

The Hartford News

Sept. 30 – Oct. 6, 2021



NEW PARK STREET LIBRARY OPENS SATURDAY!

This Saturday, October 2, Hartford Public Library's brand new Park Street Library @ the Lyric will open to the public for the first time with a daylong community celebration to mark the grand opening of the new library.

The festivities will begin in the morning with art activities at the Art Box (777 Park St.) followed by a parade to the new Park Street Library @ the Lyric, located at 603 Park Street, corner of Broad Street. The event will include live music, food trucks, activities for kids and chance to tour the new library, the largest of the library's branches in Hartford.



Event Schedule

- 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.: Art activities at the Art Box, including painting of Southside Institutions Neighborhood Alliance Frog Hollow heroes murals
- 11 a.m.: Puppet show, presented by Hispanic Health Council
- 1 p.m.: Colors of Frog Hollow Community Parade from Art Box to Park Street Library @ the Lyric (Wear a shirt representative of your culture)
- 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.: Block party celebration

Performers

- De 4 Ahwee & Co. with friends from Trinity Steel, presented by the Trinity College Center for Caribbean Studies
- DJ Connie Carmona featuring YOUmedia Hartford teens
- Bomba Ashe
- Latin Essence Jazz Group
- Mariachi Academy of New England

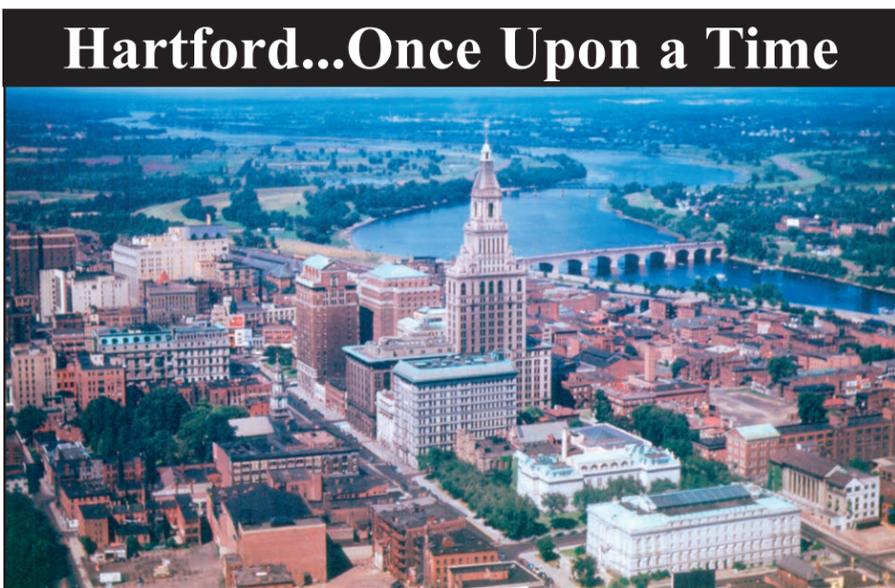
In addition, there will be a multimedia presentation entitled "Voices of Frog Hollow" as well as a branch history exhibit presented by the Hartford History Center at Hartford Public Library.

The event is free and open to the public. For more information, go to hplct.org.



Pleas for Peace Amidst Continued Violence

Tim Fair and Emanuel Cheney from Men Standing Up Against Violence carry their organization's banner down Magnolia Street Monday night in a Faith Walk for Peace. The march was the third of four Faith Walks, but was given further urgency by the shooting of a Weaver High School student at 1:30 am early Monday morning on Martin Street. Waldemar Santiago was fatally shot outside 89 Martin Street while visiting a shrine dedicated to his friend, Juan Bautista Garcia, a talented musician who was shot and killed on Martin Street less than two months ago, according to the Hartford Courant. The Faith Walks are being held by a coalition of religious and community organizations, including the Blue Hills Civic Association and Mothers United Against Violence. The fourth and final Faith Walk will be held next Monday, October 4, starting at 5:30 pm from Templo Fe, 1019 Broad Street, Hartford. The previous three walks have been held in the North End but Minister and community activist Kelvin Lovejoy, who led Monday's Faith Walk, said it was time to take the anti-violence message to the South End. "Our family on the north side is dying; our family on the south side is dying," he said. "Hartford has to come together as one family." In addition, an outdoor Faith & Blue service will be held Sunday, October 10, from 12-4 pm at First Calvary Church, corner of Niles Street and Woodland Street. The public is welcome (Hart photo)



This aerial photo shows Downtown Hartford in the 1950s, when the city's population was reaching its peak. Hartford's old "East Side" neighborhood can be seen at right. Virtually all of it was torn down in the late 1950s and early 1960s to make way for Constitution Plaza and other projects. One of the few survivors is the Hartford Times building (lower right corner), now the Hartford Branch of the University of Connecticut. Hartford's North Meadows area (top left) is virtually devoid of any development, unlike today numerous car dealerships and other businesses. (Photo courtesy of the Hartford Public Library's Hartford Collection)

NEWS BRIEFS

Health & Wellness Fair Saturday

The City of Hartford Department of Families, Children Youth & Recreation will hold its 10th annual Community Health & Wellness Fair this Saturday, October 2, from 10 am - 2 pm, at Parker Memorial Center, 2621 Main Street, Hartford. There will be COVID-19 vaccinations (and booster shots for those eligible), flu shots, health and dental screenings for adults, vision screenings for children, mammograms (must pre-register, call 860-972-1234). In addition, there will be numerous booths offering information on family planning, Medicare and Medicaid Insurance, emotional wellness and prescriptions and medicines. Lunch will be served while supplies last. Hartford Public Library's bookmobile will be on-site. The event is free and open to the public. Masks must be worn by all those over age 2. Call 860-965-3532 for more information.

New Park Terrace Roundabout Now Open

After a long construction phase, the new traffic roundabout at the intersection of Park Terrace, Russ Street and Sigourney Street, opened to vehicular traffic Monday. The State Department of Transportation (DOT) will now begin work on the Sigourney Street Bridge over Capitol Avenue, which is located just north of the roundabout. Motorists should be aware of the roundabout opening and are cautioned to pay particular attention to traffic patterns and detours associated with the Sigourney Street Bridge project.

Girls Travel Basketball League Registration

The Greater Hartford Girl's Basketball Travel League (GHGTBL) is now registering players for the 2021-2022 season. The league will have a special skills clinic on Saturday, October 16, from 8 am - 10 am at the Wilson-Gray YMCA, 444 Albany Avenue, Hartford with players from the University of Hartford women's basketball team. GHGTBL's season runs from October through February and is open to girls in grades 4-8. Practices will be held on Tuesdays and

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New Mural Honors Hartford's First Black Firefighter

Retired Fire Captain and former city Councilman Steven Harris speaks Saturday at the unveiling of a mural honoring William Henry Jacklyn, Hartford's first black firefighter. The mural was painted on the side of the Hartford Phoenix Society, an organization of Black firefighters on Windsor Street. Jacklyn served at Engine Company 7 starting in 1898, when the Hartford Fire Department was composed of volunteers. In 1908, when the department was professionalized, he was asked to join as a paid fireman, but told he would not be allowed to sleep in the same quarters as his white peers. As a result of this blatant discrimination, Jacklyn refused to serve as a paid firefighter. However, he did continue as a volunteer and helped battle the 1914 blaze at Hartford's Union Station, among many others. It wasn't until 1948 that Black firefighters were welcomed to be part of the Hartford Fire Department. The mural was created by Hartford Public Library's Changemaker Program. Lead artists on the project were Lindaluz Carrillo and Kayla Farrell assisted by artists Linda F. Martin, Ashley Innocent, Traé Brooks, Linda Martin and Matt Putre. (Hart photo)



Politically Speaking

A Fresh Look at Issues Facing our Region & State

BY MIKE MCGARRY

Kof C Encourages Asylum Hill Composting Project

Asylum Hill resident Barbara Robbins has initiated an innovative composting effort in her neighborhood of Asylum Hill. Traditional backyard composting allows only for fruits, vegetables, egg shells and coffee grounds, requiring approximately a year to age completely. Meat, dairy and reducing the collection load, municipal costs, and the problem of too much garbage and where to put it. Robbins plans to provide the City with data, as an encouragement for a wider-spread composting program. This effort can be initiated in any neighborhood where a composting advocate resides. She said,



Asylum Hill resident Barbara Robbins (left) shows one her innovative composters to members of the Knights of Columbus, Council 11405, Cathedral of Saint Joseph, at the Niles Street Community Garden.

