

COLUMBIA



UPDATE JUNE 2023



TOWN OF COLUMBIA OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN & TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

The Town of Columbia held an observance on Memorial Day at the Veteran's Memorial Garden on the Town Green to pay tribute to fallen service members who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. We would like to thank all those involved and to all that attended this year's Memorial Observance. A special thank you to Chris Lent for his presentation on Honoring the Fallen and to Janice Thibodeau for the assistance in the laying of the Memorial wreath. We would also like to thank Ingrid Wood, Town Historian for her reading of the Presidential Memorial Day Proclamation, Tim Bassett, Senior Deacon for the Columbia Congregational Church, Reverend Michael Phillippino, buglers, Micah Donley and Sean Corey, and Bill and Melissa Rood of November Sound for providing the musical interlude.

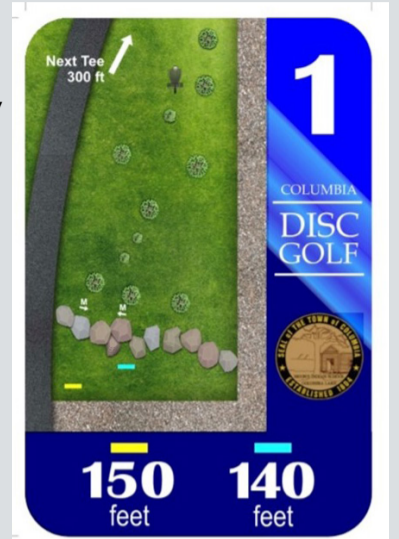




TOWN OF COLUMBIA OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN & TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

RECREATION PARK: We will be having a Grand Opening on Thursday, June 8th at 4:30 PM at Recreation Park for the new 9-hole Disc Golf course. Please come and celebrate with us and play a round of disc golf.

The existing pickle ball court will be painted and the fencing will be completed in June. See more information under the Recreation Page in the Newsletter.



TOWN BEACH: Beach passes are now available to purchase. Please visit the [Recreation Departments](#) page to purchase your beach passes, or stop in and see Debbie Fiske, Recreation Director, or Anyka Fagen, Assistant Recreation Director at the office located at the beach.



4TH OF JULY PARADE: Just a reminder the The Town of Columbia and the Columbia Lions Club are sponsoring the Annual July 4th Independence Day parade here in Columbia. The theme for this year's parade is "Let Freedom Ring". The Lion's club has increased the cash prizes that will be awarded for the floats that best represent this year's theme! First prize is \$250, second \$150, and third \$100.

The parade will commence at 10:00 am on the morning of TUESDAY, JULY 4TH 2023. The parade route is approximately 1.1 miles long.

Please consider entering your organizations float in the parade. Details are on page 30 of this Newsletter.

On May 24th the Commission on Aging had a dedication ceremony of a bench in honor of Edith Prague. The dedication is in remembrance of Edith's many contributions to the State and more importantly to our town and its citizens. The bench is located near the new pavilion and the playground area.





TOWN OF COLUMBIA OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN & TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

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.

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



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 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

- 6/05/23 Mon: Board of Education, 7:30 PM
- 6/05/23 Mon: Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission, 7:00 PM
- 6/05/23 Mon: Horace Porter School HVAC Building Committee, 6:00 PM
- 6/06/23 Tue: Board of Selectmen, 7:00 PM
- 6/07/23 Wed: Lake Management Advisory Committee, 7:00 PM
- 6/12/23 Mon: Horace Porter School HVAC Building Committee Special Meeting, 6:00 PM
- 6/12/23 Mon: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7:00 PM
- 6/14/23 Wed: Fiscal Policy Board, 8:30 AM
- 6/14/23 Wed: Economic Development Commission, 7:00 PM
- 6/15/23 Thur: Open Space Committee, 9:00 AM
- 6/19/23 Mon: Horace Porter School HVAC Building Committee, 6:00 PM
- 6/20/23 Tue: Hop River Preserve Committee, 5:30 PM
- 6/20/23 Tue: Board of Selectmen, 7:00 PM
- 6/21/23 Wed: Financial Planning & Allocation Commission, 7:00 PM
- 6/22/23 Thur: Zoning Board of Appeals, 7:00 PM
- 6/26/23 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: The Renter's Relief program will begin April 1 and will run through October 1st. You will need proof of rent payments and utilities paid in the 2022 calendar year.

MOTOR VEHICLE ADJUSTMENTS

In order to have a motor vehicle bill adjusted we need two forms of proof. Please be aware the tax is a car tax not a road tax.

- The first is a copy of your motor vehicle plate return receipt.
- The second is something proving you got rid of the vehicle. For a list of accepted proofs look on the assessor's website or call the office.
- If you traded a vehicle and kept the same plate do not bring us any documentation because DMV will automatically process the adjustments.

BUILDING PERMIT INSPECTIONS

Inspections for building permits taken out as of October 1, 2022, through May 2023 will begin shortly. Our office will email and mail requests for information or an inspection depending on the type of permit taken. Please respond as soon as possible so that we can finish next year's Grand List on time.

The Assessor's Office personnel are available Monday through Wednesday from 8 a.m. until noon, Thursdays 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. and Fridays 8 a.m. until Noon. Our telephone number is 228-9555. Email is mhawley@columbiact.org

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

BECKISH SENIOR CENTER:

10TH ANNUAL ROSE MARROTTE ART SHOW

Sponsored by the Columbia Art Committee



Monday, June 5th at 9am thru Friday, June 9th at 11am at the Beckish Senior Center.

Registration is on June 5th from 9am to 12pm.

Join us for the awards ceremony on June 9th at 11am.

Refreshments will be served.

Prizes will be awarded for first \$100, second \$50 and third \$25 prize in the following categories:

1. Paintings – oil, watercolor, pen and ink, pencil drawings, and pastels.
2. Photographs
3. Carvings.
4. Quilts.

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: I have recently received a number of questions, concerns, and complaints regarding outside fires. Please follow these safety tips when using an open burning pit.

