

# COLUMBIA



*Kingfisher Flight on Water - Ryan Hopper*

# UPDATE SEPTEMBER 2023



# TOWN OF COLUMBIA

## OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN & TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

**PREPARING FOR HURRICANE SEASON:** The period from August to early October tends to produce the most hurricanes and tropical storms. September is the single most active month of the Atlantic hurricane season. Often with these storms we experience power outages, so it is important that our community is prepared before a storm arrives. The Capital Region Council of Governments implemented the [Capital Region Get Ready Program](#) to promote preparedness measures in homes and communities. What are the steps that you can do to prepare for a storm?

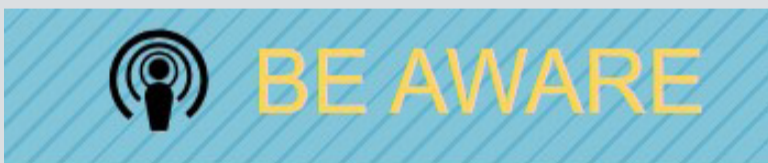
Being aware of the most likely hazards in the Capitol Region is the first step in disaster preparedness, and here you'll find background information and checklists with specific steps you can take before a disaster strikes. You'll also find ways to help you stay informed about potential threats to your community through a variety of resources and tools.

While local emergency services (police, fire, emergency medical) are well equipped to quickly and effectively provide help when emergencies arise, each and every household must be ready to fend for their own needs for at least 72-hours (three days) after an emergency begins. Take steps now to plan ahead.

Take action in advance of an emergency or disaster to ensure you and your family are able to respond and recover. Disaster preparedness helps you be ready to respond to any emergency you encounter, no matter how small or large.

While local emergency services (police, fire, emergency medical) are well equipped to quickly and effectively provide help when emergencies arise, each and every household must be ready to fend for their own needs for at least 72-hours (three days) after an emergency begins. Take steps now to plan ahead.

Click on Tabs to Learn More





## TOWN OF COLUMBIA OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN & TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

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.

**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 at [www.columbiafire5.org](http://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.



With Labor Day and the start of the new school year, we leave summer behind and look forward to crisp fall days and busy schedules. School is in session and we would like to remind you to please show extra caution where students may be walking to/ from bus stops or school or getting on or off of their school bus.

**TOWN OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED  
FOR THE LABOR DAY HOLIDAY,  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2023.**





## 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](mailto:townadministrator@columbiact.org).

Thank you and please be safe,

Steven M. Everett, First Selectman

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

860-228-0110

Mark B. Walter, Town Administrator

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

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.**

9/04/23 Mon: Horace Porter School HVAC Building Committee, 6:00 PM

9/05/23 Tue: Board of Selectmen, 7:00 PM

9/06/23 Wed: Lake Management Advisory Committee, 7:00 PM

9/07/23 Mon: Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission, 7:00 PM

9/07/23 Thur: Szegda Farm Management Committee, 6:00 PM

9/07/23 Thur: Conservation & Agriculture Commission, 7:00 PM

9/11/23 Mon: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7:00 PM

9/11/23 Mon: Board of Education, 7:30 PM

9/13/23 Wed: Fiscal Policy Board, 8:30 AM

9/13/23 Wed: Economic Development Commission, 7:00 PM

9/19/23 Tue: Hop River Preserve Committee, 5:30 PM

9/19/23 Tue: Board of Selectmen, 7:00 PM

9/20/23 Wed: Financial Planning & Allocation Commission, 7:00 PM

9/21/23 Thur: Open Space Committee, 9:00 AM

9/25/23 Mon: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7:00 PM

9/27/23 Wed: Commission on Aging, 9:00 AM

9/28/23 Thur: Zoning Board of Appeals, 7:00 PM

Public Comment will be accepted by our dedicated email at [PublicInput@columbiact.org](mailto: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

## REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

**Municipal Election  
November 7, 2023  
6am-8pm  
YEOMANS HALL  
323 Route 87, Columbia CT 06237**

If you need to register to vote:

- Register online at [voterregistration.ct.gov](https://voterregistration.ct.gov),
- Stop in the Town Clerk's office during regular business hours, or
- Contact the Registrars of Voters office with your name and address and we will mail a Voter Registration Card to you.

