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So much spring color in the museum gardens!

Hello Friends!

It's the merry, merry month of May and we're pleased to be here with you all once again.

We are thrilled to share that we started our 3rd grade field trips this week! On these visits, the Danbury Public School students learn about Colonial life, our immigration and hatting history, have a 19th century school experience, learn about the indigenous peoples who called this area home, hear Marian Anderson sing and learn about her friendship with Albert Einstein. The students also visit the Danbury Library, one of our favorite community partners. We've had great groups all week and we're looking forward to a few more weeks of field trip fun! Thank you to Danbury Public

Schools and our State Representative Farley Santos for his hard work in securing the grant that allowed us to make field trips FREE this spring.

Coming up on Saturday, May 11, at 3pm, we have a wonderful concert with the Danbury Music Centre's Community Band at the Charles Ives Birthplace! Bring a blanket, lawn chairs, snacks, and your friends for a great al fresco concert. In the event of rain, the concert will be at the Music Centre in Marian Anderson Hall. This year's theme is "Saluting Remarkable People & Historic Events."

Our *Art of Quilting* exhibit opens on Saturday, May 18, and we hope you'll all visit to see the beautiful quilts and hard work of our amazing intern Lillian Sellati and exhibit designer Meaghan Gorman. This exhibit will change twice over the course of the next few months, so you'll want to visit this first collection.

This Friday, April 26, is the 247th anniversary of the British Raid on Danbury and we're commemorating it with an evening of rebellious Rev War fun! From 5:30-7 this Friday, join us for a reading and presentation by Jack Kelly of his book, *God Bless Benedict Arnold*. Refreshments will be served—thank you to refreshment sponsor Synergy Home Care—and while the event is FREE, donations are welcome.

This month, essayist John O'Donnell takes us to Canada! Learn about the stunning Casa Loma and the cautionary tale of Sir Henry Pellatt. We're always grateful to John for his literary contributions.

And finally, we're honored to be chosen to participate--in partnership with the Danbury Lions Club--in the historic annual Mayor's Cup fundraiser on Wednesday, June 26! We hope you'll want to join in this local tradition that began in 1981! [All the sponsorship options and foursome details are available on our website as well as at the bottom of this newsletter.](#)

Keep well and we'll see you in June!



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MUSEUM
43 Main Street, Danbury CT 06810



God Bless Benedict Arnold A Revolutionary Evening

Friday, April 26, 5:30-7 @ The Danbury Museum

Join us for a truly revolutionary evening on the 247th anniversary of British Raid on Danbury.

Historian Jack Kelly will speak and then read from his new book, *God Bless Benedict Arnold*.

Enjoy light refreshments and a rousing introduction by Danbury City Historian, Brigid Guertin.

This event is FREE and open to all, but free will donations gladly accepted.

Very special thanks to our refreshment sponsor:



DanburyMuseum.org

We're excited to welcome author Jack Kelly to the Danbury Museum on April 26, 2024, the 247th anniversary of the British Raid on Danbury. It'll be a truly *revolutionary* evening and we hope to see you for a night of historic fun on Friday, April 26th. We are most grateful to our refreshment sponsor, **Synergy Home Care!**



Casa Loma.

Casa Loma

by John O'Donnell

Casa Loma is a Gothic Revival castle style mansion and garden in midtown Toronto that is now a historic house museum and landmark. It was built for the financier Sir Henry Pellatt (1859-1939). In addition to his financial career Pellatt was also a noted runner, militia officer, and philanthropist. Casa Loma was supposed to be the crowning achievement of Pellatt's career. But amazingly it actually was the start of the frenzied downfall of Sir Henry Pellatt from enormous wealth to poverty. It was the reverse of what typically happens in novels by Charles Dickens where a character like Pip in *Great Expectations* (and in several other Dicken's novels) is born into poverty and then is introduced to a life of wealth under very mysterious circumstances. Pellatt's fall is a cautionary tale of overestimating your position, underestimating your major enemy, and thinking you are invulnerable.