MAKING MAGIC

Hartford's Angel of Edgewood in national spotlight

BY ANNE GOSHDIGIAN

"It was just unbelievable!" That was Jendayi Miller's reaction when she received notification that she'd been chosen out of 300,000 nominees as one of Disney World's 50 "Magic Makers", honoring people who had stepped up during the pandemic to support their communities during troubling times, as a part of the Orlando, Florida theme park's 50th anniversary celebration; Miller and family will also be awarded an all-expenses-paid Disney World vacation. The unexpected news was followed almost immediately by an invitation to be profiled on the ABC network's longstanding news show "Good Morning America". The North End woman who a little more than a year ago took it upon herself to



ensure that no one in the capital city area in need of food would go without has seen her star rise steadily. There were multiple citations from the State government and elected officials for her work, and most recently, a request from Governor Lamont to film a commercial where she urges Connecticut residents to receive the COVID-19

vaccine, and a still from that was made into billboards towering over I-91 and I-84. Miller's efforts at alleviating hunger began in her home kitchen at her own expense, and is now poised to continue at the Angel of Edgewood Community Café and Resource Center on Blue Hills Avenue. With a steadfast group of supporters and volunteers

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City of Hartford Job Opportunities

The City of Hartford is currently hiring for the following positions:

- Finance - Administrative Clerk
- Finance - Chief Assessment Technician
- Families, Children, Youth & Recreation - Early Learning Teacher Assistant
- Emergency Services & Telecommunications - Dispatcher Trainee
- Public Works - Heavy Equipment Mechanic
- COO - Inspector General
- Families, Children, Youth & Recreation - Lifeguard
- Finance - Payroll Supervisor
- Police - Cadet
- Police - Officer
- Public Works - Principal Engineering Technician
- Families, Children, Youth & Recreation - Recreation Asst.
- Police - School Crossing Guard
- MHIS - Senior Systems Analyst
- Public Works - Traffic Engineering Services Manager

To learn more, go to: <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/hartfordct>

oils attract pests, large and small, due to bacterial sludge, and are not recommended for backyard units. After 10 weeks of internet research, Robbins discovered a tumbler that composts ALL food scraps, including meat, dairy and oil. She was awarded a small grant, and is installing three tumblers in Asylum Hill. The units are placed in a community garden and a school program at a church for use and education.

The goal of the project is to provide statistics on how much weight in food scraps can be kept out of the City of Hartford's waste stream,

"Let us reduce the quantity of our waste across the country, as a sign of how much we care!"

The Saint Joseph Cathedral Knights of Columbus helped Robbins install one of the composters at the Niles Street Community Garden. Kitchen waste of members, weeds and over-ripe fruits and vegetables and other items will be added to the composter. The garden, which is built on the remains of an old building, constantly needs additional soil. Hopefully, the new composter will help enrich the soil as well as remove waste from the neighborhood.

Hartford Charter Revision Commission Report: September 2021

By James Woulfe, Chair, Hartford Charter Revision Commission

The Charter Revision Commission had a busy month of September. We wrapped up our work on Chapter X of the charter, which covers budget issues, and began our work on Chapter IX, which covers the Board of Education.

At our September 9th meeting, we had our first "working session," during which we began to hammer out detailed changes to how the city's budget is crafted and approved. At our September 16th meeting, we reviewed a new draft of Chapter X prepared by the commission's legal counsel, and continued to debate and fine tune Chapter X. Some of the agreed

upon changes to Chapter X include:

- Moving the date that the budget is submitted to the City Council forward by roughly a month, to give the City Council and the public more time to review the document;
- Requiring the Mayor to distribute the proposed budget to the public via social media and other means;
- Requiring additional information in the Mayor's proposed budget outlining policy rationales, and the goals and objectives of the budget;



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THE HARTFORD NEWS

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Make Your Voices Heard

The Hartford Board of Education election is November 2nd

BY DONNA SWARR

In just one month the City of Hartford will hold an election to fill four of the nine seats on the Board of Education. Under the current City Charter, the Mayor gets to appoint five members, and currently they are Kimberly D. Oliver, Director of the Department of Families, Children, Youth & Recreation; Yvette Bello, Senior Community Impact Officer for the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving; A.J. Johnson, Pastor of Urban Hope Refuge Church and an employee of the Center for Leadership and Justice; Philip Rigueur, Vice President for Enterprise Transformation at Hartford Healthcare and James E. Shmerling, President and Chief Executive Officer at Connecticut Children's Medical Center. Bello, Johnson, and Shmerling were appointed in April of this year. There's been input from city residents regarding reducing the number of BOE appointments in the City's Charter during the ongoing revision process. Some residents believe that engagement and input from the community is thwarted by having a minority voting representation on the board, and hope to see a change in the Charter in 2022.

There are four slots for elected Board of Education members, each who'll serve a four-year term. The five candidates and their endorsements are Shonta Browdy, Working Families Party; Francoise C. Deristel-Leger, Democrat; Yahaira Escribano, Democrat; Bryan Gilbert Callender, Jr., Republican; and Tyrone V. Walker, Democrat.

October 26th is the cutoff date for registering to vote by mail, or at the Department of Motor Vehicles; the

deadline is 11:59 p.m. If any registration is postmarked by October 26th, the Registrar of Voters must process it. Anyone can go to City Hall and register before 4:30 p.m. on November 1st. Registration will also be available at City Hall on election day. As of October 1st, absentee ballots will become available only by request, not automatically mailed out as they were last year. You can either pick one up or contact the Registrar of Voters at 860-757- 9830. Their office is open Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-3 p.m., with the exception of October 26th, when that office is scheduled to remain open until 8 p.m. Also, 102 drop boxes for completed ballots will be placed around Hartford, locations to be announced next week.

Anyone can apply for an absentee ballot for the following reasons: COVID-19 concerns; if you are or will be an active member of the United States armed forces; be out of town during all the hours of voting on Election Day; have an illness preventing you from voting in person; have religious beliefs preventing you from performing secular activities like voting on Election Day; be performing duties as an election official at a polling place other than your own during all the hours of voting on Election Day; or have a physical disability that prevents you from voting in person on Election Day.

In next week's *Hartford News*, to assist you in your selection information will be shared about each candidate. If you'd like to suggest questions to ask the candidates, please email them to hartfordnews@aol.com by

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Hartford Latino Festival Returns!

The annual Hartford Latino Festival, organized by Luna Productions, returned to Hartford last Saturday on the grounds of the Good Shepherd Church on Wyllys Street. after a year off due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Shown above are Milagros Mercado (left) and Milagros Mercado (right). The mother and daughter were among the many who showed off their salsa dancing skills at the event. Below is Jose Perez demonstrating his Puerto Rican pride. (Hart photos)



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Yoga in Our City: Try it...you'll like it!

Season ends on Oct 10th

BY DONNA SWARR

Yoga In Our City began in Hartford in 2012. It was a program developed by Civic Mind, a social enterprise specializing in community development.

During the first two years it was funded in part by Hartford's Recreation division. By 2015, it had expanded to five more Connecticut cities--Bridgeport, New Haven, New London, Waterbury, and Willimantic—due to a partnership with ConnectiCare. When COVID-19 struck in 2020, ConnectiCare's continued support of the program enabled the creation of a virtual studio, but this year, they were able to offer free in-person yoga classes once again. Yoga

In Our City's vision is to build happier, healthier communities through compassion, gratitude, and mindfulness. They believe that yoga has transformative power, and bringing people together for a communal yoga experience in city parks would result in a greater appreciation of Hartford.

