

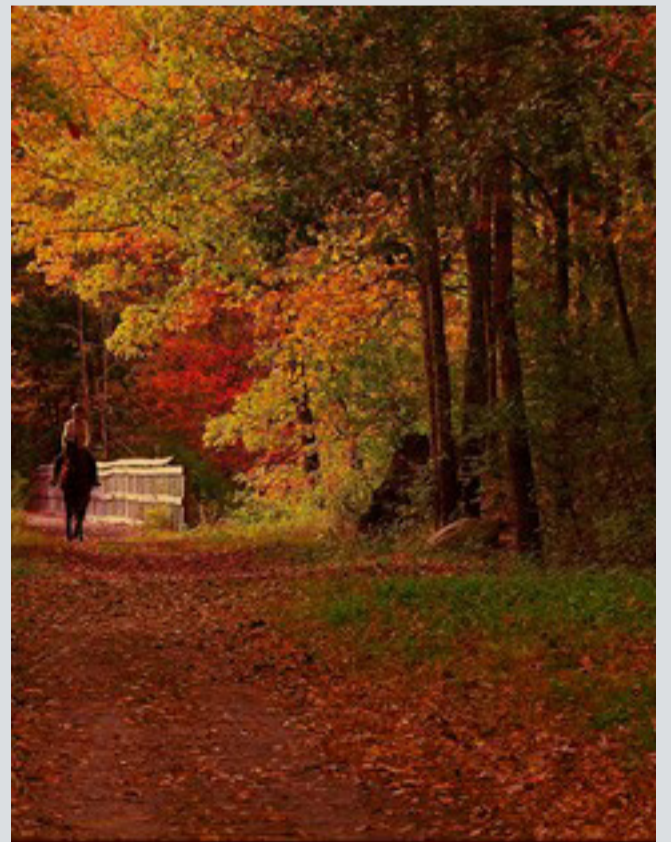
# TOWN OF COLUMBIA



## MONTHLY COMMUNITY UPDATE



*PHOTO CREDIT PAUL RAMSEY*



*PHOTO CREDIT FISCHER S. BESSI*

# UPDATE September 2021



## TOWN OF COLUMBIA

### OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN

**EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS:** Hurricane Henri is a reminder that we should prepare for peak hurricane and tropical storm season. Although we did not experience a high degree of power outages with Henri, we urge anyone with a medical condition or a disability that may require additional help during prolonged power outages to notify the Senior Center Director, Bernadette Derring at 860-228-0759 or Katie Wilt, Community Social Services Coordinator at 860-228-1008.

A great resource for preparing for an emergency is the [Connecticut Guide to Emergency Preparedness](#). The guide provides practical steps you can take to prepare for an emergency. Being prepared during an emergency could mean the difference between making it safely through a disaster for you and your family.

**REFLECTIVE ADDRESS MARKERS:** If there is an emergency, help our Fire Department find you! 911 reflective address signs ensure a quick response. To order the Reflective Address Markers please go to the Columbia Volunteer Fire Department's [web-page](#) and download the printable form or you can fill out the electronic form on-line. The price is \$10.00 per sign or \$12.00 with mounting brackets.

**BEACH SEASON:** September 6th marks the official end of the 2021 beach season as the majority of the beach staff returned to school. We will have lifeguards at the lake until September 6th from 10:30am to 6:15pm. Beaches are swim at your own risk when guards are not present.

The gate monitoring weekly schedule will end September 12th and resume for weekends only from September 18th to October 10th from 10:00am to 9:00pm (will adjust with sunset).

Thank you to the beach staff, lifeguards, and marine patrol!

**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.

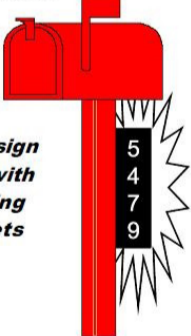
**Mounting Preference**

HORIZONTAL \_\_\_\_\_  
VERTICAL \_\_\_\_\_

HORIZONTAL

V  
E  
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L

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



**Mail to:**  
Columbia Volunteer Fire Department  
PO Box 26  
Columbia, CT 06237  
(860) 228-9602

**OFFICE OF FIRST SELECTMAN Continued:** In remembrance of the 2,977 victims of the 2001 terrorist attacks at the World Trade Center towers in New York, the Pentagon in Virginia and a rural field in Pennsylvania, the Town of Columbia will be placing a wreath at the Memorial Green.

The United States' National POW/MIA Recognition Day is observed across the nation on the third Friday of September each year. Many Americans take the time to remember those who were prisoners of war (POW) and those who are missing in action (MIA), as well as their families. A wreath will be placed at the Memorial Green in remembrance on Friday, September 17, 2021.



The Connecticut Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) is pleased to announce that will be holding Veterans STAND DOWN 2021 on September 22nd, 23rd, & 24th. While the COVID-19 pandemic has changed the way agencies and organizations operate, the DVA continues their commitment to serving Connecticut's Veterans by providing this "one stop" access to a range of programs and services offered by state and federal agencies, Veterans organizations, and community-based non-profits through on-line webinars and at five regional sites across the State. DVA hopes this approach to Stand Down will help more Veterans across Connecticut connect with the programs and benefits they have earned. Find information [here](#) to register.