If you need an Absentee Ballot:

- Absentee Ballots will become available starting on October 6th.
- To obtain an Absentee Ballot, you must first fill out an application for an Absentee Ballot. You can find an application on the [Registrar of Voter website](#), or contact the Town Clerk at (860) 228-3284.
- Absentee Ballot Applications can now be completed online through the [Secretary of State's Office website](#) or by visiting our website above.

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

Registrars of Voters

Karen Butzgy – Democratic

Gayle Mulligan – Republican

(860) 228-6843 x113

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

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

# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

## **BECKISH SENIOR CENTER:**

### **Makeup for Mature Women**

#### **Featuring Joby Rogers**

**September 19th**

**10am—12 pm Pizza after class**

**Cost: \$5 pp and you must sign-up!**

Joby Rogers is Certified Professional Makeup artist & Educator. And will be giving a 2 hour class. Its the perfect place for mature women and women of all ages and experience to learn how to create a makeup style that compliments their personal features and skin tone.

We will explore products and tools and 'must haves' for your personal makeup collection. You will participate in 'hands-on' makeup demonstrations and convey knowing that with a little practice you can perfect your personal appearance for all occasions.

#### **Essentials:**

- Keeping your Makeup & Brushes clean & sanitary
- Correct Make Up Application Techniques
- Interpreting your skin tone & color
- Choosing the Right Foundation & Concealer
- Contouring, Highlighting, Blushing
- Eye Shadow Color choices & application advice
- Grooming & Defining Eyebrows
- The perfect Lip Color suggestions & advice - reshaping
- Natural Day & Night Application Make Up
- Evaluation & Questions & About Your Personal Makeup Concerns

**PARTICIPANTS REQUIREMENTS—** Participants are encouraged to bring their own personal makeup and brushes for a professional evaluation. It is preferable that Participants attend the forum 'makeup free' BUT NOT required.

# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

## BECKISH SENIOR CENTER (CONTINUED):

### TRANSPORTATION



The Town of Columbia's Senior Transportation Services provides transportation for residents who are sixty years and older or disabled adults eighteen years and older. One handicapped van has accommodations for two wheelchairs, a maximum of 14 riders. A town-owned SUV allows for up to three people.

Transportation is provided for doctor appointments, shopping, wellness trips, banking, or various errands. Service is offered to and from the Beckish Senior Center for lunch or activities at the center. The hour of operation is Monday through Friday 8am to 3pm, excluding town holidays and inclement weather. Please call the Senior Center at 860-228-0759, extension 2, to speak with Flo or Lisa to schedule your ride. Rides should be made at least forty eight hours in advance. Medical rides should be made as soon as possible, these rides take precedent over all other rides.

Passengers must always wear a seatbelt. Food and drink are not allowed in the vehicle.

#### Suggested Donations for Trips

Sponsored outings by any group or approved organization	\$ 3.00 or \$5.00
1 to 10 miles	\$ 2.00
11 to 19 miles	\$ 5.00
20 to 29 miles	\$10.00
30 plus miles	\$15.00

#### DIAL-A-RIDE

Dial-A-Ride is door-to-door ride service to and from anywhere within the nine-town region. Dial-A-Ride operates Monday thru Friday 8am to 4pm excluding holidays. Trips are \$3 each way and free to seniors. A suggested donation would be accepted. Forty-eight hours' notice is required.

For more information visit <https://wrtd.org/dial-a-ride/>

Bernadette Derring, Director of Senior Services

860-228-0759

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



# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:** Public Works has been busy this summer with public works improvement projects, including drainage in the Little League ball field at Rec Park, a culvert project on Erdoni Rd., replacement of cross-drainage on Hennequin Rd., grading and millings for the final parking lot at the new DPW Office building, assisted with the demolition of the pavilion at the town beach.



## ***SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER PROJECTS:***

Paving of Gaulin Rd. starting on 9/11/23 (weather dependent) that will span for 2 days. **Expect road closures during the paving.**

Drainage upgrade on lower Whitney Rd. near Route 6. Expected construction will begin in September.

Hunt Rd. bridge culvert replacement expected in October.

Stay informed by checking the town [website](#).

# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

**FIRE MARSHAL:** As fall approaches it is time to have our furnaces and alternate heating devices checked and cleaned for proper operation and efficiency. Keep all combustible materials a minimum of 36 inches from all heating devices. Also, waiting for the time when you need your heat, is too late.

Fire Prevention week will begin on Sunday October 8 and run through Saturday October 14, this year's theme is "Cooking safety starts with YOU".

