

# TOWN OF COLUMBIA



MONTHLY COMMUNITY UPDATE



*PHOTO CREDITS PAUL RAMSEY*

# UPDATE JULY 2021



## TOWN OF COLUMBIA

### OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN

As we celebrate Independence Day this Fourth of July we ask that you celebrate without fireworks. As many of you know, we have an adult pair of American Bald Eagles (Bertha & Harry) nesting near Columbia Lake and they have successfully hatched an eaglet named Henley.

Henley is still in a critical stage of his/her growth. As fledglings they will remain in the nest for four or five weeks, taking short flights while their primary feathers grow and strengthen. Bertha and Harry will still provide the eaglet with food, but the eaglet will start learning how to hunt for their own food in late July through October.

Brian Hess, Wildlife Biologist with CT-DEEP explains that "Loud, prolonged, and unpredictable noises like fireworks can cause young to leave the nest before they are able to fly, often leading to the bird's death. To avoid harm to nesting eagles from fireworks, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service published guidelines recommending measures including a half mile restrictive buffer. The ultimate intent of these guidelines is to limit harm to eagles."

The letter from CTDEEP will be distributed to residents around Columbia Lake. We have confirmed that sparklers and fountains that can be purchased legally may be enjoyed at any time. Any other forms of fireworks is illegal in Connecticut.

We wish you a safe and happy 4th of July and would like to thank you for your help in protecting our nesting eagles.



*Photo credit: Ken Koper at kenkiper.zenfolio.com*

**OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN CONTINUED:** We are happy to announce that the Lion's Club will be sponsoring it's 58th Annual **Independence Day Parade to be held on Monday, July 5th. The parade kicks off at 10:00 AM.**

# INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE

5  
JULY

**HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY!**



**PLEASE COME AND CELEBRATE  
WITH US AT THE 58TH ANNUAL  
COLUMBIA LION'S CLUB  
INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE**

**MONDAY, JULY 5TH AT 10 AM**

*PARADE ROUTE IS FROM  
H. W. PORTER SCHOOL TO LAKE ROAD*

THIS YEAR'S THEME



MANY PARADE SPECTATORS ENJOY THE "WATER FIGHTS" BUT WE KNOW NOT EVERYONE DOES. IF YOU PREFER NOT TO BE SPRAYED WITH WATER, PLEASE LET US KNOW BY HOLDING A NO WATER SIGN. TO PRINT AT HOME, USE THE QR CODE TO DOWNLOAD THE "NO WATER" IMAGE. PRINTED SIGNS WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE IN FRONT OF YEOMAN'S HALL.



**Columbia Lake Association (CLA) Boat Parade:** The parade will be held on Sunday, July 4th at 4:00 PM. See Page 31 for more information.



## TOWN OF COLUMBIA

### OFFICE OF TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Town offices are now open to the public without an appointment. We are following the CDC's guidelines and are not requiring masks at the Town Hall for those who are fully vaccinated (including the two-week waiting period). We still welcome masks if you choose to wear them, but are not requiring them.

With the recent changes many of our boards and commissions are meeting in-person, or in a hybrid method (both in-person and virtual). Residents can attend meetings and participate either in-person or virtually. Please check each board, committee or commission agenda's for specifics on whether the meeting you wish to attend is a hybrid meeting or virtual only.

Public input is welcome during the Audience of Citizens portion of the meeting whether the meeting is hybrid or virtual. If you are not attending, your comments must be submitted within 24-hours before the meeting by emailing [PublicInput@columbiact.org](mailto:PublicInput@columbiact.org).

#### **DEDICATION TO PETE NAUMEC - MONDAY, JULY 26TH AT COLUMBIA BEACH:**

With the passing of Peter Naumec on July 9, 2019, the town lost a devoted and dedicated lifelong resident who was also the 1st Director of Public Works for the town; overseeing numerous town projects for 29 years; working from November, 1975 to January, 2005.

July 26, 2019 was declared Peter Naumec Day in the Town of Columbia to honor his memory.

On Monday, July 26, 2021 you are invited to join community leaders, family and residents at Columbia Lake Beach as the gardens at the "Murphy House" are dedicated to Pete, in thanks for his contributions and dedication to making our beach the lovely, relaxing area enjoyed by so many residents.

Please join community members, family, and friends to dedicate the gardens at the public beach to Peter Naumec. The dedication will begin at 5:00pm. Held rain or shine. Question may be sent to Millie Ramsey at [millieramz@gmail.com](mailto:millieramz@gmail.com).

**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.

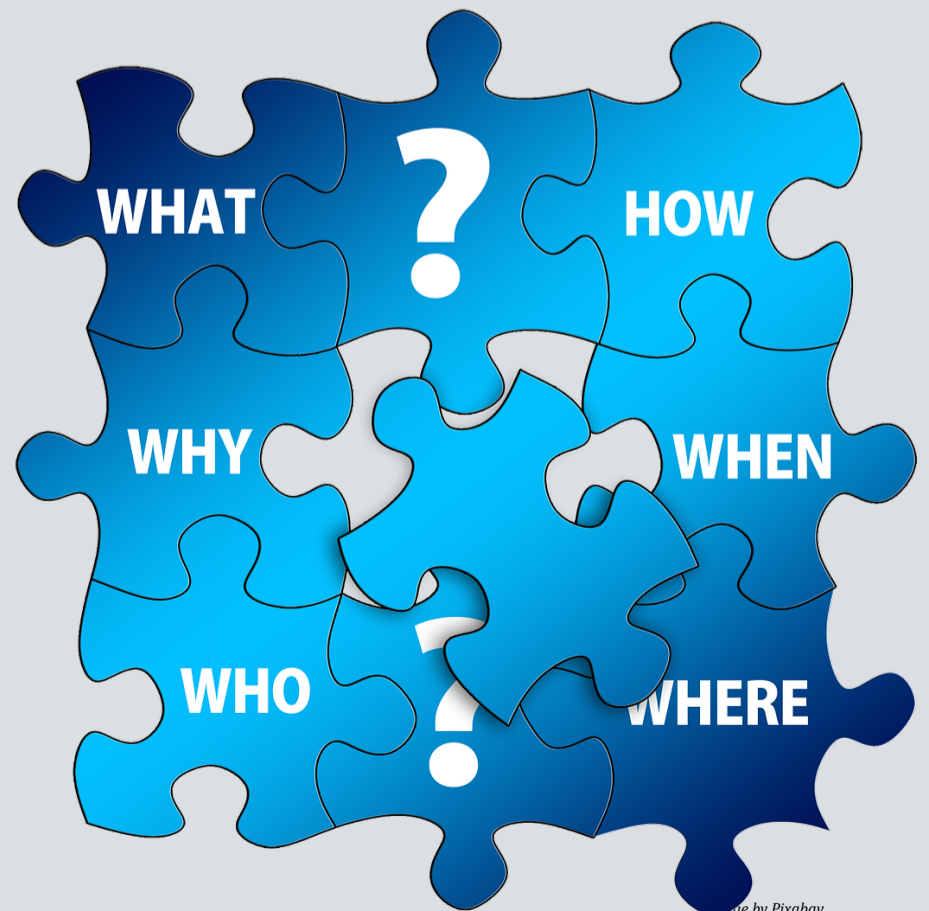
**EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS:** To receive Town news please go to the Town's website and click on the [Email Notifications](#) tab.