1. Be mindful of your neighbor's well-being. Smoke from your fire should not be traveling in your neighbor's direction.
2. The only item burning should be clean firewood. Do not burn leaves, manufactured wood, furniture, or any other hazardous materials.
3. Always burn in a safe location. Fires should not be located near wooded areas, homes/ other buildings, or overhanging trees.
4. Keep children and pets away from open flames and hot objects.

Please contact the Town of Columbia Land Use Department at 860-228-0440 if you have any questions regarding open burning.

Michael Lester

Fire Marshal/Open Burning Official

Town of Columbia

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

SOCIAL SERVICES:

SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING - ASK A QUESTION. SAVE A LIFE.

Social Services and the Senior Center will be hosting a free [QPR](#) (Question, Persuade, Refer) and Narcan Training on Thursday, June 22nd from 12:00-1:30 at the Columbia Senior Center. Facilitators from SERAC will teach participants the warning signs of a suicide crisis, and how to respond. Participants will also learn how to administer the opioid reversal medication, Narcan. Anyone is welcome to attend. Please RSVP to Katie Wilt at 860-228-1008 or kwilt@columbiact.org. (more information on the following flyer!)

SENIOR WELLNESS GROUP

Every 2nd Friday of the month from 11:00am-12:00pm at the Columbia Senior Center
This month we will have John Schwartz, the Recovery Center Manager at CT Community for Addiction Recovery, as our guest. John works at the Windham Recovery Community Center which offers groups, trainings, meetings, volunteer opportunities, and Recovery Coach training. The presentation will be an overview of CCAR's major projects and a peek into recovery coaching through use of an exercise called "the spectrum of attitudes". For questions, please contact Katie Wilt at 860-228-1008 or kwilt@columbiact.org.

FREE MEDICATION SAFE DISPOSAL POUCHES AVAILABLE

Medication disposal pouches are used to safely dispose of unwanted prescription medication in an effort to prevent misuse and protect the environment. Medication disposal pouches provide a medication deactivator that is added to medications to make them unusable, medication is then placed in the bag instead of in the trash protecting each other, our water ways, children, pets, and animals. Please call Katie Wilt at 860-228-1008 to pick up your free pouches or order yours to be delivered by mail at drugfreeCT.org.



TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

SOCIAL SERVICES CONTINUED: Rx Help: Prescriptions can be expensive! As shown in commercials for things like Good-Rx, there are ways you can save on costs whether you have health insurance or not. The CT Prescription Savings Program is another resource that is available and free for Columbia residents. To learn more about how it can help visit www.CTRxDiscountCard.com.

The ProAct Prescription Discount Card Program

Print your card today and start saving

Program Highlights

- 52% Average savings
- Every resident is eligible to participate
- FREE to town, participants and taxpayers
- Additional savings on vision, LASIK and hearing

Description
The ProAct Prescription Drug Discount Card program helps residents save money on their prescription medications any time their prescriptions are not covered by insurance. Discount cards are distributed in participating counties and may be used at any participating retail pharmacy. Town residents can also print a card by visiting www.CTRxDiscountCard.com.

Savings
Participants can expect to save 52% on average. Discounts will vary depending on the drug and quantity purchased. Discount cards can also be used to save on medications prescribed to your pet that can be filled at participating retail pharmacies.

Who's Eligible
The cards may be used by all town residents regardless of age, income, or existing health coverage. There are no enrollment forms, no membership fees, and no restrictions or limits on frequency of use. Cardholders and their family members are encouraged to use the card any time their prescriptions are not covered by insurance.

What It Costs
This program is completely free of charge to both the town and participating residents. Simply take the discount card along with a prescription to a participating pharmacy and start saving.

Participating Pharmacies
More than 62,000 pharmacies nationwide accept the card, including most chain pharmacies and many independent pharmacies. There is a 98% pharmacy participation rate amongst participating municipalities.

Additional Benefits
Discounts are available on vision, hearing, and LASIK services. Please visit www.CTRxDiscountCard.com for more information.

Over \$11.4 Million Saved

www.CTRxDiscountCard.com

To print your card enter Columbia's zip code, click the arrow by select group number, and scroll to TOWN OF COLUMBIA

Please feel free to contact Katie Wilt, Columbia Community Social Services Coordinator, at 860-228-1008 with any questions, for an application, or assistance in applying!

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: Memorial Day Weekend 'unofficially' kicked off the summer, with the 'official' start of summer right around the corner. The Parks and Recreation Department has been busy prepping for an action-packed summer full of fun and community gathering. Mark your calendar for the many events coming your way: Beach Day, Concerts, Swim and Road Races, and more! Join an activity today.

May Recap: Yoga @ the Beach began May 16th and has been a hit. Join us Tuesday mornings throughout the summer for beautiful scenery and exercise that will energize and relax you all in one.



TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED): On May 20th, veteran instructor, Mark Vining held his first of four Boating License classes. Students successfully completed the course and were able to walk out of the class with their boating license in hand. Next classes are May 30th/June 1st and June 26th/28th. Register today: <https://columbia.recdesk.com/>. See flyer on the following page.

Columbia Beach Lifeguards were part of several training sessions over the last few weeks. The Lifeguards engaged in Blood Borne Pathogens training, CPR, First Aid, and AED training. Additional classroom time was spent on Interpersonal Dynamics Workshop with Wins For Life personnel. In the COLD water of the lake, the guards completed endurance training, rescue saves mimicking active and passive victims in the water, search and rescue, and next best actions to take if an incident or emergency occurs. Our 2023 lifeguards are ready to serve the community to make Columbia Lake a safe and fun place to be this summer.