Also, this is a great time to change out those older alarms for newer ones. Fire alarms become less sensitive/reactive as they get older, seven (7) years is a good gauge to replace those older alarms. It is highly recommended to change the batteries twice a year, once in the fall when we go to standard time and then again in the spring when daylight savings time begins.

To obtain a permit to burn brush, please contact the Town of Columbia Land Use Department at 860-228-0440. Remember, the burning of leaves is not an acceptable practice in the State of Connecticut per D.E.E.P. regulations.

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

Michael Lester  
Fire Marshal/Open Burning Official

**Did you know that cooking fires are the leading cause of home fires and home fire injuries?  
Cooking safety starts with YOU.**



**FIRE  
PREVENTION  
WEEK™**

**Pay attention  
to fire prevention.™**

# 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 1, 2023, 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 2.99% 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 CLERKS OFFICE:** 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, **Absentee Ballots**, etc.

For your convenience, there is a large white drop box 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.

## **STATE ELECTION**

For information with regards to applying for an absentee ballot for the November 7, 2023 election, please refer to the **Registrar of Voter's** section in this issue. You can also check out the [Register of Voter's page](#) on the Town's website.

**Absentee ballots become available on October 6, 2023** through the close of business on November 6, 2023.

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)).

# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

**RECREATION DEPARTMENT:** Summer is winding down and therefore so are our beach activities. But my oh my did we have fun at Columbia Town Beach and Rec Park this summer. August highlighted hiking, volleyball, Tai Chi, Yoga, swim lessons, story and craft time, lifeguard battles, a Monarch Butterfly House and a summer concert to name a few.

Here is a look back at some of the memories we made:

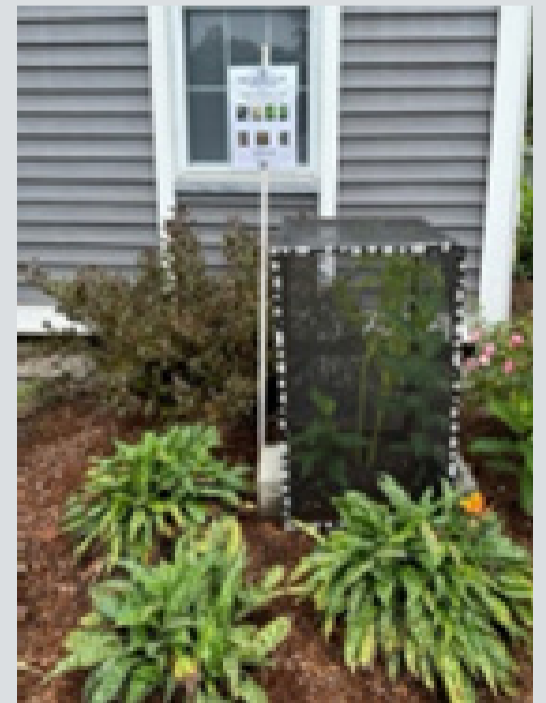
Pete the Cat story and craft time ~ 'I Love My White Shoes' and 'Missing Cupcakes':

Participants had fun listening to Pete the Cat favorite stories followed by making their own story books filled with personal writing, illustrations, and creativity. Cupcakes were an added addition to the second Pete the Cat outing.



## **MONARCH BUTTERFLIES ABOUND AT MURPHY HOUSE!**

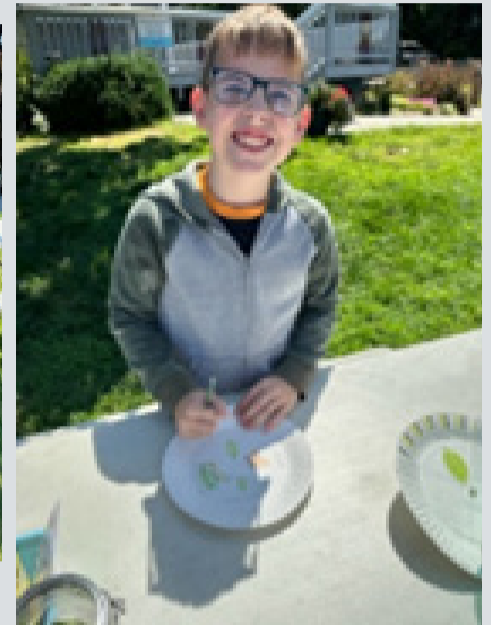
Did you know Columbia Town Beach is certified as a Monarch Butterfly Way-station? Building on the efforts of Mrs. Ramsey to create an environment to support the life cycle of the Monarch Butterfly, we have added a butterfly house. We have several caterpillars who are growing bigger and bigger each day along with four chrysalis at time of article submission. As the monarchs emerge, we will be tagging them as part of the Monarch Watch program. Stay tuned for release details so you can join the fun. Who knows! Maybe one of ours will make it all the way to Mexico!



# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

## RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED):

**Pictures from our arts and crafts day:**



**Session III Swim Lessons:** August concluded our final swim lessons for the 2023 summer season. The students excelled and are well on their way to becoming proficient swimmers. We plan to expand our swim lesson offerings next season and look forward to seeing everyone back next summer.



# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

## RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED):

**Yoga at the Beach:** Rain or shine, it didn't matter. Yoga happened and was a summer favorite.



**Lifeguard Battles:** Rain put a damper on the games, but spirited fun, beach work and a celebration of a good season of summer work still took place. As the beach season concludes, we send a big thank you to all our 2023 guards.



# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

## RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED):

**Summer Concert Series Finale:** Our 2023 Summer Concert Series closed in strong fashion. The weather was great and Cover2Cover was a hit. Columbia Package Store, Jayy's Little Red Trailer and Jumping Cow Ice Cream were superb. The night was full of strong community spirit and fun. A very special thank you to our sponsors Discovery Learning Zone, Titan Energy and Columbia CrossFit for making it possible to host such events.





# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

## RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED):

**UPCOMING EVENTS:** Come on, Columbia! Join us for our own 3.1-mile race. The start and finish are at Rec Park. ALL levels of ability are welcome. Make it a family event!

September 16th: Columbia 5K Road Race ~ To Register: <https://columbiaparksrec5k.itsyourrace.com/>

Not into running? Get involved as a volunteer or sponsor. We need you! Contact the Parks and Recreation Department with questions on how to get involved: [recdirector@columbiact.org](mailto:recdirector@columbiact.org) or 860.228.8513. A special thank you to Casella who is donating reusable water bottles to all participants.



The flyer for the Columbia 5K race features a central illustration of a diverse group of runners in colorful, geometric-patterned athletic wear. The text is arranged around this central image. At the top left is the Columbia Parks & Recreation Department logo. The main title 'Columbia 5K' is in a large, blue, serif font. Below it, the date 'Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup>' and the start time '9:00 am' are displayed. Two callout boxes on the left side of the runner group state 'A Road Race for all Levels!' and 'Family friendly!'. A blue box on the left provides registration details: 'To Register: https://columbiaparksrec5k.itsyourrace.com/', 'Register By: June 30th \$20, July 1 - Aug. 31st \$25, Sept. 1 - 15<sup>th</sup> \$30', and '\*T-shirt included!'. An orange box on the right says 'Music! Vendors! Prizes awarded to the top finishers in age groups'. A blue box at the bottom right indicates 'Start & Finish at Columbia Rec Park'. At the very bottom, an orange box thanks platinum sponsors: 'Thank you to our Platinum Sponsors! DISCOVERY ZONE, TITAN ENERGY & CROSSFIT'. Contact information for Debbie Fiske is provided at the bottom left.

**COLUMBIA**  
PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

# Columbia 5K

Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup>  
9:00 am

A Road Race for all Levels!  
Family friendly!

**To Register:**  
<https://columbiaparksrec5k.itsyourrace.com/>  
**Register By:**  
June 30th \$20  
July 1 - Aug. 31st \$25  
Sept. 1 - 15<sup>th</sup> \$30  
\*T-shirt included!

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

Start & Finish at Columbia Rec Park

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

For more information, contact Debbie Fiske:  
[Recdirector@columbiact.org](mailto:Recdirector@columbiact.org)  
or 860.228.8513



**October 14th ~ Disc Golf Tournament** Join us for a day of fun for all levels of Disc Golf enthusiasts. Introduction and free learning sessions of the game will be available in the a.m. followed by tournament play for various age groups and skill levels in the afternoon. Mark your calendar. More details to follow!

# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

## RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED):

### Looking ahead: Rec Basketball Season --looking to coach?

Youth Rec Basketball ~ Hoop season will be here before you know it. Registration for Rec Basketball is NOW OPEN. Register on [RecDesk](#) before September 30th to receive the early bird discount.