Thank you and please be safe.

Steven M. Everett, First Selectman

[severett@columbiact.org](mailto:severett@columbiact.org)

860-228-0110



## TOWN OF COLUMBIA

### OFFICE OF TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

#### **MASKS REQUIRED IN COLUMBIA TOWN BUILDINGS:**

Effective Monday, August 2, 2021 the Town of Columbia is re-instituting face mask requirements for all employees and visitors within Town buildings. Town buildings will remain open to the public at this time.

The CDC designated Tolland County and Windham County as “substantial” in terms of COVID transmission. In areas with substantial transmission, the CDC recommends that everyone (including fully vaccinated individuals) wear a mask

in public indoor settings to help prevent spread of the Delta variant and to protect others. This is important because new data show that fully vaccinated people are considerably more likely to become infected with the Delta variant than the original strain of COVID. This means that vaccinated individuals are also more likely to transmit the virus to others, including children who are not able to obtain a vaccine given their age.

It is important to note that while Governor’s Lamont’s Executive Order 12a stipulates that vaccinated individuals are not required to wear masks indoors, the Connecticut Commissioner of Public Health, Dr. Deidre Gifford, is strongly recommending that vaccinated persons wear masks in public indoors spaces within these counties. As such, the Town of Columbia will adhere to this guidance with respect to our municipal facilities. Please see Dr. Gifford’s statements in the links below:

The increase in COVID transmission in Tolland and Windham County is cause for concern. Eastern Highlands Health District formally communicated its full support for the recommendations made by the CDC and the Connecticut DPH regarding the masking of fully vaccinated persons for indoor public spaces.



Below is the link to the CDC interim guidance for fully vaccinated persons:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated-guidance.html>

If you have any questions, please contact the Town Administrator's office at 860-228-0110. Thank you



**TOWN OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED FOR THE  
LABOR DAY HOLIDAY, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER  
6, 2021**

**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

## UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS FOR SEPTEMBER 2021

**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. For a complete monthly calendar of other Board & Commission events, click [HERE](#).**

- 9/1/21 - Lake Management Advisory Commission (LMAC), 7:00PM - Hybrid Meeting (Conference Room)
- 9/2/21 - Szegda Farm Management Committee, 9:00AM -Szegda Farm Pole Barn
- 9/2/21 - Conservation & Agriculture Commission, 7:00PM
- 9/6/21 - Board of Education, 7:30PM
- 9/8/21 - Youth Services Committee, 5:30PM
- 9/9/21 - Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission, 7:00PM
- 9/13/21 - Planning & Zoning Commission, 7:00PM
- 9/14/21 - Board of Selectmen, 7:00PM - Hybrid Meeting (Conference Room)
- 9/15/21 - Financial Planning & Allocation Commission, 7:00PM - Hybrid Meeting (Conference Room)
- 9/16/21 - Board of Assessment Appeals, 7:00PM
- 9/21/21 - Board of Selectmen, 7:00PM - Hybrid Meeting (Conference Room)
- 9/22/21 - Columbia Commission on Aging, 9:00AM
- 9/23/21 - Zoning Board of Appeals, 7:00PM
- 9/27/21 - Planning & Zoning Commission, 7:00PM

# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

**ASSESSOR:** The Assessor's Office is currently performing inspections on building permits and developing an updated personal property list. Below are upcoming tasks you may want to list on your calendar if applicable to you.

**PERSONAL PROPERTY:** This notice is to remind all taxpayers who file a declaration for personal property to please do so no later than November 1st annually. If not filed in a timely manner, per state statute a 25% penalty shall be applied. If you own a business or have unregistered motor vehicle(s) that are not currently on our list, please let us know and we will email, fax or mail you a declaration.

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

**REVALUATION:** Revaluation Questions and Answers are provided on the Assessors page on the website ([www.columbiact.org](http://www.columbiact.org)) under the Revaluation tab.

Please contact our office if you have any questions. The Assessor's Office is open Monday through Wednesday from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m., Thursdays 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. and Fridays 8 a.m. until Noon. Our telephone number is 228-9555.

# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

## ASSESSOR'S NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS

### ASSESSOR CONTINUED

All persons liable to pay taxes are hereby notified to declare all tangible personal property owned by them as of October 1st. CGS 12-41(d) provides that the assessor must apply a 25% PENALTY for failure to file by November 1st.

The Assessor's Office will mail declaration forms to all property owners previously on record. Failure to receive a form does not negate the requirements to declare. Forms are available online and in the Assessor's Office.

**NOTE:** A declaration for real property or registered motor vehicles are not necessary. Taxable personal property includes but is not limited to: ***unregistered motor vehicles, motor vehicles located in Connecticut but registered in another state***, office, manufacturing and farming equipment, machinery, tools, leasehold improvements, and unregistered trailers. Please call the Assessor's Office for a full list or if you need clarification.

