

COLUMBIA



Kingfisher in flight, photo taken by Ryan Hopper

UPDATE JUNE 2024



TOWN OF COLUMBIA OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN & TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

The Town of Columbia held an observance on Memorial Day at the Veteran's Memorial Garden on the Town Green to pay tribute to fallen service members who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. We would like to thank all those involved and to all that attended this year's Memorial Observance. A special thank you to State Representative, Tim Ackert for his presentation on Honoring the Fallen and to Chris Lent, Selectman for providing the introduction and welcome to the service. We were honored to have Army Major Jimmy Locke for the assistance in the laying of the Memorial wreath.

We would also like to thank Ingrid Wood, Town Historian for her reading of the Presidential Memorial Day Proclamation, Pastor MaryAnn Purtill, Columbia Congregational Church, Reverend Michael Phillippino, buglers, Micah Donley and Sean Corey, and Bill and Melissa Rood of November Sound for providing the musical interlude.





TOWN OF COLUMBIA OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN & TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Join us for the 2024 Summer Concert Series!

To kick off the summer come down to the beach on **June 14th** at 10:30 am for music with **Jim Blair**, fun water activities, drinks, pizza, and a variety of snacks! On **June 19th** we have at the Town Green a true favorite, **Bruce John** at 6:00pm. Pizza and beverages will be provided. **July 2nd** the concert series heads to Rec Park where **Nightshift** will take 'center stage'. **Cover2Cover** will be entertaining us on **July 30th**. To close out the Summer Concert Series, **Rock Solid Alibi** will play on **August 20th**.

For all three of our Nightshift, Cover2Cover, and Rock Solid Alibi concerts, there will be a food truck, beer and seltzers, and the snack shack will also be open for other yummy treats as well! All three of these concerts will begin at 6:30pm.



Thank you to our Platinum Sponsors!!

- Titan Energy
- Olivia Evans, Realtor/Broker
- Discovery Zone Learning Center
- Lions Club
- Columbia Cross Fit





TOWN OF COLUMBIA OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN & TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

4TH OF JULY PARADE: The 4th of July Parade 2024 is around the corner! Come one, come all! The Lions urge their fellow Columbians to share in the excitement of this year's parade, either as a spectator or a participant. Like last year, the Lions invite all interested parties to enter a float of their own design that reflects this year's theme, "Dare to Dream." This theme was inspired by the prize-winning artwork of Ethan Roach, who will also be a parade participant. All floats are automatically entered into a judging competition, which offers the following cash prizes:

- 1st place - \$250
- 2nd place- \$150
- 3rd place - \$100

For more information about the parade, contact Lion Tom Egan at 860-578-7037 or write us at columbialions@gmail.com.



Photo Credit: Scot Fortna



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

The Town of Columbia

**WE'RE
LOOKING
FOR...**

Zoning Enforcement Officer

Facilities Manager

Highway Maintainer

Transfer Station Attendant

Floater for Town Clerk's Office

For more information visit www.columbiact.org or
contact the Town Administrator at 860-228-0110,
townadministrator@columbiact.org.

860-228-0110
323 Route 87
Columbia, CT 06237



TOWN OF COLUMBIA

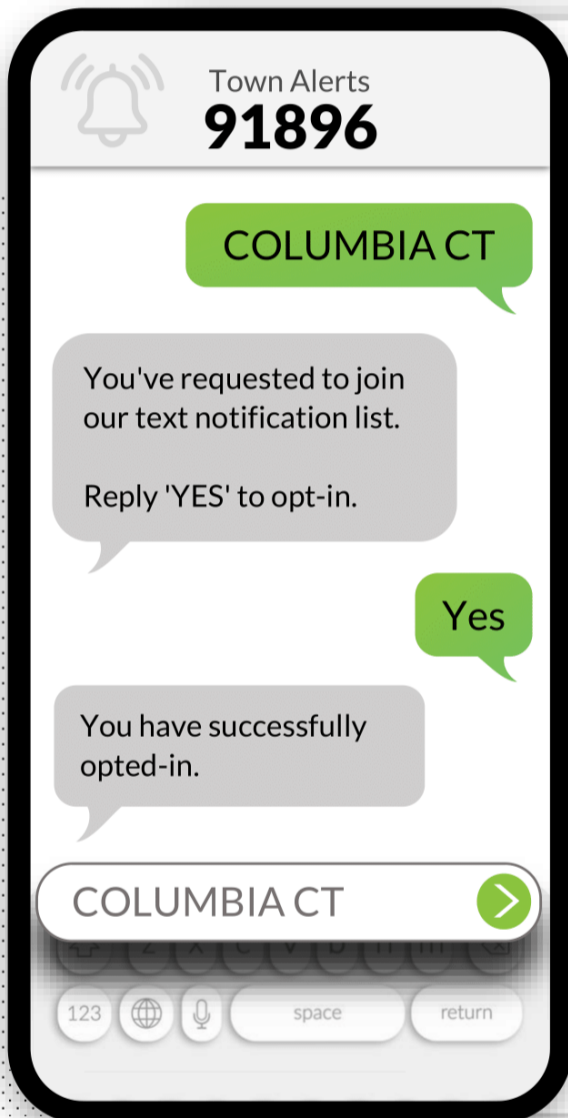
OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN & TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Town of Columbia

Text Notifications!

TextMyGov™

Get town updates sent directly to your phone via text message.



Sign up to receive town text message notifications!

Get Started,

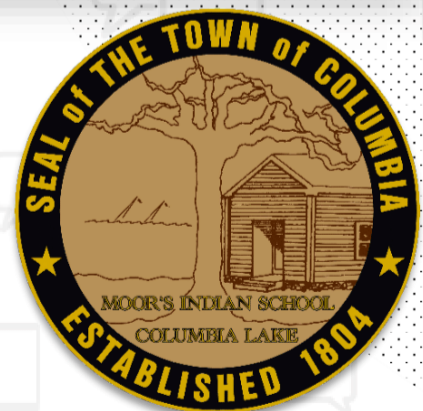
opt-in to any of the following notification lists:

- For Town-wide Notifications, text **"COLUMBIA CT"** to **91896**
- For Parks & Recreation Notifications, text **"COLUMBIA CT REC"** to **91896**
- For Beckish Senior Center Notifications, text **"COLUMBIA CT BECKISH"** to **91896**

What to Expect:

- After the initial keyword is sent, you will receive a confirmation message asking you to reply **YES** to verify opt-in.
- You may receive multiple text messages a month with a notification for each alert category opted-in to.
- Message and data rates may apply. Check with your carrier for more details.
- You can text **STOP** at any time to remove yourself from ALL notification lists.

View terms and privacy policy info at: textmygov.com/opt-in-terms-conditions





TOWN OF COLUMBIA

OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN & TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

TEXTMYGOV: Opt-In for TextMyGov, the new text alert system to receive important Town information. Signing up is easy!

