NEWS AND INFORMATION

SAXTON B. LITTLE LIBRARY: Even though “Find Your Voice,” our Summer Reading program, is winding down this month, we still have a bunch of activities happening for patrons of all ages at the Saxton B. Little Library!

Kids and parents – join us for our **End of Summer Reading Party** featuring a Comedy Magic Show with Ed Popielarczyk and a free Ice Cream Truck visit immediately following the show. This program takes place on Friday, August 11th at 3:00pm at Yeoman’s Hall. Pre-registration is required, and space is filling quickly, so call the Library at 860-228-0350 to sign up your child to attend!

Adults – although we have some programs in August, we’re looking ahead to what will certainly be a popular program early next month. Learn about **How to Get Your Book Published** with Dr. Jan Yager on Saturday, September 9th at 11:00am at the Library – Jan will lead an interactive session that will answer all your questions about the publishing industry. We anticipate that this program will fill up, so please call us at 860-228-0350 to save your seat.

Additionally, don’t forget about our regular library activities happening every week, with no sign-up required:

- Story Time – geared for ages 2-5, every Tuesday at 10:30am, families welcome
- Baby Bees lapsit program – geared for ages 0-2, every Friday at 10:30am, families welcome
- Columbia Stitchers knitting & crochet group – every Wednesday from 2:30-4:00pm, all skill levels welcome!


This month, our featured service available to everyone with an SBL Library Card are our Museum Passes! We offer many discounted and free admission passes to museums in the region, including Mystic Seaport, the Lutz Children’s Museum, the Wadsworth Atheneum, and many more. Special thanks to the Friends of the Library, our sister organization, for sponsoring these passes. Visit our website at <https://www.columbiactlibrary.org/library-information/museum-passes/> to check out the full list of available passes.

We hope to see you at SBL soon! 860.228.0350 / SBL@columbiactlibrary.org

NON-MUNICIPAL SERVICES PROVIDERS AND NON-PROFIT NEWS AND INFORMATION

SAXTON B. LITTLE LIBRARY:

Saxton B. Little Library | Columbia, CT



**The Civil War Search for a
New National Anthem
w/ the Band of Steady Habits**

This lecture and live musical performance details the incredible contest for a new Union national anthem at the start of the American Civil War, and the outpouring of patriotic music that ensued. In this presentation, created in part to commemorate the sesquicentennial of the Civil War, Walt Woodward combines historical analysis with his extensive background in professional songwriting and musical performance to bring new perspective to the Civil War music and patriotic anthems with the Band of Steady Habits. This is a toe-tapping, thought-provoking account of a little-known but important Civil War story. Come ready to sing!

Tuesday, August 1st @ 6:30pm

Registration required by calling 860-228-0350

NON-MUNICIPAL SERVICES PROVIDERS AND NON-PROFIT NEWS AND INFORMATION

SAXTON B. LITTLE LIBRARY:

Saxton B. Little Library | Columbia | 860-228-0350

Voices in The Garden **a nature poetry workshop**

Join Poet and Herbalist, **Nora Toomey**, for a plants and poetry workshop in the community garden at Szegda Farms. Using prompts and free flow exercises, we will remember how to observe, find inspiration in our surroundings, and how to connect with ourselves through the world around us. This will be a fun, welcoming, generative workshop for anyone looking to connect to the plants and to their writing practice more deeply. In addition to writing our own poetry, participants will receive a packet of nature poetry from some of our most beloved poets. Together we will read, write, and connect to the plants around us! Bring a journal, pen, water, sunhat, and something to sit on! See you at the farm!



Wednesday, August 2 @ 6:30pm

Meet at Szegda Farm (42 Szegda Rd)

Registration required. Sign up today!

Please note that you are participating in this program at your own risk and must provide your own transportation to the event. SBL is not responsible for any incident outside of its premises.

NON-MUNICIPAL SERVICES PROVIDERS AND NON-PROFIT NEWS AND INFORMATION

COLUMBIA LEOS: What a great summer!! The Columbia Leos have been very busy but also got to enjoy some time off! Back in April Our Annual Variety Show was a huge success! We were able to donate \$4700 to our causes including Camp Rising Sun, Relay for Life, and Smilow's Child Life Program. The event, held at Yeoman's hall drew a large crowd who enjoyed exceptional local talent. Many thanks to all who helped donate time, talent and money to make this event successful. Special thanks The Columbia Congregational Church for allowing us to sell tickets at their monthly breakfast, Bill and Melissa Rood of November Sound for not only performing but providing the sound system! And of course The Town of Columbia and The Columbia Lions for their unwavering support!

