Hamden Commemorates International Mother Language Day



Hamden celebrated International Mother Language Day on Saturday, February 21, 2026. Proclaimed by UNESCO in 1999, Mother Language Day is celebrated to raise awareness about linguistic diversity, promote multilingualism, and protect endangered languages. There are over 40 different languages spoken by the Hamden community.

Hamden Miller Memorial Library hosted the event and was helped by students from Hamden High School (HHS). Hamden resident, Mubarra Elahee initiated the idea and planned with the library and the school to organize the event. For the children's part, HHS students read to children in different language and made crafts with them. The children's program was led by Marcy Goldman. In the program for adults led by Elizabeth Angele, there was a brief introduction and history of International Mother Language Day (Mohammad Elahee) followed by poetry readings in Italian (Linda Blakesley), German (Elizabeth Angele), Farsi (Mostafa Analoui) and Spanish (Aileen Dever). The Read to Grow bookmobile gave out free books to its visitors.

First Friday Chess Social

Hamden: Unwind from the week with fellow chess enthusiasts on Fri, March 6, 2026 from 5:00-6:30PM at Play More Chess Academy, Home of the Hamden Chess Club, 1227 Whitney Ave., Hamden, CT 06517.

Rousing games on the big screen, music, free cookies and water/soft drinks/juice available for $1.

Open to all ages and chess levels - Whether a casual player or serious competitor this is a great space to meet new people, test your skills, and enjoy a shared love of the game.

FREE - just show up - no registration needed

How We Can Put Powerful Environmental Rights in Connecticut's Constitution

The **Hamden** Democratic Town Committee is pleased to invite the public to attend an important presentation by Dr. Kimberly Stoner on the CT Environmental Rights Amendment that is currently being considered in our state legislature.

The presentation, followed by a Q&A, will take place on Tues., March 17, from 7pm-8:30pm, at the Thornton Wilder Auditorium, 2901 Dixwell Avenue.

Dr. Kimberly Stoner is the Director of Advocacy for the Northeast Organic Farming Association (NOFA) of CT, and Coordinator of the CT Environmental Rights Amendment Alliance. She also serves on the Steering Committee of the CT Climate Crisis Mobilization, and is an Agricultural Scientist Emerita at the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, where she worked as an entomologist for 35 years.

Don't miss this important event! If you can't attend in person, Dr. Stoner's talk will be livestreamed and recorded on Facebook at Hamden Democrats: https://www.facebook.com/HamdenDems

At the event, the DTC will sponsor a food collection for the Keefe Community Center Food Bank. The following items would be greatly appreciated: toiletries/household products, 100% fruit juice, canned fruits & vegetables, instant potatoes, canned meats, fish, beef stew, chili, peanut butter, canned/dried beans, pasta & canned sauce, boxed meals, and hearty soups. Thank you for your donations!

New Haven Mineral Club Scholarship Applications Now Available

The New Haven Mineral Club announces that the club's annual scholarship program is underway. It is open to any senior who lives in the greater New Haven area. A $1,000 scholarship will be awarded in June. The award is designed to assist a student who is going to attend an accredited college or university and who wishes to pursue an academic study in science (Geology, Mining, Chemistry, Physics, Metallurgy, Material Science, Engineering, and other related science fields). These are just a smattering of the overall sciences that can be pursued. The last FIVE winners were from New Haven, Milford, Derby and Wallingford.

Students who reside in the towns of New Haven, East Haven, North Haven, Branford, North Branford, Guilford, Hamden, Orange, Woodbridge, Milford, Stratford, Seymour, Derby, Ansonia, Shelton, Seymour, West Haven and Wallingford can apply.

To receive an application, please send a written request to: Frank Karsmarski, 69 Woodvale Dr., Northford, CT 06472.

Applications must be completed by April 17, 2026.

Clean Energy Task Force Looking for New Members

North Haven: Are you concerned about our changing climate? Interested in helping North Haven residents, businesses, and our town government save energy and lower utility bills?

Want to help us to move to a clean energy economy? GREAT! You are just who we've been hoping would join us on the North Haven Clean Energy Task Force because we are looking for more members.

As a town-sponsored task force, we work closely with the town and residents to promote and provide opportunities for energy conservation and clean energy. We have had many successful campaigns, including promoting Home Energy Solutions energy assessments, with 40% of North Haven residents participating. We have also led campaigns to educate residents about home solar options and heat pumps, and connected them with local vendors to install these clean energy technologies so they can realize savings immediately. There is more work to be done!

Even with the clean energy setbacks at the federal level, there are many energy efficiency and clean energy rebates and services available in Connecticut.

To find out more and get involved, please contact Kenny Foscue at kfosc@snet.net or call (203) 589-1512.

District 23A Lions Clubs

APPLICATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED

District 23A Lions Clubs -- New Haven & Fairfield Counties are now accepting applications (Scan QR code). Communities in the local area that have Lions Clubs are: Cheshire, East Haven, Hamden, New Haven, North Haven, Wallingford, and West Haven.

