



RIVEREAST

News Bulletin

Serving Amston, Andover, Cobalt, Colchester, East Hampton, Hebron, Marlborough, Middle Haddam and Portland

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October 8, 2021



This month the First Congregational Church of Portland celebrates its 300 year anniversary with celebratory activities on Oct. 23, 24 and 25.

First Congregational Church Celebrates Tricentennial

by Jack Lakowsky

Before there was even a United States of America, there was the First Congregational Church of Portland.

The Rev. Jane Hawken and Nancy Johnson, chair of the church's 300th committee, told the Rivereast in a September interview that on Oct. 22, the church will celebrate its bicentennial feat with a weekend of festivities.

The church was founded on October 25, 1721, under the Rev. Daniel Newell, starting with 29 members.

On Saturday, Oct. 23, the 300th committee will have a ceremony for the dedication and burial of a time capsule.

A sampling of what's going in the capsule will be shown during after-worship coffee hour on Oct. 10 and Oct. 17.

On Oct. 24, the church will host a celebratory luncheon catered by Farrell's Restaurant. Call the church to make a reservation.

Then, on Oct. 25, the church will celebrate its founding day with a commemorative service in their memorial garden where the names of the church's original 29 members are engraved.

Johnson told the Rivereast the capsule has pictures and mementos capturing what life is like in 2021, and the church's activities from throughout the year, as well as historical trinkets. A plaque will mark the capsule's burial site, the marker attached to a piece of local brownstone.

"People in the future will know what we've been through," Johnson said.

For example, a picture of the church's first ever Zoom meeting will be in there.

A more church-centric inclusion will be paper hearts describing 300 acts of kindness con-

gregants performed over the year, an initiative the church encouraged them to undertake.

Johnson, a veteran of the church, said she expects the capsule will be opened in 25 years.

Johnson and Hawken spoke to the church's venerable history.

On June 21, 1841, the Town of Portland was formed. At the time, the church's meetinghouse was on a sect of land bought from the Wangunk tribe, at the corner of what is now Prospect Street and Bartlett Street, its second location.

The first town meeting was held there and meetings continued to run there until 1845.

The present site was at its current Main Street location in 1850. A Gothic structure to start, costing about \$7,700 to build, dedicated on Dec. 18, 1850.

Johnson said 1850 was a significant year for the church. Thirty-two members at the time split from the church, wanting to remain in a remote location rather than the center of town. The offshoot lasted about 30 years.

The building has changed quite a bit over the centuries. In 1944, a hurricane damaged the church's steeple, of which it had two at the time. Fellowship Hall and a kitchen were added in 1955 and in 1988, an office and meeting rooms were built.

In January 1961, the church became affiliated with the United Church of Christ. In 2013, the congregation voted to be an open and affirming church, welcoming any and all into their community.

"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here," reads a write-up of church history.

The church has had 24 ministers over its

See Church Celebrates, page 2

Town Names First Ever Poet Laureate

by Jack Lakowsky

Naji Chester-Payne, longtime town resident and a volunteer for the town's social justice group, has been named the 2021-'22 Portland Poet Laureate, the first in town history.

"It feels awesome," Chester-Payne told the Rivereast last week. "I definitely never thought this would happen."

Chester-Payne said all he wanted to do with his poetry was reach people, to let them know what was in his heart and soul.

"I wanted to reach as many as I could," he said.

The town's Board of Selectmen unanimously chose Chester-Payne as laureate at its Sept. 22 meeting.

Portland First Selectwoman Susan Bransfield said multiple citizens reached out to nominate

Chester-Payne, and said she saw and was very impressed by his performances at the town's Juneteenth celebration and 9/11 memorial ceremony.

Bransfield in a call following the meeting said the laureate's title is comparable to that of town chaplain, someone who speaks and performs for the town, representing it at ceremonies or other occasions.

Bransfield said naming a laureate was discussed last year, but no one was named.

April Graves, chair of the town's Committee on Solidarity, said Chester-Payne is a major contributor to Portland, a frequent volunteer and a major presence at Chatham Court, where he lives with his daughter, spearheading programs there.

"He's able to put emotions we can't express into words," Graves told the Rivereast.

Chester-Payne said he began writing seriously about two years ago as a way to curb stress and anxiety, to "get stuff off my chest."

"I try to write almost every day," said Chester-Payne. "I write things down as they pop in my head."

He said when he's writing a poem on a topic, he'll dive into research, and "really let it get in my brain."

Chester-Payne said in a way, he never finishes a poem-he usually works on them to the day he plans to present the work.

"They're always changing," he said of his poems.

See Town Names Poet Laureate, page 25

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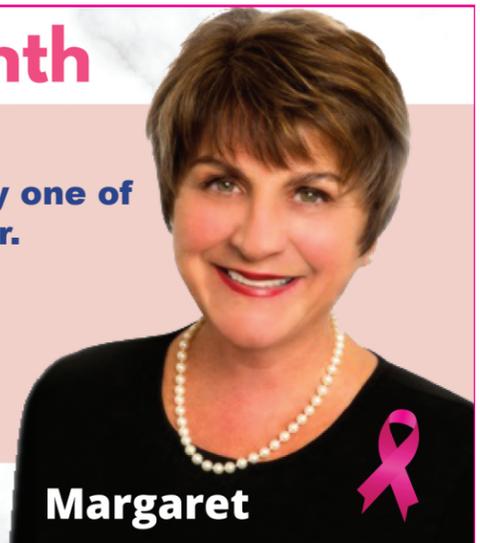
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★ *Church Celebrates cont. from page 1*

300 years, making for an average service time of about 12 years. The current reverend, Jane Hawkins, has served the church since 2006. 2021 will be her 15th anniversary.

Hawken said every congregation she has served in has celebrated an auspicious anniversary, Portland being her fifth town.

"This is really meaningful," Hawken said of the tricentennial. "It's a great part of my ministry to celebrate this."

In the past few years, First Congregational has served both people in town, the state and in the nation.

Hawken said instead of worship one Sunday, congregants went out into town to help people bound to their homes, cleaning yards and doing some minor landscaping work.

The church also sang to residents at Portland Care and Rehab. It also joined forces with Streetfire Ministries in Middletown to help people experiencing food insecurity.

The church went to Biloxi, Mississippi after Hurricane Katrina struck.

"They were really struggling to rebuild," Hawken said. "They still are. We went down on a mission to do some rebuilding, and it was a wonderful event."

A mission that included all ages was when the church gave each member \$50 to donate to a

nonprofit or a person in need, and then reported on what they did.

"It was so moving to hear all their stories about where they sent the money, and why they did so," Hawken said.

Church members also make shawls for patients at Hartford Hospital. Shawls have also been sent to people in Pennsylvania and New York. After beginning virtual services due to the pandemic, former members who'd moved as far as North Carolina rejoined First Congregational remotely.

Johnson said a verse, one of her favorites, that captures the pandemic is "Everything has a time and purpose under heaven."

"This is a difficult time in life, and we've all done with it the best we can," Johnson said, adding that through crisis, the church has reached outside the ecumenical community, connecting with a Mosque in Berlin.

Interconnectivity and inclusivity are values Hawken said the church wants to impart on members young and old.

"Don't let differences in beliefs and practices separate us," Hawken said, adding this message resonates with young people especially.

"Jesus says we're called to love God and one another," she continued. "Love one another; that is our mission."



The First Congregational Church has been a member of the town's religious community for 300 years, since before there was a Portland to speak of. Here the Rev. Jane Hawken and Nancy Johnson, Chair of the 300th Anniversary Committee, smile beside the church's sign, a familiar Main Street sight. The church will celebrate over the weekend starting Oct. 23.



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From the Editor's Desk

Observations & Ruminations

by Sloan Brewster

In case anyone from the lovely towns of Andover and Hebron wondered where I was all week, editor Mike Thompson was on vacation and as his assistant editor, I sat in his seat, overseeing the day-to-day affairs of getting the paper to press. I'll be back on my beat next week, though.

Hurray open space! To my great satisfaction, I learned last Friday from Frank Zitkus of Hebron's Open Space Land Acquisition Committee that the purchase of the Bernstein property was not only approved by voters at Thursday's town meeting last week but that the meeting was heavily attended by folks eager to preserve yet another property in the town. I am a great fan of open space and think the idea of a contiguous stretch of pristine land bordering the Air Line Trail from one town to the next is magnificent. With this acquisition, there will be a forested buffer along the trail from the Colchester town line through Hebron to Lebanon. The land encompasses a mature forest with deciduous native trees, a pond, two wetland corridors, and is home to several species of special concern, including eastern box turtles and bats. Now, they will be able to stay cozy in hideaways in the untouched land, hunkering beneath the trees and enjoying clean water as their numbers, hopefully, increase over time.

There are lovely watercourses and picturesque landscapes in all our towns and as I drive through on story-seeking missions, inviting trailheads call my name. On occasion, I'll heed the call and take a quick walk, trekking over the footsteps of all the other nature lovers who walked before me. I'll stop at Gay City, Grayville Falls or Raymond Brook in Hebron or take a jaunt along Andover's Hop River Trail. It gives me a minute to let any stories I'm working on roast, turning over and over as the juices blend into cohesive, understandable concepts, ready for the dotting rhythm of my keyboard.

Fall is the perfect time to take a hike and discover the secrets the land offers. Breathe the cool fresh air as you wander through the forest, connecting with Mother Earth. Let the blood flow, awakening sleepy muscles and

jointly as you clear your mind and the thoughts breeze by, following the same meandering path as the trail. Find a grove of trees or a rock in a clearing and take a few moments to sit with your eyes closed and meditate, listening to the whispering leaves as they drift downward and searching with your mind's eye for the omnipresent voice singing in the silence.

Alas, silence can be difficult to attain with the flooding voices of anyone and everyone seeking office in the upcoming election. As a journalist, election season is not my favorite time of the year. This morning, as *Rivereast* Reporter Jack Lakowsky and I were joking about the drudgery of the work we must accomplish over the next few weeks to get the information about those office seekers out to the electorate, we laughingly quipped, "Let's go to a dictatorship, it's easier."

No, it would not actually be easier, obviously.

That said, many people think we're edging that way already. Even worse, each party is convinced the other will plunge us into the abyss and sometimes it seems no matter what we do, they are both eagerly moving in that general direction. But that's more of a statement about the state and national front. Locally, on the other hand, government seems to recognize its job is to keep abreast of the voice of the people, and officials—for the most part—aren't secretly donning crowns in front of the mirror and calling themselves the sovereign leader. Voting, however, remains an imperative. The thing everyone must do, though, is their research. There's nothing worse than grabbing a ballot at a polling place and seeing names you don't recognize or an unexpected question that you must answer with little or no information. Believe me, I've been there. As with many in my field, I keep my mind on what's afoot in the towns I cover and nary a thing that occurs in my hometown catches my attention—save a couple years ago when Bristol and Burlington officials combined forces to save Pigeon Hill, I mean, duh, I'm not missing the preservation of a parcel between a nature center and horse farm. But that's nei-

Editor's Desk continued on page 5

Bulletin Board

I was napping on the couch the other day—not bothering a soul—when my wife blew in like a Kansas tornado. "Hey! Get up! The lawn needs to be mowed."

"No need," I said. "I've decided to go green."

"Go green?" she said suspiciously. "What kind of scam are you up to now?"

"No scam," I replied, closing my eyes again. "I'm doing my part to save the environment."

"Oh, this ought to be good."

"It's quite legitimate, I assure you. I read recently that small engines—such as lawnmowers—contribute significantly to air pollution in this country. In fact, according to one source, the pollution from lawnmowers alone may surpass the damage caused by gaseous emissions from farm animals of all types."

"Thank you for sharing that."

"I like to stay well-informed."

"So, if I understand you correctly, you have decided to stop cutting the grass."

"Oh no. Nothing so drastic as that. Obviously, I can't just stop cutting the grass. However, it occurred to me after much contemplation and soul searching that if I mow the lawn every three weeks instead of every week I will be reducing our share of lawnmower air pollution by two-thirds. I think that is a significant contribution to a cleaner planet, don't you?"

"Don't look so proud of yourself. I know what this is all about. It's just an excuse to get out of spending a lousy hour cutting the grass."

"I'm surprised at you. I thought you cared about the environment. You're the one who wouldn't let me turn the dog loose on the Green Peace character who came to the door that time looking for donations."

"He was just a college kid doing something he believed in. And there you are with that stupid barking dog pretending you don't speak English."

"I have found that pretending to be unable to speak English relieves me of the need to spend long and tedious periods of time discussing topics that do not interest me—like the life cycle of the sperm whale for instance—with complete strangers."

"You don't—"

"Furthermore, if you ask me, college kids shouldn't be bothering me at dinner time."

"It was two o'clock in the afternoon."

"For all he knew, that's when we have dinner. Maybe we eat early for religious reasons."

"Oh brother."

"Besides, what are college kids doing going door to door in the middle of the day collecting funds for nonprofit organizations?"

"What do you want them to be doing?"

"I want them to be working at menial jobs."

"Maybe he couldn't find a job."

"Then he should join the Navy and dedicate himself to protecting my way of life."

"Your way of life? You mean lying around on the couch all day watching baseball games on television?"

"That's the difference between you and me. You see me here on the couch and think I'm not accomplishing anything. I lie here and I know—I know—that by not mowing the lawn I am doing my small part to preserve this wonderful planet for future generations."

"Oh my God. Is that a tear in your eye?"

"I feel very deeply about this"

"Have you no shame at all?"

"No. Now, if you will excuse me, the Red Sox are scheduled to be on TV in three minutes. I see no reason why I should lack entertainment as I do my bit on behalf of a greener Earth."

Jim Hallas



Rossini's Italian Restaurant will celebrate its 30th birthday with a gift and prize raffle starting Oct. 15. They'll also have dinner specials and pizza specials starting the same day. Check Rossini's Facebook page for more information. Pictured are Rossini's staff Mike Fauvel, Travis Bevin, Cheryl Austin, Susan Kearns, Christine Guerette and Vinnie Buccheri. See story on page 16.

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Scrapbooking Letters, Or Not

To the Editor,

I should consider running for office based on name recognition. Even one person must be keeping a scrapbook of the letters I write. My, how flattering.

To answer one person's question, doing research does NOT make one a "narrow-minded conspiracy-theorist". It either makes one more informed or it simply confirms one's biases, which may be good or not, depending on that person's values system. Just to be clearer, we all have biases, and our biases are neither good nor bad, they simply make us who we are. However, it is important to know our biases.

Question: is doing research and fact-checking the same thing? Answer: perhaps; it depends on how each is conducted and what sources one uses to arrive at their findings.

I almost hate to go in this direction – what

cures has the CDC, the WHO, or any government come up with in relation to COVID? They have come up with a shot to help reduce the severity of the virus, short term. They have suggested wearing masks, social distancing, and washing one's hands often.

Some studies have shown success with various ways to help one reduce the effects of the virus besides getting the shot. One may do the "research" to discover those ways.

PS: If you are going to laugh and make fun of what I write, please spell my last name correctly. It is Gile with no "s" at the end.

PPS: I do my very best to not make fun of and belittle others who write in and state things that I don't necessarily agree with, although it is very challenging not to attack back. Nor do I keep a scrapbook of other people's letters. I don't have that much spare time.

Gary Gile

Step by Step

To the Editor,

This year the Beautification Committee planted 11 planters around town and reworked the gardens at the Veteran's Park. The Doris Chamberlain Nature Preserve is getting a face lift with new fence railings, planters at the en-

Correction

In a letter to the editor published on page 32 of the Oct. issue, Michael Hernandez of Portland was incorrectly listed as a resident of Colchester. The *Rivereast* regrets the error.

News copy deadline for *The Rivereast News Bulletin* is Tuesday at noon. Please address all letters & news articles to: *Rivereast News Bulletin*, P.O. Box 373, Glastonbury, CT 06033

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trance and daffodils.

The committee has planted 1,100 daffodil bulbs in designated areas in preparation for next spring. The history behind daffodils is that they were first introduced by the Romans into gardens around 300BC. The Romans believed that the sap from the flower had healing powers. Today they represent hope, rebirth and new beginnings. The added bonus of the daffodil is that they naturalize over time.

I want to thank the committee members: Jim and Joan Ross, Bill & Lorraine Liswell, Bill Desrosiers, Kathy Knox, and Della Leger for all their dedication and hard work. These improvements could not have happened without you!

In addition, the committee would like to thank Gerry Wright and Ron Bisson for all the great work at the Veteran's Park, John and Lois Hanfield for continuing to plant the beautiful heart, Bob Farrand for mowing/trimming the nature preserve and replacing the fence railings, Scott Yeomans and Joan Foran for weeding, Eric Anderson and Scott Person for their time and support to help facilitate the committee plans to become a reality.

The next projects scheduled for 2022 are to plant the hillside at the Andover Museum with junipers, clean up the Gazebo area and more daffodil planting near the covered bridge. We are always in need of volunteers. If you can spare a few hours please contact the committee at 860-742-1842.

**Thank you,
Cathy Desrosiers
Andover Beautification Committee**

Christ-like Politician

To the Editor,

Conservative Christians embrace Trump; a prideful, greedy, wrathful, envying, adulterous, gluttonous, slothful man; yet also prophesize Christ's second coming. But if Christ returned, would Christians accept him? Or being Trump's opposite, reject and shun him. There already walks among us such a man, who far better idealizes Jesus's teachings and works. Who in some ways even exceeds Jesus.

The Gospels claim Jesus gave sight to the 'Blind Man of Bethsaida'. Sunday clergy preach these and other healing 'miracles' to prove his Godliness. But the mortal man of whom I speak saved millions, not just handfuls from blindness and pain. He set the scourges 'River Blindness' and 'Guinea Worm' on courses towards extinction. Both existed when and where Jesus lived, infecting and debilitating millions worldwide annually. Christ ascended to heaven leaving them to plague humanity for another 2000 years. Our mortal benefactor strives to end them in his lifetime.

Christ's 12 apostles? "Jimmy who?" had hundreds in his 'Peanut Brigade' driving north on their own dime to preach Carter's presidential worthiness. Humble, born into a home without electricity or indoor plumbing. A carpenter, voluntarily building houses to lift others from

poverty. "You cannot serve both God and Mammon" said Jesus? Jimmy Carter sold the presidential yacht Sequoia, returning the people's money. He negotiated peace between Jewish Israel and Arab Egypt. Set America on course to defeat global warming via thermostats, speed limits and solar technology. Walked in his Inaugural. Faithful, prayerful, monogamous humanitarian.

Yet in 1980 white Christians rejected him, the most Christ-like politician to ever grace our American government. I, a secular humanist, voted for him twice, and twice bicycled to Plains, Georgia hoping to meet him. Today's unrighteous lost souls mesmerized by the immoral, false prophet Trump need to cleanse themselves. I here call all Christian sinners to repentance.

Edmund Smith-Andover

Support Giannelli

To the Editor

Liz Giannelli will be a great asset to the Marlborough Board of Education. She is a driven, hardworking and dedicated leader that our school system desperately needs. She has had many years of experience teaching in Glastonbury Public Schools and will add a plethora of knowledge to the Board. She is a team player, always looking out for others and the community needs. She takes on community projects without hesitation - on her own and through the MOMS Club of Marlborough. We are very lucky as a town to have her run for this position and our children will benefit greatly from her knowledge, compassion, and dedication. I will be casting my vote for Liz on November 2nd because she is just the person this town needs! A vote for Liz is a vote for our children's future.

Carrie Balda- Marlborough

Do Not Be Misled

To the Editor:

I have attended almost every Board of Selectmen meeting in the last two years, if I was unable to attend I watched the recording later. What I have seen in the last two years has been a board that voted unanimously on every vote before them.

Three Democratic selectmen, three Republican selectmen and our first selectwoman have carefully considered, discussed and come to an agreement about every question, issue, plan and concern about Portland brought before them for two years.

Now that it is election season, the Republican chairman would have you believe there have been "backroom deals, appeasing friends and special interests" in our town by the democrats. If this is true, then the Republicans must have been in on it since they voted with the democrats every time to pass these so called deals.

The Republican Town Committee has even nominated two of these selectmen as candidates this election, so they must not be too unhappy

go out on Election Day and vote. Will doing so, prevent the veil of darkness from covering everything? I don't know but it seems like a decent enough weapon for bringing light - at least a little anyway.

Peace and I'll catch you next week, when I'm wearing my reporter hat once again.

with the decisions they've made. It is an injustice to the work the BOS has done for the last two years to suddenly make it seem like there is a major political divide to try to win an election. I personally believe this BOS should be commended for their ability to work together for the good of this town, and for being a wonderful model of how town politics should work.

Please do not be misled by negative, untrue political rhetoric. It is a shame that in our small town we are witnessing this. On Nov. 3 we will all still live in Portland together, and will be working on these boards together. Let's not let the negativity and political grandstanding affect our ability to continue to work across party lines for the good of Portland. It's about Portland, not politics...right?

**Thank you,
April Graves-Portland**

Hebron Watershed

To the Editor

I write this with regard to a previous letter about facts. Fact is, the public has few solid facts about the watershed development in Hebron at all. And the ones we get, change. The project name changed. The land use perimeters have changed. The land name keeps changing. We went from PWD to DPW. It will impact Kinney Road, it won't. It will. Now it won't. And so on.

If you want public support, give us the truth. Give us the facts. Give us clear leadership on what you are actually doing.

- For example:
 1. Has this watershed been fully vetted with respect to your project? (The letter two weeks ago seemed to say otherwise.)
 2. Does the public understand that the watershed, in question, runs from behind CVS all the way down to Kinney Rd and is quite wide as well?
 3. How many gallons of water will the DPW use in a month?
 4. How many gallons of rain water will be lost to the ground and surrounding wetlands due to the proper handling of storm drain runoff?
- As facts are shared, we, the people, can begin

to make our own educated decisions. Unwavering facts are imperative, as this development will be situated upstream from our aquifer feels risky and goes against all logic and common sense.

Throughout all of this debate, one fact remains the same. This large watershed, in the center of town, is completely wet. She shares this fact decade after decade as she lures people onto her soggy soils. Fact is, all of the nearly 200 acres of watershed, flanking Kinney Road, should be protected by land trust or open space. Closely protecting this watershed could save Hebron great financial expense and heartache while also protecting our water supplies.

Jean Tulimieri-Amston

Giannelli for BOE

To the Editor

Liz Giannelli understands Marlborough Our town is a special place because of the people that live here and those that volunteer their time to help it reach its full potential. Liz Giannelli understands this as she has spent over a decade putting down roots here. With over 10 years of teaching experience under her belt, Liz has a solid understanding of the educational world and is very knowledgeable with current best practices that will help our district continue to improve on state standardized tests. She herself has children and will be able to relate to parents who have concerns within the school system. I know that Liz will work hard because I have already seen the results of her incredible efforts within our community. She has organized fundraisers with the local MOMS club to raise money and give back to our community in many different ways over the years. In addition to her organizational skills, Liz also has a willingness to listen to students, parents, teachers, and taxpayers as she understands that all voices matter. As a teacher and parent myself, I have full confidence in recommending such a knowledgeable and passionate individual for the Marlborough Board of Ed.

Amy Kuhrt-Marlborough

See Letters page 6

Editor's Desk continued from page 4
ther here nor there (well, it is still there, ha-ha, it's a preserve, it'll be there in perpetuity). The point is that it's not the best idea to vote without some understanding of who or what you're voting for, so read, listen and learn who the various candidates are and what the questions on the ballot actually mean. And

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Reader Forum • Reader Forum

★ Letters cont. from page 5

Respect Each Other

To the Editor,
I received a shiny mailer from Andreas Bisbikos in the mail today. Here's a quote: "When it comes to love of community and country there is one clear choice! " I doubt that Mr. Bisbikos knows how much or how little Mary Bylone loves her community and country. Nor does he know what sacrifices she may or may not have made for this country and community. Yet like Mr. Trump he is sure that only people who agree with him are true patriots. Mr. Trump loves to hug the flag. He also loves to call his followers to Washington to "Stop the Steal!" He told them he would walk to the Capitol with them. He did not. Instead he watched the mayhem on TV. I volunteered to serve in the armed forces from 65 to 67. I was honorably discharged. I never faced any true danger, but I did volunteer. My point is simple. Shouting your patriotism proves nothing. What you do matters. A famous quote, source I've forgotten, goes: "Patriotism is the last refuge of the scoundrel". Mr. Trump proved that point. I do not wish to impugn all Republicans. Town leaders of the Republicans and Democrats sent a joint letter to this paper asking us to treat each other with respect. I don't think that is too much to ask.

Sincerely,
Dan Hatch

Vote Row A

To the Editor,
As a member of Portland's Park & Rec Commission, I have worked with Ralph Zampano on efforts and activities to support the commission. As the BOS liaison to Park & Rec, Economic Development, and the Library Board; he listens to concerns from the public as well as from town staff assigned to those areas. He was actively involved in all phases of the Portland Recreational Complex Park build, working with bipartisan committees, adhering to certified project management principles with transparency, and often reporting on its progress. Ralph acknowledges the work the municipal workers do behind the scenes to keep Portland going forward and is always willing to listen to their perspective too.
He supports working families and economic development to continue making Portland a great town for all ages. I support Ralph Zampano along with Jim Tripp, John Dillon, April Graves, Laurel Steinhauer and the entire Democratic team. They roll up their sleeves to work for you and get the job done. Vote Row A on Nov 2nd. Thank you.

