



Town of Simsbury

933 HOPMEADOW STREET, SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

Lisa L. Heavner - First Selectman

First Selectman's Report – August 8, 2016

Simsbury Veterans Receive Connecticut Wartime Service Medals

Congratulations to Simsbury Veterans who were awarded Connecticut Wartime Service medals at Eno Hall on August 3, 2016. The following Veterans were awarded medals and served in World War II, the Korean Conflict, Vietnam and the first Gulf War, and include Veterans from the Army, Navy, Airforce and Marines. *Thank you for your service.*

Raymond Banks	Joanna Vincent	Terrence Keefe	Albert Zakarian	Harry Baronia
Anthony Giannini	Frederick Arnold	James Richardson	Robert Gauthier	William Lynch
Gilbert Kleiner	David Blume	John Romano	Robert Hafner	Donald Segee
Thomas Sorgio	Leonard Fenelon	Harold Sterrett	Thomas Hammick	Elmer Dahl
Frederick Stingle	Stanley Harrison	Thomas Turisco	James Rosenberg	James Sparkowski

Thank you to all who organized this meaningful ceremony: Connecticut Department of Veterans' Affairs Commissioner Sean Connolly and State Representative John Hampton, members of the Simsbury Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Simsbury American Legion, the Daughters of the American Revolution, and Town staff.

Saving Taxpayer Dollars

The Town of Simsbury and the Board of Education received a members' equity distribution check for \$17,000 from the Connecticut Interlocal Risk Management Agency (CIRMA), the Town's municipal insurance organization. The Town is pleased to join CIRMA in stretching every dollar for our citizens. CIRMA works exclusively for municipalities, public schools and public agencies in Connecticut. In response to the Town of Simsbury and several other towns, it recently added cyber security to the coverage it provides at minimal cost to its members.

Veterans Memorial Project

Construction of the Veteran's Memorial Project is underway with completion of the project anticipated by November 1, 2016. There will be periodic closures of the vehicular entrance to the Simsbury Public Library from Hopmeadow Street. Vehicles should access the Simsbury Library parking lot from the Library Lane entrance when the Hopmeadow entrance is closed. We appreciate your cooperation and patience during this period and will do everything possible to minimize the disruption. Thank you.

Legal Notices are on the Town Website

The Town recently launched a service to help make residents aware of municipal legal notices. The new feature allows anyone the ability to sign up to automatically receive updates when legal notices are posted to the Town website. To sign up for Town of Simsbury legal notices, please go to: www.simsbury-ct.gov/subscriber. To view existing legal notices please go to www.simsbury-ct.gov/legal-notices.

Trail Etiquette: *Share the Trails – They are for Everyone*

Today, Simsbury is a League of American Cyclists Silver Level Bicycle Friendly Community. Many of our residents take advantage and use our beautiful multi-use trails to walk, run and bike in Simsbury. Proper trail etiquette helps to foster safe and enjoyable trail experiences for everyone. Here are some helpful trail etiquette guidelines provided by the *Rails-to-Trails Conservancy*.

Six Golden Rules for Trails:

1. Use Safe Speeds – be courteous
2. Keep Right, Pass Left – know which side to use and when
3. Standing Still? Stand Aside – take a break, chat with friends off the trail
4. Mind your Pet – keep pets leashed and close to you
5. Be Alert – stay alert to your surroundings; and
6. Know and Follow the Rules – stick to the rules, they are different in other towns.

If trail users are courteous and respectful to other users, the trail experience will only get better! For more information and to take the “Share the Trail Pledge,” visit their website at www.railstotrails.org

Taste of Simsbury – August 25th

Main Street Partnership’s 8th annual *Taste of Simsbury* will be held on Thursday August 25th at the Riverview in Simsbury. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and guests can enjoy some of the best food in the Greater Hartford area, including Simsbury favorites, all in one place. Tickets cost \$50 and can be purchased through www.ShopSimsbury.com

Hike to the Mic at Heublein Tower – August 27th and 28th

On August 27th and 28th, come on up to the second *Hike to the Mic* -“Music and Arts Happening” that once again will reward hikers to the Heublein Tower with great musical entertainment, food vendors and family fun. This event is a great way to celebrate summer and enjoy the “*royal view*” from one of Connecticut’s premier hiking destinations. For more information, please visit the Friends of Heublein, Inc. webpage at <http://hiketothemic.com/>

Picnic in the Park – August 27th

The Town of Simsbury Aging and Disability Commission and the Simsbury Special Education PTO invite all residents of Simsbury who have a disability or a family member with a disability

to join us for a picnic and fun on August 27, 2016 @ 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. at St. Catherine of Siena Church. Food provided. RSVP to Diana Yeisley at Yeisley2@comcast.net or the Senior Center at (860) 658-3273.

