

# Hebron VIEWS

Volume 7 • Issue 1  
Winter/Spring 2023



**Hebron Maple Festival**  
**Saturday, March 18, 2023**  
**Sunday, March 19, 2023**  
More information on page 16

*Your Hometown Connection • Hebron, CT*





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### Hello, Hebron —

As of the writing of this note, our winter has been, temperature wise, not too bad. That said, we survived a Christmas power outage event, and just this last weekend, we survived the coldest temperatures experienced in years with — you guessed it — more power outages. Many people have commented that it seems as if we are having far more power outages than in past years. something to keep the statistic people busy. I just hope that the late winter and spring/summer events are blessed with fair weather. Things to look forward to: The Maple fest. Our two day event honoring the Maple syrup producers. Our town comes alive with events, fun and food for all!. Next to come is Memorial Day, a time for us to remember



out) What a great town we have.

Daniel Larson

*Chair, Hebron Board of Selectmen*

all of those men and women who have served, fought, and in some cases, died for our freedoms afforded to all of us in this great country. Then in June, we have Hebron Day and also Juneteenth. Again with events that people of all ages can participate and enjoy. As we move into summer, I would assume that our very own Lions Club will amaze us with another fantastic fireworks show. Intermixed with these events, I bet the Town Center people will be holding their musical events, bands, etc. along Main Street. Also, least I forget, Teds Car shows! (I apologize if I left anything

## TOWN MANAGER

### Dear Hebron Residents:

I have presented the Town Manager's proposed budget for FY 2023-2024 to the Hebron Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance on Thursday, March 2, 2023 in compliance with requirements outlined in the Town Charter. This year's budget reflects the Town's needs and continues to maintain a high level of services and educational excellence. The referendum vote on this year's budget will be held Tuesday, May 2, 2023 at Hebron Elementary School on Church Street between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

The Town Government Budget includes funding for general government operations, contributions to capital projects, contribution to open space land acquisition and debt service payments.

Please keep in mind that the budget document is a work in progress and numbers will change over the next several weeks. The budget is based on information available today, with placeholders for unknown or estimated amounts.

An email address [hebronbudget@hebronct.com](mailto:hebronbudget@hebronct.com) has been set up to receive public comments and input. Emails received will



be forwarded to the Boards of Selectmen, Finance and Education. It is important for public participation early in the budget process. Public participation at all meetings is encouraged, meetings are listed on the Town's calendar located on the website at <https://hebronct.com>. We urge you to become informed and involved in the budget process. Budget detail, information and key dates are also available on the Hebron Website at <http://hebronct.com/budget-information>.

I am pleased to announce that the Hebron Maple Festival will take place this year on Saturday and Sunday, March 18th and 19th on the Hebron Green, weather permitting. This festival features numerous maple flavored food products. There will be artists, crafters, farmers and small businesses with a huge variety of items available. Also, the famous

tractor parade will take place on Sunday, March 19th. This is a free community event open to all ages, I hope to see you there enjoying all that it has to offer.

Andrew J. Tierney

*Town Manager*

- 1 Chair, Board of Selectmen
- 1 Town Manager
- 3 Assessor's Office
- 3 Finance Department
- 5 Town Clerk's Office
- 7 Board of Education
- 8 Staff Directory
- 10 Conservation & Inland Wetlands
- 11 Senior Center
- 12 Budget Meeting Schedule
- 13 Hebron Lions
- 14 The Town Center Project
- 15 St. Peter's Church
- 15 Gilead Congregational Church
- 16 AHM Youth & Family Services
- 16 Hebron Maple Festival
- 16 Hebron Historical Society
- 19 Hebron Pollinator Pathways
- 20 Open Space Land Aquisition Committee

[www.hebronct.com](http://www.hebronct.com)

COVER ART:

Katarina Turgeon, Columbia, CT

## 2023 VIEWS Magazines Schedule

### 2nd Q/23

**COLUMBIA:** Ad Deadline 4/7/2023  
Mailed Week of 5/8/2023

**HEBRON:** Ad Deadline 5/5/2023  
Mailed Week of 6/5/2023

### 3rd Q/23

**COLUMBIA:** Ad Deadline 7/7/2023  
Mailed Week of 8/7/2023

**HEBRON:** Ad Deadline 8/4/2023  
Mailed Week of 9/4/2023

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Donna Lanza and Dori Wolf  
Town Manager's Office



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The Assessor's Office is staffed by the Assessor, Tina Corriveau, and a part-time Assistant to the Assessor, Christina Ristaino. The principal duties in the office are to discover, list and value all real estate, motor vehicles, and personal property within the Town of Hebron. The sum of these values forms the Grand List.

The October 1, 2022 Grand List resulted in an overall increase of 1.75% over the previous Grand List. The top ten taxpayers are:

- 1) Connecticut Light & Power Co. (commonly known as Eversource; one personal property account)
- 2) WOJV Hebron LLC (commonly known as Colebrook Village; one personal property and one real estate account)
- 3) Hebron Lincoln LLC (commonly known as CVS; one real estate account)
- 4) Hebron Country Manor LLC (three real estate accounts)
- 5) Connecticut Water Company (six real estate accounts and one personal property account)
- 6) Blackledge Country Club Inc (one personal property account, two real estate accounts, seven motor vehicle accounts)
- 7) Amirzai Property Trust LLC (commonly known as Wellswood Rd. apartments; one real estate account)
- 8) Genco Olde Hartford Road LLC (six real estate accounts)
- 9) Village Shoppes LLC (commonly known as Ted's IGA plaza; one real estate account)
- 10) 41-61 Main Street LLC (commonly known as Old Town Plaza; one real estate account)

Please contact the Assessor's Office if any of the following apply to you. (All of the following programs, exemptions, etc. have strict deadlines, so please do not hesitate to reach out for more information.)