We encourage all residents to opt-in for these important notifications to keep informed of all town announcements. Signing up is easy. Opt-in to any of the following lists:

- **Town-wide Notifications, text "COLUMBIA CT" to the number 91896.**
- **Parks & Recreation Notifications, text "COLUMBIA CT REC" to the number 91896.**
- **Beckish Senior Center Notifications, text "COLUMBIA CT BECKISH" to the number 91896.**

After sending the initial keyword, you will be asked to complete the opt-in process by responding with YES by text to 91896.

Users may opt-out anytime from future text alerts by simply texting STOP to 91896.

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.

Thank you and please be safe!

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

Mark B. Walter, Town Administrator
townadministrator@columbiact.org
860-228-0110

UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS

Many meetings will be held by utilizing remote access; however, some meetings are being held in-person or hybrid (both in-person and virtual). Please check the Town Calendar and the Agenda posted for directions on login information. 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.

6/03/24 Mon: Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission, 7:00 PM

6/03/24 Mon: Board of Education, 7:30 PM

6/03/24 Wed: Horace Porter School HVAC Building Committee, 6:00 PM

6/04/24 Tue: Board of Selectmen, 7:00 PM

6/05/24 Mon: Lake Management Advisory Committee, 7:00 PM

6/10/24 Mon: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7:00 PM

6/12/24 Wed: Fiscal Policy Board, 8:30 AM

6/12/24 Wed: Economic Development Committee, 7:00 PM

6/17/24 Mon: Horace Porter School HVAC Building Committee, 6:00 PM

6/18/24 Tue: Hop River Mills Committee, 5:30 PM

6/18/24 Tue: Board of Selectmen, 7:00 PM

6/19/24 Wed: Financial Planning & Allocation Commission, 7:00 PM

6/20/24 Thur: Open Space Committee, 9:00 AM

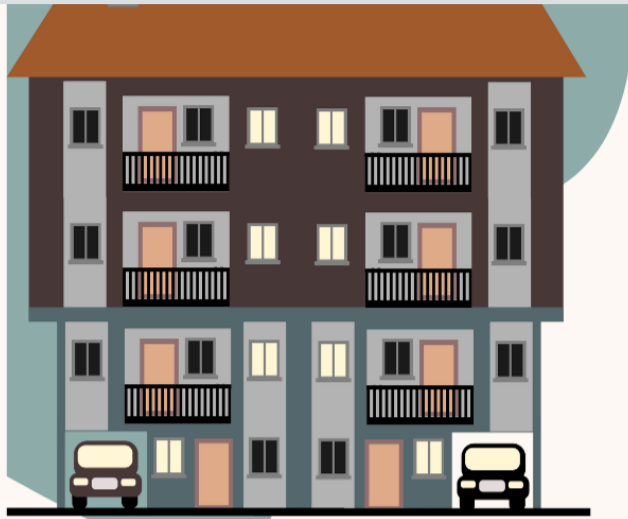
6/24/24 Mon: Planning & Zoning Commission, 7:00 PM

6/27/24 Thur: Zoning Board of Appeals, 7:00 PM

Public Comment will be accepted by our dedicated email at PublicInput@columbiact.org or by USPS mail to 323 Route 87, Columbia, CT 06237 and must be received prior to the meeting (public comment received after the meeting will be shared at the next meeting).

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE: The Renter's Relief program will begin April 1 and will run through October 1st. You will need proof of rent payments and utilities paid in the 2023 calendar year.



Renter's Rebate

Renters Rebate applications are being accepted through Monday, September 30, 2024. Columbia residents age 65 or older by 12/31/2023 or those receiving Social Security Disability may be eligible if their 2023 income was \$43,800 or less for an individual or \$53,400 or less for a married couple. There is no asset limit for this program. Required documents include: Verification of income (Signed 2023 1040 Federal Tax form (if you file); 2023 Social Security Statement (SSA-1099); 2023 Pension Statement(1099); 2023 Bank Interest Statement(1099); Any other 2023 Income 1099), rent paid, and utilities paid in 2023. Eligible residents will receive a rebate check in the fall/winter of 2024.

For questions, feel free to contact Katie Wilt at Columbia Social Services 860-228-1008. Or, **visit the Columbia Assessor's office to apply.**



TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE:

MOTOR VEHICLE ADJUSTMENTS

In order to have a motor vehicle bill adjusted we need two forms of proof. Please be aware the tax is a car tax not a road tax.

- The first is a copy of your motor vehicle plate return receipt.
- The second is something proving you got rid of the vehicle. For a list of accepted proofs look on the assessor's website or call the office.
- If you traded a vehicle and kept the same plate do not bring us any documentation because DMV will automatically process the adjustments.

BUILDING PERMIT INSPECTIONS

Inspections for building permits taken out as of October 1, 2023, through May 2024 will begin shortly. Our office will email and mail requests for information or an inspection depending on the type of permit taken. Please respond as soon as possible so that we can finish next year's Grand List on time.

The Assessor's Office personnel are available Monday through Wednesday from 8 a.m. until noon, Thursdays 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. and Fridays 8 a.m. until Noon. Our telephone number is 228-9555. Email is mhawley@columbiact.org.

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT: Memorial Day officially kicked off the summer here in Columbia. We've had some beautiful weather and people are enjoying the beach, boating on Columbia Lake, and lots of fun activities at Rec Park.

The Parks and Recreation Department has been busy prepping for a great summer filled with lots of events and activities, so mark your calendar for the many events coming your way!

We are excited to announce that Kona's Ice will be open for business at our Summer Kick-Off Event on June 14th at the beach from 1:30-4:00 pm! With so many delicious flavors to choose from you don't want to miss them!



Residents get in Free!

SUMMER KICKOFF

CELEBRATE THE START OF SUMMER WITH A BEACH PARTY!

Friday, June 14th
10:30-2:30PM

Columbia Town Beach, 18 Beach Rd

Games | Concession
Live Music | Stand Open

Follow us on Instagram and Facebook!

SCAN ME



TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT (Continued):

TOWN OF COLUMBIA

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June 14th — Jim Blair at the Town Beach (10:30 am)

June 19th — Bruce John @ the Town Green (6:30 pm)

July 2nd — Nightshift @ Rec Park (6:30 pm)

July 30th — Cover2Cover @ Rec Park (6:30 pm)

August 20th — Rock Solid Alibi @ Rec Park (6:30 pm)

CONCERT SERIES



RECREATION DEPARTMENT:

**SUMMER
CONCERT**

**FEATURING BRUCE JOHN
& Peggy Ann**

June 19th, 2024

6:00 PM

Columbia Town Green

Free!

