

COLUMBIA



PHOTO CREDIT: PAUL RAMSEY

UPDATE OCTOBER 2022



TOWN OF COLUMBIA

OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN

In late September, Columbia resident Russell Inzinga was presented a Congressional Gold Medal from Rep. Joe Courtney for his service during WWII as a U. S. Merchant Marine. During WWII, the U.S. Merchant Mariners provided crucial services to the U. S. Military and our allies. Russell joined the Merchant Marines in 1942 and served aboard the E. B. Alexander. If you are wondering why Russell did not receive the Congressional Gold Medal until now, it is because unfortunately the Merchant Marines were not provided with the same benefits or recognition as other veterans when they returned home from the war. In 2020, Congress passed the Merchant Mariners of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act. Russell will be turning 101 in November, and I would like to thank him for his service. I am pleased that he has finally received the Congressional Gold Medal for serving his country with honor and bravery.

With summer ending the projects at Rec Park are at completion or entering the final phases. The pavilion is now complete with concession stand, handicap bathrooms, and storage for the Recreation Department, Little League, and the Soccer League. Rental of the new pavilion is now available. Disc golf will be completed soon with a family focus from beginners to intermediate levels. The new maintenance garage is complete and will house all our equipment which will be easily assessable to our public works crew. The guardrail installation project in front of the softball field is now complete.

In celebration we will be hosting a Rec Park Celebration highlighting the various new projects that have been completed on October 22nd at Rec Park from 12-2 with food, music, and games. We hope you will join us!



When this issue of the Columbia Views reaches each of our homes, we will be well into the fall season. This is the time to prepare for hurricane season and for the upcoming New England winter. With hurricane season and winter storms it is important that you are prepared. Eversource and the Connecticut State Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) have excellent resources for residents to help prepare for the event of an emergency. Please visit [DEMHS website](#) and the [Eversource website](#).

We work closely with our local Eversource team, the Columbia Volunteer Fire Department and Emergency Management team to continuously update our emergency management response and procedures. We encourage residents with a medical condition or a disability that may require additional help during an emergency event to please notify us. Please contact the Senior Center Director, Bernadette Derring at 860-228-0759 or Katie Wilt, Community Social Services Coordinator at 860-228-1008.

Please visit the Town website at www.columbiact.org to sign up for the Emergency Alert Program. This system enables us to provide you with critical information quickly in a variety of situations. Click on the "Notifications" tab at the bottom of the home screen and this will direct you to the Emergency Alert Program and other e-notifications.

Thank you and please be safe.

Steven M. Everett, First Selectman
severett@columbiact.org
860-228-0110



TOWN OF COLUMBIA

OFFICE OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

The Town of Columbia is very excited to introduce new employees and recognize veteran leaders in the Public Works Department.

Andy Andrews has been a valuable leader for the Town for 38 years and brings his vast experience, strong work ethic and dedication to maintaining the Town's infrastructure. He has been a respected mentor for all new employees in our department.

Fred Bednarczyk joined our department nearly a year ago and brings with him 20 plus years of experience in the construction/excavation/tree removal industry. Steven Goff has been with the

town nearly 6 months and joins our team with 8 years of experience in the public works field. Bill Johnson was added to the highway crew this summer and not only has five years of experience in the public works field but is also very knowledgeable in the construction field.

Tristan Kandolin has worked for the Town part time at the Transfer Station and as a seasonal maintainer. He was recently promoted to a full-time highway maintainer this past

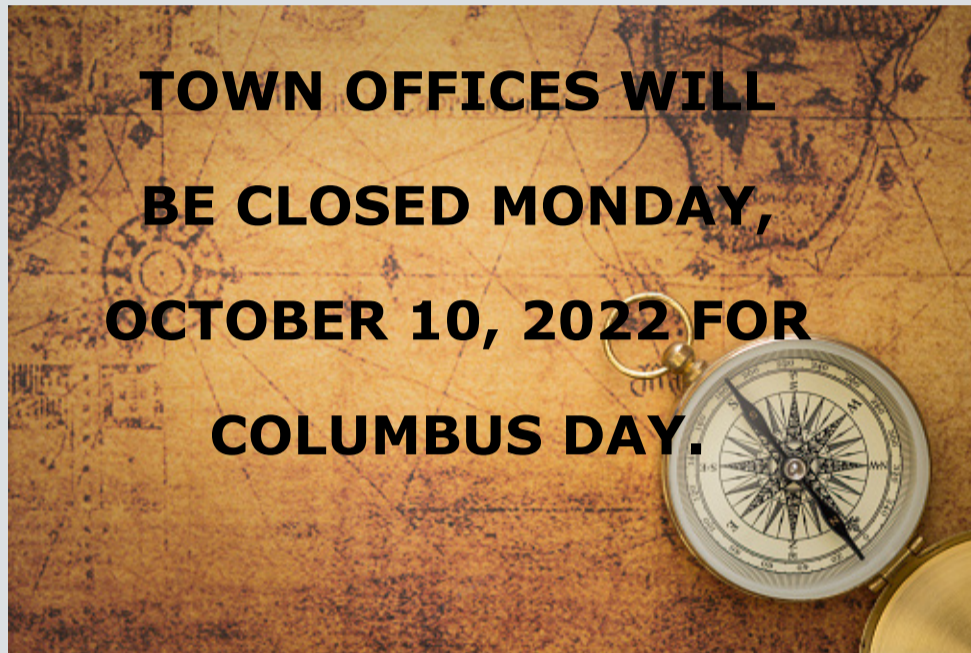
spring. Tristan has transitioned very well as a full-time employee and is dedicated to maintaining Rec Park to the highest standard.

