The background of the cover is a detailed oil painting of a river scene in autumn. The water is dark and still, reflecting the brilliant colors of the trees on the banks. The trees show a mix of green, yellow, orange, and red. In the foreground, there are lily pads on the water and some green foliage on the left and right sides. The overall mood is peaceful and scenic.

Columbia VIEWS

Volume 3 • Issue 4
Fall 2019

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I can only hope that the winter goes by as fast as this summer has. It seems like yesterday we were hoping for the rain to stop so that spring would be over, and summer would be here. Be careful what you wish for! The fall colors are starting to appear, and the air is getting crisp.



Goodbye mosquitoes! I do feel that it is the most beautiful time of the year in our country setting and certainly around Columbia Lake.

I have started a new program called Ask the First Selectman. Once a month, I will be holding meetings at different locations and varying times in hopes that it will be easy for citizens of the town to reach out to me and ask any questions you may have. Please look for the upcoming location and time in the monthly e-newsletter. To sign up for the e-newsletter, please visit our website's homepage (<http://columbiact.org>) and navigate to the "Stay Informed with Emergency Alerts and Town News" section and click on Email Notifications.

We have made some changes and will continue to make more in our ability to communicate town news and events. Along with the monthly e-newsletter and the Columbia Views we have commissioned a new website for the town to enhance the ability to serve and communicate online. We are committed to ensuring that our residents, business owners, and visitors can access modern online features to meet their information and communication needs as well as highlight the Town of Columbia as a great place to learn, live, work, and visit. I also encourage every citizen to sign up for the town email notifications that helps us to communicate daily events and items of safety.

Drawn down for the lake will be on November 1st this year. At Rec Park, the new softball field has taken hold and is in the final stretches of completion. The tennis court has been repaired and resurfaced and construction for a new basketball court has started. After finally receiving the OK from Eversource a new park entrance road has been started. Additional playground equipment

has been ordered and should be installed this fall. With all the work that is being done at Rec Park, along with the trails, I think there's something for everyone to enjoy.

I would be remiss if I did not mention our most called about topic at the Town Hall, and that is the speed and safety of those utilizing our roads. As an operator of the motor vehicle, please stay aware of those who are walking or jogging on the road. Your text can wait. For pedestrians on the road, please wear bright clothing (even during the day) so you can be noticed at a distance.

And finally, at a recent meeting of state and federal agencies, six towns were asked to talk about their wants and needs from government. After listening to each town, I was asked to talk about Columbia. I was proud to state that Columbia was in good shape fiscally, structurally, environmentally and quality of life. We live in a GREAT town.

Until the next issue,

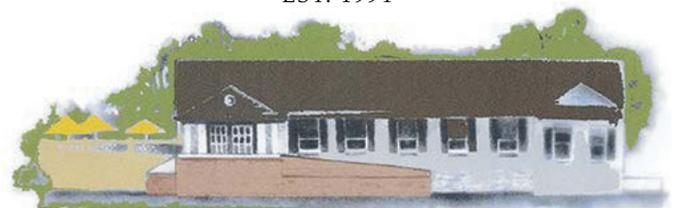
Steven M. Everett
First Selectman

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EXPIRES 1/25/2020

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ON THE COVER:

Autumn on Mono Pond State Park.
Photo by Paul Ramsey.

2019/20 VIEWS Magazines Schedule

1st Q/20

COLUMBIA: Ad Deadline 1/3/2020
Mailed Week of 2/3/2020

HEBRON: Ad Deadline 2/7/2020
Mailed Week of 3/2/2020

2nd Q/20

COLUMBIA: Ad Deadline 4/10/2020
Mailed Week of 5/4/2020

HEBRON: Ad Deadline 5/8/2020
Mailed Week of 6/1/2020

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V6 EcoBoost • 20" Alloy Wheels
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MSRP \$46,655

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FROM THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Greetings! Some of you may have heard about an exciting collaboration happening right here in our town. The Trust for Public Land (TPL), a nationwide conservation organization, is helping Columbia seize a rare opportunity to protect an expansive assemblage of hardwood forestland in Columbia, Lebanon and Hebron known as Wells Woods. The location of this property is critical to protecting miles of recreational trails that merge with the 50-mile Air Line State Park Trail. The Air Line Trail spans the state and is open to walkers, hikers, equestrians, and trail bikers from Portland to Thompson. Expansion of the Mono Pond State Park will preserve the diverse ecosystem and strengthen part of a key greenway for both humans and wildlife.



Last month, The Trust for Public Land held a fundraising event at Heartstone Winery here in Columbia. TPL staff discussed the Town and State's vision of working to expand Mono Pond State Park by nearly 1,000 acres in Columbia, Lebanon and Hebron. A longtime goal of our town's open space committee, TPL has made great strides the past 6 months and hopes to add the first 313 acres sometime this winter. At this fundraiser, TPL spoke to the economic and social benefits of community forests, open space, and State Parks throughout the northeast, and specifically about how Mono Pond State Park Expansion fits this thriving model.

Building on the Town of Columbia's success, adding the first 57 acres in early 2019, The Trust for Public Land holds contracts with two landowners to purchase roughly 413 acres for the first phase of the park expansion. Once the federal and state funds are secured, a town meeting will

be set to vote on authorizing open space funds towards the purchases. At closing, the land will be conveyed to the State of Connecticut, while enabling the Town of Columbia to partner in the management and stewardship of these woods.

Ecologically, it is quite rare to find a 1,000-acre forest block, unbroken by development, in our small state. These properties encompass a diversity of wildlife and nearly a mile of the Mint Brook. By the year 1800, this was the last large intact forest remaining in town. Two decades later, settlers moved in only to abandon the Wells Woods a century later. Known as a bit of a ghost-town, the forest offers a unique opportunity to offer a glimpse into the storied past of our town.

The Trust for Public Land's primary role is to bring this complicated project together by securing multiple parcels, taking on the majority of associated transaction costs, and maximizing outside leverage from state bond funds and the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund. These funds are generated from federal oil and gas leases on the Outer Continental Shelf (zero taxpayer dollars) and are used to strengthen communities, preserve our history, and protect our national endowment of lands and waters. They also play an important role in our economy; nationally, outdoor recreation activities contribute \$646 billion to the economy annually and support 6.1 million jobs.

The Trust for Public Land has successfully protected over 3.3 million acres across United States, including over 7,600 acres in Connecticut. You can stay updated by following our Columbia newsletter or reaching out to The Trust for Public Land at (203) 777-7367 for more information.

Mark Walter
Town Administrator

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Municipal election

Municipal elections will take place on November 5, 2019. Voting will be in Yeoman’s Hall between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. Absentee ballots become available in the Clerk’s office on October 4, 2019 through the close of business on November 4, 2019.

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 reg-

istration. 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.