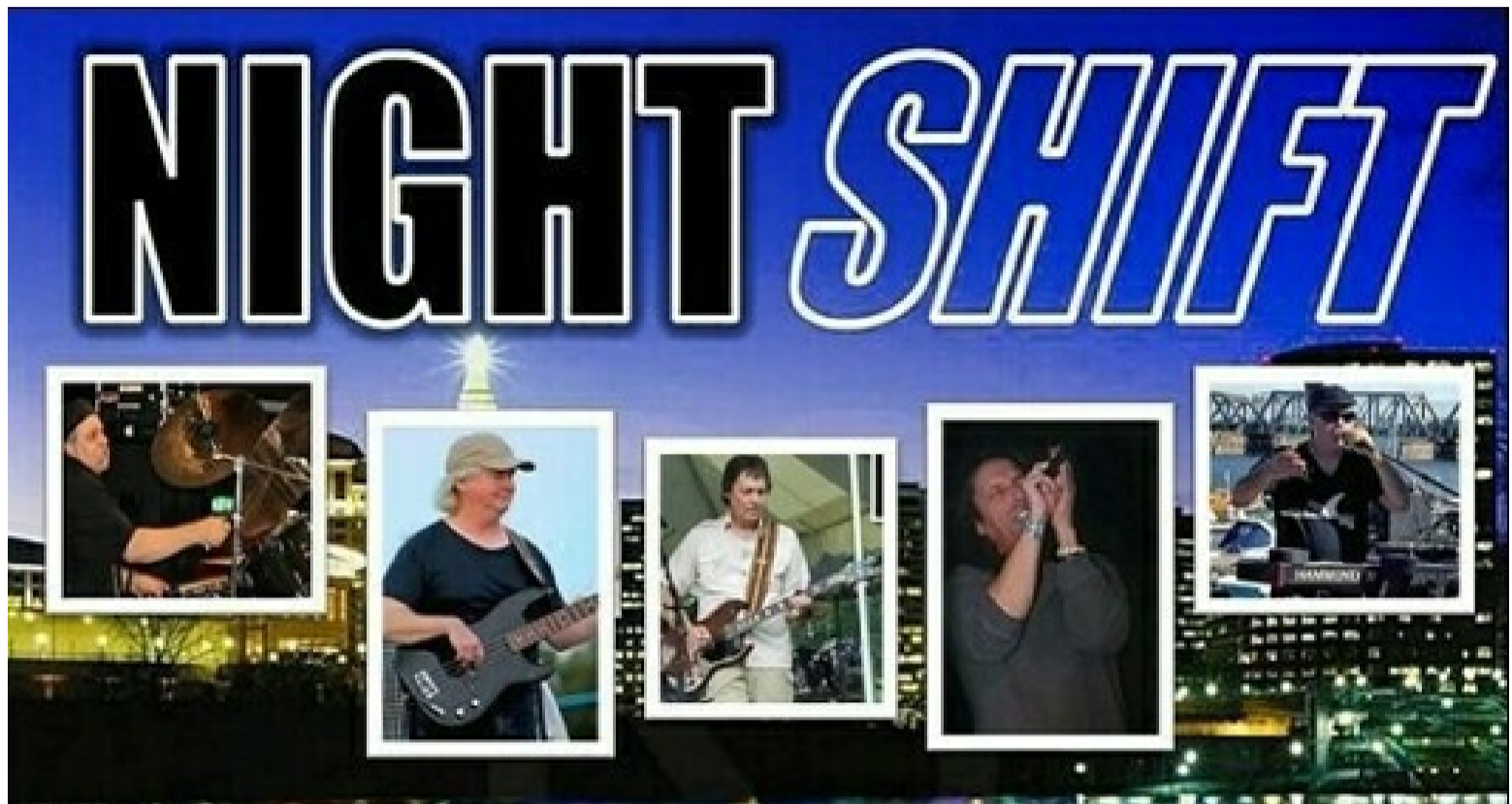
Join us for **LIVE
Music,
Pizza, and
Community Fun!**

Follow Us!
COLUMBIA PARKS & RECREATION



TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT (Continued):



Columbia Summer Concert Series

Tuesday, July 2nd

6:30 – 8:30 pm

@ Rec Park

Bring a chair or blanket and settle down for an evening of 60's, 70s, and 80's music that will have you itching to get up and dance!

Columbia Package Store



THANK YOU,
PLATINUM SPONSORS!

Music, food, beverage and community.
Join us for a great night of fun!

Fun for the entire family!

Discovery Learning Center * Columbia CrossFit * Titan Energy *
Olivia Evans- REALTOR®/ Broker

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT (Continued):

Columbia Summer Concert Series


COVER COVER



Tuesday, July 30th
6:00 – 8:00 pm
@ Rec Park



An eclectic collection of tunes to suit all audiences!



Bring a chair and settle down for an evening of live music, food, beverage, and community fun.

THANK YOU, PLATINUM SPONSORS!



Discovery Learning Center * Columbia CrossFit * Titan Energy *
Olivia Evans- REALTOR®/ Broker

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT (Continued):

Columbia Summer Concert Series



TUESDAY, AUGUST 20TH
6:30 – 8:30 PM
ROCK SOLID ALIBI
FLY

Bring a chair and join us for a fun evening of live music, food, beverage and community.



Rock Solid Alibi plays primo cuts from The Allman Brothers, The Cars, Eric Clapton, ZZ Top, Joe Jackson, The Ramones, and John Cougar Mellencamp to name just a few.

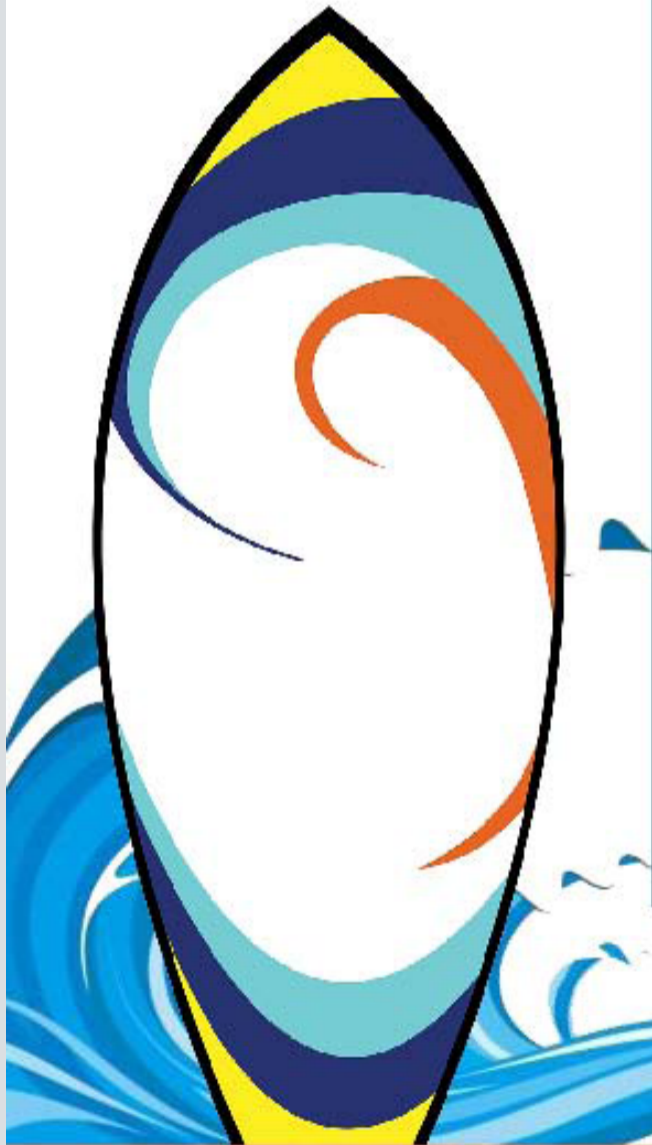
**THANK YOU,
PLATINUM SPONSORS!**



Discovery Learning Center * Columbia CrossFit * Titan Energy *
Olivia Evans- REALTOR®/ Broker

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT:



Free Paddle Board Lessons

w/ Mike Armstrong

Columbia Town Beach

18 Lake Rd

June 12th

4:00PM

Bring your own or use one of the
Town's Paddle Boards!