**VETERANS:** who served for more than ninety days during a time of war or have been disabled must have recorded their honorable discharge with the Town Clerk by October 1, 2021 in order to receive an exemption against their 2022 tax bill.

**ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE MEMBERS:** must submit an application to the Assessor's Office in order to receive 2021 Motor Vehicle benefits no later than December 2022. A copy of your orders or ID is required.

**ADDITIONAL VETERAN'S EXEMPTION:** Increased exemptions are available for those who meet the necessary income requirements and file with the Assessor's Office by October 1st. Biennial filing is required, and proof of income must be furnished at the time of application.

Local option Veterans programs such as Gold Star Parents, Disabled veterans motor vehicle exemptions and increased exemption for 100% disabled veterans added in 2021. Please see specifics on the assessor's website.



# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

## ASSESSOR CONTINUED

**HOMEOWNERS:** Connecticut law provides for Annual Tax Relief for persons who are 65 years or older or totally disabled who meet necessary qualifications. To be eligible for a benefit for the 2021 tax bill, an application with proof of income and, if applicable, proof of total disability must be filed during the following dates:

HOMEOWNERS: Feb. 1 through May 15 ~ RENTERS: April 1 through Oct. 1

**PERSONS PERMANENTLY AND TOTALLY DISABLED**, regardless of age, may also apply for the benefits under the elderly program.

**HANDICAPPED MODIFIED VEHICLE**, used exclusively for the purpose of transporting any medically incapacitated individual, except for payment, may be eligible for exemption.

**TOTALLY AND PERMANENTLY DISABLED PERSONS:** Any person under the age of 65 that has been awarded total disability must apply by October 1st in order to receive a \$1000 assessment exemption. Applicants must furnish proof of award.

**FARM MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT:** farmers must file a notarized M-28 exemption form on or before November 1st annually to receive an exemption for farm machinery.

**LAND CLASSIFICATION:** Persons seeking to apply under farm, for the first time, must file an application between September 1st and October 31st with the Assessor's Office. Persons who have previously applied need not reapply. Persons seeking to apply for forest must have the land certified by a forester submitted by Oct. 1st

**MANUFACTURING MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT:** equipment used in the manufacturing process may be allowed an exemption if certain guidelines are met. A completed application must be filed by November 1st.

**NEW COMMERCIAL TRUCKS** with a gross rating in excess of 26,000 lbs. should check with the Assessor's Office for tax exemption eligibility. Applications must be completed and filed with the Assessor by November 1st.

# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

## ASSESSOR CONTINUED

### LOCAL OPTIONS:

- **FIREFIGHTERS:** Columbia volunteer firefighters who meet certain requirements are eligible for tax abatement up to \$1000.
- **ELDERLY HOMEOWNERS PROGRAM:** Senior Citizens or disabled individuals can defer the amount of their taxes that exceed 8% of their income. The application deadline is May 1ST annually.

*Most applications can be found on our town website.*

**FOR QUESTIONS ON ANY OF THESE PROGRAMS PLEASE CALL 228-9555.**

# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

**BECKISH SENIOR CENTER:** As of September 1, 2021, The Beckish Senior Center is CLOSED until further notice. Per the local Health Department, the Town of Columbia and many surrounding towns are now in the Red Zone for COVID cases. In an effort to keep the senior community safe we are closing temporarily until we see a downward trend in COVID cases. The Beckish Senior Center will remain closed to the public for large gatherings, cards, exercise, and lunches; however, we will open by appointment only, starting the week of 9/7/21 for the Podiatrist, Massage Therapist, Haircuts with Lynn Shea or to meet with our staff. We will continue to monitor the status of our community and evaluate moving forward with reopening fully. I understand this can be very disappointing, however the health and well-being of our seniors is my main concern. The new Delta Variant is about twice as transmissible as the original virus, so we are following the guidance of the Eastern Highlands Health District and CDC for reopening and procedures.

Our Transportation Program and Meals on Wheels will continue to be open Monday through Friday from 8am to 3pm. If you need a ride, please call our office at 860-228-0759 ext. 2. If you are homebound and in need of Meal on Wheels please call the Director, Bernadette Derring at 860-228-0759 ext. 1 for further assistance.

Thank you

Bernadette Derring

Director Senior Services & Transportation

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

**COLUMBIA'S**  
**MOBILE FOODSHARE**

**Beckish Senior Center**  
**188 Route 66, Columbia**

**EVERY OTHER THURSDAY**

**Aug 12th, Aug 26th, Sept 9th, Sept 23rd, Oct 7th, Oct 21st,  
Nov 4th, Nov 18th, Dec 2nd, Dec 16th, Dec 30th**

**1:00PM TO 1:30 PM**

**NOTE CHANGE:**

**PLEASE PARK YOUR CAR, SAFELY GET IN LINE  
ALONG SIDEWALK TO PICK UP YOUR FOOD AT THE  
TRUCK. BRING YOUR OWN BAGS.**

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME—NO PERSONAL INFO REQUIRED FOR  
PARTICIPATION**

# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

## **COLUMBIA COMMUNITY SOCIAL SERVICES: Important Application Deadlines to Keep in Mind: Renters Rebate applications will be accepted through October 1.**

Columbia residents age 65 or older by 12/31/2020 or those receiving Social Security Disability are eligible if their 2020 income was \$37,600 or less for an individual or \$45,800 or less for a married couple.