Kevin Backman-Portland

Vote No to Question 4

To the Editor,
There are several aspects of Marlborough's proposed charter changes for which I am in approval, but there is one particular question to which I am firmly opposed. Question 4 reads "Shall the authorized fixed dollar limit of \$10K in the Charter, pertaining to special and emergency appropriations, be adjusted for inflation and increased to reflect the current cost of doing business and replaced with a fixed percentage of 2% of the Town Operations Budget?"

This year's Town Operations Budget is \$5,163,495, which means that 2% of that amount would equate to over \$103,000.

Okay, let's first put aside the assumption that prices of things have gone up 10-fold since the last Charter revision in 1985, which I do not see as being the case. Three times, maybe four times, perhaps, but certainly not 10 times. To say so is misleading at best. My concern here is that the Town could make decisions on "special and emergency appropriations" amounting to over \$100,000 without holding a Public Hearing.

Increase the number of selectmen, sure, change to a town manager form of government, why not? But leave it up to the Board of Finance to approve a special appropriation of over \$100,000 without public input? No way!

I am voting yes to most of the proposed Charter changes, but I am voting no to Question 4.

Ken Hjulstrom

Note: Hjulstrom is a member of the Marlborough Board of Finance, but he is writing as an individual.

Confuse the COVID

To the Editor,
The walls surrounding the MSNBC/CNN echo chamber have been breached, and the inmates have escaped the asylum. Some are now living in East Hampton, Hebron, and Andover...wearing masks while they write to the Editor. Some teach, some preach, and some screech. But they're all batty...

One recent contribution of intellectual malnourishment reflects the omnipresent omission of certain facts, and convolution of others. In what must have been a fever-induced state of mind, Joe Stevens berates Gary Gile over COVID deaths, influenza deaths, masked children, and, of course, climate (let's not forget climate). The fact is that ~5% of alleged COVID deaths in the U.S. are attributed to COVID alone, with the remaining deaths linked to individuals with an average of more than two additional comorbidities. And more children die with the flu annually than have died from COVID. I especially like the convoluted logic of Joe's heart disease/bus anecdote. My question is: If you collapse from a heart attack in the middle of the street and then get hit by a bus, what's the cause of death? Myocardial infarction or blunt force trauma? Forget the coroner. Just ask Joe. Psychological effects of active shooter drills, bullet-proof backpacks, and armed teachers? I wonder how many fewer Sandy Hook victims there would have been if one or more of the teachers was armed, and would the presence of a qualified firearm user comfort students during classes?

Gary needs to remember that Joe is one of those individuals that was hoarding toilet paper

in 2020, wears a mask that looks like Dr. Fauci, and, in a truly exhaustive use of brain power, thought that walking one-way down an aisle at the grocery store was going to confuse the COVID virus into jumping onto a can of creamed corn and not him.

Regards,
Ed Kozlowski- Colchester

Veteran Support for Bisbikos

To the Editor:
In December of 1863, President Abraham Lincoln wrote, "Honor to the soldier and sailor everywhere, who bravely bears his country's cause. Honor, also, to the citizen who cares for his brother in the field and serves, as he best can, the same cause."

As the wife of a Marine Corps veteran, I understand first-hand the bittersweet reality of being a military family—pride and sacrifice, joy and heartache, all at once.

Treating veterans with the dignity and respect that they've so rightfully earned is not only the least we—an indebted nation—can do, but it's also an important aspect of ensuring our security, for both current and future generations.

We need leaders at all levels of government who not only UNDERSTAND the sacrifices made by our veterans, but who HONOR them, as well.

The Marine Corps has three core values: Honor, Courage and Commitment.

Andreas Bisbikos embodies all three. I've personally known Andreas for well over a decade, and have never known him to be anything less than honorable. He's a man of strong convictions, with the courage to stand up for what's right, even when he knows he'll get backlash for doing so. Andreas has a solid plan for the future of our town, and is committed to working with all sides to implement it.

This November 2nd, I will proudly cast my vote for Andreas Bisbikos for First Selectman of Colchester.

Andrea DePaola-Colchester

Commitment to Portland

To the Editor
In the 22+ years I have lived in Portland, I have seen many people come and go; neighbors move, volunteers on sports boards change as children age out, or people's interests wane. However, I have observed one constant throughout all of these years: Ralph Zampano's commitment to the town of Portland. Whether I was attending a planning session regarding the new park on Rt. 17, an information session on a land purchase or participating in the Come on Over 5K run, Ralph was consistently there and actively engaged. I'm sure the hours spent at these events pale in comparison to the countless hours spent working behind the scenes to accomplish so much for Portland. Ralph's knowledge and understanding of where our town has been and how to continue to keep Portland relevant are why Ralph has my vote for Board of Selectmen.

April Graves also has my support, stated in a previous editorial. Her work with the Portland Little League, Chatham Children's Connection and the Social Justice Coalition make April an obvious choice for the Board of Selectmen. Laurel Steinhauer is a passionate Democrat working hard during this election season. Her commitment to the town is apparent by the

work she has done on the boards she sits on, including the Library Board of Directors and the Portland Board of Education. John Dillon is a familiar name with lots of history in Portland. Mention a name, and John probably has a personal story about that person.

Ken Kearns is an active participant in events important to Portland. His dedication and passion for not only the town of Portland, but the Democratic party, are apparent in his daily work. He deserves your vote for Zoning Board of Appeals!

These individuals have a strong commitment to our town and deserve your vote.

Kim Nagy-Maruschock- Portland

Moving Forward

To the Editor:
The Portland Republican Town Committee recently hosted a successful Trivia night. It was a great opportunity for the candidates to talk with community members and listen to their concerns. Many of the comments and questions had an underlying theme; when will the town of Portland move forward?

The topics range from Economic Development, Such as navigating the Village District Design Guidelines manual and promoting businesses / vacant commercial property on the town website, to Portland's Infrastructure including putting our roads on a repaving schedule and repairing any underground water lines, sewer lines or drainage issues. Another topic that was mentioned was evaluating and prioritizing repairs and maintenance of town owned buildings.

One of my main goals when I am elected is to work with our department heads, and come up with solutions that best fit not only the Town of Portland's immediate needs but also help the tax payers in the long run. I, along with my fellow running mates, Ryan Curley, Mike Hernandez, Bobby Hetrick and Michael Pelton, am committed to moving Portland forward.

It's about Portland not Politics.

Shaun P. Manning-Portland
Candidate for Board of Selectman

Temperament & Experience

To the Editor
Colchester will be holding a very monumental municipal election on November 2nd. Colchester has been through a very challenging period. We need a First Selectman that has experience, knows how to manage and work with people to perform the daily tasks needed to keep the town moving forward and functioning efficiently. Yet the Republican candidate does not have any experience running a business, or a department, or any experience managing employees. With no relevant previous experience, how do we know how he will act while in office? How will he treat employees or handle a critical issue? What is his temperament, or his level of maturity?

While serving on the Board of Finance he has clearly demonstrated these via his actions. Just this year he has accused staff of deliberately falsifying reports or deliberately withholding information. He accused the Police Commission and the Colchester Police Department Staff of falsifying arrest reports to justify additional funding during a budget workshop. When a Board of Education budget link on their BOE website wasn't correctly working instead of inquiring about the issue to the BOE IT specialist or Superintendent, he posted a letter on social media accusing the Colchester Superintendent of Schools of deliberately withholding data before the School District had any opportunity to fix the issue. This was so egregious that the Board of Finance Chairman had to address this

See Letters, page 9

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Reader Forum • Reader Forum

★ Letters cont. from page 6

issue in the opening minutes of the April 12th Budget workshop. Accusing Town employees of conspiracies, mistruths and malfeasance over minor issues is not leadership. While others on the board focus on making good financial decisions for the Town while working with and listen to the professionals we employ, on these occasions and many others Andreas has treated them with mistrust and accusations. That is his temperament, and his level of maturity.

Michael Egan - Colchester

King Lamont

To the Editor

The MONARCHY has to end. Ned Lamonts powers will encompass 2 YEARS OF EXECUTIVE DICTATOR LEVEL AUTHORITY without checks and Balances from our ELECTED Representative and Senators. The Democratic controlled House and Senate have surrendered with barely a whimper. While the COVID cases continued and are expected to indefinitely, there is no longer an EMERGENCY that requires that the LAMONT KINGDOM needs to exist any longer. There are low case numbers throughout the State, no over-crowded hospitals, a low fatality rate and effective- though not perfect- vaccines and the State has a 70% vaccination rate. Its time for Lamont and the rest of the fear mongers to release us from these mandates and let us resume "normal" activity. We know the drill- if you're sick stay home, use common sense - if you walk into a business or a group setting and feel uncomfortable turn around and walk out. Masks can be recommended but its time to UNMASK us. GLASTONBURY unmasked on Saturday Oct 2nd after 2 weeks of low cases - I applaud the Town Leaders for their Brave and Thoughtful actions.

As you enter, the "Welcome to Connecticut" sign it says "The Constitution State" Wells, time for the Democrats to start abiding by this revered Document. With Local, Town, and City elections right around the corner remember those Legislators who continue to support this Dictatorship and if they are unwilling to do their elected job duties then they should resign and let the people choose replacements. I acknowledge that the King and his Court have done a credible job "flattening the curve" but that's it . EXECUTIVE POWERS HAVE TO END. I demand to have the freedoms I had before COVID to be restored.

Don Denley- Andover

Unmasking Kids Up to State

To the Editor:

I am writing today concerning Board of Education candidates in our great towns, running on the sole platform of "unmask or our kids." Full disclosure I am a BOE candidate in East Hampton, but this is not my introduction letter to the voters. I am writing after seeing multiple candidates throughout our region promise to unmask our kids if elected. These candidates are either being deceitful or are ill informed themselves. When the state Department of Health makes this policy on the basis of the health and safety of our children and the local school board doesn't abide, then the district will lose state funding. I'd like to know what their plan is to make up the funding we would lose from the state. Either the kids get way less, or your taxes increase. Considering this is a state issue I'm all for anyone who wants to advocate for the issue to our state elected leaders, but if you're running for BOE you should know the facts and consequences of your policies. www.cabe.org is a great non-partisan resource for anyone on, running or just wants more information about Boards of Education in the state. Good luck to all the candidates this year and I'll be writing again real soon!

Paul Wisniewski - East Hampton



Amy Weisner was diagnosed with MS in 1997. For someone who has always danced, MS would seem like the end. But for Amy, it means the start of a new chapter. She'll never leave the floor, still dances from her wheelchair, and is a great choreographer. Embracing Amy's undying passion, the National MS Society teamed up with LaTonya Swann to create an entirely new and inspired dance experience through virtual reality. See their experience and find out how you can share yours at WeAreStrongerThanMS.org.
Together We Are Stronger.
MS National Multiple Sclerosis Society

Running for RHAM BOE

To the Editor

I am writing to share my decision to run for RHAM BOE. I grew up in Colchester and have been a Hebron resident since 2012. We chose Hebron because of the quality of our schools. I'm sure we all agree that GHS, HES and RHAM offer some of the best academic programs in the state. Having a child in our

school system has afforded me the opportunity to observe and participate in the process of educating our youth. As an engineer I find myself with unique experience that enabled me to teach rocketry at GHS Clusters and teach two years of after school STEM at HES. These experiences have brought me closer to our school administrators, educators and most importantly our students. Now that my own child has advanced

to RHAM MS and soon to RHAM HS, I see a position on the RHAM BOE as an opportunity to continue my volunteerism in the community. In my daily work-life I apply a problem-solving mentality that must consider a vision for the future. It is this experience that I believe will enable me to fulfill my commitment to the RHAM BOE and ultimately continue our record of ex-

See Letters, page 13

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Absentee Ballots Available for Election

The Colchester town clerk's office has absentee ballots for Nov. 2 municipal election available from now through Nov. 1.

For an application for a ballot, go to tinyurl.com/95nwmskb. You must be a current Colchester voter at the time of the application. After the town clerk's office receives the completed application, you will be given an absentee ballot to fill out. People who apply in person can fill out the ballot at that time or take it with you to return within the specified period.

There are multiple ways to deliver a fully filled-out ballot and enclosed envelopes. If delivered in person, it must be delivered to the town clerk no later than the Monday, Nov. 1, at 4:30 p.m.; if delivered in person by a family member or qualified designee, it must reach the town clerk's office by the end of polls on Election Day; if delivered by mail it must be received no later than 4:30 p.m. Election Day; and if placing in the Election Drop Box, it must be deposited by the end of polls on Election Day.

A qualified designee includes: a person caring for you because of your illness, including but not limited to a licensed physician or a registered practical nurse; a police officer in Colchester; or a registrar of voters or deputy registrar of voters in Colchester.

For more information, call the town clerk's office at 860-537-7215.

Vendors Sought for Snowflake Bazaar

There are still crafter spots available at Westchester Congregational Church's annual Snowflake Bazaar, which this year will take place Saturday, Nov. 6, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., at Markham Meadows Campground in East Hampton. The 8x10 spots are \$25 each.

The bazaar will feature food, music and raffles. For more information, call Melissa Engel at 860-267-9738.

CORE Commission Accepting Applications

Colchester's Openness to Respecting Equity (CORE) Commission is actively accepting applications. The CORE Commission will serve as an advisory commission for the mission of increasing awareness of diversity in town. This will be done with input from the community, Board of Selectmen and the Human Resources Director for the Town of Colchester.

The commission will be comprised of seven members and two alternates with three-year terms. In the initial startup of the commission, four members will hold three-year terms, three members will hold two-year terms, and alternates will hold three-year terms. In 2023, or upon renewal, all terms will become three-year terms.

St. Andrew Ladies Guild Fundraiser

The St. Andrew Ladies Guild is sponsoring a fundraiser of Lyman Orchard berry pies and Granny's Pie Factory cream pies, as well as Otis Spunkmeyer cookies. The fundraiser will run through Oct. 19.

Curbside pickup will be Tuesday, Nov. 2, from 6-8 p.m., at the back of St. Andrew Church Parish Hall, 128 Norwich Ave.

To order, go to tinyurl.com/f2wjtnf. All proceeds fund the Guild's annual high school and college scholarships.

The CORE Commission will promote cultural diversity, social equity and a spirit of inclusiveness in Colchester by discovering, bridging, supporting and celebrating the various cultures in town, including all groups as set forth above.

Applications can be found on the Town of Colchester website and can be sent to the First Selectman's Office via email at hperham@colchesterct.gov or mailed to 127 Norwich Ave., Colchester, CT 06415. For questions or clarification call 860-537-7220.

Fire Calls

From Sept. 26-Oct. 2, the Colchester Hayward Fire Department responded to 52 calls. Of those, 42 were emergency medical calls, six were fire/fire related calls, and four motor vehicle accidents.

Fire/fire related: 6: fire alarm, six; motor vehicle accidents: 4. Medical: sick person, four; fall injury, seven; cardiac distress, six; mental disorder, three; difficulty breathing, five; back pain, one; overdose, two; lift assist, four; injured person, one; unconscious, three; medical alarm, four; abdominal pain, one; diabetic emergency, one.

CHFD provided mutual aid four times last week – twice each to East Haddam and Marlborough. It received it two times – all from Gardner Lake Fire Department.

Call CHFD at 860-537-2512 to schedule a free CO check. Reflective house number signs are available to order in blue or green, vertical or horizontal \$12.00. Car seat safety checks and installations are available by appointment only.

The Department of Emergency Management will be conducting tests of the emergency sirens throughout town, on the first Saturday of every month between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Off to College

Allyson Knorr-Anderson of Colchester is among the new and returning students enrolled this fall at Elmira College in Elmira, N.Y.

Fall Market Vendor Fair

Colchester Federated Church will host a Fall Market Vendor Fair Saturday, Oct. 16, from 10 a.m.- 2 p.m., at the church, 60 Main St. There will be crafts, vendors, food trucks and more.

TROIANO

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Senior Center News & Notes

Colchester Senior Center, 95 Norwich Ave., has announced the following. For full descriptions, call 860-537-3911, email csc@colchesterct.gov, or visit www.colchesterct.gov/senior-center. Events marked with a (Z) will be held via Zoom, and those marked with a (CC) will be held via conference call.

Monday, Oct. 11: Closed for Columbus Day.

Tuesday October 12: 8:30 a.m., CoA Meeting (Z); 9 a.m., Making Memories; 9:45 a.m., Tai Chi; 12:30-3:30 p.m., Choices by appointment only; 12:30 p.m., Pinochle; No Bingo; 1:30 p.m., AARP Meet the Candidates Forum (Z); 7:00 p.m., SCBC Meeting (Z).

Wednesday, Oct. 13: 8:30 a.m., Walking Group meetup at the Airline Trail in Amston; 9 a.m., Making Memories Program; 10 a.m., Adult Coloring, Sit & Be Fit, & AARP Driver Safety (Z); 12:30 p.m., Reel Friends Movie Club "Respect" PG-13; 1:30 p.m., Line Dancing; 2:30 p.m., Staff Meeting.

Thursday Oct. 14: 9:00 a.m., Exercise w/ Anne; 10 a.m., Sittercize, Wii Bowling, & Pet Therapy; 10:30 a.m., Shopping Trip; 11 a.m., Yoga; 12 p.m., Chair Massage; 12:30 p.m., Dominoes; 1:00 p.m., Knit & Crochet.

Friday, October 15: 10 a.m., Sit & Be Fit; 10:30 a.m., Choral Group; 11 a.m., Yoga; 1:30 p.m., Bingo.

Upcoming Programs: Meet The Candidates: Tuesday, Oct. 12, 1:30 p.m., via Zoom. Learn about the platforms and positions of local politicians running in the upcoming election. Candidates will be running for positions in the Board of Selectman, Board of Finance, Board of Education, and for the First Selectmen. AARP will be hosting and moderating this Zoom event. The link can be found in the October Zoom Link's Table and the event will be livestreamed at the Senior Center for those who do not have computer access. Pre-registration required as space is limited.

Cupcake Decorating Workshop: Monday, October 18, 1 p.m., Learn some cake decorating techniques with confectionary artist and senior center member Mary Lou Martin. Mar-

tin will teach the fundamentals of decorating in this beginner level class. Cupcakes will be used to practice and participants will go home with their creations. There is a \$5 materials fee for this class. Register by Oct. 12.

Oktoberfest Special Event Luncheon: Wednesday, Oct. 20, 11 a.m. Former state troubadour Tom Callinan will be joining us for a special German-themed performance. The show will be followed by a lunch of bratwurst with sauerkraut, German potato salad, braised red cabbage, dinner roll with butter, and warm pumpkin donuts for dessert. Tickets are \$8 each. Register by Oct. 13.

Family Feud: Monday, Oct. 25, at 1 p.m., Two teams will face off against each other to try to guess the most popular answers to questions. The game is free, preregistration is required.

Halloween Pizza Party & Costume Contest: Friday, Oct. 29, at 11 a.m. Prizes will be given for funniest, spookiest, and best overall costumes. The festivities will be followed by pizza, garden salad, a soft drink, and dessert. Tickets are \$7.00 each. Register by October 22nd.

Alzheimer's Association Caregivers Zoom Series: Mondays, Nov. 1-15, at 6 p.m. The Colchester Commission on Aging is holding a three-part series entitled "Living with Alzheimer's: for Caregivers: Early Stages" Kristopher Sortwell, the Eastern Region Director of Education and Outreach with the Alzheimer's Association CT Chapter will be the guest speaker throughout the series. Call the center for the Zoom links for these presentations.

Special Presentations for Colchester Housing Authority Residents: The Colchester Senior Center will hold special sessions for the residents of Dublin and Ponemah Villages to talk about the proposed new senior center. Mondays, Oct. 18 & 25, at 1:30 p.m. Meet with members of the Senior Center Building Committee and learn about this important project. Senior bus transportation to Dublin Village will be offered on Oct. 18 and to Ponemah Village on Oct. 25. Call the center to register for a ride.

C3 Play & Learn Groups

The Collaborative for Colchester's Children (C3) has announced the return of outdoor Play and Learn Groups at Ruby and Elizabeth Cohen Woodlands.

This class, for children up to 5 years old with a caregiver, will feature a variety of outdoor, physically distanced activities that include stories, songs, music and movement games, and more.

For more information and to register, go to ColchesterC3.org

Poetry Contest for Children

The Colchester Garden Club is inviting area students in grades K-9 to share their nature experiences, thoughts and knowledge about birds by creating an original poem for the National Garden Clubs, Inc. Poetry Contest. This year's poetry contest theme is "Sing with the Song Birds - Exploring the Glory of Nature."

Flyers and entry forms may be picked up at the Cragin Memorial Library Children's Circulation Desk or requested by email from colchestergardenclub@yahoo.com. Contest deadline is Dec. 1, with awards and recognition being made in spring 2022.

Contest Rules: All entries must be typed and titled. On the back of the entry, affix the Colchester Garden Club Entry Form which includes name, address, age, grade and school of participant and sponsoring garden club and

state garden club name information. All entries become the property of National Garden Clubs, Inc. Poems do not have to rhyme; poems may be traditional verse, acrostics, blank verse, cinquains, diamond poems, limerick or Haiku.

Scale of Points: 100 Total. Title - 10 points; Content - 40 points; Creativity - 30 points; Style - 20 points.

In January, Connecticut state winners will move to the northeast regional judging. Only regional winners will be considered in the judging for national winners. All of the national winning entries will be compiled into a booklet that will be made available to the winners.

For more information, contact Colchester Garden Club at colchestergardenclub@yahoo.com or call 860-267-4471.

Meet the Candidates Forum

Colchester's AARP local 4019 is having a Zoom Meet the Candidates' Forum Tuesday, Oct. 12, from 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Those without internet or uncomfortable with Zoom are welcomed to call the Senior Center at 860-537-3911 to reserve a spot to observe this annual event.

Police News

On Oct. 3, after a domestic incident on Dr. Foote Road in Colchester, Jose Angel Garcia-Lopez, 36, of Windham, was arrested and charged with criminal trespass and disorderly conduct. He had a court date of Oct. 4, Norwich.

CT Bearcats Seeks Players

The CT Bearcats of Colchester and East Hadam is seeking 9U players for the spring/summer baseball season. To be eligible, players cannot turn 10 years old until after May 1, 2022.

Anyone interested should contact Coach Rob Corrado at TMBA22@hotmail.com.

Ahavath Achim News

Congregation Ahavath Achim, 84 Lebanon Ave., has announced the following schedule:

Friday night service, 6:30 p.m., Zoom; Shabbat morning 10 a.m. hybrid service; Tuesday, Talmud class, 6:30 p.m., and Kabbalah class, 8 p.m. on Zoom.

For more information, call 860-537-2809. Office hours are 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday; 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Tuesday; 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Wednesday; and 9 a.m.-noon Friday.

Special Info Sessions on Senior Center

The Colchester Senior Center will hold special sessions for the residents of Dublin and Ponemah villages to talk about the proposed new senior center on Mondays, Oct. 18 and 25, at 1:30 p.m.

Meet with members of the Senior Center Building Committee and learn about this project. There will be senior bus transportation to Dublin Village on Oct. 18 and Ponemah Village on Oct. 25.

Register if you need a ride, by calling 860-537-3911.

Medium to Visit

St. Josephs Polish Club, 395 S. Main Street, is once again hosting medium Rebecca Anne Locicero, on Saturday, Oct. 16, from 6:45-9 p.m.

Tickets are \$30 per person and on sale now. Stop by the club Monday-Friday from 4-9 p.m., or Saturday and Sunday from noon-9 p.m., to purchase your tickets.

Guests must be seated by 6:45 p.m. the night of the show, so that it can start on time.

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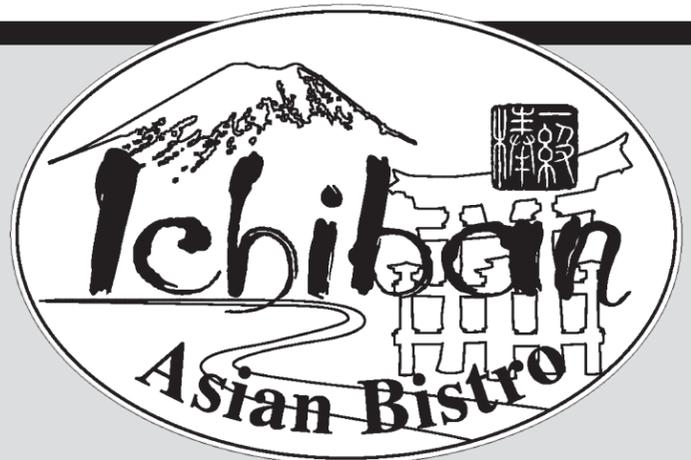
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Scouting For Food

Scouting for Food (SFF) is the local area's Boy Scout Troop and Cub Packs food collection drive to help Colchester's needy families. The Colchester Scouts will distribute yellow plastic bags for the collection of non-perishable food donations to Colchester homes on October 30. There will be a listing of items that can be donated on or in each bag. We are using up our existing stock of plastic bags to reduce their wasteful disposal, and to maintain a no contact donation process for residents.