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](mailto:townadministrator@columbiact.org).

Thank you,

Mark B. Walter, Town Administrator  
323 Route 87  
Columbia, CT 06237  
860-228-0110  
[townadministrator@columbiact.org](mailto:townadministrator@columbiact.org)

Find us on 



# 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 for meeting dates and times. The posted agenda will have the information on whether the meeting is in person, remote access, or a hybrid meeting. Each board or committee will provide the information needed to join using an online conferencing platform. Please check the Town of Columbia's [website](#) for updates.**

## **UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS FOR JULY 2021**

7/1/21 - Szegda Farm Management Committee 9:00AM

7/1/21 - Columbia Conservation & Agriculture Commission - CANCELED

7/5/21 - Board of Education - CANCELED

7/6/21 - Board of Selectmen, 7:00PM - Hybrid Meeting

7/7/21 - Lake Management Advisory Commission (LMAC), 7:00PM

7/8/21 - Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission, 7:00PM

7/12/21 - Planning & Zoning Commission, 7:00PM

7/14/21 - Fiscal Policy Board, 8:30AM

7/14/21 - Youth Services Committee, 5:30PM

7/15/21 - Open Space Meeting, 8:00AM

7/20/21 - Public Hearing to Discuss Proposed Code Adoption Ordinance, 6:45PM

7/20/21 - Board of Selectmen, 7:00PM - Hybrid Meeting

7/21/21 - Safety Committee Meeting, 1:30PM

7/21/21 - Financial Planning and Allocation Commission (FIPAC), 7:00PM

7/22/21 - Zoning Board of Appeals, 7:00PM

7/26/21 - Planning and Zoning Commission, 7:00PM

7/28/21 - Columbia Commission on Aging (CONA), 9:00AM

# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

**BECKISH SENIOR CENTER:** After the 15-month pandemic forced closure, the Beckish Senior Center is finally open to the public. Starting in July, the Center will be open five days a week with lunches offered on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. All regular activities, (pre-pandemic) will resume including billiards, cards, movies, Zumba, etc.

As of May 19, 2021, the Governor lifted the mask mandate for fully vaccinated people. Masks are optional if you are fully vaccinated. Masks are required if you are not fully vaccinated and stay on while in the senior center.

I know you are all very eager to travel, and get out and see more of what life may offer. Starting in late August or early September, day and overnight trips are being planned. Please stay tuned for more information.

The Beckish Senior Center will also use the Town's Van to take seniors to lunch, ice cream trips, music at a park, plays, and more. If you have any suggestions for trips, please feel free to share your ideas.

Our transportation program is running full steam ahead! We are available Monday through Friday from 8 am to 3 pm. If you need a ride to and from medical appointments, running errands, shopping, hairdressers, and more, please contact Margaret or Lisa at 860-228-0759 ext. 2.

Our van driver, Pat Morris, is currently displaying her artwork throughout the senior center. Please stop by to say hello, we will welcome you back, and you can enjoy Pat's beautiful artwork. Her work will be on display through the end of August. You may find Pat's biography at <http://PatMorrisArtist.com>.

I am so thrilled to have everyone coming back to the Center. It will be wonderful to catch up with everyone's lives. Looking forward to seeing you all soon!

Sincerely,

Bernadette Derring

Director Senior Services & Transportation

Ph:860-228-0759 or email at [beckish@columbiact.org](mailto:beckish@columbiact.org)

# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

**COLUMBIA COMMUNITY SOCIAL SERVICES:** As part of the Local Prevention Council Grant awarded to the Town of Columbia to prevent the use and harm of e-cigarettes, commonly referred to as vaping, the Park and Rec playground has new signage to make it clear the playgrounds are smoke and vape free. For quick facts on the unknown risks of e-cigarettes visit the CDC website [here](#).

Thinking of quitting? Call or chat with an expert. Get free, personalized support from a tobacco cessation expert by calling 1-800-QUIT-NOW or 1-877-44U-QUIT, or chat with an expert online using the National Cancer Institute's [LiveHelp](#) service.

Considering getting the COVID-19 vaccine but haven't yet? Even people who were eager to get the vaccine had questions, i.e., What if I don't get my second dose exactly 21/28 days from my first shot? Nothing wrong with wanting more information! When it comes to your health, you deserve an opportunity to discuss concerns with a medical provider. Reach out to your doctor today! For answers to frequently asked Questions about COVID-19 Vaccination visit the CDC website [here](#).

To schedule an appointment and get connected with a ride, call the Vaccine Appointment Assistance Line at 877-918-222. The COVID-19 vaccine is free and rides can be free, too!

Please reach out to me with any questions or for more information on the above-mentioned programs. I can also be contacted to:

- Talk with a social worker
- Receive guidance/advocacy with eligibility/benefits/energy needs
- Learn about what programs you may qualify for
- Get referrals to appropriate programs/services

My typical office hours are Monday and Tuesday, 8:30 am – 5:00 pm. Contact me by phone at 860-228-1008 or email at [kwilt@columbiact.org](mailto:kwilt@columbiact.org).

Wishing wellness among you and the community.

Sincerely,

Katie Wilt, Community Social Services Coordinator



# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

## COLUMBIA COMMUNITY SOCIAL SERVICES CONTINUED:



### **Get vaccinated & enjoy special events! #CTFunOnUs**

Get your first or second shot at one of the participating events listed below and enjoy free admission and perks, on us! More events are being added all the time. Check back soon for more at [CTGov website](#). #CTFunOnUs (<https://portal.ct.gov/vaccine-portal/summer>)

When attending these events, be sure to wear your mask until you are fully vaccinated (14 days have passed since your final dose of the COVID-19 vaccine).

**UPCOMING EVENTS:** Pfizer (1st or 2nd dose) and J&J vaccines are offered to individuals of age 12 and up at each event unless otherwise specified.

