

Hebron VIEWS

Volume 6 • Issue 2
Summer 2022



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Good Day, Hebron:

I first want to thank all of you who took time out to vote. The results show how important each and every one of you are. We, as a country are so blessed to be able to exercise that right. They say that spring is coming. The temps make me wonder. Maybe next week. Hope we don't just pop into summer. Talking about summer. It will come and I hope it is a great summer for all. Although the



Covid numbers are rising, they are not like in the past couple of years. That said, common sense must still be used. Enjoy the days but think smart. There are many things going on in town. Please try to stay informed. A lot of preliminary work has been done on a host of projects and the results are very encouraging. While the Rivereast paper is the most common way for people to get information, we are striving to find other ways to communicate with the townspeople to keep them informed. We are open to any and all suggestions you may have. Please help us to inform you. Write or call the town hall. Maybe your suggestion may be the one that gets us over the information hurdle.

Anyway, please have a safe, happy, fun filled summer,

Daniel Larson

Chair, Board of Selectmen

TOWN MANAGER

Dear Hebron Residents:

I am pleased that the budget for FY 2022-2023 has passed and truly appreciate the residents of Hebron that took time to get to the polls and supported the Town and Schools Budgets. This year's referendum is a perfect example that 'every' vote counts!

In this edition of the Views you will find that there are many community events that will take place this summer. A few that are noteworthy:

- Farmers' and Artisan Markets beginning June 4th at Burnt Hill Park
- Hebron Day on June 18th at Burnt Hill Park
- Hebron Lions Fireworks June 25th at the Fairgrounds



- Summer Concert Series presented by The Town Center Project

- Community Dinners hosted at St. Peter's Episcopal Church
- I encourage everyone to take part in these fun activities that are available here in Hebron.

Interested in getting involved with our community? There are many opportunities on our boards and commissions to do so. Consider joining today. For more information, please contact my office at 860-228-5971.

Please remember when enjoying the outdoors to be sure and protect yourself and your pets from the many pests that exist in our environment. Always do a 'tick' check after working or playing outdoors.

Again, take time to explore the wonderful happenings that our community has to offer.

Wishing you and yours a fun, healthy and safe summer!

Andrew J. Tierney

Town Manager

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www.hebronct.com

ON THE COVER:

Hebron Day 2022 fast approaches!

See more about the June 18 event on page 14.

2022 VIEWS Magazines Schedule

3rd Q/22

COLUMBIA: Ad Deadline 7/8/2022
Mailed Week of 8/8/2022

HEBRON: Ad Deadline 8/5/2022
Mailed Week of 9/5/2022

4th Q/22

COLUMBIA: Ad Deadline 9/30/2022
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HEBRON: Ad Deadline 11/4/2022
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Special thanks to

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Town Manager's Office



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The Town Clerk's office is one of neutrality and impartiality, with an emphasis on preserving, protecting, and providing access to records according to state and local laws accurately, efficiently, cost effectively and in a prompt and courteous manner.

The Town Clerk performs the administrative and technical duties of municipal records management, permit and licensing activities, collects conveyance taxes for the Town and the State Department of Revenue Services, historic preservation revenue for the Connecticut State Library, farmland and affordable housing revenue for the State of Connecticut, sportsmen's license revenue for the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, and dog licensing revenue for the Department of Agriculture.

Responsibilities include serving as clerk to town meetings, processing, archiving, and preserving maps and land records



and making application for preservation grants. Additionally, the Town Clerk serves as an historic collection archivist, prepares for all federal, state and town elections, primaries and referenda; issues marriage licenses, birth certificates for home births, certifies birth, marriage, and death certificates; tracks memberships on boards and commissions; maintains and archives board and commission minutes and town ordinances.

Town meeting agenda and minutes as well as those of most boards and commissions are filed with the town clerk. The Town Clerk also keeps the town's vaults and is the keeper of the Town Seal.

The Town Clerk has comprehensive and diverse responsibilities set up by the Connecticut State Statutes and the Town Charter and is a prime revenue-generating department that processed \$984,481 in receipts during the fiscal year 2020-2021.



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By the time this is published, we will all be just about to receive our 2021 Grand List year tax bills with the results from our mandated revaluation. I want to thank all the property owners in Hebron for all their cooperation and patience during that process. These are difficult times and the assessment process being confusing does not help. This was a difficult revaluation due to the CRAZY real estate market during the COVID Pandemic. We tried to stay a bit conservative on the values and still stay within the requirements set by the State when implementing revaluations. The tables developed to generate assessments will be in place for the next five years when the Town goes through the next revaluation. Who knows what the real estate market will be like then, but whatever it is, we will be dealing with it.

Inspections on the October 1, 2022 Grand List is ongoing. Inspections on building permits that were issued after October 1, 2021 will be visited between now and October. If an interior inspection is needed, a letter requesting to contact the office for an appointment will be sent first. The change in assessment for these improvements will not take effect until next year taxes.