Collection of donations done by the Scouts will be the following Saturday, November 6th 2021, from 9 AM to Noon. All non-perishable items should be put outside before 9 a.m. next to mailboxes or in a place where Boy Scouts passing by on the street will see the donated items. Please be as generous as you can this year, as some very needy Colchester families are being impacted by the economic effect of the pandemic. Scouting For Food items collected in Colchester will stay in Colchester, as they will be brought directly to the Colchester Food Bank.

Senior Trip to Chicken Restaurant, Casino

Colchester Senior Center is organizing a trip to Wright's Chicken Farm in Rhode Island, followed by a stop at Twin River Casino, on Thursday, March 24, 2022, departing at 10:15 a.m.

At Wright's, dine on home-cooked baked chicken, pasta with homemade sauce, signature French fries, and salad with Wright's family recipe dressing. Spend the afternoon at Twin River Casino with over 4,000 slot machines and live table games.

Cost is \$92 per person, and space is limited. Reservations should be made in person at the senior center, 95 Norwich Ave., and are available to members of the Colchester Senior Center on a first-come, first-served basis.

Call the senior center at 860-537-3911 for more information.

Tag and Bake Sale

There will be a Tag and Bake Sale Saturday, Oct. 16, from 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m., at the hall of St Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church, located at 178 Linwood Ave.

There will be a variety of household items and homemade baked goods from parishioners. All are welcome.

Christmas Fair

The Angels and Snowflakes Christmas Fair will be held Saturday, Nov. 13, from 10 a.m.-6 p.m., at St. Andrew Church 128 Norwich Ave.

There will be baked goods, handmade items, quilts, Christmas items, gently-used religious items, a raffle, and works by local crafters.

For more information, call Barbara Gozzo at 860-208-4121.

CCO Changes Announced

Colchester Choir and Orchestra (CCO) has made a couple of changes to its upcoming season.

First, it has canceled its Oct. 17 performance. Second, it will begin preparing for its Holiday Concert, scheduled at Bacon Academy for Saturday, Dec. 4, at 6:30 p.m. Watch the *Rivereast* for more information or visit www.colchesterchoirorchestra.org.

Youth Basketball Registration Open

Registration for the Colchester Youth Basketball (CYB) Recreational Program for children in grades one through high school will be open through Nov. 1. The CYB Travel Program for children grades four-eight will be open until Oct. 31.

Those interested can register at www.Colchesterbasketball.org.

New Agent

Skyview Realty of Colchester has announced its newest agent, Dan Faski.



After receiving his real estate license, Faski decided to join the family business to work alongside his father Jack, the owner/broker of the business, as well as his mother, Lori, and his brother, Matt.

Faski graduated from UConn in 2015 and has worked for the Department of Transportation as a Transportation Engineer since then. In 2019, he became a licensed professional engineer. He will continue working for the state while helping clients find or sell homes or develop commercial property.

He can be reached at 860-917-3614 or danf@skyview-realty.com.

St. Andrew's Guild Offers Travel Opportunities

St. Andrew's Guild is continuing to offer trips to support many various programs. Cruising has reopened and the Jan. 20-31, 2022, cruise to the southern Caribbean cruise has very limited cabins.

The second cruise St. Andrew's Guild is offering is a 16-day cruise Sept. 3-18, 2022 visiting Norway, Iceland and Greenland. You will be transported to Boston to fly to Copenhagen where you will board a Royal Caribbean ship and tour the countries outlined. Cost of the trip starts at \$2,999; this includes your flight.

Cruise ships have spent hours updating their HVAC systems and continually evaluate protocols and health standards, the Guild said. To learn more about the various protocols, call Donna at Friendship Tours at 800-243-1630.

For an itinerary of the cruise, call Cathy Rusi at 860-887-9621 or Barbara Gozzo at 860-537-0179.

Book Club at Cragin Memorial Library

The Cragin Book Club will meet Monday, Oct. 25 at 6 p.m. This month participants will read "Dear Child" by Romy Hausmann. Copies are available for checkout at the Adult Circulation Desk. Club meets at the library. For updates on the program, please sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/cmlbookclub>. Program is free and open to the public. For more information, please call the library.

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Reader Forum • Reader Forum

★ *Letters cont. from page 9*

cellence in the RHAM school system. I appreciate your time and ask that you consider giving me your vote on Nov. 2

**Respectfully,
Michael Charron-Hebron**

Take the High Road

To the Editor:

The candidate running for Colchester's First Selectman, who appears to have similar views as some "Concerned Residents of Colchester," is seeking to get elected by making it seem like the incumbent and our current Board of Education members lack integrity. He seems to be following the lead of our former defunct President who attempted to demonstrate how perpetually spinning the truth then denying that he did could be a winning strategy. This strategy is based on making righteous assertions and false accusations in order to elevate his standing and degrade his opponent. Pertinent facts are purposefully ignored in lieu of using sensational tactics that invoke fear and anger to garner votes. Using misinformation to "trump" the truth is underhanded. I too am a concerned resident. I am concerned that such dirty politics has become dangerously acceptable in our society and is splitting apart families, friends, and our community.

In recent mailings approved by this candidate, it is clear he hopes to win office by taking the "low road." There is no need to defend our First Selectman or the members of the Board of Education that this candidate and his fellow "concerned residents" are attempting to discredit. Instead, remember the countless, and oftentimes thankless hours of dedicated service given in the best interest of our town by our current First Selectman and board members. We are fortunate to have such intelligent, passionate and committed professionals willing to work tirelessly to move Colchester forward during one of the most trying times in our history!

I urge ALL Colchester residents to make integrity their primary focus, especially at the voting booth on Nov. 2nd, and take the "high road" knowing that it will continue to keep Colchester on the right track for a better future!

Paul Hickey-Colchester

AFT CT Endorses Jim Tripp

To the Editor:

The American Federation of Teachers (AFT) Connecticut endorsed Jim Tripp's candidacy for First Selectman of Portland this past week.

"The decision to endorse your candidacy was made because of your commitment to working families and advocating for issues that are important to AFT Connecticut's members," wrote AFT Connecticut Legislative Advocate Teri Merisotis in a letter to Jim. "Clearly, this election is very important to the people of Connecticut and specifically your town."

The labor group represents over 30,000 members in the state of Connecticut and includes teachers, paraprofessionals, state employees, healthcare workers, and higher education faculty and staff.

"AFT Connecticut has long been a strong voice for fair wages, affordable health care, and equal access to high quality education, and I am honored to have their support," Jim said. "The health of any community is directly tied to the health of its school system. As First Selectman, I will continue to support our excellent public schools and work toward a solution to address our school facility needs that ensures our students are learning in safe, efficient, and up-to-date facilities that support 21st century learning."

Jim has been going door-to-door meeting with voters in Portland, listening to their concerns, and sharing his vision for our community. He has launched a campaign website www.jimtrippforportland.com and can be found on Facebook at [facebook.com/jimtrippforportland](https://www.facebook.com/jimtrippforportland) and on Instagram at [instagram.com/jimtrippforportland](https://www.instagram.com/jimtrippforportland).

The American Federation of Teachers (AFT) Connecticut

Against New Garage

To the Editor

Hello, my name is Bob and I've lived in Hebron just over 30 years. My wife and I are avid bird watchers and photographers. I hope you'll excuse my surprise when I heard that there is a plan to put the town garage next to the nature area by Kinney Rd.

I don't know if you know, but animals don't stay within the boundaries of the designated wild life area. (Attempt at Sarcasm)

Once you disrupt the adjacent habitat it will affect all the wildlife that this preserve was created to protect.

How will this affect the wetlands within the adjacent property? Has an environmental im-

pact study been done yet? If not, why not?

It has taken a long time to create the environment that is there now I feel it's wrong to destroy it simply to build a new garage.

Thanks for your time.

Bob Carlson- Hebron

Barella for BOE

To the Editor:

I am writing this letter in support of my friend Kerri Barella and her run for a position with the Marlborough Board of Education. I have had the pleasure of knowing Kerri for five years and we met when our oldest children began their journey in the pre-K program at the Elmer Thienes Elementary School. Since then I have watched her family grow to three children and one more on the way! The growth of her family in the added stress having children can cause has not swayed her from her drive for excellence for not only her children but all of ours in the school district. Kerri is not afraid to speak her mind on the different issues and obstacles the schools experienced and she will continue to do so in the future. She's also been a driving force in supporting our teachers and has taken on many days of volunteering in the classrooms and has gone out of her way to organize the purchasing of gifts for dedicated educators for various occasions. In these difficult and unprecedented times we need strong caring and compassionate representatives on the Board of Education. Kerri Barella is all of those characteristics and more and exactly what we need.

Lindsay Sherry- Marlborough

Vote for the Republican Slate

To the Editor:

I was on the Town's website and counted the number of boards and commissions that support Hebron's government. I was surprised discover 27 boards and commissions work together to make the Town run smoothly. What is amazing about this is that each of these boards are staffed by individuals who volunteer their time—and the time commitment can be considerable-- to serve the Hebron community.

On November 2nd Hebron voters will elect candidates to serve on several of these boards.

Many folks have stepped up to run, and I would like to call out a few. Dan Larson has been a public servant for decades – literally. His passion and enthusiasm for the Town are infectious and I can think of no one more qualified.

Diane Del Rosso and Michael McCormack are running for Board of Finance. Diane currently serves tirelessly on this board and Michael brings to this position a rich history of public service on other boards. Both have impressive careers in finance. Also impressive are Diana Morales (Hebron BOE) and Michael Charron, Joseph Colletti and Gabe Marques (RHAM BOE), who round out Board of Education seats.

I've introduced myself in prior weeks, but I'm running for the Planning & Zoning Commission and together with Devon Gardner, we bring over 30 years of experience on the Commission through initiatives such as the 2018 Zoning Regulation refresh; the 2004, 2014 and now the 2024 Plan of Conservation & Development revision and several other initiatives.

Finally, the ticket is rounded out with the experienced candidates: Phil LoBianco (Zoning Board of Appeals), Marty Halloran and Jim Petrozza (Board of Assessment Appeals).

I hope you will vote for me and the entire Republican slate of candidates on November 2nd. We all share the passion to serve you.

**Respectfully,
Natalie A. Wood-Hebron**

Curley for Top Spot

To the Editor:

Ryan Curley is my choice for Portland's next First Selectman. Why? I'll tell you.

Ryan has an invaluable perspective on what matters most as a lifelong Portland resident, the passion of someone who has served for many years in local town government as both a selectman and town clerk, and the professional experience with his Masters in Public Administration. There's no one better to lead our community forward.

I've also had the opportunity to witness firsthand how Ryan has gone out of his way to better Portland-for everyone. Lending his perspective and advocacy for Portland on issues in

See Letters, page 14



Paul has been in the car business for 63 years, starting out in his own used car business for 40 years. When he retired from his used car

"I have been in the car business for 63 years."

- Paul Westermeyer

lot he started selling Subarus. He has been a certified Subaru Sales Person since 2008.

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RE10-8-21

Reader Forum • Reader Forum

★ *Letters cont. from page 13*

Hartford, volunteering to help distribute food to those less fortunate, or going out of his way for a resident that just needed a little extra help. I could go on and on about how Ryan has always put Portland first. As First Selectman, I have no doubt Ryan will continue listening to all perspectives and doing what is right for the people of Portland.

Please join me in supporting Ryan Curley for First Selectman of Portland.

Rep. Christie Carpino (R-32)

Knights of Columbus Thanks

To the Editor:

The Portland Knights of Columbus want to thank the following business and individuals for their generous gifts to our raffle supporting our Knights Memorial Car show:

Joey Logano Racing, T & S Home Heating, Kelley Family/Pgc, Café Luna, Red Fox Restaurant & Catering, Gerard & Ginger Duclos, Mike & Diane Melluzzo, Portland Ale House, Chris Cote's Golf Shop, Jackie & Richard Lagana, Corey Stabach, Becky Aldrich, Mark Creighton Café Luna, Mark Creighton John Mcknickle

The raffle drawing will be held in the Hall of the Church of Saint Mary at 12 noon, Sunday October 24th. Tickets will be sold in the church hall Friday, Saturday and Sunday, October 22nd – 24th.

Sincerely,

**Frank Magnotta, Raffle Chair,
Freestone Council, KofC, Portland, CT**

Support for Barella

To the Editor,

I'm writing in support of Kerri Barella running for the Board of Education. I have known Kerri personally and professionally for several years. She is approachable, hard-working and well versed in elementary education and special education. She is committed to improving the education our children receive and I think she'd be a wonderful liaison between parents and educators. Kerri volunteers her time as President of the Moms Club, has served on the board of the Marlborough COOP, the MES School Advisory Council and the MES reopening committee. I am confident Kerri would help our elementary school reach new levels of excellence!

Candice Arcari- Marlborough

Bragging for Jim

Dear Portland Residents:

When Jim Tripp and I first spoke about the possibility of him running for First Selectman, he said, "Here's the thing, Laurel: I'm a work horse, not a show horse." And as always, Jim was spot on. He won't brag about his accomplishments and all the good he's doing...he's too busy out there *doing* good. That's just who he is. So I'm writing to brag a little about my friend, who will truly be an exceptional First Selectman.

Jim is humble. He is kind. He is a good listener. He is, to his core, a family man and the biggest fan of his two awesome daughters. He excels at collaboration and consensus building, and knows how to lead with both warmth and clarity. Jim is the type of person who, if he sees something that needs doing, won't sit around waiting for someone else to do it - he will pitch in and get it done. Case in point: throughout the pandemic, Jim worked to support Ruth Maio at the Portland Food Bank to ensure folks had enough food, and when regulars didn't show up at the monthly food drive, he loaded boxes into his pickup truck and delivered them. Not for the photo op. Not for the accolades. Just because he's a good egg.

For Jim, after a 30 year career and 20 years of experience in community volunteerism, this is IT. This isn't a way to launch his career or a springboard to bigger things. Jim is running because he knows he's the right person for the job and because he knows he can do good for our community.

If you're still on the fence, take a few minutes to learn more: www.jimtrippforportland.com. Jim Tripp is the First Selectman Portland deserves. Please get out and vote.

Laurel Steinhauer- Portland

Note: Steinhauer is a member of the Portland Board of Education but she is speaking as an individual.

E-Mail Letters

Letter writers are encouraged to email their letters of 300 words or less to bulletin@glcitizen.com. Letters submitted without a contact phone number will not be published.

Remembering Cynthia

To the Editor:

As an avid runner for decades I have crossed paths occasionally with Cynthia in Hurd Park. On one occasion in the early fall, I was returning to the entrance of the park and my car with darkness close behind me. As I was about to depart I noticed a figure jogging into the park surrounded by near total darkness - it was Cynthia just beginning her run. She had a determined look on her face and her message was clear – "please do not disturb." However, I was worried about her going into the park so late so I cautiously approached her and asked if she had a flashlight. The reply was "no, I don't need one. I will make it" – which marked the end of the discussion.

I began to leave the park but my conscience pushed me to turn around to be sure Cynthia made it back safely, which she inevitably did. I could only imagine that being a scientist (astronomer) she may have had the benefit of some celestial light showing her the way that the average runner was unaware of.

Cynthia was a participant in many local road races, including the annual Labor Day road race in New Haven. One of the perks of competing as a senior is that acquiring a medal in a race is achievable; and judging by the many races Cynthia participated in over the years she must have had a room full of medals! As a great inspiration for many senior runners, Cynthia's running spirit lives on. She will be missed.

Sincerely,

Ronald W. McCutcheon-Middle Haddam

Vote Bisbikos

To the Editor:

The future direction of our Colchester community lies in the balance. We have a stark contrast for 1st selectman on November 2. If you prefer...

Placing people before government,
Scrutinizing government to ensure it works for us, and us not working for government,
Transparency in government,
Ethical behaviors in government,

A leader who is 100% committed to the town and its residents and who does not have a second job,

Aiming for 0% annual tax increase by eliminating government inefficiencies and increasing the tax base,

Not supporting a significant tax increase during financially trying times (such as COVID) on Colchester residents and businesses. The current 1st selectman supported a 5% tax increase during COVID showing that she is tone-deaf to our families. Experience in finance, education and government,

Ending the 'woke agenda' that divides us and lies to our children that America is fundamentally racist and unjust,

Cultivating the spirit and love of community by celebrating the traditions of our wonderful town and nation at 57th Fest, July 4th, Memorial Day, and Veterans Day among others,

Improving our recreational facilities to provide our children with safe and competitive playing environments, than Andreas Bisbikos is your choice for Colchester 1st selectman. Vote Bisbikos for 1st selectman and support his team to propel Colchester in a different and prosperous direction, one that places the interests of our residents and community as priority one.

Paul Bureau- Colchester

Invest in Colchester

To the Editor:

While door-knocking around town and meeting voters for the last several weeks, I've been asking residents: what is the number one issue you care about in Colchester right now? The number one response: people want to see more economic development in our community. We all know that no board or commission can force businesses to come to Colchester, but our town government can foster an environment that will attract them.

As a former member of the Economic Development Commission and current BOF, I know that we need to make strategic investments in our community to make Colchester a desirable place for businesses old and new. We need to proactively maintain our infrastructure and invest in a comprehensive master plan for the downtown area. A more walkable downtown with better parking opportunities is possible while preserving the historic character and charm of the town center. With federal dollars available from the American Rescue Plan, now is the time for our boards to act on long-discussed proposals to achieve this. People have been talking about this for years. Let's get it done now.

If elected for a full term to the Board of Finance, I will continue to support efforts by town departments to pursue these goals, and I'll advocate for use of ARPA funds when applicable. Economic development grows the grand list which eases the tax burden on the rest of us. The Board of Finance and Colchester taxpayers cannot afford to meet every request that comes before us, but strategic investments to support economic development are something I'll fight for while maintaining a tax rate that's affordable. On November 2nd, please consider casting a vote for me, Bernard Dennler III, for Board of Finance.

Bernard Dennler III-Colchester

Bylone is the "Smart Choice"

To the Editor:

Bylone IS the SMART CHOICE as stated in Swyden's letter on September 24. Bylone is the smart choice because she has the background and experience to guide our town into the future, with caring and honesty.

The ARPA legislation requires each jurisdiction's executive to "certify" that the funds will be used for eligible purposes. It is doubtful that spending ARPA funds on Gift Cards would be approved per the ARPA guidelines. GIFT CARDS!?!? What is that, some sort of cheap political ploy to BUY votes? It is doubtful that the Colchester voters are THAT stupid. Better to spend that money on things that are NEEDED, things with lasting impact, for the future, like improvements to the Rec Plex, connecting various points of interest in town with sidewalks and hiking trails, and permanent, attractive, year-round solar powered lamp posts along the path going through the town green. We have this one chance for make a smart, substantial difference in some areas where it is needed.

Has anyone checked to verify that the current first Selectman, Mary Bylone, has actually taken the raise voted to her position by the previous administration? It is doubtful.

On another topic, make a rule, not a courtesy as it has been, that campaign signs do not get put up more than a month ahead of an election, not like this year where that clutter, those eyesoors, were out, looking like trash everywhere, for up to two months ahead of the election.

BTW, the opposition's pizza joint, advertised so frequently as the best in town, is NOT the best, far from it.

In closing, vote for the caring, smart future.

Tricia Heldmann- Colchester

Grateful for the Opportunity

Dear Colchester Residents,

I would like to introduce myself as the newest candidate running for Board of Education. I joined the team when a vacancy opened up and have been welcomed by a wonderful and supportive group of candidates lead by Andreas Bisbikos. I am the youngest member of the team and I feel I have a lot to offer the students in our town by joining the Board of Education. I am a recent graduate with current insight of the school system. I will bring my fresh perspective and experience forward to work on bridging the gap between regular education and special education. My solid understanding of the needs and challenges in special education motivates me to open communication with the community and champion for students to self-advocate and build their self-confidence.

I am grateful to be running for the Board of Education with a solid team. The combined and diverse experience and the qualifications each of us will bring to the board will bring forth a refreshing outlook that will benefit all of the children of our town. The team to vote for includes myself, a young high spirited individual ready to fight for the best interest of your child; Alex, an experienced educator who is currently working in the educational system and understands the importance of getting back to grassroots education; and two moms, with children in the Colchester school system, Donna and Margo, who are both very involved with the children in our town and will advocate for your families. I would like to thank the residents of Colchester for the very warm welcome I have received in my campaign. Colchester is truly a wonderful, caring community to be involved in.

**Rosemary Gignac- Colchester
Candidate for BOE**

Support for Bylone

Dear Colchester Residents,

This will be the third time I've run with Mary Bylone, First Selectman. I first met Mary when she ran for the BOE in 2017 and subsequently First Selectman in 2019. What I liked about Mary from the beginning was that she believes in doing the right thing no matter how

difficult that decision is when you must make it. She bases those tough decisions on the facts and what's the right thing to do for the citizens of Colchester whom she represents. This is a standard of representation that I believe in for our community. Politics or personal incentive never enters her decision-making process. It's all about what's best for Colchester.

Mary is Mary. She loves the Newfoundland that she raises, her gardening, and even her chickens. They put a smile on her face. When it comes to running the Town of Colchester, Mary is forthright and decisive in her decision making. She is empowering and supportive of her staff that loves working with her, bringing out the best in them. She is caring and courageous and demonstrated this over and over during the pandemic.

She not only supports but advocates, for issues important to the community and her fellow Selectmen. Denise Turner and Denise Mizla worked to establish CORE, Colchester's Openness to Respecting Diversity. This Commission's charge is to discover, bridge, support and celebrate the diversity within our community, where all voices are welcome. For me, it's been the building of a new Senior Center and this week that should be scheduled to move forward to a Town Meeting and Referendum in early November.

Please support Mary Bylone and the Democratic Team on November 2nd. There's so much more work to do. Colchester needs an experienced leader at the helm.

Sincerely,

Rosemary Coyle- Colchester

Note: Coyle is a member of the BOS but is speaking as an individual.

Stable Leadership

To the Editor:

My name is Wes Skorski, and I am graciously asking for your vote to be reelected to the Marlborough Board of Education. I have been serving on the BOE for the past eight years, many of those in a leadership role first as vice-chair and currently as chairperson. During my tenure, the BOE has been non-partisan with almost all votes being unanimous. We were able to achieve this by leaving politics aside, letting everyone share their thoughts, opinions, and research with open and thoughtful discussions. I commit to continue being this voice of moderation and openness.

My family has lived in Marlborough since 2005. My son Peter is now in 7th grade and daughter Maria in 9th grade at RHAM. My late wife Audrey, who passed away in 2020, was a devoted member of the community. She volunteered in the elementary school, Library Board of Directors, Girls Scout leader, PTO and MOMs Club.

I have had the opportunity to run for the RHAM BOE and Board of Finance but have declined each time, as my passion and my connection is to the elementary school. Each month at the beginning of the BOE meeting, Assistant Principal Kim Kelly shows a video of the prior months' kids' activities; I love seeing the children's smiles and I often tell the rest of the board "this is why we are here." I am dedicated to giving the students a strong start in life and recognize that early academic success is essential.

It is sometimes difficult, controversial, and time consuming to be on the Board of Education, but maintaining MES' reputation of excellence and knowing that I'm making a difference in the children's lives, truly sustains me and keeps me going.

Sincerely,

Wes Skorski- Marlborough

Note: Wes Skorski is a member of the Marlborough Board of Education, but is writing as an individual.

Grateful for Endorsement

To my Fellow Marlborough Neighbors:

As a pediatric operating room nurse at Connecticut Children's Medical Center, my life's work is to care for and ensure the wellbeing of other people's children. As a mother, I also ensure the wellbeing of my own two young children. Every day, I am responsible for the health, education, and happiness of children – and both roles are an honor I cherish. I write today to ask for your support as a candidate to serve on the Marlborough Board of Education.

Since I am unaffiliated with either political party, my true focus will be on the issues at hand rather than aligning with either party. I am grateful to have earned the endorsement to run on Marlborough's Democratic ticket. I hope to earn the votes of both Democrats and Republi-

See Letters, page 27

East Hampton • East Hampton

Rossini's Marks 30 Years in Business

by Jack Lakowsky

Emilio Simoni, owner and operator of Rossini's Italian Restaurant on Route 66, said he feels great about the restaurant lasting three decades.

Simoni said Rossini's is among the oldest restaurants in town.

"Even through COVID-19, the restaurant sustained," Simoni told the *Rivereast* on Monday.

The restaurant hasn't quite opened for dining room service, and is serving takeout only, although owners hope to reopen the dining room very soon.

To celebrate this milestone, Rossini's will have a prize raffle from Oct. 15 through Oct. 17, with the grand prize drawing on the latter date. Rossini's will also offer pizza and dinner specials for customers through the same weekend.