The benefits of practicing yoga are physiological, psychological, and biochemical. Yoga improves

strength, balance, flexibility, eases pain, improves mobility, reduces stress, helps you sleep, and improves your outlook. Yoga is not a competition; it's all about you and your body. Yoga in Our City asked participants to share their yoga experiences via a survey this summer. Respondents told about new friendships being formed, healing and therapeutic experiences, how wonderful that these sessions are offered for free and in a variety of locations, the joy of practicing yoga outdoors, and how friendly the yoga instructors have been.

They offer multiple locations in Hartford. Classes are held twice a week in Bushnell Park on Mondays and Wednesdays at 5:30 pm and in Elizabeth Park on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5:30 pm, as well as once a week in Pope and Colt Parks at 10 a.m. These will end as of October 10th. If you missed the earlier sessions, stop by next week to see what it's like and put it on your calendar for next year. Better yet, sign up for their newsletter at <https://yogainourcity.com/>.

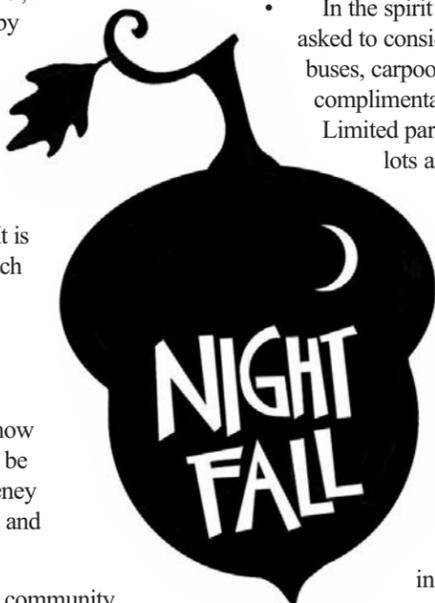


Night Fall is Coming October 9!

Night Fall's 10th Anniversary performance will be held this year on Saturday, October 9, in Keney Park. Created and directed by Hartford artist Anne Cubberly, Night Fall is one of Hartford's most unique and popular events. This salute to the changing of the seasons features song, dance, elaborate costumes and, of course, Cubberly's famous giant puppets. It is held in a different Hartford park each year. Admission is free.

Night Fall Highlights

- Activities begin at 2pm; the show begins at 6pm. Night Fall will be held in the southern end of Keney Park; use the Woodland Street and Keney Park entrances.
- Arrive early to enjoy vendors, community group tables, art activities and food trucks!
- Bring blankets and chairs. Picnicking encouraged.
- Masks required when you move about the grounds. Masks are optional when seated during



the performance.

- In the spirit of sustainability, guests are asked to consider walking, taking CT Transit buses, carpooling or biking. There will be a complimentary bike valet service provided. Limited parking is available in Keney Park lots and on surrounding streets.

- Rain date is Sunday, October 10.

Volunteers Needed

Night Fall's audience services team is in need of community volunteers to assist for a minimum of two hours between 1 pm and 9 pm on the day of the show. Bilingual volunteers are particularly welcome. Positions include merchandise sales, ushers, greeters, accessibility volunteers, lantern bearers for the finale, and more. Individuals and families should email info@nightfallhartford.org to express interest.

Subject: On School Bus Drivers

COMMENTARY BY BILL KATZ

Ok, you were bound to get my kind of response. It's a "When I was a kid..." comment. But when I was in grade school, I either walked to my school about a mile away beginning on lower Laurel Street in Hartford and ending at St Joe's on Asylum Avenue. Or my Uncle Sal gave us kids a ride in his Caddie before opening his insurance agency. On those occasions, getting the Cadillac treatment was such a thrill. But listen, all these parents are complaining about missing work waiting for a bus. Why in hell don't they drive their children to school? Are we so mindset that government has to do everything for us?

Hello parents, git off your lazy butts and drive your kiddies to school and stop complaining.

Annual Outdoor Horror Movie Series Returns to Constitution Plaza Spanish Language Films Added

Hartford.com and the Hartford Business Improvement District are welcoming the Halloween season to downtown Hartford with the return of their popular outdoor horror movie series, Spooky Popcorn, on October 21-30.

specializing in original creations befitting the Halloween season.

"As a life-long horror fan, I couldn't be more excited about this year's movie line-up and our new Bizarre Bazaar," says Chip McCabe, Director of Placemaking and Events for the Hartford BID.



Three of this year's Constitution Plaza Horror Movies Series will be shown in Spanish, including *Pan's Labyrinth* (above).

The series, which takes place on Constitution Plaza, will run for seven nights and feature such classic films as *Coraline* (October 28), *Misery* (October 29), and the original *Candyman* (October 30).

This year the series will also feature three Spanish-language films including *Pan's Labyrinth* (October 21), *The Orphanage* (October 22), and *[REC]* (October 23). For the second year in a row the series will feature an independent, locally-produced film, *Night at the Eagle Inn* (October 27).

New this year, in conjunction with Spooky Popcorn, Hartford.com and the Hartford BID will also be holding the Bizarre Bazaar; a two-day vendor fair on Pratt Street. The Bizarre Bazaar will take place on Saturday, October 23 and Saturday, October 30 from 12-5 pm and will feature local artists, crafters, artisans, and authors spe-

"It means a lot for us to be able to have almost half the films be Spanish-language, while also continuing to include a local, indie production and a film for families as well."

Reserved premium seating and free general admission seating are available. Reserved pod seating ranges from \$5-\$20 depending on your group size and one pod can seat up to 5 people. Reserved seating ensures you one socially distanced seating area with prime seating in front of the movie screen.

All movie-goers should bring their own blankets and chairs. Outside food and non-alcoholic beverages will be permitted. Children aged 17 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

For more information on Spooky Popcorn, including a full schedule of films, a list of vendors, or to purchase tickets visit Hartford.com/Spooky.

READ US ONLINE!

The Hartford News is now online! Go to HartfordPublications.com and click on current edition – or find us on Facebook (Hartford News-Southside Media). New editions are posted Wednesday evening.

ANCIENT BURYING GROUND ASSOCIATION UPCOMING VIRTUAL FALL 2021 PROGRAMS!

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Beginners Workshop

October 13, 2021 6-7:30 pm

to register: bit.ly/ColonialGenealogy
Diana Ross McCain and Carol R. Whitmer of Come Home to Connecticut, genealogical consulting services.



An introduction for beginning genealogists to the basic sources and process for researching families who lived in Connecticut in the 1600s and 1700s.

TELLING YOUR FAMILY STORY- PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

Workshop

October 20, 2021 6-7:30 pm

to register: bit.ly/FamilyStoryWkshp
Jill Marie Snyder, author and family historian, winner of a 2020 Afro-American Historical &



Genealogical Society book award for *Dear Mary, Dear Luther*.

IN THE SHADOW OF THE GREAT HARTFORD WITCH HUNT

Lecture

October 27, 2021 6-7:30 pm

to register: bit.ly/HartfordWitchHunt
Richard Ross, III, author of *Before Salem Witch Hunting in the Connecticut River Valley, 1647-1663*.

Examine the reasons for the outbreak of witch hysteria in Connecticut and learn about the Hartford individuals connected to witch hunting including townspeople, officials, and clergy.



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SINA Murals to Honor Neighborhood Heroes

The Southside Institutions Neighborhood Alliance (SINA) has commissioned a series of three murals honoring local heroes in the Frog Hollow neighborhood. Two murals will be painted on Park Street and one on Broad Street. Each mural will depict three people who have contributed greatly to Frog Hollow and Hartford as a whole.

The nine subjects of the murals were voted on by community members out of a field of 15 nominees. Over 500 votes were received.