Also, a reminder; a motor vehicle that had been disposed of or registered out of state after October 1, 2021 may be entitled to a pro-rate on the tax bill. The bills that will come out July 2022 are for vehicles registered from October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022. If you disposed of or registered a vehicle out of state, AND canceled the license plates any time during that assessment year, in order to have your bill pro-rated we require copies of the canceled plate receipt AND some form of documentation as to what happened to the vehicle. Please note that the DMV DOES NOT notify this office when the marker plates are canceled. As per §12-71c(b); to get a credit, documentation must be provided by December 31st immediately following the end of the assessment year which next follows the assessment year in which such vehicle is disposed of, ie.: for credits on the October 1, 2020 list, documentation must be received by December 31, 2022.

As always, the staff in the Assessor's Office is available to answer any questions or concerns you may have regarding the assessment process.

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Spring IS coming, it's just taking a little longer than any of us would like and TTCP is busy preparing for a full season of activities in our historic downtown. We started our year bringing together old friends and making new ones on April 30th when the Hebron Community Chorus presented their inaugural concert: Love At Home. After just eight weeks of rehearsals the chorus, along with their director, Andrey Stolyarov, their accompanist, Donald Funk performed classics ranging from Lloyd Stone to John Denver. It was an engaging evening honoring community. If you missed it, you can join the chorus when they regroup in the Fall and prepare for our next performance later in 2022.

Along with warmer weather, we're looking forward to a full plate of activities: Market Day, which brought over 50 vendors; vintage, maker's and crafters selling their wares along Main Street, Make Music Day Hebron on Tuesday, June 21st, the Summer Solstice is bringing back the Mile of Music. Bring your children downtown and participate in the kazoo parade, stroll along Hebron's sidewalks and listen to every genre of music you can imagine. Bring your chair and stay awhile in the Firehouse Field where the Main Stage will be located. We'll need your help to celebrate America's birthday on July 4th at

the Old Town Hall. Keep your eyes out for ballot boxes around town, and facebook questionnaires. What does America mean to you? One word. Share what this great country means to you and join us on July 4th to see what we do with it!

Mark your calendars; the Hebron Concert Series is back in full swing for 2022!! We'll be jammin' out on the side lawn of Century 21, 17 Main Street again this year. Bring your chairs, your blankets, pick up dinner and enjoy a summer night with music!

July 8th – Mama Train
July 15th – Sweet Magic
July 22nd – Famous Jane
July 29th – Modern Riffs
August 5th – The Mighty Soul Drivers
August 19th – The Little Big Band
August 25th – The Sounds of Frank

The Town Center Project, Inc is an all-volunteer, nonprofit 501c3 organization. We bring these events and so much more to our town through your donations and volunteerism. Learn more about us on facebook: facebook.com/towncenterprojectinc/ or our website thetowncenterproject.org.



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HEBRON STAFF DIRECTORY

Town Office Building

15 Gilead Street, Hebron, Connecticut 06248

Phone: 860 228-5971

Fax: 860 228-4859

Monday–Wednesday 8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m., Thursday 8:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m., Friday 8:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

Town Manager	Andrew Tierney	atierney@hebronct.com	x122
Director of Administrative Services	Donna Lanza	dlanza@hebronct.com	x130
Finance Director	Elaine Griffin	egriffin@hebronct.com	x131
Town Planner	Matthew Bordeaux	mbordeaux@hebronct.com	x137
Building Official	Randy Blais	rblais@hebronct.com	x142
Sanitarian/Health District	Chatham Health	emily.miller@chathamhealth.org	x140
Wetlands Enforcement Officer	Jim Cordier	jcordier@hebronct.com	x139
Assessor	Debra Gernhardt	dgernhardt@hebronct.com	x147
Tax Collector	Adrian MacLean	amaclean@hebronct.com	x146
Office of Emergency Management	Paul Bancroft	oem@hebronct.com	x136
Town Clerk	Carla Pomprowicz	cpomprowicz@hebronct.com	x124
Animal Control Officer	William Bell	wbell@hebronct.com	x150
Public Works Department/Transfer Station	550 Old Colchester Road		860 228-2871
Public Works Director/WPCA Administrator	Kevin Kelly	kkelly@hebronct.com	x260
Parks and Recreation Department	148 East Street	860 530-1281	
Parks and Recreation Director	Craig Bryant	cbryant@hebronct.com	x230
Douglas Library of Hebron	22 Main Street	860 228-9312	
Library Director	Kevin Sullivan	ksullivan@hebronct.com	x316
Russell Mercier Senior Center	14 Stonecroft Drive	860 228-1700	
Senior Services Director	Sharon Garrard	sgarrard@hebronct.com	x203
Hebron Police Department	44 Main Street		860 228-3710
Resident Trooper	Bryce Reed	bryce.reed@ct.gov	
Hebron Fire Department	44 Main Street	firedept@hebronct.com	860 228-3022
Fire Chief	Peter Starkel	pstarkel@hebronfd.com	x160
Fire Marshal	Randy Blais	rblais@hebronct.com	x267
Housing Authority	860 228-4411		
Glastonbury Hebron Probate Court	860 652-7629		
2155 Main Street, Glastonbury			
Chatham Health District	860 365-0884		
Water Pollution Control Authority	860 228-2871		
Public Schools		AHM Youth Services	860 228-9488
Superintendent of Schools – Hebron BOE	860 228-2577	25 Pendleton Drive	
Superintendent of Schools – RHAM BOE	860 228-2115	Hebron Interfaith Human Services (Food Bank)	860 228-1681
		20 Pendleton Drive	
RHAM Senior High School	860 228-9474	Douglas Library	860 228-9312
85 Wall Street		Monday and Wednesday	Noon–8:00 p.m.
RHAM Senior High School		Tuesday and Thursday	10:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m.
Guidance Department	860 228-9446	Friday	Noon–6:00 p.m.
		Saturday	10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.
RHAM Middle School	860 228-9423	Hebron Post Office	93 Main Street 860 228-6904
25 RHAM Road		Daily 8:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m. (Closed for Lunch 1:00–2:00 p.m.)	
Hebron Elementary School	860 228-9465	Saturday 8:30 a.m.–Noon	
92 Church Street		Amston Post Office	540 Church Street 860 228-3671
Gilead Hill School	860 228-9458	Daily 8:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.	
580 Gilead Street		Saturday 9:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m.	