#### **HARTFORD YARD GOATS HOME GAMES**

- Every Yard Goats home game, get four free tickets to another game and a Dunkin Donuts gift card if you get vaccinated
- Date/Time: During the games
- Address: Dunkin Donuts Park, 1214 Main Street, Hartford CT
- Vaccine Type: Moderna (1st or 2nd dose)
- Details: Must be 18 years or older

#### **BEARDSLEY ZOO**

- Free admission if you get vaccinated at the on-site clinic
- Date/Time: Tuesday – Thursday July 6th – 8th and 27th – 29th from 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
- Address: 1875 Noble Avenue, Bridgeport, CT (at the red cabin just up the hill from the main parking lot)

# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

## COLUMBIA COMMUNITY SOCIAL SERVICES CONTINUED:



### CT SCIENCE CENTER

- Free admission if you get vaccinated at the on-site clinic
- Date/Time: July 18th 9:30 AM – 3:30 PM
- Address: 250 Columbus Blvd., Hartford, CT

### STAFFORD SPEEDWAY

- Get a free hot dog when you get vaccinated at the Speedway's Friday races
- Date/Time: every Friday from 5 PM to 7 PM
- Address: 56 West Street, Stafford Springs CT

# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

## COLUMBIA COMMUNITY SOCIAL SERVICES CONTINUED:



### The Friendship Line

#### 24-hour toll-free hotline/warmline for older adults and adults living with a disability

The Friendship Line at Institute on Aging is the nation's only accredited 24-hour toll-free hotline for older adults and adults living with a disability. The Friendship Line is both a crisis intervention hotline and a warmline (non-urgent calls); our services provide older adults and adults living with a disability reassurance, crisis intervention, information and referrals.

In addition to receiving incoming calls our volunteers make routine outbound phone calls that provide emotional support, and well-being check-ins.

For many depressed and lonely seniors, we offer a lifeline of hope. In every call, the goal is to help the individual feel safe and valued.

The Friendship Line is accredited by the American Association of Suicidology.

### 24-Hour Hotline/Warmline

#### Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week:

- Crisis intervention
- Emotional support
- Well-Being check-ins
- Information and referrals

Call the Friendship Line anytime, day or night, 7-days a week at 1-800-971-0016 and introduce yourself to one of our staff members or volunteers - It's that easy.

### Who can call the Friendship Line?

- Any person aged 60 years or older
- Adults living with a disability 18 years & older
- Caregivers of older and disabled adults

### Call-In Service

We are available to people 60+ who may be lonely, isolated, grieving, depressed, anxious and/or thinking about death or suicide. We also welcome calls from caregivers and/or adults living with a disability of all ages.

### \*Call-Out Service

We make outbound emotional support calls to older adults who request it. These calls can be arranged by contacting Institute on Aging at 415-750-4111.

\*Must live in a county providing funding to the Friendship Line

The Friendship Line - 24-Hour Hotline/Warmline  
1-800-971-0016

# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

## COLUMBIA COMMUNITY SOCIAL SERVICES CONTINUED:



## EMERGENCY BROADBAND BENEFIT

### WHAT IS IT?

The Emergency Broadband Benefit is a temporary FCC program to help households struggling to afford internet service during the pandemic.

### The benefit provides:

- Up to \$50/month discount for broadband services;
- Up to \$75/month discount for households on qualifying Tribal lands; and
- A one-time discount of up to \$100 for a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet purchased through a participating provider.

### WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

#### A household is eligible if one member of the household:

- Has an income that is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guide lines or participates in certain government assistance programs;
- Receives benefits under the free and reduced-price school lunch or breakfast program;
- Received a Federal Pell Grant during the current award year;
- Experienced a substantial loss of income due to job loss or furlough since February 29, 2020; or
- Meets the eligibility criteria for a participating provider's existing low-income or COVID-19 program.

135% Federal Poverty Guidelines 2021

1	\$17,388
2	\$23,517
3	\$29,646
4	\$35,775

### THREE WAYS TO APPLY

# 1

Contact your preferred participating provider directly to learn about their application process.

# 2

Go to [GetEmergencyBroadband.org](https://www.getemergencybroadband.org) to submit an application and to find participating providers near you.

# 3

Complete a mail in application and send it along with proof of eligibility to:

Emergency Broadband Support Center  
P.O. Box 7081  
London, KY 40742

### LEARN MORE

 Call 833-511-0311, or

 Visit [fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit](https://www.fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit)

# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:** Transfer Station stickers can be purchased online on the [Reckdesk](#) page or at the Town Clerks Office.

The standard permit price (2 stickers) is \$40 per household for non-seniors and \$20 per household for seniors (62 and over). Up to 2 additional stickers may be purchased at \$20 each.

**FIRE MARSHAL:** OPEN BURNING - The Town of Columbia allows campfires and the burning of brush. Both are governed by the State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) regulations and town ordinance 15-8. These regulations and guidelines can be found on-line at [CT.GOV website](#) or the [Town's website](#).

## ***Campfire Safety***

- No permit is required, but follow safety guidelines.
- Campfires should not be larger than 3 feet in diameter.
- Burn tree wood only.

## ***Brush Burning***

- A permit is required.
- Do not burn to clear land.
- Brush should be 3 inches in diameter or less.
- Burn piles should not exceed 10 feet in diameter or height.

## ***Safety Tips for All Fires***

- If the smoke affects your neighbors, find a different location to burn.
- Have a 5-gallon bucket of water and a metal rake available, if needed.
- No burning of garbage, furniture, tires, manufactured lumber, stumps, or hazardous materials.
- Do not place fire under electrical lines, the smoke can be a conductor.
- Always burn safely and never leave a fire unattended.

If you have any questions or need to obtain an open burning permit, please contact the Town of Columbia Land Use Department at 860-228-0440. Michael Lester

Fire Marshal/Open Burning Official  
Town of Columbia

# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

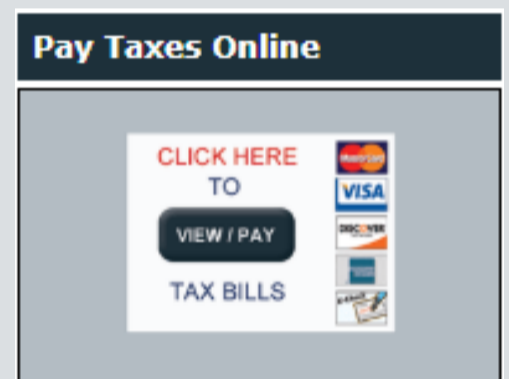
**TAX OFFICE:** Property taxes on the Grand List of 10/1/20 will become due and payable July 1, 2021. Real estate and personal property taxes (other than registered motor vehicles) may be paid in two installments if the total tax due is over \$250.00. The second installment of these taxes will become due Jan 1, 2022.