Work on the murals is scheduled to start this Saturday, October 2, as part of the grand opening celebration for the new Park Street Library @ the Lyric (see page 1).

For more information on the project, please contact Logan Singerman at lsingerman@sini-anc.org

The nine people to be depicted in the ads are:

Ana Alfaro

Host of El Show de Analeh that aims to connect the latinx community with information and inspiration. She is committed to volunteerism, overseeing volunteer projects for Eversource and serving on multiple boards across the city. She has received over 10 awards related to her work in the community.

Yessica Amparo

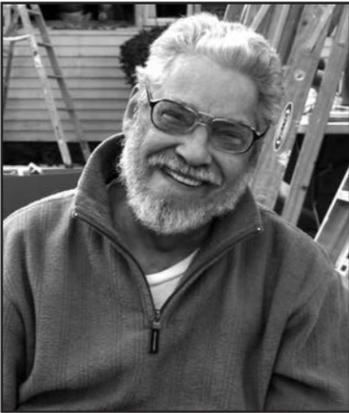
Youth Development specialist

with the OPP's Youth Service Corps. Her enthusiasm and compassion have helped many young people get a good start in life.

Leticia Cotto

Former branch manager of the park street library, founder of La Paloma Sabanera café and book store. Committed to education, culture, and arts in the neighborhood.

Juan Fuentes



Photographer who worked for *The Hartford Times* and documented the Puerto Rican community in Hartford for decades. Also an artist, actor, singer and longtime community activist.

Edna Negron

Educator, consultant, and community organizer who established the first family resource center and school-based health clinic in the nation. Negron began her teaching career in 1974, teaching first grade

at the Ann Street Bilingual Community School in Hartford, and then served for many years as the coordinator of the Bilingual/Bicultural Education Program for the Hartford Public Schools.

Rev. Julie Ramirez

She served as pastor of Templo Fe church for 53 years, overseeing the church's move from Main Street to Broad Street in Hartford.

Jorge Rivera

Dedicated his life to help troubled children and their families strive for a better life. With an extensive education in law and the help of many willing, talented people, he founded Mi Casa in order to foster a healthier, caring, supportive community.

Maria Sanchez

Affectionately known as La Madrina of the Hartford Puerto Rican community, she was a community advocate and the first Latina elected to the CT general assembly.

Elba Cruz Schulman

Lifelong advocate for those in need and underprivileged. She worked many jobs serving children and families in Hartford. She coordinated and raised funds for the annual Festival of Lights program in Hartford where 1000 chil-



Incredible India Festival

The Milan Association of Connecticut held its annual Incredible India Festival on Sunday at Bushnell Park in Downtown Hartford. Among the many performers in the show were dancers Mahita Unnava, Chandrasa Vasamsofi, Aruhi Mahopatra and Isha Sahu, shown here presenting a classical Indian dance called Odissi Abhinaya. The event also included a Fancy Dress Contest and numerous vendors selling Indian food, clothing, fabrics and other items. (Hart photo)

Continued on page 10

Hartford's Annual Celebration of Seasonal Change.

OCT 9, 2021

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News & Views



HARTFORD
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ASYLUM HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

From the
Executive Director
BY DAVID MACDONALD

Asylum Hill Draft Neighborhood Strategic Plan to be presented at October 4th General Meeting

AHNA's Strategic Planning Steering committee has received draft plans from each of the 8 Task Forces and they will be presented to AHNA's membership at our October 4th General Meeting. Plans for Economic Development, Employment, Housing and Historic Preservation, Human Services, Arts and Culture, Youth, Public Safety, and Environmental and Green Initiatives have been drafted and will be presented on Oct. 4th. There will be breakout sessions to collect feedback from the people attending. A short summary is provided here:

Economic Development

VISION: To revitalize the Farmington Avenue commercial corridor, transform empty buildings and brownfield sites, and support several "cornerstone" projects that will enhance the economic health of Asylum Hill's businesses and residents.

- To retain businesses and attract visitors and new residents, Asylum Hill must eliminate blighted, vacant and abandoned properties and transform them into productive and aesthetically pleasing assets. 4 Goals have been recommended to accomplish this vision.
- Goal 1: Encourage and support "Cornerstone" development projects – 2021 and beyond
- Goal 2: Remediate and redevelop the neighborhood's "Brownfields" – 2021 and beyond
- Goal 3: Support the growth of new and existing businesses – 2021 and beyond
- Goal 4: Promote and support Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) to spur large-scale development, Transit-Oriented Development (TOD), and innovation

Employment

VISION: Residents of Asylum Hill will have ready access to resources that will lead to meaningful and sustainable employ-

ment. Their recommended goals are:

- Goal 1: Publicize job opportunities in Asylum Hill and elsewhere in the city.
- Goal 2: Increase effective marketing and coordination of existing resources that can address transportation, affordable childcare, mental health and other barriers to employment.
- Goal 3: Ensure the availability of additional services needed by residents to overcome barriers to training and employment opportunities.
- Goal 4: Create more internships, particularly ones that offer stipends, for youth 18 and under.
- Goal 5: Expand the number of case managers and volunteer mentors who can guide those seeking training and employment opportunities.

Housing and Historic Preservation

VISION: To transform Asylum Hill into an affordable and attractive neighborhood of choice to a diverse population seeking either ownership or rental opportunities. Their recommended goals are:

- Goal 1: Increase homeownership opportunities
- Goal 2: Remediate and eliminate blight
- Goal 3: Encourage transit-oriented development
- Goal 4: Promote historic preservation and discourage demolition

Human Services

VISION: Residents of Asylum Hill will have access to the services needed to help themselves and their families become all they can be. Their goals are:

- Goal 1: Ensure that existing services are well coordinated, better known and more accessible

- Goal 2: Ensure the availability of additional services needed by residents to address their social, economic and health needs.

Arts and Culture

VISION: To create more vitality in Asylum Hill by supporting its artists and by celebrating the neighborhood's diverse cultures and rich history. Their recommended goals are:

- Goal 1: Promote Asylum Hill as a destination for those who enjoy art, culture and history.
- Goal 2: Provide opportunities to showcase the neighborhood's art and artists.
- Goal 3: Celebrate the history of Asylum Hill.

Youth

Vision: Asylum Hill will be known as a place where diverse youth residents are leaders in improving the quality of life in their neighborhood and are empowered to organize their own neighborhood improvement projects. Their recommended goals are:

- Goal 1: Facilitate additional collaboration and coordination between AHNA and groups serving Asylum Hill youth and their parent advocates.
- Goal 2: Ensure a safe-haven for children and families in Sigourney Square Park.
- Goal 3: Encourage, train and support volunteers who can support West Middle, Hartford Public and Classical Magnet Schools.
- Goal 4: Encourage teens to have access to technology (video, audio, and print resources).
- Goal 5: Work with Leadership Greater Hartford and other groups to provide opportunities for youth advocacy, leadership, and employment. Asylum Hill youth identify the issues that they wish to advocate for, culminating in the election of at least one youth leader to the AHNA Board of Directors.
- Goal 6: Work with Compass Youth Collaborative to teach youth on how to use peaceful approaches for responding to conflict.
- Goal 7: Work with Our Piece of the Pie (OPP) to identify

youth and mentors for Youth Service Corps.

- Goal 8: Encouraging youth to join Police Explorers and/or to join the PAL to create a pool of future law enforcement candidates.

Public Safety

VISION: To create, in reality, and in perception, a safe, pedestrian-friendly, and inviting neighborhood for all who live, work and visit the Asylum Hill neighborhood. Their recommended goals are:

- Goal 1: Create a safer haven for families and children at Sigourney Square Park.
- Goal 2: Address speeding, noise and other quality of life issues.
- Goal 3: Reduce automobile break-ins and other larcenies.
- Goal 4: Reduce gun violence.
- Goal 5: Identify, prepare and recruit more Hartford residents to become candidates for the police department.