**Did you sell your car?** If you canceled the plates on a car that you no longer own, you can provide documentation showing what

happened to your car (such as a bill of sale or trade-in document) to receive a credit on your motor vehicle tax bill. If you transferred the plates to a new car, no documentation is needed.

**Are you a veteran?** If you provide your DD-214 to the Town Clerk's office, we can determine if you qualify for an exemption.

**Do you have a veteran-related disability rating?** If you submit a disability rating letter to our office, this may increase your basic veteran exemption. Don't forget to provide a new letter if your disability rating increases.

**Are you a veteran on a fixed income?** If your income in 2022 was under \$49,100 as a married couple, or \$40,300 single, you may qualify for an additional veteran exemption.

**Are you currently on active duty?** If you submit the appropriate application to our office, you may qualify to exempt one motor vehicle from taxation.

**Are you legally blind or permanently disabled?** If you provide documentation of legal blindness and/or permanent disability and submit the appropriate application, you may qualify for an exemption.

**Are you 65 years of age or older or permanently disabled, and on a fixed income?** If your income in 2022 was under \$49,100 as a married couple, or \$40,300 single, you may qualify for a homeowner's exemption.

**Do you have a personal vehicle equipped for handicap use?** If you submit an application for the exemption of a vehicle used to transport medically incapacitated individuals, you may qualify to exempt said vehicle from taxation.

**Do you disagree with the assessment of your property?** Contact our office for information on how to appeal your assessment to the Board of Assessment Appeals, which meets in March and September each year.

## FINANCE DEPARTMENT

The Finance Department staff remains incredibly busy as always. It's once again that time of year when compilation of the 2023-2024 fiscal year budget preparation process has begun with the Town Manager's office amidst our normal daily operational duties. The Town Manager will present his budget to the Boards of Selectmen and Finance on Thursday, March 2nd. Each Tuesday thereafter during March, the Boards of Selectmen and Finance will review and deliberate the financial necessities for the Town. In April on the 4th and 6th, the Board of Finance will continue to deliberate final budget figures to be presented to a Public Hearing on the 18th and then to the taxpayers at a referendum on May 2nd.

As has been previously publicized, both Boards of Education, Hebron and RHAM, are facing substantial increases to their budgets. Inflation and rising costs are affecting us all! Please try to attend the budget deliberation meetings and make your concerns/desires heard. We are in this together. Stay well!

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I know that you all join me in wishing Carla Pomprowicz, our recently retired Town Clerk of more than 23 years, a world of happiness in all her numerous future endeavors. Carla moves on to spend more time with family, friends, her garden and the many who benefit from her humanitarian projects. Her energy, experience, wit and professionalism will be missed by this office.

I am Francesca Villani, your Acting Town Clerk, having been so appointed by the Board of Selectmen to complete Carla's term of office. I am a town resident and have for the past 4 years been the Assistant Town Clerk in Hebron. I am here to provide assistance with all things Town Clerk related.

For reference, the Town Clerk's office will facilitate among other things the following:

- Obtaining certified copies of vital record.
- Recording and researching land records and filed maps.
- Licensing your dog.
- Obtaining a sport license.
- Recording your military discharge papers to obtain a veteran's tax abatement.
- Obtaining or dissolving a trade name.
- As a resource for genealogical information and historical town data.
- Obtaining access to minutes of all Town Board and Commission meetings.
- Voter registration and absentee voting.

We are happy to be here as a resource for the Town of Hebron and look forward to the opportunity to assist you in the future. Please visit our webpage at the town website [www.HebronCT.com](http://www.HebronCT.com) for more detailed information about the services we provide.

I share with you here, a humorous poem that has no single authorship attributed to it. It was published by the Connecticut Town Clerks Association in 1978 and like so much of what we clerks do was most likely a collaborative effort.

### **The Clerk of the Town**

(precise authorship unknown)

*If you want to get married, or fish in the sea,  
If they vote by machine, or they vote absentee,  
Whatever their problem turns out to be,  
It's the work of the Clerk of the Town.*

*We're concerned with such things as the sex of a dog,  
And how many bees in a hive,  
And we file, we record, we attach and attest,  
Anything be it dead or alive.*

*Whatever goes on in the Town we record,  
And often we do it with little reward,  
We often go crazy, but never get bored,  
Oh, it's great to be Clerk of the Town.*



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The winter months for the Board of Education are focused on the upcoming school year's budget. This year, we took a different, more collaborative approach in building the budget. The Board and school administration worked together throughout many meetings/workshops to develop a draft budget with the focus of aligning resources to our district advancement plan. Our mission, "Hebron Public Schools inspires all children to be resilient, confident, respectful, and prepared to discover and follow their dreams" and vision, "All students are champions for equity who demonstrate innovation, academic and artistic excellence, compassion, wellness, and leadership," are what drives our decision-making throughout not only the budget process, but in all that we do.

