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May 22, 2026

Dear Darien Community,

Happy Memorial Day Weekend! While it is nice to have a long weekend in late May each year, it is so important that we reflect upon the meaning and give thanks and recognition to all who gave their lives in service of our country. The Darien community will express that gratitude on Monday with the traditional parade at 10:00 AM followed by a Commemoration Ceremony honoring those who lost their lives while serving in the Armed Forces at the Spring Grove Veterans Cemetery at 11:15 AM.

Late spring in our schools is a wonderful time of year. There are celebrations across levels, big and small. From in class writing celebrations at the elementary schools, art shows, music shares, DHS' 25th annual Science Symposium and larger community events such as the DHS scholarship and awards night. This week was filled with so many great events and I have enjoyed attending and seeing so many amazing examples of our students living the Vision of the Graduate.

Speech and Language Pathologist Appreciation

May 18 marked National Speech-Language Professionals Day, and we want to take this opportunity to recognize the extraordinary impact of our dedicated SLPs. These specialized educators work tirelessly across our district to break down communication barriers, build student confidence, and ensure every child has the tools they need to succeed academically and socially. Please join me in expressing our deepest gratitude to our Speech and Language Pathologists for their expertise, creativity, and unwavering commitment to helping our students thrive. They are:

- Darien High School: Kate Curcio, Marissa Pagliuca, and Christine Petriello
- Middlesex Middle School: Grace Collins, Tori DeLuca, Jill Doherty, and Mary Victor
- Hindley Elementary School: Olivia Hemsley, Kiersten Sirowich, and Shelly Ransom
- Holmes Elementary School: Kristen Bernstein and Caroline Giambo-Viscogliosi
- Ox Ridge Elementary School: Colleen Gomola, Linda Lee Lippmeier, Christina Stauble, Mary Ann Scaccia, Alyson Kuppelmeyer, and Mary Victor
- Royle Elementary School: Erin McKay, Kim O'Donnell and Gianna Nardi
- Tokeneke Elementary School: Jenna Egan and Danielle Fischbein

Darien EMS - Post 53 Memorial Day Food Fair

One of Darien's favorite community traditions is this weekend! Following the Memorial Day Parade on Monday, head over to Tilley Pond Park from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM for the annual Post 53 Food Fair, featuring food trucks, games, a live auction, and entertainment. A major highlight this year is the Post 53 Boat Raffle for a Parker 18SE center console valued at over \$60,000, generously donated by Boats, Inc. You can purchase food fair and raffle tickets online at

Darien Public Schools

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givebutter.com/post53boat. All proceeds directly support our incredible student and adult EMTs, keeping them trained, equipped, and ready to respond.

Around Town

The Rowan Center, in partnership with The Depot, Darien Police Department, Darien OK to Delay, the Middlesex Parent Association, and Thriving Youth Darien, invites you to a crucial community conversation on Friday, May 29 at 12:30 PM at The Depot. This informative Lunch & Learn will focus on navigating the modern digital landscape, offering essential strategies for digital safety, promoting ethical technology use, and understanding the rapidly growing impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) on our children and families. Come connect with local experts, gain actionable insights, and enjoy a complimentary lunch by securing your spot and registering today at therowancenter.org/keepingkidssafe.

DHS Sports

The Blue Wave is gearing up for a high-stakes weekend of championship-level competition, anchored by a massive day today of playoff action as our teams head into the FCIAC Quarterfinals. Our athletes will be fighting to advance on the diamond, the court, and the turf, followed by a blockbuster Saturday at Danbury High School where our track stars will compete for conference glory. Looking ahead to next week, you won't want to miss a special Tuesday afternoon meet as our amazing Unified athletes take the track! Please see the schedule of upcoming games:

Friday's Schedule (5/22):

- 3:15 PM: Boys Varsity Volleyball - FCIAC Quarterfinals vs. Stamford (Home)
- 4:00 PM: Girls JV Lacrosse vs. Fairfield Ludlowe (Away at Fairfield Ludlowe HS)
- 4:00 PM: Boys Varsity Baseball - FCIAC Quarterfinals vs. Fairfield Warde (Away at Fairfield Warde HS)
- 4:00PM: Boys Varsity Lacrosse - FCIAC Quarterfinals vs. St. Joseph (Home)

Saturday's Schedule (5/23):

- 1:00 PM: Boys Varsity Track & Field - FCIAC Championship (Away at Danbury HS)
- 1:00 PM: Girls Varsity Track & Field - FCIAC Championship (Away at Danbury HS)

Tuesday's Schedule (5/27):

- 3:00 PM: Unified Track and Field Meet (Away at Fairfield Ludlowe)

Sincerely,



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