Environmental and Green Initiatives

VISION: That Asylum Hill be known as a model urban green community and become a more beautifully sustainable place to live, work and visit. Their recommended goals are:

- Goal 1: Expand our native tree canopy to 30% of Asylum Hill.
- Goal 2: Develop Asylum Hill Pollinator Gardens.
- Goal 3: Conserve the north branch of the Park River.
- Goal 4: Plan and implement bike paths and traffic calming areas in Asylum Hill.
- Goal 5: Develop a program to collect residents' food scraps and turn them into compost.
- Goal 6: Encourage energy efficiency and solarization in Asylum Hill homes, schools, businesses and places of worship.

I want to thank all the volunteers, residents and stakeholders, and especially the chairs of each Task Force for their hard work and thoughtful responses to the challenges in Asylum Hill. We welcome all feedback and comments. If you have ideas you believe we should consider, I urge you to attend our General Meeting on October 4th and join a breakout session to share your thoughts.

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

Knox Garden Volunteers

Knox Inc. has been an important part of Asylum Hill for a long time, and volunteers have been an important part of Knox for all of that time. Recently they put out a call for volunteers to help prepare for the fall and winter season. More than half a dozen showed up at the Hawthorn Street Garden and most didn't have a plot there. They came to clean out the beds and get them ready for winter.



Having a garden on the corner of Sigourney and Hawthorn Streets mean maximum visibility to the public passing by, so having them looking neat and clean is good public relations, not to mention good gardening.

The garden at 32 Huntington Street was supposed to be done the following Friday, September 24th, but weather intervened so it's been postponed a week. If you're reading this on Facebook, there may still be time for you to volunteer yourself. Registration is requested and can be found at <https://bit.ly/knoxvol>.

If you're not able to be there Friday, or don't see this in time, don't despair. There will be more opportunities all the way up to the big City-wide Clean-up October 20th - 23rd and details will be at that same link.

The mission of Knox is Community Gardens, and they grow one another. The community grows the gardens including the fruits and vegetables, and the gardens grow the community.

Asylum Hill is blessed to have five Knox sponsored community gardens, one each on Niles, Sargeant, Huntington and Hawthorn streets and one at Hartford Public High School.

For more information you can contact Jennie Martinez Community Coordinator at jenniferm@knoxhartford.org or 860-951-7694 ext 113 or Samone Jones-McCarthy Education and Engagement Coordinator at samonejm@knoxhartford.org 860-951-7694, ext.114

EXPLORING ASYLUM HILL AHCC Origami Doves

It started when Senior Minister Erica Thompson saw images of the Michael Pendry exhibit of Les Colombes at the national Cathedral in Washington DC. It is more than 2000 origami white paper doves suspended from the ceiling of this, the 2nd largest Cathedral in America. She asked Jack Pott, Director of Music & Arts, if something like that could be done at Asylum Hill Congregational Church. The answer was a clear “yes” even if the how was much less clear.

A work of this magnitude requires time, effort and planning, and many hands to help. Start to finish, it was a year in the making, beginning with research to see how it had been done, especially in the other venues before the National Cathedral.

Being a smaller church they settled on 625 origami doves in six colors. It wasn't until a few weeks before the completion that as Jack describes it “if it's going to be different solid colored papers, how does that represent what we are? ... six colors, we're going to start them off together in the back, and then figure out a way for them to mix all together, really just representing that we ... come into this space from our own individual places but then we all ... merge together as one body of faith.”

Of course before they got to that point, they had to decide where in the space they would be, and how they would get there. Fortunately there were places they could attach solid hooks and pulleys, but one

constraint was the laser smoke detector that runs from the front of the sanctuary to the back. If it is disturbed the Hartford Fire Dept. will show up. So they needed to stay below that but high enough that air currents from the floor wouldn't cause the strings to move enough to get tangled. Candy Lammers was tasked with finding a net that would fulfill the need.

Her tenacity was an important component. After going through all the manufacturers of netting on the Internet, she searched eBay and found a used commercial fishing net 100' long. The biblical connection only occurred to them when it arrived with both seaweed and the aroma of the sea. This was one of the “Spirit led moments” as Jack describes them.

Another came when Jack was hanging the doves on string to the netting. It was difficult to reach as far as he wanted to from the Genie lift going down the center isle. When Jorge Fuentes brought in the “picker” used to clean up litter from the property, Jack got the extra 3' of reach on each side that allowed the doves to be placed just right, expanding as they approach the altar.

On Sunday, October 3rd, and again on November 7th, after the Community Meal when the pop-up sale is in the parking lot, the Sanctuary will be open for the public to see this beautiful installation, and of course all are invited every Sunday for the 10:00 am worship.

More photos at: <https://bit.ly/AHCCdoves>



ASYLUM HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

From the House BY MATTHEW RITTER

Operation Fuel Can Help With Heating Costs

As the crisp feel of fall moves in, the cold of winter can't be far behind. This is also a time when many families become more concerned about how to pay their heating bills. But there's good news as Operation Fuel has programs available to help struggling families.

Households with income up to 75% of the state median income may qualify for assistance. This translates annually to about \$90,500 for a family of four. To see if you are eligible and to apply, visit Operation Fuel's secure portal at operationfuel.org/gethelp/.

You can fill out their form online or make an appointment to visit a local fuel bank in person. If you have questions or need more assistance, call 860-243-2345 or email opfuelapplications@operationfuel.org.

Operation Fuel is a non-profit organization that provides year-round energy assistance through partnerships with community-based agencies and local government. Though mostly funded through an energy ratepayer charge, almost a third of their revenue comes from private donations by a wide network of generous people, businesses, and foundations. Additional funding for Operation Fuel comes from a bill we passed last year called the Take Back Our Grid Act (H.B. 7006). This new law empowers the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA) to direct fine money paid by utility companies and suppliers for violations directly to Operation Fuel, 100% of which goes to supporting residents in need.

Not being able to afford your heating bill in winter is not only dangerous, but can cause people to forgo necessary food or medicine purchases, or put their monthly bills on a credit card. Don't miss this opportunity to get help now if you're struggling to pay your utility bills. Operation Fuel is here to help. I encourage you to take the time to learn more at operationfuel.org.

As always, please contact me if I can ever be of any assistance. I can be reached at Matthew.Ritter@cga.ct.gov, on Facebook @Representative MattRitter or by phone at (860) 240-8489, if you have any questions or concerns.

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El Informativo Latino

Nueva Ley De Cinturones De Seguridad En Asientos Traseros Entra En Vigencia En Connecticut El Viernes, 1 De Octubre De2021

Los funcionarios estatales están creando conciencia sobre una nueva ley de cinturones de seguridad en asientos traseros que entrará en vigencia a finales de esta semana.

La nueva ley entrará en vigencia el viernes 1 de octubre y los funcionarios esperan que ayude a salvar vidas, prevenir lesiones y hacer que las carreteras de Connecticut sean más seguras para todos.

Según la nueva ley, firmado como " Public Act No. 21-175 ," requerirá que todos los ocupantes de un vehículo, independientemente de su edad, usen el cinturón de seguridad. Anteriormente, los pasajeros adultos en el asiento trasero no estaban obligados a usar el cinturón de seguridad. Sin embargo, la ley en lo que respecta a los pasajeros del asiento trasero está sujeta a una aplicación secun-

daria, lo que significa que no se puede detener a nadie por esta infracción.

El texto de esa parte de la ley dice: "Ningún oficial de la ley puede detener un vehículo motorizado únicamente por la falla aparente o real de un pasajero del asiento trasero que tiene dieciséis años o más para usar el cinturón de seguridad. "

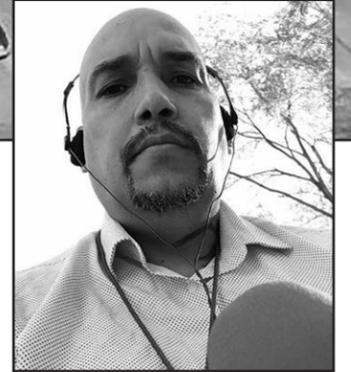
Las autoridades dijeron que se emitirán boletos si los pasajeros en el asiento trasero no usan cinturones de seguridad y el conductor es detenido por cualquier otra infracción.

