

Managing Editor

The Redding Sentinel seeks a managing editor to lead our efforts to inform readers so they can make the most of living in our small Connecticut town. In our first issue, in April 2022, we published this statement of purpose:

Welcome to the Redding Sentinel

An independent source of news and views for Redding

Although we are a “small town with a big outdoors” as the Redding Land Trust says, there’s a lot going on here.

From the opportunity to redevelop the old Gilbert & Bennett Wire Mill site to how Federal ARPA relief funds will be spent, Redding will need to decide what we most value.

The school year is winding down. How are the kids doing, after so much disruption to their learning and socializing? What can they do this summer?

Hundreds of new families have moved to Redding in the past two years. How do we welcome, inform and engage them?

More political groups and factions are cropping up in town. How do they overlap, or don’t they overlap? What are their concerns?

And there’s the on-going, everyday ebb and flow of the work of town government, boards and commissions, non-profits and volunteer organizations.

Our goal is to inform, to the extent possible without drama. We’ll let people in on the workings of organizations in town and suggest how to get involved. Our letters page will be open to all.

The newspaper you hold in your hands is an anomaly in this digital age. Why did we decide to start a print newspaper in our small Connecticut town? Print is different. It slows you down, focuses the mind. In the Redding Sentinel, you’ll find news and information about Redding that our editor and reporters think you might want to know. Not the firehose of social media, just the news. Go to the ether for the breaking news and exuberant shared interest groups, as we all do. Read the Redding Sentinel to join the whole Redding community.

“The newspaper ties a region together, helps it make sense of itself, fosters a sense of community, serves as a village square...” – Margaret Sullivan, *Ghosting the News*

Our coverage focuses on Redding, with some forays into neighboring towns that offer resources and interest to Redding residents. We cover town government and the impact of regional and state decisions on our town; local resources of all sorts, from nature preserves to the Library to volunteer opportunities; schools and sports; people; real estate; local businesses; the natural world around us both flora and fauna – in fact, every aspect of life in a small town.

Our team includes paid professionals, freelancers and volunteers. All share our love of local news, and of Redding. As we move to greater frequency of publication, we would like to add a managing editor to the team.

This person's responsibilities will include planning each issue; working with our freelance reporters and finding new ones; assigning them to stories and keeping them on track; identifying, following and writing key stories. They will work with our advertising and layout teams to make the paper happen in real life.

An informed and thoughtful understanding of what makes a small town work is a critical qualification for this role. You'll need to develop relationships with key people in town, from selectmen to heads of local organizations of all sorts.

You must write well – clearly, with style. You'll need a head for numbers, both to report well on town budgets and the like, and to manage freelance costs and other budget items for the paper.

You'll need both energy and patience, and be collaborative. You'll need to be completely non-partisan in your work for the paper and in your personal social media presence.

We're flexible about experience and background for the right person. Salary range is \$40 – 50k, with benefits. Work is remote, but you'll be expected to be in Redding often.