In June we installed our new officers: President Morgan Bonaiuto, Vice President Lucy Provost, Secretary Maya Roldan and Treasurer Corynn Tarbell. We also inducted new members Anya Gilchenok and Anne Tigeleiro. The club is looking forward to a busy 2023-24 season!

July and August had some high notes also! The Leos led The 4th of July Parade carrying the theme banner: "Let Freedom Ring". The skies parted, the rain held off and fun was had by all! The Leos are planning on helping out at some community events in August also! Remember to try to make the Community Breakfast at The Columbia Congregational Church on August 12th and make sure to get your tickets to The Lions BBQ on August 20th!

And, of course The Leos are always looking for new members! If you would like to work in your community, meet new people and be part of the largest service organization in the world, Lions International, we would love to have you! Our only requirements are that you must be between 12-18 years of age, and be a Columbia resident. The Leos meet in the Porter Band Room with our first meeting tentatively scheduled for September 5th at 6:30 PM. Please email Advisor Jim Blair at jbland15@earthlink.net if you would like to participate, need more information or get details regarding meetings, etc.

The Columbia Leos wish to thank all who have stepped up and helped us with our causes. Our club is inspired by those in our community who help us to live by our motto: "We serve". Thank you so much for your support!

Contact Information: Lion Jim Blair, Advisor, 860-428-2916, jbland15@earthlink.net

NON-MUNICIPAL SERVICES PROVIDERS AND NON-PROFIT NEWS AND INFORMATION

COLUMBIA LIONS: *The Slate of Officers for The Columbia Lions has been approved for the year 2023-24.

- President – Matt Sternat
- 1st Vice President – Wes Burnham
- 2nd Vice President – Brendan Keenan
- Treasurers – Dick Mlyniec and Tom Egan
- Secretary – Tim Anderson
- Town Liaison – Jim Blair

*The Columbia Lions awarded two scholarships, each in the amount of \$1,200, to Madeline Ross and Elle Gaucher. Both winners are graduates of E.O. Smith High School. Madeline will attend UCONN and major in mechanical engineering. Elle will attend Springfield College and pursue a degree in Physician Assistant Studies. The two scholarship awards were the result of a competitive selection process and were based on both academic performance and a demonstrated commitment to community service.

*Patrick Stone is Columbia's newest Lion. Patrick was inducted into the club on June 12, 2023, accompanied by his sponsor, Lion Jim Blair. Patrick is known to many here in Columbia and is the owner of Columbia CrossFit fitness center.

Anyone interested in joining the Columbia Lions or inquiring about Lions activities should email Lion Wes Burnham at Columbia.Lions.Membership@gmail.com or call Lion Mike DiRaimo at 860-228-8241.

NON-MUNICIPAL SERVICES PROVIDERS AND NON-PROFIT NEWS AND INFORMATION

SENIORS ON THE GO: Summer is in full swing, and many groups are taking a break from their yearly schedules. The Columbia Seniors Organization is looking forward to a busy fall with events in each month. In September we will be having a potluck luncheon with the Sunshine Singers from Hebron providing the entertainment. In October we will learn about beginning to trace our genealogy. In November we will be honoring our veterans as well as having our annual Harvest to Holly Fair. It will be a busy fall season.

The Columbia Seniors' Organization /CSO is a group of citizens in Columbia that work to promote a healthy, productive, and vibrant life for our seniors. Our goal is stated in our mission statement – "The mission of the CSO shall be to build a community of respect and support for the senior residents of Columbia by promoting their dignity and independence through programs and services which will enhance their talents, interests, and potential." Along with the many activities of the Beckish Senior Center, we work to provide additional programming that will give seniors a chance to meet other senior citizens in town and to find new activities to broaden their knowledge and interests.

We are looking for people who would like to join our organization. Good news – it's free! Post pandemic we are hoping to get back to our usual routine of a monthly members meeting after lunch on the first Friday of the month – with birthday cake to honor those with birthdays that month. We have a program committee to plan our events, an art committee that sponsors art classes, the Rose Marrotte Art Show as well as contests and trips with an art focus. Some of the other activities that happen on a regular schedule here at the senior center are bridge, set back and pool, quilting, senior book club, movies, women's group, and wood carving. The senior center is a very busy place (thank you Bernadette) Please consider joining us in whatever capacity that you can. Together we will all learn, socialize, be active and enjoy our time together here in Columbia.