SCAN ME



Register on RecDesk for a guaranteed spot!

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT:

COLUMBIA PARKS & RECREATION

Boat Safe Connecticut, LLC

BOATING LICENSE CLASS

\$98
PER PERSON

SUPPLIES INCLUDED!



There will be breaks

1-day Class

Saturday, July 13th

8:30am- 4:30pm

**@ Town Hall Conference
Room**

2- day Classes 6:00-10:00pm:

***June 25th & June 27th**

@ Beckish Center

***July 16th & July 18th**

@ Beckish Center

Students successfully completing the class can purchase their license from the DEEP for \$50 and leave the class with their boating license in hand. The classroom-based presentation is PowerPoint and video format including student interaction with hands on demonstrations of common boating equipment and supplies.

[https://columbia.
recdesk.com](https://columbia.recdesk.com)
860-228-8513

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT:



FIT FUSION!

GET IN SHAPE WHILE HAVING FUN!

For years, *Fit Fusion* has been a staple of Columbia's fitness programs! Led by its talented instructor, **Carolyn Ritchie**, *Fit Fusion* brings together **Group Fitness** with the latest formats of **Interval Training** for a fun way to work-out! Sign up on [Columbia Parks and Recreation Department > Home \(recdesk.com\)](https://www.recdesk.com)

You can also contact the Columbia Parks and Recreation office at: **(860).228.8513!** Or simply drop in and try a class!

Mondays,
Wednesdays,
Fridays,
4:30-5:30 pm

\$6 Drop-In
\$50 Ten Class
Punch Cards

YEOMAN'S HALL
323 CT-87
Columbia, CT
06237



TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT:



ZUMBA

LET IT MOVE YOU™

THERE ARE A LOT OF WAYS TO LOSE WEIGHT. SOME ARE JUST MORE FUN. JOIN THE ULTIMATE DANCE-FITNESS PARTY THAT BEATS A BORING OLD WORKOUT ANY DAY.

**Starting May 14th
Columbia Rec Presents**

Zumba with Janine
Instructor Contact Information:
860-218-0487 grumpyelmbear@gmail.com
Tuesdays & Wednesdays 6:30 PM

Join us at Yoemans Hall for a fun filled hour of Zumba. Bring clean sneakers, towel & water. Secondary location if space is unavailable Beckish Senior Center.

Check out Janine's group page to be informed.
Group Facebook page: Mansfield Academy of Dance Zumba Crew

For class details Contact your licensed Zumba® Instructor.
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ZUMBA.COM

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT:

Swim Lessons

Session I

June 24th – June 27th

July 1st - July 4th

(Fridays reserved for make-up)

Level 1: 10:30am

Level 2: 11:00am

Level 3: 11:30am

Level 4: 12:00pm

Fees: Residents \$45 per week \$85 for 2 weeks/ Non-Residents \$50 per week.

Class Session: Classes are Monday – Thursday each week with Friday reserved for make-up if a lesson is cancelled due to inclement weather. The whole session is 2 weeks long.

Please note: Swim lessons are non-refundable and non-transferrable.

In the event of a schedule conflict or your child being unable to participate, we cannot be held responsible for missed days.

Requirements to enter class: A completion card or mastery of skills of previous level

**Register online at
<http://columbia.recdesk.com>**

Phone: 860-228-8513

Email: recdirector@columbiact.org



TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT (Continued):

MARINE PATROL NUMBER

860-256-9720

or

860-207-5081

Please call the Marine Patrol number if assistance is needed for boating violations or to assist operators with disabled watercrafts.

If there is an emergency, please call 911.

The Marine Patrol is on duty from 10:00 am to Sunset

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):

GATE MONITORING & INSPECTION HOURS: As of April 15th, the Recreation staff is available at the following hours to inspect and certify motorboats:

- **Monday - Wednesday: 9:00 AM- 3:30 PM; Thursday: 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM; Friday: 9:00 Am - 11:30 AM; Call the Rec Dept at 860-228-8513 to ensure they are available for inspections and launch during the outlined hours.**
- **As of Saturday, May 18th & Sunday, May 19th: 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM**
- **May 25th – September 8th : 10:00 AM – Sunset***
- **Weekends Only: September 14th to October 13th: 10:00 AM – Sunset***

* Gate closing will adjust with the sunset throughout the season.

The **MARINE PATROL NUMBER IS 860-207-5081 OR 860-256-9720**. They start patrol duties as of May 18th. Call them for inspections, on the lake assistance, and/or boating regulation questions.

2024 MOTORBOAT LAUNCH INSPECTION PROTOCOLS AND SCHEDULES ~ FOR THE SAKE OF THE LAKE!

Recently a town resident referred to the lake as “Columbia’s jewel”. Any precious commodity such as our lake needs a protection plan to maintain its brilliance. As we begin the 2024 recreational season the Board of Selectmen (BOS) shared that all town residents have a part to play in protecting the lake. The BOS emphasized the need for all town residents, especially those living in the 1,900-acre watershed area that feeds the lake, as well as users of the lake, to understand the importance of needed protections for the lake and those who use it.

One important protocol is inspections of all motorboats at the town launch. Why? As an example, an invasive species, Hydrilla, has been identified in neighboring lakes, e.g., Coventry Lake. One boat launched on our lake carrying Hydrilla could have devastating environmental and financial consequences that would impact the entire town. It is incumbent on all of us to avoid that outcome. In addition, town ordinances and CT boating regulations require documentation, proof of engine horsepower, and safety checks prior to launching on the lake. It is also as checking for invasive species. When approved, two town certification stickers will be placed next to the boat’s hull numbers. Once certified, at subsequent launches, invasive species inspections will be conducted at every launch.

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT (Continued):

2024 MOTORBOAT LAUNCH INSPECTION PROTOCOLS AND SCHEDULES ~ FOR THE SAKE OF THE LAKE!

To begin a motorboat, which is defined as a vessel propelled by machinery, can only be launched, and removed at the town's designated launch located at 2 Beach Drive. The initial launch of the season requires motorboats to be inspected prior to launch. The initial inspection process includes providing proof of Columbia residency, a valid, current registration with hull registration stickers, proof of the engine's horsepower, a CT boating certificate, safety checks as well as checking for invasive species. When approved, two town certification stickers will be placed next to the boat's hull numbers. Once certified, at subsequent launches, invasive species inspections will be conducted at every launch.