We are thrilled that our school enrollment continues to grow in a time when many districts are seeing a decline. This is attributed to our wonderful community and to the amazing educators who call Hebron Public Schools home. The Board is excited to propose an additional classroom and staff for our preschool program in next year's budget. It is our hope that this helps eliminate the need for a preschool lottery so that all of Hebron's youngest learners are afforded the same opportunity to attend our NAEYC accredited preschool with our experienced, dedicated, certified teachers and staff.

The Board also requested from the town a second School Resource Officer (SRO). In the wake of school shootings in the news, having a SRO has brought understandable comfort and ease to students, families, and staff. Many families have expressed to us that they would like to have officers at both schools for these reasons. Our SRO is an essential member of our team, and a dedicated SRO for each school, will help us provide the safest learning environment for our students. We are grateful for the Board of Selectmen's proactive approach in using ARPA funds to purchase a needed police vehicle, as well as to enhance patrol hours this school year.

The Board of Education will present our proposed budget to families at our regular Board of Education meeting on February 9th. Per charter, the Board must vote on and then send their proposed budget to the town by February 15th of each year. The budget process continues through Board of Finance meetings, workshops, and ultimately the referendum in May. Budget decisions have a direct impact on Hebron's children and youth. We encourage all families and community members to be involved in the budget process throughout the coming months.

Heather Petit  
*Chair, Hebron Board of Education*



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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.

<b>Town Manager</b>	Andrew Tierney	atierney@hebronct.com	x122
<b>Director of Administrative Services</b>	Donna Lanza	dlanza@hebronct.com	x130
<b>Finance Director</b>	Elaine Griffin	egriffin@hebronct.com	x131
<b>Town Planner</b>	Matthew Bordeaux	mbordeaux@hebronct.com	x137
<b>Building Official</b>	Randy Blais	rblais@hebronct.com	x142
<b>Sanitarian/Health District</b>	Chatham Health	emily.miller@chathamhealth.org	x140
<b>Wetlands Enforcement Officer</b>	Jim Cordier	jcordier@hebronct.com	x139
<b>Assessor</b>	Tina Corriveau	tcorriveau@hebronct.com	x147
<b>Tax Collector</b>	Adrian MacLean	amaclean@hebronct.com	x146
<b>Office of Emergency Management</b>	Paul Bancroft	oem@hebronct.com	x136
<b>Acting Town Clerk</b>	Francesca Villani	fvillani@hebronct.com	x125
<b>Animal Control Officer</b>	Jason Hunniford	jhunniford@hebronct.com	x150
<b>Public Works Department/Transfer Station</b>	550 Old Colchester Road		860 228-2871
Public Works Director/WPCA Administrator	Kevin Kelly	kkelly@hebronct.com	x260
<b>Parks and Recreation Department</b>	148 East Street	860 530-1281	
Parks and Recreation Director	Craig Bryant	cbryant@hebronct.com	x230
<b>Douglas Library of Hebron</b>	22 Main Street	860 228-9312	
Library Director	Kevin Sullivan	ksullivan@hebronct.com	x316
<b>Russell Mercier Senior Center</b>	14 Stonecroft Drive	860 228-1700	
Senior Services Director	Sharon Garrard	sgarrard@hebronct.com	x203
<b>Hebron Police Department</b>	44 Main Street		860 228-3710
Resident Trooper	Bryce Reed	bryce.reed@ct.gov	
<b>Hebron Fire Department</b>	44 Main Street	firedept@hebronct.com	860 228-3022
Fire Chief	Peter Starkel	pstarkel@hebronfd.com	x160
Fire Marshal	Randy Blais	rblais@hebronct.com	x167
<b>Housing Authority</b>	860 228-4411		
<b>Glastonbury Hebron Probate Court</b>	860 652-7629		
2155 Main Street, Glastonbury			
<b>Chatham Health District</b>	860 365-0884		
<b>Water Pollution Control Authority</b>	860 228-2871		
<b>Public Schools</b>		<b>AHM Youth Services</b>	860 228-9488
<b>Superintendent of Schools – Hebron BOE</b>	860 228-2577	25 Pendleton Drive	
<b>Superintendent of Schools – RHAM BOE</b>	860 228-2115	<b>Hebron Interfaith Human Services (Food Bank)</b>	860 228-1681
		20 Pendleton Drive	
<b>RHAM Senior High School</b>	860 228-9474	<b>Douglas Library</b>	860 228-9312
85 Wall Street		Monday and Wednesday	22 Main Street
RHAM Senior High School		Tuesday and Thursday	Noon–8:00 p.m.
Guidance Department	860 228-9446	Friday	10:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m.
		Saturday	Noon–6:00 p.m.
<b>RHAM Middle School</b>	860 228-9423		10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.
25 RHAM Road		<b>Hebron Post Office</b>	93 Main Street
<b>Hebron Elementary School</b>	860 228-9465	Daily 8:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m. (Closed for Lunch 1:00–2:00 p.m.)	860 228-6904
92 Church Street		Saturday 8:30 a.m.–Noon	
<b>Gilead Hill School</b>	860 228-9458	<b>Amston Post Office</b>	540 Church Street
580 Gilead Street		Daily 8:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.	860 228-3671
		Saturday 9:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m.	





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## CONSERVATION & INLAND WETLANDS

Last November, I was checking trail conditions and looking for beaver activity that sometimes floods a section of the Air Line Trail in Hebron between Raymond Brook Marsh and Old Colchester Road. The trail bisects both town and state conservation lands and if anything is amiss, I contact DEEP to periodically trim down the dams to address the situation.

