

The Simsbury Scoop



July 2016, www.simsbury-ct.gov, on Twitter @TownofSimsbury
Connecticut's first bicycle friendly community, www.simsbury.bike

Electric vehicle (EV) charging station to be installed in the town hall parking lot



The Town of Simsbury was awarded a grant from the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection to install one dual head electric vehicle charging station at Simsbury Town Hall.

Public works identified the first two spaces in the parking lot just as you enter from Hopmeadow Street to place the charging station. In the

upcoming weeks, construction crews will be busy installing the necessary wiring to get the station up and running. This station will allow for the free charging of electric vehicles by both the public and town employees.

Once installed, please be considerate and only use the parking spaces if you are charging an electric vehicle.

The grant, for up to \$10,000, is under Connecticut's Public Fleet EV and Public Workplace EV Charging Station Incentive Program.

The town has Simsbury's Director of Public Works Tom Roy and Simsbury's Clean Energy Task Force to thank for this successful initiative.

Legal notices are on the town website, and now you can sign up to receive them by email

Timely access to municipal legal notices can be very important to affected parties. So the Town of Simsbury recently launched a service to address this need.

The new feature allows anyone the ability to sign up to automatically receive updates when legal notices are posted to the town website.

This is far more effective — and efficient — than attempting to track the information in local papers.

The new service allows you to:

- Register only for those boards and commissions you are interested in.
- Receive immediate email

notification when a legal notice is posted to the Simsbury website.

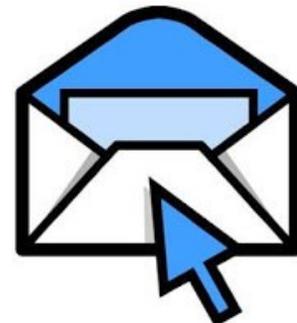
- View a historical archive on the website of past legal notices since the program began.

The boards, commissions and departments you can sign up for include:

- Board of Selectmen
- Conservation
- First Selectman
- Historic District
- Planning Commission
- Tax Office
- Town Clerk
- Zoning Board of Appeals
- Zoning Commission

To sign up for Town of Simsbury legal notices please go to: www.simsbury-ct.gov/subscriber

To view existing Town of Simsbury legal notices please go to: www.simsbury-ct.gov/legal-notices



Make a donation to Simsbury Celebrates online!

It's the heart of summer, so you probably aren't thinking about the fall. But it will be here soon enough. And with it one of the town's most beloved events — Simsbury Celebrates! To put this event together takes a lot of time and effort — and money. And now, you can make a donation online at simsburycelebrates.com. Donations

will help defray the cost for this year's November 26 event. How about \$20.16 for 2016?



Teen lock-in: Murder Mystery

**Friday July 22, 2016 from 7 to 10 p.m.
Simsbury Public Library**

Teens only. Come solve the crime of the murder in the library! Doors will be open 6:45-7:15. Parents should drop off their teen, in-person, at the door on the lower level. Be sure to have a ride ready at 10. Snacks will be provided. Limited spaces available. Sign up [here](#).



Taxes to the Town of Simsbury due; DMV tax bill issues

Taxes to the Town of Simsbury are due July 1, 2016 with the last day to pay as August 1, 2016. Taxes due at this time are:

- real estate
- motor vehicles
- business personal property

Also due at this time are sewer use fees. Tax bills were mailed out on June 28, 2016.

DMV-Car issues

Due to all of the state Department of Motor Vehicle changes in the past year, the Simsbury Tax Department

is asking you to please verify that you received all of your car bills. If you had a car registered on or before October 1, 2015 and did not receive a bill for that car, please contact the tax office at 860-658-3238.

If you registered a car after the October 1, 2015 date you should receive a bill in December of 2016. If you received a tax bill from Simsbury and you never lived in Simsbury, please contact the Simsbury Assessor's office at 860-658-3251 or if you received



a bill from another town and you never lived in that town please contact that town's assessor's office.

Simsbury Farms ice rink warming room construction

Beginning on Monday, June 27, construction will take place 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.

The recreation department appreciates your cooperation during this period and will do everything possible to minimize the disruption.



Veterans Memorial Project construction update

The construction of the Simsbury Veterans Memorial Project is scheduled to begin on or about July 18 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. During these periodic closures of this driveway from Hopmeadow Street, vehicles should access the Simsbury library parking lot from the Library Lane entrance. Detour signs will be posted during these closures to direct the public to the Library Lane entrance.