John Ciurylo began working for the public works department over a year ago and utilizes his skills to help run the Transfer Station in an orderly and efficient manner. Brian Smith joined the staff at the Transfer Station this past summer as well as helping the public works crew one



day a week. Brian brings years of mechanical and customer service skills that benefit the town. Javier Rodriguez joined the Town this summer as a seasonal maintainer and has been a valuable asset in helping maintain the public spaces throughout Town. He will transition to a part-time employee at the Transfer Station this fall.

Although the Public Works Crew is fairly new to the Town of Columbia, they are all dedicated to tirelessly working to maintain public safety and town infrastructure.



As the cold weather approaches, there is assistance available to help low income seniors and working families to help offset these high costs – the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). LIHEAP is federally funded, and it provides relief on energy bills during the winter season and beyond to households and families who need it.

Beginning last week, applications opened for this winter. Anyone who thinks they may qualify can apply online or by visiting or contacting your local Community Action Agency. It's important to note there is no longer an asset test to determine eligibility for LIHEAP –

EASTERN CT COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCIES

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>NORTHCENTRAL CT Community Renewal Team (CRT) (860) 560-5800 (Hartford) (860) 347-4465 (Middletown) email: crtenergyapplication@crtct.org web: www.crtct.org</p> | <p>NORTHEASTERN CT Access Community Action Agency (Access) (860) 450-7400 (Willimantic) (860) 412-1600 (Danielson) email: cathy.whitehead@accessagency.org web: www.accessagency.org</p> |
| <p>SOUTHEASTERN CT Thames Valley Council for Community Action (TVCCA) (860) 425-6681 (Norwich & New London) email: ess@tvcca.org web: www.tvcca.org</p> | |

instead, eligibility is only determined by income. This change started last winter and it is a major improvement to the program. It's also important to remember that even if you've received support through LIHEAP in previous years, you still need to reapply for this season.

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.

Mark B. Walter, Town Administrator
323 Route 87
Columbia, CT 06237
860-228-0110

Find us on 



Image by Pixabay

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

- 10/03/22 Mon: Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission, 7:00 PM
- 10/03/22 Tue: Board of Education, 7:30 PM (H.W. Porter Cafetorium)
- 10/04/22 Tue: Board of Selectmen, 7:00 PM
- 10/05/22 Wed: Lake Management Advisory Committee, 7:00 PM
- 10/11/22 Mon: Planning and Zoning Commission, 7:00 PM
- 10/12/22 Wed: Fiscal Policy Board, 8:30 AM
- 10/12/22 Wed: Economic Development Commission, 7:00 PM
- 10/18/22 Tue: Board of Selectmen, 7:00 PM
- 10/19/22 Wed: Financial Planning and Allocation Commission, 7:00 PM
- 10/19/22 Wed: Safety Committee, 1:30 PM
- 10/20/22 Thur: Open Space Committee, 9:00 AM
- 10/24/22 Mon: Planning and Zoning Commission Public Hearing, 7:00 PM
- 10/27/22 Thur: Zoning Board of Appeals, 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

BECKISH SENIOR CENTER: The Beckish Senior Center is celebrating its 25th Anniversary on October 27, 2022. The center officially opened its doors on September 7, 1997, with over 400 attendees. The original gift of the land was given by Peter Beckish, it was an inspiration and accelerated the building of the center. A variety of generous donations were given by people in town to provide for the best appliances and amenities. Over the past 25 years the seniors of Columbia and many surrounding towns have utilized every inch of this beautiful senior center. We are so excited to celebrate 25 years with our community so please join us in our celebration! There will be a "Big Green Pizza Truck" and a cupcake tower from "Cupcake for later". Many organizations will participate with information for all. Special guests and dignitaries will be present as well!

The center is displaying works of art from a Columbia artist. Robert Oxenhorn will display his abstract art from October to mid-November.

Czepiga Daly Pope & Perri will host informative sessions on October 19, November 2, and November 16. Topics to be discussed are Estate Planning, The CT Uniform Trust Code, and Planning for Long-Term Care. The 3-part series is free to everyone 18 and over.