HEBRON HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Hebron, Connecticut was founded in 1708 by individuals looking for game rich forests, fertile fields and clear water. Many arrived from the Windsor area. They were motivated and inventive. One of the first was Obadiah Horsford (1677-1741) and his wife Mindwell Phelps. They settled on land now occupied by RHAM High School and their barn served as an early place of worship until the church was built and a minister hired.

After petitioning the General Court of Connecticut for permission to practice medicine, Obadiah Sr. served in that capacity until 1715 and the General Court appointed him Captain of the Hebron Train Band (the first militia in town) in 1722. He continued in that capacity until 1731.

Obadiah operated an Inn in town, and became one of the Incorporators of the New London Company.

Land we now call the Old Cemetery on Wall Street was formerly a portion of Horsford's property. He had purchased the property "from the Dewey's in 1720" and deeded it to the town in 1723, intending it to serve as the Town Burying Ground. The property is located across from Ridge Road. Nathaniel Mann, a local attorney, was authorized to oversee conditions at the cemetery.

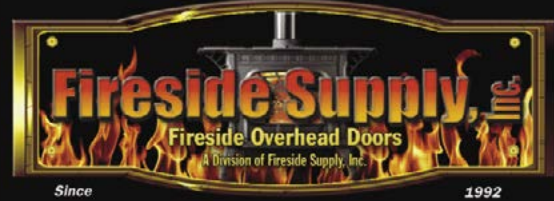
Obadiah died in 1741 and is buried in the Old Cemetery with his wife Mindwell. Their son Aaron and granddaughter Abigail are also buried there.

The Children of Obadiah and Mindwell:

Anna (Ann) born 23 Feb 1705/06; Obadiah (1) the second child born in Hebron, he died in infancy; John, born 07 March 1707/08 at Hebron and died 23 March 1709/10; Daniel, born 19 March 1711/12; Joseph, born 19 April 1735; Aaron, born 10 Mar 1717/18, died 24 Dec 1746; Mindwell, born 20 May 1722; Obadiah (2) born 20 or 26 January 1724/25.

Obadiah (2) served as Captain of Hebron's Regiment during the Revolutionary War, marching Hebron's troops into New York to fight with General George Washington.

Mary-Ellen A. Gonci
President, Hebron Historical Society



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HEBRON POLLINATOR CONSERVATION PROJECT

It's May in Hebron and the cool weather has finally started to wane. The grass is emerald green, the tulips are in bloom and sounds of birds fill the air. It's that time of year where we get that gardening itch. It's a giddy feeling for gardeners, who can't wait to load their trunks with pansies. Just as we are dusting off our spades, life around is also emerging. Viceroy caterpillars are munching on willow buds and chickadees scour branches for insects to feed their hatchlings. Majestic herons have returned to the Air line trail in search of frogs while honeybees are busy collecting nectar from Springs first blooms.

Many of us are now starting to hear about the Pollinator pathway project, which supports all these vulnerable creatures. You want to help but may be unsure of how to begin. You may understand that native pollinator plants provide nourishment and shelter to our birds and bugs, but which plants to provide for them is unclear. A trip to the local garden store can be a bit overwhelming, even with decent garden knowledge. All the plants are gorgeous, if not perfection in a pot, but unless you are a botanist or an actual butterfly, chances are you are not going to know which plants are best for pollinators. Rest assured that becoming part of the pollinator pathway can be easier than you think.