New business resource center coordinator at the library

Sarah Loudenslager joined the Simsbury Public Library as business resource center coordinator on June 22. Loudenslager comes to the library from Salisbury University in Salisbury, Maryland where she was a business and instructional librarian for the past four years. Prior to that, she was at the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, downtown and business branch, as a reference librarian. While there, she was involved in an innovative and experimental project that involved planning, marketing and opening Carnegie Library of

Pittsburgh's newest location (at the time) in the Strip District's Pittsburgh Public Market. Loudenslager has an enthusiasm for learning, growing and helping others do the same. Her degrees include a master of library and information science (MLIS) from the University of Pittsburgh and a bachelor of science in education from Shippensburg University, both in Pennsylvania. If not at the library, you will find her at town functions, walking her dog, or indulging at a local restaurant or shop. She is looking forward to meeting you! The community is invited to



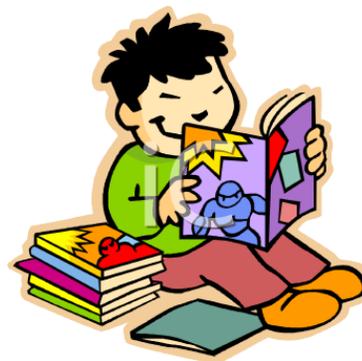
Sarah Loudenslager attend an open house, and meet Loudenslager, in the library's business resource center **Tuesday, July 12 from 4:30-6:30 p.m.** Light refreshments will be served.

Browse picture books more easily!

A reclassification project at the Simsbury Public Library's children's department to make the picture books easier to browse for patrons has been completed. Staff reclassified about 10,000 picture books into new categories so children and adults can easily browse and find books by topic, instead of by author's name — which many children don't know. Now, kids can easily find a book about dragons in the Imagine bin or a book about cars and trucks

in Vroom. The categories include:

- Imagine
- Home
- About Me
- Vroom
- Work & Play
- Favorites
- Concepts
- Nature



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.

Summer is here ...

sign up for fun with parks and recreation!

Sign up today for summer camps, programs, pool passes and swimming lessons.

Visit www.simsburyrec.com

for more information.

To see the Summer Program Guide, [click here](#).



Approved Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Budget

Board of Selectmen:	\$19,490,444
Debt Retirement/Capital:	\$6,589,819
Board of Education:	\$67,454,569
<u>Non-Public Schools:</u>	<u>\$541,237</u>
Total Appropriations:	\$94,076,069

For more budget info, [click here](#).
To see the final vote count, see page 7.

Police offer safety tips for pedestrians and bicyclists

Pedestrian Safety Tips

- Walk facing oncoming traffic.
- Wear bright clothing both day and night.
- Wear reflective material at dusk or dawn.
- Carry a flashlight when walking at night.
- Don't wear headphones, or talk on cell phones while crossing streets.
- Look left, right, then again when at crossings.



“SEE & BE SEEN”

Bicyclist Safety Tips

- Ride in the same direction as motor vehicles.
- Wear bright clothing both day and night.
- Always wear a helmet.
- Use headlights, taillights and reflectors.
- Obey all traffic signs and signals.
- Follow the same rules as motorists and come to a complete stop at all stop signs and red light signals.
- Do not wear headphones when riding.

Safety tips for all: Carry some type of identification. In the event of an emergency, call 911. It is the goal of the Simsbury Police Department to help create a safer, more walkable and rideable community. Remember to make yourself visible to drivers and follow the law. The Bicycle and Pedestrian State Law Guide is on the town's website. To download it or to see a copy, [click here](#). For more information contact Officer Lauren Devin at 860-658-3131.

Reptiles & Amphibians

Tuesday, July 26 at 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Harris in Wonderland presents an exciting experience featuring

reptiles and amphibians from around the world.
Ages 3 & up.
Drop-in at the Simsbury Public Library.



Hooked on Llamas

Tuesday, July 12 at 4 p.m.
Meet a llama and learn about how llamas help us.
All ages. Drop-in, Simsbury Library.



Simsbury Free Bikes can be borrowed in the towns of Simsbury, Avon, Granby, Unionville and Farmington. Riders must verify that they are at least 18 years old, sign a waiver and provide a refundable \$10 deposit. Riders receive a helmet and bike lock. Trail maps can be purchased for \$1.60 each and bikes can be borrowed for up to 24 hours. The program operates through October 31. For more information or for bike share locations, visit www.facebook.com/simsburyfreebike.

Martin Luther King Jr. and his Simsbury connection were featured in an article in the *New York Times*

If you haven't seen it, [click here](#).



July Date to Remember

July 4: Independence Day
Town buildings and the library are closed.



To receive the monthly email newsletter, sign up here! <http://www.simsbury-ct.gov/subscriber>

Talcott Mountain Music Festival

The festival takes place 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
- Order tickets by phone at 860-987-5900, on the web at hartfordsymphony.org and click on "Buy Tickets" or pick them up on site at Simsbury Meadows or at Fitzgerald's.

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 town 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](#).



Family Movie Night at the Simsbury Public Library

All ages can drop-in to the program room for a family movie. All moves start at 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, July 6: *The Jungle Book* – 1967 (G)

Wednesday, July 13: *Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian* – 2009 (PG)

Wednesday, July 27: *Eight Below* – 2006 (PG)



Local eats and events, support local farms

Click to find out more about Simsbury's local farms:

[Community Farm of Simsbury*](#)

[Flamig Farm](#)

[George Hall Farm*](#)

[Rosedale Farms & Vineyards*](#)

[Tulmeadow Farm*](#)



* Offers Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) shares

Welcome Ericka Butler



The new town clerk, Ericka Butler, was sworn in June 20 by Probate Judge Judy Becker, and started work that day. Former Town Clerk Carolyn Keily retired after 25 years. Ms. Butler comes to Simsbury from Southington where she served as Deputy Town Clerk.