Simoni took the helm about five years ago, buying the restaurant from his family, who founded the store in 1991. Simoni and his wife renovated its interior a few years ago, modern-

izing its look.

Simoni's father, Luigi Simoni, his uncle Mario, and his father's cousin Tony Rossini, founded Rossini's. Simoni said founders went with "Rossini's" because it rolls off the tongue a bit better than "Simoni."

Ten years after its founding, Angelo Simoni joined his brothers in running the store.

Simoni began working with his dad at age 12, washing dishes, prepping food, "doing anything I could possibly do."

Ever since then, Simoni said he's liked being in the action, and prefers running around during a rush to sitting behind the scenes.

The Middlesex area, and the state for that matter, are awash in Italian and pizza joints. Simoni said what sets Rossini's apart is its pizza which, he said, is among the top-five most delicious in the state.

In 2019, Rossini's was named in the top ten pizza houses in the CT Now Pizza Showdown, counted among such famous names as Pepe's

Pizza.

Simoni said the contest cited their lasagna pizza and seafood pizza as reasons for the designation. He said his eggplant parmesan, chicken parmesan and chicken marsala pizzas are quite popular as well.

"That was definitely a huge accomplishment," Simoni said.

Simoni said although the restaurant is happy with how dedicated its customers proved to be throughout the pandemic, the store still has challenges to overcome.

Simoni said a staff shortage, a challenge affecting a bevy of industries nationwide, currently plagues the restaurant, and is the main factor preventing it from opening the large dining room.

The restaurant especially needs waitstaff and is looking to hire around six or seven. Rossini's is also looking for line cooks. It was short staffed before the pandemic, with a large

number of college-age employees moving on to their chosen fields.

The positions are listed online, including on Facebook jobs. However, the best way to apply is to show up and fill out an application. The restaurant said applicants will likely get an on-the-spot interview.

Simoni thanked his dedicated staff for picking up hours and helping out as much as they could.

"I wanna thank the town for their continued support," Simoni said. "Without the community, without their patience and understanding, we wouldn't be here."

Simoni said he wants people to know "we're here, we're still very mom-and-pop and worth coming out for a visit."

Simoni said as a way reach a larger customer base, the restaurant hopes to soon increase its social media presence.

Oktoberfest/Family Day

The CT Draft Horse Rescue (CDHR) will hold Oktoberfest/Family Fun Day on Sun., Oct. 17 at Autumn Ridge 113 Chestnut Hill Rd, East Hampton CT 06424. Admission is free. Meet CDHR's horses from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. CDHR is also celebrating its tenth anniversary. There will be vendors, raffles, games, a kids' zone, face painting, and more. For more information, please visit www.ctdraftrescue.org or www.facebook.com/ctdraftrescue. This event is rain or shine.

The CDHR is a non-profit organization dedicated to saving the lives of neglected or abused draft horses as well as draft horses headed to slaughter. Its mission is to vet, quarantine, rehabilitate, train and re-home rescued horses with a strict contract for their life-long protection. Since its inception, CDHR has rescued more than 110 horses. CDHR is run strictly on public donations. Fundraisers, such as this one, ensure it has the resources needed to continue caring for the horses at Autumn Ridge.

Fall Author Series Lineup

Cragin Memorial Library of Colchester, East Hampton Public Library, Richmond Memorial Library of Marlborough and Welles-Turner Memorial Library of Glastonbury announce their virtual Fall Author Series lineup.

Author Ellen Feldman will speak live on Zoom Tuesday, Oct. 15, at 6:30pm. Feldman is the author of *Scottsboro*, which was shortlisted for the Orange Prize, *The Boy Who Loved Anne Frank* and *Paris Never Leaves You*. Her novel *Terrible Virtue* was optioned for a feature film. Her latest novel is *The Living and the Lost* was featured in the magazine *BookPage*.

New York Times best-selling author Deborah Copaken will speak live on Zoom on Tuesday, Nov. 16, at 6:30 p.m. Copaken is the author of

Shutterbabe, *The Red Book* and the recently-released *Ladyparts*. She was a writer on the Netflix show *Emily in Paris* and her life was portrayed on the episode "When Cupid is a Prying Journalist" in the Amazon series *Modern Love*.

Native Connecticut author Juliet Grames will speak live on Zoom Tuesday, Dec. 8, at 6:30 p.m. Grames is the author of the *The Seven or Eight Deaths of Stella Fortuna*, her first novel. A book editor, she has spent the last decade at Soho Press, where she is associate publisher and curator of the Soho Crime imprint.

Register for these author events on the East Hampton Public Library website, at EastHamptonPublicLibrary.org, or by calling the library at 860-267-6621.

Police News

9/17: Michael Blancato, 38, of Moodus, was arrested and charged with driving under the influence and operating under suspension, East Hampton Police said.

9/22: Sabrina O'Brien-Mezzatesta, 42, of 6 Julia Terrace, arrested and charged with third-degree assault and disorderly conduct, police said.

9/25: Joseph Sustakoski, 56, of 16 N. Maple St., was arrested and charged with second-degree breach of peace and second-degree threatening, police said.



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-Nelson Mandela

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East Hampton • East Hampton

Town Solicits Investors to Revive Center Sites

by Jack Lakowsky

East Hampton Town Manager David Cox on Monday told the *Rivereast* he was days away from releasing a Request for Proposals document (RFP) soliciting developers to revive abandoned properties in the town center.

The sites are 1 and 13 Watrous Street, as well as 13 Summit Street. The properties have been in a state of disrepair for years.

The Town Council discussed this matter in its Sept. 28 meeting.

The town owns two of the parcels, both on Watrous. Cox said both have had work done but are still in need of environmental remediation.

The real headache, however, is the Summit Street property, which is still in private ownership, according to Cox. Although not in town hands, the property's delinquent taxes mean the town will soon seize it for a tax sale.

Cox told the *Rivereast* the property owner owes about \$240,000 in back taxes, one of the larger delinquencies in town.

Cox said the town has been in regular touch with the owner, and that the chance they'll pay this debt is slim. The owner does have a right to pay back his debt and reclaim the site, although it needs a major, costly facelift before it can be of any use.

"It's in bad shape," the town manager told the council. "Portions of that building are probably unusable. We want to get someone who can help us look at potential concepts."

Cox said the RFP is designed to "encourage creativity." Project proposals must be to the town by Nov. 19.

The RFP reads the community is seeking to develop and replace the "tired and unused" historic mill complexes with "vibrant, attractive" development that interconnects the town center and the Air Line Trail.

Projects should facilitate district-wide improvements, the RFP reads.

The RFP says this project is a culmination of 20 years of community undertakings, and the Plan of Conservation and Development priori-

tizes the development of these parcels.

Council Chair Pete Brown said the sites have deteriorated for years, and the town needs to get them back on the tax rolls.

Cox told the *Rivereast* the cost of the project will be determined after possible uses are reviewed.

Cox said owners of a property at-risk of going to tax sale are given a year's notice. He said announcing an RFP for a parcel not owned by the town is "somewhat unconventional", but that beginning now is necessary for a timely process.

Cox said there is a risk of developers hesitating to approach a property the town doesn't own. At the same time though, a project of this scale would require a viscous approval and review process anyway.

The town's longstanding water supply and quality issues are also a factor. Cox said the town and whoever replies to the RFP would coordinate, if the applicant has a water-intensive operation.

Cox said in the meeting, it was suggested the town's water situation be more explicitly described before issuing the RFP.

Cox told the *Rivereast* the town would seek in-kind agreements and grant funds to help offset any "out-of-pocket" expenses that may be realized.

Council vice chair Dean Markham said there are many great projects going on the Village Center, and that it's time to include these sites on that roster.

Workshop on Regional Housing Plan

The Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments (RiverCOG) will hold a virtual presentation and workshop to launch its Regional Housing Plan Tuesday, Oct. 12, at 7 p.m.

RiverCOG, with consultants SLR and Goman + York, will present the format of the plan and the timeline for completion, review preliminary regional data analysis, and engage in interactive exercises.

This presentation is open to all. Register at tinyurl.com/2h5z2c7s. To read more about the plan and take the council's housing survey, visit RiverCOG.org/RHP.

Future of Pot in Belltown

In its meeting the council set a public hearing to gauge resident thoughts on the future of recreational and retail marijuana use in town.

The public hearing will be held during the council's Oct. 12 meeting. Its purpose is to get a read on how the public feels about the new law.

As of Oct. 1, East Hampton has placed a temporary moratorium on commercial marijuana

activity, set to last a year.

In the meeting, Town Manager David Cox said the moratorium gives the town, both its government and people, time to decide on how to handle pot activity, which the state made legal this year.

"All options are open," Cox told the council, going on to say this could include total prohibition or total allowance.

East Hampton Library News & Notes

East Hampton Public Library 105 Main St. has announced the following upcoming programs. The Library is open regular hours Monday – Wednesday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Thursday – Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Effective as of August 16, masks are required at town facilities, including the library, for people ages 3 and up. Information about library programs and links to online services may be found at easthampton-publiclibrary.org, or on Facebook at facebook.com/EastHamptonLibrary

Nocturnal Creatures: Sat., Oct. 9, 3 p.m., Pequotsepos Nature Center, learn about animals that use darkness to help them find food while staying safe in the wild. In-person, on the library patio.

Stories and Songs Outside: Ages 18 months – 5 years, Wed., Oct. 13, 10:15. A story time program for children ages 18 months to five years old and their caregivers, held in-person, outdoors at Sears Park by Lake Pocotopaug. Join us for stories, songs and to interact with other families in the community. Siblings welcome. No registration required.

Preschool Musical Adventures: Wednesdays, 4 p.m. This activity is live and in person. Dance, sing, listen to stories, and make musical instruments. This program is intended for children ages 3-6 and will take place in the community room at the library. Participants will

be required to wear a mask. Please register for each week separately.

Dungeons and Dragons: Grades 8–12, Wednesdays, Oct. 13 & 27, Nov. 10 & 24, 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. A journey into the world of Dungeons & Dragons. No previous playing experience required and all supplies will be provided. Held in person at the library.

Middle School Advisory Board: Tues., Oct. 26, 5:00 p.m. The board is a group of teens who come together to plan and create events and programs they want at the library. Students in 6th – 8th grade are welcome to join. Requires a monthly commitment and participation.

Adult Crafternoon: Sat., Oct. 9, 1:00 p.m., An afternoon social meet-up with like-minded, craft loving adults. Bring a project to work on and show off what you've recently finished. Connect with fellow crafters and hobbyists and get new ideas and admire some talent. All crafts and hobbies welcome.

Fall Author Series: Tues., Oct. 12, 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. Join us for an evening with Ellen Feldman, Author of *The Living and the Lost*. Books will be on sale for cash or check to benefit the Friends of library.

Book Club: Tues., Oct. 19, 6:30 p.m., Thurs., Oct. 21, at 2:00 p.m. Following Ellen Feldman's visit on October 12, Book Club will discuss her newest novel, *The Living and the Lost*.

Lake Drawdown

The owner of the dam for Lake Pocotopaug is planning a lake drawdown to begin just after Oct. 11. The lake will be drawn down approximately 24 to 30 inches.

The drawdown is intended to give residents an opportunity to work on seawalls and do beach cleanup. Residents are reminded that activities along the shoreline may require an Inland Wetlands permit.

Residents should contact the Building/Planning/Zoning Department at 860-267-9601 as soon as possible concerning questions and applications before doing any work in the lake watershed.

Old Home Days

Old Home Days will be back in 2022 and will Paint the Town Red. The festivities will take place July 7, 8 and 9. Thursday night is always family night. Friday will include the 5-k race and a special dedication will be announced. Saturday will be the parade and participants can have a float.



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Portland Library News & Notes

The Library is open and no appointments are needed. Masks for those over the age of two, and social distancing are required. Computers and wireless access in the building are available to walk-ins and by appointment. Wireless access is available on the library grounds. "Curbside Delivery" of requested items continues: Call the library, or reserve items online and receive a notice or call when the materials are available.

Registration is required for all the following events unless otherwise noted. For more information of full program descriptions call the Library at 860-342-6770 or visit www.portlandlibraryct.org. The library is also on Facebook and Instagram.

Hours: Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Library will be closed Mon., Oct. 11 for a holiday. Join remote meeting access through Zoom The ID is 8603426777 and the Passcode is Portland.

Museum passes and Yard Games are available. Reservations recommended.

Community events: Fair Housing Matters, Oct. 13, 7 p.m. via Zoom.

Howl-o-ween! Oct. 23, Rain date October 31. On the Town Green, Waverly Ave.; Parades on the Library/Senior Center drive.

Youth Services Programs: New StoryWalk. Follow the storyboards along the library's sidewalk near the playscape to read *Lola at the Library* and then visit the library to sign up for a library.

Fall Storytimes: Weekly storytimes will be held outdoors by the gazebo on the Town Green. Join in singing, practicing counting rhymes, and listening to stories. A take-home craft will be provided. Registration is required. In case of inclement weather, the program will be cancelled and participants will be notified. Program dates are times are: Preschool Storytime (ages 3-5): Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. October 12, 19, 26; Toddlers and Tots (ages 0-2): Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. October 13, 20, 27.

Family Halloween Storytime: Wed., Oct. 27 at 6:30 p.m. Dress up in Halloween costumes.

Miss Jenn will share her favorite Halloween stories, songs, and activities. Craft kits will be available for pickup before the program and a Zoom link will be sent before the event. Registration is required and space is limited.

Family Craft Night: Halloween Door Sign, Wed., Oct. 13 at 6:30 p.m. Create a spooky door hanging in this fun family program with steps that are appropriate for all ages, but a parent or guardian must supervise. Supplies may be picked up in advance of the program and a Zoom link for instruction will be sent within 24 hours of the event. Registration is required and space is limited.

Upcycled Crafts: grades K-5, Thursdays at 3:30 p.m., Oct. 14, 21, 28. Save those bottles, jars and toilet paper rolls to turn them into creative "upcycled" projects in this virtual program. Most materials will be supplied each week and can be picked up in advance of the program. Registration is required.

Murder Mystery for Teens: Totally Rad 80s Prom Gone Bad, Friday, Oct. 29 at 3:30 p.m. Learn about the suspects of a grisly crime and try to figure out who committed it. This in-person event will be held in the large meeting room. Space is limited and registration is required.

Adult Programs: Tuesday, October 19, Medicare Follow up session with Ben Coleman from American Senior Benefits to answer questions and clarify the ins and outs of Medicare. 6:30 p.m. in the Mary Flood room.

Portland Forum Book Discussion: Thursday, October 28th at 7:00 p.m.: *A Most Beautiful Thing: The True Story of America's First All-Black High School Rowing Team* by Arshay Cooper. Copies are available at the Library. The film can be viewed by Amazon prime members or on NBC's Peacock streaming service.

Thursday October 14th at 1:00p.m.: Two women are brought together in a mesmerizing story of courage and redemption.

Mystery Lovers Book Club: Tuesday October 19th at 1:00p.m.: *All the Devils are Here*, by Louise Penny.

Knifty Knitters: Saturdays 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.



Silent auction items include a certified replica of Joey Logano's racing helmet and other memorabilia.

KofC Dinner and Cruise Night Big Raffle

The Freestone Council Knights of Columbus has put together items for an "Oil Can" or tea-cup Raffle, and Silent Auction. Raffle items will be displayed, and tickets can be purchased at St. Mary Church Hall beginning on Fri., Oct. 22 at the Dinner and Cruise Night, Sat., Oct. 23, and Sun. Oct. 24.

Silent auction items include a certified replica of Joey Logano's racing helmet, 100 gallons of home heating oil, and a commercial KEURIG K-1500 coffee maker. In addition, there will be electronic items and collections of very good wines.

Oil Can items are a set of eight bocce balls, a handmade afghan, Pure Haven probiotic skin care products, a wooden tabletop foosball, two \$100 restaurant gift cards, \$25 gift card, \$50 gift card, gift certificate for 18 holes greens fees and shared carts for party of four at Portland Golf Club, 1:24 scale die-cast #22 car and autographed hero card, Pennzoil #22 team Penske hat and autographed hero card, three sets of Joey Logano adult shirts and autographs, three Joey Logano Racing NASCAR authentic model cars, with tote bag and autographed hero card, Joey Logano XXL child shirt, and autographed

hero card, and two collectible model cars, "Hot Wheels" #22 car In autographed package and autographed hero card, "Joey Logano" sign, tabletop Fan, Fiskars grass trimmer, picnic backpack For four, wood beehive, \$25 Starbucks gift card, and \$50 Shoprite and Subway gift cards.

The drawings will be held at noon on Sunday, October 24.

KofC Take-out Dinner is Back
Freestone Council Knights of Columbus will provide a takeout Pasta dinner on Friday October 22nd beginning at 4:00. Take out Dinner helps fund the charitable works the Knights provide for the community.

Monthly dinner will include pasta with signature sauce, meatballs, salad and roll for \$10. Drive to the front of St. Mary Church to pick up dinners between 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. A Knight will take your order and deliver it to your car or eat in the hall for \$15 for adults, and \$7.50 for children for dinner plus five raffle tickets. Pre-ordering is not necessary On the day of the meal, chefs are available at 860 342- 2713 for any questions. For home delivery, call John McNickle at 860 342-1415.



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Absentee Ballot Information

As was the case in 2020, folks can vote in this November's election either in-person at the polls or by absentee ballot. Unregistered voters can register at voterregistration.ct.gov.

All registered voters must submit an absentee ballot application in order to receive an absentee ballot. The state will not mail out applications to every registered voter as it did in 2020.

To receive an absentee ballot application, either: print out an application online at www.portlandct.org/town-clerk; stop by the town clerk's office at Town Hall, 33 East Main St., during regular business hours and fill out an application in person; or call the town clerk at 860-342-6743 to have an application mailed.

Folks can drop off their completed applica-

tion in the Official Ballot Drop Box, located at Town Hall, or mail them to: Portland Town Clerk, 33 East Main St., P.O. Box 71, Portland, CT 06480.

Once the completed application is received, the town clerk will begin to prepare your ballot for mailing.

Completed ballots can then be placed in the official ballot drop box, or mailed to the town clerk at the above address. All returned ballots must be received no later than 8 p.m. Nov. 2.

For those who choose to vote in person, the absentee ballot process is not necessary. Polls will be open on Election Day, Nov. 2, from 6 a.m.-8 p.m., at Portland Middle School, 93 High St.

Parks and Rec. News & Notes

Parks and Recreation is offering the following. To register or for full program descriptions, visit portland.recdesk.com. For more information, call 860-342-6757 or email nfoley@portlandct.org or adionne@portlandct.org.

Tai Chi for Long Life: Wednesdays, Sept. 7 – Nov. 17, 9:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. at Riverfront Park. Saturdays, Oct. 2 – Nov. 20, 10:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. at Riverfront Park. \$40 for each eight-week session. For drop-in registration, contact Portland Parks and Rec. Classes may transition to virtual classes using the Zoom Online Streaming Platform if the weather gets too cold.

Riverfront Park Rentals: Pavilion and band shell rentals at Portland Riverfront Park are available. Reserve your date via email or phone.

Kids Blast: Portland Parks and Rec. is accepting applications for its After School Kids Blast Program for the 2021 to 2022 school year. The program is available for students in Kindergarten to 6th grade and who are residents of Portland. The structured after school program is based at the Brownstone Intermediate School. Sign up is on a first come first serve basis. Applications can be found at <https://portland.recdesk.com>. For any questions please call

Andy Dionne at (860)342-6757.

5K Run and 2.1 Mile Walk: Registration is open for the annual 5K Run and 2.1 Mile Walk at Riverfront Park on October 30th. For more information, or to register, visit the Parks & Rec website!

Zumba: Wednesdays at Valley View Gym Oct. 27 – Dec. 22 (no class Nov. 24th), 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m., \$64 for the eight-week session or \$10 to drop in.

Virtual Paint Nights: Monthly Virtual Paint Nights with Abakadoodle are back. The first Paint Night is October 14, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Register online for \$25. Supplies included.

Tennis: Quick Start Tennis is starting Oct. 18th at the Portland High School Tennis Courts. Program will run on Mondays from Oct. 18 to Nov. 22. For more details, please contact Parks and Rec.

Socially distance, wear masks, and bring your own hand sanitizer while visiting town parks or facilities.

Social Justice Coalition

The Portland Social Justice Coalition was created in July 2020 in Portland, CT. Its mission is to identify the needs of the community by listening, learning and having conversations to empower community members to raise their voices and begin to bridge the gaps to create a more equitable, inclusive community. To join its network, be added to the mailing list, or learn more about the coalition, send an email to portlandsocialjustice@gmail.com. Find the coalition on Facebook at Portland CT Social Justice Coalition.



The Knights of Columbus Memorial Car Show will take place Fri., Oct. 22. Car Show Cruise Night and Dinner

Because wacky weather cancelled the Knights of Columbus Memorial Car Show twice, the Knights of Council 7 will have the show Fri., Oct. 22. St. Mary's parking lot on Freestone Ave. will be filled with cruise show cars, and in the hall will be a pasta dinner and great raffle gifts, including NASCAR items from Joey Logano.

Cruise cars can start arriving at 3 p.m. There is no admission fee, and free goodies bags will be gifted to the first 75 show cars to arrive. All are welcome to come and enjoy the sights, chat with friends, have dinner, and check out the raffle prizes.

Dinner runs from 4 p.m. to 7p.m., includes pasta with signature sauce, meat balls, salad, roll, dessert, and a beverage and will be available for a donation of \$15. Children aged 10 and under will be half price, and family meals are available.

This event is dedicated to the memory of Sal "Tootie" Pitruzzello. According to co-chair Joe Loban, the original car show format will return next year.

A tee-shirt featuring Pitruzzello's image with his restored 1946-fire truck will be available. A lifelong Portland resident, he joined the Portland Volunteer Fire Department, Company #2 in 1953. Over the years he served as Assistant chief, department training officer, and treasurer. As a Knight of Columbus member for 60 years,

he served his faith and volunteered at various events.

Chief Robert Shea and crew will bring Engine 4, a 1947 Mack firetruck lovingly restored by Pitruzzello and his fellow firefighters.

"We are very proud of Tootie's 60 years' service to our town," Shea said. "In 2014, Sal was inducted into the Connecticut Firefighters Hall of Fame"

Due to COVID-19 and rainouts, the Knights hope the evening will generate a portion of the funds they use to continue to support scholarship programs, and other "worthy and needed" activities in the community, said Grand Knight Mark Creighton.

Correction

In last week's *Rivereast* story covering the Board of Selectmen's commitment to finding a way to sustain the Portland Fair, which was cancelled both this year and last, a paragraph ("Bascom... property") was unclear, and could be read as saying the Portland Fish & Game Club charged the fair \$10,000 for use of its grounds, which it did not and never has, the club told the *Rivereast*.

Kelly Chester, chair of the fair's planning committee, said the club and the fair remain "good friends."

Trinity Concert Series to Benefit Food Bank

Trinity Episcopal Church is hosting two more concerts this fall in its "Vital Connections Through Music" series, to benefit Portland Food Bank. Concerts will be at 4 p.m. Sundays, with a suggested donation of \$15. The schedule is:

Oct. 17: The Promise is Hope: This is a collaborative indie-folk project of Ash and Eric L'Esperance. For more information, visit www.thepromiseishope.com.

Nov. 21: Sarah Browne: A singer-songwriter based in New York, Browne uses her music to spread awareness about Friedreich's Ataxia, a rare genetic disease that took the life of her cousin.

Trinity Church is located at 345 Main St., Portland. The church is handicapped-accessible. All COVID-19 guidelines will be followed.

Call the church office for more information at 860-342-0458 or email trinitychurchportlandct@gmail.com.

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Travel Soccer Weekend Action

The Portland Earthquake U9 soccer team ended its weekend games split. Friday night the team lost a close battle to Rocky Hill under the lights. Their offense was intense with first half goals by Andrew Quesnel, Christian Quesnel and Benjamin Martinez on an assist from Logan DuBerry. Benjamin Martinez' second goal came early in the second-half to round out the team's scoring. The Portland defense held strong, but Rocky Hill was able to get one more goal and Portland fell five-four. Sunday's game against East Hampton was the game of the weekend (forget the Sunday night Pats v Bucs game). Benjamin Martinez squeaked in Portland's lone goal in the first half. The second half was dominated by the outstanding defense of Danny Grosso, Nate Tine, Sean Fitzgibbons and Cooper Quinn, who combined to keep the opponent's offense from breaking through. Goalie Zack Anderson recorded his first shutout of the year, as Portland won one-zero.

