

Todd H. Gelston  
First Selectman

Erik W. Dill  
Thomas J. Sevigny  
Selectmen

## Board of Selectmen

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### **PRESS RELEASE—FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Linda J. Zemienieski, First Selectman's Executive Manager  
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### **Bicentennial Scholarship May 29, 2026**

The East Haddam USA 250 Committee is hard at work preparing the town's celebration of the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Back in 1976, East Haddam participated in the Bicentennial of the signing. Then, the National Committee had numerous requirements to be considered an "official" participant community. The most important of those was to create a lasting souvenir of our participation. The organizing committee chose to create a scholarship.

All the funds raised by various organizations in East Haddam were pooled into the scholarship fund, which has been overseen by the town. For nearly fifty years, a Hale-Ray student has received a \$100 scholarship each year.

It's time to replenish this commemorative fund to a higher amount for the next fifty years in order to continue to the next celebration. Donations can be made by sending checks made out to the Town of East Haddam with "250 scholarship" in the memo line or by stopping by the Finance Department office at the Municipal Office Complex. Watch for other opportunities around town to donate.

Todd Gelston  
First Selectman

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Requested Publication in East Haddam News for 6/11/26 (would appreciate 6/4/26 if you could do it)