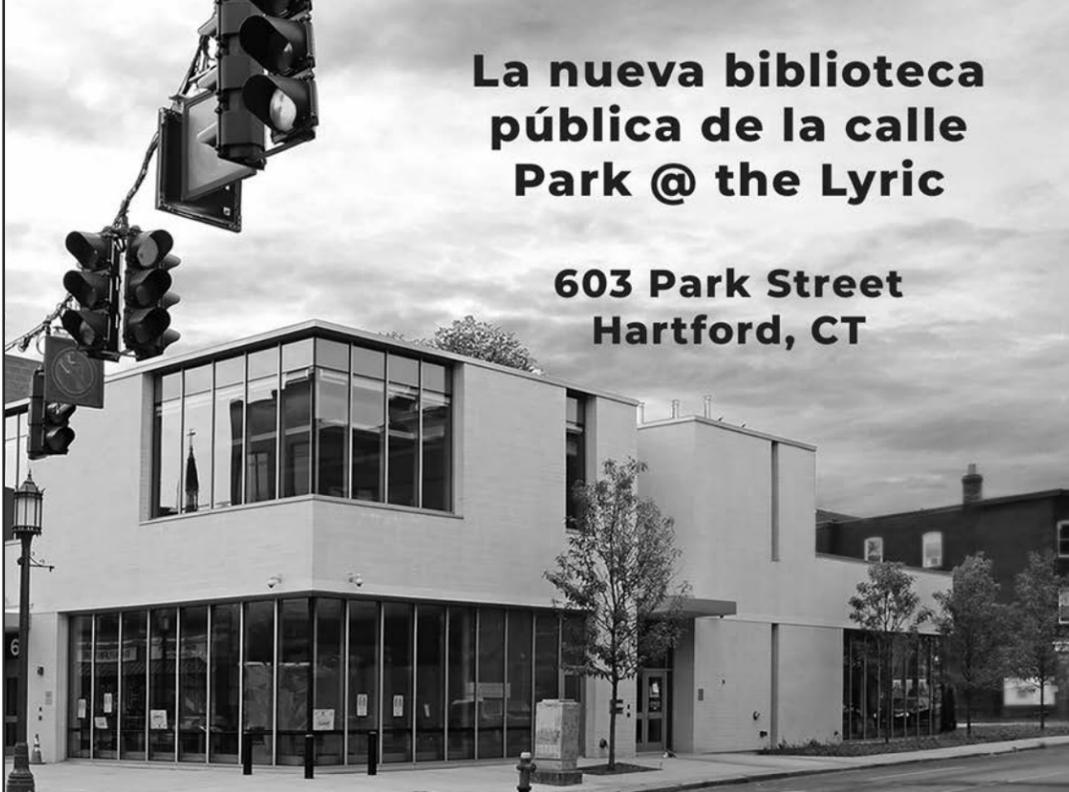
Según los funcionarios, los pasajeros traseros tienen tres veces más probabilidades de morir en un accidente si no usan sus cinturones de seguridad. Con la aprobación de esta ley, los expertos dijeron que esperan salvar más vidas.

By Iris Rodriguez



La Diferente Radio estuvo presente con Jorge representante de ventas y reportero de La Diferente Radio.Limpieza Comunitaria, 603 Park st.Gracias por el buen trabajo en equipos, es algo que los caracteriza, porque juntos y unidos pueden lograr grandes cosas. Mantener nuestra Comunidad limpia. By Iris Rodriguez





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Poetry Corner

LOVE



LOVE IS THE ANSWER
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 LOVE IS ALWAYS KIND
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 LOVE LISTENS
 LOVE ACTS
 LOVE SHOWS UP
 LOVE NEVER GIVES UP
 LOVE ALWAYS PREVAILS
 LOVE HURTS LOVE
 HEALS
 LOVE CONQUERS ALL ♡

Poem by Carmen Milagros Saez

Drawing by Melanie Elizabeth Burns

Volunteers Needed for City Clean-up Week

The City of Hartford, Knox Hartford, Comcast, United Way, and other organizations are organizing a series of clean-ups and beautification projects later this month. Volunteer are needed at sites across the city throughout the week.

Wednesday, October 20, 10am-12pm
 Sargeant Street Garden Clean Up. Meet at 256 Sargeant Street, Hartford.

Thursday, October 21, 10am-12pm
 Cabot Street Garden Clean-up. Meet at 34 Cabot Street, Hartford.

Friday, October 22, 9am-12:30pm
 KNOX Demonstration Garden Clean Up. Meet at 75 Laurel Street, Hartford.

Saturday, October 23, 9am-1pm
 Farmington Avenue Clean-Up near Mark Twain House (corner of Forest Street and Farmington Avenue)

Saturday, October 23, 9am-1pm
 Capitol Avenue Clean-Up. Meet at Story and Soil Coffee Shop, 387 Capitol Avenue

Saturday, October 23, 9am-1pm
 SAMA General Clean-up of Park Street area. Meet at 95 Park Street, Hartford.

Saturday, October 23, 9am-1pm
 Farmington Avenue Family Dollar Clean-up. Meet at 190 Farmington Avenue, Hartford.

Saturday, October 23, 9am-1pm
 Albany Avenue Clean-Up. Meet at King of Kings Supermarket, 1382 Albany Avenue, Hartford.

Saturday, October 23, 9am-1pm
 Blue Hills CVS Pharmacy Clean-up. Meet at 479 Blue Hills Avenue, Hartford.

Saturday, October 23, 9am-1pm
 South Park River Trail Clean-up. Meet at corner of Brookfield Street and Flatbush Avenue, Hartford.

Saturday, October 23, 9am-1pm
 Hyland Park Clean-up. Meet at bathing cages, 355 New Britain Avenue, Hartford.

Saturday, October 23, 9am-12:30pm
 Mount Moriah Garden Clean Up. Meet at 151 Earle Street, Hartford.

To register for one or more events, go to: www.hartfordct.gov/lovehartford-week

Please wear closed toe shoes. Come dressed in layers, it may be chilly once you arrive but the temperature may rise as the day progresses. Bring your mask and reusable water bottle. Refreshments, bags, tools will be provided to volunteers who have registered. For more information, contact Janice Castle at Janice.Castle@hartford.gov



Outdoor Latin Jazz at Library Oct. 13

The Latin jazz group Dennis y su Grupo Swing will perform a free outdoor concert on Wednesday, October 13, at 5 pm on the front terrace of Hartford Public Library, 500 Main Street. There will be a food truck out front for refreshments. Rain date is same time on Friday, October 15. Concert sponsors are the Greater Hartford Arts Council, the Travelers and NBT Bank. The concert is being organized by One World Market and International Hartford.

Charter Revision Commission

Continued from page 2

- Requiring a second public hearing no fewer than three days before budget adoption; and,
- Moving the date the budget must be adopted back, to give the City Council and the public more time to review the document.

With much of the heavy lifting regarding the budget completed, we turned on Tuesday, the 28th, to issues concerning the Board of Education. At that meeting the City of Middletown's General Counsel, Brig Smith, provided the commission with a high-level overview of the legal framework that boards of education operate under. Following Brig Smith's presentation, the com-

mission had an in-depth conversation with Hartford Board of Education Chairwoman Ayesha Clarke, Superintendent of Hartford Public Schools Dr. Leslie Torres-Rodriguez, and Councilman Nick Lebron, chair of the Labor, Education, Workforce & Youth Development Committee. Each speaker discussed their roles and responsibilities in their respective positions, addressed how they interact with each other and with the Mayor's office, and fielded questions from the commission.

Our next Charter Revision Commission meeting will take place on Thursday, October 7th, at 7:00 PM. At that meeting, we will hear a panel of experts discuss their experiences with boards of education outside of Hartford.

