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## FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT

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**TO:** Board of Selectmen  
**FROM:** Wendy Mackstutis – First Selectman  
**DATE:** April 17, 2023

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### First Selectman Report 4/17/2023

Hope everyone had a nice vacation and had a chance to either get away with the family last week or just enjoy a break from the grind! My kids are grown-ups, so there was no vacation at our house. ☺

### **Cancelled – Forum at Tville School from 6-8 on April 27<sup>th</sup>.**

We are putting this on hold until there is more info on the trail, along with updates on Tariffville Park, and the start of the discussion for Tariffville economic development. Stay tuned.

### Autism Awareness Month

The BOS has approved a proclamation for National Autism Awareness Month, as we have done over the years.

We also approved lighting up Eno blue for the rest of the month to raise awareness.

I'd like to thank both Jack Knall and Robin Batchelder, 2 very active Simsbury residents, for sharing their experiences and comments at the presentation on Monday night.

There are many places to find information on Autism, to gain awareness, show support, and help others.

<https://www.autismspeaks.org>

<https://iacc.hhs.gov/meetings/autism-awareness-month/2023/>

### Budget Continuation

The Board of Finance heard from the public last night at Town Hall, as part of the public hearing continuation, which was then closed. They voted on the budget after much discussion, with changes made to the BOS budget. The BOS will meet virtually on Monday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, to approve the budget mailer and final resolutions, along with setting the referendum date in May.

### Simsbury Main Street Partnership Meeting

I attended the 4/13/2023 board meeting last week. We discussed the reasons for the Business Grant funding not being part of the budget and addressed questions on this topic. For those who have sent emails on this, I am working on getting back to everyone and appreciate your patience. We discussed the MOU, and they provided a target date for us to receive a draft of May 15<sup>th</sup>. From that point, we will work on moving this forward with our Town Attorney, Interim Town Manager, and BOS. The purpose of this MOU is to define the roles and relationship with our partner Exec Director, Sarah Nielson, and our business community regarding economic development activities in Simsbury.

### TM Acting for May, Interim on June 1st.

Reminder, that as of May 1<sup>st</sup>, Chief Nick Boulter will be Acting Town Manager, and Lee Erdmann will come on as Interim Town Manager on June 1<sup>st</sup>. The BOS is currently waiting for responses to the RFQ (Request for Qualifications) from Exec Search Consultants to manage this process with the town.

### Simsbury Community Cleanup Day – April 22

Please join us this Saturday for the annual cleanup day in Simsbury. Grab your friends, family, or members of your organization and find a spot around town where you would like to help us pick up

trash. Supplies will be provided at Town Hall, starting at 9:30, and will run until 12:30. Details and sign-up info can be found here.

[https://simsburyct.myrec.com/info/activities/program\\_details.aspx?ProgramID=28907](https://simsburyct.myrec.com/info/activities/program_details.aspx?ProgramID=28907)

### Hometown Heroes Submissions

It's that time again! The Town of Simsbury is looking to recognize members of the community who we can call our 'hometown heroes'. Please click on the link for more information and how to nominate someone.

<https://www.simsbury-ct.gov/home/news/nominations-sought-for-simsbury-hometown-heroes-5>

Thanks for reading!

Wendy

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## TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

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**TO:** Board of Selectmen  
**FROM:** Maria E. Capriola – Town Manager  
**DATE:** April 17, 2023

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### **CORONAVIRUS UPDATE**

The state has begun to slow down its reporting of virus-related data at the municipal level. As we near the end of the federal pandemic emergency designation, we will cease sharing this information in the Town Manager's Report on May 8<sup>th</sup>. The state's municipal COVID alert system has not been updated for Simsbury for the period ending on April 9<sup>th</sup>. Two weeks ago, we had a total of 5 cases. We also had a positivity rate of 4.12%. As a reminder, this data does not include positive test results from at-home test kits.

In Hartford County, community levels of transmission are "low", as determined by the CDC. At this time, there are no counties in Connecticut considered to be "high" according to the CDC Community Levels categorization. For additional information on the CDC Community Levels of Transmission, please click on this link <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/community-levels.html>.

The federal government is again offering free COVID test kits. Each household is eligible to order 4 kits. You can order the kits at: <https://www.covid.gov/tests>.

The Farmington Valley Health District is now booking COVID-19 vaccine appointments for individuals ages 18 and older. You can schedule online @ <https://fvhd.org/vaccination> or by phone at 860-352-2333 (calls received 8 AM to 4 PM Monday through Friday). Bring insurance information and proof of prior vaccination (if applicable) to your appointment, located at 95 River Road Suite A, Canton, CT 06019.

### **BOARD OF SELECTMEN BUSINESS**

As a reminder the Board of Finance continued the public hearing on the proposed annual operating budgets of the Board of Selectmen and Board of Education and proposed capital improvement projects to Tuesday April 18, 2023 in the Main Meeting Room of Simsbury Town Hall. There will be a special meeting of the Board of Selectmen on April 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM to approve the operating and capital resolutions, set the referendum date and approve the annual budget mailer.