Fishing and hunting

We would like to remind you that Sports licenses (fishing and hunting) for the 2020 season become available for purchase in December 2019. A perfect Holiday gift for the sports person in your family!

Have a Happy and Healthy Holiday Season!

Robin M. Kenefick
Town Clerk

Gail C. McGrath
Assistant Town Clerk

FROM THE ASSESSOR’S OFFICE

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 1, 2019. 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 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.

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.

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COLUMBIA TOWN DIRECTORY

DEPARTMENT		OFFICE HOURS	PHONE
Administrative Office:		Mon-Thur 8 am – 4 pm	860-228-0110
First Selectman	Steven M. Everett	Fri 8 am - Noon	
Town Administrator	Mark B. Walter		
Executive Assistant	Jennifer C. LaVoie		
Assessor's Office:		Mon-Wed 8 am – 4 pm	860-228-9555
Assessor	Mary Lavallee	Thur 8 am – 6 pm	
Assistant Assessor	Marcy Littlefield	Fri 8 am -Noon	
Beckish Senior Center:		Mon-Fri 8 am – 3 pm	860-228-0759
Director	Bernadette Derring		
Van Dispatcher/Program Assistant	Margaret Verrizzi		
Social Services	Yolanda Irizarry		860-450-7400 x7418
Building Department:		Mon-Wed 8 am – 4 pm	860-228-0440
Building Official	Jason Nowasad	Thur 8 am – 6 pm	
Zoning Enforcement	Connie Kisluk	Fri 8 am – Noon	
Town Planner	Paula Stahl		
Sanitarian	Glenn Bagdoian		
Inland Wetlands Agent	John Valente		
Administrative Assistant	Terri Lasota		
Board Secretary			
Fire Marshal/Burning Official	Michael Lester		
Assistant to Building Official	Bud Meyers		
Animal Control:			
Animal Control Officer	Nancy Yale		860-337-1222
Finance Department:		Mon-Thur 8 am – 4:30 pm	860-228-8423
Finance Director	Beverly Ciurylo	Fri 8 am - Noon	
Accountant/Payroll Specialist	Lisa Rose		860-228-8423
Accounting Assistant	Jill Swenson		860-228-8423
Fire Department:			
To report a fire			911
Non-emergency calls			860-228-9602
Fire Chief	Peter Starkel		
Deputy Fire Chief	Michael Lester		
Public Works Department:		Mon-Fri 6:30 am – 3 pm	860-228-4270
Director	George Murphy		
Facilities Manager	Bud Meyers		860-228-0110 ext. 111
Recreation Department:		Mon-Wed 8 am – 4 pm	860-228-8513
Recreation Director	Marc Volza	Thur 8 am – 7 pm	
Recreation Assistant	Alexa Potter	Fri CLOSED	
Registrar of Voters:		Varies	860-228-0110
Democrat Registrar	Karen Butzgy		
Republican Registrar	Kate Morrison		
Resident State Trooper:		Mon-Fri 6:30 am – 3 pm	860-228-9846
	Gregory DeCarli		860-465-5400
	Dispatch		
Tax Collector's Office:		Mon-Wed 8 am – 2 pm	860-228-0230
Tax Collector	Carol W. Price	Thur 8 am – 6 pm, Fri CLOSED	
Assistant Tax Collector	Lisa McDonald	<i>extended hours in January and July</i>	
Town Clerk's Office:		Mon-Wed 8 am – 4 pm	860-228-3284
Town Clerk	Robin M. Kenefick	Thur 8 am – 6 pm	
Assistant Town Clerk	Gail McGrath	Fri 8 am – Noon	
Transfer Station:		Wed 8 am – 4 pm	860-228-4270
Transfer Station Attendants	Roger Roberge & Tristan Kandolin	Sat 8 am – 4 pm	

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REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

Registrars of Voters

Karen Butzgy – Democratic

Katherine Morrison – Republican

(860) 228-6843 x113

registrar@columbiact.org

Municipal Election

The Municipal Election will be held on Tuesday, November 5th, 6am – 8pm in Yeomans Hall. Please contact the Town Clerk if you need to vote via absentee ballot.

We will be in our office in Yeomans Hall on Tuesday, October 29th from 9am to 8pm to accept voter registrations. Election Day Registration (EDR) will also be available on the day of the election. Remember proper identification and proof of residency is required to complete voter registration.

Party Enrollment Change Deadline

The Presidential Preference Primary will be held on April 28th, 2020. Primaries in CT are “Closed Primaries”,

meaning that only voters registered in the party which is holding the Primary may vote. So only registered Republicans can vote in the Republican Primary and only registered Democrats can vote in the Democratic Primary. The deadline to transfer registration from one party to another and be eligible to vote in the Primary of the new party (Democratic or Republican) is January 28th, 2020. This deadline also applies if you are currently registered in a minor party (Independent, Green Party, Libertarian, etc.).

Did you know?

- There is a difference between Independent and Unaffiliated. The Independent Party is a recognized minor party in the state of Connecticut. Whereas, Unaffiliated means you are not registered in any party.

Please check our Registrar of Voters page on the town website or contact our office for more information. On our website you will find offices being voted for in the upcoming Municipal Election.



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Columbia, CT from the Landmark Building**

Open burning regulations

Open Burning is regulated by the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (D.E.E.P.). The Town of Columbia also has an ordinance 15-8 which also regulates Open Burning in town. Campfires (3' in diameter) do not require a permit and should always be attended. For the burning of brush a permit is required and can be obtained by call the Land Use Department at town hall 860-228-0440. The burning of all other items is prohibited. Please remember when you do have a campfire or a permit, that we must be considerate of our neighbors.

Fire Prevention Week

Fire Prevention week was October 6-12, 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 homes exit plan, which should include at meeting place outside of the home. Also, if you do have a fire,

remember to never re-enter the building for any reason.

In the fall we should:

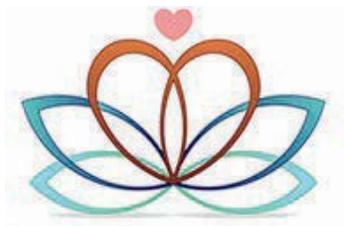
1. Take the opportunity to have your homes heating system cleaned and serviced for the upcoming winter.
2. Clear combustible materials a minimum of 36" away from all heat sources, this helps reduce the risk of them being ignited.
3. Clean and service your wood, pellet or gas stove.
4. Reduce electrical 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.

Mike Lester
 Fire Marshal
 Open Burning Official
 Town of Columbia

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Sun. 8am-12 noon Columbia, CT 06237

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TAX OFFICE

Don't forget!! The second installment of the Real Estate, Personal Property and the Supplemental Motor Vehicle taxes will become due on January 1, 2020. The last day to pay the second installment without a penalty is February 3, 2020. Bills are not sent for the second installment, please put a reminder on your calendar!