Interested in coaching this season? Please reach out directly to the Parks and Recreation Department.

**Adult programs @ Horace Porter School gymnasium:** It is that time of year where we make the transition from outside play to indoor play. Registration can be done online through [RecDesk](#) or a walk-in option.

The following programs begin early September:

- Men's Basketball: Monday evenings
- Co-ed Volleyball: Tuesday evenings
- Women's Basketball: Wednesday evenings

### **ADULT FITNESS CLASSES AT YEOMAN'S HALL**

**FIT FUSION** ~ Mondays/Wednesdays/Fridays, 4:30 - 5:30 PM @ \*the Beckish Senior Center through Sept. 26th. Join instructor Carolyn Ritchie for a total body workout for all fitness levels.

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

**COMMIT** -- NEW START TIME! Wednesdays, 6 - 7 PM 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!



**REC BASKETBALL  
SIGN-UPS ARE  
OPENED**

**Register on RecDesk Before  
September 30<sup>th</sup>  
for the early bird Price!**

Click here: [Columbia Parks and Recreation Department > Home \(recdesk.com\)](#)

**Assessment Night Schedule:**

**Monday October 16<sup>th</sup>**  
6-7pm: 3/4 Grade Girls  
7-8pm: 5/6 Grade Girls

**Wednesday October 18<sup>th</sup>**  
6-7pm: 3/4 Grade Boys  
7-8pm: 5/6 Grade Boys



# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

## **RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED):**

For more dates and offerings, please visit our Website, follow us on Instagram [https://www.instagram.com/columbia\\_parks\\_rec/](https://www.instagram.com/columbia_parks_rec/) and/or Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/col.rec.56>

## **BEACH AND BOATING BUSINESS:**

The Columbia Town Beach season officially closes September 4th. \*Lifeguards will be on duty Labor Day weekend (9/2 – 9/4). 10:30 a.m. – 6:15 p.m. \**weather permitting*

Be sure to visit our snack stand to help close out the goodies for the season. Various ice creams, chips, cookies and beverages are sold. Ask a lifeguard or staff member to assist you.

## **MARINE PATROL SCHEDULE** **FOR REMAINDER OF BOATING** **SEASON:**

Through September 4th ~ Full  
Schedule:

11:00 – Sunset (gate monitoring  
begins at 10:00 a.m.)

September 9th – October 9th ~  
Weekends only:

11:00 a.m. – 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):

### AROUND TOWN:



We wish you a happy and healthy end to summer and leap into fall. We look forward to seeing you at an event and around town!

Debbie Fiske, Recreation Director

860-228-8513

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

# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

## RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED):



**COLUMBIA PARKS & RECREATION**

## CO-ED VOLLEYBALL

**HORACE PORTER SCHOOL**  
**\$20 RESIDENTS**  
**\$30 FOR NON-RESIDENTS**  
**\$5 WALK-INS**



**SEPTEMBER 5TH –**  
**OCTOBER 24TH**  
**TUESDAYS 7-9PM**  
*\*EXCLUDES OCTOBER 11TH*

***\*MUST BE 18 TO PARTICIPATE***



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 (CONTINUED):



# BASKETBALL

2023 - 2024

Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> - Oct 2<sup>nd</sup> 7-9PM  
Oct 16<sup>th</sup> - March 25<sup>th</sup> 8-10PM  
April 1<sup>st</sup> - May 20<sup>th</sup> 7-9 PM

<b>\$60</b> Residents	<b>\$75</b> Non- Residents	<b>\$5</b> Walk-ins
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**AGE:**  
**18+**

**PORTER SCHOOL GYM**

# TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

## RECREATION DEPARTMENT (CONTINUED):



**COLUMBIA PARKS & RECREATION**

**Fall 2023** **WOMEN'S**  
**BASKETBALL OPEN GYM**

**Wednesdays, 7-9 PM**

**September 6<sup>th</sup> – October 18<sup>th</sup>**  
*\*Except September 27<sup>th</sup>*

**Porter Gym**

**\$20 Resident, \$30 Non-Resident**  
**\$5 walk-in**  
**18+**

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 (CONTINUED):

### **Yoga** **At Yeomans Hall**



**Mondays**

**6:30-7:30 pm**

**September 11<sup>th</sup> – November 20<sup>th</sup>**

**Walk-in \$ 10**

**Pre-pay: \$85 for the entire session**



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

**SAXTON B. LITTLE LIBRARY:** Welcome to September at your local library! Now that summer reading season is over, we're looking forward to some cozy fall reads and events.