It was a brisk, bright Tuesday, the leaves were just past-peak in color, and I could see my breath in the morning air. Walking there was as invigorating as a fresh-brewed cup of coffee. Going westward, I left the area of the marsh, where the bright blue sunlit sky reflected off the open waters. Reeds swayed in the cool, gentle winds and the red, yellow, and orange foliage of the surrounding woods were giving way to the gold and the russet hues of autumn. Towering pines on the hillside to the north remained stoic and wonderfully unchanged. Crows cawed in the distance and the Canada Geese were gliding in at treetop level for respite along their journey on the North American Flyway.

I reentered the tree-tunneled section of the trail and noticed two hikers in the distance coming toward me. As we met, I encountered a man and his wife that appeared to be in their mid-seventies. They were red cheeked and bundled against the fall chill. He was movement-challenged and seated in a powered wheelchair, while she walked slightly behind him. I noticed that he was sporting a baseball-type cap with gold embroidering that denoted, "United States Air Force Veteran".

I bid them "Good morning" and they both responded with shy half-smiles. Instinctively, I snapped a smart salute and thanked the man for his service. "My dad was Air Force", I said, "and I was Army. I guess old habits like long hikes die hard and it's a beautiful day for it." His response was somewhat garbled, and his facial appearance suggested that he may have been the victim of a stroke. With twinkling, cheerful eyes, he studied me. Next, he looked up, made a wide, shaky, sweeping gesture with his arm toward the treetops and the sky, and then he looked back at me. "I know", I said, "it just doesn't get any better".

"There is a delight in the hardy life of the open. There are no



words that can tell the hidden spirit of the wilderness that can reveal its mystery, its melancholy, and its charm. The nation behaves well if it treats the natural resources as assets which it must turn over to the next generation increased and not impaired in value." *Theodore Roosevelt*

*Submitted in the memory of my dear friends, John Blake, President, CT Chapter, Sierra Club and Past Chairman, Hebron Conservation Commission and John Hibbard, Executive Director, CT Forest and Park Association and Past Selectman, Town of Hebron.*

Jim Cordier  
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**Russell Mercier Senior Center**  
**12 Stonecroft Dr. Hebron**

**Welcome Our New Social Worker**

Please welcome Michele Boutin, the new Social Worker for the Russell Mercier Senior Center. Michele is a graduate of the University of Saint Joseph in West Hartford. She currently is pursuing a master's degree in social work at the University of Saint Joseph. Michele is passionate about helping people locate services that can help make life easier. She is looking forward to working with and meeting the community of Hebron and to being an asset to the Senior Center. Please stop in and say hello.

**AARP Tax Preparation for 2022 Taxes**

Through March 28th from 9:00am—2:00pm we are hosting free tax preparation through the AARP sponsored tax aide program using volunteers who make the program work. To sign-up call 860-228-1700.

**Bus transportation to Mobile Food Truck and the Food Bank**

Every other Tuesday (call the center for dates) Pick-ups start approximately 10:30-10:45, food truck arrives 11:15 at the Church of Hope/Red barn Corner of RT 85 & Rt 66. Food bank arrival approximately 11:00am. Please bring your own bags. Must sign-up by 10:00am Monday the day before, 860-228-1700.

**FREE Lunch & Learn Sponsored by Marlborough Health Center The Warning Signs of Dementia**

Please join us on Wednesday, April 26th for a free lunch and learn sponsored by the Marlborough Health Center. The topic will be The Warning Signs of Dementia, accompanied by a delicious deli sandwich lunch (choice of Turkey or Tuna, chips, cookie, bottled water, and a few other little surprises). You must pre-register by Monday, April 24th at Noon. Please call 860-228-1700.

**AARP Driver Course—in-person at the Senior Center**

Tuesday, April 18th we will be hosting the AARP Driver's Course, in-person. Class is 9:00am -1:00pm. AARP members

cost \$20, and non-members cost \$25 and payable to the instructor day of class. You must pre-register by Monday, April 17th by noon. When you take the AARP Smart Driver™ course, you could be eligible for a multi-year discount on your auto insurance.\* Plus safer driving can save you more than just money. To register for the class call the senior center at 860-228-1700.

**Mobile Mammography**

Hartford Hospital's Digital Mobile Mammography coach bus is coming to the Hebron Senior Center Tuesday, May 9th—8:00am—2:00pm 12 Stonecroft Dr. Hebron. Who can make an appointment; Women 35 years of age and older—This is NOT just for seniors, Last mammogram was more than one year ago and was normal/negative.

Patients who had a diagnostic breast work-up at last mammogram with negative results and who received a recommendation to return in 12 months. Pre-Registration by April 18th required, call 860-228-1700.

**Daily/Weekly Happenings**

Community Café Monday – Thursday at Noon (suggested donation of \$3), Exercise Equipment Room, Daily 9:00-3:00 (Fridays 9:00-Noon), Enhance Fitness via ZOOM with Paul Smith Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 9:00-10:00, Yoga Monday and Wednesday 10:15-11:15, Movie Monday (once per month call for date & title), Knitting/Crocheting/Needle Group, Tuesdays 10:15-11:45, Hand and Foot Canasta, Tuesdays 12:45-3:15, Stamping, Tuesdays 1:00-2:15, Mindful Meditation 1st & 3rd Wednesday 10:15-11:15, RHAM Bingo 3rd Wednesday of the month (through May) 2:30-4, Sunshine Singers Thursdays 10:15 – 11:45, Mahjongg, Thursdays 12:45—3:15, Bingo Thursdays 1:00-3:00, Grocery Shopping (varies between Big Y, Stop & Shop, and Walmart) 10:00-1:00, Fun with Stitches Open Quilting Group 1st & 3rd Friday 10:15 – 12:15, Created To Create Open Arts Group 2nd & 4th Friday 10:15 – 12:15, Technology Assistance dates vary please call for times, Massage Therapy 2nd & 4th Mondays and every Thursday (pre-registration required).