The U10 Boys Thunder Force took on three opponents this weekend. The first match against Cromwell resulted in a victory for Portland four-zero. The first goal from Austin Liseo was after a pass from teammate Rocco Glick-Grappo across the center. The second goal was another result of teamwork when Sammy Wilson passed it forward on the attack to teammate Zackary Robare who found Zach Barr in the box to make it two-zero. Leo Dean added a second-half goal that slipped through the goalie's fingers. Landon Richey was right there in case he needed to help it across the line. Easton Yardis put the seal on the victory with a fourth goal. Center forwards Zack Robare and Rocco Glick-Grappo earned the team's Heart and Hustle awards. Goal keepers Easton Yardis and Austin Liseo contributed to the team's first clean sheet of the season. The Thunder Force's second Saturday match against West Hartford's division A team ended with a different result. Thunder Force fell short 8-1, but there were several noteworthy highlights. The lone goal from Sammy Wilson was a ricochet from outside the penalty box that sailed high past the goalie's reach into the back of the net. West Hartford connected several passes and held possession most of the match. There were some exciting defensive heroics from Portland's back line, especially when fullback Landon Richey made a thrilling save with his leg after the goalkeeper had fallen down on the play. Thunder Force spectators enjoyed the action despite the score, noting to coaches that the game was "amazing team action" and complimented the team for "doing what a team does."

The game's Heart and Hustle Award winners were Austin Liseo and Easton Yardis. The Thunder Force took on its league opponent, Canton, on Sunday. Leo Dean scored two goals. The first one was a left-footed goal and the second one was a spectacular volley in the air from a beautiful centering pass from Austin Liseo. Sammy Wilson added another goal and Rocco Glick-Grappo scored his first goal of the season in the team's four-one league victory. Rocco is now the eleventh player on the team to have scored a goal this season, which the coaches attribute to the players' hard work, selfless play, balance and teamwork. Timmy Bolstridge suffered a blow to the leg, but got back up, and nearly scored on a penalty kick earning him a Heart and Hustle Award. Leo Dean was the other Heart and Hustle Award winner, and the coaches noted the excellent job by goalies Sammy Wilson and Zach Barr in building the team's attack from the back.

On Saturday in East Hampton the Boys U11 Red Crush defeated East Hampton #2 seven-one behind a four-goal output by Tyler Fournier, whose clever foot skills created sev-

eral open looks on net early in the game. Cooper Vardon, who had a strong first-half in net, added a well-placed finish of a perfect Fourier cross from the right wing in the second-half. The Red Crush received much needed contributions from U11 players Aeryn Hall, who also scored a goal, and Laila Dietrichsen, with Hall making several dangerous runs down the left sideline and Dietrichsen anchoring the defense at the center-back position to stop multiple East Hampton attacks. Luke Lawrence's versatility and vision shined, particularly in the first half when the club played with only eight players due to an injury. Lawrence's quick thinking in net derailed multiple breakaways to keep East Hampton from capitalizing on its man advantage, and in the second half he had several steals from the midfield position that he turned into scoring opportunities for his teammates with accurate passing. Mason Richey's speed at the forward position paired very well with Raul Corenjo Jr.'s ability to win several 50/50 balls to pressure East Hampton's defense all game, while Ryan Mendes showed outstanding timing and field-awareness at the midfield position.

Liam Russell repeatedly challenged East Hampton's forwards to stall their attacks, and Nathan Clark entered the game late despite an injury to provide the tiring visitors with a much-needed boost in the second half. On Sunday, a blended Red Crush team lost a tough home game seven-two versus East Hampton #1 in a highly-contested game that was closer than the score indicated. The visitors were a more organized and cohesive squad for most of the match, and with the Red Crush missing several key players, they found themselves in an early two-zero hole. However, thanks to an opportunistic Nathan Clark, who scored his first goal of the season from right in front of the net and the hard-working Tyler Fournier, who fired a blast from a challenging angle 18 yards out - the home team clawed back to tie the score midway through the first half. However, East Hampton's use of the whole field proved to be too much, as they made use of the full field to wear the home team down. Laila Dietrichsen, Aeryn Hall, and Grace Sardinskas, all on loan from the girls U11 team to bolster the Red Crush's depleted roster, contributed strong defense and ball movement in the defensive and midfield positions. The versatility of Luke Lawrence, who showed himself as a valuable two-way player in the forward, mid-field, and center-back positions and Cooper Vardon, who moved from goal-keeper to forward where he repeatedly pressured the right side of the opponent's defense were game highlights.

The 6th grade Portland Panthers team lost to Glastonbury on Saturday four-two. Blake Harlow scored both goals for the Panthers with accurate shooting. Jason Revicki and Karly Cruz each played one half in net and kept the game close with several exciting saves. Todd Aresco and Tommy Gaetani helped build the team's attack from the back with some great defensive stops. The coaches noted Eli Eckert's hustle and tenacity, as he was a valuable contributor on the offensive and defensive ends of the field. On Sunday the Panthers fell to league opponent Wethersfield six-zero. Colin Martin stopped Wethersfield from scoring in the first half on a fantastic play when his header knocked a dangerous ball out of the box on a Wethersfield corner kick. In the second half, Jaxon Figueroa had an exciting breakaway shot on goal. Lucas Bolstridge, Miles Matterfis and Drew Kuskey helped stop Wethersfield's momentum thanks to several key defensive plays. Shane Guilmette and Andrew Fischer made many great saves in net.



Donation Received... Jamie Leonard, from the Portland Exchange Club receives a donation from Mimma Burke and Alyson Solomon of State Farm Insurance in Portland towards the recently held Exchange Club Movie Nights at the Portland Fairgrounds. The Flood Law Firm also made a donation to co-sponsor the events. The Exchange will hold another movie night next spring.



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Little League News

The Portland 10U Bombers went two-zero this last week, winning two games against a tough Guilford Green opponent. The Bombers won a close six-five game Thursday night. Guilford took an early 5-0 lead in the first inning, but Portland chipped away at their lead with hits from Evan Warner, Ray Vicino and Timmy Bolstridge. Evan Warner started on the mound for the Bombers, Timmy Bolstridge came in to strike out six of seven batters faced, and Andrew Fischer closed the game out striking out all 6 batters.

On Saturday, the Portland Bombers took an early seven-zero lead and were able to hold on

to beat Guilford Green eight-three. Jackson Hungerford toed the rubber for the Bombers, only allowing two runs in two innings. Andrew Fischer came in as relief, giving up only one run in the last three innings. Evan Warner, Ray Vicino, Jackson Hungerford, and Andrew Fischer all had hits for Portland. Aaron Bailey, Jaxon Figueroa, Declan Kelly, Patrick Reilly, Andrew Fischer, Timmy Bolstridge, and Ray Vicino all had RBI's for the Bombers.

Workshop on Regional Housing Plan

The Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments (RiverCOG) will hold a virtual presentation and workshop to launch its Regional Housing Plan Tuesday, Oct. 12, at 7 p.m.

RiverCOG, with consultants SLR and Goman + York, will present the format of the plan and the timeline for completion, review preliminary regional data analysis, and engage in interactive exercises.

This presentation is open to all. Register at tinyurl.com/2h5z2c7s. To read more about the plan and take the council's housing survey, visit RiverCOG.org/RHP.

Youth & Family Services

Portland Youth & Family Services, along with Senior Services, the Library, Parks & Recreation, and Economic Development will be sponsoring two Halloween events this year.

The Haunted Light Trail: Portland's most prolific Halloween decorators are invited to join the Haunted Light Trail. Residents and businesses that decorate can have their names added to a map of decorated locations where people can vote on their favorites and the houses and businesses can win prizes and bragging rights.

Howl-o-ween: On Sat., Oct. 23, between 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., on the Town Green, Howl-o-ween, a Portland dog costume parade, and Portland's Little Pumpkins, a youth costume parade will take place. The dog parade starts at 11:30 a.m.; Portland dog's 6-plus months old only are invited, pre-registration required, please see the Youth & Family Services website. The youth parade starts at 2:00 p.m.; all ages welcome! Crafts, spooky stores, and refreshments available. Town businesses are encouraged to set up a table or tent and join us!

For more information, call Portland Youth & Family Services or check out the website at www.portlandct.org/youth-services

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Costume Parades Coming

On Saturday Oct. 23, at 11 a.m., Portland Youth & Family Services will hold a Howl-o-ween Pet Costume Parade on the Town Green by the gazebo. This will be followed at 12:30 p.m. by the Portland's Little Pumpkins youth costume parade and pumpkin decorating, also on the Town Green.

For more information, call YFS at 860-342-6758.

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Second-Hand Prose Book Shop

The Friends of the Portland Library group has a large assortment of puzzles, DVDs and cookbooks, as well as fiction, romance, teen and children's used books, in the Second-Hand Prose Bookshop at the Portland Library during regular library hours. Books are 50 cents for paperbacks and children's books, \$1 for trade paperbacks and \$2 for hardcover. DVDs are 50 cents each disc and puzzles are \$2 unless marked otherwise.

FPL also has "I Love CT Libraries" reusable bags on sale for \$1 each. See a sample at the front desk and purchase them from the

library staff.

All proceeds benefit programs funded by the Friends, such as the library's Museum Pass Program, children and adult programs, and the library's DVD collection.

Based on the COVID-19 safety guidelines provided to the library by the Chatham Health District, the FPL Executive Board has canceled the 2021 Fall Book Sale previously scheduled for October.

Visit www.friendsofportlandlibraryct.org for more information or email questions to friendsoftheportlandlibrary@gmail.com.



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Lions to Hold ‘Masquerade 5K’

The Marlborough Lions Club will hold its annual Masquerade 5K Road Race Sunday Oct. 31, starting promptly at 10:30 a.m. This 5K will feature runners in costume and will follow the same course around Lake Teramuggus as the Lions’ Memorial Day weekend race. The race will utilize electronic timing with computerized race results and the course is now a certified 5K.

Entry fee is \$20 for pre-registration by Oct. 16 and \$25 thereafter. Shirts will be provided to those who pre-register by Oct. 16. There is also a \$50 package price for families participating in the race. Due to COVID-19 issues there will not be any same day registrations and all runners need to be registered by the day before the race. Runners will start near the entrance to Blish Park on Park Road and will

proceed on a course which circles Lake Teramuggus.

The Lions Club supports programs that address various issues including blindness, drug abuse prevention and diabetes awareness in addition to supporting local organizations such as the Marlborough Food and Fuel Banks.

To register or for more information, call Lion Tom Reiser at 860-295-8374 or Jean Paul Bolduc at 860-295-9150. Email Tom Reiser at TGReiser@comcast.net. Registration forms are also available in Marlborough and at various other locations including Liberty Bank and you can also register online at www.plattsys.com or www.hitekracing.com/calendar.

Congregational Church News & Notes

Sunday in-person worship at the Marlborough Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, 35 South Main St., is at 10 a.m. For health and safety, attendees are asked to wear masks. Childcare is provided for infants and children downstairs in the nursery. The Sunday worship service is livestreamed at 10 a.m. at mcc.marlconchurch.org for those who aren’t able to attend in person.

Worship services and programs are open to the public. The Church says it is an Open and Affirming Faith community and all are welcome. For more information about the church or its programs, call the church office at 860-295-9050 or Pastor Bob’s direct line at 860-295-0432.

October 10 is a Bluegrass Sunday when the church’s Joyful Blue Bluegrass Band will play familiar hymns and invite parishioners to clap hands and sing along to the uplifting songs. The anthem, “Old Country Church,” will be performed by the group. Pastoral Intern Val Seaver will lead the service.

Sunday School is in-person for children ages

3 to grade 8 and all are welcome. October 10 will feature Indigenous People’s Day activities with Christian Education Director, Gwen Lawson.

Faith Formation study group meets Thursdays, upstairs in the lounge, at 10:30 a.m. All are welcome.

Mission Support in October will go to the York Correctional Resettlement Program. Donations to missions or for any other giving may be sent to the church at PO Box 57, Marlborough, CT 06447 or placed in an offering box on a Sunday.

Second Blessings Thrift Shop is open Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon. Shelves and tables are restocked every week with new merchandise. Fall and holiday is now featured along with name brand jewelry and handbags, infants and children, cookware, and much more. Second Blessings accepts donations during shopping hours. Shoppers should wear masks. The shop also sells through eBay at <https://bit.ly/MCCebay>.

Resident on Cross Country Team

The Assumption University Department of Athletics has announced that Madison Czarnecki of Marlborough has earned a spot on the 2021 Greyhounds Women’s Cross Country team.

Czarnecki, a member of the Class of 2023, is competing during the fall season.

Assumption University is located in Worcester, Mass.

Republican Campaign Signs Available

The Marlborough Republican Town Committee has campaign signs available and will deliver them to anyone who would like to place them on their property. For signs, call Ken Hjulstrom at 860-490-9116.

Voters can also visit the RTC’s website at www.MarIGOP.com for more information on the Republican candidates.

Richmond Library News & Notes

Richmond Memorial Library, located at 15 School Drive, has reopened its building to the public, but curbside pickup is still being offered. For more information and full program descriptions – and to inquire about available curbside printing services – call the library at 860-295-6210 or visit richmondlibrary.info.

Building and Curbside Hours: Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. The **book drop** is open for returns. Overdue fines are not accruing at this time.

Meeting Room: The library meeting room has reopened to the public. Stop by the library to check availability and fill out a preregistration user agreement form.

‘25 Days of Cheer’ Donation Request: The library’s annual “25 Days of Cheer” Holiday Silent Auction is scheduled to be held October 29-Nov. 29. Organizers are currently seeking donations from the community for the library’s largest fundraiser. All are welcome to donate a gift certificate – whether you’re a hair stylist, manicurist, dog groomer, massage therapist, carpenter, painter, landscaper or handyman. Auction organizers said they would also appreciate gift baskets or gift cards to local stores or restaurants. Anyone who contributes (unless done anonymously) will be thanked on the li-

brary website and sponsorship flyer in addition to having their name (or business name) displayed during the auction. If interested in contributing to the auction, email Library Director Aubrey Muscaro at amuscaro@richmondlibrary.info or call 860-295-6211. Donated items must be received by Oct. 25. All proceeds from the holiday silent auction go directly to the library and community.

Tiny Terror-iums Take and Make: For families, teens and children over age 3. The library will supply a container and all the supplies needed to create a Halloween display. Available while supplies last.

Outdoor Flu Clinic: Chatham Health will return to the library for its annual flu vaccination clinic on Tuesday, Oct. 12, from 4-6 p.m. This year the clinic will be conducted outdoors. Bring your insurance card and fee (if applicable). Facemasks and social distancing are required. Vaccines are given on a first-come, first-served basis.

Fall Author Series: The library has teamed up with libraries in Colchester, East Hampton and Glastonbury for a virtual author talk series. Ellen Feldman (author of *The Living and the Lost*, *Terrible Virtue* and *The Boy Who Loved Anne Frank*) will talk over Zoom Tuesday, Oct. 12, at 6:30 p.m. Email the library to register.

Resident to Play VolleyBall

Alana Hruska, of Marlborough earned a spot on the 2021 Greyhounds Women’s Volleyball team at Assumption University Women’s for the fall season.

Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship Fund

The American Legion Marlborough Post 197 – Ladies Auxiliary – Scholarship Fund will have a dine-in or take-out Polish dinner Fri. Oct. 29 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. All proceeds will be donated to scholarship fund for a girl who is will graduate from RHAM in 2022.

Dinner will include “lazy man” pierogis, golumpki (stuffed cabbage), pickled beets, rye bread and butter, and dessert. Take-out if encouraged. There will be a limited amount of seating at the club, with social distancing. Patrons have the option to not get out of their cars. Servers will have masks and gloves when serving dinner. Make checks payable to the American Legion Post 197 – Ladies Auxiliary. Advanced ticket sales only; reservations due by Wed., Oct. 27. Tickets are \$12 each for adults (\$8 for children) and are on sale at the bar during normal business hours: Monday-Saturday 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday noon -7 p.m.

Police News

On Oct. 4, in Marlborough, police responded to an incident involving a single car losing control and collided with the embankment. Possible driver injury reported, and the car was towed from the scene.

Absentee Ballots Available

Absentee ballots are available in the Marlborough town clerk’s office at Town Hall during regular business hours. They can also be mailed to registered voters who have completed and returned a valid absentee ballot application.

Reminder: For this municipal election, one must request the absentee ballot application; it will not be automatically mailed like last year.

Those who choose not to vote by absentee ballot are reminded they can vote at the polls at Marlborough Elementary School, 25 School Drive, on Election Day, Nov. 2, from 6 a.m.-8 p.m.

For more information, call Lauren or Martha in the town clerk’s office at 860-295-6206.

Lions to Raffle Generator

The Marlborough Lions Club is raffling off an 8,000-watt Generac portable generator with a retail value of \$1,100. The generator has features such as a pushbutton electric start with trickle charger, hours counter and 120V/240V outlets.

The winner of the raffle will also receive the services of an electrician to install a circuit breaker panel interlock and the cabling needed to hook up the generator with a value not to exceed \$1,000. Raffle tickets are only \$20 each. The drawing will take place during the Lions’ Fall Masquerade 5K on Oct. 31. Ticket sales will continue until that event.

For tickets, call Lions President Megan Lloyd at 413-687-5537, Secretary Ken Hjulstrom at 860-490-9116 or Treasurer Jean-Paul Bolduc at 860-798-2054.

Resident Releases Book

Marlborough resident, Jackie Killelea has announced the release of her second book, *Times and Triumphs*, a collection of poetry with themes of nature and the human experience. Currently available for purchase on Amazon in paperback and for download on Kindle and Kindle Unlimited.



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Ghost Run Returns Next Month

The 18th annual Air Line Trail Ghost Run will take place Saturday, Nov. 6, from 9 a.m.-noon. This is a 13.1-mile certified half-marathon that starts in Hebron and ends in East Hampton.

The parks and recreation departments of Hebron, Colchester and East Hampton are collaborating along with the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection to host the event.

Runners registered by Oct. 21 will receive a T-shirt. Registration deadline is Oct. 29. Pre-registration is required; there will be no registration on race day. Early T-shirt and bib pickup will be available at the Hebron Parks and Recreation office on Nov. 4 and Nov. 5 between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m.

The race begins at Hebron Elementary School, located on Route 85. Runners will run south on Route 85 and pick up the Air Line Trail behind Juliano's Pools. The race continues on the Air Line Trail through Colchester and into East Hampton. At the trail head, runners will continue on the trail to Watrous Street, then to Summit Street. Follow Summit Street to Center Elementary School. Shuttle buses will be available for all the runners in each direction. The trail is flat and is surfaced with packed dirt.

To register, visit lightboxreg.com or call the Hebron, Colchester or East Hampton parks and recreation departments, at 860-530-1281, 860-537-7297 or 860-267-7300, respectively.

Senior Center News & Notes

The Marlborough Senior Center at 17 School Drive is open for activities. The center is also a cooling center. Folks can join activities, read, work on puzzles, listen to music, do some art or a craft or talent. With a 36 hour advance reservation, Marlborough Transportation offers rides to the senior center, shopping, medical and non-medical appointments. Masks and social distancing required.

The Food Bank at 3 Wilhenger Drive is open every Tuesday from 10:00 a.m. to noon and 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. The food bank is open to qualified residents in need of food. Please call the senior center if you need a ride to the food bank.

In Case of bad weather, tune in to WFSB, Early Warning Network or NBC Connecticut's Weather Center for senior center closings or late openings.

Monday, Oct. 11: Center Closed for Columbus Day Holiday.

Tuesday, Oct. 12: Assistance, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.; 8-Ball Pool, 10:00 a.m. to noon; Food Bank Meals on Wheels, 12:00 noon;

Transportation, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; Dog Obedience Class, 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 13: Not Just Quilting 10:00 a.m., Assistance 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.; Grocery Shopping, 9:00 to noon; Transportation, 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.; Not Just Quilting 10:00a.m. - 2:00 p.m.; 8-Ball Pool, 10:00 a.m. to noon; Meals on Wheels, noon; Sophisticated Ladies (Tap Dancing), 5:30 p.m.; Zoning Board of Appeals, 7:00 p.m., Congregate Meal.

Thursday, Oct. 14: Tai Chi with Linda, 10:30 a.m.; Flu Shots, 10:00 a.m. - 1:30, Assistance, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., Meals on Wheels noon; 8-Ball Pool 10:00 a.m.; Transportation, 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.; Assistance, 9:00 -2:00 p.m.

Friday, October 15: Not Just Quilting, 10:00 a.m.; Meals on Wheels noon; Quilling 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.; Congregate Meal.

Thursday, Oct. 14: Chatham Health, Flu Shots will be given from 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at the Marlborough Senior Center. Call 860-295-6209 for an appointment.



SOOP to Perform... The Marlborough-based band *Seat Of Our Pants* will return to the Bay Point Club Friday, Oct. 15, at 7 p.m., for a concert inside the historic clubhouse at 24 Spellman Point Rd. Doors open at 6:30, and tickets are \$10 at the door. The concert is open to club members as well as the general public. CDC and state guidelines for indoor events will be followed: chairs will be set up to maintain social distancing (seating indoors will be limited), masks are required and food/drinks will not be permitted inside. For those who prefer not to sit inside, the windows and doors of the clubhouse will be open for seating on the porch or lawn (bring chairs for outside seating), where you can also feel free to tailgate or picnic. For more information on SOOP, visit seatofourpantsmusic.com.

Cover Story • Cover

★ *Town Names Poet Laureate cont. from page 1*

Chester-Payne said the Bible's lyricism has been a major influence on his writing.

He said when he writes, he tries to think of a new muse per piece, often his daughter or his mother. Frequently, he said, his muse is everyone.

"I want to reach out to everyone," he said. "I want to write spiritual poems that really touch everyone, to encourage people to look at life a little differently."

Chester-Payne already has an idea of what he wants to do with his laureateship- a town poetry contest. He said he would announce the contest a month in advance to give people time to compose their entries.

Chester-Payne said he plans to collaborate with the Buttonwood Tree, an arts group in Middletown. He said Buttonwood has been a big help with his work.

"I want to try and use this platform to get a whole lot more poetry going on in town," he said, adding that writing has helped him mentally, and he knows others would have the same experience.

In his work as a personal trainer, one of his two day jobs, Chester-Payne recommends his clients write, part of his holistic, mind-and-body approach to wellness.

Chester-Payne revealed to the *Rivereast* that he has the draft of a poetry chapbook completed

and ready to be submitted for publication.

"I had something in my back pocket for a while," he said.

Then, a disruption so many have had to contend with; the pandemic, which saw Chester-Payne laid-off. But he found a silver lining-time.

"Last summer, I sat down and wrote the book," Chester-Payne said.

Chester-Payne, a Black man and member of the Portland Social Justice Coalition, addresses and interrogates racism in his work. He said he doesn't believe in "pointing fingers," but letting people know it goes on everywhere in everyday life, that people shouldn't have their blinders up to it.

In this year's Juneteenth celebration, another town first, Chester-Payne, in a poetry performance, said despite being an upstanding citizen, he still "has to move like I'm walking on pins."

Chester-Payne said his daughter is his biggest cheerleader.

He is also a major volunteer of the Chatham Court Connection, a group that organizes events at the town's apartments of the same name. Recently, Chester-Payne helped organize a community walk, part of his belief in the importance of physical health.

"I believe mental and spiritual and physical health are all rolled into one," Chester-Payne said.

In a message, Chester-Payne said this year, he also organized Super Summer Saturdays, when the neighborhood kids got together for pizza, dancing and movies.

"It was an awesome summer," he said.



Marlborough Lions Club Membership Chairman Rob Gnocci and cornhole tournament winner Gary Desjarlais.

Cornhole Tournament Winner

Gary Desjarlais of Hebron won the Marlborough Lions Club first Cornhole Tournament on Sat. Oct. 2 at Blish Park. Desjarlais took home a new cornhole set. For more information on the Lions Club or to speak to our Chairperson about becoming a member, please call Club President Megan Lloyd at 413-687-5537.

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Principal Gets Dunked to Celebrate Reading

by Sloan Brewster

Andover Elementary School Principal John Briody recently took some dips in chilly water to celebrate the school's high achievement in summer reading.

Curriculum Night at Andover Elementary was merged with the annual Resource Fair. Dubbed "Back-to-School Night," it took place Wednesday, September 22.

The event was also improved on this year, according to Lucie Wilson, who is co-president of the Parent Teachers Association (PTA) with Board of Education member Celeste Willard.

"Oh My Goodness, it was fun," she said. "They took it up a notch."

Briody sat in the dunk tank while lines of children gleefully shot balls at a target, and when they made aim, they watched as the principal splashed into the waters below.

Briody said getting soaking wet at the event was a reward promised last March to get students to pick up more books and read over the summer. Administrators wanted to really engage the students and get them excited and motivated to read, setting a Summer Reading Challenge goal of 3,000 books.

"I wanted it to be something that could be somewhat outrageous," Briody said. "The reward was that Mr. Briody would go in the dunk tank."

Starting in March, students were given certificates as they logged books they read and a count was kept on a bulletin, where the books were listed, Briody said, adding that the school reached its goal and then some.

Wilson said the dunk tank was a favorite activity for kids, including her daughter Kylie, who's in fifth grade.

"They were able to line up and Mr. Briody was sitting in the dunk tank," she said. "They shoot and see him take a dunk. They loved that."

Briody was not alone in taking the plunge, according to Superintendent of Schools Valerie Bruneau, who said two new teachers, April Lionberger, who teaches kindergarten and Julie Gourdet, who teaches music, also took turns in the tank.

"The kids loved dunking the newbies," Bruneau said.