The Recreation and/or Marine Patrol staff conduct inspections. For motorboats launched by marinas, the town has worked out a plan with the marinas for the required inspections prior to the initial launch. The same proof of residency, valid registration and boating license, horsepower, safety, and invasive species checks as listed above are required.



Photo Credit Paul Ramsey

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

RECREATION DEPARTMENT (Continued):

FIT FUSION ~ Mondays/Wednesdays/Fridays, 4:30 - 5:30 PM; Join instructor Carolyn Ritchie for a total body workout for all fitness levels.

Zumba ~ Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 6:30 - 7:30 PM

For more dates and offerings, please visit our Website, follow us on [Instagram](#) and/or [Facebook](#).

RECREATION BUSINESS: SPONSORS: Looking to partner with Columbia Parks & Recreation? Being a sponsor is a great way to not only promote your business but provide financial support to enhance programming and positively impact the community. Call the department for partnership opportunities: 860.228.8513

Thank you, Jake Plitt, Parks & Recreation Director & Anyka Fagen, Assistant Recreation Director ~ 860.228.8513; Recreation@columbiact.org

Office Location: 18 Lake Rd. (Murphy House at the Town Beach), Columbia, CT 06237

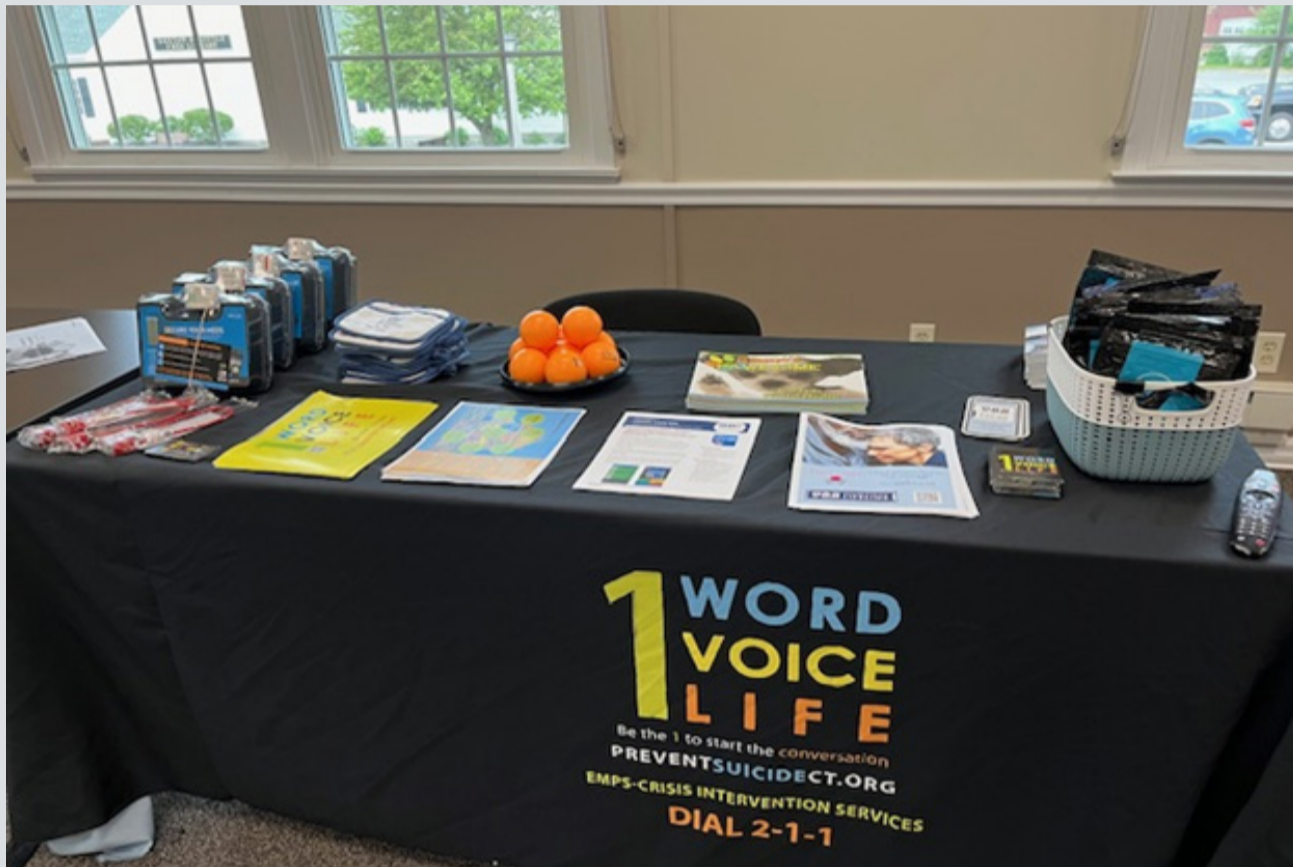
Hours: Monday - Wednesday: 8 am - 4 pm

Thursday: 8 am - 6 pm

Friday: 8 am - 12 pm

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

COMMUNITY SOCIAL SERVICES: Town of Columbia employees were recently offered Narcan and QPR Suicide Prevention training through our Regional Behavioral Health Action Organization, SERAC. This training was offered at no cost. If you are part of a community group and are interested in hosting these trainings for your group please reach out to Katie Wilt (kwilt@columbiact.org) to coordinate. For more information about SERAC's evidence-based trainings and topical presentations visit here: [https://www.seracct.org/technical-assistance/training/.](https://www.seracct.org/technical-assistance/training/)



Not sure if you qualify for SNAP? End Hunger CT offers a free prescreener. Call 866-974-SNAP (7627) or visit PRESCREENER - End Hunger CT! <https://www.endhungerct.org/prescreener/>

SNAP ONLINE PRESCREENER & SNAP CALL CENTER

End Hunger CT! can assist in finding out if you may be eligible to receive SNAP benefits. You can use our online Prescreener, or call us at 866-974-SNAP (7627) to speak with a Call Center Associate. Our staff will pre-screen you and assist you in submitting an application. The CT Department of Social Services will contact you to determine eligibility. Our Call Center associates are available 7 days a week and can assist you in English and Spanish.

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

COMMUNITY SOCIAL SERVICES:

MEDICATION SAFE DISPOSAL: Free Medication Disposal Pouches are available outside of the Social Services office in the Senior Center.

Medication disposal pouches provide a medication deactivator that makes them unusable and therefore prevents the misuse of unneeded prescriptions.