Henry Pellatt was born in Kingston, Ontario, on January 6, 1859. He was the son of Henry Pellatt who was a very successful stockbroker in Toronto. He was educated at Upper Kingston School before joining his father in the stockbroking business. They created a father-son partnership called Pellatt & Pellatt. The younger Pellatt quickly displayed a knack for investing and he quickly began amassing an enormous fortune based on a very diverse series of investments in mortgages, loans, and insurance including the Toronto Electric Light Company of which he eventually became president. He was also a shrewd judge of investing in real estate ventures as well as mining and railroads. During this period, Pellatt garnered a reputation as a man with the Midas touch. At one time he sat on the directorships of twenty-one different

companies.

With his spectacular rise into the ranks of the über-wealthy, Sir Henry & Lady Mary also saw a concomitant rise in their social standing as well as Sir Henry's military standing. They assembled a huge art collection and became very well regarded for their generous philanthropic donations. Pellatt had enlisted as a rifleman in the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada in 1876. Like his rise in the ranks of the wealthy, he had a similar rise in the ranks of the regiment. Promotions had come in rapid order to him: provisional Lieutenant (1879), Lieutenant (1880), Captain (1883), Brevet Major (1893), Major (1895). In 1906 Pellatt became Lieutenant Colonel Commandant of the regiment and a year later he became a Colonel. His spending on the regiment was lavish: he spent huge sums of money on training & uniforms, staged socials, and resisted attempts to introduce temperance in barracks. The height of his spending came in August 1910 when he took the regiment at his own expense to the United Kingdom for military exercises that lasted into October 1910. But the crown jewel in displaying his wealth & enhanced social standing was his construction of the castle in Toronto.

Construction of Casa Loma (meaning house on a hill in Spanish) began in 1911 and the Pellatts moved into it in 1914 but it was still unfinished and remains so today. Pellatt chose his favorite architect, E. J. Lennox, to design it and he was given a bottomless budget to work with. The plan of the castle contains a square north tower above a massive entrance large enough for vehicles to pass through with an entrance into a courtyard, a round western tower of five stories and a dramatic eastern tower as well. Between them are crenellations and a multitude of chimneys. The house has one hundred rooms making it the largest private residence in Canada. It has been called a monument to unrestrained capitalism. But the Pellatts only occupied it for ten years. Sir Henry's rise turned to a precipitous decline & fall largely due to the efforts of Sir Adam Beck.

Pellatt had made a large portion of his fortune through investments in hydroelectricity. He was coasting comfortably along with these interests, also railroad & real estate investments as well. But then he became embroiled in a lengthy dispute about the future of hydroelectricity in Toronto (and in all of Canada) as well with Sir Adam Beck. Beck was a legislator who launched a campaign against the great industrialists of Canada but with a laser focus on Sir Henry Pellatt. Beck wanted to appear as a powerful knight in shining armor but as we shall see he was not really that. His slogan for his campaign was "that hydro power should be as free as air." Beck eventually became Chairman of the Hydro Electric Power Commission, a governmental body. By whipping up anti-rich sentiment (even though Beck was very wealthy in his own right) he was able to successfully appropriate Pellatt's life work & take his electric companies away from him. He also led a populist revolt to raise the taxes on Casa Loma from \$ 600.00 per year to a staggering \$12,000 per year. Pellatt's other forms of creating wealth were also undermined. Casa Loma was foreclosed on, and he & his wife had to move out. They were nearly bankrupt and

had to auction off their art collection as well as their library.

Sir Adam Beck crushed Pellatt in their dispute over the future of hydroelectricity. He was the clear winner. But Beck's authoritarian management style brought him into conflict with the people who had been his allies. His methods were investigated and questioned and found wanting. He died under a cloud of suspicion in 1925. Sir Henry Pellatt outlived him and died in 1939. He was a broken man. He lived in a room in the last few years of his life with his former chauffeur.

John O'Donnell first became a history devotee while in elementary school. He was raised in Brooklyn and frequently went to Prospect Park which has a Revolutionary War monument. He was hooked!



Sir Henry Pellatt ca 1936

Celebrating
Remarkable People
&
Historic Events

Join the Danbury Music Centre
Community Band for a very
special outdoor concert at the
Charles Ives Birthplace.

Saturday, May 11th
@ 3:00 pm

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DanburyMuseum.org

Your Centre for
Community Music since 1935
DANBURY
MUSIC
CENTRE



The Mayor's Cup

Golf Tournament

In Partnership with the Lions Club of Danbury & the Danbury Museum

Dear Friend,

On behalf of the 2024 Mayor's Cup, I'd like to thank you for considering making a donation to our tournament.

