



# RIVEREAST

# News Bulletin

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

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During her going-away celebration Sunday, the Rev. Denise Esslinger was donned with a tiara and sash by Annette Langevin, the church's party planner who organized the bash.

## Beloved Pastor Leaving Gilead Church

by Sloan Brewster

The pastor and "rock" of Gilead Congregational Church, the Rev. Denise Esslinger, is bidding the community farewell.

After a 22-year stint leading the congregation, Esslinger will retire at the end of the month. On Sunday, the community held a fair-like party to say adieu to the beloved minister. Hundreds of people from the church and beyond attended. According to church member Doug Stewart, 271 people had signed up for the fun and even more showed up.

The affair included an ice cream truck, a popcorn cart, a large celebratory cake frosted with a picture of the church and a table full of cupcakes and cookies. Folks gathered in a tent to watch videos of Esslinger and her time as leader of the flock. Later, the tent was the setting for a roast of the minister, in which church member Bruce Langevin, mimicking Esslinger's impassioned preaching technique, shared humorous stories – occasionally enhanced – with the laughing and applauding crowd, shouting "Amen" at intervals.

He shared tales of Esslinger's habit of buzzing around town in her silver Volvo "at light speed," and her distaste for the sight of blood. She even had trouble with stories that contained too many bloody details about parishioners' injuries and was known to nearly faint when faced with such graphic depictions, he said. In one story he told, Esslinger quickly left a hospital room after watching a procedure and fell to her knees. Passersby, unaware of why she was kneeling, commented on her piety.

He also described the minister's penchant for stalking out folks in the congregation to fill posts based on individual skillsets.

Among a pile of gifts presented to Esslinger, was a baby Jesus and a milk carton with a pic-

ture of the "missing" child on back. That gift went with a story of Esslinger's frantic reaction when the infant doll could not be found one Christmas Eve.

According to the recount, she ran into the sanctuary. "I can't find the Baby Jesus," she shouted in distress.

The missing Jesus was found in time for the celebration of Christ's birth on Christmas Day, Bruce Langevin assured everyone.

At the end of the half-hour roast, Bruce Langevin quickly grabbed an oxygen mask and took several deep breaths, proclaiming, "I don't know how she does it. I don't know how she does it."

The "huge celebration" was a way to show what Esslinger means to the church and greater community, Stewart said.

"Denise is the rock of this community," he said. "She's touched many, many people."

Church member Ned Ellis reiterated that Esslinger's fans extended well beyond church borders.

"She's a fantastic preacher, she has a wonderful gift of giving God's message and relating it to today," he said. "She's a person of compassion."

Ellis took a moment to sing the song "You Raise Me Up," the lyrics of which he and another church member rewrote for Esslinger.

Ellis was also roasted during the affair for his history of falling asleep during Sunday services, that is until Esslinger came along and captured his attention.

Sitting in the lobby of the church's Fellowship Hall while the festivities continued outside, Stewart, Ellis, Annette Langevin, the church's party planner who organized the festivities, and

See Pastor, page 30

## Portland to Celebrate Juneteenth Tomorrow

by Jack Lakowsky

A group of local nonprofits, businesses and town officials invite Portland to celebrate the 156th Juneteenth, or Freedom Day, this Saturday, June 19, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., at Riverfront Park.

Juneteenth celebrates the emancipation of enslaved people in the United States. It originally commemorated the proclamation freeing slaves in Texas in 1865, more than two years after Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation outlawed slavery in the United States, and has since come to honor the freeing of all humans-turned-property.

Despite their liberation from the chains of enslavement, Black Americans in the South would continue to live under oppressive and deadly

Jim Crow laws for more than a century, with racial inequities in all arenas of society persisting to this day.

In Portland, a mostly white town, several grassroots nonprofits, including the Portland Social Justice Coalition (PSJC), the town's Task Force on Solidarity and the Chatham Children's Connection have since last June, after the police murder of George Floyd, held discussions on topics surrounding improving the town's racial equity, inclusion and sensitivity.

This work will culminate in Saturday's Juneteenth celebration which, according to April Graves, chair of the solidarity task force and founder of the Chatham Children's Connection, will feature speeches from local African Ameri-

can residents, as well as food trucks, performances and a whole host of activities.

"We're very, very excited," Graves said in a June 10 *Rivereast* interview.

Graves said overall, people underestimate how massively both the practice and legacy of slavery have impacted this nation since its inception, often misconceiving this ownership of humans as a dark chapter of America, rather than part of the very fabric the country was woven from.

Graves said local entities, including both the Democratic and Republican town committees and Portland Library, will also be involved. The library, Graves said, will feature Black authors.