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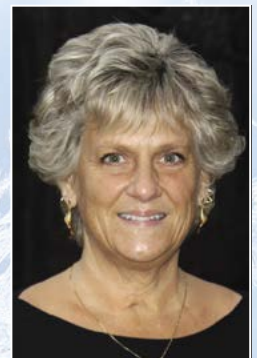
As 2022 comes to a close, we reflect on the year that has past and look forward to the new year ahead of us. We would like to thank all of our past clients, their loyalty is the key to our continued success. We will be here to help you with all of your real estate needs, from residential resale, to new construction to land and development.

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## 2023-24 BUDGET MEETING SCHEDULE

Below is the Hebron Budget review and approval schedule (subject to change as necessary). Budget details and meetings access information will be posted on the Hebron website as information becomes available: <https://hebronct.com/budget-information/>. Hebron residents are encouraged to become informed and involved in the budget process.

<b>Thursday, March 2, 2023</b> 7:00 – 7:30 p.m.	<b>Virtual – BOS/BOF Budget Workshop</b> Town Manager’s Budget Presentation
<b>Tuesday, March 7, 2023</b> 7:00 – 7:30 p.m. 7:30 – 8:00 p.m. 8:00 – 9:30 p.m.	<b>Virtual – BOS/BOF Budget Workshop</b> CIP Budget Presentation Open Space/Land Acquisition Miscellaneous General Government
<b>Tuesday, March 14, 2023</b> 7:00 – 7:30 p.m. 7:30 – 8:00 p.m. 8:00 – 9:30 p.m.	<b>Virtual – BOS/BOF Budget Workshop</b> Hebron Board of Education RHAM Board of Education Miscellaneous General Government
<b>Tuesday, March 21, 2023</b> 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. 8:00 – 9:30 p.m.	<b>Virtual – BOS/BOF Budget Workshop</b> Department Presentations Miscellaneous General Government
<b>Tuesday, March 28, 2023</b> 7:00 – 7:30 p.m. 7:30 – 8:30 p.m. 8:30 – 9:30 p.m.	<b>Virtual – BOS/BOF Budget Workshop</b> Board of Selectmen Public Hearing Revenues Overview & Discussion/Budget Deliberations Finalize Selectmen’s FY 23-24 Budget
<b>Monday, April 3, 2023</b> 6:30 p.m.	<b>Location/Format TBD</b> RHAM Budget Public Hearing
<b>Tuesday, April 4, 2023</b> 7:00 p.m.	<b>Virtual</b> Board of Finance Budget Workshop
<b>Thursday, April 6, 2023</b> 7:00 p.m.	<b>Virtual</b> Board of Finance Budget Workshop
<b>Tuesday, April 18, 2023</b> 7:00 p.m. Followed by	<b>Virtual</b> Board of Finance Public Hearing on Budget Board of Finance Meeting to Set the Budget
<b>Monday, May 1, 2023</b> 6:30 p.m.	<b>Location/Format TBD</b> RHAM Budget District Meeting
<b>Tuesday, May 2, 2023</b> 6:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.	<b>Hebron Elementary School, 92 Church Street</b> Budget Referendum

**Email Budget Communications to:** [hebronbudget@hebronct.com](mailto:hebronbudget@hebronct.com)  
These emails will be forwarded to the Boards of Selectmen, Finance and Education



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One of the most common sayings we all know is that it “Takes a Village”, and many of us know that this could not be any further from the truth. Many in our close-knit community are aware of the Hebron Lions and what our organization is about, however, there are still so many that doesn’t, and we would love to introduce ourselves to you!

The Hebron Lions Club is just one of 48,000 Lions International Clubs Worldwide, with over 1.4 million members with a focus on a mission to serve. Lions Clubs all over the world strive to fulfill the mission to empower each other, volunteers, and partners to support those in need through humanitarian services and grants locally and globally.

The Hebron Lions Club specifically do this locally in Hebron by supporting the schools in town, fostering the RHAM Leos Club, supporting our serving agencies such as AHM Youth and Family Services, Hebron Interfaith Human Services, the Douglas Library, Russell Mercier Senior Center and so many more town not for profit organizations as well as statewide. The ability to do this all stems from the support of the town of Hebron and for that we THANK YOU!

We would love to offer an invitation to our monthly meetings

which are held the first Wednesday of every month starting at 6:30 PM. This is a great opportunity to meet your Hebron Lions, learn about upcoming volunteer opportunities as well as upcoming events. This is a great way to learn about what it means to be a Hebron Lion and an opportunity for you to check us out if you ever thought about becoming a member and being a part of a humanitarian service club.

If you are interested in attending a meeting reach out to us at [Membership@HebronHarvestFair.Org](mailto:Membership@HebronHarvestFair.Org) and don’t forget to follow us on Facebook at [HebronLionsClubCT](https://www.facebook.com/HebronLionsClubCT) for all future events and announcements.