Katie Wilt, the Community Social Services Coordinator, will host a presentation on October 28th at 11:00 a.m. The speaker is Laura Crews from Senior Resources. Laura will talk about the basics of Medicare, including Medicare Advantage Plans, Prescription Drug Plans, and hospital insurance. Please join us for this informative presentation.

A Flu Clinic will be held on November 3 from 9am to 12pm. Seniors must bring their insurance cards to receive the flu shot. Please sign up.

Hartford Healthcare is sponsoring a Mobile Health Event on October 13 from 9am to 3pm.

Please check the [Beckish Newsletter, The Gem](#), for all activities and trip details.

Columbia's R U OK Program: The Beckish Senior Center is starting the R U OK Program. It is a FREE service that establishes a prearranged time for participants to receive a regular phone call inquiring about their welfare. This program is to keep seniors who prefer to live independently safe and to provide them with the added security of being monitored for safety. During the call participants are asked "Are You OK?" If they answer "yes" they may simply hang up and continue with their day. If a concern is expressed, the volunteer caller will determine the nature of the concern and if some sort of response is necessary. Unanswered

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

BECKISH SENIOR CENTER Continued: calls or busy signals are called back. If there is still no response after a preselected number of missed calls, the volunteer caller may request that an officer be dispatched to the location for a safety check.

If you or someone you know could benefit from this program, please call Bernadette at the Beckish Senior Center at 860-228-0759 ext. 1 to be added to the list. Select a day of the week and time you would like to be called. We have many local volunteers in Columbia to help with this new program, and we are looking forward to getting it started. Your health and safety are our number one concern, let us help you stay safe and connected.

Thank you

Bernadette Derring

Director Senior Services & Transportation

Municipal Agent for the Elderly

BUILDING/LAND USE DEPARTMENT: We are happy to announce the arrival of our new online permitting system for the submittal of applications for most building, electrical, plumbing, mechanical/hvac, fuel/gas and demolition permits. For your convenience, multiple forms of payment are accepted in the online system. A 3% fee will be applied to credit card transactions. Applicants can also visit us with cash or check payments during our normal business hours, by postal mail, or by using the drop box located to the left of our Yeomans Hall entrance. Please keep in mind that applications can not be processed without payment.

Before applying for a permit, you should review the Building Department portion of the website to see what documentation may be required.

Paper permit applications will continue to be accepted in the office, by mail, or by drop box with a cash or check payment only, however we do encourage the use of our new online system.

Building Department

Terri Lasota, Building Department Administrative Assistant

(860) 228-0440

email LandUse@columbiact.org.

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

FIRE MARSHAL: Fire Prevention week was October 9-15, hopefully you were able to spend time talking about fire safety in your home, place of business or at school. The fall is a good time to upgrade your smoke and CO detectors and to discuss your emergency exit plan, which should include a meeting place outside of the building. Also, if you have a fire, remember to never re-enter the building for any reason.

In the fall we should:

1. Take the opportunity to have your homes heating system cleaned and serviced for the upcoming winter.
2. Clear combustible materials a minimum of 36" away from all heat sources, this helps reduce the risk of them being ignited.
3. Clean and service your wood, pellet or gas stove.
4. Reduce electrical extension cord use.
5. Check www.nfpa.org for other Fire Prevention Safety Tips.

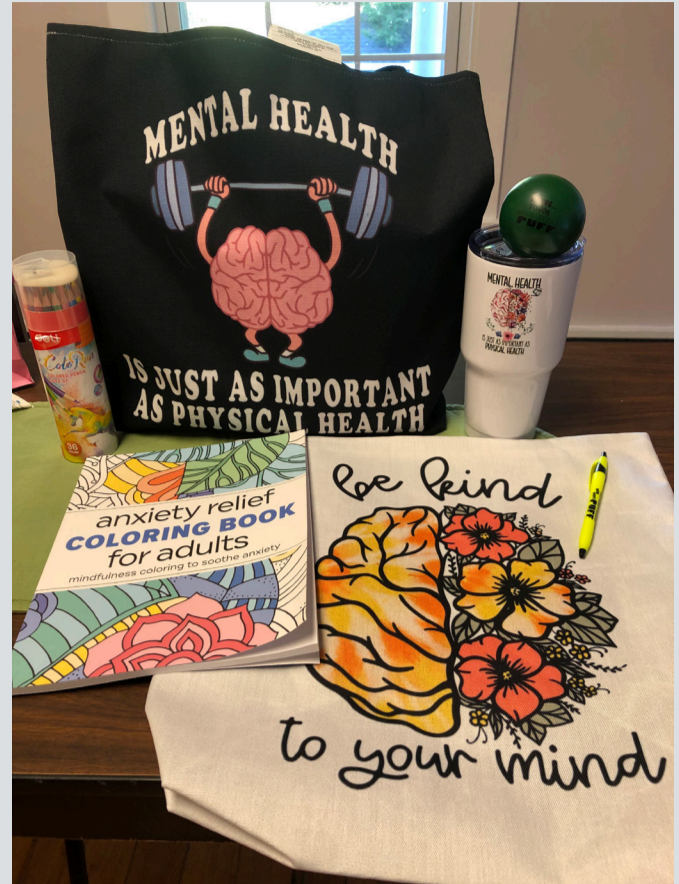
If you have any questions regarding fire safety, please contact the Fire Marshal's Office at 860-228-0440 to schedule an appointment.