See Juneteenth, page 3

### Inside...

- Portland**  
Honor Roll.....page 6
- Hebron**  
Town Planner Retires.....page 10
- Colchester**  
Split Decision on Budgets ...page 14
- East Hampton**  
Zoning Reform Bill.....page 21
- Regional**  
Obituaries.....page 27
- RHAM**  
Top Two Look Back .....page 29



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# Infield on Town Green Fixed

by Karla Santos

The Bacon Academy Board of Trustees recently partnered with Colchester-based Grundmann Landscaping to fix the infield on the Town Green in an effort to improve it and make it usable for local children.

Arthur Liverant, a trustee, told the Riverast the infield was not absorbing rainwater and the grass was “really sparse.”

Dolores Sawchuk, also a trustee, said she felt disappointed about the way the field looked.

“It just didn’t look right,” Liverant said.

“It was not usable,” Donald Levine, another trustee, added.

Derek Grundmann, owner of the landscaping company, fixed the infield for free and donated some of the materials needed to improve it. The Board of Trustees paid for the rest of the materials. Grundmann played baseball when he was a student at Bacon Academy, which is one of the reasons he was inspired to help with the project.

The Board of Trustees owns half the green; they own the south side and the north side is owned by the town.

Liverant said it was important for the trustees to have their side of the green look good.

He said the infield had been unkempt for the past 10 years.

Now that the field has been fixed, Liverant said it’s “great” to see it is in better shape and to see children come by and play.

According to Sawchuk, the field is now being used the way it was intended. She said local children who visit the Youth Center and those that stop for ice cream at the shop across the street use it informally.

Levine stressed the intent of the field is just to let children play on it without any formalities.

According to Liverant, in the 18th century, there was a slaughter house on the green and it was surrounded by a fence. Cattle were raised there.

David Day, a wealthy attorney, gave half the green to the town and the other half to the Bacon Academy Board of Trustees, Liverant explained.

Years ago, when the Old Bacon Academy functioned as the local high school, the Town Green was an important place and was the gathering spot for families on weekends. At that time the infield was the main baseball playground in town. In 1963, a new Bacon Academy building was built in a different area of town.

Liverant said many individuals who lived in town during that period have memories of what it was like to go to the green on a Sunday afternoon.

Joe Rutka, a former trustee, is one of them. Rutka graduated from Bacon Academy in 1964 and said he played a lot on the infield. He explained that in the 1950s Colchester had Little League but around 1958, it fell apart. Then, the “most successful” little league coach, Sam Slavkin, decided to put together a team of players ages 13 to 15, Rutka said. The league was made up of four towns and a 12-game season. According to Rutka, at the end of the season, Slavkin would schedule games on Sundays and those games were played with towns that were not part of the league, including Waterford, Groton, Norwich and Mystic. Rutka said Slavkin ran the team from 1959 until 1961 and it had 48 wins and no losses, “and then it finally lost its last game.”

Rutka said that seeing the field fixed brings him back to his youthful memories.

Levine, who graduated from Bacon Academy in 1973, also has some memories related to the Town Green’s infield. When he was a teenager, softball players also used the field. Levine became a bat boy for what he called one of the “best” softball teams in the area, he said.

Sawchuk, 91, graduated from Bacon Academy in 1948. Sawchuk’s older brother was a catcher for the Old Bacon Academy’s baseball team. As a child, she said she always attended the games to watch him catch. Then, prior to high school, she learned how to keep score and became a score keeper for a lot of the games. She said when Colchester won games, the boys would go to the school and ring the bell to announce the victory.

Liverant said his father told him a story of a happy moment on the green. Liverant explained that at some point where the colored school is now, there was a drugstore. The owner of the business, Earl Holmes was a photographer and owned a shortwave radio. He kept track of world news and told the town’s people about what was going on, particularly during World War II. Liverant said his father told him that when Japan surrendered in September 1945, a game was being played on the green and there were about 1,000 attendees. Liverant said that day, the owner of the drugstore went to the green and announced that Japan had surrendered.



Pictured in front of the infield are, from left, Derek Grundmann, owner of Grundmann Landscaping; Dolores Sawchuk and Donald Levine, members of the Old Bacon Academy Board of Trustees; Joe Rutka, former trustee; and Arthur Liverant, local historian and member of the Board of Trustees.

“My father told me it was one of the greatest celebrations in this town,” Liverant said.

The baseball field was mainly used by the Old Bacon Academy for baseball and other recreational activities.

In 1963, students were able to learn from a new high school building; that was the second Bacon Academy. The third and current Bacon Academy building was built in 1992.

“Until ‘62, this was it,” Rutka said about the baseball field.

“It was a different world, baseball was the sport then,” Rutka added.