For the best list of native trees, shrubs and plants, there are

several excellent internet resources. Gardenia.net has photos and accurate detailed list of native plants in every size, shape and color. The site also has a tool bar to help you select plants to grow in micro- climates. When you head to the garden store for your plant purchases, come with screen shots on your phone or printed lists of the native plants you want, and try to arrive with your blinders on. Keep in mind that even one native pollinator friendly plant helps our struggling insects and birds to find food. Ask a store employee to direct you toward the native plant area. If they scratch their heads and reach for their walkie talkies, ask for a manager. Teds, right here in town will have wonderful selections of native plants in their greenhouses on display. Paul and Sandys in East Hampton and Burnett's in Salem, both have designated native plant areas and knowledgeable staff to help you make appropriate selections. Whether you load your car with a Butterfly weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*) with stunning orange mid summer flowers, or Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*) with bunches of crimson berries, leave the Garden center with a sense of pride. You've done nature a service. When Monarch butterflies grace you with their presence on your new plant, you may feel many things, but I hope above all you feel hopeful. It's a feeling we all need these days and always. Feel hopeful for your garden, for the creatures in it, and for the world. Happy gardening to all.

AHM YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES

AHM summer programs

The Coalition for A Healthy & Empowered Community (CHEC) is hosting "Cookie With A Cop" at the Marlborough Country Bakery on Wednesday, June 22 from 9-11:00AM. Residents are invited to meet Officer Bernier and Officer Kahoe from Marlborough! Then on Friday September 2, there will be a second Cookie with a Cop at the Flour Girl Café to meet Hebron's resident trooper, Bryce Reed from 2:20 - 4:30 PM. Come spin the Wheel of Fun for a free Cookie! Follow AHM CHEC on Facebook, visit <https://ahmyouth.org/programs-services/prevention-programs/> or contact Jenn Boehler, Prevention Coordinator at jenniferb@ahmyouth.org.

AHM will be hosting Project Graduation for the RHAM Class of 2022 on June 15th the night of graduation at Revolutions in South Windsor! RHAM High School in partnership with AHM provides students a safe environment without the temptation of drugs or alcohol on graduation night. Thank you to all business, parents and community members who are supporting this event. For more information go to <https://ahmyouth.org/fundraisers-events/project-graduation/>. For questions, contact Jenn Boehler, Prevention Coordinator, at jenniferb@ahmyouth.org or 860-228-9488 Ext 22.

Family Resource Center Play and Learn Groups at Gilead Hill School will be offered from 9:15-10:30 on 6/28, 7/5, 7/12, 7/19, 7/26, and 8/2. Snacks are provided. (\$50 for the session).

Messy Play at Gilead Hill from 11:00-12:00 will be offered on: 6/28, 7/5, 7/12, 7/19, 7/26, and 8/2 for \$45 for the session.

Outdoor Play and Learn at Veteran's Hill Park 9:30-10:30 AM, will take place on Wednesdays 6/29, 7/6, 7/13, 7/20, 7/27, and 8/3 for \$40 for the session.

First Steps in Music at AHM's Community Center, 25 Pendleton Drive in Hebron from 9:30-10:15 on Thursdays: Session 1 - 6/30, 7/7, 7/14, Session 2 - 7/28, 8/4, 8/11 for \$45/Family per session (3 classes). To register go to <https://ahmyouth.org/programs-services/family-resource-center/> Contact Becky Murray at beckym@ahmyouth.org or Laura Beeler at laurab@ahmyouth.org or (860) 228-0871 with questions.

Golfers, the annual AHM tournament is just around the corner. This year's tournament at Blackledge Country Club will be on Friday, July 22. Go to www.ahmyouth.org to register. For questions contact Joel Rosenberg, Joelr@ahmyouth.org.

Creating a Master Plan for the Air Line Trail

The Town of Hebron, along with all 12 towns on the Air Line Trail, is getting a boost from the Connecticut Resource Conservation and Development (CT RC&D) as they create a Master Plan for the Air Line Trail. The Master Plan will help enhance trail user experience while promoting the assets of each town on the Trail. Natural, historical, and cultural assets, as well as the supplies and services that complement exploration of such assets, will be promoted. This marketing will help spur current and future economic activity attracted to the outdoor recreational benefits the Air Line Trail and natural preserved areas offer. The Air Line Trail Master Plan creation is funded by the State of Connecticut. In Hebron, work is being done by Infrastructure and Municipal Leadership, Conservation, Advocacy and Marketing, and Sustainable Economics and Land Use Committees, with support provided to each.

In conjunction with participating in the Master Plan effort, the Town of Hebron requested Environmental Inventory Reviews from CT RC&D for two important preserved natural areas located along the Air Line Trail: the 82-acre Town Open Space “Hibbert Preserve” and 215-acre “Bernstein Preserve.” The Hibbert Preserve contains intact, diverse upland forest and 3000 feet of the Raymond Brook. Five marked paths, a 1700’s mill site, an 1800’s dam site, and a wagon road are some notable features. The Bernstein Preserve has intact forest and wetlands containing several endangered species and an important section of the Judd Brook. Beautiful historical stone bridge foundations, built for a spur of the Air Line Railroad, are accessible on this portion of Judd Brook. The spur was instrumental in the transport of rocks/sand to fill the trestles of the amazing 137-ft. high Lyman Viaduct (in Colchester’s section of the Trail) and 60-ft. high Rapallo Viaduct (in East Hampton’s section).