Lions Clubs are looking for fun, positive community members dedicated to making a difference. The benefits are Leadership Growth, Community Impact, Networking and Friendship, Global Reach, and Local Action.

• • • •

FOR SALE: Wood stove, takes full size logs $475; (203) 887-0051 •

WANTED: Buying older beer cans, flats, conetops, single cans or entire collections; (203) 915-7662 •

FOR SALE: 1500VA battery backup, W-Box Technologies, brand new, still in box; call Bob, (203) 887-0051 •

ACADEMIC Excellence

PRESIDENT'S LIST

Goodwin University

Goodwin University's President's List for the Fall 2025 session includes the following local area students:

Hamden: Justin Johnson, Marsha Jones.

North Haven: Angela Suppa.

Northford: Lisa Munck.

Wallingford: Felicia Apuzzo, Jodi Horniak, Anum Saeed, Victoria Thibeault.

DEAN'S LIST

Tufts University

Tufts University recently announced the Dean's List for the Fall 2025 semester. Local residents include:

Hamden: Bhavana Etikela, 2027; Lily Kaffman, 2027; Yahir Ramos, 2029; Maya Ventura, 2029.

North Haven: Austin Koff, 2027; Evan Looney, 2027.

Wallingford: Wylie Doak, 2026; Alex Lee, 2026; Devin Rodriguez, 2026; Kristin Kostka, 2028.

Goodwin University

Goodwin University announces its Dean's List for the Fall 2025 session which includes the following local area students:

Hamden: Shinel Beckford, Kesha Blackman, Xavier Britton, Mary Elizabe Greene, Bryan Murphy, Wazhma Noori.

North Haven: Bryana Barnes.

Northford: Crystal Cham.

Wallingford: Elya Andrade, Joshua Kimball, Mykenna Palermo, Samantha Riso, Emma Robins.

College of the Holy Cross

College of the Holy Cross congratulates the following local area students who were named to the Fall 2025 Dean's List for outstanding academic achievement.

Hamden: Isabelle Giaquinto, 2026.

North Haven: Lucas Celentano, 2027; Addison Galaski, 2028; Brendan Grudberg, 2028; Eliza O'Connor, 2026.

Northford: Cassidy Colantonio, 2029.

Siena University

Siena University has named the following local area students to the Dean's List for the Fall 2025 semester:

North Haven: Alice Scalmani.

Wallingford: Liam Lawler.

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Hamden's Warming Center at Keefe Community Center, Through March 29

The Town of Hamden, in partnership with Columbus House, Inc., will open an overnight winter warming center for those experiencing homelessness in our community.

Hamden's Warming Center is now open through March 29th, from 7pm-7am, seven (7) nights a week. It will be stationed at the Keefe Community Center Gym, located at 11 Pine Street. Please enter through the George Street parking lot, located at 19 George Street.

The warming center is not a "shelter" as no beds will be provided. It will offer a clean, safe, indoor overnight space to protect those in need from harsh weather conditions for those who would likely otherwise spend their nights outdoors. The warming center will be operated by trained Columbus House staff who will monitor overnight shifts and share community outreach information with our guests. Hamden Police will provide walk-throughs on a nightly basis.

Organizations or agencies interested in providing dinners and breakfasts are encouraged to contact Columbus House by email at sdimario@columbushouse.org or by phone at (203) 401-4400, ext. 138.

Residents wishing to contribute to the warming center may do so by donating items such as non-perishable, pre-wrapped snack food items and beverages. Donations of new socks, new underwear, gloves, hats, umbrellas, and rain ponchos are also welcome.

Donations may be dropped off at the Keefe Community Center between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Donation receipts will be available.

For further information, please contact:

• Keefe Community Center at (203) 562-5129

• The Columbus House Emergency Services Team at (203) 768-7232

• Deputy Chief of Staff, Alexa M. Panayotakis, at (203) 287-7100 or by email at apanayotakis@hamden.com

QU Professor, Students Participate in Wellness Night at Hamden's West Woods Elementary School



Pictured (L-R): Nursing students Michaela Pozzuto, Lauren Lamonte and Hailey Campisi with Bridget Rich, assistant dean for clinical education and clinical instructor of nursing at Quinnipiac University.

Hamden: Representatives from Quinnipiac University's School of Nursing participated in Wellness Night activities at Hamden's West Woods Elementary School on Friday, Feb. 20.

Bridget Rich, assistant dean for clinical education and clinical instructor of nursing at Quinnipiac, was joined by students Michaela Pozzuto, Lauren Lamonte and Hailey Campisi.

They presented information on pediatric health, wellness and safety education.

"It has been a true honor to give back to the community that has shaped my college experience and professional journey in such a meaningful way," Campisi said. "Supporting and promoting health and wellness for parents and school-aged children has been rewarding."

It was the third consecutive year in which Quinnipiac visited West Woods for the event.