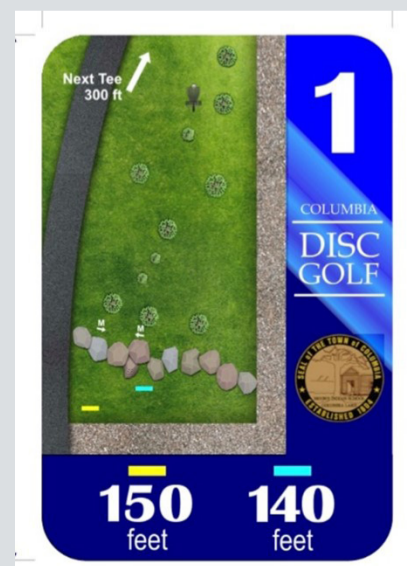


Our Marine Patrol is ready to serve you too. The team has trained in the classroom and on the lake and is ready to provide assistance, education and implement all rules and safety measures.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

DISC GOLF GRAND OPENING!
THURSDAY, JUNE 8TH @ 4:30 P.M.

The much anticipated 9-hole Disc Golf course will have it's grand opening Thursday, June 8th. Stop by the Upper Pavilion to join in the celebration, learn more about the course and play a round of Disc Golf!



TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION


RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED):

COLUMBIA PARKS & RECREATION
Boat Safe Connecticut, LLC

BOATING LICENSE CLASS

\$98 PER PERSON

SUPPLIES INCLUDED!



There will be breaks

1-day Class
Saturday, May 20th
8:30am- 4:30pm
@ Town Hall Conference Room

2- day Classes 5:30- 9:30pm:

***May 30th** *@ Town Hall Conference Room*
& June 1st *@ Beckish Center*

***June 26th** *@ Yeomans Hall*
& June 28th *@ Beckish Center*

***July 18th & July 20th**
@ Beckish Center

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.

<https://columbia.recdesk.com>
860-228-8513

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED): A HUGE THANK YOU to Karl Molitoris for his design and expertise, Dan Johnson, Facilities Maintainer for his dedication of time and skills, the Department of Public Works and many volunteers. We also would like to thank the First Selectman, Steven Everett and the Board of Selectmen for their support to make Columbia Rec Park's Disc Golf Course a reality.

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

Beach and Boating Season is almost here! Get your passes today. 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

MAY 27TH – JUNE 11TH ~ **WEEKENDS ONLY**

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

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:

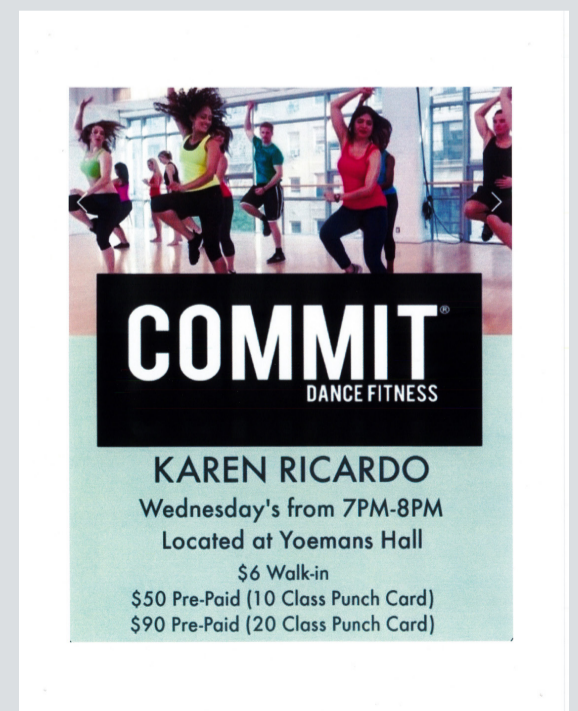
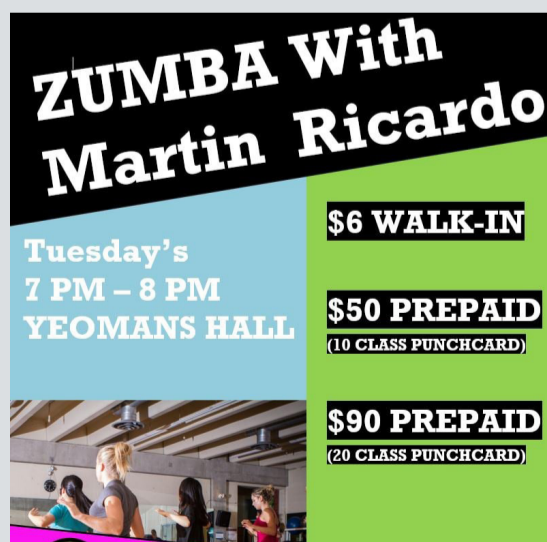
YOGA @ THE BEACH! Looking for a great way to start your day? Try Yoga on Tuesday mornings with instructor Gina LaRosa. Wear comfy clothes, bring a mat/towel and water bottle.

FIT FUSION ~ *Mondays/Wednesdays/Fridays, 4:30-5:30 PM
*Yeoman's Hall. *Moves to the Beckish Senior Center June 30th for the remainder of the summer. 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 ~ Wednesdays, 7-8 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!

NEW! CORE Blast ~ Begins June 1st: Thursdays, 8:30 a.m. – 8:50 a.m. @ the Beach! Bring a mat/towel and water bottle and get a short, but sweet! 20-minute workout to strengthen abs and back musculature. FREE! for Columbia residents; \$3 for non-residents. *Weather permitting.



TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED):

COMING SOON!

The NEWly constructed pickleball courts and tennis court will be playable soon! Once the new surfaces have cured the necessary amount of time, the lines will be painted, the fences restored, and the courts will be ready for play! When complete, there will be four pickle ball courts in all: 2 within the new tennis court, the existing court and one new court. The new courts are expected to be ready for play the beginning of July.



SZEGDA FARM NEWS: Szegda Farm Open Space is turning 15! Stay tuned for information coming later this summer about Szegda Farm's 15th Anniversary Celebration.

SUMMER SPORT CAMPS are coming to Columbia. Register today!