The Raymond and Judd Brooks are major tributaries to the Jeremy River, a Class A watercourse (potential public water supply) and critical to the quality of the Salmon River. The Environmental Review Team includes a variety of natural and cultural resource professionals to provide insights and recommendations regarding ecological, historical, transportation, archeological, and more aspects of these important natural preserves along the Air Line Trail. The experts met on-site in the Fall in conjunction with local specialists who offered their historical and environmental familiarity with the areas. Further on-site visits are planned this Spring. These Environmental Inventory Reviews are funded primarily by the State of Connecticut.

The Air Line Trail Master Plan involves creating a twelve-town regional website, a logo with cohesive signage, a trifold EZ-map for each town and a promotional video. High school students are being sought as Air Line Trail Ambassadors. Please contact Craig Bryant, Hebron’s Director of Parks and Rec., at cbryant@hebronct.com, if interested in this. Jeanne Davies, Executive Director of CT RC&D, is orchestrating the efforts of all the



Historical stone bridge foundations along Judd Brook, viewed from the Bernstein Preserve.

towns in this valuable regional endeavor. Visit <https://ctrctd.org/airlinetrail/> to keep abreast of the Air Line Trail Master Plan development and sign up for the development newsletter.

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The logo for Hebron Quick-Lube features a stylized oil drop with a dipstick inside it, positioned above the word 'QUICK-LUBE'. The word 'HEBRON' is written in red capital letters above 'QUICK-LUBE'. To the left of the text are several horizontal lines of varying lengths, suggesting speed or motion.
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HEBRON BOARD OF EDUCATION

It has been a great year at Hebron Public Schools! As we finish the school year and look to warmer months, the work of the District Advancement Plan does not end. Summer months are used not only to engage students in reading, but to research, design and enhance curriculum.

This summer all Hebron students are encouraged to participate in the 2nd Annual “Hebron Read and Run Challenge.” The challenge will commence at the start of summer and last until the first day of the new school year. This literacy and wellness challenge will ask students to read some of their favorite books and stay active (Ex: walking, hiking, running, swimming, etc.) during the summer months. What better way to cool down after a busy day in the sun than with a good book! Hebron’s “Read and Run Challenge” aligns with the Governor’s Summer Reading Challenge, ‘Read Beyond the Beaten Path,’ which also focuses its theme on healthy living. More information on Hebron’s summer ‘Read and Run Challenge’ will be sent home at the end of the school year. Families may find this to be a nice opportunity to explore our Douglas Public library in town or the ‘take a book, leave a book’ libraries, which are permanently installed outside at both Gilead Hill School and Hebron Elementary School.

In addition to the “Read and Run Challenge,” Hebron Public Schools’ staff members are engaging in summer curriculum development work this summer. Our team’s are looking forward to continuing our deep work, focusing on evidence-based and high-quality teaching and learning across the grades. We will continue ensuring our curriculum is standards aligned, comprehensive, and student centered. Teams consisting of the school principals, Director of Educational Services, deans, curriculum specialists, and teachers will continue their ongoing curriculum review and renewal work this summer, focusing in the areas of literacy, math, social studies, Spanish, STEAM, and Physical Education/wellness.

Summer is an exciting time for our students, families, and staff. We are looking forward to a productive summer and to a successful 2022-2023 school year. For those looking to plan ahead, please find our 2022-2023 school year calendar posted on our website for important dates in the coming school year!



CT Magazine Features

Jennifer, Kristen, Cathyann, and Carrie of Countryside Realty
Five Star Award Winners!



Jennifer, Kristen, Cathyann, and Carrie of Countryside Realty of Hebron CT have been awarded the Five Star Award for Real Estate Agents in March as featured in CT Magazine! The award is given to agents that score high among client and industry peers!

Cathyann has received this honor for 12 straight years!

Only 3% of agents have received this award!

For almost 30 years, Countryside Realty has been a family owned and operated business servicing their clients as family!

Cathyann, Carrie, Jennifer, and Kristen would like to thank all of their clients for their loyalty, referrals and repeat business throughout the years.

All at Countryside Realty will continue to focus on their customer service, strong work ethic and emphasis on preparation.

Countryside Realty is located at 30 Main Street in Hebron, CT.

They can be reached at (860) 228-8512

HEBRON DAY & JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION



Join the Hebron Parks and Recreation Department and the community, in celebrating all that the town of Hebron has to offer! Hebron Day is a FREE special event that includes entertainment, vendors, food trucks, live music, horse wagon rides, petting zoo, foam party, bounce houses, games, face painting, balloon making, arts and crafts, local business and so much more! Join us for a fun filled kickoff to summer!