Letters to the Editor

The Hartford News welcomes Letters To The Editor on issues and subjects relating to Hartford. Please keep your letters to 600 words or less and mail to:

Hartford News
 653 Franklin Avenue,
 Hartford, CT 06114
 Attn: Letters to the Editor

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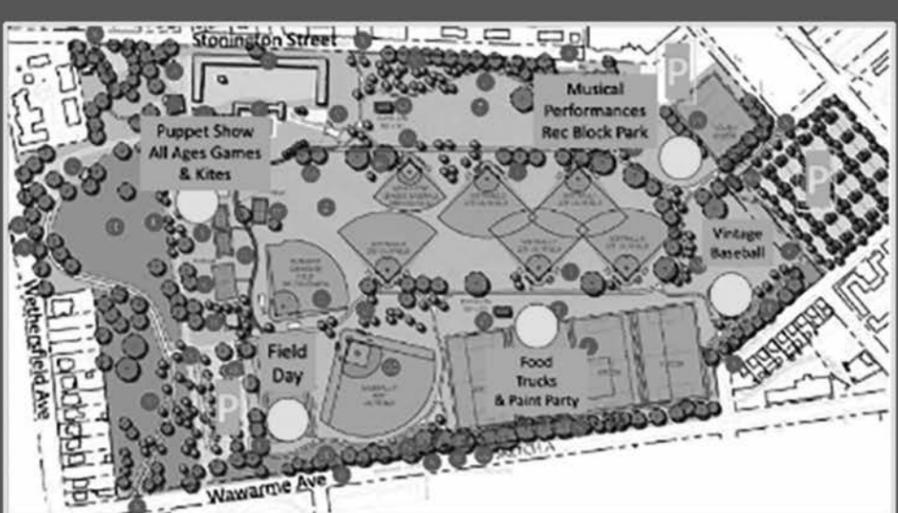
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 REOPENING CELEBRATION
 Sunday, October 3rd • 10 AM - 6 PM

FREE
 SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

Schedule of Events & Activities

Opening Ceremony	9:30 am	East Entrance *
History of Colt Park	All Day	Wethersfield Ave. Fence
Historic Tour of Colt Park	10 am - 12 Noon	Pavilion by Pool
Historical Impersonator	10 am - 2 pm	Throughout Park
Hartford Athletic Field Day	10 am - 12 Noon	Soccer Field #1
Los Amigos Games	11 am - 6 pm	Clemente, 1,2,7,8
Vintage Baseball Game	11 am -1:30 pm & 1:30-4 pm	Vintage Field
Puppet Show	11:30 am	Playscape
Block Party	12 Noon - 2 pm	East Entrance*
Dominos Tournament	12 Noon - 2 pm	Pavilion by Pool
Kinsella Performance	1:30 pm	East Entrance*
Outside Painting Party	2 pm - 3:30 pm	Pavilion by Pool
All Ages Play Area: Sidewalk Chalk, bocce, ladder game, kites	2 pm - 4 pm	Playscape

* The East Entrance is located at the corner of Maseek and Hendricxsen Streets



SINA Murals

Continued from page 5

dren receive Christmas and holiday toys.

Other Nominees

Olga Mele

One of the first Puerto Rican Hartford residents. She was a pioneer in bringing social services to people in need by founding the San Juan Center and through personal volunteer work. She also helped create jobs for people looking to get out of working in tobacco fields.

Celestino Jimenez

Long time advocate and role model for the neighborhood. With endless energy, he was always lending a hand and inspiring many. Late in life, he worked overseeing the soup kitchen at Mercy House.

Mildred Torres

The first Latina to serve on Hartford City Council. She worked early on community organizing in the Puerto Rican and Black communities in Hartford through La Casa De Puerto Rico, Community Renewal Team, and at Aetna Life & Casualty.

Sara Ferrer de Romany

Forceful and fearless advocate for the Puerto Rican community and founded the Institute for the Hispanic Family at Catholic Charities to help connect community members with mental health services.

Cary Wheaton

Was the founder of the Firebox restaurant and Executive Director of Forge City Works — a network of restaurants, farmers markets and training programs that aimed to increase access to high-quality food, as well economic opportunities, for Hartford residents. An expert restaurateur devoted to equity and social justice.

George Kenc

Founder of Park Hardware on Park Street. Known for his compassion, he was once seen giving his own coat to someone in need in front of his store.

Angel of Edgewood

Continued from page 2

who believe in her mission, generous grants from several entities, a board of directors who consult and advise, and dedicated, caring contractors who are working to make her vision a reality, the good news just keeps on coming.

Last Friday, Jendayi Miller was contacted by Disney and ABC and told that their camera crews would be in Hartford on Sunday to film their interviews at her home on Edgewood Street, and also wanted to do some more around the Blue Hills Avenue neighborhood of her new location, including community members. So with less than 48 hours' notice, a public event was arranged outside the building, a neighborhood community cookout. "I am very grateful to Liany Arroyo (Director of the city's Department of Health and Human Services), because she gave us an emergency permit to hold the event", said Miller. The time frame was set for 1-3 p.m., after the camera crews were to have finished filming in her living room, but technical issues arose and they didn't arrive at the cookout until 2 p.m. In the meantime, hundreds of folks, from small children to the elderly, came out to enjoy the free lunch and pick up tote bags of groceries. A DJ set the mood with music and more than a dozen volunteers kept everything going. Miller's daughter Olivia and other teens waved "Free Food!" signs to lure motorists and pedestrians along the avenue. When Jendayi and the film crews finally appeared they were greeted with cheers and

applause, and the overwhelmed, tearful "angel" had an extended hug fest with her supporters as the cameras captured it all. "My special moment on Sunday was seeing so many people from all walks of life, races, religions, and economic statuses, came together for the greater cause. But what made it 100 times more special was to know that each one of them was inspired by me and believed in me. When I first received the call that I was selected as a Magic Maker, I was ecstatic, happy, and in disbelief. But it wasn't until I stepped out of our truck and looked around and saw everyone that was there, and knew their stories and sacrifices, but they chose to make it their business to rearrange their schedules with their own families, to there for me even if it was only to give me a hug and say 'thank you'." And later, the filmographers returned to Edgewood Street to interview more of her family and friends.

Jendayi Miller said that in spite of all the accolades, she has also faced a lot of harsh criticism and receives negative messages, texts, and emails. "I've shared those conversations with many people who were there on Sunday. The one thing they all wanted me to know was that they have my back! Brother Carl Hardrick, Downes Construction, and many volunteers said they were there for me, that I'd come too far to let anything happen. It's special moments like that, that continue to connect us, raise each other's spirits, and inspire others. Now more than ever, no one will ever stop my magic."

LIQUOR PERMIT
Notice of Application
 This is to give notice that I,
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132 MADISON AVENUE
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 Have filed an application placarded 09/06/2021 with the Department of Consumer Protection for a GROCERY BEER PERMIT for the sale of alcoholic liquor on the premises at
720 BROAD STREET
HARTFORD, CT 06106-4665
 The business will be owned by:
 WICHY GROCERY, LLC
 Entertainment will consist of:
 None
 Objections must be filed by:
 10-18-2021
GLORIVETTE CORTES CUEVAS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
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Earl Walker
(21-00854)
 The Hon. Foye A. Smith, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Hartford Probate Court, by decree dated September 27, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.
 Carmen Y. Zayas,
 Clerk
 The fiduciary is:
 Carla W. Patrick
 c/o Allison T Poirier
 Kahan Kerensky & Capossela,
 LLP
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CT Al-Anon Meetings
 Al-Anon offers strength and hope for friends and families of alcoholics. Meetings are available almost every day at various locations. A full list of Zoom accessible meetings can be found at www.ctalanon.org For more meeting times and information about Al-Anon visit www.alanon.org or call 1-888-8ALANON (1-888-825-2666)



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View From The Parks

For more event details, go to the **View From The Parks Facebook page:**
facebook.com/viewfromtheparks

THU, SEP 30 AT 5 PM
 Dillon Stadium Concessions, Wings of Freedom Animal Rescue: Dillon Stadium, 250 Huyshope Ave.