Michael Lester
Fire Marshal

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

SOCIAL SERVICES: "The More You Know"

Wellness Series is now a permanent monthly program at the Senior Center! This free program has covered topics such as integrating hope into our thoughts when we feel concern, coping strategies when feeling stress, how to keep an open mind when communicating, tips on talking to a loved one who may be misusing substances. The topics are important, and the participants give them life. A powerful combination! We are building a community that believes in "being kind to your mind" and "mental health is just as important as physical health". Thank you to everyone who has attended thus far. To make suggestions, share ideas or get involved in future prevention work for the Town of Columbia please contact Katie Wilt at 860-228-1008 or kwilt@Columbiact.org.



With the winter season approaching, a reminder that there are resources for heating assistance. Please reach out to me to learn more about what may support your situation and the best way to pursue programs. The State Energy Assistance application, Operation Fuel, and our emergency Fuel Bank are all things I can assist you with.

Take good care!

Sincerely,

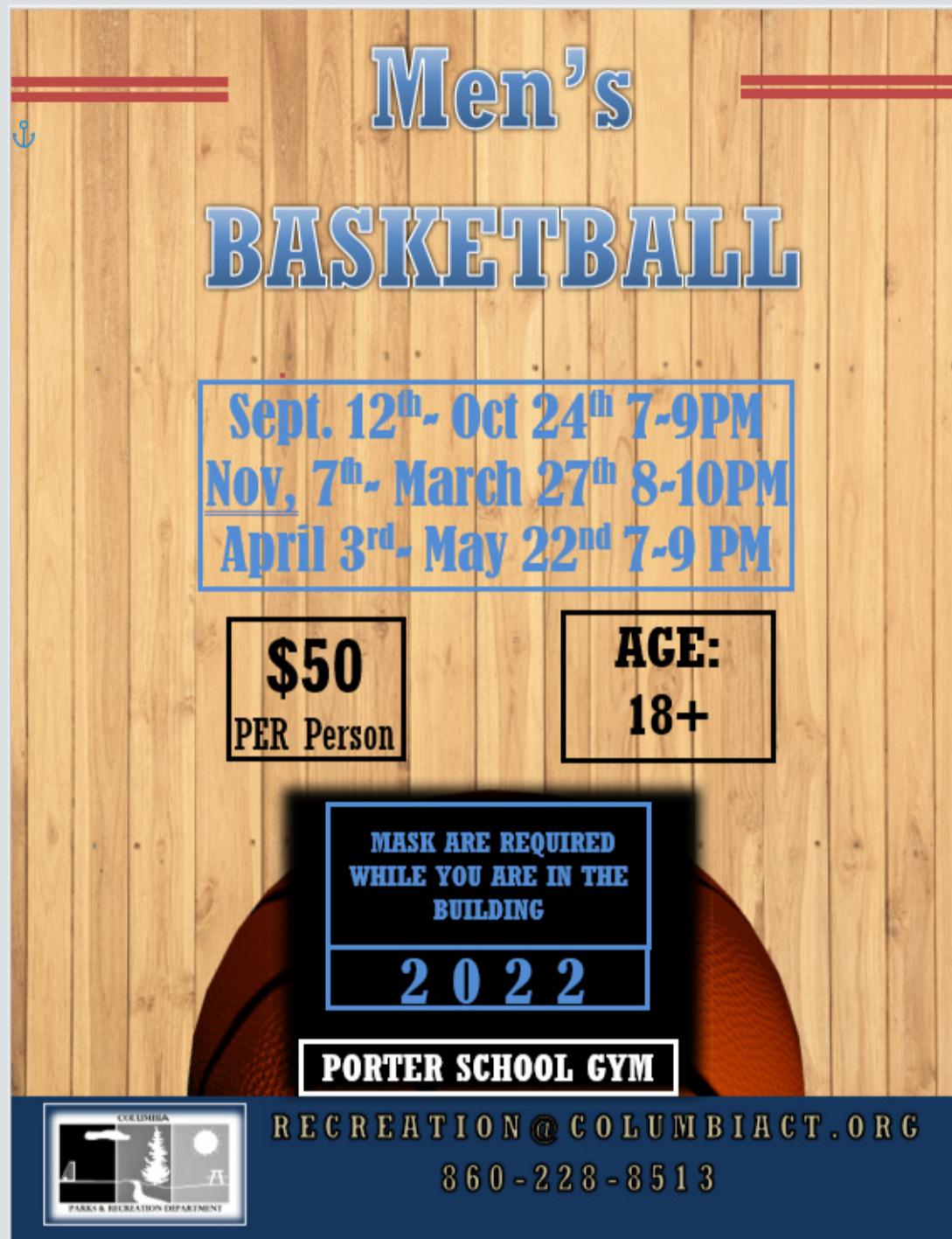
Katie Wilt, Community Social Services Coordinator

860-228-1008 | kwilt@Columbiact.org

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

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](#)!