Save the Dates:

- March 19th - Pancake Breakfast at the Hebron Lions Fairgrounds – 8:30-11:30 AM
- May 20th - Hebron Lions Jeep and Food Truck Show to benefit Wishes on Wheels – 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM
- May 21st - St. Baldricks’s Foundation Fundraiser, Shave to Conquer Kids Cancer
- June 24th (raindate 6/25) – Hebron Lions Fireworks and Touch a Truck event – Gates open at 4:00 PM

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# THE TOWN CENTER PROJECT



Hey Hebron! Happy 2023! While it's still cold and the days are still short, the volunteers at The Town Center Project are well on our way to crafting a year to talk about. Let's jump right into it with our 2023 schedule of events!

We'll be starting our year off right with the return of Market Day! This year's event you'll see a few different elements. The first change... it's a weekend event! On Saturday, May 6th we are looking to build five "different" markets. A Maker's Market (where everything is handmade); a Farmer's Market (fresh from the farm, spring produce and eats to make scrumptious meals); Brimfield Lite (a smaller, lighter version of the massive flea market/antique/tag sale north of our borders) a Vintage Market (where amazingly

crafty and talented people take forgotten items, refresh them and give them new purpose! Think Boho, chalk paint and one of a kind finds!) AND a fine arts "juried" art show that will include some open studio. The weekend will wrap up with our Town-wide Tag Sale on Sunday, May 7th. (So get busy cleaning out the garage for Mom. Mother's Day is the following weekend!)

The Hebron Community Chorus will be singing their hearts out at their spring concert; Friday May 26th St. Peter's Episcopal Church. Rehearsals start soon, if interested in singing please email [ttcp@thetowncenterproject.org](mailto:ttcp@thetowncenterproject.org).

Make Music Day Hebron returns on Wednesday, June 21st! TTCP's volunteer Chairperson, Drew Gibson is looking to take this day to the next level. After participating in the East Coast Make Music Day Conference, he has some amazing ideas - so mark your calendar.

Join us and your neighbors on the steps of the Old Town Hall, Tuesday, July 4th for our hometown celebration of America's birthday. Each year TTCP volunteers come up with an interactive event that embraces the community and helps share our mutual love for our country. 247 years is pretty impressive, let's keep it going!

The Hebron Concert Series will again return to the side lawn of Century 21 on Friday nights throughout the warmer months. This year will bring a foot stomping country band, some local bluegrass and many more performers to our beautiful town center. Concert dates are June 23rd, June 30th, July 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th. We can't wait to see our music loving friends again and make some new ones!

Saturday, October 21st TTCP will host our very popular Harvest Moon Festival. Each year this event grows beyond our expectations. Stay tuned to see what marvelous ideas our HM Committee has up their sleeves!

The Town Center Project, Inc is an ALL volunteer driven 501©3 nonprofit organization. We run solely on donations, grants and volunteers. We are a fun, Hebron-loving group of individuals trying to reinvent the "heart of Hebron". Join us, donate or volunteer today !! [www.thetowncenterproject.org](http://www.thetowncenterproject.org), fb: [facebook.com/towncenterprojectinc](https://facebook.com/towncenterprojectinc). We are raising funds for a storage shed to provide a summer home for the SnoFolk, concert sponsorship - get the neighborhood together and sponsor a Friday night in town.



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It's March. Outside the window, its brown and gray. The groundhog told us spring is on the horizon. We can't see them yet, but the crocuses are poking their heads against the soil waiting for warm sunlight to help them push through the earth. We need to think about poking our heads out too. However, the end has to come before the beginning ... the end of our hibernation.

So, we stretch in our favorite recliner, next to the stove. The stack of books we placed next to the chair, last November, are half read. The balls of yarn, we fashioned into lap throws and shawls. We brush the shawl aside. In New England we never actually put them away.

At St Peter's, we begin to feel energized! Like forsythia suddenly boasting its yellow flowers, out pop our iconic bright blue aprons, tee shirts, and caps. We are ready, after our winter hiatus, to begin inviting folks to our monthly community dinners!

The moving parts on the well-oiled machine begin to turn. The menus are set, the worker sign- up sheets go up, and the first sign announcing date and time, appears on the front lawn.



And so, it begins! Each month is a different meal, but the same zealous spirit.

Starting in 2010, meals were originally held inside. Since the 2020 pandemic, they've been delivered as drive-thru, and the number of guests has only increased! If the way to one's heart is with food, then it's also the way to the soul. The blue clad staff of parishioners bring so much more to the car windows. It is a time of great fellowship and greeting; happy to see the familiar faces, share some caring and concern for one another, and generally fill the air with joy and excitement.

Patrons are warmed to know that a portion of profits from all events at St. Peter's, will go to another non-profit organization in the community. We hope to share our season of great food, warm hospitality, and abundant love with you at one of our dinners!

Words by Cathie Litwin; photo by Kathy Kniep

## GILEAD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

### Gilead Church having busy transitional time

You may be wondering what has been happening at Gilead Congregational Church in the 18 months since the Rev. Denise Esslinger retired. The answer is: a lot!

I have had the privilege of serving Gilead as Transitional Pastor since June 2021. After seeing 16 different churches through this time "in between" settled pastors, I can tell you that this church on the hill has been a beehive of activity.