The Mayor's Cup at Richter Park holds a distinguished status as Connecticut's premier charity golf event and I look forward to my first tournament as Mayor of the City of Danbury. Upholding our enduring commitment to supporting community initiatives, we proudly continue the City's partnership with the Lions Club of Danbury, while also extending our support to an additional beneficiary this year: The Danbury Museum & Historical Society.

Your generous donation will bolster two institutions that are integral to the fabric of our community. The Lions Club of Danbury is renowned for its unwavering dedication to service, spanning vision care, scholarships for local students, and aid for the less fortunate and the Danbury Museum & Historical Society enriches the lives of our residents by offering a profound insight into our city's history, with educational programs, historical exhibitions, and vibrant local events. Together, these organizations make significant contributions to the betterment of our city and its inhabitants.

To facilitate your donation, we have established a 501(c)(3) entity named the **CT Education Foundation**. Contributions made to this foundation are tax-deductible, and they facilitate the seamless allocation of funds to support the educational endeavors championed by each of our esteemed beneficiaries.

We express our deepest appreciation to the individuals and businesses that choose to participate in the Mayor's Cup each year. In the preceding year, the event generated over \$95,000 in support of our community, and this year, we aspire to surpass that milestone with your invaluable support.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration and unwavering support.

Sincerely,

Roberto L. Alves
Mayor
City of Danbury

Address
Mayor's Cup
c/o Mayor's Office
155 Deer Hill Avenue
Danbury, CT 06810

Email
mayorscup@danbury-ct.gov

Phone
(203) 797-4511

Benefitting

The Lions Club of Danbury
Robert Young, President

&

The Danbury Museum &
Historical Society

Edward R. Siergiej, President,
Friends of the Danbury
Museum

Hosted By

CT Education Foundation

A Tradition Since 1981

2024 Mayor's Cup Sponsorship Commitment

■ Diamond Sponsor.....	\$5,000
■ Platinum Sponsor.....	\$3,500
■ Dinner Sponsor.....	\$3,500
■ Hat Sponsor.....	\$3,000
■ Shirt Sponsor.....	\$3,000
■ Gold Sponsor.....	\$2,500
■ Golf Cart Sponsor.....	\$2,500
■ Golf Ball Sponsor.....	\$2,000
■ Mayor's Special.....	\$1,500
■ Reception & Cocktail Sponsor....	\$1,500
■ Beverage Cart Sponsor.....	\$1,000
■ Registration Sponsor.....	\$750
■ Contest Sponsor.....	\$500
■ Pin Flag Sponsor.....	\$250
■ Tee Sign.....	\$150

Company Name.....

Contact Name.....

Address.....

Email.....

*Please make checks payable to the
CT Education Foundation, Inc.*

Please return this form to the
Tournament Coordinator Jason Nova at:

Mayor's Cup
155 Deer Hill Ave
Danbury, CT 06810

Phone: 203.797.4511
Email: mayorscup@danbury-ct.gov



Hosted By

CT Education Foundation

CT Education Foundation, Inc. is a new non-profit created by Mayor Roberto Alves to support educational initiatives throughout our community. This foundation aims to ensure all students have the tools to succeed.

Beneficiaries

Lions Club of Danbury

The Lions Club of Danbury is a local organization serving the Danbury community. The Lions provide free eye screenings for all school children in Danbury up to the age of thirteen. The Lions host local blood drives, participate in health fairs, run a scholarship program for high school seniors, host monthly low vision meetings at the Danbury Senior Center, and run a CRIS (CT Radio Information System) station in Danbury for blind and print challenged individuals.

Danbury Museum & Historical Society

The Danbury Museum and Historical Society (43 Main St.) operates to acquire, preserve, exhibit, and interpret the heritage of the Greater Danbury area for purposes of education, information, and research.



THE 2024 MAYOR'S CUP

Golf Tournament

WEDNESDAY

JUNE 26, 2024

RICHTER PARK GOLF COURSE
DANBURY, CONNECTICUT



In partnership with the
Lions Club of Danbury and the Danbury
Museum & Historical Society

EVENT TIMES

9:30AM Registration & light breakfast.
Driving range available.