SOCCER:



VALE SUMMER CAMPS

COLUMBIA, CT

WHEN:
June 26th - June 30th
Full Day: 9:00am - 3:00pm
Half Day: 9:00am - 12:00pm

WHERE:
Columbia Rec Park, 60 Hennequin Road Columbia, CT

WHO:
Boys & Girls ages 4 - 14

COST:
Full Day: Just \$225 per camper
Half Day: Just \$150 per camper

CONTACT: [KAMALI@VALESC.COM](mailto:kamali@valesc.com)

Vale SC is coming to Columbia CT this summer, and we are very excited to have you all join our fantastic coaching team on the soccer field for fun, sun, and a soccer experience you will remember for a lifetime.

REGISTER AT: VALESC.COM





TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED):

Basketball: WINS Basketball Camp @ Horace W. Porter School - July 12-14 (9am-12pm). Big FUN for students entering grades 3-6 (boys & girls).

*Outstanding Instruction *Gain Confidence *Improve Skills & Ability *Valuable Life Lessons

Registration Options: 1) Online (wins4life.com) 2) Mail 3) via Columbia Rec Dept. (<https://columbia.recdesk.com/Community/Home>)

Baseball: Holowaty Baseball Camp - June 19th-June 23rd. 9:00 am -12;30 pm at Columbia Rec Park. Ages 5-12 Boys & Girls. Call or Text 860-377-0640.

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.

WE'RE HIRING: *SWIM INSTRUCTORS* Swim Instructors needed. Not certified? We will cover the training and certification. Call the Rec office for more details.



AROUND TOWN:



Enjoying a beautiful day at the beach.



Fishing in tranquility



Another fishing crew at the lake!

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED):

AROUND TOWN:



Look at this catch!



Fans at the Horace Porter Championship Softball game at Rec Park.



Playground Fun!

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED): Sponsors needed: Looking to partner with Columbia Parks and Recreation? Being a sponsor is a great way to promote your business to the community. We are currently making plans for many upcoming events where sponsorship is needed: Summer Concert Series, Dinner and a Dip, Road Race, and swim races to name a few. Contact the Parks and Recreation Department to sponsor a sign at Rec Park or one of our major events.

EVENTS TO MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR:

TOC SUMMER CONCERT SERIES!

**Mark your calendar for live music on the Town Green
and at Rec Park**

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES LINE-UP

June 14th Bruce John
@ Town Green

June 27th Night shift
@ Rec Park

July 12th Audacity
@ Rec Park

August 16th Cover 2 Cover
@ Rec Park

An evening of Live Music, Food
Drinks and Community Fun

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED):

**SUMMER
CONCERT**

FEATURING BRUCE JOHN

June 14th, 2023

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Columbia Town Green

Free!

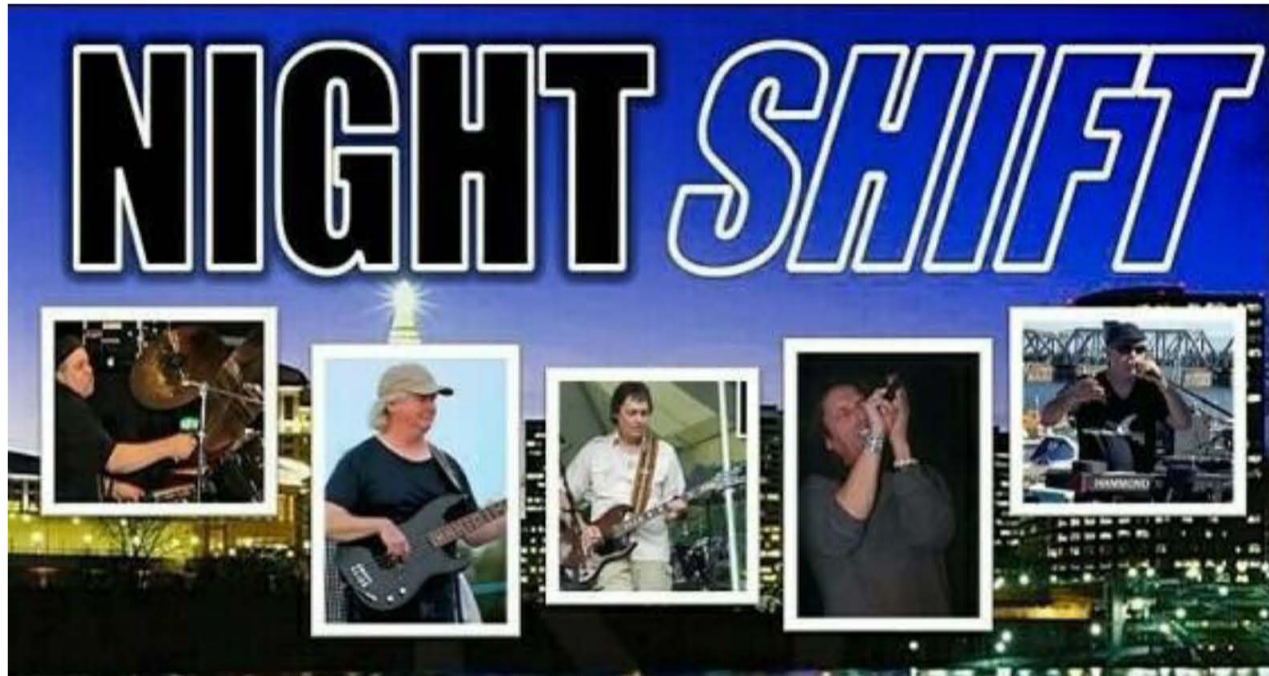
Join us for LIVE
Music,
Pizza, and
Community Fun!

Follow Us!
COLUMBIA PARKS & RECREATION



TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED):



Columbia Summer Concert Series

Tuesday, June 27th

6:30 – 8:30 pm

@ Rec Park



Music, food, beverage and community.

Join us for a great night of fun!

Bring a chair or blanket and settle down for an evening of 60's, 70s, and 80's music that will have you itching to get up and dance!



THANK YOU, PLATINUM SPONSORS!

Discovery Learning Center * Columbia CrossFit * Titan Energy

Columbia Package Store
Jay's Little Red Trailer



Fun for the entire family!

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.

