

A Message from Monica



Dear Darienites,

As we look towards the excitement of Memorial Day, the unofficial launch of summer, I wanted to share the history of Memorial Day and the reason why our Town parade ends at Spring Grove Cemetary. Memorial Day is an American holiday, observed on the last Monday in May, honoring the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. Military. The origin of Memorial Day goes back to 1865, following the Civil War, and was originally known as Decoration Day. It was a day that families and friends would gather together to celebrate and decorate the graves of fallen soldiers with flowers and flags. In 1868, General John A. Logan called for it to be a nationwide remembrance of comrades who died in defense of their country. A full 100 years later, in 1968, Congress passed the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, establishing Memorial Day as the last Monday in May, in order to create a three-day weekend for Federal employees. In 1971, the change went into effect and the same law also declared Memorial Day a federal holiday. I hope you will join me at Spring Grove Cemetary on Monday at the conclusion of our Memorial Day parade to honor our fallen soldiers, and celebrate the incredible sacrifices so many brave Americans made for their country.

As summer approaches and the school year draws to a close, we all need to remember that our community is working to heal. Please show compassion and concern for each other. Work together to be a support network for our families, friends, and neighbors. Reach out when you need help, and offer a hand to those who might need a lift.

Always reach out to me with your thoughts, questions, and concerns.

Sincerely,
Monica McNally

RESIDENT REMINDERS, NEWS, & TIPS



June 1st starts Dog Licensing Month! All dogs over 6 months must be licensed by June 30th. The fee is \$8 for a neutered/spayed dog and \$19 for an unneutered/spayed dog. All dogs must have a current rabies vaccination and the certification must be presented when licensing. A \$1/month late fee will be imposed for licenses issued after June 30th and any dog not licensed is subject to a

MEETINGS & EVENTS

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE
5.31.22 10:00 AM

**POST 53 FOOD FAIR AT TILLEY
POND PARK**
5.31.22 11:00 AM

HAZARDOUS WASTE DAY
6.6.22 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

HHR BUILDING COMMITTEE
6.2.22 6:00 PM
6.9.22 6:00 PM

BOARD OF SELECTMAN
6.6.22 7:00 PM

RTM
6.6.22 8:00 PM

PLANNING & ZONING
6.7.22 7:30 PM

**OPERATIONS PLANNING
COMMITTEE**
6.8.22 9:00 AM

\$75 fine by the Darien Animal Control Officer. For more information, please contact the Town Clerk's office or go to darienct.gov then "how do I?"

As we look forward to the Memorial Day holiday weekend, both of our town beaches will be "in full swing" with concession stands operating and parking permits required.

With the warmer weather here more and more motorists, cyclists and pedestrians are on our roads. It is very important that all cyclists wear helmets for their protection and safety. For our newer residents, it is Connecticut State law that children age 15 and under must wear a helmet. While not wearing a helmet is not a violation or an offense, a police officer may issue a verbal warning to the child's parents or guardian if the child is riding without a helmet.

Many residents have inquired about the signed contract for the purchase of the Great Island property. The signing of the contract is just the first step in the process, which includes several levels of approval from other Town officials. Out of respect for the Selectmen, the Board of Finance, and the Representative Town Meeting, there is no public comment at this time. The Board of Selectmen meets on June 6th and we expect to be able to share our intentions after that meeting.



FARMERS MARKET OPENS
6.8.22 10:00AM - 3:00PM
Wednesday's until 11.23.22

The complete meeting schedule for all Boards and Commissions is available [here](#).



FUN FACT

Thanks to the Darien High School Senior Class Internship program Town Hall is lucky enough to have 8 interns working for the Town from mid-May to mid-June. THANK YOU!

Building Department:

Brady Campbell

Fire Marshal:

Patrick Finnegan

Health Department:

Brooke Dolan

Parks & Recreation:

Ella Wadleigh & Sadie Mossa

Public Works Garage:

Ryan Spengler

Town Clerk: **Tripp Lyons**

Youth Commission: **Jack Walsh**



Community News



The Town's Memorial Day Parade is scheduled for May 30th, Memorial Day. The Monuments & Ceremonies Commission takes the lead in putting together this tremendous community event. The marchers gather at the Goodwives Shopping Center and begin marching down Post Road at 10:00 AM to the Spring Grove Cemetery. The Town has requested and received a flyover of a C-130 jet, so expect to hear the roar of our mighty Air Force at some point. If

you're at the end of the parade, you'll see the pilot tip the wing of the plane in honor of our fallen heroes as he passes the cemetery. Looking forward to seeing you in your red, white and blue.

The Darien Monuments and Ceremonies Commission is pleased to announce the next recipients of the Darien Veteran Street Sign Honor. The signs will have names added in honor of the late Philip A. Morehouse and his brother Alan R. Morehouse. These brothers fought together during WWII. Alan lost his life on D-Day, June 6, 1944. Philip came back to Darien and lived and served his community and nation for the rest of his life. A ceremony to honor these two men will take place on Sunday, May 29, at 12:00 PM on Noroton Avenue in front of the Fitch Home for Soldiers Memorial. The public is invited and encouraged to attend.