Please feel free to leave payments or correspondence in the locked drop box at the right side of the entrance of the Town Hall. This box is 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 8:00-6:00 and closed on Friday.

The tax office has extended hours during the tax collection months of July (and August 1, 2019), and January (and February 3, 2020): Monday through Wednesday 8:00-4:00, Thursday 8:00-6:00 and 8:00-12:00 Friday.

Mailing address for tax payments:

Town of Columbia
Dept # 347
PO Box 150512
Hartford, CT 06115-0512

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. On the Columbia home page (you may need to scroll down) click on the view/pay square and on the next page click on view/ pay square again. 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. You can also utilize this site during income tax time to look up your payment history. Locate your bill using the instructions above, then hover over the icons in the option column and click on the one that says tax payment history. If you have any problems using the online system, please contact the tax office at 860-228-0230 or taxcollector@columbiact.org and we will gladly assist you.

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 for information on the process.

Happy Holidays!

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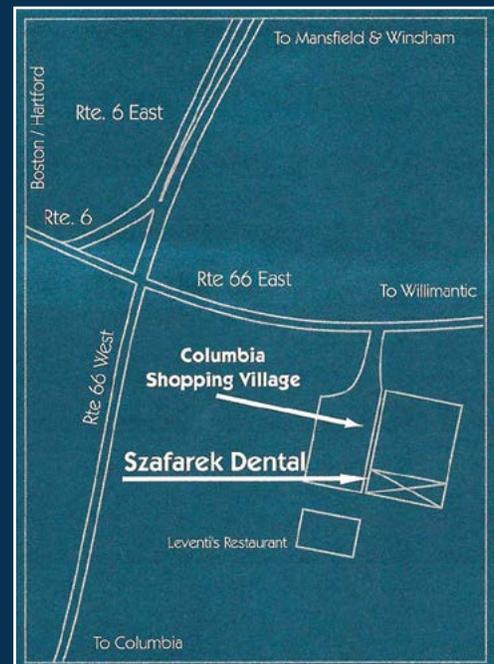
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Columbia, CT 06237
tel: 860-228-8492
fax: 860-228-8495

Hours

Mon: By appointment only
Tue–Wed: 7:30 am–5:00 pm
Thur: 7:00 am–4:30 pm

www.szafarekdental.com



AHM Youth and Family Services announces three new programs for Columbia residents: an ADHD Support Group for parents and caregivers; and a SMART Recovery Support Group for young adults, family members, and friends.

ADHD Support Group

AHM is offering a support group for parents and caregivers of children with ADHD and similar conditions. This is a safe, non-judgmental space for sharing stories, strategies, challenges, joys, and resources. The main goal of the group is to support attendees in feeling more understood, less alone in their parenting struggles, and more informed and empowered in making a difference in their child's future. Group attendees shared: "so relieved to find a group of parents that 'get it' " and "the handouts and other resources are great, so helpful!"

The group meets from 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at the AHM Community Center, 25 Pendleton Drive, in Hebron. There is no cost to participate. If you are unable to get to the meeting you can also attend by calling in. Simply dial 712-770-8061 and enter the access code 773482. For more information please email: supportgroup@crpmail.com, or Megan Aldridge: megana@ahmyouth.org or call 860-228-9488."

Young Adults SMART Recovery Program:

The AHM Board of Directors is very proud to announce the start of a SMART Recovery program for young adults. AHM was one of only a handful of organizations in the State of Connecticut to be awarded a grant for this program, thanks in large part to the support of DHMAS, DCF and Wheeler Clinic. According to AHM's Clinical Director Megan Aldridge: "We are starting a first-ever SMART Recovery Young Adult Group locally, which will meet every Monday at AHM starting 10/7/19 from 5:30-7 pm." **The new program is for young adults ages 18-24.**

SMART Recovery Friends & Family group

AHM will also be continuing to offer a SMART Recovery Friends & Family group as well. This group meets every Thursday at AHM from 5:30-7 pm. AHM has 4 certified SMART Recover group facilitators! (Megan Aldridge, Didi Crowley, Dan Mixter, and Lauren Scharn)

Goals of the SMART Recovery Young Adults Group helps:

- To teach group participants self-empowerment and self-reliance.
- To encourage group participants to recover and live satisfying lives.
- To teach group participants tools and techniques for self-directed change.
- To offer group members meetings that are educational and include open discussions.
- To advocate group participants, the appropriate use of prescribed medications and mental health treatment options.
- To help inform group participants scientific knowledge as addiction recovery evolves.
- To empower group participants to fully access community resources that may help them in their recovery journey.
- To help group participants feel that they are not alone in their recovery journey by setting up networks of other caring community members.
- To empower group participants to fully realize their potential, whether through family life, personal dreams, education, or employment.

The SMART Recovery Friends & Family group helps:

- To encourage group participants to form networks with other families going through the recovery process.
- To teach techniques on how to communicate with loved ones about addiction.
- To provide parents/friends with QPR – (question, persuade, refer) gatekeeper training.
- To offer group members meetings that are educational and include open discussions.
- To share physical and mental health resources that can help their loved ones through the recovery journey.
- To serve as a bridge to help families access other mental health professional services.

AHM offers many other services to Columbia residents, including the Student Support Services program at Horace Porter School and the TASKs program for Columbia seniors. For more information, call the AHM offices at 860-228-9488 or visit www.ahmyouth.org.



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Preschool screening for 3-year-olds

The Early Childhood Team at Horace W. Porter School is pleased to announce that we will conduct a Preschool Screening for Columbia three-year olds (turning 3 by Dec. 31, 2019) and any four-year-old not previously screened (and not turning 5 by Dec. 31st. 2019).

SCREENING DATE: Tuesday, November 5, 2019

All public-school systems in Connecticut are responsible for the identification of children who may be eligible to received special education services. The early child-

hood 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.

Please contact Deb Dupuis at (860) 228-0585 to schedule a screening and if you have any questions.



Save The Dates!

(Subject to change)

- **10/18-11/5 Frontier Soup Fundraiser**
- **10/25 Halloween Trunk-or-Treat**
- **11/12-11/15 Fall Book Fair (Family Night 11/13)**
- **2/7 Valentine Bingo**
- **2/13-3/3 Munsons Fund Raiser (pick-up 4/8)**
- **4/4 Ladies and Gents Family Ball**
- **5/1 Star Wars Bingo**
- **5/5 Staff Appreciation Luncheon**
- **5/31 Mud Run**
- **6/6 Tag Sale**

Join us for a PTO meeting 6:00 first Thursday of the month

Check FaceBook <https://www.facebook.co/HoraceWPorterPTO>

or calendar www.horacewporterpto.org for times of events

Nov. 10: Library of Congress Veterans History Project
1 – 3 PM Yeoman’s Hall – Free and open to all.