The following documentation is required:

1. Income for 2020 – SSA 1099 required; income tax, if filed, or all 1099s if not
2. Proof of rent paid for each month of 2020
3. Proof of utilities paid for each month of 2020
4. Proof of disability if not on Medicare and below age 65

Applications can be filed at the Assessor's Office in Town Hall after August 1st. Any questions, feel free to call them at 860-228-9555.

If you need assistance in filing, please contact Katie Wilt, Social Services Coordinator, at 860-228-1008.

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, Tuesday, & Friday from 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

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:** Fall season is upon us and the Department of Public Works remains busy with many projects and services this time of year.

The Town would like to ask the residents to help us in maintaining our drainage systems. We ask that you periodically check your driveway culverts and the catch basins in the road along your frontage and free them of debris. This will go a long way toward alleviating erosion and drainage problems. In addition, organic matter such as leaves in the streets send high levels of phosphorous into the surrounding waterways; as a reminder, please do not put leaves in the street.

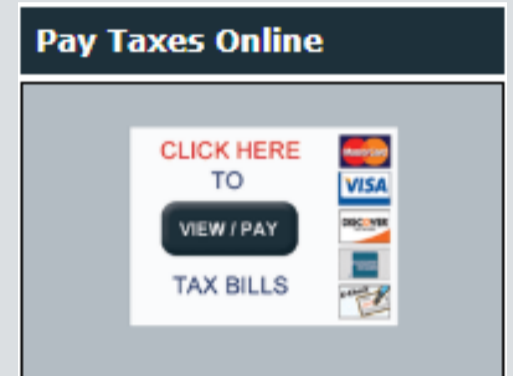
Fall is a great time of year to start home composting. Home composting is a great way to recycle organic materials at home to create a natural soil additive for use in your garden or yard. In a home composting bin or pile, use fallen leaves as a base of carbon material, then add green nitrogen materials such as grass clippings, garden trimmings and food waste. Finally soak the material with water which will start the natural decomposing process which will lead to the end result of homemade compost soil. **Home composting yard material and food waste at Columbia households could significantly reduce tax payers costs of municipal processing and garbage disposal.**



# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

**TAX OFFICE**: Taxes are due within 30 days of the due date, July 1st. If they are not paid on or before August 2, 2021, a penalty of 1½ % per month (or a minimum of \$2.00, whichever is greater) is charged **per vehicle or property** from the due date of July 1st (3% for July and August, 4.5% in September or 6% in October). A \$1.00 fee will be charged for **each** delinquent motor vehicle reported to DMV. All registrations in the name of a delinquent taxpayer will be blocked from renewals and new registrations until all taxes in their name are paid in full. This includes any motor vehicle registrations that are registered under multiple names.

**For those seeking an immediate clearance for DMV due to delinquent taxes please contact the Tax Office at 860-228-0230 or [taxcollector@columbiact.org](mailto:taxcollector@columbiact.org) for information on the process.**



Columbia residents can view and pay taxes online, service fees for tax payments apply, .95 cents to use a Bank account and 2.95% for credit and debit cards. To find your bills online, go to [www.columbiact.org](http://www.columbiact.org). On the Columbia home page click on the view/pay tab and on the next page click on view/ pay square. The search criteria will need to be entered exactly how the tax bill is written. Enter your last name, a space, and then your first initial. If you have any problems using the online system, please contact the Tax Office at 860-228-0230 or [taxcollector@columbiact.org](mailto:taxcollector@columbiact.org) and we will gladly assist you.

Please feel free to leave payments or correspondence in the drop box at the right side of the entrance of the Town Hall or in the drop box in front of Yeoman's Hall. The drop boxes are emptied at 8:00AM each weekday, weekend tax payments are processed on Monday. Please be aware that tax payments put in the drop box **after** 8:00AM will be processed the next day the **Tax Office** is open (see hours below).

**Regular office hours for the TAX OFFICE: Monday through Wednesday 8:00-2:00, Thursday 10:00-6:00 and closed on Friday.**

# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

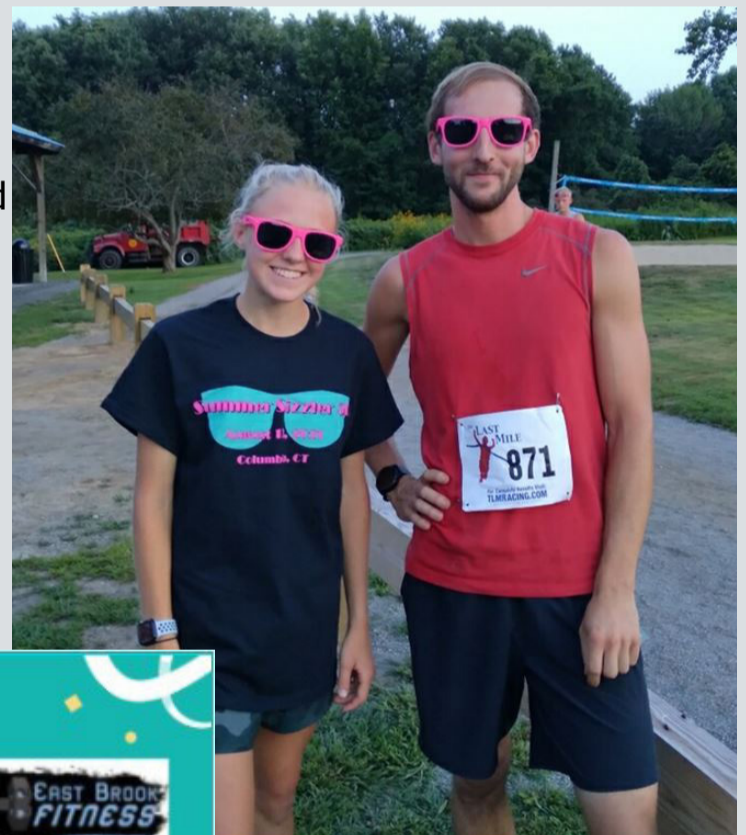
**TOWN CLERK:** The Town Clerk's office is fully open to the public – no appointment necessary. We are here for those services you might need – Recording and Searching of Land Records, Dog Licenses, Transfer Station stickers, Certified copies of Vital Records, Marriage licenses, Fishing and Hunting licenses, etc.

Due to the continuing pandemic, the need for social distancing and for your convenience, a large white drop box was installed outside the doors to Yeoman's Hall. This box can be used to drop off items for the Town Clerk and is shared with other offices in Town Hall.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call us or reach out to us by email – Robin ([townclerk@columbiact.org](mailto:townclerk@columbiact.org)) or Gail ([atownclerk@columbiact.org](mailto:atownclerk@columbiact.org)).

**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](#)!

**SUMMER SIZZLER ROAD RACE:** Over 70 runners turned out to compete in the 2021 Summer Sizzler Road Race despite the scorching heat! Channel 3 was on site to cover the event and interview runners. David Einsiedel Jr and Megan Minicuczi were the overall Male and Female winners at 19:02 and 20:14 respectively. Thanks again to all of our sponsors!!





# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

## RECREATION DEPARTMENT CONTINUED:

### LIFEGUARD & GATE MONITORING HOURS OF OPERATION:

- August 14th – September 6th from 10:30 AM -6:15 PM.
- The gate monitoring weekly schedule will end September 12th and resume for weekends only from September 18th to October 10th from 10:00am to 9:00pm (will adjust with sunset).

### RECREATION DEPARTMENT PROGRAMS:



**COLUMBIA PARKS & RECREATION**

# HALF DAY HANG OUT



**September 22nd, October 27th, November 24th, December 23rd,  
January 26th, March 23rd, May 25th**

Hang Outs run from 12:30 – 4:30 and will be held at  
Horace W. Porter School Gymnasium


Fee is \$25.00 per day, per child  
or \$150 for all Half day Hang out days

Hang Outs will be run in compliance with COVID-19 recommendations.  
Capacity of fourteen children per day.

Register online or contact the Columbia Recreation Department  
<http://columbia.recdesk.com>  
[recreation@columbiact.org](mailto:recreation@columbiact.org)  
860-228-8513

# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

## RECREATION DEPARTMENT PROGRAMS CONTINUED:



**COLUMBIA PARKS & RECREATION**

# CO-ED VOLLEYBALL

Porter Gym  
\$20

Sept 8<sup>th</sup>-Oct 27<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesday Nights  
7-9 PM



18+

MASK ARE REQUIRED WHILE IN THE BUILDING  
recreation@columbiact.org  
860-228-8513

# COLUMBIA DOG SHOW



Saturday, September  
25<sup>th</sup> 9:00-11:00 AM

\$2 per category, \$8 for 5, \$13 for 10  
RAIN DATE: September 26<sup>th</sup>

**Recreation Park Pavilion, Hennequin Road**  
Friendly dogs & owners invited or enjoy as a spectator!

**Prizes for each category winner:**

- Smallest
- Largest
- Best Tail
- Cutest
- Best Looking
- Best Trick
- Best Nose
- Best Ears
- Most Peculiar
- Best Coat


**Winner of each category competes in Best of Show!**

Precautions will be in place for Covid-19.  
Masks will be required in the "dog arena". Contact Columbia Recreation Department  
860-228-8513  
recreation@columbiact.org



# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

## RECREATION DEPARTMENT PROGRAMS CONTINUED:



**Men's**

**BASKETBALL**

Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>- Oct 25<sup>th</sup> 7-9PM  
Nov, 1<sup>st</sup>- March 28<sup>th</sup> 8-10PM  
April 4<sup>th</sup>- June 6<sup>th</sup> 7-9 PM