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: The first session begins June 19th. The classes are scheduled Monday - Thursday with Friday reserved for make-up if a class is canceled due to inclement weather. Register [online](#) at Programs.

COLUMBIA SPLASH! 1 mile race and ½ mile race @ Columbia Lake

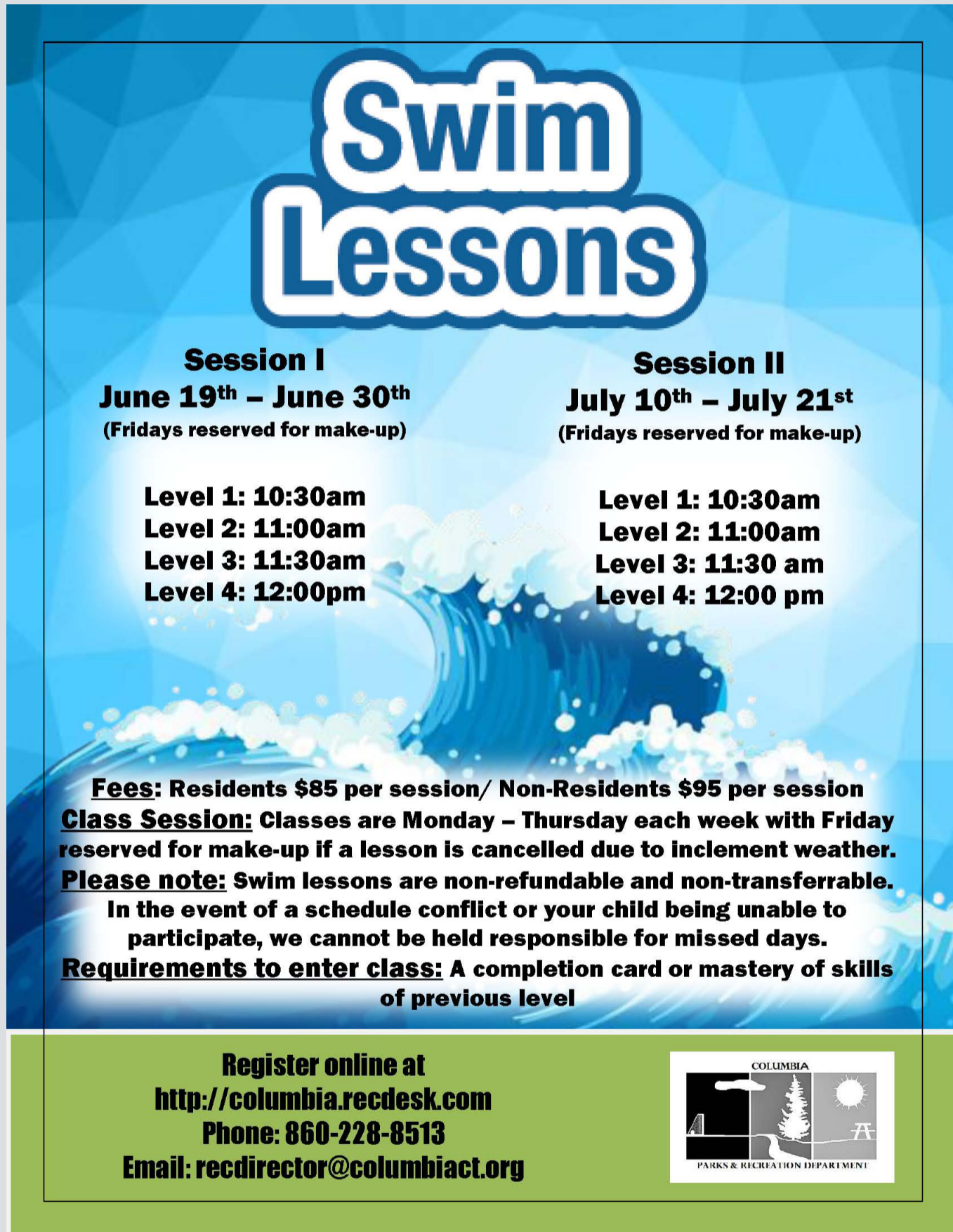
August 19th ~ Register before June 30th to get best early bird discount. To register: <http://columbialakesplash.itsyourrace.com>.

Debbie Fiske, Director of Parks & Recreation
323 Route 87, Columbia, CT, 06237
recreation@columbiact.org or 860-228-8513

HOURS: Mon-Wed: 8am-4pm, Thurs: 8am-6pm, Fri: 8am-12pm

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED):




Swim Lessons

| | |
|--|--|
| Session I June 19th – June 30th (Fridays reserved for make-up) | Session II July 10th – July 21st (Fridays reserved for make-up) |
| Level 1: 10:30am Level 2: 11:00am Level 3: 11:30am Level 4: 12:00pm | Level 1: 10:30am Level 2: 11:00am Level 3: 11:30 am Level 4: 12:00 pm |

Fees: Residents \$85 per session/ Non-Residents \$95 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

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



COLUMBIA
PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED):



TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED):

Columbia Splash!



Join us for swim races at Columbia Beach!

August 19th

9:00 am

1 mile race (9am) & 1/2 mile race (10am)

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

Register by:

June 30th

\$20 for one race
\$35 for both

July 1st – Aug. 4th

\$25 for one race
\$40 for both

August 5th – Race Day


\$30 for one race
\$45 for both



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

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED):




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

**T-shirt included!*

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


**Start & Finish
at
Columbia
Rec Park**

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

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


TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED):




WINS For Life 2023 Summer Basketball Camp

(Sponsored by the Columbia Recreation Dept.)



*Outstanding Instruction

*Improve Skills & Ability



*Gain Confidence

*Valuable Life Lessons

WINS For Life has hosted over 25 clinics at the Basketball Hall of Fame.