Retired Colonel Morton Katz will explain this program that collects and preserves personal accounts of American war veterans.

For more information contact: Millie Ramsey, 860 734-1046 or millieramz@gmail.com

What was Brewing in Colonial Columbia?

With today’s renewed interest in craft beers and home-brewing, it may be of interest to note the important place brewing held in 18th century Columbia. In a period when germs were not yet understood and the purity of water was suspect, beverages whose preparation involved boiling, such as beer, ale, and mead were the drinks most widely and safely consumed.

The ale of those times, thicker, sweeter, and lower in alcohol than today’s, was consumed all day long. It provided both nourishment and refreshment and was the staple drink of all ages and classes. It was not uncommon for employment agreements to include beer was part of the wages. Beer and ale were viewed as necessities of

everyday life, and as such, were prepared at home by the gallons every week.

However, to make these brews, one needed malt, and malt was not a product easily produced at home. The making of malt was a fairly technical process that involved taking a grain such as barley, drying and cleaning it, soaking it, sprouting it, drying it again and then cracking it. It was best carried out by a trained maltster in a building known as a malthouse. Luckily, Colonial Columbia had both maltster and malthouse, and malt was sold in a small shop that later was repurposed as Moor’s Indian Charity School and afterwards the town’s one room Center School.

The customer of this shop was most likely the housewife who would then apply her own experience and family recipe to the production of the 12-20 gallons of ale used by her household in a week. The shop also sold hops which could be added to extend the shelf life of home brews from several weeks to several months.

And let us not forget mead – the fermented drink made from honey. As it did not involve the use of malt, it could easily be made at home by anyone who kept bees or could trade for honey. As with malt brews, the mead maker often used family recipes that included the addition of such spices as ginger or nutmeg and herbs such as meadowsweet or hops. This spiced mead was known as metheglin (a Welsh word meaning healing liquor), and records show that in 1736 Eleazer Wheelock, the minister of Columbia, accepted metheglin in partial payment of his salary.

As he was a newlywed, perhaps he believed in the old English tradition regarding the “honeymoon”. Apparently it was the custom to give newly married couples enough mead to last a month (one moon). It was said to ensure both a happy marriage and to promote the fertility of the couple. More likely, the Wheelocks just enjoyed this flavorful drink that was regarded as healthful.

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Fall at the library

Every year as the Summer Reading programs end, we breathe a collective sigh. We tell each other that, now that summer's over, fall is going to quiet down a bit. But the reality is: this is an illusion. Sure, there's a little lull as school starts, weather cools, and we switch gears, but then ... Book groups that might have been on hiatus for summer come back together – and the library offers six options! Friday afternoon movies are back in full swing. Story Times (Tuesday mornings/afternoons), Baby Bees (Friday mornings), Columbia Stitchers (Wednesday afternoons), and Columbia Writers (evenings on the last Wednesday of the month) keep going. By October, our evening programming is back going strong!

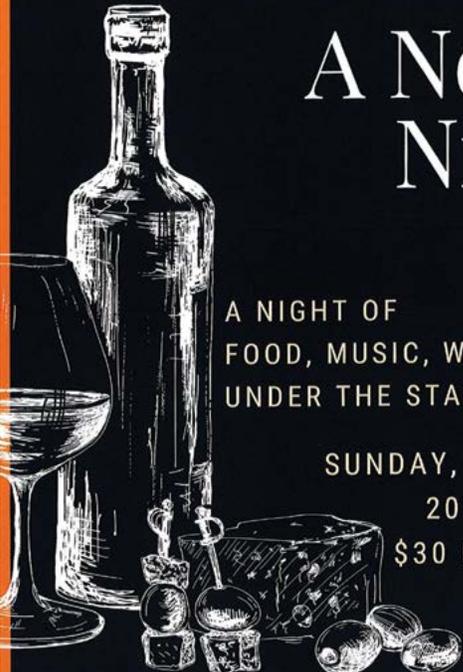
Speaking of programs ... we've got some exciting things coming up for all ages: on October 23rd at 7:00pm, join us *Behind the Screens* where we'll give you an inside glimpse of how books go from store to Library shelf! On October 29th at 6:00pm, come find out more about Lyme Disease and other tick-borne illnesses from Dr. Bizilj. On the morning of October 30th, patrons aged 18



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months to 4 years can sign up for our *Little Hands Art Workshop*. Then, on November 20th at 6:30pm, learn about Art Quilts from the executive director of Studio Art Quilt Association (you might know their publication *Art Quilt Quarterly*).

In other news: This year we had a wonderful event, *A Novel Night Out*, in partnership with Heartstone Winery. We are working on a second Saxton Mouse Calendar that we plan to have on sale soon. Fall also means our Annual Giving campaign (watch for a letter in the mail) in which your donations offer the Library great assistance in supporting materials and programs.

As you read this, we at the Saxton B. wish you all a safe Halloween and a Happy Thanksgiving. Be sure to stop by the Library for decorating and menu ideas, an audiobook to listen to while doing your prep, DVDs to share with the family, and a good book to get lost in when you need a break from the upcoming holiday season.

Su Epstein
Library Director

At the end of our fiscal year on June 30, 2019, we are happy to announce we were able to contribute \$6,000 to our Library. These monies go toward materials, programs and services, not to operating expenses. These include; museum passes, Connecticut Library Consortium packets (such as audio books, DVD's, and foreign films) and membership fees. This money also helped with adult and children's programming and materials. All of this resulted from the money made at our book sales and our membership dues. In this way, we are true advocates of the Library.

Many Friends groups throughout the state have book sales and we are pleased to know from our visiting patrons that our sales are especially prized because of our organized and neat venue. We work diligently to achieve this goal.

We are always looking for new ideas to help with this task and look forward to hearing from patrons and hope you'll join us at our next meeting on Monday, October 28, at 10 am in the Library Program Room. Again, we want to give thanks for your membership support and hope to

see you at our next sale in November. At the November sale we will feature many Holiday books for adults and children as well as DVD's. Come see us November 8, 9 & 10!

Antoinette Ellzey and Laurie Rogers
President and Secretary of the "Friends"



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Columbia's Open Space Committee and the Trust for Public Land gathered at Heartstone Winery in September to discuss a bold vision for expanding Mono Pond State Park by nearly 1,000 acres into Wells Woods. First Selectman Steve Everett spoke to the economic and social benefits to Columbia that would result from this inspiring project, and a crowd of roughly 75 attendees were treated to a spontaneous reprise of Justin Holbrook's well-known performance of "Ode to Wells Woods."