**\$50**  
PER Person

**AGE:**  
18+

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

**2021**

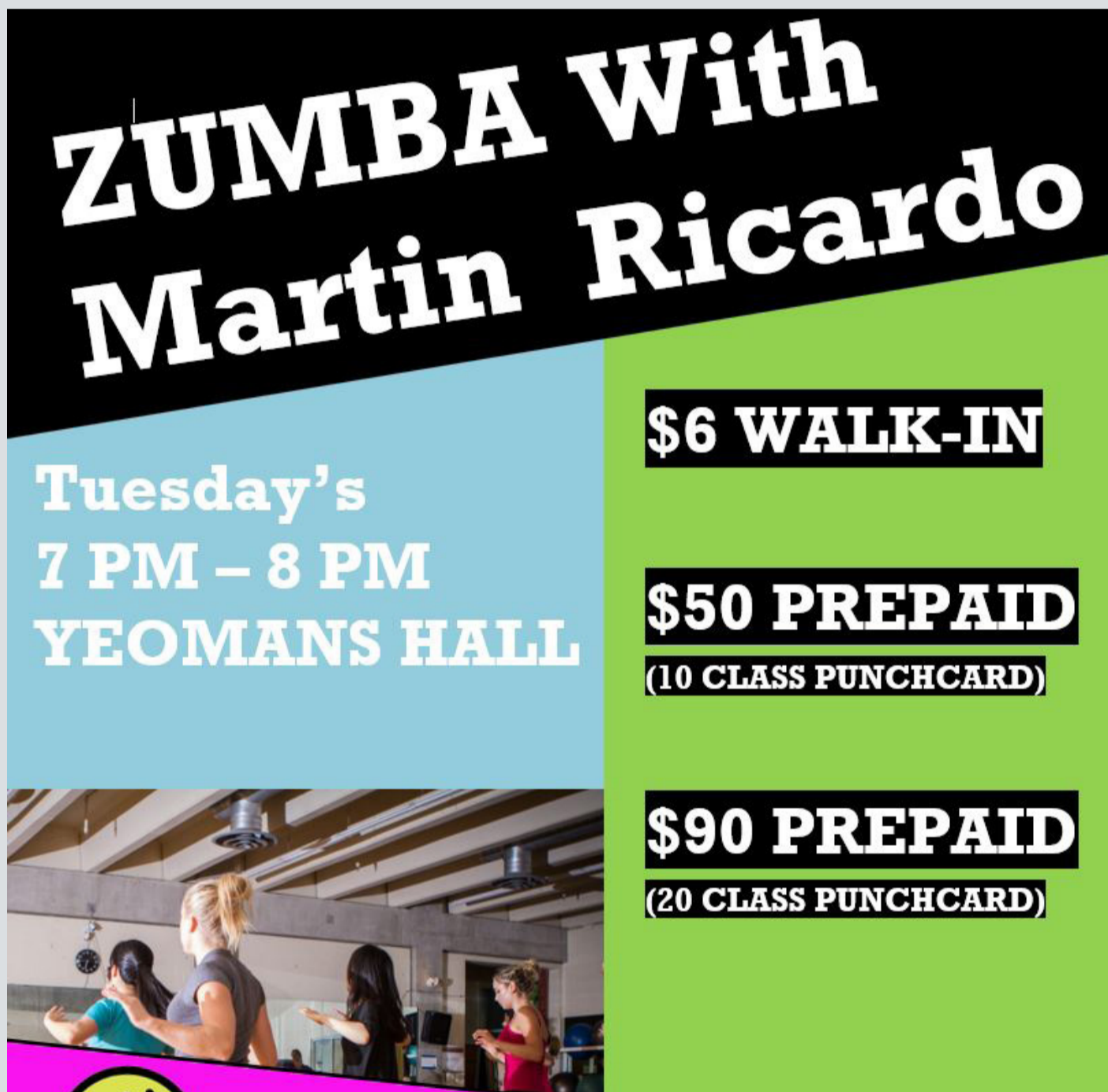
**PORTER SCHOOL GYM**



RECREATION@COLUMBIACT.ORG  
860-228-8513

# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

**RECREATION DEPARTMENT PROGRAMS CONTINUED:** Exciting news starting September 14th Zumba will be back!! Tuesdays 7-8pm! Come join Martin Ricardo at Yeoman's Hall! Check out [Martin's profile!](#)




**ZUMBA With  
Martin Ricardo**

**Tuesday's  
7 PM – 8 PM  
YEOMANS HALL**

**\$6 WALK-IN**

**\$50 PREPAID  
(10 CLASS PUNCHCARD)**

**\$90 PREPAID  
(20 CLASS PUNCHCARD)**



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

## **COLUMBIA BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS:**

### LEGAL NOTICE

#### COLUMBIA BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS

In accordance with Section 12-110 of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Columbia Board of Assessment Appeals will hold a public meeting on **Thursday, September 16, 2020** starting at 7:00 p.m. by appointment only via Zoom virtual platform for the sole purpose of hearing appeals related to the assessment of motor vehicles on the Grand List of October 1, 2020 and the Supplemental Grand List of October 1, 2019 in the Town of Columbia.

