

COLUMBIA



UPDATE OCTOBER 2019

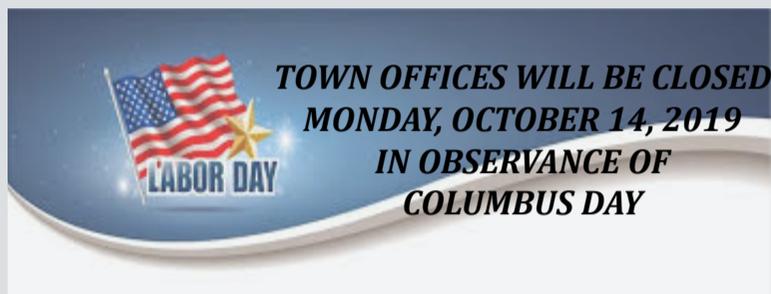
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S MONTHLY UPDATE

Welcome to the Town Administrator's October 2019 update. If you would like to receive the newsletter please sign up on our [website](#).

"Wild is the music of
autumnal winds

Amongst the faded
woods."

— *William Wadsworth*



A REMINDER: First Selectman, Steven Everett will have an *Ask the Selectman* event on **Friday, October 18, 2019** at the Beckish Senior Center from **12:15 pm to 1:30 pm**.

WHERE TO GO FOR NEWS AND INFORMATION: We encourage residents to please sign up for [email notification](#) and the [Emergency Alert Program](#).

Find us on 



Image by Pixabay

UPDATE ON REC PARK: The construction of the new softball field is in the final stages of completion. The tennis court has been repaired and resurfaced and a new basketball court has been started. A new park entrance road has been started after receiving the final approval from Eversource. Additional playground equipment has been ordered and should be installed this fall.



FARMERS MARKET COMMITTEE: If you would like to participate in the Farmers Market Planning Committee and/or be on the Farmers Market Committee, please contact Columbia Sustainable CT members Mary Lavalley (860.228.9555) mlavalee@columbiact.org, or Robin Kenefick at (860.228.3284).



EASTERN EQUINE ENCEPHALITIS (EEE) VIRUS AND WEST NILE VIRUS

(WNV): A second case of Eastern Equine Encephalitis Virus was confirmed on Friday, 9/20/2019, in a resident of Old Lyme. Additionally on Monday, 9/23/2019, the Connecticut Mosquito Program released the latest surveillance data. This data continues to indicate an increase in EEE activity in eastern Connecticut.

CENSUS: Starting in 2019, you may notice census takers in your neighborhood. This is a normal part of preparations for the 2020 Census. Census Bureau employees will also be in the community to continue collecting information for the American Community Survey and other ongoing surveys.

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**United States®
Census
2020**

How Can You Verify That Someone Is a Census Worker?

If someone visits your home to collect information for the 2020 Census, you can do the following to verify their identity:

- First, check to make sure that they have a valid ID badge, with their photograph, a U.S. Department of Commerce watermark, and an expiration date.
- If you still have questions about their identity, you can call 800-923-8282 to speak with a local Census Bureau representative.

<https://2020census.gov/en/census-takers.html>

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK IS OCTOBER 6TH -12TH: The fall is a good time to upgrade your smoke and CO detectors and to discuss your homes exit plan, which should include a meeting place outside of the home. Also, if you do have a fire, remember to never re-enter the building for any reason. If you have any questions regarding fire safety, please contact the Fire Marshal's Office at 860-228-0440 to schedule an appointment.

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.

SUSTAINABLE CT COMMUNITY MATCH FUND: Through an innovative partnership, Sustainable CT and ioby are now offering match funding and one-on-one fundraising coaching to Connecticut residents working to make their communities more sustainable, equitable, and vibrant.

When you crowdfund with ioby for an eligible project, Sustainable CT will match what you raise dollar-for-dollar, up to \$25,000 per project. And while you fund raise, ioby's experienced team of crowdfunding coaches will support you every step of the way.

Eligibility Eligible projects include renewable energy programs; improvements to sidewalk or bike lanes; public trails or trail systems; community gardens; arts and culture projects and much more!