**All Motor Vehicle tax,** the first installment of Real Estate and Personal Property tax will become delinquent on August 3, 2021. Mail must be postmarked on or before August 2, 2021, to be considered paid on time.

If taxes are not paid on or before Aug 2, 2021, interest is charged at the rate of 1½% per month (18% per year) from the due date of July 1st. The minimum interest charged is \$2.00 (per vehicle). Failure to receive a bill does not invalidate the tax or interest per CT State Statute.

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](http://www.columbiact.org) and service fees apply. The Tax Collector's office hours in the Town Hall, 323 RT 87 Columbia in July & Aug 2nd, MON through WED 8AM to 4PM, THURS 10AM to 6PM and FRI 8AM to 12PM.

Tax bills will be mailed on June 29, 2021 and will be available online on July 1, 2021.



**TOWN CLERKS OFFICE: WE'RE BACK!!** The Town Clerk's office is fully open to the public – no appointment necessary. We are here for those services you might need – Recording and Searching of Land Records, Dog Licenses, Transfer Station stickers, Certified copies of Vital Records, Marriage licenses, Fishing and Hunting licenses, etc. Please call our office at 860-228-3284 if you have any questions.

## **DOG LICENSING**

JUNE began dog licensing month. The license year for your dog runs from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

**TOWN CLERKS OFFICE CONTINUED:** When licensing your dog, if their rabies vaccination has expired, please provide us with a copy of their current rabies vaccination certificate. If your dog has been spayed or neutered, include a copy of the veterinarian's certificate as well.

Please note: If you are licensing your dog(s) in July, there is now a \$1.00 late fee per dog.

Have a safe and happy Fourth of July holiday!

**RECREATION DEPARTMENT:** Please note that the Parks and Recreation Department is now located at the Murphy House at Columbia Lake. Follow us on [FaceBook](#) and [Instagram](#)!

**BEACH PASSES** can be purchased online using this [link](#).

- Family maximum = \$120 per household, EXCLUDING ALL OTHER passes. (***If purchasing online email at [recdirector@columbiact.org](mailto:recdirector@columbiact.org) and an invoice will be emailed to you***)
- Passes are required for admission for each person age 5 and over.
- Proof of age required for resident senior citizens (age 62 and over).
- Guests must be accompanied by pass holder at all times.
- Residents may purchase a day pass at \$5 per day per resident, ages 5 and over.
- Fishermen using the town dock must have a beach pass.
- Transferable guest passes are \$40, up to a limit of 4.

**FEES PAID ARE NON REFUNDABLE (Checks payable to TOWN OF COLUMBIA)**

<b>Resident</b>	<b>Season Pass</b>
<b>5-17</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>
<b>18-61</b>	<b>\$35.00</b>
<b>62+</b>	<b>\$15.00</b>
<b>Non Resident</b>	<b>Season Pass</b>
<b>5-17</b>	<b>\$200.00</b>
<b>18-61</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>
<b>62+</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>

# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

## RECREATION DEPARTMENT CONTINUED:

### LIFEGUARD HOURS OF OPERATION:

- June 7th- August 13th (weekdays) from 10:30 AM -6:15 PM
- Weekends from 10:30 PM - 6:15 PM
- August 14th – September 6th from 10:30 PM -6:15 PM

**BOAT LICENSE CLASS JULY 10, 2021 FROM 8:30AM TO 4:30PM.** Register [online](#) today! Fee for the course is \$98.00 Students successfully completing the class can purchase their license from the DEEP for \$50 and leave the class with their boating license in hand. The classroom-based presentation is PowerPoint and video format including student interaction with hands on demonstrations of common boating equipment and supplies.

## MARINE PATROL AND GATE MONITORING:

### GATE MONITORING

- May 23rd - September 13th: 10:00 am – 8:00 pm
- Weekends Only: September 19th - October 11th:10:00 am-8:00 pm

### BOAT PATROL

- Dates: May 16th - September 13th
- Weekends: 11:00 am - 8:00 pm
- Weekdays: 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm



# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

## RECREATION DEPARTMENT CONTINUED:



**SUMMER  
CONCERT**

FEATURING **Jim Blair**

**July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

**6:00 PM – 8:00 PM**  
**Columbia Town Green**

Sponsored by:  
**Law Office of Marguerite T. Friar, LLC**  
**MOOYAH Burgers, Fries and Shakes**

Follow Us!  
**COLUMBIA PARKS & RECREATION**



# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

## RECREATION DEPARTMENT CONTINUED:



5K Road Race

**summer sizzler**

*Columbia, CT*

**August 13th**

**6:45pm**

**No day-of registration** | **Start & Finish at Rec Park** | **First 100 people get T-shirt**

**Register by:**

<b>\$20</b> <b>July 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>\$25</b> <b>July 4<sup>th</sup>-Aug. 7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>\$30</b> <b>Aug. 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup></b>
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**Columbia Parks & Recreation 860-228-8513 recdirector@colubmiact.org**

# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

## RECREATION DEPARTMENT CONTINUED:

**COLUMBIA PARKS & RECREATION**

# YOGA

\$10 per class, Register online or day of  
**July 17<sup>th</sup> and August 14<sup>th</sup>**

WEAR COMFORTABLE CLOTHING AND BRING A  
TOWEL/YOGA MAT  
Saturday 9 A.M

Rec. Park  
Lawn  
By Pavilion

860-228-8513  
[recreation@columbiact.org](mailto:recreation@columbiact.org)  
<http://columbia.recdesk.com>

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

**COLUMBIA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT:** The Columbia Volunteer Fire Department is led by officers whose expertise, experience and dedication to the work of a volunteer fire service is at the heart of what makes the department run smoothly and successfully. The CVFD's Lieutenants include five members who bring varied skills to their roles.

Lieutenant Brian Dunn is a lifelong resident of Columbia and currently lives in town with his family. He has been a member of the CVFD since November, 2002 and is certified as an EMT, Firefighter 1, Firefighter 2, and Fire Instructor 1. Brian is a Systems Engineer at IT Direct in West Hartford and when he is not working, at the station or caring for his young children, he enjoys exploring photography. Brian's work at the CVFD is based on his desire to be part of something bigger than himself and to give back to the community.

Fred Vanston has been a CVFD member since January, 2008 and holds the office of Member-At-Large as well as the position of Lieutenant. Since January, 2020, Fred has been employed as a full-time firefighter in Mansfield; he holds certifications as an EMT, Instructor 1, and has been trained in Cold Water Rescue, Hazmat Operations, and trained as a firefighter at the Connecticut Fire Academy. Fred comes from a long line of firefighters and after earning a Bachelors Degree in Civil Engineering from UMass Amherst, Fred moved to Columbia in 2007. Unbeknownst to him, the town had a Volunteer Fire Department and Fred quickly became a member and began to pursue his interest in servicing others through his membership.