Appellants are encouraged to provide any documentation they believe support their appeal. Examples include, but are not limited to, bill of sale from new or used car dealership, repair bills, clear photos showing condition of vehicle, and photo of odometer reading. Motor vehicle appeal applications and supporting documentation must be filed in writing and postmarked no later than Monday, August 30, 2021. Arrangements may be made with the Assessor to have your vehicle photographed during business hours at Town Hall to show condition and mileage prior to the meeting by calling 860-228-9555.

The meeting agenda with appointment confirmation and links to join the virtual zoom meeting will be emailed prior to the meeting to applicants who have filed applications in a timely manner. Please contact the Assessor at 860-228-9555 or email the Board Clerk at [boardclerk@columbiact.org](mailto:boardclerk@columbiact.org) with any questions.

Applications are available in the Tax Assessor's Office or at [www.columbiact.org](http://www.columbiact.org). Completed applications may be put in the Town Hall drop box (write "BAA application" on application envelope) or mailed to: Board of Assessment Appeals, Assessor's Office, 323 Route 87, Columbia, CT.

Dated at Columbia, Connecticut this 30th day of July 2021.

Linda McDonald, Chairman

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

**AHM'S YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES:** The CHOREs Program is coordinated by AHM Youth & Family Services and is funded by a grant from the NCAAA (North Central Area Agency on Aging) along with donations from Church of the Holy Family, Marlborough Congregational Church and St. Peter's Episcopal Church. The purpose of the CHOREs Program is for teenagers to help senior citizens with chores within their home\* and on their property such as raking, stacking wood, weeding, dusting\* and vacuuming\*. Senior citizens 60+ years of age who are residents in the towns Andover, Hebron and Marlborough are welcome to contact their town's senior center for the application forms.

The benefits are great for both the senior citizens and the teenagers! Senior citizens have chores completed at no charge around their home\* and yard! And, teenagers age 14-18 earn \$13.00 per billable hour for contract work up to two hours per job, earn a letter of recommendation for active involvement in the program and learn communication, scheduling and time-management skills! A win-win!

\*Due to the global health crisis, AHM's COVID-19 Safety Protocol will be followed until further notice; no indoor jobs are being scheduled and no contact between student and senior during outdoor jobs.

If you would like more information or have questions, please contact Jenn Boehler, AHM CHOREs Coordinator by calling 860-228-9488 Ext. 31, or email [JenniferB@ahmyouth.org](mailto:JenniferB@ahmyouth.org).

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

**SAXTON B. LITTLE LIBRARY:** Fall is always a time of transition and we anticipate this year to be no different. Please follow our website and on Facebook for any changes. We thank the Columbia community for their support!

Masks are required by everyone in the public spaces of the Library.

After Labor Day, Saturday hours will resume. Our stacks remain open for browsing, but our programming room remains closed. Our programming (children's and adults) continue and are held outside as much as possible.

- Book groups and Writers group continue and new members are welcome anytime!
- On September 21, 7 pm, we are hosting Iceland Through My Heart a virtual travel program.
- On October 14, 7 pm, we'll be engaging in a discussion of George Washington's Rules of Civility and Decent Behavior pamphlet, as part of our American Library Association, Libraries in Transition grant. Sign up by September 30, to receive your free copy of this pamphlet!
- Also be sure to drop off your old puzzles in anticipation of our next Puzzle Swap which will take place on Friday October 1 (rain date Oct 8).

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

We look forward to hearing from you!

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

**COVID 19 VACCINATION CLINICS:** The Department of Public Health and the Windham Region Chamber of Commerce are partnering to bring the COVID vaccine FREE clinic to Willimantic. You do not need an appointment. You can come for your first dose or your second dose, regardless of where you got your first. All types of vaccine are available. The clinic will last for 8 weeks so you will be able to get both doses of the vaccine through this clinic.



**COVID VACCINE CLINIC**

 **CT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
MOBILE VACCINATION UNIT**

**THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, INC.  
WINDHAM REGION**

**Eastern CT Veterans Community Center  
1320 Main St, Suite 27, Willimantic**

**Mondays & Tuesdays  
11:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
July 26-Sept 14**

**No appointment needed!**  
Vaccination is the best protection against the COVID-19 virus, and that is why everyone 16 and older is strongly encouraged to receive this truly lifesaving vaccine.  
This free vaccination clinic is coming to our community to make the COVID-19 vaccine more accessible to our residents.





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

**THE COLUMBIA CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH** is once again hosting a community paper shredding event on **Saturday, September 18, 2021.**

Hours this year will be SHORTER--9:00 AM to NOON. -- Next to the old firehouse on RTE 66.

Don't miss your opportunity to donate to the mission work of the church and clear out your years of accumulated papers.

Staples and clips DO NOT need to be removed. If you have questions call Michele at 860-228-9306.



Start now to sort and collect your papers for the Paper Shred-A-Thon that will be held

**Saturday, September 18<sup>th</sup>**  
**9 AM – 12 PM**  
**(At the Old Fire House on Route 66)**  
**Columbia, CT 06237**

Please call ahead if you have large amounts of paper to dispose.  
Church Office: (860) 228-9306

The Shred-A-Thon is a fundraiser for Columbia Congregational Church and a free will offering is appreciated!