UPCOMING EVENTS: REGISTRATION FOR PROGRAMS [ONLINE AT RECDESK](#).

A promotional poster for Men's Basketball. The background is a light-colored wood grain. At the top, the word "Men's" is written in a blue, stylized font. Below it, "BASKETBALL" is written in a larger, bold, blue font. A blue-bordered box in the center contains the schedule: "Sept. 12th- Oct 24th 7-9PM", "Nov, 7th- March 27th 8-10PM", and "April 3rd- May 22nd 7-9 PM". Below the schedule are two black-bordered boxes: one with "\$50 PER Person" and another with "AGE: 18+". A basketball is visible at the bottom center. A black-bordered box with white text says "MASK ARE REQUIRED WHILE YOU ARE IN THE BUILDING". Below that, "2022" is written in a large, blue font. At the bottom, a white-bordered box says "PORTER SCHOOL GYM". The footer is a dark blue bar with a logo on the left and contact information on the right: "RECREATION@COLUMBIACT.ORG" and "860-228-8513".

Men's

BASKETBALL

Sept. 12th- Oct 24th 7-9PM
Nov, 7th- March 27th 8-10PM
April 3rd- May 22nd 7-9 PM

\$50
PER Person

AGE:
18+

**MASK ARE REQUIRED
WHILE YOU ARE IN THE
BUILDING**

2022

PORTER SCHOOL GYM

RECREATION@COLUMBIACT.ORG
860-228-8513

Anyka Fagen, Acting Director of Parks & Recreation

323 Route 87, Columbia, CT, 06237

recreation@columbiact.org or 860-228-8513

HOURS: Mon-Wed: 8am-4pm, Thurs: 8am-7pm

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS:

**ELECTION
NOVEMBER 8, 2022
6AM-8PM**

HORACE W. PORTER SCHOOL

VOTER REGISTRATION: The last day to register to vote is Tuesday, November 1, 2022.

- Register online at voterregistration.ct.gov, stop in the Town Clerk's office during normal business hours, or contact the Registrars of Voters.
- The Registrars of Voters will be holding a voter registration session in Yeomans Hall on Tuesday, November 1st from 9am – 8pm. ID and proof of residency required.
- If you miss the registration deadline, Election Day Registration will be available at Horace W. Porter School on November 8th, 6am-8pm. ID & proof of residency will be required.



ABSENTEE BALLOTS:

- Absentee Ballots are available now through close of business on November 7th. To obtain an Absentee Ballot, you must first fill out an application. You can find an application on the [Registrars of Voters website](https://www.columbiact.org/registrars-of-voters), or contact the Town Clerk at (860) 228-3284
- Completed Absentee Ballots must be received by 8pm on November 8th. They can be returned via mail, Ballot Drop Box outside Town Hall, or to the Town Clerk's office. Absentee Ballots cannot be accepted at the polling place.

Please contact the Registrar of Voters or Town Clerk with any questions.

Registrars of Voters

Karen Butzgy – Democratic

registrar@columbiact.org

Alyson Cranick – Republican

[columbiact.org/registrar-voters](https://www.columbiact.org/registrar-voters)

(860) 228-6843 x113

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

TOWN CLERKS OFFICE:

STATE ELECTION

State elections will take place on November 8, 2022. Absentee ballots become available on October 7, 2022 through the close of business on November 7, 2022.

PERMANENT ABSENTEE BALLOTS: An elector with a permanent physical disability, who is unable to appear in person at their poll on Election Day, may file an absentee ballot application along with a doctor's certificate (on letterhead) with the Town Clerk. This will place the elector on the Permanent Absentee Ballot list. A copy will be forwarded to the Registrar of Voters so that the permanent status can be noted on their registration. Throughout the year, for any election, primary or referendum, the Town Clerk will automatically mail an absentee ballot to the elector as soon as they become available. Please contact our office at 860-228-3284 if you have any questions.

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 Kenefick, Town Clerk (townclerk@columbiact.org) or Gail McGrath, Assistant Town Clerk (atownclerk@columbiact.org).

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

SAXTON B. LITTLE LIBRARY: Reminder: Saturday hours return on September 10th! We'll see you then.

Summer Reading has ended and we'd like to thank the nearly 200 participants! We'd also like to wish all our youth readers welcome back to school and hope you all have a great new year!