While the teachers gave Briody a chance to dry off between dunks, he said he still clocked nearly 100 dips by the end of the night. He didn't complain one iota and insists he'll be back in the tank in the spring. Briody said one of the students made a special request to physi-

cal education teacher Jon Moynihan and asked, "Hey, can we have this on Field Day?"

When Briody learned of the request his response was a hands-down yes.

"We are definitely going to bring it back on Field Day," he said. "It was a lot of fun. I had a lot of fun doing it. I really did."

High Attendance

Drawing more than 300 people, Briody said the event had the highest attendance of all the years he's been at the school.

Bruneau called it "wonderful" and said it showed an "amazing partnership and commitment to student learning."

Wilson said she enjoyed that the event was twofold and incorporated fun with conversations on curriculum.

Throughout the evening, according to Bruneau, classrooms were a flurry of activity with academics and student products being shared with families. Outside, folks interacted, eating pizza from the Rolling Tomato Pizza Truck, which she said, "was a big hit" and snacking on popcorn from a popcorn machine kept running by volunteers from the Andover Fire Department.

In back of the school, the Fire Department parked a firetruck that kids were able to see and touch.

In the gym representatives from the Norton Commission, Andover Library, Boy Scouts, the Board of Education, PTA, Fire Dept., AHM Youth and Family Services, the school's Support Services team and Resident State Trooper Sebastian Nesci shared resources with families.

A Nice Gesture

Dianne Grenier, chair of the Norton Commission, said the commission helps local families in need of financial assistance with such things as school supplies and back packs, Christmas presents and going to summer camp.

The commission dates back to 1937, when the town established the Norton Children's fund, Grenier said.

It all started because of a nice gesture. As a child, Chester D. Norton, who was born in 1817 and died in 1891, needed glasses but his parents were too poor to get them for him so a gentleman provided the family with money for the spectacles.

"When [Norton] died he was so grateful for the act of kindness he left \$1,200 to Andover," Grenier said.

The money, which was bequeathed to the



During Back-to-School Night, at Andover Elementary school, Everly Loteczka () grader, and Firefighter Scott Yeomans checks out a firetruck.

town after Norton's wife Emily Norton passed away in 1915, was split four ways \$3,000 for the church, \$3,000 for the school, \$3,000 for the library, and \$3,000 for local poor children.

The Norton Commission manages the funds for poor children, spending only the interest, Grenier said. Through donations, the fund has grown and now tops \$10,000.

At Back-to-School Night, Norton Commission members reached out to families, many of whom were learning of the commission for the first time, Grenier said. The commission also held a raffle and made some money to add to the fund.

A Really Fun Night

Bruneau said despite "a bit of rain" early in the evening the event "turned out exactly as I had hoped" and that she was "very grate-

ful to be able to share this evening safely with our school community." She said the evening, which was funded through grant money, was designed to target an education board goal for the year of embracing the community and families and promoting engaging activities.

"Together, we have established a strategic plan to continue to bring AES forward through these difficult COVID times," the superintendent said. "Things are improving and getting more 'normalized' every day, but we are so grateful to the cooperation and assistance we have had from the whole school community, families, and most importantly our children."

Briody said people walked away saying they had had "a really fun night" and the next day when he ran into people they reminded him that they had dunked him the night before.

Waiting List for Senior Trip to Goodspeed

There is now a waiting list for the Andover Seniors' upcoming trip to the Goodspeed Opera House in East Haddam.

The Wednesday, Oct. 20, trip will feature lunch at the Gelston House and tickets to the Goodspeed presentation of *A Grand Night for Singing*. The show features songs from many top musicals, including *Oklahoma!*, *South Pacific*, *The King and I*, *Flower Drum Song* and more.

The Gelston House luncheon includes choice upon arrival of parmesan-encrusted cod, Gelston chicken, Bistro steak, or pasta cavatappi.

Departure from the Old Firehouse on Center Street is promptly at 10:30 a.m. Return is ap-

proximately 5-5:30 p.m.

Cost is \$50, and does not include tips for lunch. All drinks during lunch, including coffee and tea, are additional charges. While reservations were due Sept. 1, there is currently a waiting list in case of last-minute cancellations. Call trip coordinator Georgia O'Brien at 860-742-9947 to be put on the waiting list.

The trip is open to Andover seniors who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Goodspeed requires proof of vaccination at the time of entry. Also, masks are required at all times while inside The Goodspeed, regardless of vaccination status, except when drinking in the bar area or outside areas. Call O'Brien for more information on Goodspeed's COVID-19 policy.

Norton Commission Looks to Fill Vacancy

The Norton Commission is accepting letters of interest to fill a vacancy from any elector interested in serving on the Norton Children's Fund Commission.

A letter of interest should be sent by November 1, 2021, to the Norton Children's Commission Chairman, Dianne Grenier at Deardianne@Comcast.net or 17 School Rd., Andover, CT 06232. For more details regarding the Norton Children's Fund Commission, call 860-742-3033 or go to www.andoverconnecticut.org/norton-childrens-fund-commission.

Chester D. Norton was a farmer in Andover. According to the commission, local legend has it that when he was a child his family could not afford the eyeglasses he needed and a "kindly gentleman" provided the family with funds for the glasses.

Many years later, when Norton drafted his will he remembered that act of kindness and left one of his own. His will specified that first his estate was to be left in trust to his wife Emily to spend as she may deem necessary for her comfortable maintenance and support. Upon her death or remarriage, he bequeathed that whatever may remain of his estate should in-

clude \$12,000 to be left to the town of Andover; \$3,000 for the church, \$3,000 for the school, \$3,000 for the library, and \$3,000 for "the poor children." Only the interest on these funds is to be spent each year.

Norton died in October 1891 at the age of 74. His wife Emily was 19 years younger than him and survived him by 24 years, dying in 1915. The children of Andover have been the beneficiary of this generous gift from Chester D. Norton for over 100 years.

At a Town Meeting in 1937, the townspeople of Andover established the Norton Children's Fund Commission to administer the funds from Chester D. Norton's will for the town.

The commission currently meets twice a year (May and November) to expend the interest income from the Norton Children's Fund, in accordance with Chester D. Norton's will. Over the years these funds have provided Andover children with: cod liver oil, tonsillectomies, shoes, galoshes, slippers, eyeglasses, eye exams, dental work, camp registrations, Christmas gifts, back-to-school supplies and small scholarships for continual education.

Congregational Church News

Andover Congregational Church, UCC, A Church for the Community, located at 359 Route 6 in Andover, CT. Anyone in need of spiritual healing or who is looking for a new place that is welcoming and uplifting should look no further. Andover Congregational says it is a faith-based and community-reaching church and welcomes anyone to join it for worship, which begins at 10 a.m. on Sundays.

Services also stream live on Facebook through the First Congregational Church, Andover, CT page. These live services also begin at 10 a.m.

Worship and Lunch: After worship fellowship is back. This week there will be autumn chili.

Children's Church: Children are the church of tomorrow - Sunday School is provided.

Prayer Requests: Andover Congregational believes God does answer prayer. Anyone who

would like to request prayers, should call the church office and leave us a message. There is strength in numbers.

Tuesdays: 11:15: Everyday Power Inspiration: A time of encouraging one another.

Food Pantry: The food pantry is open Mondays from 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. Bring your own bags. Foodshare Van comes every other Wednesday from 9 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Senior Pantry is the opposite Wednesdays.

Sunshine Stamps: This group meets on Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. to make beautiful greeting cards.

Fall Tag Sale: October 23, 9am-2pm Lunch available to purchase.

Ham and Bean Dinner: Friday, October 29 5 p.m.-7 p.m. Takeout or Eat-In, Walk-Ins Welcome. Leave a message at 860-742-7976 to pre-order.

Town-Wide Flu Clinic

A town-wide flu clinic, for all residents age 3 years old and up, will be held Thursday, Oct. 14, from 2-6 p.m., at the Andover Elementary School gym. Watch the *Rivereast* for more details.

To sign up online for the clinic and reserve your time slot, go to tinyurl.com/wyfk8r2. For more information, call Cathy Palazzi at 860-916-6122.

Quilt Tickets Available

Tickets for the Andover Friends of the Library's 2021 Quilt Raffle are available at Andover Public Library, 355 Route 6. The queen-size quilt, entitled "Our Hearts Will Go On," was handmade by Friends member Jean Mamonas.

Quilt tickets are \$2 each or 3/\$5. The library is open Monday and Wednesday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday, noon-8 p.m.; and Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Masks are required.

The drawing will be held at the Friends' Book & Bake Sale on Saturday, Oct. 16. Winner need not be present.

CPR Class

There will be a CPR class Monday, Oct. 25, from 7-9 p.m., at the Andover Fire Department, 11 School Rd.

Cost is \$20 and includes use of training materials, CPR for Adult, Child and Infant, AED training, Choking and two-year certification from the American Heart Association.

Registration is required; call Deputy Chief Mindy Hegener at 860-706-3074. Masks are required for the unvaccinated.

Andover • Andover • Andover • Andover • Andover • Andover • Andover

Senior Movies at Community Center

Senior Movies will be shown in the Andover Town Hall Community Room on Wednesdays as listed below. Showtime is at 1 p.m. All are welcome to attend. Organizers will follow COVID-19 standards for socializing in groups. Attendees must wear a mask, and bring their own snacks and drinks. If you need a ride, call Cathy Palazzi two days in advance at 860-916-6122. The schedule is:

Oct. 13: *White Lies* (2013). In this film, a medicine woman is asked to hide a secret which

may protect one life but which will destroy another. Rated PG, the movie runs one hour and 39 minutes.

Nov. 10: *The Truth About Charlie* (2002). In this remake of *Charade*, a woman returns from holiday to find her husband has been murdered, and several groups of people are pressuring her to unravel the mystery of his true identity and activities during his final days. Mark Wahlberg and Thandiwe Newton star. Rated PG-13, the movie runs one hour and 44 minutes.

Safesitter Babysitter Course

Safesitter is a program designed to prepare students ages 11-14 to be safe when they're home alone, watching younger siblings or babysitting. The program will come to Andover in November.

The instructor-led class features games and role-playing exercises. Students will learn safety skills, life and business skills, first aid and rescue skills and child care skills. Students even get to use manikins to practice rescue skills like choking rescue and CPR.

This class will be held Sunday, Nov. 7, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., at the Andover Fire Department. Cost is \$75 per person. Class is limited to 12. Snacks will be provided by the Andover PTA. Students should bring a sack lunch.

Register by calling Deputy Chief Mindy He-gener at 860-706-3074. Registration closes Friday, Oct. 29, and no walk-in registrations will be accepted.

AES PTA Yoga Fundraiser

The Andover Elementary School Parents and Teachers Association is partnering with YoNo Yoga and Meditation to hold a '50/50' yoga fundraiser.

Through Oct. 15, 50% of all 'drop in' class sales will be donated to the AES PTA. Classes are \$15 each and can be attended either via Zoom or in person at YoNo's new studio at 59 Main St., Willimantic. YoNo offers a variety of classes for all experience levels; pre-registration is required for most classes.

Visit www.yonowillimantic.com to view the monthly schedule and to register. (One of the yoga teachers is AES Spanish teacher Anna Glowacki.)

For more information, contact Meghan Lally, AES PTA secretary (Meghan.lally@andoverpta.org) or Angie Jacques, YoNo owner (yonowillimantic@gmail.com or 860-372-2883).

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★ Letters cont. from page 14

cans so that I can help guide the positive experience our kids have at MES, as well as serve our children, educators, and our entire community.

My husband Eric was born and raised here, and when we married, we knew we would plant our roots and raise our family here in Marlborough. My children are now in 2nd and 3rd grade at MES and absolutely love it. I am grateful to the community for providing such a positive experience, and I want to serve on the Board of Education to help our new Superintendent and our educators to make MES an even better place to be.

I make sound decisions every day regarding children's futures and I hope to extend my decision making expertise to impact our children and community for the better. On November 2nd, I would be honored to receive your vote for the MES Board of Education.

Sincerely,
**Angela Colantonio, Candidate -
Marlborough Board of Education**

Identify Yourself

To the Concerned Citizens of Colchester:

Nowadays when people's names appear in an unflattering way, many people feel the need to call or post unkind comments even though the information being presented may be entirely untrue. You are targeting people, some who have lived in town for 30 years and trying to say that these unpaid volunteers are trying to force left wing liberal thought into the curriculum.

There is a director of curriculum in town who wants input from the community. Volunteers are serving in that capacity. Here's an interesting fact: Curriculum Committee meetings are public with agendas posted in advance. Citizens' comments are included in each agenda.

You said all board meetings should be open to the public. All Board of Education meetings

Make a Puppet

On Saturday, October 16, 2021, children ages 3 to 8 are invited to make their own puppet based on the story, *The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything*, by Linda D. Williams. Andover resident Ellen Repay will read the story, and then, kids can make a character puppet using a blank cloth form. Supplies and guidance will be provided, however, caregivers must be present. Participation will be limited to the first 15 children. The story will begin at 10:30 a.m. in the lower level of the library. Call the library at 860-742-7428 for more information. This event will be held during the Andover Friends of the Library's Book & Bake Sale, which also takes place at the library that day from 9 a.m. 'til 2p.m, rain or shine.

Halloween Fun Event

The Andover Recreation Commission will hold a Halloween Fun Event on Saturday, Oct. 30, starting at 1 p.m.

Recreation Commission members will hand out bags of candy and treats. There will be a DJ for music and entertainment and several decorated trunks on site. The fire department and resident trooper will be there with treats too.

Items Sought for Sale

The Andover Friends of the Library group is preparing for an outdoor Book & Bake Sale next month, and is in need of gently-used books for the sale. No textbooks, magazines or *Reader's Digest* condensed novels. The Friends will also accept music CDs and DVDs in good, playable condition.

If you have items you would like to donate, you may bring them to Andover Public Library, 355 Route 6, during open hours: Monday and Wednesday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday, noon-8 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Do not leave any items outside the library.

Bakers will also be needed for this sale, which will be held Saturday, Oct. 16, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Call the library for more information, at 860-742-7428.

are open to the public unless the board moves to "executive session" - generally to discuss something related to personnel. How would you like to have your request for medical leave be in a public meeting?

Where will our volunteers come from if they are going to be publicly castigated? There is nothing secret or evil going on in Colchester and parent's input is important and appreciated.

Just because there is a watchdog group in town looking at issues of equity and fairness does not give them the power to unilaterally change the curriculum.

Lastly, you gave the names of the people you are suspicious of yet you are the anonymous "concerned residents of Colchester"! Why don't you come forward and identify yourselves?

Steven Friedberg - Colchester

Take Action This November

To the Editor:

Elections give us the opportunity to translate our hopes and ideals into meaningful action. They provide a chance to identify and choose representatives in local government who are best qualified and equipped to deliver tangible and positive change in our towns. In a way, elections let us support and celebrate the heroes in our lives.

One of my heroes is Laurel Steinhauser, currently running for the Portland Board of Selectmen. I have known Laurel for twenty-four years. We've been married for eleven. Since we first met, I have admired Laurel's ability to put the needs of others first, to see problems and find solutions, and to work for the things she believes are important and right. If voting for Laurel Steinhauser is my chance to declare and take action on my beliefs, she is the person who best represents the optimism I have for Portland's future. Since moving to Portland, Laurel has been working to shape our town into a

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place where families can grow, schools are safe, and everyone thrives. Whether serving on the Library board, the Board of Education, coaching tee-ball, or coordinating community service projects, Laurel's ability to translate ideas into action has inspired and motivated others to do the same. I count myself amongst them.

This November I plan to show my admiration and respect for Laurel Steinhauser and the work she does by giving her and the Row A Democratic team my vote. If you want our schools, services, infrastructure, and town to keep moving forward, take a page out of Laurel's book and do something about it by voting for the candidates working for the Portland we all want and need.

Chris Chenier-Portland

Moving Forward

To the Editor:

The Portland Republican Town Committee recently hosted a successful Trivia night. It was a great opportunity for the candidates to talk with community members and listen to their concerns. Many of the comments and questions had an underlying theme; when will the town of Portland move forward?

The topics range from Economic Development, Such as navigating the Village District Design Guidelines manual and promoting businesses / vacant commercial property on the town website, to Portland's Infrastructure including putting our roads on a repaving schedule and repairing any underground water lines, sewer lines or drainage issues. Another topic that was mentioned was evaluating and prioritizing repairs and maintenance of town owned buildings.

One of my main goals when I am elected is to work with our department heads, and come up with solutions that best fit not only the Town of Portland's immediate needs but also help the tax payers in the long run. I, along with my fellow running mates, Ryan Curley, Mike Hernandez, Bobby Hetrick and Michael Pelton, am committed to moving Portland forward.

It's about Portland not politics.

**Shaun P. Manning-Portland
Candidate for Board of Selectman**

disABILITY Employment

To the Editor:

October is National disABILITY Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM). During this month, we recognize the ways individuals with disabilities contribute to various employment sectors and the economy. The theme for this year's National Disability Employment Awareness Month focuses on recovery from the pandemic, ensuring that individuals with disabilities have full access and opportunities for competitive, integrated employment.

As an employee of the State of Connecticut, Department of Developmental Services since 1986, I have witnessed the movement toward full inclusion and actively participated in assisting individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities access employment. We all benefit from a fully inclusive integrated society. I also applaud employers and co-workers who believe in this and remove barriers to employment. This is part of the "Diversity, Equity and Inclusion" movement. A "shout out" to not only individuals striving to access employment but also to families and guardians who advocate for and support their family members. The Colchester Public Schools, Pupil Services and Special Education Department supports pre-vocational and vocational development with specialized programs. As a member of the Colchester Board of Education, I am proud and excited to witness their work.

Thank you,
**Joanne Rose- Colchester
Member of the Board of Education**

What Is Our Message?

To the Editor:

This is a very important question for voters and we plan to communicate the Democratic Message in the next few weeks...

The Town of has an award winning and highly recognized school system. Our message is that we will continue to work with our Board of Education to continue the excellent programs that are currently offered at our schools. Our children benefit everyday because of our qualified staff and the opportunities that they provide for our children.

We will continue to support the quality of Lake Pocotopaug. It is imperative that we implement ecologically sound solutions consistent with the Nine Point Watershed Plan. We are looking forward to working closely with the Conservation Lake Commission and several

town departments for positive results.

We support holding Town government accountable for providing timely delivery of services. We support meaningfully enhancing the quality of life by supporting cultural and recreational opportunities for all and young at heart.

We know you have a choice on Tuesday November 2 and we respect that. Earning your vote is very important to us. Thank you in advance for voting on November 2!

**Pete Brown, Dean Markham, Kevin Reich,
Derek Johnson, Barbara Moore
Your Democratic Candidates-East Hampton**

Sue Stolfi for BOE

To the Editor:

On November 2nd I ask the voters of Marlborough to support Sue Stolfi for re-election to the Marlborough Board of Education. Sue has served on the Marlborough BOE for 6 years and throughout her time on the Board I have been impressed by Sue's level of dedication to our children, parents and to all of the taxpayers of Marlborough by working tirelessly to provide an educational system that provides excellent services while keeping costs in mind.

Controlling costs while maintaining quality educational services is a tough balancing act, but Sue has been able to do so. Sue is also the parent of four wonderful kids, has a career in financial banking and has a Bachelor's Degree in accounting.

In addition, Sue serves as the Chairman of AHM's Coalition for a Healthy Empowered Community (CHEC), which is a group dedicated to addressing drug, alcohol and abuse issues in our communities. This is further evidence that Sue is committed to serving everyone in our community and that her devotion to the kids and residents of Marlborough goes well beyond the walls of our school.

So, on November 2nd please join me in voting for Sue Stolfi to return her to the Marlborough Board of Education.

Ken Hjultrom-Marlborough

Note: Ken Hjultrom is a member of the Marlborough Board of Finance, but is writing as an individual.

Why I Support Jim Tripp

Dear Portland Residents:

On November 2nd, we have the great responsibility of electing our next First Selectman of Portland.

To me, the choice is clear. Jim Tripp is the only candidate who has enough work experience and community volunteer experience to make me confident he can do the job. Jim is the only candidate who has a proven record of getting things done. He has managed multi-million dollar budgets, large teams of people, personnel during emergency operations, volunteer organizations - he has demonstrated the leadership skills again and again that this job requires. Apples to apples, we have two candidates who are nice guys, two candidates with Master's degrees, but only one with the life and work experience necessary to run a town.

I am proud of all that we have accomplished as a community over the last several years. I am proud of our town leaders for the way they have steered us, always with careful planning and a vision for the future. I am proud to support Jim Tripp, knowing that when he is elected he will represent every Portland resident, he will listen, he will always be thinking five and ten years down the road, he will tackle our future challenges backed with 30 years of experience in tackling challenges, and he will work every day to make sure Portland is a place we are all proud to call home. I trust Jim to do right by Portland.

On November 2nd I'll be casting my vote for Jim Tripp and I hope you will join me.

Ken Kearns-Portland

Playground Update Part I

Dear Residents of Colchester,

The Playground at the Rec Plex has offered fun to our community for many years. It has provided opportunities for families to engage in play, whether coming for a picnic, watching a ball game or just wanting to spend some time swinging in the sun. It is an important cornerstone of our town and was a large endeavor taken on in the 1990's.

Fast forward to Spring 2020; it became apparent the plans from thirty years ago lacked ongoing investment and playground equipment became unsafe. Replacement parts were no longer available. Residents were sending information noting children had been injured and equipment was broken and falling apart. This situation quickly became a priority to be addressed. Working with the Recreation depart-

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Obituaries

Cromwell

Paul Walter Olsen,

Paul Walter Olsen of Cromwell passed away with his family by his side on September 21, 2021 at home.

He was born December 29, 1961, to Harriet (Smith) and Walter A. Olsen Jr. in Haddam Neck. Paul was employed for 21 years at Petzold's Marine Center in Portland, where he was treated like family.

Growing up in Haddam Neck Paul loved spending time on the CT River in his motorboat. One of his favorite things to do was to go camping with his family. He was an avid UCONN women's basketball fan.

Paul is survived by his loving wife of 25 years, Eleanor, daughters Jessica and Angelina. His mother, sisters Deborah (Bradley) and Barbara and brother David (Sandy), mother-in-law Helen Tinboy, sisters-in-law, Sara (Ed) and Edna, brother-in-law Jun (Hasmine). He also leaves many nephews and nieces. He was predeceased by his father and sister, Mary.

Friends and relatives are invited to attend services to be held on Saturday, October 9 at 10 a.m. at St. John's Church in Cromwell. Please follow COVID protocols. There will be a reception following the service at a location to be announced.



Amston

Leonard E. Bansavich III

Leonard E. Bansavich III, known as Lenny, Len or "Boots", of Amston and Mooresville, North Carolina passed away of accidental causes on September 28th, 2021 at the too young age of 34. Lenny was a staunch conservative who believed in our US Constitution. He was passionate about online gaming, auto racing, family and was an aficionado of the game of baseball and its tactics.

Lenny traveled the country as the Racing Electronics liaison to the ARCA series. Then moved onto his current career as an independent race spotter, traveling to tracks all along the east coast, leading up and coming drivers to vast success.

He will be remembered by all who knew him for his ever present smile. He was tough on the outside but as caring and empathetic as anyone you could ever meet. He had a special kindness for all animals and if you were lucky enough to be his friend you had his lifelong loyalty.

To mourn his loss, but cherish his memory, he leaves behind; his parents Leonard and Loretta (Niver) Bansavich, sisters Lori-Lynn (Paul) French, Victoria (Matt) Cavanaugh, niece and nephews, Paul Jr., Brian, Lily and Junior. As well as, his "adoptive" family in North Carolina, many aunts, uncles, cousins and dear friends at home and throughout the racing community.

He was predeceased by his grandparents as well as his twin nieces, Rebecca and Annabelle.

Please join us for a memorial gathering where we can share our memories and stories of Lenny. The memorial was held at the American Legion Post 197, 128 E. Hampton Rd. Marlborough, CT 06447, on Wednesday October 6th, 6:00pm-9:00pm. Light fare and refreshments.

Casual attire requested.

In addition, a memorial will also be held in North Carolina, at a future date and location to be announced.

In lieu of flowers, Lenny would like you to treat yourself or a loved one to something special. To share a memory or sign the online guestbook, please visit, www.auroramccarthy-funeralhome.com. Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

East Haddam

Josephine 'Pinuccia' Saltus

Josephine 'Pinuccia' Saltus (born Giuseppina Gionfriddo), 86, peacefully passed away in her home in East Haddam, Connecticut the night of Wednesday, September 29th, 2021 surrounded by her loving family.

Josephine was born in Melilli, Sicily to the late Sebastian and Nancy (Amato) Gionfriddo. Since her childhood, she demonstrated a fascination for the grand piano, cultivating flowers, and caring for her many brothers and sisters. As a young adult, Josephine pursued language studies at the University of Catania. She used her knowledge to educate others for a short time as a teacher before permanently emigrating with her family to the United States in 1958.

