

# ***First Selectman's Report June 13, 2016***

## **Simsbury's Town and Education Budgets Pass at Referendum - 3<sup>rd</sup> Year in a Row of No Tax Increase**

Thank you to Simsbury residents who turned out to vote on June 7<sup>th</sup> at the town budget referendum and to members of the Boards of Selectmen, Education and Finance and town staff who worked collaboratively to deliver a third year in a row of **no tax increases**.

The Town, Education and Special Revenue budgets passed as well as 4 capital projects:

- Multi-use trails as part of the Tariffville connection
- Repaving, repair and rehabilitation of town roads
- Renovations to Henry James Memorial School and
- School climate control improvements

To see the full results from the referendum, click or visit: [http://www.simsbury-ct.gov/sites/simsburyct/files/uploads/results\\_of\\_vote\\_at\\_referendum\\_6.7.2016\\_0.pdf](http://www.simsbury-ct.gov/sites/simsburyct/files/uploads/results_of_vote_at_referendum_6.7.2016_0.pdf)

## **Household Hazardous Waste Collection**

The Town of Simsbury, in conjunction with the towns of Avon, Canton, Granby and Farmington, will be holding a Household Hazardous Waste Collection on June 18<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at the Simsbury Public Works Facility, 66 Town Forest Road, Simsbury, CT. For information, please visit the Public Works webpage or click on the link:

<http://www.simsbury-ct.gov/home/news/household-hazardous-waste-collection-is-june-18-in-simsbury>

## **Town Road Paving Schedule**

Road paving work for 2016 is now available! A list of roads scheduled to be paved during the 2016 construction season is posted on the Department of Public Works webpage. Adjustments to the schedule may be required depending on weather and other factors influencing paving work. Letters are being sent to residents on the identified streets notifying them of anticipated work. You can see what roads are scheduled to be paved by clicking here:

<http://www.simsbury-ct.gov/sites/simsburyct/files/uploads/pavingschedule2016.pdf>

## **Dog License Renewals**

It's time to renew dog licenses in Simsbury. The deadline for renewals is June 30. For an application for a puppy or new adult dog, please call the Town Clerk's office at (860) 658-3243 or visit the Simsbury Town website at: <http://www.simsbury-ct.gov/sites/simsburyct/files/file/file/doglicenseapplication.pdf>

## **Summer is Here...Sign Up For Fun with Parks and Recreation!**

School is out in Simsbury! Sign up today for summer camps, programs, pool passes and swimming lessons at Simsbury Farms. Visit [www.simsburyrec.com](http://www.simsburyrec.com) for more information.

Also check out the Summer Program Guide:

[http://www.simsburyrec.com/forms/5938\\_summer\\_2016\\_brochure.pdf](http://www.simsburyrec.com/forms/5938_summer_2016_brochure.pdf)

## **June is Handicapped Parking Awareness Month in Simsbury**

June is handicapped parking awareness month in Simsbury. Please remember that parking in a handicapped parking space for "*just a minute*" is 60 seconds too long. Please join the Simsbury Police Department, the Aging and Disability Committee and our business community in reminding and educating motorists not to park in handicapped parking spaces unless they are legally eligible with the permit properly displayed. Thanks!

## **Hearing Assistance Available in Main Meeting Room**

The Town of Simsbury has installed an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant assistive listening system in the Main Meeting Room in Simsbury Town Hall. Devices are available for use to assist town residents with hearing. Thank you to Director of Public Works Tom Roy, Data Processing Manager Rick Bazzano and Simsbury Community Television for their efforts and hard work with the installation.

## **Renter's Rebate Program**

Simsbury's Social Services Department is now accepting applications for the Renter's Rebate Program. The Program application period runs through October 1, 2016. Applicants must be 65 years of age or older, or be totally disabled. Maximum gross income for a couple is \$42,900 and for an individual is \$35,000. Applicants will need to provide financial information to qualify.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call (860) 658-3283.