WINS Staff includes college coaches, high school coaches, teachers, college student-athletes, and local Varsity players. **David Vasquenza** is owner of WINS For Life. Over 35 WINS AAU players have advanced to play collegiately, including at prestigious schools such as Notre Dame, UConn, and Yale. Mr. Vasquenza had a successful 20-year career in human services as a staff trainer and counselor. He has coached college, high school, AAU, and middle school basketball. From 1994-96, "Coach V" led CT. Starters AAU teams to three consecutive State Championship titles. From 1996-2000, he assisted Worcester State College men's teams to much success. The Lancers won the first regular season championship in school history (1999-2000), two ECAC berths (1998, 2000), and earned the best four-year record in school history.

WINS Basketball Camp @ Horace W. Porter School, July 12-14 (9am-12pm)

Big Fun!...for students *entering* grades 3-6 (boys & girls)

Site: Horace W. Porter School, 3 Schoolhouse Rd., Columbia, CT. **Fee:** \$115 (includes t-shirt)

Registration Options: 1) Online (wins4life.com) or, 2) Mail this form or, 3) via Columbia Rec Dept (<https://columbia.recdesk.com/Community/Home>)

Camp Content: This high-level WINS Basketball Camp features experienced instruction, advanced skill development, educational activities and personal growth. Full-court competition, skills & drills stations, team building challenges, contests and mini-lectures are creatively combined to teach a range of basketball fundamentals and important life lessons. Our experienced educators provide each student with valuable learning experiences and quality individual attention. Our objective is to enhance improvement in overall basketball skills, knowledge, and ability, while empowering each student individually. Students will gain confidence, have fun and make new friends. Excellent staff to student ratio!

WINS contact: David Vasquenza **web:** wins4life.com **email:** wins4life@cox.net **office:** 860-645-1934
Columbia Rec. Dept.: Debbie Fiske **email:** recdirector@columbiact.org **office:** 860-228-8513

Student Application - WINS Camp @ Columbia (July 12-14, 2023: 9:00am-12:00pm)

Check payable to: **WINS For Life** Mail: WINS For Life, P.O. Box 8396, Manchester, CT. 06042-8396

Student: _____ Home Address: _____

Birth Date: ___/___/___ Age: ___ Male: ___ Female: ___ **Grade (2023-24):** ___ School: _____

Mother: _____ email: _____ Cell: _____ Work: _____

Father: _____ email: _____ Cell: _____ Work: _____

Doctor name & phone: _____ ***Parent signature:** _____

Check shirt size: Youth Med Youth Large **Adult:** Small Med Large XL XXL

****For Allergies or other medical conditions, attach a note to this form. *With signature I agree to these terms:** This release is applicable to my dependent(s) that participate in these programs. I understand and accept that there may be inherent risks or potential injury in these activities. As parent/guardian to participating student, I agree to full responsibility, as does the student, for the personal health and safety of the student. The student agrees to full responsibility for their behavior, actions and personal property. Violating these conditions can result in disciplinary action. To the best of my knowledge, the student is a good physical & mental condition and does not have a condition that could be aggravated by participation, nor has a medical condition that could place others in harm's way. I agree for myself, my heirs, successors and assigns to waive, release and hold harmless WINS For Life, its affiliates, and each host site (including, Horace W. Porter School, Columbia Recreation Department, the Town of Columbia, the Columbia Board of Education) and any others directly associated with these programs, including the WINS For Life owner, employees and assigns from all liability & account of loss, claim, injury or damage to the student's property, body, health, or well-being. I authorize personnel to act for me according to the best judgment in a situation requiring medical attention. I accept responsibility for all financial matters, including medical treatment. I understand WINS For Life is not responsible for refunds (if granted, there may be a processing fee: \$15 checks; \$20 credit cards). I agree that photos & video of students in WINS For Life activities can be taken by WINS For Life staff & used for marketing.

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

TAX DEPARTMENT: Real Estate taxes on the October 1, 2021 Grand List that were due July 1, 2022 and January 1, 2023 that have not been paid in full by May 31, 2023 will have a continuing tax lien filed in the land records as required by law.

Any delinquent tax not paid by June 30, 2023 will be listed by name and amount in the annual Town Report.

You can view and pay your tax bills online; Go to www.columbiact.org and click on the Pay Taxes Online tab on the home page. On the next page click on the View/Pay button (square) to go to a search screen. Type your last name, space, first initial of your first name (as is written on the bill). The service fee for **online payments** are as follows: 95 cents to use a Bank account and 2.95% for PayPal, Credit and Debit cards. **Effective 6/19/23 the fee for PayPal, Credit and Debit cards will increase to 2.99%. The Bank account (EFT) fee will remain at 95 cents.** To look up your 2022 tax payments go to www.columbiact.org On Columbia's home page, click on the Pay Taxes Online tab. The directions will be listed on the next page.

Tax bills for the 2022 Grand List will be mailed at the end of June 2023 with a due date of July 1, 2023. The last day to pay without a penalty will be Tuesday August 1, 2023. Bills will be available online on July 1, 2023. **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.**

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.

For those seeking an immediate clearance for DMV due to delinquent Motor Vehicle taxes please contact the Tax Office at 860-228-0230 or taxcollector@columbiact.org for information on the process. Paying the tax bill online does not clear you immediately at DMV. You will need to contact the tax office during tax office hours for assistance.

REGULAR OFFICE HOURS FOR THE TAX OFFICE: MONDAY THROUGH WEDNESDAY 8:00-2:00, THURSDAY 10:00-6:00 AND CLOSED ON FRIDAY. *The Tax Office has extended hours in July and August 1, 2023: Monday through Wednesday 8:00-4:00, Thursday 10:00-6:00 and Friday 8:00-12:00.*

Mailing address for tax payments: Town of Columbia, Dept # 347, PO Box 150512, Hartford, CT 06115-0512

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE: It is business as usual in the Clerk's office for all those services that you might need - Recording and Searching of Land Records and Maps, Certified copies of Vital Records, Marriage licenses, Fishing and Hunting licenses, Dog Licenses, Transfer Station stickers, etc.

DOG LICENSING

JUNE is dog licensing month. If your dog's 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. The license year for your dog runs from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.