Adults – we anticipate big groups for two programs coming up! We're hosting our biannual Jigsaw Puzzle Swap on Tuesday, September 19th through Thursday, September 21st. Drop off your puzzles now through the day of the swap whenever the Library is open. Then, join us on the days of the swap, even if you don't have something to trade! We usually have a few hundred puzzles to choose from.

Then, for spooky season in October, come join us for Growing Up Haunted, wherein author Courtney McInvale will discuss her family's time living in a haunted house in East Hampton that was eventually investigated by the famed Warrens. We'll hear the story on Tuesday, October 3rd at 6:30pm. We anticipate that this program will fill up, so please call the Library to save your seat!



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

**SAXTON B. LITTLE LIBRARY (CONTINUED):** Kids – It's back-to-school, and we're making DIY Pencil Cases! Join us on Thursday, September 28th at 6:00pm to design your own pencil case, perfect for carrying school supplies. This program is for kids of all ages, but space is limited, so call us at 860-228-0350 to save your seat.

Our Drawing Club will continue into the school year with monthly meetings on the last Tuesday of each month at 4:00pm. Join us to practice your drawing skills through fun prompts and projects. Registration for our September session opens on 9/1. Open to ages 5+



September is also the perfect time to join one of Saxton B. Little's book groups! We have five groups for adults and three groups for kids and teens. Visit our website at [columbiactlibrary.org](http://columbiactlibrary.org) to check out what we're reading, and if you're interested in having your child join a kids book club, please contact Megan, our Children's Librarian, at 860-228-0350 to see if space is available.

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

**SAXTON B. LITTLE LIBRARY (CONTINUED):** This month, our featured service available to everyone with an SBL Library Card is our Libby app! Download the Libby app, log-in with your SBL Library Card number and password (call us if you're unsure of your password!), and get access to hundreds of free eBooks and eAudiobooks available to read.

We hope to see you at SBL soon!



Saxton B. Little Library

**Feature Film  
FRIDAYS**

Sept. 1 • Are You There, God? It's Me, Margaret (PG-13)

Sept. 8 • About My Father (PG-13)

Sept. 15 • Book Club: The Next Chapter (PG-13)

Sept. 22 • Big George Foreman (PG-13)

Sept. 29 • Love Again (PG-13)

**Fridays at 1:00pm**

Please arrive early to grab a seat and a snack before showtime!

all screenings will include subtitles

no registration required / adults only / films subject to change

The poster features a yellow and black striped clapperboard on the left, a yellow and black library card with the number 1234567 in the center, and a yellow silhouette of a person on the right. The background is white with a yellow border.

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

## **SAXTON B. LITTLE LIBRARY (CONTINUED):**

**SAXTON B. LITTLE LIBRARY | COLUMBIA | 860-228-0350**

# *Growing Up* **HAUNTED**

**Author Courtney McInvale will discuss her family's time living in East Hampton, where during her childhood there was several accounts of haunting and paranormal activity for the family and visitors to the home.**

**Ultimately, the famed Warrens were called into the house to find the source of the activity and conduct a cleansing. Courtney will discuss some of the happenings at the house, what the Warrens found, and the impact that has made on her career. A mix of true paranormal stories and the reasons why a haunting can happen and types of haunting will be included.**

**OCTOBER 3 @ 6:30PM**

**LIMITED SEATING - REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

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

## SAXTON B. LITTLE LIBRARY (CONTINUED):



SAXTON B. LITTLE LIBRARY | COLUMBIA

## HOW TO GET YOUR BOOK PUBLISHED

In this interactive session presented by **Dr. Jan Yager**, you will learn about the various ways to get your book published in today's market. We'll discuss the three main publishing channels (along with the pros and cons of each type of publisher) as well as what you need to do to pitch yourself for a particular format. Jan will also discuss the three main ways that you can release your book: print (paperback or hardcover); e-book; and audiobook.

Along with this overview, Jan will answer all your publishing questions, including: Do you need a literary agent to get your book published? What goes into a book proposal? Are the rules the same or different for nonfiction versus fiction? Just what is a hybrid publisher and how do you know if it's right for you? How long does it usually take to get a book published from final manuscript to finished book? and more!