Gilead has steadily been emerging from the restrictions that were imposed during the pandemic. We developed a strong, ongoing online worship presence that lives alongside our steadily growing Sanctuary service. In doing so we extended our commitment to be accessible to all, regardless of their ability to be physically present.

Our choir under the talented direction of Andrey Stolyarov has resumed gracing the Sunday worship service. Our full Sanctuary and online community on Christmas Eve resumed a long tradition of worship by candlelight. Sunday School has

been growing, and we just launched a Confirmation Class for the first time in three years.

Behind the scenes, a dedicated and prayerful Search Committee has been seeking a new settled pastor to call to Hebron and the Gilead Church. That person will be working in partnership with a church that continues to grow in its love and service for our community. Their work will come to fruition when they announce a candidate to the congregation. That work has been informed by the many voices in the church and in our greater Hebron community who have told us what you seek for this community leader.

We are not sure when that will happen. But when it does, it will signal the end of the transition and the end of my time with this beautiful gathering of God's people. I will leave knowing that Gilead's welcome is an enduring asset for the Hebron community.

Rev. Matthew McCaffrey  
Transitional Pastor of Gilead Congregational Church

## AHM YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES

**Save the date!** This year's Nature & Adventure Day will take place on March 18-19, 2023. AHM Youth & Family Services and St. Peter's Episcopal Church partner each year to host this weekend filled with fun for all ages. Activities located both indoors & outdoors at AHM's Community Center, located at 25 Pendleton Drive in Hebron.

Check out some of our upcoming programs offered through the Family Resource Center:

**First Steps in Music** — Children and adults are engaged in a variety of activities including bounces, finger wiggles, action songs, vocal exploration, movement exploration, playing instruments, ball rolling, and more! 3/22/2023 – 5/17/2023, Wednesdays, 9:30am

**Messy Hands** — In this group, children will get the chance to explore a variety of different messy materials in a relaxed setting while creating, constructing, and exploring! 3/10/2023-4/28-2023, Fridays, 10am

**Play & Learn in the Park** — Enjoy the playground, crafts, free developmental screenings, a chance to meet other parents, and more! Offered to children age birth-5 and their caregivers. 5/5/2023-6/02-2023, Fridays, 10:30am Location: Veteran's Memorial Park, Hebron

Show support for your RHAM graduate and order a **Project Grad yard sign!** Signs can be purchased during the month of March. All proceeds benefit AHM's Project Graduation event for RHAM Graduates.

Once again this year, AHM will be accepting **scholarship applications** for RHAM students who are planning to attend college next fall. Deadline to apply is May 15th. Find the online application at <https://ahmyouth.org/college-scholarship-application/>

To learn more about the many different services and opportunities, upcoming SPRING programs, and events please visit [www.ahmyouth.org](http://www.ahmyouth.org). AHM Youth and Family Services is also on Facebook and Instagram.

## HEBRON MAPLE FESTIVAL

**Date and Time:** Saturday, March 18, 2023 • Sunday, March 19, 2023. We are open from 10:00 AM-4:00 PM both Saturday and Sunday. The event runs rain, or snow or shine.

**Location:** Parking downtown is VERY limited so please park at RHAM High School and take one of our constantly running shuttle buses to the event. The event is in the Hebron Library parking lots and town green, right on Route 66. The event is mostly outdoors so please dress appropriately. Handicap parking is directly across the street from the Library.

**Fees/Admission:** The event is free to attend. Come hungry and dressed warmly. Bring your friends and family!



## HEBRON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

### How well do you know Gov. John Samuel Peters?

Born – Hebron - 21 Sept 1772

Parents: Bemslee Peters and Annis Shipman

Attended Hebron Schools

Studied medicine – began to practice in Hebron

Served as a surgeon in the State militia – 23 Aug 1814-28 September Under Col. William Belcher in the Third regiment stationed at Fort Groton

Elected to the Connecticut House of Representatives in 1810  
Reelected in 1816 and 1817-in 1817 served as clerk, served again from 1824-1826

Served in the Connecticut State Senate 1818-1823

Member of the State Constitutional Convention – 1818

Lt Governor – 1827

Governor – assumed the position when Gov. Tomlinson resigned in March 1831, Nominated and elected Governor that month, reelected to a second term in 1832

Accomplishments:

During this term the state's first railroads were authorized

Advocated for educational improvements and in 1827 and was president of the Society for the Improvement of Connecticut Schools

President of the Connecticut Colonization Society from 1827-1833

Commissioner for the Connecticut River Company

Director of the State Prison

President of the General Hospital Society of Connecticut ...  
Yale College 1831-33 was medical examiner there

Vice President of Trinity College

Trustee of Washington College

Vice President and then President of the State Medical Society  
Director of the Society for the relief of the insane

Vice President of the Connecticut Historical Society

Held several high offices among the Masons

Donated \$500 towards a new church in Hebron in 1825

Donated \$300.00 towards the new church in Hebron in 1827

Donated \$1,000.00 towards an endowment fund in 1846

Left \$4,000.00 and land for a rectory at his death

Built and lived in the white brick house next to St. Peter's Church and farmed land across the street.