According to Liverant, the town center was covered with Dutch elm trees, which were planted in 1850 by the town’s leadership.

“Fifty years later, these elm trees were huge and they covered the Town Green, Hayward Avenue [and] Main Street,” Liverant said.

He explained those trees were so large they were even incorporated into the rules of the baseball games that were played on the green.

“Colchester had a great baseball team,” Liverant said.

Baseball teams from towns such as Lebanon and Columbia gathered at the Town Green to compete with Colchester.

“This field was always a really important part to the town baseball and all kinds of activities,” Liverant said.

## Polka Music and Polish Food on the Green

On Thursday, July 22, on the town green, Colchester Parks and Recreation is sponsoring the music of the Grammy-nominated polka band Dennis Polisky & Maestro’s Men. The music is free, from 6-8 p.m.

There will be food available for purchase from 4:30-8 p.m. (while supplies last), including a homemade Polish dinner consisting of pierogies, kielbasa, golumpki, kapusta, rye bread and butter.

Bring your own lawn chairs and blankets.

Colchester News cont. on page 14



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Cover Story • Cover Story

★ *Juneteenth cont. from page 1*

True Vine Church of Portland will join in as well. Riverbend Bookshop of Glastonbury will also have a table in the celebration.

A coordinator from Desegregate CT, a state fair housing advocacy lobby, will also speak.

Graves said it's "terrific" to see a mix of government, nonprofit and private institutions join in to honor the hard-earned freedom of Black Americans.

Graves continued to say planning the event went smoothly. Residents and the town's government readily embraced the event, Graves said.

Graves said this parallels the PSJC and the task force's experience throughout the last year. She said the town has been ready, willing and able to discuss the difficult, complicated subject of racial equity.

Graves said, for its small size, Portland has an especially robust grassroots movement scene, an environment fostered by officials like First Selectwoman Susan Bransfield and the rest of the Board of Selectmen.

"I'm so proud of all the work that members [of the groups] have done around diversity, equity and inclusion," Graves said. "There are wonderful new committees, and great new initiatives have been put into action."

Since the formation of the grassroots PSJC, the town began the solidarity task force and, in schools, officials formed an equity coalition in response to a task force survey that revealed experiences of racism in the Portland school system.

Along with that January survey, distributed to the whole town, Graves named as accomplishments since last year well-attended forums on housing equity, racism toward Asian American and Pacific Islander, and youth diversity. Other accomplishments she touted included a voter registration drive and a resource pamphlet issued to residents.

The task force's pamphlet included a variety of resources, including English translation services, resources for deaf or hearing-impaired

individuals, a veterans' crisis line, a domestic violence crisis line, suicide prevention and intervention, a group for parents of gender expansive children and a comprehensive list of town departments.

Events were hosted by the PSJC and the task force, with some joint and some independent efforts on the part of both. Graves said local social services and police officials have been enthusiastic partners in the work.

Graves went on to mention the Board of Selectmen's commitment to racial equity training, a suggestion of the equity groups, as another local step towards equality.

"Everything we've set out to do, we've done," Graves said.

Graves said the groups will host an LGBT Pride rally, slated for Sept. 26.

Also slated for the latter half of the year is a cultural fair celebrating the diverse range of heritages living in town, Graves said.

A major indicator of the Task Force on Solidarity's success, Graves said, is its extension by the town. Originally, the task force was to dissolve after the Juneteenth fair. However, earlier this year, Bransfield recommended to the Board of Selectmen making the task force a lasting committee.

On Monday, Bransfield told the *Rivereast* the Board of Selectmen will, in about a month, formalize the task force's permanence, likely at its July 23 meeting.

"The group has worked effectively with local youth and police," the town executive said of why she's suggesting the task force be made a mainstay.

Bransfield said she wants to see the task force and the PSJC continue their work, that equity brings "untold benefits."

At a recent ribbon cutting of the new labyrinth at Riverfront Park, a descendant of the Wangunk tribe, a people indigenous to the region, led a Native American blessing of the site.

"His remarks [at the ceremony] were really interesting," Bransfield said. "He said for years,

local Wangunk descendants have laid low, and that he was delighted to return to introduce us to traditional blessings."

Bransfield said the task force has helped give voice to the marginalized, like Indigenous peoples, and that solidifying the task force's position as a town body will make Portland a healthier community.

Bransfield said, since last June, she's learned that racial discrimination and systemic inequities affect everyone.

One upcoming way the town plans to improve equity in town proceedings is to close-caption Zoom meetings of town boards.

"People are very happy that unheard voices are now being heard," Graves said. "Difficult talks are being had. The entire town's voice is being heard, and there are now opportunities to step up and speak out about things that may not be so comfortable."