Please help yourself to pouches and help keep the community safe!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: We're looking for folks with experience in parking and traffic management to help us make a difference in our community by supporting our Mobile Foodshare at our new location at Rec Park every other Thursday from 12-1:45. Your parking and traffic experience will help us best support the logistics of setting up and breaking down the event and ensure that our guests can best access the food. If you're interested in volunteering for this rewarding opportunity and would like to learn more, please reach out to Katie Wilt at 860-228-1008 or kwilt@columbiact.org.

Katie Wilt, Community Social Services Coordinator

860-228-1008

Beckish Senior Center
188 Route 66
Columbia, CT 06237

Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:30 am-4:30 pm and Friday 8:30 to 12:30 pm



TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

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

You can view and pay taxes online. Service fees for tax payments are .95 cents to use a bank account and 2.99% for credit and debit cards.

To find your tax bills online:

- go to www.columbiact.org and click on the pay taxes online tab.
- on the next page click on the square that says view/pay tax bills.
- The search criteria will need to be entered exactly how the tax bill is written. last name, space, and your first initial.

You can also utilize this site to look up your payment history. Locate your bill using the instructions above, then hover over the icons in the option column and select 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. **Paying the tax bill online does not clear you immediately at DMV. You will need to contact the tax office during tax office hours for assistance.**

Michele Manas, Tax Collector

TOWN CLERKS OFFICE: It is business as usual in the Clerk's office for all those services that you might need – Recording and Searching of Land Records, Marriage licenses, Certified copies of Vital Records, Fishing and Hunting licenses, **Dog Licenses**, Transfer Station stickers, etc.

TRANSFER STATION PERMIT STICKERS: Transfer station permit stickers for 2024 (Effective June 1, 2024), are available for purchase in the Town Clerk's Office. Applications can be found on the Town of Columbia [Department of Public Works page](#).

TOWN DEPARTMENT NEWS AND INFORMATION

TOWN CLERKS OFFICE (Continued):

Applications for Transfer Station stickers can also be sent to us by MAIL or can be dropped off in the large white DROP BOX located outside the doors to Yeoman's Hall. Make your check payable to: Town of Columbia and INCLUDE A STAMPED SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE for mailing back your stickers.

Another option is to purchase your stickers ONLINE at www.columbia.recdesk.com/.

DOG LICENSING: JUNE is dog licensing month. If your dog's rabies vaccination has expired, please provide us with a copy of their current rabies vaccination certificate. If your dog has been spayed or neutered, include a copy of the veterinarian's certificate as well. The license year for your dog runs from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025.

PLEASE NOTE – If your dog's rabies vaccination expires in the month of JUNE, you will not be able to renew the dog's license for the new year (which begins on July 1, 2024) until we receive a current rabies certificate.

We will be accepting dog license registrations **IN PERSON, BY MAIL or BY DROP BOX**. If you are mailing in or using the drop box for your dog's license, please remember to make your check payable to: **Columbia Town Clerk and INCLUDE A STAMPED SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE WITH THE APPROPRIATE AMOUNT OF POSTAGE** for the return of your dog's new tag.

The **DROP BOX** is located outside the doors to Yeoman's Hall. Thank you.

Part-time Work Opportunity: The Town Clerk's office is seeking a motivated, detail-orientated person to fill in occasionally as a **Floater**. Tasks may include filing, clerical work, and general office assistance. Please reach out to our office with any questions about the position. To apply, please contact the Town Administrator's office at (860) 228-0110.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call us (860-228-3284) or reach out to us by email – Robin (townclerk@columbiact.org) or Karen (atownclerk@columbiact.org).

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

COLUMBIA CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH



325 Route 87
860 228 9306



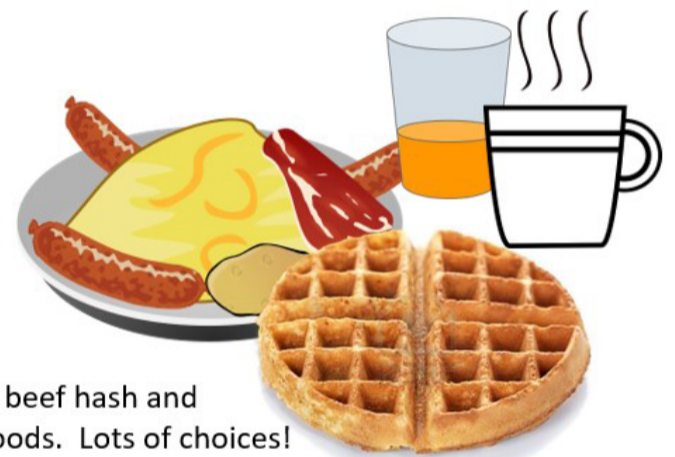
2nd Saturday Community Breakfasts

May 11 June 8 July 13 Aug 10



Share Food and Joy with
Family and Friends
7:30 AM to 10 AM

All you can eat; 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!



325 Route 87
PO Box 177
Columbia, CT
06237

860 228 9306
ccchurch@snet.net

Columbiacongregational
church.org

Find us on Facebook and
on You Tube

WELCOME! MAY HAPPENINGS



10 AM Sundays Worship Services with Rev. MaryAnn Purtill
Church School during the Service

Bible Study Thursdays 10:30 AM

2nd Saturday Community Breakfast
7:30 – 10 AM Saturday May 11th

Simple Sustenance
Zuppa Toscana & Sun-dried Tomato Basil Bread
order by May 19 pick up May 26

For details check out our webpage: Columbiacongregationalchurch.org

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

COLUMBIA CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH



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

Saturday, September 21th
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



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

JOIN US FOR RIDE THE EAST ON JUNE 8, 2024!



Saturday, June 8, 2024 @ 7:30 AM

Jillson House Museum, 627 Main St, Willimantic, CT 06226

Explore the scenic Air Line Trail with the East Coast Greenway Alliance and Trust for Public Land!

Select from two out-and-back ride options (48-mile and 18-mile) on the stone dust Air Line Trail State Park. Both rides include a short on-road loop (on back roads) to Mono Pond to learn about Trust for Public Land's efforts to acquire land for public use. The 48-mile ride continues to the cranberry bog in East Hampton where riders will learn about the 111-mile Central Connecticut Loop Trail, which will extend from East Hampton.

Registration starts at 7:30 AM at the Jillson House Museum followed by a special ceremony at the museum at 8 AM. The 48-mile ride starts at 8:30 AM; 18-mile ride starts at 9 AM. Helmets required. Snacks and water provided and there will be several restroom stops along the way. Free parking at the museum or the rec center (1 Jillson Square). Riders will receive special offers from local businesses to continue the fun after the ride!

This ride is presented by the East Coast Greenway Alliance and Trust for Public Land and sponsored by the Jillson House Museum and Windham Region Chamber of Commerce.

Please note: This is a nonprofit event. We are not able to issue refunds for no shows or cancellations.

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

Save the Bees



COME JOIN US

SATURDAY, JULY 6TH 12:30-3:30 PM

On the Columbia Town Green

With Bee Info, a Beekeeper, Pollinator Books, Native plants for pollinators, honey products (including skin care products), local vendors, crafts for kids, giveaways, & much more

For more info, to volunteer, or if you'd like to have a booth, please call Carol Coley at carol.coley61@gmail.com or 860-208-8309



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

SAXTON B. LITTLE LIBRARY: Welcome to June at your local library!