THU, SEPT 30 5:30 PM
 Yoga in the City, Elizabeth Park

THU, SEPT 30 AT 6 PM
 Pratt Street Patio Presents: Joey Batts: Pratt Street Historic District

FRI, OCT 1 AT 10 AM
 Farmer's Market: Connecticut's Old State House, 800 Main Street

FRI, OCT 1 AT 12 PM
 Summer Concert Series: Illuminous: Connecticut's Old State House, 800 Main Street

FRI, OCT 1 AT 7 PM
 GoreJust, James Spinetti, and Shiino BENEFIT SHOW for Summer of Hartford, CT: Really Really Free Market, 460 New Britain Ave

SAT, OCT 2 AT 10:00 AM
 Yoga in the City, Pope Park

SUN, SEP 26 10:00 AM
 Yoga in the City, Colt Park

SUN, OCT 3 AT 10 AM
 Colt Park Grand Reopening Celebration: Colt Park

SUN, OCT 3 AT 10 AM
 Tour of historic buildings in Colt Park: Colt Park

(Meet at the basketball court/playscape)

SUN, OCT 3 AT 10 AM
 Field Day @ Colt Park: Colt Park (Meet at the field next to the Wawarme Parking Lot)

SUN, OCT 3 AT 11:30 AM
 Magic Garden Puppet Show: Colt Park (Meet at the basketball court/playscape)

SUN, OCT 3 AT 12 PM
 Block Party: Colt Park (Meet at the basketball court/playscape)

SUN, OCT 3 AT 2 PM
 Paint Party: Colt Park (under the veranda in the middle of the park)

SUN, OCT 3 AT 2 PM
 Kites and All Ages Games: Colt Park (Meet at the basketball court/playscape)

MON, OCT 4, AT 5:30 PM
 Yoga in the City, Bushnell Park

TUES, OCT 5 AT 10 AM – 2 PM
 Farmer's Market: Connecticut's Old State House, 800 Main Street

TUES, OCT 5, 5:30 PM
 Yoga in the City: Elizabeth Park

WED, OCT 6 AT 12 PM
 Audio Feed: Kelly English: Constitution Plaza

News Briefs

Continued from page 1

Wednesdays from 5:30-7:15 pm at Wilson-Gray YMCA. Games will start after Thanksgiving. No experience is necessary and all skill levels are welcome. For more information go to the league's website, www.greaterhartford-girlsbasketball.com or email coach Courtney Rush at courtney.rush888@gmail.com.

Holy Trinity Blessing of the Animals Saturday

Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church in Hartford will hold its annual Blessing of the Animals this Saturday, October 2, starting at 12 noon. To allow for better social distancing, the blessing will be held on the grounds of D'Esopo Funeral Home, 277 Folly Brook Boulevard, Wethersfield. Holy Trinity holds its Blessing of the Animals every year in honor of Saint Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals, whose Feast Day this year in October 2. The blessing is free and open to people of all faiths. Donations of pet supplies and food are welcome.

Colt Park Reopening Celebration Oct. 3

Colt Park will have a Grand Reopening Celebration of the

many improvements that have taken place over the past three years on Sunday, October 3, from 10 am - 6 pm The event will include something for just about everyone. There will be a history of Colt Park installation, historic tour of Colt Park, a historical impersonator, Hartford Athletic Field Day, Los Amigos Softball Games, a Vintage Base Ball Game, puppet show, Rec Division Block Party, a dominoes tournament, a performance by the Kinsella Choir, outdoor painting and an all ages play area including sidewalk chalk, bocce, ladder game and kites.

Polling Place Location Change

The City of Hartford Registrar of Voters Office has announced that the location of the polling place for Voting District is now Alfred E. Burr School, 400 Wethersfield Avenue, Hartford. Formerly the the District 19's polling place was Bulkeley High School. Hartford's next election is for Board of Education on Tuesday, November 2.

City Renames Holiday

On Monday, September 27, Hartford City Council voted unanimously to change the name of Columbus Day to Indigenous

People's Day. The decision was made on the recommendation of a committee that was established to examine the legacy of Columbus in Hartford, including the names of Columbus Boulevard, Columbus Green and Columbus Park, as well as the holiday itself. Hartford's first Indigenous People's Day will be held Monday, October 11.

Love Your (Colt) Park Day Oct. 23

On Saturday, October 23, Colt Park will hold a "Love Your Park" day from 9am - 11 am. Volunteers are needed and are asked to meet at the concession stand by the parking lot off of Wawarme Avenue. Please wear long sleeved shirts and pants. Coffee, donuts and tools will be provided. The group will be planting daffodils along Morris Street and in the mulch around trees on the south side of park in, pick up litter, painting picnic table, benches, pruning suckers, and mulching apple orchard. Please email swards@comcast.net for more info.

CHS to Hold Dia de Muertas Celebration October 30

The Connecticut Historical Society (CHS), One Elizabeth Street, Hartford will host a Dia de

Muertos (Day of the Dead) celebration on Saturday, October 30, from 10 am - 5 pm. Experience the sights and sounds of Dia de Muertos, with all-ages arts activities, Mariachi music, and Mexican folk dance. Ofrendas, or small altars that honor and celebrate those who have passed away, will be open to visit all day. Bring your own photographs of your muertos or deceased relatives, small mementos, or messages to contribute to our community ofrenda. The Tacos Flores food truck will be onsite with Mexican food available for purchase.

Hartford NEXT Neighborhood Training Institute

This Saturday, October 2, Hartford NEXT, Inc's Neighborhood Training Institute will present "It's Your City," a virtual series on the Zoom platform designed to help Hartford residents learn about the Hartford City Government, how it operates, how it impacts neighborhoods, and how residents can participate and be involved. The October 2nd session features the Mayor's Administration, Court of Common Council, City Clerk and the Registrars of Voters. The session is scheduled from 10:00 am to Noon. To register, go to:

<https://ibl.cm/wZ16R>.

New Page for City Meetings

The City of Hartford has launched a new Meeting Information page and Portal, which will provide information about meetings and activities of City Council, Boards, Commissions, and Committees. The Portal enables users to learn about meetings, search for documents, view reports, and more. To access the page, go to: <https://hartford.civicweb.net/Portal/>. CivicWeb Portal provides access to

Board of Education

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Sunday, October 3rd, or comment on the Hartford News Facebook page post. The Greater Hartford African-African Alliance will be holding a meet and greet with the candidates on Saturday, October 30th at 11 a.m. at the Hartford Public Library on Main Street. This is an important election, as the Board of Education serves to develop, implement, and monitor Hartford Public School's policies, including short and long-term goals. The policies act as the road map for the school district, providing direction to the administration and staff and set the foundation for accountability.

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J.A.H. Financial Services & Real Estate, LLC Takes Hartford!



Hartford gained an economic empowerment partner, Wednesday September 1st. As power couple Josette A. Hill and Dean Wilson opened the first of its kind, a financial and real estate organization that is positioned to bring economic growth & development to Hartford and at large Connecticut.

Why Hartford? Why Now? Because minorities represent 40% of the U.S. population but only represent 21% of all U.S. businesses and 3.5% of gross receipts, the owners of J.A.H. Financial Services & Real Estate are focused on closing this gap through providing financial acumen to an underserved demographic.

Through its office in Hartford Josette & Dean along with the staff of J.A.H. Financial Services & Real Estate are on a mission to advance minority owned small businesses and individuals by providing access to much needed financial education, credit support and small business training & funding resources.



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GRAND OPENING! Please join us on **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2Nd** for a Grand Opening Celebration at 12 Noon, at our office at 696 Park Street, Hartford CT, 06106. We will have free food and drinks and great networking. **SEE YOU THERE!**