Died Hebron – 30 March 1858 in Hebron buried in St. Peter's Cemetery



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## HEBRON POLLINATOR PATHWAY



It's wake up time to notice what is germinating in our gardens: You may not realize that you have already been feeding early pollinators from your existing landscape! About 1/3 of bees nest in the ground and need ample food sources in their habitat as they emerge from hibernation. Hoverflies, butterflies, bumblebees, and solitary bees will come out at the first sign of warmer weather any time from February to April. Walk your property and see if you notice Crocus, Winter Aconite, Snowdrops, Hellebore, Grape Hyacinth, or Foamflower sometimes poking through a blanket of snow! If none are found, consider planting these bulbs this fall for next spring! Often considered woodland ephemerals, plant them under trees or between shrubs where they can work as a ground cover before going dormant.

In fact, consider designing your garden from the ground up! Imagine a plant pyramid as a pollinator habitat! Mix in some annuals with bulbs, then, early perennial Bleeding heart, Lungwort, Columbine, Foxglove, and Jacob's Ladder can combine with native grasses to make a taller tier. Native shrubs

like highbush blueberries and pussy willow are early nectar and pollen sources for bumble bee queens. Other deciduous shrubs Sand Cherry, Spicebush, Potentilla, in the midsection, with evergreen shrubs, then taller trees Cornus Florida Dogwood, Eastern Redbud and Amelanchier/Serviceberry can provide food sources and habitat even when we may not notice their bounty in the tree canopy.

Pollinator habitat design is easier than you think! With so many considerations; season of bloom, height/width, available sun, wet/dry conditions, deciduous or evergreen remember that even one a single patch of black-eyed Susan's can make a big difference. And the good news is each attempt is a new adventure for us to entice new pollinators to our gardens and witness how we are making essential ecological changes to save the foundation of our food web, pollinators and plants. Dig in for an exciting season of life in your own back yard.

Michele Sinkez, *Hebron Pollinator Pathway*

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### Tales of the Trail: An Unexpected Adventure

An early Spring Day, April 18, 2016, and time for our first bike of the year on the beloved Air Line Trail (ALT). My wife Ann and I commenced our journey and unexpected “Trail Tale” at Cook Hill Road in Lebanon. Onto our bikes with snacks in tow, we happily head east toward Windham where we planned to pick up a prescription at Willimantic Pharmacy. Down the bumpy slope from our start point, we gaze north and stop almost immediately to take in the dramatically beautiful Cook Hill Farm. Undulating spring-green grassed hills with white cows dotting its peak with a brilliant blue sky adorning the background, we pause, amazed at this incredibly scenic site! Onward we head, only to be stopped by the next trail sight... an expansive trail-side marsh with a bench inviting us to stay and take in the occasional music of spring peepers and the avian ballet of migrating swallows. Quietly, in awe, we wonder how these aerial acrobats fly in such perfect group harmony. Ok, let's get riding. Along we go chatting and taking in the invigorating fresh spring air. Then, in the far distance, there is on-trail activity...huh, looks like some animals on the trail, maybe dogs? Closing in on the activity, we see someone walking towards us. We finally intersect with the walker and “his” baby goats!? We ask the walker, “are these your pets?” As we chat, the now several baby goats playfully tug, and tug again, at the walker's shoe laces, both shoes!! So cute! However, the somewhat perturbed walker did not know who these babies belonged to and had to be on his way. Stunned in place, we wondered “What do we do?” It was approaching 4 in the pm and we did not wish for the baby goats to follow the unconcerned walker further astray and perhaps get lost or left on the trail at night unprotected and maybe become vulnerable as prey. Hmmm, let's think. Knowing there was a road shortly ahead of us (Village Hill Road) with imminent drivetime traffic looming, we decide that Ann should seek guidance of a neighbor while I stay behind and babysit the young-uns. So off Ann goes as I totally enjoy the company of all these innocent creatures, all so interested in me now! With their interest beginning to wane, the goats sought whatever is green along

the trail as a tasty treat. As the minutes ticked away quickly, I was wondering, where is Ann? We need to do something about this potentially unsafe situation. Ok, more time ticking away, but Ann is now back with news from a neighbor that another neighbor was made aware of their escaped goats' situation. He would arrive home in about ½ hour or so. After getting the attention of our new furred friends, they acquiesce and begin to follow us towards Village Hill. Oh no, some of our friends see a fresh green grass field dinner invitation right along the trail through some bushes. One after the other they accept the invitation and head to their dream dining opportunity. Of course, now as their new guardians, we follow and await arrival of the owner. We happily guard and eventually get to pet all these baby goats as they merrily ate. I thought, this was one of the most fun things I have ever done! Time to take some pics. The owner arrives to call them back home...no way are these goats leaving their dinner date! So, we had to pick up baby goat after baby goat, with some obeying and following us, carrying them through the field, across the street, down a long winding driveway and finally to their enclosure. Fun over for the goats! We accomplished our good deed! Knowing they were now safely home, time to recommence our ride. But it is now late, well after 5pm, and no time to make it to the pharmacy. Oh well, I'll get my Rx another day!

Frank Zitkus

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

**Author's Note:** The Connecticut Resource Conservation & Development (CTRC&D) organization is seeking Air Line Trail “Tales of the Trail” for publication on a new 12-Town Air Line Trail website. The website is part of CTCRD's Master Plan effort to promote the 12 towns connected by the Air Line Trail for eco-tourism. Please email Trail Tales to Project Manager Jeanne Davies at [jdavies@ctrcd.org](mailto:jdavies@ctrcd.org).

Details of this Master Plan endeavor, funded by a DEEP Recreational Trails Grant, can be found at <https://ctrcd.org/airlinetrail/>



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