Upon arriving in America, Josephine took up a job selling tickets at a small cinema theater, where she first met William Saltus. The two married in 1963 and started their family in Middletown, CT. Josephine operated the Rose's Villa restaurant in Killingworth for several years, providing the community with warm greetings and home-cooked meals before moving to East Haddam. She later gained employment with Gilman Gear, where she dedicated herself until she retired. When she was not running after her many grandchildren, Josephine was found pruning her vibrant rose bushes, cooking pots of pasta for her children, crocheting a new project, or recanting a detailed account of her childhood in Italy.

Josephine is survived by her husband of 58 years William Saltus, her sisters Mary Kerby, Nella Tartaglia, and Dorothy Bish, her brother Sal Gionfriddo, her four daughters, Ires Carilli, Nancy Hanson, Elaine Cady, and Adrienne Davis, her eleven grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews. She is predeceased by her sister Carmela Herdman and her brother Joseph Gionfriddo. A Visitation was held at the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home, 167 Old Hartford Road, in Colchester, on Monday, October 4th from 4:00 PM until 6:00 PM. A Mass of Christian Burial followed on Tuesday, October 5th, at Saint Andrew Church, 128 Norwich Avenue, in Colchester at 11:00 AM. Interment followed in the New Saint Andrew Cemetery, Gillette Lane, Colchester. To sign the online guestbook or express a condolence, please visit, www.auroramccarthy-funeralhome.com

Marlborough

Celebration of Life for Robert J. McBair

A Celebration of Life for Robert McBair will be held Saturday, October 9th, 2021 at 1:00 at the Marlborough Congregational Church, 35 South Main Street, Marlborough, Connecticut. A reception will follow in the church lounge to share many good memories. McBair passed away on January 8th, 2021

Colchester

Ann (Dent) Bartol

Ann (Dent) Bartol, 75, of Colchester passed away peacefully at her home on Thursday Sept. 30, 2021. Born January 20, 1946 in Dublin Ireland one of ten children, she immigrated to the United States in 1963 and became a United States citizen in 1977. Ann had worked for Clark Bus Transport in Colchester as a school bus driver and then had a home cleaning business for many years. Ann was also a long time employee of Sheila and Butch Einhorn at their business Town Auction in Westchester. She is survived by her sons Walter Farren and wife Corinne of East Hampton, Benjamin Bartol and wife Erica of Milford, Robert Bartol of Columbia, and her grandchildren Jaimie, Patrick and Kile. She was predeceased by a son Christopher P. Farren. Funeral services will be private at the convenience of the family. She will return to her beloved Ireland to rest with her mother and father. To leave online condolences please visit www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com.



East Hampton

Rolland Bruce Jackson

Rolland Bruce Jackson, 83, of East Hampton, died peacefully at Marlborough Health Care on Sept. 23, 2021. Born May 8, 1938 in Benton Harbor Michigan, he was the son of the late Roland and Alma (Adams) Jackson. Rolland retired from the USPS as a rural letter carrier in the East Hampton Post Office. He proudly served his country in the US Navy during the Vietnam War and was a member of the East Hampton VFW and East Hampton American Legion. Rolland is survived by his two sons Justin Jackson of VT, Adam Jackson of East Hampton and his fiancé Robin Hander and son Zach. He was predeceased by his brother Robert and sisters Nancy and Julie. Graveside services will be held Thursday Oct. 7th at 10:00 AM in Ct State Veteran's Cemetery in Middletown with Military Honors. To leave online condolences please visit www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com.

Hebron

Audrey M. Anderman

Audrey Marcella (Rutland) Anderman, 78, passed away October 2, 2021, at Mercy Medical Center in Springfield, MA surrounded by her loving family. She was born on January 15, 1943, in Berwyn, Illinois to the late Michael and Genevieve (Biesaga) Rutland. Audrey was predeceased by her beloved husband, Robert Anderman of 45 years. Audrey and Robert (Bob) built a wonderful life of love and adventure for their children by example and through a strong work ethic. They loved to travel to their favorite spots and often made those locations their home. While living in Westfield, Massachusetts and raising her family she managed the local Card Gallery. She loved the mountains and her heaven on earth, Estes Park, Colorado where they lived for over 20 years. While there they owned and operated Radio Shack. For the past nine years she was a resident of Hebron, Connecticut and an active member of the Hebron and Colchester Senior Centers and the Senior Friends of Hebron. She enjoyed playing bingo and was known to friends as 'G53'. She also loved bridge, travel, cross-stitch and wonton soup. Her most treasured time was spent with her cherished family. All who have had the pleasure to spend time with Audrey would agree that her smile lit up the room and her laugh was contagious and like no other.

She leaves to cherish her memory her children Michael Anderman of Hebron, CT, Robert Anderman and his wife Kris of East Hampton, CT and Laura Anderman of Belchertown, MA, her grandchildren Bradley and Tyler Griffin, Kaitlyn and Billy Anderman along with many lifelong friends.

A Funeral Mass will be held on Wednesday, October 13, 2021 at 11:00am at Church of the Holy Family, 185 Church St, Amston, CT. Burial will be private at a later date. Nowak Funeral & Cremation Services, Springfield, MA is entrusted with arrangements. To offer online condolences to the family, please visit nowakfuneral.com.



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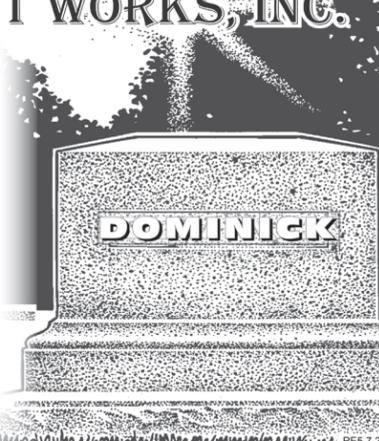
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Reader Forum • Reader Forum

★ *Letters cont. from page 27*

ment, it became apparent most of the equipment needed to be removed and replaced. Without budgeted funding, this project could not move forward.

Then several opportunities presented themselves. First, Incord, a Colchester manufacturer, stepped forward to donate eight pieces of equipment and also offered to sell the town four additional pieces at cost. Second, the Kyle's Smiles project moved forward to fundraise money to purchase additional equipment in honor of a young child who's short life left a lasting memory on everyone who knew him. Third, the ARPA funding became available and provided monies which can be used to fund a playground expansion and additional new pieces.

Recent work has begun with a group of engaged parents, to determine the selection of the additional equipment. It is about time we step forward and make this a priority for our community. The plan in the 1990's wasn't intended to be a "one and done," but an ongoing commitment to our community. Stay tuned for Part II with a timeline for implementation.

Sincerely,
Mary Bylone- Colchester
Candidate for First Selectman

Progress vs Gridlock

To the Editor:

It appears that the town chair of the Portland Republican Party has tapped into the national Republican Party's playbook of making false claims in his letter to the editor last week.

Mr. Lavoy's false accusations that the current leadership in Portland conducts the business of the people with "backroom deals, appeasing friends and special interests and reliance on amateur project management" is reckless and fails the smell test. This is what you do when you have nothing of substance to run your campaign on.

Under Democratic leadership, the town of Portland has prospered and is proving to be a great place to live, work and play. Examples of successful projects and initiatives include Riverfront Park, the new Recreational Complex on Route 17, two Blue Ribbon awards for our schools, sidewalk renovations, water and sewer improvements, clean energy programs, completion of the Airline Trail and the Complete Streets effort to name a few. Businesses have also found Portland to be welcoming. Expansions of existing businesses and the location of new ones have fostered a positive economic environment in town.

Through all of this, Susan Bransfield and the Board of Selectmen, both Democrats and Republicans, have been transparent in their deliberations and have included the public every step of the way in their decision-making. In fact, other than a recent commission appointment, I cannot recall an instance where bipartisanship did not rule the day. It is disappointing that Mr. Lavoy does not recognize this.

If you want gridlock, false accusations and partisanship, then vote for the other side. If you want progress, continued growth and quality governance, then I ask that you join me in voting for Jim Tripp and the rest of the Democratic Team on Row A.

Sincerely,
Brian O'Connor, Town Chairman
Portland Democratic Town Committee

"No" on Turf

To the Editor:

There are good reasons to vote against the artificial turf field at RHAM. A recent review in Current Orthopaedic Practice reaffirmed that "...injury Incidence is higher on artificial turf compared with natural grass in high school athletes." They stated that "...Athletes were 58% more likely to sustain an injury on artificial turf. Football, soccer, and rugby athletes were at a significantly greater injury risk on artificial turf. Upper and lower extremity and torso injuries also occurred with higher incidence on artificial turf."

Sports injuries can be a gateway to other problems. Another study concluded that "adolescent participants in high-injury sports had 50% higher odds of nonmedical use of prescription opioids than adolescents who did not participate in these types of sports."

Professional players prefer not to play on artificial turf. The Women's Olympic soccer team has forced FIFA to schedule all games on natural turf by 2023. NFL President Tretter said, "NFL players consistently experienced a much higher rate of non-contact lower extremity injuries on turf compared to natural surfaces."

There are questions about long-term physical integrity of artificial turf. "The city of Holyoke

is suing several companies over what it says are defects in the \$1.4 million turf field installed at Holyoke High School." One of those companies was hired by RHAM.

The BOE presentation relied on artificial turf consultants and contains numerous errors. A slide showing field overuse cites an incorrect source. If anything, their data shows that fields are underused. The drainage issues on the football/soccer field, while real, can be remedied by known inexpensive methods. Statements that turf has "lower maintenance costs" and "will be 100 percent recyclable" are simply not true. Numerous studies show grass is significantly cheaper than turf.

John Collins-Hebron Selectman

Note: John Collins is a member of the Hebron Board of Selectmen, but is writing as an individual.

Be Part of the Future

To the Seniors of East Hampton:

As seniors of East Hampton now is the time to have a voice in our town's future. The Commission on Aging is conducting a community wide survey on three issues vital to our future in East Hampton.

The survey is running through October 31st and is available on line at the Senior Center and the town sites. You can also pick up a paper copy at Stop and Shop, the library and the senior center.

The survey will ask questions regarding housing, transportation and health care. As we all grow older and look for a more convenient life in the town that we love, this will take a great deal of planning.

Now is the time to share your thoughts about these key issues.

Please complete a survey soon.

Thank you,
Bob Atherton
Chair, East Hampton Commission on Aging

Factory Farming

To the Editor:

I completely agree with the recent letter to the editor regarding the unethical use of a "rare" wild tiger for the purpose of people's enjoyment and recreation at a local fair. The author demonstrates kindness, compassion and a deep understanding that animals should be treated humanely and respectfully. I'd like to suggest extending the idea of kindness to the foods we choose to put in our mouth. Animals raised in factories; as commodities, are tortured and mistreated. They might not be "rare" but is an animal's worth solely dependent on how many exist in the world? Farm animals might not be "exotic" but is an animal's value and right to not be mistreated solely dependent on how pretty their stripes happen to be? In the world of people... don't we all deserve a life free of pain, torture and mistreatment despite what we look like on the outside? I am simply asking those of you who become triggered at the idea of a tiger living in captivity performing at a fair to please extend that same compassion to the animals that you eat on a daily basis that likely endure far worse suffering.

Ilyse Wells

My Brother's Keeper

Dear Colchester Residents,

Last year, the first selectman issued a proclamation stating, "I do commit to assert that racism is a public health crisis affecting our town." The assertion is quite clear, the first selectman believes that there is enough racism infecting Colchester that she took it upon herself to declare it through proclamation. She provided no data or facts to back up her claim. Many feel this proclamation unfairly labeled the citizens of our town as racist. The facts do not support her proclamation. This year, the Diversity & Inclusion Committee concluded that the town of Colchester does not have systemic racism. State data shows that in the last five years, there have been no hate crimes in Colchester. Yet, the proclamation unfairly marketing our town as racist still stands.

Let me be very clear, racism has no place in Colchester. Under my leadership, I will immediately address any inequities or cases of racism vigilantly. With respect to diversity and inclusion, we will address HR policies and practices at Town Hall. We can reach out to communities of color. We can ensure that all our employees go through sensitivity training. We can meet our state goals on affordable housing. I am not interested in virtue signaling intentions through a proclamation or a committee.

My experience empowering economically disadvantaged students of color for eight years

at Windham Public Schools puts me in a distinct position to lead conversations on race and inequity. I have collaborated with various organizations including the NAACP. Recently the Assistant Attorney General, Erik Lohr spoke with my Law & Legal Justice class over a variety of subjects – including race. Greater dialogue and civic engagement should be encouraged. Proclamations intended to label and divide – should be strongly condemned.

Sincerely,
Andreas Bisbikos

Empty Promises

To the Editor:

Residents of Colchester recently experienced not having an approved town budget until the vote on September 19, 2021. This is unacceptable. Colchester was the last town in CT out of 169 to pass a budget. The fiscal year started on July 1, 2021. The selectman and finance committee are clearly accountable for this situation. Now we have the Republican candidate campaigning on the promise he will try to keep a no budget increase during the next two years. He was an elected official on the finance committee for six years. Does he understand the economy is in shambles and inflation at approximately 5.4% and rising, putting financial pressures on the recently approved town budget? This empty campaign promise is unprofessional, a weak attempt to gain votes, and exposes his lack of experience running an organization such as a business or supporting municipal government.

I request that you consider my 30 years of business/municipal support experience working across the political aisle and getting the job done. My approach to governance is to always make Colchester First. I look forward to your continued feedback and support.

Respectfully,
Jeff Duigou – Colchester
Candidate for First Selectman

Recommend Colantonio

To the Editor:

I enthusiastically recommend Angela Colantonio in her running to become a member of Marlborough's Board of Education. I have known Angela for six years and would define her as someone who follows through on her commitments and keeps her word. Angela has dedicated her life to caring for children in her role as a pediatric nurse at Connecticut Children's Medical Center. Her passion for children should give every parent peace of mind that she has their best interest at heart.

Angela has volunteered with the MVFD Women's Auxiliary in town as part of the executive board for seven years. She offers support to the fire department as well as town residents, offering up solutions during difficult times.

I am confident that Angela will be an asset to the BOE. Her calm, level headed demeanor and compassion for children is exactly what all parents should hope for in a member of the Board.

Sarah Picciolo

Benham, Lavoy & Murphy

Dear Residents of Portland,

I am proud to be part of a team, alongside David Murphy and Stacey Benham running for the Portland Board of Education (BOE). We are exceptionally qualified candidates, with both Dave Murphy and I presently serving on the BOE and seeking reelection. Stacey Benham is a first-time candidate and has the resume and experience needed to be an effective advocate for student achievement and effective use of district resources.

I am grateful to have served our community on the Portland Board of Education for six years. I've made it my job to understand what the board does, how it functions and ensures a rigorous, high-quality public education in our district. Our community makes a tremendous financial investment in our school district and you want a BOE team that respects that and knows its role.

The BOE's foremost role is to hire a Superintendent who will manage all of the districts' resources, operating the district effectively and efficiently, with a good return for our investment. That return is continuing improvement in student outcomes and achievement. The BOE provides monitoring and oversight to assure high quality education outcomes for students. To accomplish this the BOE develops policies and regulations that govern school operation in compliance with state and federal laws and regulations.

I'm proud to be on this slate with Dave and Stacey because all of us are dedicated to this model. Our BOE is most effective when we

stay in our lane, overseeing and supporting the superintendent, implementing effective policy and regulations, and participating on board committees. The only special interest group that BOE members are there to act for is our students. Let's remember that on election day, November 2.

Tim Lavoy- Portland
Candidate for BOE

Bernie Dennler's Radicalism

Dear Colchester Citizens,

The Colchester Board of Finance should not elect creeps and radicals to represent the community. Democratic candidate Scott Chapman recently posted about "orgies on the town green" on a public social media page. He also refuses to answer public questions regarding his alleged Chapter 7 Bankruptcy. What about the other candidate running alongside him?

Bernie Dennler is a man with a twisted conviction. On Twitter, he downplayed the death of General Qassem Soleimani "as a real life filler episode to break up the impeachment arc" during then President Donald Trump's presidency. Soleimani was responsible for the death of over 600 U.S. soldiers in Iraq and the wounding of thousands more. By downplaying Soleimani's death, he is downplaying his horrific actions to our service men and women. Perhaps that is why he has been silent about the first selectman's inactivity regarding Memorial Day.

On Twitter, Dennler has also publicly identified himself as a "democratic socialist". Why would we want a democratic socialist on the Board of Finance? Socialism undermines work ethic and increases reliance on government. Socialism has been a historical failure that ultimately undermines democracy. Venezuela democratically elected Hugo Chavez and embraced socialism. The country has turned into an authoritarian regime and into one of the poorest countries in the world. Democratic nations that also recently experimented with socialism and failed were both Greece and Spain. I am sure he will point to Denmark, a nation whose president publicly disavowed socialism and embraced a free market economy.

Our first selectman advocated for a 5% tax increase and a salary increase during a historic pandemic. Add her toxic attitude into the mix and Colchester will be little Venezuela in no time. Perhaps that is what Mr. Dennler would like to see.

Sincerely,
Robert J. Walsh

Support for Bates

To the Editor:

I am writing in support of Deborah Bates in her run for Colchester's Board of Selectmen. While I do not vote in Colchester, I do know Deb well from her four years working with our boutique travel company, Classic Africa, and can attest that she is a woman of impeccable character and grace.

Deb was unfailingly responsible, organized, professional, determined and dedicated – always going above and beyond what was expected of her and I have no doubt that she will do the same for the Town of Colchester that she loves dearly. If elected, Deb's tireless work ethic and affable good nature will appeal to her constituents and colleagues alike, allowing her to move important issues forward diplomatically and with integrity, thereby doing the best for her community.

I could not be more impressed with Deborah Bates' myriad abilities and infectious enthusiasm and recommend her without reservation to all who are privileged to vote in the upcoming election.

Sincerely,
Dr. Margaret McCutcheon Faber
Middle Haddam

Experience for Portland

To the Editor,

As I have been out meeting with residents, some have been surprised to learn how much experience I have in municipal government. I thought it would be helpful to voters to outline the experience I will bring with me to the position of First Selectman if elected.

Between my time on the Board of Selectmen and as your Town Clerk, I have been proud to serve the residents of Portland for the past ten years. While serving on the BOS, I worked every day to maximize town services while keeping Portland as affordable as possible. I utilized my accounting background to review each line item of the budget in search of savings. I also served on several sub-committees including water & sewer so I am ready to tackle our cur-

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★ *Letters cont. from page 29*

rent water situation on day one.

In 2015, I was elected Town Clerk. I immediately set to work modernizing the office and I am proud of all that's been accomplished. From online dog licensing to the expanded absentee ballot process of 2020, I utilized technology to improve all of our services to residents. I consider myself fortunate for the experience of working in town hall as it has provided me with a much clearer picture of what the job of a First Selectman entails. Problems can arise out of nowhere and many times it is the Town Clerk who is the first point of contact.

I recently graduated from UConn with my master's degree in public administration. This is a qualification that many municipalities look for when choosing a town manager. It also happens to be the same degree that our current first selectwoman brought with her when she was first elected. I strongly encourage you to compare my resume with that of my opponent.

Sincerely,
Ryan J. Curley
Candidate for Portland First Selectman

Make Hard Choices

To the Editor:

Portland has had minimal development over the past couple decades while the towns surrounding us have flourished. We need to be more welcoming to businesses, so we can broaden our tax base. Homeowners need the tax burden taken off of them. The town needs to bring in more money to pay for repairs to our existing water and sewer systems, as well as the expansion of both.

If we are going to have our own water system, as some have suggested, how will we pay for all of the components needed? The town has to drill the wells, add pump stations, a filtration plant and the infrastructure to connect it all together. The water system alone will cost millions of dollars and take several years to complete. Don't forget we will probably need to hire more employees to run and oversee all of this new equipment. If this is a top priority for the town, then why has the sewer and water commission only had four meetings this year?

School repairs are projected at over \$28 million dollars in the next 15 years. We need to consider if we need to keep operating all of these schools. Our student population has not changed in decades but we added a school in the early 2000's. The high school/middle school complex won't be paid off for a few more years and the two schools need over \$6 million in repairs.

The town needs to be smarter with our money and think further down the road than next year or the year after. We need to make some hard choices in the coming years that could save or cost tax payers millions of dollars. You can't expect the town to change how it operates if the same people are put in office. Give us a chance and see what we can do. Support the Republican candidates on November 3.

Robert Hetrick
Republican Candidate
Portland Board of Selectmen

An Excellent Candidate

To the Editor:

It is my pleasure to offer my endorsement of Ralph Zampano for the Board of Selectman for the Town of Portland. I have known Ralph and his family for over 25 years; it was during this time that I came to learn of and respect Ralph's devotion to his community, his tireless efforts to better the town, and his excellent leadership skills.

He is a person who consistently puts his family and his hometown at the forefront of his interests. He has served his community in a number of volunteer and elected roles for over 20 years. Ralph has demonstrated the commitment, devotion, temperament and vision that I believe will continue to benefit Portland as it continues to seek to improve itself as a community.

Ralph is a member of the Portland Exchange Club, Portland Lion's Club and the Brownstone Quorum. He is currently Deputy First Selectman and was a previous Chair of the Portland Parks & Recreation Commission. Ralph has served as a Board of Selectman Liaison for Parks & Recreation, Library Board, Long-Range Capital, Route 17 Park Committee and the Economic Development Commission. These are just a few of the many committees that Ralph has served in an exemplary way.

Ralph has demonstrated that he is a dedicated and sincere public servant, and I encourage the residents of Portland to support his candidacy and vote for him on Nov. 2.

Sharon Fleischmann

What's Your Plan?

To the Editor:

If you ask Jim Tripp, he will likely reply, "My plan is to implement your plan."

Jim Tripp knows, as first selectman, his job will be to fulfill the Portland's Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD).

Portland's citizens created it in a citizen driven process that prioritized the town's goals and identified the actions needed to achieve them.

The POCD can be viewed on the Portland Town Website under a link for the Land Use Office.

https://d6b5601c-dc3e-4282-af80-0a0237e4e74e.filesusr.com/ugd/9e6474_657ffb5ae5a54df19ad2232a3032602e.pdf

When elected first selectman, I'll bet Jim Tripp moves the POCD link to Portland's home page.

Jim Tripp's plan is "our" plan!

Elwin Guild

Thanks to Hebron Vet

To the Editor:

I would like to express my thanks to the staff at Hebron Veterinary Hospital for the outstanding treatment we have received for Cooper since he was a puppy. Now that he is slowing down I appreciate more than ever the concern and kindness of everyone in the office; especially Dr. Scudder, whose boundless compassion and caring for Cooper is remarkable. Her care has allowed Cooper to continue to enjoy short walks, long naps and plenty of treats.

Thank you,
Lauren Henry - Amston

Racist Cards Handed-Out

To the Editor,

Our nation has a long history using epithets. In general, people used derogatory expressions, understood to convey contempt and hatred toward their targets. There are some based upon race. There are others based upon religion, ethnicity, gender, and sexual orientation.

The common thread is the anger and contempt placed with each word. Being the target of these expressions of anger and contempt is painful. The targets wonder what they have done to draw such anger and contempt. In turn, the targets develop their own sense of anger and contempt.

Fortunately, society decided to quit commonly using some epithets. Others are still used but to a lesser degree by each new generation. Social tolerance is building.

Now the word racist comes along. I am greatly surprised to see the deep anger and contempt some of my fellow social liberals are casting about now. What is more troubling is breadth some liberals are casting their judgement. Racist cards seem to be handed out with wild abandon.

Such seems the case in Colchester. The First Selectman has deemed Colchester having a public health crisis based upon racism. This characterization deeply offended many and was deemed baseless by them.

The saddest part of this drama is losing sight of the intent. I seriously doubt conservatives and liberals would object to it. We all should make sure all Colchester residents have equal access to opportunities in town.

In closing, to address a "community problem" should involve the entire community. Dialog is needed to develop a common language to find common interests. Offending a large number of residents seems not a good way to start.

Be well,
James D. McNair III

Kinney Road Backlash

To the Editor:

I was embarrassed by last week's report of the conflict at the Board of Selectmen meeting in Hebron. This is the best our elected leaders can offer? I support Selectman John Collins' efforts to continue the conversation about the proposed Public Works facility on Kinney Road. Unfortunately, I was not surprised by the Board's denial of his request to add this important subject to the agenda. The majority on the BOS appear determined to place a large industrial complex in a historic residential neighborhood surrounded by sensitive wetlands. So far they have chosen to dismiss any concerns brought to them by residents or their fellow Board member. I have attended several BOS meetings about this issue and I have heard Mr. Collins face this backlash. I do not believe he is condescending, offensive, insulting or demeaning. I urge Hebron's citizens to go to the Town of Hebron Facebook page, watch the videos of the BOS meetings and judge for themselves. I do believe that Mr. Collins' views are unpopular with his fellow

Board members. But I believe his opposition to this dangerous plan is shared by a wide variety of members of the community. I have spoken with many people about the proposed facility and its location on Kinney Road. I have yet to have someone say they think it is a good idea. I completely understand and support the need to improve the conditions for the employees of Public Works. This is just the wrong plan for the wrong place, there are better options available. Please visit Kinney Road Matters on Facebook to see maps, photos and videos of the area, I believe once you learn more about this plan you will join us in our opposition as well.