Summer Reading season is almost here! If you've popped in to SBL lately or follow us on Facebook, you'll see that we have a full calendar of events planned for the next three months for people of all ages.

New this year: **SBL will be open on Saturdays throughout the summer months from 10:00am to 2:00pm**, Independence Day through Labor Day. We hope you'll stop in to visit!

Here are the upcoming events in June – please call SBL at 860-228-0350 to register yourself and/or your children for these programs!

On Friday, June 28th at 3:00pm, we're kicking off summer with Animal Adventures! Meet and learn about exotic wildlife with an expert zookeeper at Yeomans Hall.

Join writer Patrick Scalisi and artist Valerie Ruby-Omen as they present their definitive guide to Connecticut Cryptids on Tuesday, June 18th at 6:30pm. Exhaustively researched and fully illustrated, this is the only book you'll ever need to undertake your own search for CT's mysterious and mythical creatures.

We're bringing back our popular 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! The swap will occur on: Friday, 6/28 from 2:00-5:00pm; Saturday, 6/29 from 10:00am-5:00pm; and Monday, 7/1 from 10:00am-4:00pm. No registration required.

We're also hosting a Jigsaw Puzzle Race! Bring your own team of up to six people, or join up with others at this competition. All teams will be provided with the same 500-piece jigsaw puzzle. The first team to finish wins! Adults, teens, and children age 10+ can compete. The race is on at Yeomans Hall on Saturday, June 29th at 11:00am.

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

SAXTON B. LITTLE LIBRARY (CONTINUED): Coming up in July: a Tour of the Bushnell on Wednesday, July 10th at 11:00am! Look behind the curtain with a behind-the-scenes tour of The Bushnell in Hartford! Experience the glamour of the historic Mortensen Hall; marvel at the luxuriousness of the Belding Theater; gaze at the 14-foot sparkling Chihuly chandelier; and rub elbows with celebrities (well, almost) as you view a variety of backstage areas rarely seen by the public – including their famous autograph room and star’s green room. We have limited space for this program – pre-registration is required by 7/1. Please note that you must provide your own transportation to Hartford.

Did you know SBL is hosting a Community Art Show this summer? We asked our patrons to create art based on our summer theme of “Read, Renew, Repeat” – their artwork will be on display in the Library all summer. Stop in to take a peek!

We hope to see you at SBL soon!

We hope to see you at SBL soon!

Saxton B. Little Library

860-228-0350 / columbiactlibrary.org

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

SAXTON B. LITTLE LIBRARY:

Saxton B. Little Library | Columbia | 860-228-0350

CRAFT SUPPLY & YARN

* Swap *



Do you have a closet full of craft materials that you're never going to use? Or do you want to try something new but don't want to invest a lot in new supplies? This is the event for you!

We welcome crafting materials of all sorts — yarn, fabric, tools, paper-crafting goods, stickers, ribbon, beads, books and magazines, etc. All donated items must be in good, usable condition — nothing damaged or otherwise unusable. No open containers of paint, glue, or similar items. Any items left at the end of the swap will be used by the library, donated, or discarded.

You can begin dropping off supplies at SBL on Tuesday, 7/2.

SWAP HOURS:
Friday, 7/5 - 1-5pm | Saturday, 7/6 - 10am-2pm
Monday, 7/8 - 10am-3pm

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

SAXTON B. LITTLE LIBRARY:

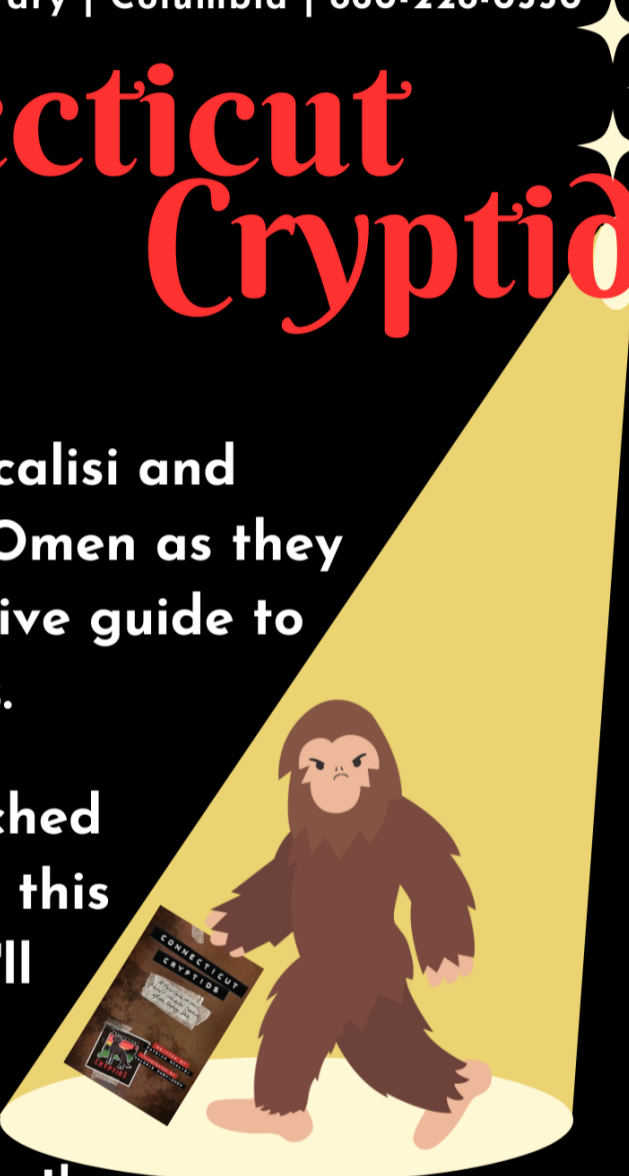
Saxton B. Little Library | Columbia | 860-228-0350

Connecticut Cryptids

Join writer Patrick Scalisi and artist Valerie Ruby-Omen as they present their definitive guide to Connecticut cryptids.

Exhaustively researched and fully illustrated, this is the only book you'll ever need to undertake your own search for Connecticut's mysterious and mythical creatures.

Pre-registration required.
Call us to sign up today!