State Director Walker Holmes, and Project Manager Honor Lawler discussed The Trust for Public Land's progress in this effort and this unique opportunity to expand a tiny, but mighty, state park by more than 1000 acres. As a community, we can triple the size of this park and strengthen part of a key greenway for both humans and wildlife. The expansion will connect visitors to one of Connecticut's few long-distance trails, the 50 mile Air Line State Park Trail, which spans over half the state. Funding will likely come from a mix of public agencies, including the State, the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund, and other sources. And we need your support too. The Columbia Open Space Committee and the Trust for Public Land have formed an independent fundraising committee, looking to secure private contributions to make this project happen and cover the costs of surveys, appraisals, and other associated transaction costs. The Trust for Public Land is a 501 C 3 non-profit organization, and all donations are tax-deductible.

Your gift will create a special place where residents and visitors can experience nature. To donate, please reach out to June Sgobbo at june.sgobbo@tpl.org or call The Trust for Public Land in New Haven at 203-777-9239.



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November 2019 marks the 44th year of the annual Columbia Cardless Holiday Fund. Many families have benefited from your donations in the past, and your continued generosity is greatly appreciated.

The idea behind the Cardless Holiday Fund is to contribute to the fund instead of sending cards to your friends and family in town. Your name will then be listed in the Town of Columbia quarterly newsletter Columbia Views.

The purpose of the Cardless Holiday Fund is to help Columbia families in need. These situations present themselves more often than we would like to believe, and as government programs have been reduced, the need for the local community to respond has become greater. Join your neighbors in continuing or even increasing your support

This past year alone the fund has been used to help with holiday food baskets for Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas, back to school supplies, youth camp registration and help with electrical bills.

Thank you for your continued caring and God Bless You!

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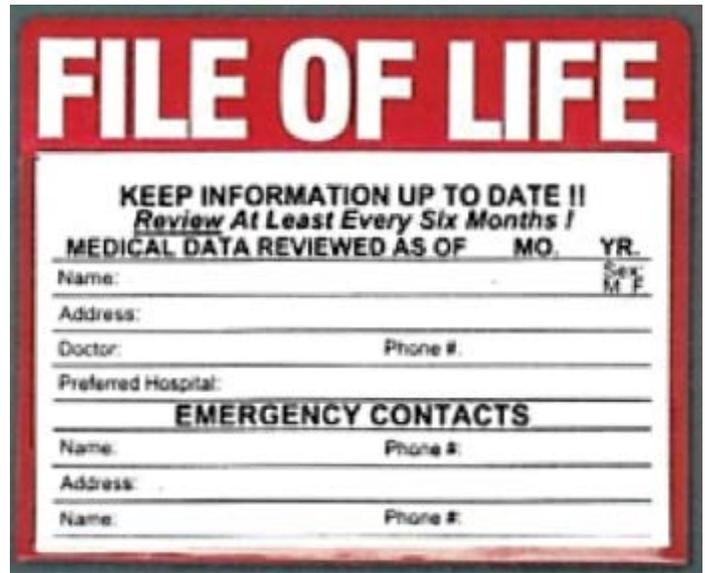
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Senior safety & helpful information

The Beckish Senior Center and the Columbia Volunteer Fire Department, CVFD, are working together to help ensure our senior communities' safety. The first thing we are focusing on is the File for Life magnets. Medical emergencies can happen anytime. When they do, there is confusion, panic and urgency. First Responders arrive on the scene with no information about the person in need. Seconds count – they can make the difference between life and death. Does the patient have prior medical conditions? Allergies? How do we contact their family or friends? File for Life puts these answers at our fingertips. It allows first responders to immediately begin the best possible treatment, notify loved ones, and pass this vital data on to awaiting physicians at the emergency room. File for Life has already saved thousands of lives. It is an absolute asset to emergency preparedness, and peace of mind.

The CVFD would like to help seniors by giving everyone the File for Life cards and help them fill them out. You can always stop by or call the Columbia Volunteer Fire



Department should you have any questions or concerns. They can be reached at 860-228-9602. The Beckish Senior Center is also available to help fill out the cards and assist with your needs.

The Beckish Senior Center offers a wide variety of assistance. On Tuesday from 8:30 to 3pm our social services advocate is here to help with Energy assistance, budgeting, rental assistance and much more. The Beckish Senior Center also offers an emergency food pantry for families in need. Additionally, a Mobile Foodshare van is held every other Thursday at the Baptist Fellowship, 195 RT 6, 1:15 to 1:45. Scheduled dates for the Mobile Foodshare are November 7, and 21, December 5, and 19, and another location at 303 Maple Road in Mansfield, CT. Also, the Mobile Foodshare is held every third Wednesday of the month at Windham Heights, 72 Boston Post Road Learning Center. Food items vary, but usually bread, snacks, and several types of fresh produce are included. Bring your bags to carry the food.



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Fall is such a beautiful season and it encourages all of the seniors to get up and be active. The Columbia Seniors Organization has started the season off with a Tacos and Trivia event, and a Halloween day potluck luncheon. In November we will be hosting the Veterans Day luncheon as part of the town's observance in remembering the service and sacrifice of our veterans. The luncheon is held on Veterans Day, November 11th following the town's ceremony. All veterans along with their family and friends are invited.

On November 23rd we will be having our Harvest to Holly Fair. It will be held at the Beckish Senior Center from 9am - 2pm. We will have our vendors, a "Christmas Shoppe" with holiday gifts and decorations, as well as baked goods. We will also be serving baked potatoes with toppings as well as hot dogs. We could always use some volunteers to help our event run smoothly. We will be setting up on Friday afternoon, cleaning up at 2pm on Saturday, working in the kitchen, selling in the Christmas Shoppe and baking all the goodies for bake sale. If you can help us, please call Sheran Smith @ 860-228-9543, or the Beckish Senior Center @860-228-0759. We could also use "gently used" holiday items for the Christmas Shoppe.

We will end the year with our New Year's Eve/White Elephant grab bag Potluck at noon on December 31st. We

have always had a great time with our friends as the year ends. All Columbia seniors are welcome.

In January we will be having weekly movies on Thursday at 1:00. If it snows, that week's presentation will be shown the following Thursday. This season this event will be featuring movies with Doris Day.

It will be a busy fall and early winter for all of our seniors - staying active and meeting with friends. For all our other activities and events, please check the Beckish newsletter, The Gem, for the latest updates and information on all the activities that take place there.