Lieutenant Tom Doyle joined the CVFD in April 2012 and is certified as an EMT and an EMS-Instructor and completed his Q License training to drive fire apparatus. Tom joined the department in an effort to help others and to give back to his community. Tom holds the elected position of President of The Columbia Volunteer Fire Department, overseeing administrative activities within the CVFD. Tom has taught at Horace W. Porter School for 14 years, has coached recreational sports in town and served as President of the Little League.

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

## **COLUMBIA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT CONTINUED:**

Kara Bowen has lived in Columbia since 1992 and joined the CVFD in April, 2015. Aside from her appointed position as a Lieutenant, she holds the elected office as the CVFD's Treasurer. Kara has earned her certification as an EMT, Firefighter 1, Firefighter 2 and has received her Q License. Kara holds a Bachelors Degree in Accounting and joined the department when she was a stay-at home mom to her now 13 year old son. Kara is grateful for the opportunity to serve the community and to a member of dedicated group at the CVFD.

**AHM:** AHM's Executive Director, Tressa Giordano recently shared; "we are thrilled to once again offer in-person programs for local children, youth, young adults, families, and seniors. We have building improvements in place at AHM's Community Center to create a Covid-Safe environment for all ages. As we move through the summer, more services and events are being added to the schedule."

**Mental Health Services:** In addition to all of AHM's school-based mental health services, AHM's Clinical Director Megan Aldridge also shares: "While our outpatient clinical services have been available virtually throughout this past year, we are excited to add in-person options for children, young adults, and families. We are now offering both in-person and telehealth sessions for therapy. The SMART Recovery Support Group for family members will continue to meet virtually, with in-person groups resuming soon. Please call the office at 860-228-9488 or check the AHM website for more details about availability and to discuss the best fit for your family."

## **Family Resource Center: A Summer First Steps in Music at Burnt Hill Park in**

**Hebron:** This program is for children ages birth-5 and parents or caregivers. It is a researched early childhood music program and is facilitated by Mallory Kokus, a musician and music teacher trained in this method, and includes singing, dancing, movement games, and instruments! Held at Burnt Hill Park on Fridays, 7/30, 8/6, and 8/13 from 9:30-10:15. Rain dates will be Mondays. The fee is \$45 per family. Please register [online](#).

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

## **AHM CONTINUED:**

**The Health Matters Program** welcomes residents of all ages from the towns of Andover, Columbia, Hebron, and Marlborough for in-person programs in the newly renovated Health Matters Wellness Room at the AHM Center, 25 Pendleton Dr. in Hebron. According to Jennifer Boehler, Coordinator for Health Matters: "We are offering a variety of art, music and food-related activities for our July/August calendar. Visit [ahmyouth.org](http://ahmyouth.org) Health Matters to learn all about what is being offered."

**SAXTON B. LITTLE LIBRARY:** The Library thanks all for their support over the last year and half and for your continued support as we work our way back to normal. If you have not heard, our stacks are open and our hours back to "normal." This means that we will be closed on Saturdays July and August.

Electronic materials are available 24/7 & Curbside pickup is still available upon request.

In support of our patrons with serious illnesses, as well as our patrons under age 12, and since we do not want anyone pointing fingers and questioning people, **SBL is continuing to require patrons, staff and vendors to wear masks in public areas.**

**Play areas and programming room remain unavailable.** If you do not feel well, please consider curbside pickup. Hand sanitizer is located at our entrance and throughout our space.

A public access computer will be available for anyone's use, but we do ask that you sign up for an appointment. Appointments are for 30 minutes between 10 – 7 pm and are on a first come first served basis.

**SUMMER READING PROGRAM:** Tails & Tales is Alive and Well!! Be sure to sign up today and check out our calendar. Adult and children's programs happen multiple times each week.

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

**SAXTON B. LITTLE LIBRARY CONTINUED:** Please see the Library for more details. And don't forget our regularly scheduled programs, such as Baby Bees (meets every Friday morning), Story times (meets every Tuesday morning), Stitcher group (meets weekly at 2:30 on Wednesdays), and our Writers (meets the second Monday at 2:30 and last Wednesday of the month at 6:30).

*Call the Library (860.228.0350) or email us or check our website for more information:*  
[www.columbiactlibrary.org](http://www.columbiactlibrary.org)

We are also still offering grab bags, Tailored Titles (a selection chosen with your likes/dislikes in mind). Instructions for searching the catalog, how to browse library shelves from home, and more are available on our website under catalog tutorials (<https://www.columbiactlibrary.org/catalog-tutorials/>).

Stay safe, we look forward to seeing you!

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

**FRIENDS OF THE SAXTON B. LITTLE FREE LIBRARY:** Hello Fellow Columbia Residents; We at Friends of the Saxton B. Little Free Library(FOL) hope this finds you and yours safe, healthy and beginning to resume some normalcy. Although we were not able to follow through with our normal activities of book sales, book nook sales,online sales and taking in book donations this past year, your memberships and generous monetary donations helped us to fulfill our mission to help support the Library.

Generally, our donations to the Library support music, movie and audio book purchases, museum passes and discount admissions as well as ongoing Library programs for all ages. During this unprecedented time, we were glad to have helped with the cost of PPE and sanitizing products which contributed to keeping our Library operating all year long.

We began taking book donations again in June, on scheduled days by appointment and are planning to hold a one day book sale August 7, both while observing safety standards for our patrons and volunteers.

We have continued to turn over our inventory in the Book Nook at the Library and hope you have all had a chance to peruse and shop our little area during Library hours. As the year moves on we will be re-opening slowly and we greatly appreciate your patience and continued patronage. We are always in need of new volunteers so if you or someone you know is looking for volunteer opportunities, please contact us at [FRIENDSOFSBL1@GMAIL.COM](mailto:FRIENDSOFSBL1@GMAIL.COM).

Please "friend" us on our [Facebook Page](#) if you haven't already. We can be found at "Friends of the Saxton B. Little Free Library".

Have a lovely Summer!

Laurie Rogers, Secretary of the Friends of Saxton B. Little Free Library



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

**COLUMBIA LEOS:** Happy summer from the Columbia Leos! The Columbia Lions will be putting on the parade again for Independence Day, having missed 2020. The Leos will be proud to represent and lead the parade carrying the theme banner: "Peace, Friendship and Community". What a great theme! It was submitted by Alexander Volpe and seemed so appropriate for us coming off of 2020! It certainly is what the Leos are all about. We do our best to help foster community spirit as practice our motto, "We Serve". Thanks to Alex for his contribution!