Sincerely,
Kevin J. Tulimieri-Amston

Political Scare Tactics

To the Editor:

It is disheartening that some spineless "residents" (who may or may not be candidates for office) of Colchester took out a clearly misinformed ad in the *Rivereast* last week trying to tie a weak link between their contempt for diversity, equity, and inclusion and their fear of curriculum that teaches students that people from all backgrounds are valuable.

I'll remind them:

- The creation of CORE (Colchester's Openness to Respecting Equity) passed 69-17.
- BOE members are elected volunteers chosen by voters to represent them.
- BOE members sit on multiple sub-committees.
- BOE public meeting attendance has increased since meetings went online.
- Our schools are more diverse than ever.

As the mother of a child who chose to leave Bacon Academy because he could not stand being harassed for his Asian Indian background,

I can assure readers that the work of these sub-committees is needed. My son wrote his college entrance essay about being cornered while students pretended to whip him with pencils and called him a "Dalit (Untouchable) Peasant!" I didn't even know that this was how he spent one of his last days in the public schools he grew up in until I read about it a couple of years after he decided to leave to graduate elsewhere following a school career spent being teased here. I can only imagine the experiences of other students. The people who paid for the ad are lucky that neither they nor their children have experienced prejudice.

These Trumpesque political scare tactics say a lot about the advertisement's backers and their clear lack of understanding surrounding inclusive educational philosophy and the goal to make Colchester Public Schools kind and welcoming for all students and families. They'd make themselves known if they didn't know they're on the wrong side of history.

Thank you,
Monica Swyden

Rivereast Turn the Page

To the Editor:

Back in the day, East Hampton was known for two things- great schools and low cost. Times have changed. We're still known for great schools but the low cost isn't there anymore. With budget tricks and one time stimulus money, things have dried up. Next year, with added spending and no stimulus, your taxes will go up. Like everyone, I want to turn the page on this pandemic and get back to normal in our schools and society in general. But without stimulus funds, we're responsible for the added spending, and that's what concerns me.

Josh Piteo-East Hampton

LEGALS

<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">LEGAL NOTICE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION HEBRON, CONNECTICUT</p> <p>The Hebron Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing at a Regular Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, October 12, 2021, at 7:00 P.M., to be held virtually through the GoToMeeting Platform, on the following: 1. Petition 2021-13 – Subdivision Application of Blackledge West LLC requesting to subdivide a 3.52-acre parcel of land into three building lots, property located on the east side of West Street, approximately 700 feet north of Martin Road, application is filed under the provisions of the Hebron Subdivision Regulations, R-1 District Dated at Hebron, Connecticut, this 29th day of September 2021. Gerald Garfield, Secretary Hebron Planning and Zoning Commission Tue, Oct 12, 2021 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM (EDT) Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone. https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/979303917 You can also dial in using your phone. United States: +1 (872) 240-3412 Access Code: 979-303-917 New to GoToMeeting? Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts: https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/979303917 2TB 10/1, 10/8</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON PERSONAL PROPERTY LEGAL NOTICE</p> <p>To all owners of taxable personal property and persons conducting business in the Town of East Hampton Pursuant to C.G.S. 12-40, notice is hereby given that all persons conducting business or having taxable personal property as defined by CT State Statutes in the Town of East Hampton must file with the Assessor's Office a complete and accurate declaration of all tangible personal property as of October 1, 2021. Owners of unregistered motor vehicles, vehicles registered out of state and garaged in East Hampton, construction equipment, campers and trailers must also be declared in order to avoid penalty. Deadline to file declarations is Monday, November 1, 2021. In the event a person or business fails to file a declaration of personal property, the Assessor shall fill out a declaration of all personal property believed to be owned by the taxpayer, estimate an assessed value using the best information available and add a 25% assessment penalty for "Failure to File". - C.G.S. 12-42 As a courtesy the Assessor's office has mailed Personal Property Declarations to anyone that the office is aware of having taxable personal property or is conducting business in the Town of East Hampton. New businesses should request forms from the Assessor. First time filers are required to submit an itemized asset list of personal property, including description of tangible items, acquisition dates and original cost (including transportation and installation). Extensions to file may be granted for good cause. Requests for extensions must be submitted in writing on or before Monday, November 1, 2021. Failure to receive a declaration does not nullify obligation to declare taxable personal property. Blank declarations are available in office and online at: https://www.easthamptonct.gov/assessor/pages/personal-property-declarations. Anyone requiring additional information may contact the Assessor's office: 860-267-2510 Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 8:00am-4:00pm/Tuesday 8:00am - 6:30pm/Friday 8:00am -12:30pm Deborah T. Copp CCMA I Assessor, Town of East Hampton, CT 1TB 10/8</p>
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"Pet of the Week"



Purry Mason spent well over a year living in or near the parking lot of a law office. Hence, the name he arrived with. The charisma is obvious. Those eyes. That stance. While Mason is gradually learning that he is safe, he isn't quite convinced yet. We are suggesting a quieter home with someone who has had some cat experience and no small children. Easygoing cats are fine, but no alpha cats. Mason is FIV positive, but that does not mean he cannot live a long and happy life.



Thomas is here! I am a 12 year old Silky Terrier/Yorkshire Terrier mix and I am looking for my furever home - could that be yours? Tipping the scale at 11lbs, I may be a bit of a munchkin, but I have the heart of a lion and a personality that fills a room! Friendly is my middle name - I LOVE people and attention - oh, and belly rubs are what I adore. I am an active, busy boy and need my exercise! An adult home or one with children 12 years and older would be great. No other dogs or cats in my furever home though please (I want to be the fur-king of my castle!). J I do have some special needs, but with a special diet and medication, I'm all set!

For more information on adopting **CATS** or **DOGS**, call **860-569-0722**
VOLUNTEERS & FOSTER HOMES NEEDED - For information call: **860-569-0722**

Protectors of Animals, Inc.
 144 Main St., Unit O, E. Hartford, CT 06118

A non-profit, all volunteer animal rescue organization, rescuing abandoned, abused and impounded cats and dogs.
 Check us out on our website - www.painc.org

LEGALS

LEGAL NOTICE MARLBOROUGH WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

Notice is hereby given to all property owners connected to the sewers in the Town of Marlborough that a sewer usage charge is due in one installment on October 1, 2021. The last day to pay without interest is November 1, 2021. Interest for a late payment is 1.5 % per month reverting to the due date of October 1. Minimum interest is \$2.00. The usage charge set for the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 is \$507.00 per EDU. Failure to receive a bill does not invalidate the fee or interest. Contact the tax office immediately if you do not receive a bill. Please make checks payable to MWPCA. Payments may be mailed to Tax Collector, PO Box 29, Marlborough, CT 06447. There is a lock box to the left of the door for check payments only. The tax office, located at 26 No Main Street, Marlborough, CT is open Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Tuesdays 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Fridays 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon.
Barbara C. Murray, WPCA Collector 3TB 10/1, 10/8, 10/22

TOWN OF ANDOVER ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS LEGAL NOTICE

The Andover Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a virtual Public Hearing on Wednesday, October 20, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. via a web-site platform (ZOOM) on the following applications:
#ZBA-21-12-02 Application of Nick Clark and Braeden Duncan (Applicants/Property Owners), 33 Lake Road, aka Assessor's Map 32/Block 48/Lot 1-9. Applicants are seeking relief from Section 11.2 of the Andover Zoning Regulations; more specifically the applicants are requesting a reduction in the side-yard setback from 25' to 3' so as to allow for the construction of an accessory structure as shown on a plan accompanying the application dated received and on file in the Town of Andover's Building & Land-Use Office on September 29, 2021. Interested parties may present any questions or concerns at the time of the hearing either by participating in the virtual hearing or by submitting written comment electronically to zoning@andoverct.org. Please direct any question and/or comments a minimum of 24 hours prior to the date/time of the hearing.
Join by Computer:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83043016117>
Join by Phone:
+1 646 558 8656
Meeting ID: 830 4301 6117
Passcode: 296060
James Hallisey
Zoning Agent 2TB 10/8, 10/15

Legal Notice Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission

The Andover Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission APPROVED the following applications at their regular meeting on October 4th, 2021:
IWWC21-15: Town of Andover, **Bunker Hill Rd Bridge**- Temporary repairs on culverts crossing the Hop River.
IWWC 21-19: Brenda and Wayne Fazzino, **268 Lake Rd**- Rebuilding existing lake wall using existing stone and new stone on shoreline of Andover Lake.
The above decisions may be appealed to the Andover Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission pursuant to Section 12.2 of the Town of Andover Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations, available at www.andoverconnecticut.org. 1TB 10/8

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF MARLBOROUGH ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC HEARING

The Marlborough Zoning Board of Appeals will hold the following public hearing on Wednesday, October 13, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. at 25 School Dr. (Senior Center).
APPLICATION #ZBA-5-21 – Carlos & Erin DaCruz (applicant/property owner) 181 Paper Mill Road - is seeking variance of Article Three A.1, Minimum Requirements, Article Three A.3 Conformity of Buildings & Land, Article Three A.5 Reduction of Lot Areas or Minimum Required Yards, Article Three A.9 Minimum Required Yards, Article Six A. 1 b Residential Parking and Garaging, in order to store a single recreation vehicle in the front yard were the Regulations require it to be stored to the rear of the principal residence.
Interested parties can review the application materials on the Town of Marlborough Website marlboroughct.net then go to meetings & agendas click on Agendas then go to Zoning Board of Appeals. Written testimony should be sent at least 24 hours ahead of the public hearing date to building@marlboroughct.net, and oral testimony may be given during the public hearing. 2TB 10/1, 10/8

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY ATTENTION SEWER USERS

Notice is hereby given to all property owners connected to the sewers in the Town of East Hampton that the sewer use payment is due and payable on October 1, 2021. East Hampton Sewer Use bills may now be paid in two equal installments; October 1 and April 1. The last day to pay the Sewer Use fee for the October 1, 2021 installment without a penalty is November 1, 2021. Property owners will not receive a second sewer use bill for the installment due on April 1, 2022. The October bill is a three-part form which includes the April installment.
Payments received November 2, 2021 and later, including payments postmarked November 2, 2021 and later, are considered past due and will be subject to an interest penalty of 1.50% per month, or a fraction thereof, 18% per annum, from the due date of the tax, as required by Connecticut General State Statutes 12-130 and 146. The minimum interest charge is \$2 on each tax bill. A returned check fee is \$20. Payments legibly postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service on or before November 1, 2021 are considered on time regardless of when they are received by the Collector of Revenue.
As owners of property, taxpayers are responsible to see that taxes are paid when due. Failure to have sent or received a bill does not exempt the taxpayer from payment of all taxes, interest charges and collection costs, as per Conn. Gen. Stat. 12-130 and 12-146. Interest is charged on all late payments. There are no exceptions. **Please make checks payable to Town of East Hampton.** Payments may be mailed to Collector of Revenue, 1 Community Drive, East Hampton, CT 06424. Pay online by visiting our website at www.easthamptonct.gov. Note: Your sewer account number is required when making a payment online.
Hours of collection are: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 8:00 am – 4:00 pm, Tuesday 8:00 am – 6:30 pm and Friday 8:00 am – 12:30 pm.
Respectively Submitted,
Scott Clayton
Public Utilities Administrator 2TB 9/24, 10/8, 10/22

TOWN OF PORTLAND PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Portland Planning & Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, October 21, 2021 at a meeting to start at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom to consider the following:
PZC #21-04: 1390 Main Street (northwest corner of Rte. 17 and Rte. 17A). Request for a Site Plan, Special Permit and Subdivision Review to construct a new 51,902 sq. ft. steel framed building. This all-inclusive facility will include a gun retail business, indoor range, gun smithing, archery sales, service and range, etc. Application of Let Freedom Ring, LLC. Property of Gil Isle LLC. Assessor's Map 76, Lot 1, Zone RI. Western portion of site is located in Flood Plain Zone AE.
PZC #21-05: 311 Brownstone Avenue. Request for Special Permit Modification (Application #19-23) to construct a 2,800 sq. ft. storage building. Application and property of Dean Soucy and Darlene Rice. Assessor's Map 28, Lot 54. Zone B3/ Riverfront Overlay.
At this hearing interested persons may appear and be heard and written communications will be received. A copy of this application is available for public review in the Portland Land Use Department or on the Town of Portland Website: www.portlandct.org
Dated at Portland, CT, this 5th day of October 2021
Robert Ellsworth, Chairman 2TB 10/8, 10/15

Town of Portland

Legal notice is hereby given to the water and/or sewer usage customers of the Town of Portland that quarterly bills are due and payable October 15, 2021. Payments not made in full on or before November 15, 2021 will be subject to interest of 1.5% per month from the due date.
Failure to receive a bill does not invalidate the charge. Please contact the Water/Sewer department if you do not receive your bill at (860) 342-6735 or by email darce@portlandct.org. Please feel free to leave your payment in the drop box located to the right of the back door at Town Hall, which is located at 33 East Main St., Portland, CT or by mail at the address listed below.
Town of Portland
Water/Sewer Dept.
P.O. Box 71
Portland, CT 06480-0071
Cynthia L. Gotta, CCMC
Town of Portland
Collector of Revenue 3TB 10/8, 10/22, 11/5

TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Regular Meeting at 7:00 pm on October 18, 2021 at Town Hall - 1 Community Drive and via Zoom meeting (see Town website for details) to consider the following:
Application ZBA-21-009, Richard Fielding, 30 South Main Street, Application for Variance to reduce front setback from 50' to 18.8' to reconstruct and expand existing garage. Map 07A/Block 55/ Lot 29
Application ZBA-21-010, Global 66, LLC, 265 West High Street, Application for Variance to increase allowed size of facade mounted sign from 198 sq. ft. to 290 sq. ft. and to allow the sign to be internally illuminated. Map 06/ Block 12/ Lot 9
Application ZBA-21-011, Richard Vesce, 62 Main St, Application for Variance to allow additional dwelling unit on ground floor in Village Center Zone. Map 02A/ Block 47/ Lot 30
Matthew Walton, Chairman 2TB 10/8, 10/15

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LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF ANDOVER REVENUE COLLECTOR'S NOTICE

To the property owners of the Town of Andover:
Thesecond installment of the taxes listed on the October 1, 2020 Grand List becomes due and payable to the Town of Andover on October 1, 2021. Payments must be postmarked, paid on line, or brought to Town Hall by November 1, 2021 to avoid an interest charge. Interest will be charged starting November 2, 2021 on all delinquent bills at a rate of 18% per year (1½% per month) from the due date of July 1st, with a minimum charge of \$2 for each bill.
View or pay taxes online at www.andoverct.org. Cash, check or money order payments are accepted at the Town Hall during business hours. Payments by check or money order may be mailed to the Tax Collector's office or placed in the drop box outside Town Hall. Office hours in October are Monday 8:15 pm – 7:00 pm and Tuesday– Thursday 8:15 am – 4:00 pm. The office will be closed on Monday, October 11, 2021 due to the federal holiday. Please refer to www.andoverct.org for updated office hours.
Failure to receive a tax bill will not invalidate the tax or any interest which may, by State law, accrue.
If you have any questions, please contact the tax office at 860-742-4035 option 4.
Eileen Curfin, Tax Collector
Town of Andover
17 School Road
Andover, CT 06232 3TB 10/1, 10/8, 10/22

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WANTED TO BUY

BUYING ANTIQUES & OLD STUFF. Costume jewelry, pottery, bottles, crocks, jugs, toys/games, glassware, silver plated items, signs, typewriters, sewing machines, bar items, tools, radios, clocks, lanterns, oil lamps, knives, hunting, fishing, military, Masonic, fire dept. and more. Donald Roy 860-874-8396.

PETS

DOG OBEDIENCE/AGILITY CLASSES starting soon. Offering: Agility, Puppy Kindergarten, Basic Manners/What Rescue Dogs Want/Need, CGC/Therapy. Over 20-years experience. Michelle Larson at PAWS-N-HEEL DTC, 860-267-6040. paws-n-heeldogtraining.com

The Absolute BEST! 1 Day NRA Pistol Course
Sun., 10/17, 8AM – \$100 4 Openings Left!
No NRA Computer Course required
GROUPS OF 10 OR MORE ANYTIME WEEKENDS.
Includes continental breakfast & lunch. Water & juice all day.
Millstream Preserve
Call (860) 295-9974 to register. REB-24-21

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All of our caregivers are aged 50+, with many years of experience.
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We truly are **YOUR EXTENDED FAMILY LLC**
COLCHESTER 860-967-0831 REB-13-21

Classifieds Pay

The Glastonbury Citizen & The Rivereast News Bulletin

Email your Classified Line Ad to sandy@gcitizen.com and call with your credit card number.
(We regret we cannot take ads over the phone)

EMPLOYMENT

COOK / PIZZA MAKER WANTED

FT/PT shifts available.
Call 860-295-8181 or stop in to Marlborough Pizza on Independence Drive, Marlborough, CT

EMPLOYMENT

KOCO4Kids Corner



NOW HIRING

- 1 Under 3 Teacher 1:00 – 6:00 pm
- 2 Under 3 Teachers 3:00 – 6:00 pm
- 1 Preschool Teacher 2:00 - 6:00 pm
- 2 Schoolage Teachers 7:00 – 8:30 am

KOCO is looking for a few special people who enjoy children, with the ability to be on feet, multitask, and lift up to 40 lbs. Submit resume/application via email or in person. Applications available on our website. REB-24-21

koco4kids.org

WAITSTAFF NEEDED ONE WEEKEND DAY A WEEK ASAP. Please come in and fill out an application at Eggs Up Restaurant on Rt.66 in Portland.

PAINTER WANTED - Must have experience and transportation. Please call Mike 860-608-8376

MORNING AND AFTERNOON CLEANERS NEEDED in busy bakery. Please stop by Marlborough Country Bakery on Rt. 66 in Marlborough.

ANGELO'S BAKERY DISHWASHER NEEDED. Flexible schedule. Hours are between 7-3:45. Call or stop in to apply at 32 Halls Hill Road, Colchester (860)537-2272

DENTAL OFFICE IN MARLBOROUGH SEEKING ASSISTANCE AT OUR FRONT DESK answering phones and scheduling patients. M-TH. Willing to train. Please call (860) 295-8132

SKILLED CARPENTER WANTED FOR BUSY PROPERTY MANAGEMENT CO. Reliable transportation a must, well toled carpenter, 3-5 years experience preferred. \$20-\$25./per hour. CONTACT JOHN/V@ADVANCECO.NET

The Caring Community of CT, located in Colchester CT, is currently hiring caring and motivated individuals wanting to work with developmentally disabled adults in residential programs. High School Diploma or GED required, valid Connecticut drivers license required, no job experience necessary as we provide on-going training. Starting at \$16.00 hourly (normal starting rate is \$15.00 hourly) with fully paid health package for all employees 30 hours or more plus generous accrued time off benefits and earned annual steps the first three years. As per state regulations, COVID vaccination or weekly testing is required.

Please call (860) 267-4463 Monday through Friday from 8 am to 4 pm to schedule an application and interview appointment. REB-24-21

ACTIVELY HIRING!



CASTLE & MARINA

Looking for motivated individuals to join our team. Currently seeking servers, bussers, kitchen utility, housekeeping and housemen positions. Every position is an integral part in providing an exceptional experience for our couples and guests! Must be available to work weekends and have a flexible schedule.

If you would like to be considered for employment please complete the Employment Application at:
www.saintclementscastle.com/employment

If you have further questions you can call 860-342-0593 or email: eventmanagers@saintclementscastle.com REB-10-21

EMPLOYMENT

**East Hampton Public Schools
Job Opportunity**

Part time 1st & 2nd shift substitute custodian position
Qualifications: Proof of Covid-19 Vaccination or a medical or religious exemption.
To see additional job description/ apply online please visit:
<https://www.applitrack.com/easthampton/onlineapp/>
To obtain further information contact:
Steven Fontanella Facilities Director East Hampton, CT 06424
(860) 365-4000 X 2
sfontanella@easthamptonct.org

4TB 10/1, 10/8, 10/15, 10/22

Bookkeeper/Administrative Assistant

Needed for small local office. Experience in construction accounting and certified payroll required. T&M Billing, Experience working with various Unions, payroll quarterly reports, reconciling bank statements.
Competitive wage, benefit package includes health insurance and 401(k).

PLEASE SEND RESUMES TO:
P.O. Box 777, Colchester, CT 06415, Attn: Geri
or email to geririsley@comcast.net

REB-24-21

**JOB OPPORTUNITY
EDUCATION: PERMANENT BUILDING
SUBSTITUTE NEEDED
GRADES PreK – 6, 2021-2022 School Year**

Marlborough Elementary School is accepting applications for a permanent building substitute - \$110 per day. Bachelor's degree required. Please send a letter of interest, application, resume and references to Holly Hageman, Superintendent, Marlborough School District, 25 School Drive, Marlborough, CT 06447 or email to cmonte@marlborough.k12.ct.us. Application forms can be found on our school website at www.marlborough.k12.ct.us, Employment Opportunities, Substitute Application or call 860.295.6236. EOE

1TB 10/8

**TOWN OF HEBRON
HEBRON POLICE
SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER**

The Town of Hebron is currently accepting applications for a full-time School Resource Officer. Minimum requirements include at least five (5) years of experience as a Connecticut POST Certified Officer or recently retired Officer or State Trooper (in good standing), valid Connecticut driver license, high school diploma or GED, and the ability to meet or exceed all entry exams including but not limited to written exam, oral exam, physical agility, extensive background investigation, psychological exam, polygraph exam, physical exam and a drug screen. Please send your resume and Town of Hebron employment application to the attention of Andrew J. Tierney, Town Manager, Town of Hebron, 15 Gilead Street, Hebron, CT 06248. Applications accepted until the position is filled. Hebron is an equal opportunity employer.

1TB 10/8

★ HELP WANTED ★

- Line Cooks
- Waiters / Waitresses
- Dishwashers
- Takeout Assistants

Full-time & Part-time hours available.
Must be reliable & able to work night & weekend hours.
Call manager (860) 508-3130
or apply in person at
Rossini's
62 West High St., East Hampton, CT

REB-24-21

Classifieds Pay

The Glastonbury Citizen & The Riverast News Bulletin

Email your Classified Line Ad to sandy@glcitizen.com and call with your credit card number.
(We regret we cannot take ads over the phone)

REAL ESTATE

RENTAL WANTED

SEEKING FIRST FLOOR APARTMENT OR SMALL HOUSE in wooded area w/yard in East Haddam/Colchester. Ready to move immediately. Good credit. Excellent References. Contact: azoic.me@gmail.com

RENTALS

APARTMENT IN HEBRON AVAILABLE NOW in downstairs of private home. \$1200. monthly including all utilities. Security deposit required. No pets, no smoking. Call/text 860-830-0887

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www.angelaaresco.com

REB-10-8-21

TREE & LANDSCAPING

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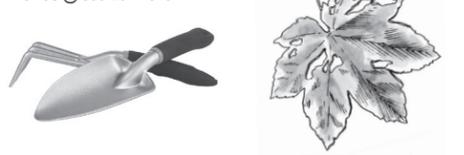
TOTAL LAWN CARE - Mowing, cleanups, planting, thatching aeration, dump runs and handyman services. Vet and senior discount. Call 860-342-2204, 860-638-8812

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REB-20-20



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REB-4-21

TREE & LANDSCAPING

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Marlborough, CT



REB-10-8-21

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REB-3-21

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Downed Tree & Debris Removal • Mulch Installation
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— CT LICENSED & FULLY INSURED —
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REB-10-1-21

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TheStumpGuyLLC@gmail.com
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TREE REMOVAL**

FULLY LICENSED & INSURED HIC #0644464

REB-7-31-20

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Grinding & Land Management

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REB-2-21

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REB-24-21

TREE & LANDSCAPING



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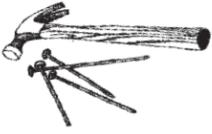
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TAG SALE SAT. 10/9, 9-1. 50 Springside Trail, Glastonbury. Contents of several estates. Antiques, collectibles, oddities. Vintage 1900s dollhouse, furniture & more! No early birds.

TAG SALE - 10/9, 69 Curtis Road, Glastonbury. Wide variety of household goods. Rain date 10/10. 9am to 4pm.

TAG SALE - Marlborough, 51 South Main Street. Saturday, 10/9, 8-2.

GARAGE SALE EXTENDED, Saturday, October 9, 8-12, 17 Great Hill Pond Rd., Portland. Household items, kids clothes size 10 & 12, Halloween costumes, books, bicycles, toys, sporting goods, CDs, vintage women's hats, many new items added.

LIQUIDATION SALE - Country Collectibles. Everything must go! Saturday, 10/9, 9-3. 317 Waterhole Road, East Hampton.

TAG SALE - Saturday, Oct. 9, 8:30-2:00. Rain date Oct. 10. 14 Middlesex Ave., Ext., Portland. Household goods, toys, games, small appliances.

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