**Suggested donation \$5.00/ per bag.**



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



**Do you or Someone You Know Need Free At-Home Help? One Time, Weekly or More? Columbia Cares has Volunteers who will help—we can assist with household chores, yardwork, errands, rides or companionship!**

Call Joanne Prague Doyle at 860-337-0196 for  
information and registration assistance

Interested In Volunteering time once a week, a month or occasionally?  
Visit the [URCommunitycares.org](http://URCommunitycares.org) and Sign Up to help others in the community! You receive notification of the deed requests and you choose whether you are able to help. Questions? Call Joanne at 860-337-0196

**Columbia Cares** is affiliated with **UR Community Cares**, an organization founded to assist older people and disabled people in their homes. **UR Community Cares** is active in 100 towns in Connecticut!

Volunteers are Columbia Residents who have applied to be a part of the organization; UR Community Cares completes a background check on every volunteer.

We are here to help one another, create new relationships and establish a deep sense of community in Columbia.

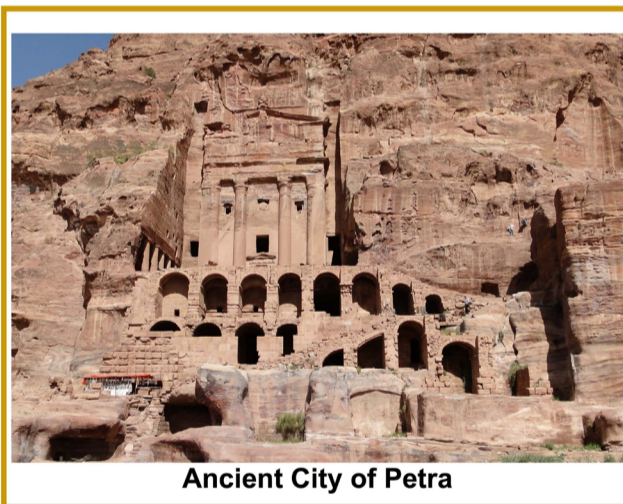
# NON-MUNICIPAL SERVICES PROVIDERS AND NON-PROFIT NEWS AND INFORMATION

## THE COLUMBIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Columbia Historical Society presents an

### **Archaeology Movie Fest**

Become an armchair archaeologist as you watch the story of the discovery and conservation of the Qin Emperor's Terracotta Army, over 8,000 life size troops created to defend this Chinese emperor in the afterlife.



Ancient City of Petra

Then watch as archaeologists carry out research that gives proof of trade routes between Europe and the Far East that predate the Silk Road by thousands of years.

**Saturday Sept. 18 4 - 6 PM**

at the Beckish Senior Center 188 Rt. 66 Columbia

#### **Covid precautions in effect:**

Masks required regardless of vaccination status. Social Distancing.

Admission limited to 15 people. Free but donations appreciated.

Reserve by contacting Judy Ortiz at: 860 208-9881 or [jortiz6151@gmail.com](mailto:jortiz6151@gmail.com)

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

## OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE:

The Fundraiser for the Mono Pond Expansion-Trust for Public Land has been postponed until the spring 2022 due to COVID.

*fundraiser*

SAVE THE DATE!

Mono Pond Expansion-Trust for Public Land  
Fundraiser at Heartstone Winery

October 9, 2021  
3-6 PM

Celebrate our Successes!  
Look to the Future!

POSTPONED UNTIL SPRING 2022

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

## **COLUMBIA DEMOCRATIC TOWN COMMITTEE:**

### COLUMBIA DEMOCRATIC TOWN COMMITTEE MEET AND GREET

The Columbia Democratic Town Committee is hosting a Meet and Greet at the Heartstone Winery at 468 Rte. 87 in Columbia on 10/3 between 2 and 5. The candidates who are running on the Democratic ticket will be in attendance. You will have the opportunity to ask questions and get to know the person who is making policy decisions in Columbia. The State and Federal officials have also been invited to this event. We will be entertained by Bruce John as you are discussing issues with the candidates as well as enjoying the varied wines that are offered at the winery. Please join us on October 3 so that you know the person whom you will be voting for on November 2. Civic knowledge and engagement, begins locally here in Columbia.

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

**COLUMBIA REPUBLICAN TOWN COMMITTEE:**

MEET YOUR MUNICIPAL CANDIDATES  
AND OTHER LOCAL LEADERS

AT HEARTSTONE WINERY, 468 ROUTE 87

ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, FROM 2:00 TO 5:00 PM

SPONSORED BY THE COLUMBIA REPUBLICAN TOWN COMMITTEE,  
LISA NAPOLITANO, TREASURER

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT [CHAIRMAN@COLUMBIARTC.  
ORG](mailto:CHAIRMAN@COLUMBIARTC.ORG) OR SEE [WWW.COLUMBIARTC.ORG](http://WWW.COLUMBIARTC.ORG)