Dates: Saturday, June 18, 2022 *no rain date
Location: Burnt Hill Park
148 East St. Hebron, CT 06248
Times: 10:30 AM - 2:30 PM
Free for the public, bring the entire family!

HEBRON INTERFAITH HUMAN SERVICES

HIHS has been a fixture in this community for more than 30 years serving as a community food pantry and social service agency for individuals, families and children of Hebron and surrounding communities. Over the years, we have moved five times within our community as our operations and our services provided grew. It is exciting to have a permanent location we can call home!



HIHS' future home at 26 Pendleton Drive is conveniently located right next door to our present location where we currently welcome clients three days per week. Upon completion of the remodel we will have a bright, comforting, and efficient space with the added bonus of a monthly mortgage payment lower than our current rent!

HIHS is very thankful for the volunteers generously donating their time and talents to enable us to save on demolition and remodeling costs. Their efforts have yielded the makings of a bright reception/client resource center, an open shopping area, and expanded storage. Other cost savings realized from their efforts have been from projects such as the realignment of the ceiling grid throughout, interior and exterior painting and grounds work.

In part, due to the work of volunteers and donations already received from civic groups, businesses, grants and community donations we have been able to set an attainable fundraising goal of \$60,000 to complete the remodel. If you, your business, club or group would like to volunteer with us please email HIHS@att.net. Donations of any size are always appreciated and can be made by scanning the QR code at right, via our website HIHSCT.org or by mail to P.O. Box 634 Hebron, CT.



Christa Goodwin-Babka, Executive Director, HIHS
20 Pendleton Dr. Hebron, CT • 860-228-1681

A Summer Respite

Join me on a tour of Hebron's newest open space acquisition! This adventure takes a peek along the southern border of the fascinating 215-acre forested property known as the Bernstein Preserve.

Our journey begins at the Air Line Trail (ALT) at its Grayville Road crossing. Limited parking here, but no worry, there is ample parking a short distance away at Grayville Falls Park, another gem. Walking south along the ALT, we are soon greeted by an elder stand of hemlocks that grace Grayville Falls.

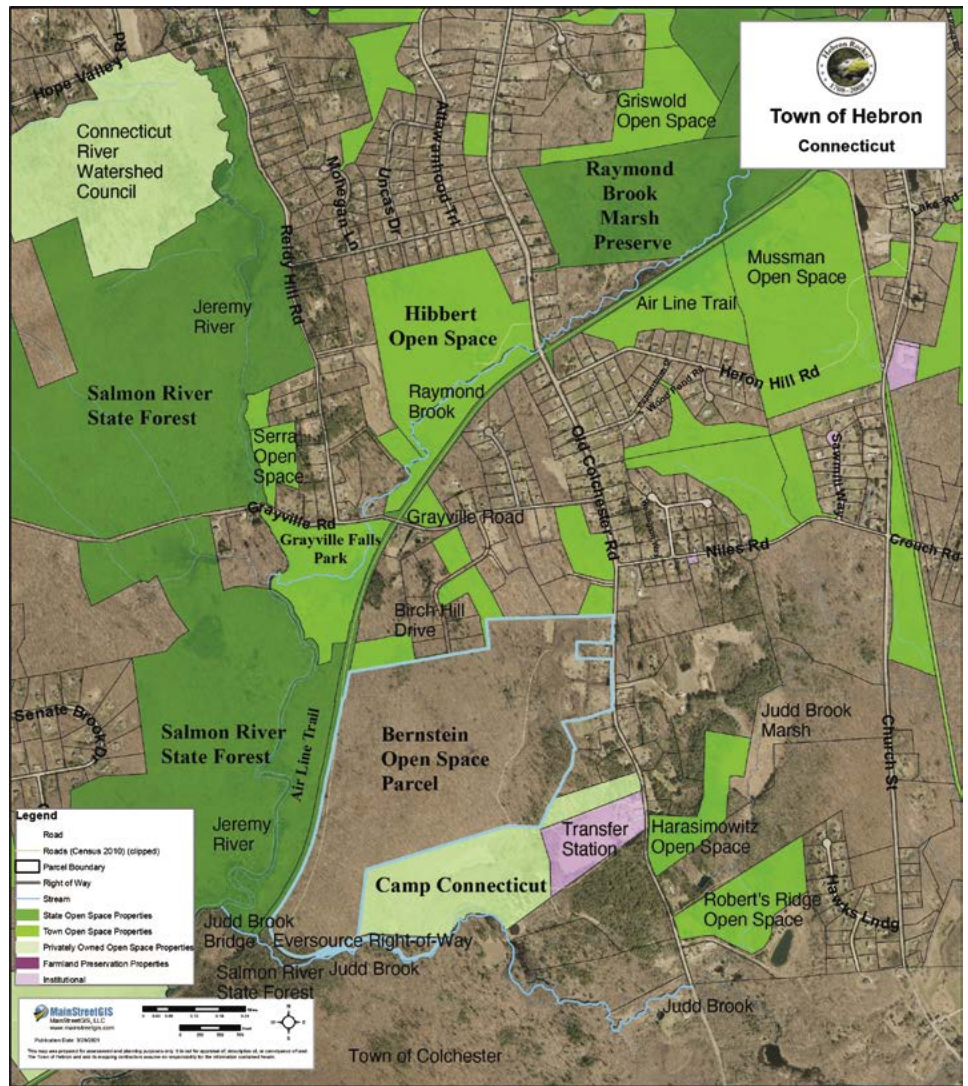
The northern boundary of the Bernstein preserve is soon approached on the east side the trail. Listen for the wood thrush songbird that makes the forest its paradise. Our walk continues toward Judd Brook ushered by varied landscapes: views of the Bernstein forest, a mix of deciduous and evergreen trees, punctuated by numerous crisscrossing stonewalls, evidence of past New England farming.