PLEASE NOTE – If your dog's rabies vaccination expires in the month of JUNE, you will not be able to renew the dog's license for the new year (which begins on July 1, 2023) until we receive a current rabies certificate.

We will be accepting dog license registrations **IN PERSON, BY MAIL or BY DROP BOX.** If you are mailing in or using the drop box for your dog's license, please remember to make your check payable to: Columbia Town Clerk and INCLUDE A STAMPED SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE WITH THE APPROPRIATE AMOUNT OF POSTAGE for the return of your dog's new tag.

The **DROP BOX** is located outside the doors to Yeoman's Hall. Thank you.


If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call us (860-228-3284) or reach out to us by email – Robin (townclerk@columbiact.org) or Gail (atownclerk@columbiact.org).

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

COLUMBIA LIONS CLUB:

COLUMBIA LIONS CLUB

Mike DiRaimo, President
Tim Anderson, Secretary
Richard Mlyniec, Treasurer



Meets 2nd & 4th Monday of every month
"WE SERVE"

P.O. Box No. 1
Columbia, Connecticut 06237

March 28, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

The Town of Columbia and the Columbia Lions Club are sponsoring the Annual July 4th Independence Day parade here in Columbia. We are extending an invitation to your organization to join us in celebration of our nation's independence. As usual it is our goal to make this year's parade "the biggest and best ever" and to do this we need your participation.

The theme for this year's parade is "Let Freedom Ring". **We have increased the cash prizes that will be awarded for the floats that best represent this year's theme!** First prize is \$250, second \$150, and third \$100. The parade will commence at 10:00 am on the morning of **TUESDAY, JULY 4TH 2023**. The parade route is approximately 1.1 miles long. Please reference the enclosed Parade Orders and map for further details.

Please email confirmation as soon as your group has decided to participate. We look forward to having a great parade and would love to have you be a part of it!

Sincerely,

Marc Czarnowski
Parade Chairman
(860) 942-0471
ColumbiaCtLions@gmail.com

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

COLUMBIA LIONS CLUB:

PARADE ORDERS JULY 4TH INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE

ASSEMBLY: - (See Sketch Map)

1. **FLOATS:** Parking at Horace Porter School. Check in with Parade Unit Control by 8:15 to be eligible for judging.
2. **FIRE TRUCKS:** Trucks will Park in Firehouse Driveway and overflow into the Bank lot as needed. Check in with Parade Unit Control by 9:30.
3. **BANDS, MARCHING UNITS, DRILL TEAMS, BUSES etc.:** Assemble at Horace Porter School by 9:00. Check with Parade Unit Control for line of March to be announced that morning. Vehicles will proceed to pickup area at Lake Road. (see map)

In an attempt to reduce traffic congestion in the area of the fire house, please make every effort to arrive with your group. Ample parking is available in the field behind Horace Porter School.

JUDGING:

1. **FLOATS:** Judging will start promptly at 8:30 and will be completed by 9:30. To be eligible for awards, floats must be ready for judging at the appointed time. Awards will be presented at 9:45.

Please keep the parade route (see map) and potential obstacles in mind when designing your float.

2. **MARCHING UNITS, BANDS:** Units will be judged at the Judging Stand (see map).
3. **AWARDS:** The Float that best captures the theme will be awarded the following cash prizes:
1st Place - \$250.
2nd Place - \$150.
3rd Place - \$100.

Ribbons will be awarded to the Floats in the following categories:
-Artistic Float
-Float Organization

PARADE MARCH ORDER: This will be established by the parade Committee (considering strategic positions for Police & Fire Units) on the morning of the parade.

PARADE KICK-OFF: Promptly at 10:00 a.m.

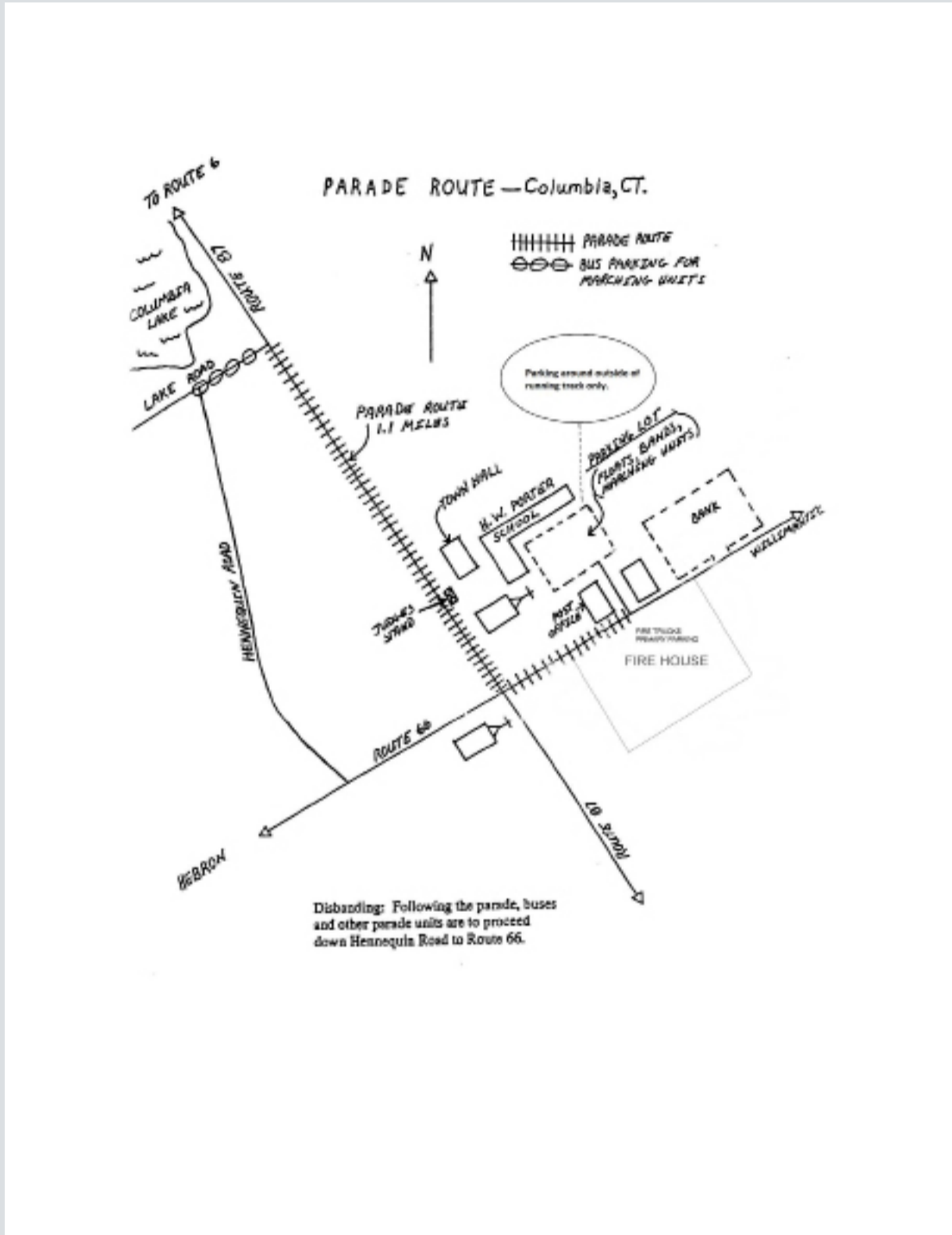
PLEASE NOTE: While many parade attendees enjoy getting wet, many do not: we ask that you exercise common sense and discretion in the use of water dispensing apparatus!!