But just because summer is over, it doesn't mean fun at the Library is ending. We'd like to let you know of some exciting things happening this month, join us:

Tues 9/6 7 pm Quiet Corner Refugee Resettlement will talk about their organization. This program is in conjunction with a special photography display on immigration, available for viewing until 9/15. Register at the Library.

Puzzle Swap is back 1-4 on Monday 9/19 – feel free to come by and grab a puzzle, even if you don't have one to swap!

Mother-Daughter book group still has space available, contact Megan.

As always, Story times are taking place Tuesday mornings at 10:30 am. Baby Bees are continuing Friday mornings at 10:30, both taking place outside as weather permits.

We ask that you sign up for Friday Movies. And don't forget to ask for this month's spice, and join us on September 26th for Spice Club.

To sign up for a program or get more information, contact the Library at (860.228.0350) or email us or check our [website](#) for more information.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Sue Epstein, Library Director

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

COLUMBIA ARTS COUNCIL:

The Arts are Alive in Columbia!

The Board of Selectmen voted to approve the establishment of a COLUMBIA ART COUNCIL that supports Sustainable CT Vibrant and Creative Cultural Ecosystems on February 18, 2020. Our Mission Statement is: To Enhance the quality of community life by promoting opportunities for residents to experience and participate in forms of innovative expression and communication through the arts. The Columbia Art Council's Vision Statement is: Transforming the community lives through the power of creative expression.

The COLUMBIA ARTS COUNCIL is excited to be back at work after all the covid restrictions! Our immediate goal is to produce a Columbia List of Artists who live or work in Columbia. The purpose of the list is to create a town resource to recognize and promote Columbia's many artists practicing in various forms of the arts. We are asking you to forward your contact information to include your email and home address, phone number and type of art you practice to: fpolek@columbiact.org.

Whether you are a musician, a painter, an architect, a poet, an actor, a graphic artist, a fine craftsman, a photographer, a dancer, a playwright, a singer, a sculptor, a composer, a designer, a glass blower, etc. - you have a place on the Columbia List of Artists! You may be an adult or a serious youth student. You may be an arts educator or offer lessons. Let us know!

The Arts Council is also planning a series of "Open Mic Around Town" events featuring Columbia Musicians. The first Open Mic event is scheduled for Saturday, November 12th, 2 to 5 pm at Yeomans Hall. If you are a musician, any style, who lives or works in Columbia and are interested in participating please send your name and contact information, plus the notation "Open Mic" to the email address above. Note: a music group qualifies if only one member is the Columbia resident.

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

COLUMBIA ARTS COUNCIL CONTINUED: Jim Blair, the advisor for the Columbia Leos has indicated that the Leos will provide cocoa and water for the event. The Leos will also be collecting food items for the food pantry. Items in need are spaghetti sauce, cereals, snacks, fruits and vegetables, milk, and juices. The Leos will also have a coat collection to help those in need.

A resident of Columbia, Paul Ramsey has offered his time to function as the contact person for the annual Northeast Artist's Open Studios that will be offered to resident artists. The event will be held at the Beckish Senior Center and various area art studios on November 25th, 26th, 27th, December 3rd and 4th. Please contact Paul for more information at ramzphto@gmail.com. You may also refer to the Artists' Open Studios of Northeastern Connecticut brochure at www.aosct.org.

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

A b s t r a c t A r t S h o w — O c t o b e r 1 s t 2 0 2 2

B e c k i s h S e n i o r C e n t e r

C o l u m b i a , C T



Robert Oxenhorn is an accomplished and important American artist who while capturing the lush New England countryside using shapes created from tonal values and color in some works, also conceives new worlds of color and movement in his brilliant abstract pieces. Whatever he's working on, Robert exhibits a love for the subjects he paints. Born in Manchester Connecticut in 1943, Robert grew up in Hartford, Connecticut. Oxenhorn graduated from Hartford Art School of the University of Hartford with a bachelor's degree in Fine Art and Design. He earned early recognition for his works by winning numerous regional and national competitive exhibitions. In 1966, after service in the US Army, Robert became a graphic designer and illustrator. He designed and illustrated for numerous companies including The

Hartford Insurance Group, The Aetna Insurance Company, American Optical Corporation, Spalding Sports International, Holyoke Water Power Company, and Northeast Utilities now known as Eversource, and various other organizations and businesses. Much of his work is published nationally. In 2001, Robert took a hiatus from the commercial art scene and entered many newly created fine art pieces into multiple art shows throughout Connecticut. The Mystic Museum of Art, The Wadsworth Athenaeum, Lyme Art Association, Slater Museum, and The Hygienic Art Gallery are some of the organizations where Robert's artwork has been displayed. Numerous collectors and corporations hold artworks by Robert Oxenhorn, nationwide.