Nearly reaching the southern Bernstein boundary, we encounter wildlife of special concern enjoying the warmth of the afternoon sunshine. Let's leave our friend unstartled and continue on. Just a few more yards and we have reached the bridge at Judd Brook.

Let's take a quick detour to an area of respite and solitude. Just after crossing the bridge, a path takes the adventurer upstream the Judd. First, a great sycamore tree securing the streambank is encountered. A touch of its bark reveals cooling sensation to the hand...go on, try touching it! Onward we head. The path ends at an impressive stone foundation, one of many along the Judd banks, somehow pieced together long ago.

Take in the flow of the stream here. Its ledge bottom, its curvy form, its adorning hemlocks. Stay here for a few quiet minutes, to refresh the soul and soothe the mind. Ok, we are ready to continue the adventure after the essential detour.

Heading back across the bridge, a path leads one along the northern side of Judd Brook. The Bernstein southern property boundary weaves itself along and across the path to the northern bank of this scenic watercourse, highlighted by large glacial erratics stranded long ago. A streambank walk reveals more impressive stone foundations and native plant life only seen on the forest floor. Jumping back on the path,



it heads steeply uphill. A grand view of Judd Brook awaits us at its peak. Great time for a pic and short rest. Further along the path a woodland frog sits, frozen as he considers himself invisible, if he does not flinch. Out comes the camera for this little forest inhabitant. Continuing along, the upland forest of this open space gift awaits exploration for another day. The walk concludes a bit further along the path (an unimproved Eversource right-of-way) at a sun-splashed wetlands crossing. After spotting a few turtles hanging out and absorbing some rays, it is time to head back recalling all that we have witnessed and appreciating what this open space land offers us.

Frank Zitkus, Secretary of and Planning and Zoning Commission Representative to the Hebron Open Space Land Acquisition Committee

Author's Note: Post adventure research reveals that these foundations were erected to allow for rock excavated from upriver to be hauled little by little to help support construction of the massive ALT viaducts in Colchester and other portions of the Air Line Trail Railroad.

Music is a Passion

In April of 2021, Andrey Stolyarov joined the Gilead Congregational Church as the Minister of Music. We compiled some interview questions to share some of his thoughts about the role that music plays not only in the fabric of the church but also the Hebron community.

What attracted you to Gilead Congregational Church?

I've been a church musician for most of my adult life, and having the opportunity to lead the music ministry at a church in my own town was a dream come true. The close-knit, open-minded, forward-thinking, and non-judgmental perspectives that I was greeted with when I interviewed here really resonated with me on a personal, professional, and spiritual level.

What reflections would you like to share from your first year as Minister of Music at Gilead?

I have felt nothing but love and support over this past year. I have tried to bring a variety of pieces into the service, and my selections have been met with positivity. For an entire year, I did not repeat a single piece - it's hard work to constantly learn new music but at the same time it is exciting! I am also quite lucky to work with some really dedicated singers. The choir works hard to put together anthems every week, and I have



Andrey Stolyarov, Minister of Music at Gilead Congregational Church

found that the ensemble is getting stronger with each passing rehearsal.

Looking forward, how do you see the use of music evolving at the church?

As the choir gets stronger and more confident, I would love to keep challenging them to try a more diverse repertoire. As a composer, it is really important to me to promote new music by living composers, especially those working in Connecticut. Commissioning new pieces for the organ and for the choir is a priority for me, and I think it would be so cool for the congregation to have music written with their church in mind!

How has your day job influenced your various roles in the Hebron community (i.e., Community Chorus, Minister of Music)?

I wear many hats in my musical life - teaching music theory at The Hartt School, composing, singing professionally, teaching private voice, and conducting.

What is your favorite thing about living on a small farm in Hebron, CT?

It is so peaceful here. I love coming home after a long day and taking care of the horses, working on the property brings me a lot of joy, and there is always something to do!

We are grateful for Andrey's talents and know that you too will enjoy his musical selections. Go to our YouTube channel (search for "Gilead Congregational Church Hebron CT") to hear some of the great songs being sung!