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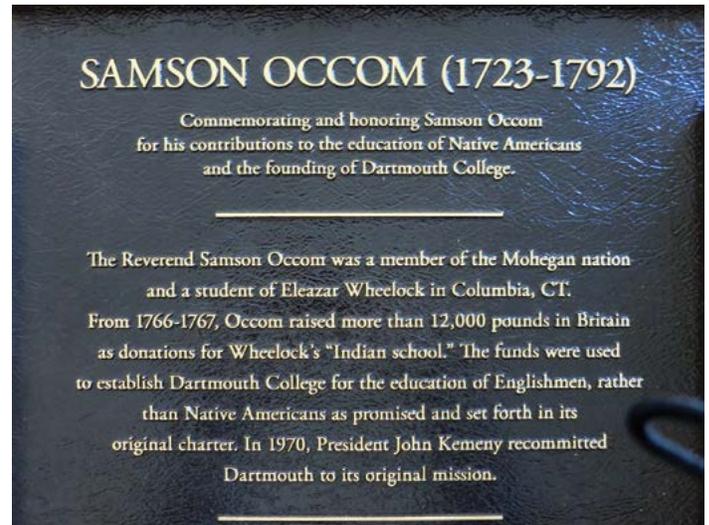
A tribute to Samson Occom and the Town of Columbia

As Dartmouth College's 250th anniversary comes to a close, this year marks the adventurous, tumultuous, and even conflicted founding of Dartmouth College. Fifty years ago in Columbia on May 18, 1969, Dartmouth College President John Dickey formally acknowledged a 200 year-long misstep; and in 1970 President John Kemeny recommitted Dartmouth to include the original mission, namely the education of Native American students.

On December 12, 1769, King George III of England signed the hastily drafted Dartmouth charter at the insistence of young ambitious Loyal Governor John Wentworth (1737 - 1820) of the Colony of New Hampshire. Wentworth was anxious to populate disputed territory sold as New Hampshire grants by his disgraced uncle, Governor Benning Wentworth (1696 - 1770). An attractive new college would surely bring settlers to forested new lands. Wheelock was likely aware of this territorial dispute and perhaps even sought advantageous arrangements for more land for a college in addition to his stated objective of being closer to the Indian Tribes of the north.

It appears the original Dartmouth charter was drafted in Lebanon Crank (now known as Columbia) in 1769 using the Moor's Indian Charity School and Lebanon Crank as the model school and community. It became the legal basis for governing not only a new college, but also the new "parish", using Wheelock's term. Anglican New Hampshire Colony leaders, however, insisted on the term "township" instead of "parish".

Benefactor Joshua More's language (recorded in Lebanon deeds, 1755, 1763) was expanded by Wheelock in the Dartmouth charter to include an academy with a collegiate program (perhaps similar to his Lattin School which he conducted in his house, located at 329 Route 87). His suggestion, in an afterthought found in a post script at the very end, was to include the word "college" in the name! Lord Dartmouth, benefactor to children's



institutions in England, and frustrated by Wheelock's move to New Hampshire, insisted the 12,000 pounds, approximately \$2 million raised by Rev. Samson Occom and Rev. Nathaniel Whitaker on the English fund-raising tour 1766 - 1768 be used only for Moor's Indian School in Connecticut, for Indian education, as intended.

In June 2019 Ms. Maxine Mauricio, Past President of the Native American Alumni Association of Dartmouth, and Vice President of Emcor Corporation, Norwalk, Connecticut delivered a plaque to First Selectman Steven Everett. It honors the original mission and intent of Dartmouth College as stated in the 1769 charter and restated in 1970. It honors the memory of Samson Occom, Wheelock's very first and most notable Native American student (1743 - 1747) who gave impetus for Moor's Indian Charity School (1755 - 1770) in Lebanon Crank, and ultimately Dartmouth College, founded in 1769. This plaque is a gift to the Town of Columbia for safekeeping, preservation, and rededication of Moor's Indian Charity School and the ideals it embodies. This plaque will be mounted in a future garden near Moor's Indian Charity School.

Ingrid Wood
Town Historian

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1885 Thanksgiving Day Souvenir

“A Little is better than nothing” (Considerable.)

In 1885 farmer William Buckingham Little (1815 – 1897) and his wife of 44 years, Mrs. Harriet Newell Palmer-Little (1819 – 1910) hosted a Thanksgiving Dinner at their home the “Little Homestead” in Chestnut Hill, Columbia. A copy of their 1885 Thanksgiving Day Souvenir was a memento for the twenty guests whose names are listed. Who were these special guests? Why is one referred to only as No. 5 Little?

The “Bill of Fare” included dishes still served today: roast turkey, potatoes, sweet potatoes, turnips, celery, Indian pudding; apple, mince, and custard pie; marble, walnut, chocolate, and loaf cake; and cranberry sauce and pickles; tea and coffee; apples, oranges, nuts, and confectionery as well as roast beef, chicken pie, oysters raw and stewed; and doughnuts and cheese. The cover conveys words of wisdom: “A Little is better than nothing’ (Considerable.)”. What is this feast about?

Hosted by elder parents William Buckingham Little (70) and Harriet Newell Palmer-Little (66), it was as much a remembrance and tribute to family as it was a fete of bountiful harvest and national observance of blessings. Their guests were six sons Myron (43), Hubert (37), Alonzo (34), Elbert (32), Prescott (29), and Payson (26); their respective families, including seven young grandchildren (aged 4 months to 9 years). Doughnuts and cheese were likely

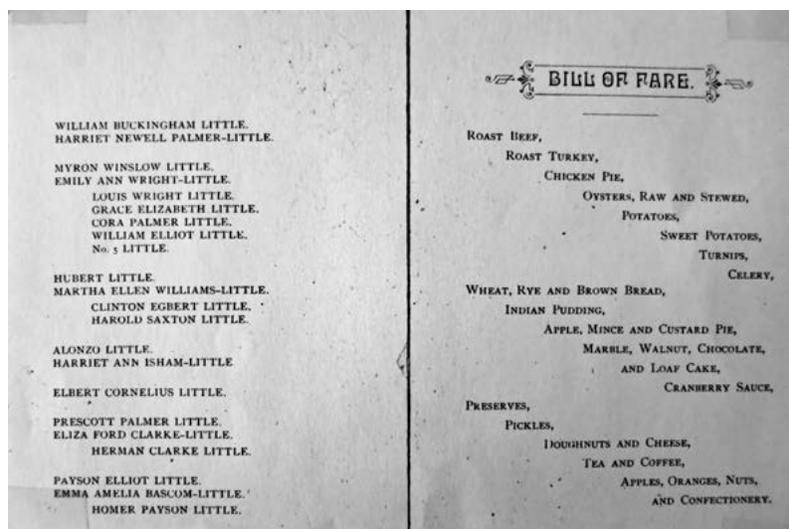
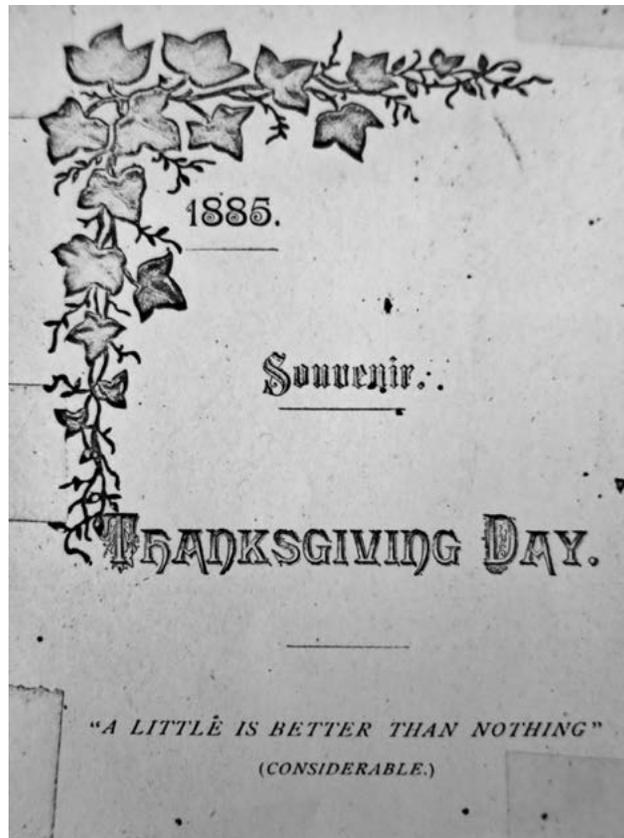
treats for youngsters Cora (9), William (6), and Clinton (8). The four infants were Harold (1), Herman (1), Homer (1), and No. 5 Little. Genealogical research reveals No.