June 4th is Darien's Hazardous Waste Disposal Day. Leftover household products that can catch fire, react, explode under certain circumstances, or that are corrosive or toxic are considered household hazardous waste. Products such as paints, cleaners, oils, batteries, and pesticides can contain hazardous ingredients and require special care when you dispose of them.



Improper disposal of HHW can include pouring them down the drain, on the ground, into storm sewers, or in some cases putting them out with the regular trash. The dangers of such disposal methods might not be immediately obvious, but improper disposal of these wastes can pollute the environment and pose a threat. Certain types of HHW have the potential to cause physical injury to sanitation workers, contaminate septic tanks or wastewater treatment systems if poured down drains or toilets. They can also present hazards to children and pets if left around the house. For a complete list of items and specifics refer to the Town website [here](#).

Government 101

On Tuesday, May 24th, from 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM, Darien's First Responders, Emergency Management professionals, and related administrators participated in the 2022 Statewide Emergency Planning and Preparedness Initiative. This exercise, focused on hurricane preparedness, was a joint initiative of the National Hurricane Center, in coordination with a number of Federal agencies including the National Weather Service, the Northeast River Forecast Center, FEMA Regional 1, and several northeastern states including Connecticut. The exercise is designed as an opportunity for Town departments and agencies involved in Emergency Management to review plans, identify partners, and discuss possible scenarios and challenges, along with potential solutions. One of the key outcomes of the exercise is to create an action plan for the 5 days leading to and including the landfall of a major storm.



The Hindley, Holmes, and Royle Building Committee (HHRBC) is excited to be up and running! Updates to the three schools include the long-awaited removal of the portable buildings; new libraries at Hindley and Royle and a renovation at Holmes (to reflect how libraries are used in schools today); interior renovations to under-sized classrooms; and mechanical systems work, including important HVAC updates. Funding approval (for \$77.5 million) has been granted by the Boards of Selectmen and Finance and is scheduled for the RTM's June 6th meeting. The HHRBC will spend the next year on design, construction planning and bidding. The construction itself is scheduled to begin in June of 2023. The HHRBC meets every Thursday and is also available live or recorded on TV79. For more information, please see webpage at darienct.gov/HHR.

There are still a few spaces available in the Mental Health First Aid Training Class being offered free of charge to Darien residents on Sunday, June 5th, 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM. Anyone 18 or older who lives in Darien or works directly with Darien Residents are eligible to participate. The



Human Services department is working to schedule additional training dates and times. Email aramsteck@darienct.gov to learn more or to register.

The Darien Health Department will begin collecting water samples at both Weed and Pear Tree Point Beach every week from Memorial Day through Labor Day to test for the presence of bacteria that may cause illness and to ensure that the water quality meets Connecticut DPH health and safety standards. In addition to water sampling, the department monitors rainfall amounts during the season and has an established protocol of notifying the Parks and Recreation department to close the beaches for swimming whenever more than one inch of rain occurs in a 24 hour period since elevated bacteria levels are often observed after rainfall events. A beach telephone HOTLINE (203-656-7323) provides up-to-date information on beach closings and a summary of test results is available on the Health Department website www.darienct.gov/health

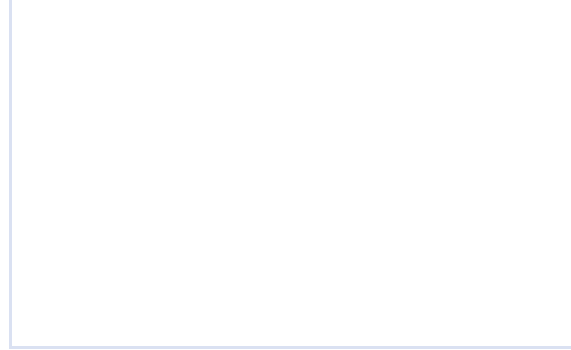
COASTAL COMMISSION

Last week the Darien Coastal Commission kicked off its 2022 season effort to monitor the water quality of Darien's harbors. Darien is one of 23 groups participating in this region-wide Unified Water Study to learn more about our water quality. Twice monthly from May to October, commission members Bill Cavers and Julie Jones, use the Darien Boat Club's launch boat to sample water and record water temperature, salinity, nitrogen, water clarity, chlorophyll *a* and dissolved oxygen, all key factors of ecologically healthy waters. Stay tuned for more updates as the season progresses! In the meantime, to learn more about our local water quality, go to <https://soundhealthexplorer.org>.

POLICE COMMISSION



The second annual Police Commission campaign, SLOW DOWN IN TOWN is launching on June 1st. The campaign is designed to promote greater awareness of the safety of pedestrians and bicyclists and to encourage drivers to slow down and pay more attention while driving. Lawn signs, car magnets, and window clings will be available. Hope to see lots of people participating.



[Sign up here to receive the newsletter](#)