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Volunteer opportunities at the Douglas Library

Multiple volunteer groups work to make the Douglas Library the best possible public library for Hebron. If you or someone you know is interested in discovering alternative ways to support the library, these groups are always looking for extra help, new members, and donations. For more information about volunteering, contact the library at info@douglaslibrary.org or 860-228-9312, or fill out an application at www.douglaslibrary.org.

Douglas Library Board of Trustees

The Douglas Library Board of Trustees is the governing board that has legal and fiduciary authority and responsibility for the library. The Trustees are a group of nine members appointed by the Board of Selectmen who work with the Library Director to create policy, manage the library budget, and oversee strategic initiatives to improve services for the town of Hebron.

Douglas Library Association

The Douglas Library Association is a volunteer advocacy group that provides support to the Library Trustees by designating

five members to serve on the Board of Trustees and contributing additional revenue for library services. The existence of the Douglas Library Association is a requirement of the Charles J. Douglas Trust, which provides significant funding for library business each year.

Friends of the Douglas Library of Hebron

The Friends of the Douglas Library are a nonprofit volunteer support group that is separate from the Association, Board of Trustees, and the Town of Hebron. Through used book sales, the ongoing Friends Boutique, and a variety of other fundraising events, this organization is able to sponsor programs, museum passes, print and electronic materials, technology, and other purchases for the library.

General Volunteers

The library has periodic needs for community members to assist with collection maintenance, building upkeep, program assistance, and miscellaneous projects. This is a great way for RHAM students to fulfil their required service hours!



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June is a party month. Our date books are full of graduations, proms, weddings, and Father's Day celebrations.

When we feel partied out and anxious to turn the page on our calendars, where do our minds go next? Flags? Parades? Hot dogs and fireworks?.....AND blueberries!!

The excitement begins somewhere around July 1st, a date that is totally dependent on the weather gods. The berries thrive under clear blue skies with hot days and cool nights. We watch with anticipation for the "pick your own blueberries" signs. For those of us who look forward to it, it seems a short season, generally 4-6 weeks. So those signs send us into action mode, not unlike the "three weeks until Christmas signs" do in December.

Blueberries are native to North America and are either wild or cultivated. They are highly nutritious and powerful antioxidants, boasting a snack that is cholesterol free, fat free and sodium free, with nearly 4 grams of fiber. Nutritionists consider them a Superfood and a star for good health. Whether they are dark blue, light blue or hints of deep purple, they can be eaten alone as a snack, in cereal, smoothies, salads, muffins, or the prized and coveted pie.

If you've never been on this picking adventure before, you will need sunscreen, a wide brimmed hat and footwear that will surely end up having a coating of squished berries stuck to their soles. The bushes are waist and chest high so bending is usually not an issue. The picker wears a small plastic pail, hanging around the neck, much like a necklace, and then can simply drop the picked blue gems from bush to bucket!

As you start to pick, the true adventure begins! The real excitement is not the destination but the journey. The options are many. Friends can join you in the fun, or you can chat with those you've not met before, who are in rows next to you. Folks will offer to share recipes or freezing methods and will describe their favorite morning breakfast. You will certainly see the grandparents who bring their "littles" to experience the joy. Or you can use it as a time of personal meditation, enjoying a quiet pensive time as you pick, listening to birdsong, nibbling the Earth's bounty, and marveling under the sky, at the gifts of Creation.



Once your mission is complete, you return home to gift a bowl or two as a meaningful gesture to a friend or neighbor and you begin the self-satisfaction of your baking, eating, and freezing projects.

The entire experience a gift for your soul during this cheerfully "blue" time of year!

Text by Catherine Litwin

Art by Sandy Waldo



Hebron's Earliest Garden

Burnt Hill – how in the world did the Park acquire that name? In some of the Town's early land records, deeds are described as "lying on burnt hill". Whether or not the area was named by our earliest residents, it was certainly used by them as a perfect garden site. If you drive to the top of Burnt Hill, you will notice the elevation as one of Hebron's highest spots as well as its 360 degree views of the sun from all directions -- whenever it's shining, that is! Hebron's indigenous population would have recognized these conditions as perfect for growing their crops.

Our Native Americans had unlimited acreage, but still cared for it properly. Each year they burned over the dead vines, stalks and leaves from the previous year's plantings. In other words, they "burnt" the hill. That organic ash provided fertility. Once

the weather was right, the indigenous people started planting. They used a method now referred to as "The Three Sisters Garden".

The Three Sisters were Corn, Beans and Squash, the main vegetables grown and stored by Native Americans. The Corn was planted first to establish a pole for the climbing and tangling of the Beans. The Squash then covered the soil all around the beans and corn. The Squash provided mulch for cooling, preventing weeds and preserving moisture in the soil. Today we would call it Companion Planting.

This year, following the methods used by our earliest gardeners, the Hebron Historic Properties Commission is going to plant a Three Sisters Garden on a portion of the Community Garden. Do stop by for a visit. We hope to share any produce with the Hebron Food Pantry!

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