Jan is the author of more than 50 award-winning books translated into 35 languages. After working for many years for various publishers, in 1996 she decided to start her own independent publishing company, Hannacroix Creek Books, based in Stamford, CT, with authors throughout Connecticut, the U.S., and internationally.

### Saturday, Sept. 9th @ 11:00am


Registration required - call 860-228-0350 to sign up!

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

## **SAXTON B. LITTLE LIBRARY (CONTINUED):**

**SAXTON B. LITTLE LIBRARY**

# JIGSAW PUZZLE SWAP



Bring your old puzzles (no pieces missing please!) and swap them out for something new to you!

Drop off your puzzles now through the day of the swap whenever the Library is open.

Join us even if you don't have puzzles to trade!

**Hours**

Tuesday, 9/19  
**3:00-7:30pm**  
Wednesday, 9/20  
**10am-7:30pm**  
Thursday, 9/21  
**10am-2:00pm**

Call us at 860-228-0350 with any questions!

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

## SAXTON B. LITTLE LIBRARY (CONTINUED):



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

**Saturday, September 16th**  
**9 AM - Noon**

**Location:**  
**Old Fire House**  
166 Route 66  
Columbia, CT

**Suggested Donation**  
\$5 / bag

The Shred-a-thon is  
a fundraiser for  
Columbia Congregational  
Church

For Large Amounts or other  
questions please call  
the church office at  
860 228 9306



2nd Saturday Community  
**Breakfast**  
Saturday September 9th

Share Food and Joy with  
Family and Friends

**NEW TIME 7:30 - 10**

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!



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

**SAXTON B. LITTLE LIBRARY (CONTINUED):**

**Make today the day you decide to own your money!**



*Did you know that 40% of Americans say their financial situation has caused them to lose sleep in the past month? If that's you or someone you love, it's time to make a change. Take the first step and take control of your finances by signing up for my*

*Financial Peace University class at Columbia Congregational Church.*

*Proverbs 22:7 states, "The rich rule over the poor, and the borrower is the slave of the lender."*



Sign up at <https://www.fpu.com/8213C7> or by scanning the QR code.

Questions? Reach out to Ellie Foss [elizabetherinross@gmail.com](mailto:elizabetherinross@gmail.com)

**Financial Peace University Class**  
**Tuesdays 6:30 PM starting September 12th**  
 at Columbia Congregational Church



## SIMPLE SUSTENANCE OFFERINGS 2023-2024

2023	Sep	24	Minestrone	Irish Soda Bread
	Oct	22	Beef Barley	Pumpkin Bread
	Nov	19	Butternut Squash Soup	Cranberry Apple Bread
	Dec	17	Chicken Rice Veggie Soup	Eggnog Bread
2024	Jan	28	Chicken Brunswick Stew	Corn Bread (Incl. GF)
	Feb	25	Mulligatawny	Mozzarella Parmesan Bread
	Mar	24	* Pierogis, Apple Sauce, Carmelized Onions *	
	Apr	28	Corn Chowder	Molasses Brown Bread
	May	26	Zuppa Toscana	Sun-Dried Tomato Basil Bread

ORDER and PAY one week prior to PICK UP date

ORDER forms available at church or email: [ccchurchfair@gmail.com](mailto:ccchurchfair@gmail.com)

OR Order online with PayPal at

[https://columbiacongregationalchurch.org/?page\\_id=16952](https://columbiacongregationalchurch.org/?page_id=16952)





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

## **EARLY CHILDHOOD HORACE W. PORTER SCHOOL:**

The Early Childhood Team of Horace W. Porter School is pleased to announce that we will conduct Preschool Screenings for Columbia 2-year and 9-month-old (turning 3 by December 31, 2023) and any 4-year-old not previously screened (and not turning 5 by December 31, 2023). Please call Deborah Dupuis at (860) 228-0585 if you would like your child to be screened. All public-school systems in Connecticut are responsible for the identification of children who may be eligible to receive special education services. The early childhood team in Columbia offers preschool developmental screenings for current resident children. The purpose of this screening is to collect information about each preschooler's early development in the areas of cognition, communication, motor functioning, and social interaction. This will help us to determine whether your child needs any special services in order to prepare for school success. If you have concerns about a child that has not yet turned 3, please contact the CT Birth-to-Three program at (800) 505-7000.