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

AHM: Our staff and board looks forward to a new year serving the children, families and seniors of Columbia. Please visit AHM's website at www.ahmyouthy.org for upcoming programs and services – Tressa Giordano AHM Executive Director.

NATIONAL TAKE BACK DAY: Saturday, October 29th from 10:00–2:00PM at RHAM High School Andover, Columbia, Hebron and Marlborough residents are able to dispose of unused/expired prescription, over-the-counter medications and vitamins. Bring meds with names crossed off and in original containers. No sharps. This event is coordinated by AHM's Coalition for a Healthy & Empowered Community and Hebron's Resident Trooper, Officer Bryce Reed.

TASKS PROGRAM FOR COLUMBIA SENIORS: TASKs is a program that provides Columbia seniors with assistance from teens (Ages 14-18). Teens are able to sign up for jobs that not only help out their local seniors with various tasks, but they also get paid for doing so. This wonderful opportunity allows young people to engage with Columbia seniors, creating a meaningful life experience. The joy on the senior's face after being helped is always a reward in itself. That is only part of what the program offers. TASKs also offers teens a chance to gain experience managing job responsibilities preparing them for future employment, while being paid by AHM for this work. Please reach out to Kristina Smith KristinaH@ahmyouthy.org, to join this AMAZING program.

AHM STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES COUNSELOR: AHM says goodbye and thanks longtime Student Support Services Counselor Cheri Rivard Lentz. After having spent more than a decade serving AHM as the Student Support Services Counselor in both Columbia and Andover, Cheri decided to retire at the end of the last school year.

According to Human Resources Specialist, Laureen Davids, AHM is pleased to announce that we have hired a new Student Support Services Counselor for H.W. Porter School. Christina Burdzy Herrick joins the AHM staff with over 14 years of experience working as a school counselor in Norwich and Willimantic. As a dual-certified professional, Christina is skilled in working collaboratively with colleagues to provide multi-tiered systems of support to students and families. Please join us in welcoming Christina to Columbia!

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

COLUMBIA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT CONTINUED: Community members can help the volunteers who respond to calls by clearly marking your house number in a visible manner on the street. The CVFD makes and sells reflective house number signs that help us quickly and easily identify your house; this often saves precious time. To order the Reflective Address Markers please go to the Columbia Volunteer Fire Department's web-page at www.columbiafire5.org and download the printable form or you can fill out the electronic form online. The price is \$10.00 per sign or \$12.00 with mounting brackets.

Columbia Volunteer Fire Department

REFLECTIVE ADDRESS MARKER ORDER FORM

Please complete the following information:

Name _____
 Address _____
 City, ST Zip _____
 Phone Number _____

Address Number Requested

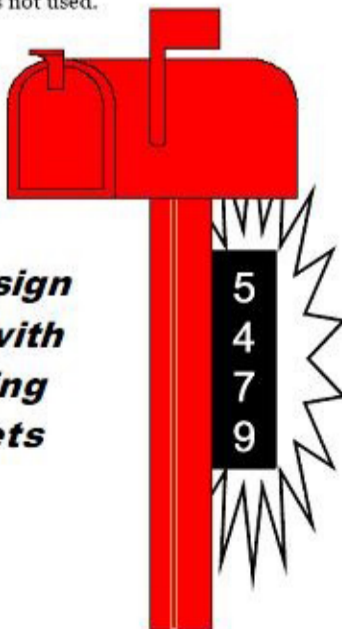
Note: If your address has fewer than 5 digits, please X those boxes not used.

Mounting Preference

HORIZONTAL _____
 VERTICAL _____

HORIZONTAL

**V
E
R
T
I
C
A
L**



**\$10 per sign
or \$12 with
Mounting
Brackets**

Mail to:
 Columbia Volunteer Fire Department
 PO Box 26
 Columbia, CT 06237

(860) 228-9602

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

COLUMBIA LIONS AND LEOS:

COLUMBIA LIONS NEWS

4TH OF JULY PARADE – The Columbia Lions Club is eager to make the parade on July 4, 2023, the biggest and best ever! The Lions are calling upon everyone – individuals, families, organizations – to become participants in the parade itself. We are encouraging members of our community to design a float that reflects the parade’s theme and walk the parade route along with the marching bands, fire trucks, and other civic groups. Your float will be eligible to win a prize if it captures the parade theme in both spirit and style. (The theme for the parade will be announced at the start of 2023.) The prizes are:

1st Place \$250

2nd Place \$150

3rd Place \$100

For more information on entering the parade and designing your own float, contact Lion Tom at 860-578-7073 or email us at ColumbiaCtLions@gmail.com.