Funding is available statewide for many kinds of projects in the following areas:

- Arts, Culture, and Local Economies
- Land and Natural Resource Conservation
- Public Transportation
- Waste Reduction
- Renewable and Efficient Energy Use
- Equity & Inclusion
- Healthy & Sustainable Food Networks

To be eligible, projects must:

- Be located in a Sustainable CT registered town
- Align with Sustainable CT's mission of creating equitable, sustainable communities
- Be specific and concrete with a planned timeline for completion
- Have a budget of \$50,000 or less
- Be determined eligible by Sustainable CT staff

Visit ioby.org/SustainableCT to read the full eligibility guidelines and see if your project qualifies! There's no deadline to get started, and no lengthy application. Funding will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis to all eligible projects as they fund raise.

Connecticut municipalities can also earn points toward Sustainable CT certification from projects implemented through the Community Match Fund.

Ready to share your project idea? Contact Sustainable CT Community Outreach Manager Abe Hilding-Salorio at (860) 465-0256 or hildingsalorioa@easternct.edu.

About Sustainable CT

Sustainable CT is a voluntary certification program to recognize thriving and resilient Connecticut municipalities. Sustainable CT provides a wide-ranging menu of coordinated, voluntary actions that municipalities can complete to become more sustainable. Municipalities register with Sustainable CT, then choose and implement specific Sustainable CT actions to earn points toward certification.

Sustainable CT is expanding its work to incorporate new ways to support sustainability projects led by towns, nonprofits, public schools, community groups and residents through the Sustainable CT Community Match Fund. The Sustainable CT Community Match Fund is a flexible, low-barrier funding resource for bringing sustainability projects to life.

About ioby

ioby is a nonprofit crowdfunding website, but we're so much more than that. We're growing a movement of community-led positive change and we want you to be a part of it.

ioby gives local changemakers the tools and resources they need to build real, lasting impact from the ground up. Our crowdfunding platform helps connect leaders with support and funding from their communities to make our neighborhoods safer, greener, more livable and more fun.

ioby stands for "in our backyards," but it also stands for taking care of each other, for civic muscle, and for trusting our neighbors to know what's best for the neighborhood. So far ioby project leaders have raised over crowdfunding \$6 million in citizen philanthropy.

UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS

Please check the Town of Columbia's website for any updates.

- Board of Selectmen (BOS) - Conference Room, Tuesday, October 1, 2019 at 7:00 PM
- Lake Management Advisory Commission (LMAC), Wednesday, October 2, 2019 at 7:30 PM
- IWWC Meeting - Conference Room, Monday, October 7, 2019 at 7:00 PM
- Board of Education - H. W. Porter Cafetorium, Monday, October 7, 2019 at 7:30 PM
- Fiscal Policy Board - H.W. Porter Conference Room, Wednesday, October 9, 2019 at 8:30 AM
- Safety Committee - Conference Room, Wednesday, October 9, 2019 at 1:30 PM
- Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting - Conference Room, Tuesday, October 15, 2019 at 5:30 PM
- Board of Selectmen (BOS) - Conference Room, Tuesday, October 15, 2019 at 7:00 PM
- Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) - Conference Room, Monday, October 15, 2019 at 7:00 PM
- Financial Planning & Allocation Commission (FiPAC) - Conference Room, Wednesday, October 16, 2019 at 7:00 PM
- Open Space - Conference Room, Thursday, October 17, 2019 at 8:00 AM
- Commission on Aging (CONA) - Beckish Senior Center, Wednesday, October 23, 2019 at 9:00 AM
- Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) - Conference Room, Thursday, October 24, 2019 at 7:00 PM
- Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) Conference Room, Monday, October 28, 2019 at 7:00 PM

Please visit our website to access the [Community Calendar](#).

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.).

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.