In some very important news, Leo President Beth Tangarone was presented with "Leo of the Year 2021" for Multiple Districts 23 and the State of Connecticut! Leo Beth was very deserving of this honor, having distinguished herself as a Leo during her five years of service. Prior to being a Leo, she was considered an honorary "member" of the Columbia Lions. Her father Ralph Tangarone served as President at the same time as Beth! Leo Beth was an excellent role model for her peers and younger Leos. She led us through a very difficult in 2020 with her sleeves rolled up and a smile on her face! She will be missed as she has graduated EO Smith. We wish her much success as she moves on to the next chapter in her life. No matter where she goes, she will always be our "Leo of the Year"!

At our induction ceremony on June 14, we swore in our new officers with Leo Madeline Ross taking over as President. Maddy also sponsored her sister, Amanda, as a new member! Our other officers include: First VP Elle Gaucher, Second VP Morgan Bonnaiuto, Treasurer Luke Woodward and Secretary Lucy Provost. What a great team of hard workers! 2021-22 is going to be an awesome year!

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

**COLUMBIA LEOS CONTINUED:** The Leos held their Annual Variety Show on April 24 via Zoom. Here's an update on that: We were able to raise \$2100! Thanks to all who participated, supported, and helped further awareness for our causes this year. We gave \$700 checks to The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Camp Rising Sun and Relay for Life. Each one of these worthy charities holds a place in our hearts. Thanks to all who gave so generously. The Leos were meeting this past year via Zoom on the first and third Mondays of the month. We are looking at the possibility of meeting in person this year, location to be determined.



**Pictured left to right: Luke Woodward, Morgan Bonnaiuto, Amanda Ross, Maddy Ross, Elle Gaucher, Beth Tangarone, Jim Blair**

Please email Advisor Jim Blair at [jbland15@earthlink.net](mailto:jbland15@earthlink.net) if you would like to participate. We are always looking for new members. Our requirements are ages 12-18, and Columbia residents.

The Columbia Leos would like to thank the Town of Columbia for its unwavering support. Thank you for helping us to serve our community, together we can make a difference!

Contact Information:

Lion Jim Blair, Advisor

860-428-2916

[Jbland15@earthlink.net](mailto:Jbland15@earthlink.net)

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



Parish Communities of

## **Church of the Holy Family and St. Columba Church**

FOR RELEASE ON: June 15, 2021

Contact: Jo Montgomery

Phone: 203-641-3590

Email: jomontgomeryemail@gmail.com

### **Church of The Holy Family Mass Schedule**

*REVISED*

**[Hebron, CT, June 15]** — Masses are celebrated at The Church of The Holy Family as follows: weekend Masses are on Saturday at 5 p.m. and on Sunday at 9:30 a.m.; weekday Masses are on Tuesday at 7 p.m. and on Thursday at 6:30 a.m. The 9:30 a.m. Sunday Mass is no longer live-streamed and attendance at all Masses is not limited to previous COVID restrictions. Also, masks are no longer required for people who are fully vaccinated. Visit [holyfamilyhebron.org](https://holyfamilyhebron.org) for more information. The church office can be reached at 860-228-0096.

***The Church of the Holy Family and St. Columba Catholic Church***, being a community of worshipers and Disciples of Christ, live the Gospel through prayer and service, bearing witness to God's love, compassion, and mercy.

*Each Parish remains separate and distinct, but at the same time share resources to better meet the needs of the people of God. Regardless of your past faith tradition, we welcome you to come as you are and to give church and God another try. We hope you will find one of our parishes will feel like home. Visit our websites at <https://holyfamilyhebron.org/> and <https://saintcolumbacatholicchurch.org/>*

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

**OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE:** Columbia Open Space Committee has been working on conserving the southwest corner of Columbia for many years. It takes time to engage the public and the government in large projects. I am delighted to inform you that we have acquired half of our goal: 500 hundred of the 1000 acres we seek are protected.

How did we pay for this land? Certainly, the generosity of the people of Columbia played a role. The Town of Lebanon contributed too. Most of the funding came through the State of Connecticut's allotment of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). The USDA Forest Service leverages royalties from offshore oil and natural gas to preserve our national parks, forests, wildlife refuges, recreation areas, and American Indian schools and distributes this revenue to the states through the LWCF.

However, it was The Trust For Public Land (TPL), a national organization with a Connecticut field office since 1986, that made all the difference. TPL provided the professional expertise that Columbia lacks to accomplish the real estate negotiations, mapping, appraisals, surveys, legal services, and grant writing services. Fulfilling their commitment of creating parks and protecting land for people, ensuring healthy, livable communities for generations to come.

Columbia Open Space will host a fundraiser for the Connecticut field office of The Trust For Public Land at HEARTSTONE WINERY on Saturday, October 9, 2021, from 3 to 6 PM.

Please join us!

Ann Dunnack, Open Space Chairman

The poster features a black background with white text and decorative elements. At the top left, there is a white flourish. The word "fundraiser" is written in a large, white, cursive font. Below it, the text "SAVE THE DATE!" is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. The main title "Mono Pond Expansion-Trust for Public Land Fundraiser at Heartstone Winery" is centered in a white, sans-serif font. Below the title, the date and time "October 9, 2021 3-6 PM" are written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. At the bottom, the text "Celebrate our Successes! Look to the Future!" is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. There are two small images: one on the left showing a misty forest scene and one on the right showing a tree with white blossoms in a misty setting. The poster is framed by a thick yellow border at the bottom.

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



**Give Now**



Many children in Connecticut will face hunger this summer. Their hardworking parents are still facing tremendous hardships a year after the COVID-19 pandemic entered our community.

**Without school-provided meals, they simply won't be able to afford two extra meals per day — per child — and kids like Izzie will suffer.**

"Since mom lost one of her jobs, we don't have a lot of food at home," Izzie says. "When our schools stop for summer break...we won't be able to eat."

But you can make a difference. With your gift to Connecticut Food Bank/Foodshare, you can help give a hunger-free summer to children in need, like Izzie and her brothers. Every gift will help provide nutritious meals.

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



But you can make a difference. With your gift to Connecticut Food Bank/Foodshare, you can help give a hunger-free summer to children in need, like Izzie and her brothers. [Every gift will help provide nutritious meals.](#)



Families like Izzie's have faced hunger for months now. And this summer will only make it worse. They urgently need your help to get by amidst this ongoing health and economic crisis.