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

COLUMBIA LIONS AND LEOS CONTINUED:

COLUMBIA LIONS NEWS

LIONS CHICKEN BBQ – The 2022 Columbia Lions Chicken BBQ was held on August 21st and marked the first time in two years that diners were able to enjoy a meal on-site. Over 560 meals were served, and the club raised over \$5000 for its various charitable donations, some of which include eye research, college scholarships, support for children with cancer and diabetes, and local fuel and food assistance. Once again, the Lions thank the Columbia community for supporting our efforts to make a difference in the lives of others.

LIONS AND SCOUTING – The Columbia Lions, the Charter Organization for Troop 162, is proud to announce that Aiden Gamache and David Macha have each achieved the rank of Eagle Scout. Aiden's Eagle project involved the planning and installation of a paver walkway outside the Columbia Congregational Church. David built a gaga pit for Camp Asto Wamah, an area where youngsters can play dodge ball energetically and safely. Each scout will receive a \$50 gift from the Lions and a letter of commendation praising his work ethic and leadership.

COLUMBIA LEO'S NEWS

Happy fall from the Columbia Leos! The Leo's resume meetings and activities in September and we're looking forward to an awesome 2022-23 campaign! President Elle Gaucher will lead us as we get to work! We'll be helping the Columbia Lions at their Camp Rising Sun Dinner in October. In November we'll kick off our Annual One Warm Coat Drive. We will be accepting gently used coats, hats, mittens, warm weather socks. These donations will be passed along to WAIM. That drive culminates with the Lion's Gazebo Lighting and Carol Sing on November 27, the Sunday after Thanksgiving. We'll also be collecting food and serving refreshments on November 12 at an Open Mic Show hosted by The Columbia Arts Council. As we head into winter we'll be looking to continue our quest to help the Town of Columbia's Fuel Assistance Program, raising money and awareness.

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

COLUMBIA LEOS CONTINUED:

We will host our Annual Variety Show in April of 2023; stay tuned for more information and details! The Leos meet in The Band Room at Horace Porter School. Feel free to contact Advisor, Lion Jim Blair at jbland15@earthlink.net if you might be interested in joining! Our requirements are ages 12-18, and Columbia residents. Lion Jim Blair will also be able to provide information on exact meeting dates and times.

The Columbia Leos are looking forward to an exciting year as renew our commitment to fulfill our motto: "We Serve"!

Contact Information:

Lion Jim Blair, Advisor

860-428-2916

Jbland15@earthlink.net

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

COLUMBIA LIONS CLUB PASTA AND MEATBALL DINNER SATURDAY OCTOBER 8TH FROM 4:30 TO 7:30 AT THE BECKISH SENIOR CENTER

Help Us Help Kids With Cancer



Pasta and Meat Ball Dinner

Saturday, Oct 08, 2022

4:30-7:30PM

Beckish Senior Center

Route 66, Columbia, CT

Advanced Tickets: Adults \$12.00 or Family of 4 \$35.00

Children under 12 \$6.00



(Family & Adults \$ 2.00 EXTRA AT DOOR)

100% of the Proceeds Benefit

Camp Rising Sun Foundation

Camp Rising Sun is open to all Connecticut children who have had cancer or who are currently being treated for it.

Sponsored By **The Columbia Lions Club**

Connecticut Lions Clubs have been proud supporters of Camp Rising Sun for 36 years and have donated over \$500,000 to the Camp. Please help us to continue to support this important program for children with Cancer.

For tickets and Information Contact:

Robert Fowler -860-614-8585

Mike DiRaimo - 860-228-8241



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

Early registration:
\$10 per person, \$50 family cap. Now until Sept. 13th.
After Sept. 13th \$15 per person, \$60 family cap.

Must register by Sept. 13th to be guaranteed a t-shirt.

**COLOR
RUN
SEPT. 25, 2022
12-1PM**

**Location:
Horace W. Porter School**

To Register Email:
horaceporterpto@gmail.com

Additional color packets can be purchased for \$2 the day of the event.
Shirts available for purchase while supplies last.

Paypal: porterptotreas@gmail.com

Visit Us On Facebook:
Horace W. Porter PTO and Parent Community

H.W.Porter PTO is a registered 501 (c)3 status. All money raised is used for expenses, activities and programs that support education and community building.

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

SENIORS ON THE GO: As you are reading this, you are probably raking leaves and getting ready for the holiday season. The Columbia Seniors have also had a great start this fall. We hosted a party for our 90+ year old citizens. There were 6 honorees and we had cake and a wonderful time visiting with each other. We also helped the Beckish Senior Center celebrate its 25th year.

Another of our fall happenings is the Harvest to Holly Sale. As usual we will host vendors along with a holiday item sale room, a bake sale and our bake potato lunch. This is a great place to pick up gifts and decorations for the season. We could use some volunteers to help with all the different activities of that day. If you want to volunteer, please call me at 860-228-9543 – ask for Sheran.

There are lots of other activities going on at the center. Lunches are served on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. There are trips, art classes, pool, bridge groups, computer classes, and much more. As Columbia seniors there are many ways to keep busy and active. We hope to see you there.