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THE Registrars of Voters

Karen Butzgy – Democratic

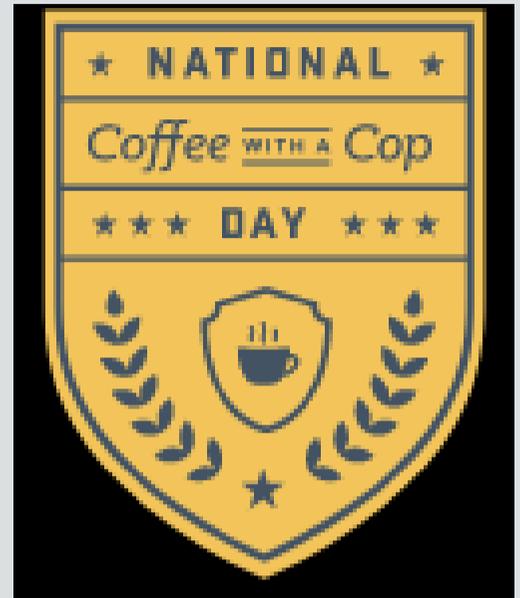
Katherine Morrison – Republican

(860) 228-6843 x113

registrar@columbiact.org

COMING EVENTS

10/2/19: NATIONAL COFFEE WITH A COP DAY 4TH ANNUAL, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2ND, FROM 9:00 AM TO 11:00 AM AT THE MAIN MOOSE (94 CT-66) The Columbia Resident Trooper Office along with the Andover Resident Trooper Office will be participating in National Coffee with a Cop Day. The Troopers will be at The Main Moose on Route 66 East in Columbia on 10/02/19 from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. The Main Moose will be providing complementary coffee and apple fritters.



10/5/19: TOUCH A TRUCK: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5TH FROM 10:00 AM TO 2:00 PM AT THE COLUMBIA FIRE DEPARTMENT

(167 RTE. 66). Lots of BIG WHEEL fun for kids to touch, climb, play & learn, featuring... Fire, Police, EMS, a visit from LIFESTAR and many, more!! Kid-friendly activities, food, and fun for the whole family!! Come rain or shine! Admission: \$5 per child (Proceeds to benefit Horace W. Porter PTO).



10/5/19: LIONS CLUB BAKED HAM DINNER, SATURDAY OCTOBER 5TH FROM 4:30 TO 7:30 PM AT THE BECKISH SENIOR CENTER (188 Route 66). Help The Lions Club Help Kids With Cancer. 100% of the Proceeds Benefit Camp Rising Sun Foundation. Tickets: \$14.00 at the door \$15.00, Children (under 12) \$7.00.

10/6/19: CROP WALK 2019, OCTOBER 6, 2019 AT 2:30 PM AT HOP RIVER STATE PARK TRAIL ANDOVER Please register to walk at Andover Congregational Church starting at 2:30PM, or you can go online to register www.crophungerwalk.org/columbiact.

The walk begins at Hop River State Park Trail in Andover. Walkers may choose to walk a mile and a half or more, returning to Andover Congregational Church.

Donations can be made to Susan Milici, Joyce Nasin and Sally Ruef. A Potluck will follow the walk! Thank you for your support in our fight to stop hunger. *The Board of Christian Concern.*

10/6/19: THE SAXTON B. LITTLE LIBRARY HOSTS A NOVEL NIGHT OUT FROM 4:00 TO 7:00 PM AT HEARTSTONE WINERY

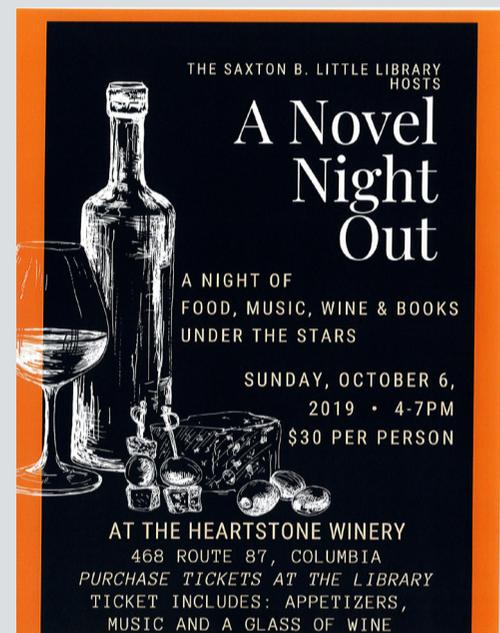
A night of food, music, wine & books under the stars. Sunday, October 6th from 4-7 pm at the Heartstone Winery (468 Route 87). \$30 per person. Tickets can be purchased at the Saxton B. Little Library.