[Please respond to the critical need and help provide food to children all summer long. During these difficult times, your generosity will give them hope for a future free from hunger.](#)

With gratitude,

Jason Jakubowski  
President & CEO

©2021 Connecticut Food Bank | Foodshare  
2 Research Parkway, Wallingford, CT 06492  
450 Woodland Avenue, Bloomfield, CT 06002  
ph: 203-469-5000

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

## COLUMBIA LAKE ASSOCIATION:

### **2021 BOAT PARADE PREPARATIONS FOR 'PEACE, FRIENDSHIP & COMMUNITY'!**

The Annual July 4th Independence Day Boat Parade to be held **SUNDAY, July 4th at 4:00 PM**. The theme for the 2021 parade is ~ 'Peace, Friendship & Community'.

**ORDER OF BOATS** ~ Gather at the dam area around 3:50 PM. Each boat will line up on a 'as you arrive' basis. The parade route is counter clockwise. The judge's boat commandeered by Joel Mrosek will try to collect last name/address as well as a photo of each participant boat. On shore judges will take photos as you progress around the lake. They will judge and submit photos for each category to be judged.

**BE PATIENT, TRAVEL AT STEERAGE SPEED & BE SAFE** ~ The parade start will be signaled by the judge's boat with 3 loud whistles. **Go Slow with a No Wake Speed of 6 MPH!** Follow safe boating practices in terms of the number of people/weight limits for your watercraft and life preservers for all on your watercraft.

**AWARDS** ~ The categories to be judged will be 'Best Representing the Theme', 'Most Decorated' and 'Most Spirited'. Judges are strategically placed around the lake to determine award winners. Again, go at steerage speed and stay in the parade until we arrive back close to the dam to ensure all judges view your boat!



**2019 Fourth of July Parade of Boats Courtesy I. Wood.**

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

## **COLUMBIA LAKE ASSOCIATION CONTINUED:**

'HENLEY' IS THE NAME!



This year we nearly doubled the number of participants in our 'Name the Eaglet' contest with 74 voters. The nominated names in order of least to most votes were Nuhfie, Sky, Columbia, Quinby, Larry Bird, Glory, Hope and Henley. Henley is the name! Henley continues to grow in the nest. He/she is practicing flapping its wings and some minor branching to strengthen flight muscles. Initial flights should occur within weeks. Like a baby learning to walk, flying is initially awkward. It takes practice, typically six weeks, for Henley to go from immature to proficient at flying. We thank one and all for being considerate of our eagles during this fledgling period. When able to fly and hunt for itself Henley will leave the nest. In New England that usually occurs in late August. Until then, Henley remains in the care of Bert and Harry.

Join the CLA Facebook Page ~ [Friends of Columbia Lake](#) / Email:  
[Columbialakeassociation@gmail.com](mailto:Columbialakeassociation@gmail.com)



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

**PRESCHOOL SCREENINGS:** The Early Childhood Team of Horace W. Porter School is pleased to announce that we will conduct Preschool Screenings for Columbia 3-year-olds (turning 3 by December 31, 2021) and any 4-year-olds not previously screened. Please call Deborah Dupuis at (860) 228-0585 if you would like your child to be screened. All public-school systems in Connecticut are responsible for the identification of children who may be eligible to receive special education services. The early childhood team in Columbia offers preschool developmental screenings for current resident children. The purpose of this screening is to collect information about each preschooler's early development in the areas of cognition, communication, motor functioning, and social interaction. This will help us to determine whether your child needs any special services in order to prepare for school success.

If you have concerns about a child that has not yet turned 3, please contact the CT Birth-to-Three program at (800) 505-7000.

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

## **COLUMBIA ART COUNCIL:**

### **MADE IN LEBANON-CRANK: THE STORY OF THE NEWCOMB FAMILY CHEST**

By Brian Bartizek

One of the frustrations of a local historical society is the difficulty in acquiring early furniture made by someone in the society's area of interest. The chest-on-chest in the Lebanon Historical Society's new exhibit, Made in Lebanon, is one of a few Lebanon examples of early furniture in their collection.

The chest is made of cherry and birch in a "high rural style" relating to furniture made in Colchester and Norwich. The secondary woods are chestnut, poplar and pine. It stands nearly 7 feet tall and 44" wide. While it has had damage to drawer edges, a replaced flame finial and finish, it is in excellent overall condition. It must have been quite impressive in the farmhouse in Lebanon Crank.

The chest was made sometime between 1760 and 1779, most probably by Peter Newcomb. At that time, the Newcomb family home was near the intersection of the roads to Windham and Hartford, now Rts 6 and 66. Peter was the second of three generations of Lebanon joiners [furniture makers]. He had inherited tools from his father and passed his own to his son, William. Peter's will also gave this chest to his daughter Jemima in 1779.

In an 18th century rural estate, a good bed and its furnishings was usually the most valuable furniture. However, this chest was listed at 20% more than the best bed.

Jemima married a Capt. Gideon Clark of Lebanon 1787 and this chest continued by marriage through the Clark, Isham and Gilette families to the late 20th Century.

The Lebanon Historical Society Museum has many interesting exhibits and is open year 'round, Wed.—Sat. from 12pm to 4pm. The Museum is open to the public, offers free admission, and is handicapped accessible. [www.historyoflebanon.org](http://www.historyoflebanon.org).