5 was Leon George Little, son of Myron and Emily Little born on August 3, 1885.

William and Harriet and their sons would have known the contentious history of this country’s Thanksgiving observance, proclaimed by President Abraham Lincoln on October 3, 1863. Daughters-in-law Emily, Martha, Harriet, Eliza, and Emma may have read the popular monthly, Godey’s Lady’s Book where Editor Sarah Hale “Mother of Thanksgiving” promoted foods and festivities familiar to us today, borrowed from Massachusetts Forefather’s Day celebrated on December 22.

Despite occasional proclamations by George Washington in 1789 and 1795, a national day of thanksgiving was not observed until President Lincoln’s proclamation in 1863, setting aside differences after the Civil War. In 1939 President Franklin Delano Roosevelt proclaimed the fourth Thursday of each November to be Thanksgiving Day. FDR’s 1941 Four Freedoms address inspired Norman Rockwell to paint Freedom from Want in 1943; the iconic Thanksgiving Picture of an appreciative American family gathered at home, together for each other, sharing Thanksgiving dinner.

Ingrid Wood
Town Historian



An Interview with First Selectman Everett

Julien Isher, Executive Director of a non-profit called The Lafayette Trail, Inc. was a recent visitor to Columbia, Lebanon, and Hartford on September 23, 2019. A historian and geographer by training, Mr. Isher and his videographer interviewed Columbia's First Selectman Steven Everett for this nation's 250th Anniversary Franco-American project. This particular interview reflected on the nature of civil society that developed Connecticut's rural towns that witnessed the American Revolution. Selectman Everett described governance in Columbia, a small rural community that espoused classical ideas of Enlightenment republicanism in a direct and representative democracy, where everyone had the opportunity to participate under the rules of a Charter and Constitution. This is one of several interviews Isher is conducting in Connecticut's towns, but also with elected and appointed officials in 24 states (that existed in 1824 - 1825); from State Senators and Representatives, to U.S. Supreme Court Justices. These interviews explore the ideas of natural and civil rights embodied in the Declaration of Independence and their outcomes today.

Isher is focused on the back story of General Lafayette's presence as President Monroe's guest in 1824 - 1825 to kick-off this nation's 50th Anniversary celebration, with the laying of the cornerstone at the Bunker Hill monument in Boston. In 1824 President Monroe's plan was to have Lafayette, the only surviving American Revolutionary War General, visit the first 13 states. This visit turned out to be so hugely popular that Monroe and Adams asked him to visit all 24 states of the United States. Lafayette's Farewell Tour concluded in 1825.

Lafayette was officially made an American citizen by an act of Congress in 2002 for his contributions to the American War for Independence. He is primarily known for the fact he brought financial and military aid from France that enabled the Americans win freedom from Great Britain.

The Lafayette Trail, Inc. is a U.S. non-profit supported by the Daughters of the American Revolution, various U.S. foundations, France Diplomatic, and The American Friends of Lafayette. New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Maine have already recognized Lafayette's Farewell Tour as the commemorative Lafayette Trail.

Ingrid Wood
Town Historian



In honor of POW/MIA Remembrance Day a wreath was placed at the Veterans Memorial in the town green on Friday, September 3, 2019. In the United States, National POW/MIA Recognition Day is observed on the 3rd Friday in September. It honors those who were prisoners of war and those who are still missing in action. This day was established by an act of Congress in 1998.

Farmers Market Committee

If you would like to participate in the planning and or be on the Farmers Market Committee, please check the appropriate option below and fill out the contact information. Then email to mlavallee@columbiact.org

Thank you in advance for your time and efforts,

The Columbia Sustainable Team

I would like to _____ help with planning this event. (seasonal meetings will be required)

I would like to _____ be on the Farmers Market Committee. (monthly meetings will be required)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____



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A PROCLAMATION

on the occasion of

A Celebration of Life

for

PETER NAUMEC

WHEREAS, the Town of Columbia and the Columbia community lost a valued member and leader on July 9, 2019, with the passing of Peter Naumec;

WHEREAS, Peter Naumec served with dedication as the Public Works Director for the Town of Columbia for 29 years;

WHEREAS, Peter Naumec's tireless devotion to the town he loved showed in everything he did. Peter could operate and fix anything on wheels, build anything and everything; he did it all! Peter would often say, "If we can't do it, it can't be done";

WHEREAS, Peter Naumec was instrumental on many projects in town; from the Beckish Senior Center, Rec Field, and town beach to countless more. He will be remembered by many that worked for him as a "Worker's Boss." He treated everyone fairly and truly cared about his staff;

WHEREAS, Peter Naumec's kindness, strong work ethic and limitless knowledge enriched those fortunate enough to know and work with him;

NOW, THEREFORE, on behalf of the citizens of Columbia, we honor the memory of Peter Naumec and acknowledges his contributions and dedication to the community; and extends our sincerest condolences to his family and friends and do hereby proclaim, Friday, July 26, 2019 as Peter Naumec day in the Town of Columbia.