11:00AM Shotgun start & lunch served
on the turn.

Complimentary snacks, beverages &
cigars on the course.

Cocktails, Dinner & Awards Ceremony
immediately following play.

SPONSORSHIPS FOR GOLFERS

All golf sponsorships include lunch,
dinner, cocktails, cigars, and gift bag
for each golfer.

Diamond • \$5,000

- 2 Foursomes
- Clubhouse Banner
- Welcome Oversized Tee Sign
- 5 Tee Signs & 2 Pin Flags
- Tournament Sponsor Recognition

Platinum • \$3,500

- Foursome
- 3 Tee Signs & 1 Pin Flags
- Tournament Sponsor Recognition

Gold • \$2,500

- Foursome
- 2 Tee Signs

Mayor's Special • \$1,500

- Foursome

SPONSORSHIPS FOR NON-GOLFERS

Dinner Sponsor • \$3,500

- Prominent banner with company logo
- Tabletop signage with company logo
- 4 Tee Signs & Pin Flag
- Tournament Sponsor Recognition

Shirt Sponsor • \$3,000

- EXCLUSIVE**
- Company logo on golfer & volunteer shirts
 - 3 Tee Signs
 - Tournament Sponsor Recognition

Reception • \$1,500

- Prominent banner with company logo
- Bar-top signage with company logo
- Custom beverage cups w/company logo
- Oversized Tee Sign

Hat • \$3,000

- EXCLUSIVE**
- Company logo on all golfer & volunteer hats
 - 3 Tee Signs
 - Tournament Sponsor Recognition

Contest Tee Sign • \$500

- Company logo displayed at major contest hole

Golf Cart • \$2,500

- Company logo on all golf carts
- 2 Tee Signs

Golf Ball Sponsor • \$2,000

- EXCLUSIVE**
- Company logo on all tournament golfballs
 - 1 Tee Sign

Beverage Cart • \$1,000

- Company logo displayed on beverage cart
- Oversized Tee Sign at Beverage Cooler

Registration • \$750

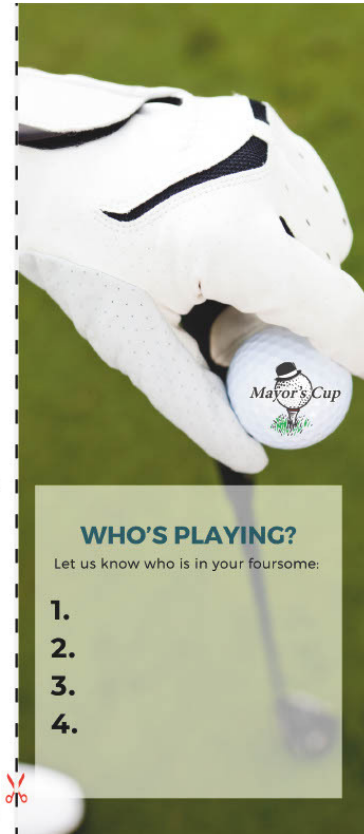
- Prominent banner with company logo
- Oversized Tee Sign at Beverage Cooler

Tee Sign • \$150

- Company name
displayed on Tee Sign

Pin Flag • \$250

- Company name
displayed on Pin Flag



WHO'S PLAYING?

Let us know who is in your foursome:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.



Cursive Camp!

The Danbury Museum's Cursive Camp returns this summer and is FREE!

The ability to read and write in cursive is an important skill set—whether for reading old family letters or simply mastering the mechanics—and our weeklong camp is the perfect place to start!

Session I: July 8-12 Session II: July 15-19 Session III: July 22-26

DanburyMuseum.org

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MUSEUM

203.743.5200

We are excited about our 2024 Cursive Camp and know that you and your child will be, too! Cursive Camp is one FREE week of camp thanks to a Youth Services Prevention Initiative Grant secured by Representative Farley Santos, Speaker Matt Ritter, and Majority Leader Jason Rojas.

There are three, one-week sessions (each with the same curriculum) and you must register your child for one of the sessions. Please note you cannot register your child for more than one session. Session I is July 8-12, Session II is July 15-19, and Session III is July 22-26. Grade 3-8 is the recommended age group for camp.

Forms and full details are available on our website's [Cursive Camp](#) page.

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