10/10/19 & 10/24/19: MOBILE FOODSHARE: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH AND 26TH FROM 1:15 PM TO 1:45 PM COLUMBIA-BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP, 195 US-6. An outdoor

food distribution service for persons of low income. Please bring your own grocery bag. Text FOODSHARE to 85511 to receive the mobile schedule and cancellations directly on your phone. More [info](#).

10/12/19: COLUMBIA CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH (323 CT-87)- COMMUNITY BREAKFAST: SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2019 AT 8:00 AM – 11:00 AM, Parish Hall. Bring a friend! Breakfast Buffet Menu: Belgian waffles, omelets, eggs, toast, bacon, sausage, ham, potatoes, juice, milk, coffee, tea, fruits, homemade muffins & coffee cakes. Suggested free will offering: \$10.00 per person, Senior Discount \$1.00, \$28.00 – 2 adults and 2 children.

10/18/19: Ask the Selectman AT THE BECKISH SENIOR CENTER FROM 12:15 PM TO 1:30 PM: Please come and join the First Selectman, Steven Everett at the Beckish Senior on Friday, October 18, 2019 at the Beckish Senior Center from 12:15 pm to 1:30 pm. No appointment is necessary!



10/19/19: 11TH ANNUAL FALL FOLIAGE CONCERT & AUCTION, FEATURING AZTEC TWO-STEP 2.0 ON OCTOBER 19TH AT AHM (25 PENDLETON DR.), DOORS OPEN AT 6:00 PM. Please come and enjoy a night of music with Aztec Two-Step 2.0. Doors open at 6:00 pm for a social hour & light fare. Opening remarks at 7:15 pm. Act 1, followed by intermission with auction & dessert and Act 2. Tickets are \$40.00 per person and all proceeds benefit AHM's Mental Health Services for children & families.



10/27/19: COLUMBIA AUTUMN CLASSIC ROAD RACE, OCTOBER 27, 2019 AT REC PARK IN COLUMBIA. The Columbia Autumn Classic Road Race will be held on October 27th at Rec Park in Columbia. Lace up those sneakers and come join the fun! \$20.00 Pre-registration and \$25.00 Day of Registration. Registration opens at 7:00 am. Kids fun run starts at 8:30 am and the 5K race starts at 9:00 am. To register Online click [here](#). For more info on the race contact the Columbia Parks & Recreation department at 860.228.8513, recdirector@columbiact.org.

COLUMBIA PTO EVENTS IN OCTOBER:

- 10/7-10/18 Yankee Candle Fund-raiser
- 10/12-10/25 Scarecrow Contest
- 10/18 Halloween Bingo
- 10/18-11/5 Frontier Soup Fund-raiser
- 10/25 Halloween Trunk-or-Treat

NEW BUSINESS HIGHLIGHTS

MOLLY'S MARKET:

Mark your calendar for Molly's Market on Thursday, October 24th from 3-6pm. Traditional style farmer's market featuring agricultural products from local farmers including produce, meat, honey, maple syrup, specialty breads, and pies. Located at Heartstone Winery, one of Columbia's favorite destinations.



Vendors include Wilkinson Farm, Granny's Pie Factory, Nyam Bakery and more.

No Pets please

THE MAIN MOOSE:

Located at 94 Route 66 East The Main Moose is a trendy roadside restaurant with outdoor seating serving burgers, dogs, salads, sandwiches, seafood and ice cream. Dogs are welcome.

Business Hours

Sunday 6:30am - 8:00pm

Monday Closed

Tuesday Closed

Wednesday 6:30am - 8:00pm

Thursday 6:30am - 8:00pm

Friday 6:30am - 8:00pm

Saturday 6:30am - 8:00pm



BY THE POND ARTIST COLLECTIVE & CONSIGNMENT SHOP:

Located at 187 Route 66 East By the Pond is the type of store where all can browse & shop. Treasures and Artwork of all styles and price points are available. Workshops will be offered by various Artists & Crafters for all to enjoy.

Business Hours

Th. Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-8, Sun. 10-6