TUESDAY
june
18 6:30 PM

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

SAXTON B. LITTLE LIBRARY:

Saxton B. Little Library | Columbia | 860-228-0350

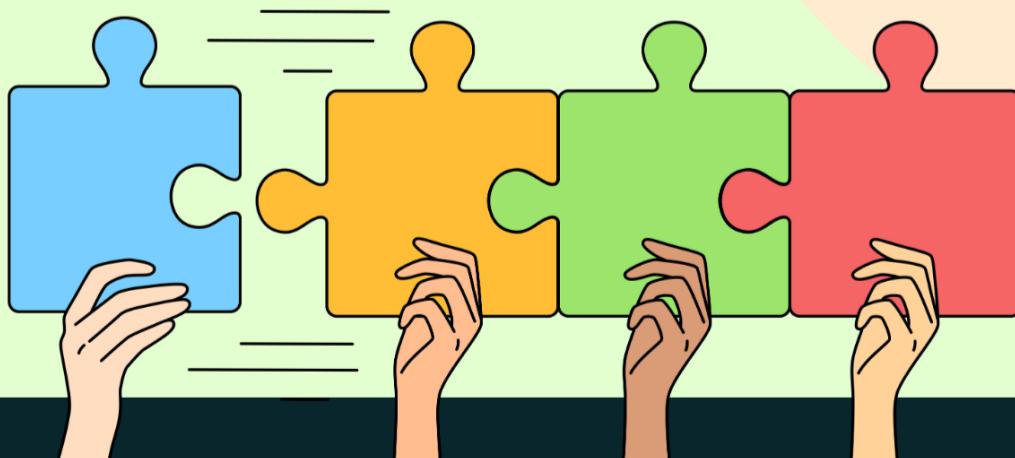
JIGSAW PUZZLE RACE

SATURDAY, 6/29 @ 11:00AM
at Yeomans Hall

Bring your own team of up to six people, or join up with others at this Jigsaw Puzzle Competition. All teams will be provided with the same 500-piece jigsaw puzzle. The first team to finish wins!

Adults, teens, and children age 10+ can compete. Prizes will be awarded to the first-place team.

See Library Staff for additional details.
Limited to six teams - call SBL to sign up today!



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

SAXTON B. LITTLE LIBRARY:

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

Friday, 6/28
2:00-5:00pm
Saturday, 6/29
10:00am-5:00pm
Monday, 7/1
10:00am-4:00pm

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

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

SAXTON B. LITTLE LIBRARY:



**ANIMAL
ADVENTURES**

**Saxton B. Little Library
Summer Reading Program**

Friday, June 28th @ 3:00

Meet and learn about exotic
wildlife with an expert zookeeper!
At Yeomans Hall.

Registration opens June 1st.
Call 860-228-0350 or stop by
the Library to register.
All ages welcome.

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

SAXTON B. LITTLE LIBRARY:



SAXTON B. LITTLE LIBRARY



**2024 SUMMER READING PROGRAM:
READ, RENEW, REPEAT!**

JUNE 24TH - AUGUST 9TH

Visit the Library anytime after June 24th to register for our Summer Reading Program. Read for prizes and earn pet food for the Our Companions Animal Sanctuary. Join us for fun, FREE programs, crafts, and activities* all summer long!

*Registration for the first couple weeks of events and activities will open Saturday, June 1st.

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

SAXTON B. LITTLE LIBRARY:



Look behind the curtain with a behind-the-scenes tour of The Bushnell in Hartford!

Experience the glamour of the historic Mortensen Hall; marvel at the luxuriousness of the Belding Theater; gaze at the 14-foot sparkling Chihuly chandelier; and rub elbows with celebrities (well, almost) as you view a variety of backstage areas rarely seen by the public – including their famous autograph room and star's green room.

No transportation provided to Hartford.
See SBL Staff for details.

**Wednesday,
July 10th
@ 11:00am**

Limited space -
pre-registration
required by 7/1

Please note that you must provide your own transportation to the event.
SBL is not responsible for any incident outside of its premises.

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



Paint a Vintage Child's Chair

Thursday June 27th
7 PM – 9 PM
Columbia Congregational Church
325 Rt 87

Pre-registration required. Only 20 chairs available. To register:
call or email Millie Ramsey at 860 729-5472
millieramz@gmail.com by June 20th.

\$ 40 per chair. All materials provided.

Instructed by Nelisa Reagan of
Notions Finds ReCreations and Design

Proceeds to benefit local missions.

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

COLUMBIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY GARDEN & HOUSE TOUR

SATURDAY JUNE 22ND
10AM TO 3PM

Ticket sales will be limited to 75
Advance Tickets - \$20.00
Day of Tour Tickets - \$30.00

Last Day to Purchase Advance Tickets will be June 19th

To purchase tickets in advance please go to
columbia-history.org

Day of tickets will be available at the Beckish Senior Center

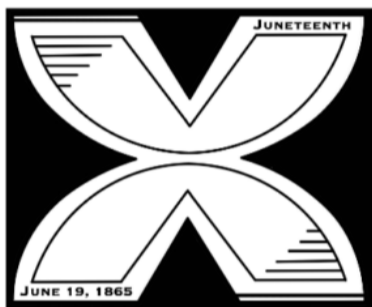
For additional information contact
Event Coordinator Millie Ramsey at
millieramz@gmail.com or 860-729-5472



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

THIRD ANNUAL JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

SATURDAY
JUNE 15
10:30AM - 2:30PM



PETERS HOUSE
BURNT HILL PARK
HEBRON

RAIN LOCATION: HEBRON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

BROUGHT TO YOU BY COALITION ON DIVERSITY & EQUITY (CODE)

ENJOY PERFORMANCES: EVAE PEART & NIA ARTS (DRUMMING AND DANCING); LISA CLAYTON SINGERS; HARTFORD POET LAUREATE FREDERICK-DOUGLASS KNOWLES II; RAOUF MAMA (STORYTELLING)

LEARN: AFRICAN AMERICAN QUILT-MAKING FROM SISTERS IN STITCHES: JOINED BY THE CLOTH; HISTORY OF FORMERLY ENSLAVED HEBRON RESIDENT CESAR PETERS FROM HIS DESCENDANTS; TOUR HISTORIC PETERS HOUSE; BUS TOUR OF HEBRON SITES WHERE BLACK AMERICANS LIVED

FUN FOR KIDS: STORY WALK, SCAVENGER HUNT, FACE PAINTING, PAINT FREEDOM POLE, ARTS & CRAFTS

MORE: FOOD, VENDORS FROM BLACK-OWNED BUSINESSES, TEA CUP AUCTION, EDUCATIONAL MATERIAL, MEET PEOPLE INVOLVED WITH SOCIAL JUSTICE



Funders: The Greater Together Hebron Community Fund at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, Town of Hebron (Parks & Recreation Dept.), William Caspar Graustein Memorial Fund, FOX61 Making An Impact Foundation, St. Peter's Church, Hochberg Committee for Holocaust & Human Rights Education, CENTURY 21 AllPoints Realty, Northeast Family Federal Credit Union, Berkshire Bank, Hebron Travel

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

M&J BUS, INC.: M&J Bus needs two individuals from the Columbia community to become licensed school bus drivers to drive the students and student athletes of the Columbia Public Schools. Training is local and free! We will reimburse you up to \$300.00 for your licensing fees, plus we will pay you a bonus of \$1,000 IF you are fully licensed on or before September 15, 2024. The summer is the perfect time to train with our State Certified Trainers. Please contact Lisa at (860) 423-9552 for details and to begin your adventure.

