

HartfordHistory.net

Dedicated to the history of Hartford, Connecticut



Newsletter | September 23, 2023



Trivia question

Before the creation of Elizabeth Park, the approximate site of the park's famous rose garden was used for a popular sporting activity on Sunday afternoons. What was it?

For the answer, see the end of this newsletter.

Headlines

[Hartford's Colt Gateway evolves as tenants snap up 16 apartments set to open in former gun factory](#) – CT Insider*

[City could see conversion of historic Pratt Street and Lewis Street buildings into high-profile apartments](#) – Hartford Courant*

[Veteran radio-TV newsman Dick Bertel dies at 92](#) – TVNewsCheck.com

- [VIDEO: Death of founding anchor Dick Bertel](#) – WFSB-TV, Eyewitness News 3

[Visionary developer Martin Kenny remembered as 'one of the biggest cheerleaders of Connecticut'](#) – CT Insider*

[VIDEO: Hispanic Heritage hits Hartford with DominGO Street Festival in Frog Hollow](#) – NBC Connecticut

[September 21: A Punishing Treaty Ends the Pequot War](#) – Today in Connecticut History

[September 19: 'Schoolboy' Johnny Taylor throws no-hitter against baseball giant Satchel Paige](#) – Today in Connecticut History

[September 17: The Nation's First Triumphal Arch – Today in Connecticut History](#)

[Taking the highway to right wrongs of the past in urban areas -- Center for Public Integrity, via CT News Junkie](#)

[A CT author uses a local town as setting of his first book. Including its 'witch.'](#) -- Hartford Courant*

[Hartford exhibit 'iPleibol!' highlights the Latino community in baseball](#) -- CT Insider*

[From the Mark Twain House to the Old New-Gate Prison, you can find these National Historic Landmarks in Hartford County](#) -- CT Insider*

* Requires paid subscription, usually after a certain number of free articles.

Trivia question answer



The next time you visit the rose garden at Elizabeth Park, imagine standing in the middle of a horse-racing track instead.

Charles Murray Pond, son of a wealthy railroad president and a prominent businessman himself, operated a “gentleman’s farm” on his estate, which straddled Prospect Avenue. He bred trotters there and built a dirt track for racing them. By the time of his death in 1897, the property totaled 90 acres. He bequeathed it to the city for the creation of a park, with a stipulation that it be named in honor of his wife,

Elizabeth.

To learn more about the Pond family and the creation of Elizabeth Park, visit [the park's website](#) and listen to “[America's First Public Rose Garden—Elizabeth Park](#),” a fascinating episode of the podcast *Grating the Nutmeg*, hosted and produced by Mary Donohue.

More trivia questions at [HartfordHistory.net](#)



Share This Email



Share This Email



Share This Email



Share This Email

HartfordHistory.net | 195 Auburn Road, West Hartford, CT 06119

[Unsubscribe kevinflood2@gmail.com](#)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by kevin@hartfordhistory.net powered by



Try email marketing for free today!