Signed this 26th day of July, 2019
at Columbia, Connecticut

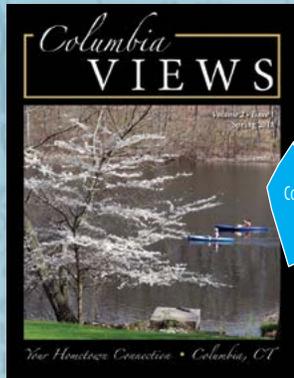
Steven M. Everett
First Selectman



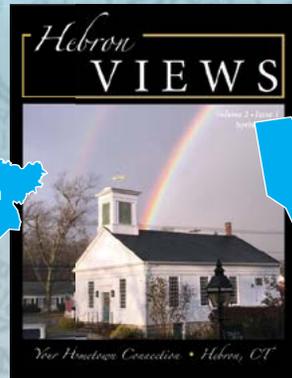
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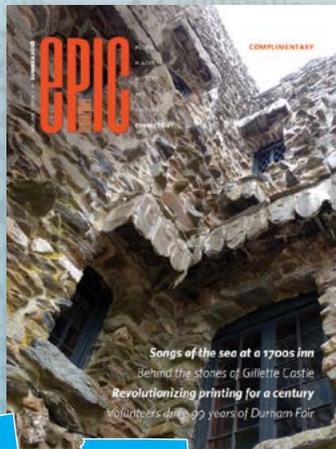
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The Baumerts' Peruvian Adventure

The Pan American Games are the ultimate in athletic competitions in the Americas. Held every four years (the year before the summer Olympic Games), it's a goal of many top athletes, and this year the destination was Lima, Peru. The sport: dressage. Dressage builds horses mentally and physically until they are strong, supple gymnasts and appear to dance effortlessly. That's the goal.

For over 40 years, the Baumert family quietly, patiently and persistently trained dressage horses and riders at Cloverlea Farm on Route 87 in Columbia. Beth and her daughter, Jennifer, were the riders, and Beth's husband Alan and their sons, Kevin and Karl, were supporters in this pursuit. It takes at least 5-8 years to train a dressage horse if you take your time but don't waste any of it, so you just have to enjoy the journey. One makes haste slowly in this game.

Jennifer now lives in Chagrin Falls Ohio and Wellington Florida with her husband David Serino and their son Lucas—and she's still training dressage horses. This year, after months of Pan Am Trials, Jennifer made the U.S. dressage team (of four horse-and-rider combinations) riding Betsy Juliano's 12-year-old Hanoverian gelding, aptly named Handsome. In late-July, the team horses were flown from Miami to Lima along with grooms, coaches, horse owners, veterinarians, farriers, doctors, therapists of all types and of course the athletes. Lima became home for a while.



Jennifer's family packed up to go too. Kevin, a hiker-mountain climber from Colorado certainly wasn't going to Peru without at least a 4-day hike in the Andes! Jen's husband, Dave joined him, and they had the experience of a lifetime. Karl (NYC), Beth, Alan, Lucas and other great friends/supporters of Jen took the Belmond train through the Andes and met Kevin and Dave at Macchu Picchu.

The Baumert's Great Peruvian Adventure was all thanks to Jennifer and Handsome who captured team silver and individual bronze medals



with thrilling rides. “It was a childhood dream come true to represent the USA in international competition,” said Jennifer.

The Pan Am Games were especially exciting for Canada (gold medalists) and Brazil (bronze medalists) who both were under pressure to qualify for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games. Mission accomplished for them. International camaraderie was at an all-time high in Lima as everyone seemed to be cheering for everyone.

More than a few Columbia residents have supported Jennifer in her European and Pan American adventures. They cheered her on and some even joined syndicates that owned her horses! Many thanks to all who have been along for the journey!

Submission by Beth Baumert

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Jared Starkey

Jared Starkey, a 2013 graduate of Windham High and former resident of Columbia, will be performing this December at Hartford's BUSHNELL THEATER in the National Tour of Dr. Seuss' *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*. Jared, in his second year with the tour, plays the role of Young Max, the Dog.

Jared's interest in performance began when he was a student at Horace W. Porter School where he performed under the direction of Janet Stice. During his years at Windham High he participated in the Windham Players as well as at the Windham Theater Guild, where he performed as a member of the ensemble in *Aida*, *The Scarecrow in The Wizard of Oz*, and *Dickon in The Secret Garden*. It was his last performance at the WTG as *Dickon*, when Jared realized he wanted to pursue performance as a career and upon graduation from Windham High attended Western Connecticut State University where he graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor



of Arts in Musical Theater.

Jared has performed in various locations and productions in New York City, and with Broadway stars such as Chip Zien (*Into the Woods*) and Christine Pedi (*Chicago*). Regionally, he's performed at a number of theaters, including: the Ivoryton Playhouse, the Peterborough Players, Playhouse on Park, and the Woodstock Playhouse. Recently, Jared sang with the Norwalk Symphony Orchestra in a concert version of *West Side Story*.

This year's Grinch Tour will bring the company to Kalamazoo, Michigan, Detroit, Michigan, Las Vegas, Nevada, Denver, Colorado, Hartford, Connecticut and Providence, Rhode Island. Tickets for the Hartford show 2019 and are available at the Bushnell Box Office or at their website www.bushnell.org. The tour will have a 7-show run in Hartford opening on Friday, December 13, 2019 through Sunday, December 15, 2019

Jared currently resides in New York, New York.

WINDHAM AREA DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS

Windham Area Dollars for Scholars is in its 20th anniversary year of raising and distributing scholarship monies for students to assist with post-secondary educational costs. This non-profit was formed by a group of Windham High School parents and local residents. This local chapter is part of a much larger program called Scholarship America, which was originally known as Dollars for Scholars at inception in 1958. Windham's chapter first raised funds through a Willimantic/Windham/Columbia phone-a-thon with the phones manned by student volunteers. Over the years the fundraising has changed to a mail-a-thon and still includes a small business campaign. Windham Area Dollars for Scholars has received excellent support from Willimantic, the Windhams and from Columbia. More than \$455,000 has been distributed to over 790 students in the past 20 years. Windham Area Dollars for Scholars has been thrilled to receive many scholarship donations in memory or in honor of someone. In addition there are renewable scholarships funded over 2 and over 4 years with proof of continued eligibility. Windham Area Dollars for Scholars has 30 current yearly and renewing scholarships that are awarded each spring, and Columbia residents sponsor eight of these.

Initially any Windham resident graduating from any high

school, and any senior at Windham High School was eligible to apply. Since Columbia dropped Windham High School as a secondary school choice fewer Columbia students have been eligible to apply. The Windham Area Dollars for Scholars board voted last spring to change the bylaws to include eligibility for Columbia students attending E.O. Smith High School and Windham Tech High School. The local support for post-secondary education is evident and WADFS mission is to support our students in this region.

WADFS welcomes new volunteers and invites new members to join the board. The board meets approximately 6 times/year at 7 pm on a Wednesday at Windham High School. The primary obligations are the late winter Mail-a-thon organization and the on-line management of the scholarship application process through our Chapter Net site of Scholarship America. We work closely with the guidance departments of the local high schools to distribute the information about applications. Scoring is done blind by board members and then committee does the assignment of scholarships. If you are interested in more information please call Joan Wikhom @ (860) 228-3546.

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