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

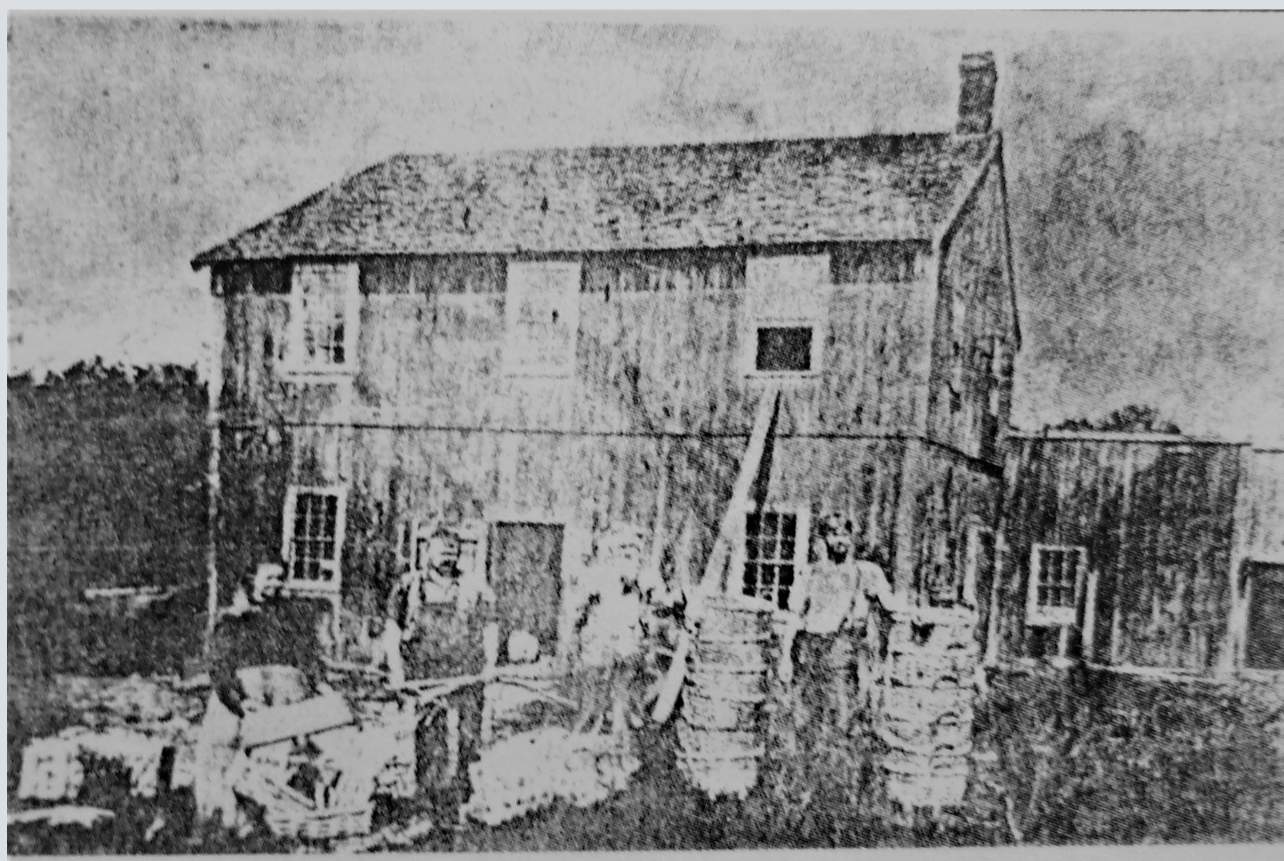
**PTO:** The Horace W. Porter PTO recognized those who made a difference in the school and the community. The "Make A Difference" recipients help build a better community and school, hold the Columbia spirit, and shape the future. These recipients were nominated for everything they do. Congratulations to the following: The Columbia Volunteer Fire Department, By The Pond, Columbia Recreational Park, Helen Martin, Cailyn Smith, Judy Zemantic, Gina Jarvis, Jennifer LaVoie, Steven Piro, Bonnie Quinn, Brigid Keenan, Kylee Mattis, and Kara Bowen. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication to this community!



# SPECIAL INTEREST STORIES

## **NORMAN P. LITTLE'S BASKETSHOP FACTORY**

What happened to Norman P. Little's Basketshop "factory" formerly on Basketshop Road near West Street? As a young man Norman P. Little (1833 – 1915) learned the ash splint weaving techniques from neighboring Indigenous families. He may have even learned the craft from members of the extended Buck family of Chestnut Hill, once prominent among skilled basket makers in Eastern Connecticut. He too became an accomplished basket maker, so much so, that in 1857 he was asked to teach the craft as a guest instructor at a Rhode Island trade school. By 1862 Norman P. Little started a home business eventually employing 18 men who worked the trade in a two-story red frame building which once stood on Basketshop Road. From 1862 to 1910 this enterprise produced countless sturdy ash and oak splint baskets with interwoven oak wood handles --- made from local lumber. The cutting and processing of wooden splints was semi-mechanized using re-purposed machinery from a water-powered mill. The finished baskets were transported by horse and wagon to Hartford and the Hop River Railroad Station where they were conveyed by rail to regional cities.



# SPECIAL INTEREST STORIES

## **NORMAN P. LITTLE'S BASKETSHOP FACTORY (CONTINUED)**

In 1910 Norman P. Little sold his company to one of his craftsmen, Abraham Lavietes of Shelton, Connecticut, who by 1911 had invested in a brand-new factory sited next to the Shelton railway called the Shelton Basket Company. The Shelton Historical Society states that Abraham Lavietes continued to manufacture according to Little's designs for sturdy, high-quality, interwoven wooden splint baskets of ash and oak. These industrial baskets were for "heavy-duty material handling" including: potato picking farms of Long Island, oyster-growing fisheries of



Long Island sound, mushroom growers of Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, and asparagus growers of New Rochelle, Illinois. Other types of wooden splint hand-crafted baskets were sold to commercial laundries, designed for elegant railroad dining cars, grocery and meat markets, and chain-store shopping. Lavietes and his son Ray expanded the product line for sports vending in a special arrangement with Harry M. Stevens, America's foremost concessionaire (inventor of the ball park hot dog) who owned concessions at major baseball parks and race tracks from Maine to New Orleans.

In time, the Lavietes family expanded into new product lines for household use, such as laundry, kitchen bread, picnic, pie, flower and garden baskets, and specialty baskets for bicycles, ladies' handbags, and for cosmetics sales. According to the Shelton Historical Society, the Shelton Basket Company was well known as "the Tiffany of the basket industry" for their high-quality, hand-woven, beautiful oak and ash products.

As newer, cheaper wire and plastic products began to be mass-produced after WWII, wooden splint baskets fell out of favor. Mechanization in agricultural harvesting made manual picking obsolete. Ash and oak lumber, once readily available in Connecticut, became harder to find. And so, in 1960 Ron Lavietes sold the Shelton Basket Company to the Chippewa Indian Reservation of Hayward, Wisconsin who continued to craft baskets in the traditional way.

Ingrid Wood, Town Historian

# SPECIAL INTEREST STORIES

**COLUMBIA TROOPS 162B & 162G:** Columbia Troops 162B and 162G would like to congratulate the newest members of the Order of the Arrow (OA) from our troop. In April of this year five of our scouts took part in the “Ordeal Weekend” at JN Webster Scout Reservation in Ashford where they gave a day of service projects and were inducted into the Order of the Arrow. The OA is an honor society in scouting that focuses on giving service to their scouting community. Two scouts from troop 162B were inducted, Mark Bacon and Austin Crim. Three scouts from 162G were inducted, Loriann Bacon, Krycia Harlow and Ava Johnson.

In 2019 Columbia started a female BSA scout troop, linked to the boy’s troop. Each troop has its own scoutmaster but shares assistant scoutmasters and troop committee members. Both troops are chartered by the Columbia Lions Club and meet weekly on Thursdays during the school year. Our troops are active in the community with food-drives throughout the winter during the pandemic, collecting bottles and cans at the Transfer Station, helping to keep the trails at Szegda Town property neat. We are hoping to bring back our annual metal collection in the future as well. Our troop is open to both boys and girls aged 11 to 18 who enjoy camping, hiking, summer camp and outdoor activities. Contact the troop for more information about joining by emailing [columbiactroop162@gmail.com](mailto:columbiactroop162@gmail.com).