Storytime at the Apple Barn

Thursdays in July at 10:30 a.m.

Meet Miss Cheryl for stories, songs & more.

Located at 60 Old Farms Rd.

Ages 3-6 with a caregiver.

Drop-in. (This is a Simsbury Public Library program.)



The Art of DayCation at Simsbury Public Library

A daycation is an adventure and an excellent way to get away from it all, without needing to spend the night away.

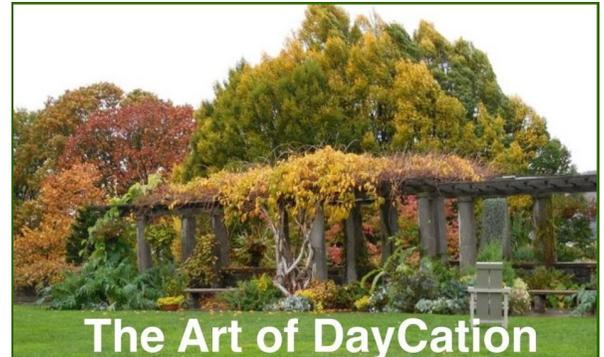
In this fast paced world, there is nothing more precious than going away to re-balance personal perspective, refuel and to do something good for oneself.

Nina Lesiga, who has traveled extensively and globally both for work and pleasure, will share ways to achieve experiential, authentic and intriguing

trips. She has a passion for finding “vacation happiness” on day trips equal to or greater than what she experiences on longer ones.

Expand your knowledge of the possibilities to find a bucket list of daycations. Get ideas, find out how to research them, and learn to design exceptional days away.

This program will take place on Thursday, July 7, 2016 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Simsbury Public Library, 725 Hopmeadow Street.



Registration is suggested at 860-658-7663 x2200 or [click here](#). Free and open to all.

Growing up in Connecticut – a CHS on the Road Program at Simsbury Public Library



Growing up in Connecticut, every generation faced challenges and opportunities and experienced the emotional highs and lows of childhood and adolescence.

But each generation also faced unique circumstances. This presentation, linked to the upcoming exhibition at the Connecticut Historical Society (CHS), will explore the issues that have faced Connecticut children and adolescents since the 1930s, focusing on four generations:

- The Silent Generation (born

1928-1945)

- Baby Boomers (born 1946-1964)
- Generation X (born 1965-1980)
- Millennials (born 1981-1996)

The program will look at the larger issues that shaped the experiences of children and childhood in each period, but also how cultural ideas about children and childhood changed over time.

Presenter Jenny Steadman is the adult programs manager of the Connecticut Historical Society. She holds her Ph.D. in women’s history and literature from Emory University

and has taught at Emory University and Trinity College.

This program is presented by CHS on the Road: Traveling Programs from the CT Historical Society.

This program, which is co-sponsored by Simsbury Public Library and the Simsbury Senior Center, will be held in the library program room at 725 Hopmeadow Street. on Thursday, July 28 from 1:30 to 3 p.m.

Register through the Senior Center by calling 860-658-3273, or register [here](#). Free and open to all.

**Town of Simsbury, Connecticut
Results of Local Referendum June 7, 2016**

QUESTIONS	Yes	No
1. Shall the appropriation recommended and approved by the Board of Finance for the purposes of paying the expenses of the BOARD OF SELECTMEN annual budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, be approved and implemented in the amount of \$19,490,444?	720	198
2. Shall the appropriation recommended and approved by the Board of Finance for the purposes of paying the expenses of the BOARD OF EDUCATION annual budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, be approved and implemented in the amount of \$67,454,569?	679	240
3. Shall the appropriation recommended and approved by the Board of Finance for the purposes of paying the expenses of the Sewer Use Fund (Sewer Treatment Plant), Residential Rental Properties, Simsbury Farms/Special Programs, Non-Public Schools, Debt Retirement and Capital Non-recurring annual budgets for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017, be approved and implemented in the amount of \$13,279,740?	748	171
4. Shall the Town of Simsbury appropriate \$1,160,000 for development of multi-use trails as part of the Tariffville connection; and notes in the same amount to finance said appropriation?	635	281
5. Shall the Town of Simsbury appropriate \$2,500,000 for repaving, repair and rehabilitation of the Town roadways pursuant to the Town's pavement Management Program; and authorize bonds and notes in the same amount to finance said appropriation?	812	104
6. Shall the Town of Simsbury appropriate \$1,950,000 for renovations and improvements to Henry James Memorial School (Phase II); and authorize bonds and notes in the same amount to finance said appropriation?	689	228
7. Shall the Town of Simsbury appropriate \$950,000 for school climate control improvements (Phase II); and authorize bonds and notes in the same amount to finance said appropriation?	683	235
Total Number of Names on Official Registry List of Electors	16,309	
Total Number of Electors Checked as Having Voted	919	
Percent of Electors Who Participated	5.6%	
Number of Property Owners Checked as Having Voted	2	
Total Number of All Voters	921	