Septemberfest – September 9th, 10th and 11th

Septemberfest is a 3 day festival of family fun, food and great entertainment with a Friday night Fireworks display. Admission is free and the agenda includes children's activities, live music, great food and a Business Expo of retailers and organizations from the greater Hartford area. For more information, visit: <http://simsburymeadowsmusic.com/events/septemberfest-2016/>

2016 Simsbury Grange Agriculture Fair – September 17th

Join the *Simsbury Grange* on Saturday, September 17th from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. for a celebration of the plentiful agriculture offerings in the town of Simsbury and the surrounding area. Activities include hayrides, children activities, contests, refreshments, bake sale, craft and book sale, music and local agriculture displays. And it is free! For more information, please visit: <http://www.simsburygrange.org/grangeagfair.asp>

31st Annual Simsbury Fly-In and Car Show – September 18th

The Annual Simsbury Fly-In and Car Show will be held September 18th from 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. The event features over 700 great airplanes and cars of virtually every type and vintage, plus over 100 activities, exhibitors, sponsors and advertisers to interest the entire family. To see all that is offered please visit www.simsburyflyin.com

Simsbury Library Giant Used Book Sale – September 24th and 25th

The Friends of Simsbury Library are hosting their *2016 Giant Used Book Sale* on September 24th and 25th at Simsbury High School. Saturday hours are 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Sunday hours are 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Thanks to the many volunteers who put in hundreds of hours to make this happen! Questions? Please call Charmaine Glew (860) 651-4192 or Annie Wallack (860) 658-7781 or visit the website at: <http://www.simsburylibrary.info/friends-of-the-library/book-sale/>

Remember to Sign Up For Emergency Alerts – Sign up for All Three

Summer is a good time to sign up for Emergency Alerts with the Town and the State. We are encouraging residents to sign up for all three Alert systems so we can get you information in a timely manner:

1. **Town News and Announcements**: for general information about storm preparations and emergencies. News and Announcements also allows you to receive information on town news, events, programs, the First Selectman's Report and other activities.
<http://www.simsbury-ct.gov/subscriber>
2. **Simsbury Community Alerts**: for receiving time critical notifications such as road closures, emergency shelter openings and community updates regarding weather, emergency and other important information.
<https://member.everbridge.net/index/453003085612632#/login>

3. CT Alert – Connecticut’s Emergency Alert System: for receiving important emergency information on weather or natural disasters, major crimes or other important information. <http://www.ctalert.gov/ctalert/site/default.asp>

The Town is committed to providing residents with up-to-date information about storm preparations and emergencies. Help us get information to you in a timely manner by signing up for these alerts!

Simsbury Farms Ice Rink Warming Room Construction

On Monday, June 27th, construction began on the new Ice Rink Warming Room at Simsbury Farms. Construction will necessitate the use of approximately 14 spaces at the west end of the golf course parking lot, adjacent to the rink, for equipment and materials. We appreciate your cooperation and patience during this period and will do everything possible to minimize the disruption. Thank you.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Congratulations

Congratulations to Tyler Anderson of Millwrights Restaurant for being named a semi-finalist by the James Beard Foundation Awards for Best Chef: Northeast!

Open for Business

Congratulations and welcome to Rana Morton who on August 2nd opened a State Farm Insurance office at 1243 Hopmeadow Street, offering auto, home, business and life insurance. (860) 408-9592.

Present Company: Congratulations to Jeffrey Lizotte, the extraordinary chef at ON20 and his partner for taking over the space located at the Mill at 2T to open Present Company. They hope to open in late August and offer a small seasonal menu. Present Company will honor Mill at 2T gift certificates so if you have one, come on down and try the new cuisine. Can't wait to give them a try - welcome to Simsbury!

Welcome and congratulations to Karen Holmes, owner of Bee Trendy – a newly opened salon for kids and adults, located at 538 Hopmeadow Street. (860) 818-2888.

Coming soon...pleased to welcome Luis Valentin who will be opening Sabor Olive Oil Co. and Art Gallery in mid-September in the Simsbury Town Shops across from Town Hall. <http://www.saboroliveoil.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! Their new name will be Table 570 Asian Fusion.

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: 272 residential units for rent by Landworks Development as part of the Highcroft Apartment Homes and Highcroft Townhomes along Powder Forest Drive are also under construction. 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.

Permitted

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.

Hoskins Road Workforce Overlay Zone (WHOZ): The Town planning boards have approved 88 residential units for the property with twenty percent affordable housing. Although the project has been approved there is currently no activity.

Chestnut Hills: Located on the corner of Drake Hill and Hopmeadow Street, 46 unit apartments have been approved for the historical building and the surrounding property.

On the Horizon

The 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.

Girard Brothers Corporation: 32 and 36 Iron Horse Blvd. (Simscrest-Echo Farms). Initial concept plans have been presented to Design Review, Planning and Zoning for multifamily residential community. The Planning presentation can be viewed on SCTV at the following link: <http://simsburytv.org/v/4rffJvkGMTA>

To receive a copy of the First Selectman's Report by email, please visit the Town website: www.simsbury-ct.gov and click on the "subscribe" button. Sign up for Town News and Announcements.