REFRESHMENTS:

The Columbia Lions Club will provide free beverages following the parade. Location of beverage stand is along Lake Road.

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

COLUMBIA LIONS CLUB:



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

Columbia

3RD GARDEN AND FARM TOUR
COLUMBIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY FUNDRAISER

SUNDAY, JUNE 25, 2023
9:30A.M. TO 3:00P.M. (RAIN OR SHINE)

PURCHASE ADVANCED TICKETS FOR \$20.00 UNTIL JUNE 20TH. A LIMITED NUMBER OF TICKETS **MAY** BE SOLD THE DAY OF THE TOUR FOR \$30.00.
VISIT WWW.COLUMBIA-HISTORY.ORG TO PURCHASE TICKETS OR FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON HOW TO PURCHASE TICKETS BY MAIL

ENJOY 6 UNIQUE PROPERTIES AND PLEIN AIR PAINTERS AT...

TWO 1800'S FARMSTEADS; A PRIVATE EQUESTRIAN STABLE; A LAKESIDE GARDEN; A GIANT GREEN THUJA PRIVACY HEDGE AS THE BACKDROP FOR RAISED BEDS, BERRY BUSHES, AND UNIQUE BOULDER PLANTINGS; AND A 3-IN-1 GARDENERS' DREAM - COMPLETE WITH A FORMAL ENGLISH GARDEN, WATER FEATURE AND SEVERAL WOODLAND PATHS.

VISIT PLEIN AIR PAINTERS AT HEARTSTONE VINEYARD AT 3:30 TO CHAT AND VIEW THEIR WORKS OF ART.

Your Hometown Connection • Columbia, CT

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

COLUMBIA CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH:



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! JUNE HAPPENINGS



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

Celebration Sunday June 11th with Picnic after the service

Bible Study Thursdays 10:30 AM Live & on Zoom

Watch Parties Wednesdays 7 – 9 PM "The Chosen"

2nd Saturday Breakfast 8 – 11 AM June 10th

Free Concert - Bell Choir Festival Conference Concert
Worcester State University, Worcester, MA
Sunday June 25th 3 PM

For details check out our webpage: Columbiacongregationalchurch.org

Free Concert!

Festival Bell Choir Concert

Worcester State University
Wellness Center Competition Gym
486 Chandler St

Sunday, June 25th
3:00 - 4:30 pm

The Closing Concert for the Handbell Musicians of America Festival Conference is **free** and open to the public and will feature music rung by **500** participating ringers including members of our own Bell Choir!



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

COLUMBIA CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH:



2nd Saturday Community
Breakfast
Saturday June 10th

Share Food and Joy with
Family and Friends
8 AM to 11 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!



What happens when
you combine
**PENTECOST & Church
School Sunday?**

Join us for
CELEBRATION SUNDAY
on **June 11th**
to find out!

Picnic following
the service

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

AHM



STORYVILLE!

AHM Youth Theater is proud to present Storyville, a fun one act show based on popular fairy tales and fables! All students will be assigned parts in this funny and light-hearted production, and will work together as an ensemble to bring the magic and stories of Storyville to life!

Mondays: April, 17th, April 24th, May 1st, May 8th, May 15th, May 22nd, June 5th.

Two "tech" rehearsals - Monday, June 12th, and Tuesday, June 13th, 4-7pm

Final Dress: Wednesday, June 14th, 4-5:30pm

Performance: Wednesday, June 14th, 6pm, open to family and friends.

K-2nd grade 4:15 - 5:15 pm \$80 per student
3-6th grade 5:15 - 7:15 pm \$130 per student
7-12th grade 5:15 - 7:15 pm \$130 per student



SCAN ME



REGISTER AT: ahmyouth.org/programs-services/youth-theater/

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

SAXTON B. LITTLE LIBRARY: Welcome Summer!

Find Your Voice! our Summer Reading Program for both kids and adults will officially kick off June 24th (but look for sign ups to open for programming earlier!) We have a lot of exciting things planned from animal visits to crafts to educational programs. Our summer reading program has been made possible by grants from the Savings Bank of Manchester Foundation. Join us - - We have something for everyone!

Story times are still taking place Tuesday mornings at 10:30 am. Baby Bees are continuing Friday mornings at 10:30.

All of our usual programs (book groups, Spice Club, Stitchers, Writers) will remain throughout the summer also.

To sign up for a program or get more information, contact the Library at: 860.228.0350 / SBL@columbiactlibrary.org / www.columbiactlibrary.org