## **Five Fridays of Fun with the Talcott Mountain Music Festival**

The schedule is out for the Talcott Mountain Music Festival at the Simsbury Meadows Performing Arts Center!

- Friday, July 1 @ 7:30 p.m. Celebrate America!
- Friday, July 8 @ 7:30 p.m. Starlets
- Friday, July 15 @ 7:30 p.m. Appalachian Spring
- Friday, July 22 @ 7:30 A Tribute to Ray Charles
- Friday, July 29 @ 7:30 p.m. Faithfully

## **Thank You to All the Veterans, Volunteers and Town Staff Who Organized and Participated in the Memorial Day Parades**

Thank you to all Veterans, the Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion, volunteers and town staff who participated in the Memorial Day parades in Simsbury in observance of those who made the ultimate sacrifice to our country. Special thanks to the parade organizer and Chair, Bob Gauthier, who is retiring from his leadership role in the parades after this year.

## **Open for Business**

Congratulations to Mike Paine, President of Paine Inc., on being inducted into the National Waste and Recycling Hall of Fame at an awards ceremony in Las Vegas as part of the WasteExpo 2016. The Association recognized Mike's 44 years of service as a "distinguished leader in the industry demonstrating immense commitment to the industry, its workers and the customers they serve."

Congratulations to Advanced Valley Dental located at 240 Farms Village Road for their newly renovated offices and welcome to new business owner, Dr. Beenish Orr, DMD. Visit their website to see the comprehensive dental services offered: <http://valleydentalsimsbury.com/>

AvaGrace Gifts have moved into their new location in the Simsbury Town Shops. Welcome and congratulations on the re-opening! The shop offers a unique collection of gifts for the home, seasonal décor, women's accessories, candles, art and more. <http://www.avagracesgifts.com/>

Congratulations to Folly Farm on their new Polo Club. A ribbon cutting was held on Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup> for their first polo match. Come experience the sport of kings – polo on Saturdays at 11:00 a.m. For the schedule, contact 860-719-9053 or [www.simsburypolo.com](http://www.simsburypolo.com).

## **Under Construction in Simsbury**

*Green Tea Chinese Restaurant*, located at 570 Hopmeadow Street, temporarily closed on June 5, 2016 for significant renovations, and will re-open with a new name and a new Asian-fusion style menu. The renovations are expected to take approximately four months. Looking forward to the re-opening!

*Big Y* has indicated that they have delayed a start date in Simsbury for at least a year and possibly into 2018 based on internal financial priorities and commitments elsewhere, but will begin removal of the buildings on their property. Big Y further indicated that they are still interested in Simsbury and confirmed that they have all their town and state permits in place for when they do begin.

*Silverman Group*: Simsbury's Planning Department has been advised that the *Silverman Group* continues to press forward on their plans to develop/redevelop the site located at 200 Hopmeadow Street (formerly The Hartford). The property underwent a Charrette planning process and is currently zoned for residential, commercial and retail. The Silverman Group is close to completing the demolition of the data wing located on the northern portion of property and will be moving south with the intent to complete structural demolition by the end of July.

*Garden Homes* on the south side of town along Hopmeadow Street is now under construction. This development was approved for 181 residential rental units, including townhomes and apartment style housing. Commercial and retail units were also approved as part of the Planned Area Development (PAD), but zoning and specific site plan approvals have yet to be sought and therefore only the residential component is under construction at this time. You can visit Garden Homes' website at <http://www.gardenhomes.com/> for more information about the development company.

*Highcroft*: Also under construction, are 272 residential units for rent by Land Works as part of the *Highcroft* Apartment Homes and Highcroft Townhomes along Powder Forest Drive. This development includes 224 apartments, lofts and 48 townhomes. This development includes rentals and condominiums. You can visit their website at: <http://www.lifeinsimsbury.com/find-a-home/>

*Berkshire Bank*: At the Corner of Bushy Hill and Albany Turnpike, *Berkshire Bank* is working on interior fit-out and is not yet open.