Graves said since starting the equity work last year, she has learned, and hopes others have too, that town leaders like Bransfield, like school board chair Sharon Peters and superin-

tendent Charles Britton, are actually quite accessible.

Graves also learned "there are so many people who want to be engaged [and be] part of solutions," adding that the work has "reinforced" her knowledge that Portland is a "wonderful, supportive community."

The number of people who have reached out seeking involvement has been "amazing," Graves said.

Graves recommended to those interested in further reading on the topic of equity *The Color of Law* by Richard Rothstein.

"It really explains a lot about the laws and institutions that have perpetuated systemic racism," Graves said, adding that a local resident donated copies of this book to each member of the solidarity task force.

Other popular titles include *How to be an Antiracist* by Ibram X. Kendi, *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents* by Isabel Wilkerson and *So You Want to Talk About Race* by Ijeoma Oluo.

Graves said Juneteenth's rain date will be the following day, Sunday, June 20.

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## From the Editor's Desk

# Observations & Ruminations

by Mike Thompson

I'm going to miss you, Pastor Denise.

As you saw on the cover of this week's *Rivereast*, the Rev. Denise Esslinger, the long-time pastor of Gilead Congregational Church in Hebron, is retiring at the end of the month.

I've never attended a service at Gilead Church. I've never seen Denise preach a sermon. But when I think of Hebron, her face is one of the ones that comes to mind – and what a warm, friendly, welcoming face it is.

This September will mark 20 years since I started my career as a journalist. My first beat included Hebron. And while so many of the leaders in town have changed in the ensuing two decades – I remember when I started, the superintendent of schools was Bill Silver and the town manager was Robert E. Lee – one constant that has remained is Denise.

Denise was always available when I needed her for a story, always willing to talk to me and provide thoughtful quotes, whether it was a happy subject I was reporting on or a sad one.

And she was a very visible presence at town functions, often being called on to offer a prayer or say a few words. Her warmth was evident there as well.

Some might say “well, she’s a minister, that’s her job” and, well, that’s not true. One thing I’ve learned in all my years of reporting is not every man or woman of the cloth exudes friendliness, kindness, and helpfulness the way Denise does. Whoever replaces her has awfully big shoes to fill – not just at Gilead Church, but in the Hebron community as a whole.

Congratulations, Denise, on your well-earned retirement.

\*\*\*

I got some pretty cool news from RHAM High School this week. Several members of the Class of 2021 who've played high school sports are going to continue their athletic careers in college – and RHAM was nice enough to provide me with a list. The students are:

Nick Clate, who will be playing football for Sewanee: The University of the South, in Sewanee, Tenn.; Patrick Oatman, who will run track and field at UConn; Sierra Blank, who will play soccer at Niagara University in Lewiston, N.Y.; EJ Chiffer, who will play football at Western New England University; Matt Milone, who will play baseball at Bab-

son College in Wellesley, Mass.; Bailey Ayer, who will play soccer at the University of Vermont;

Hannah Mullaney, who will play softball at Trinity College; Rebecca Eaton, who will play ice hockey at New England College in Henniker, N.H.; Kaylin Hadley, who will play volleyball at Central Connecticut State University; Alyssa Carusone and Rebecca Carusone, who will each run cross country at Central Connecticut State University; Ryan Lim, who will play soccer at Quinnipiac University; Jackson Chudzick, who will play rugby at St. Bonaventure University in Allegany, N.Y.;

Ashley Gentile, who will run track and field and cross country at Eastern Connecticut State University; Kevin Braunwart, who will run cross country at Clark University in Worcester, Mass.; Mykenzie Mawdsley, who will run track and field at Salisbury University in Salisbury, Md.; Patrick Moynihan, who will play soccer at Thomas College in Waterville, Maine; and Edie Walker, who will run track and field and cross country at Central Connecticut State University.

Good luck to all these incoming freshmen!!!

\*\*\*

Lastly, happy Father's Day to all the dads in *Rivereast*-land. It's a day that brings many thoughts and happy memories to mind – and also, oddly, a quote from longtime New York Mets TV announcer Ralph Kiner, who once famously opened a Father's Day broadcast by saying, “It's Father's Day today, so to all you fathers out there, happy birthday!”

Much like Yogi Berra, the late Ralph Kiner was a terrific ballplayer who was also known for malapropisms and comments that would sometimes leave you scratching your head. He had many during the years he broadcast Mets games. Here are some particular favorites of mine:

“All of his saves have come in relief appearances.”

“All of the Mets' road wins against the Dodgers this year occurred at Dodger Stadium.”

“Darryl Strawberry has been voted to the Hall of Fame five years in a row.”

“If Casey Stengel were alive today, he'd be spinning in his grave.”

**Editor's Desk continued on page 5**



**We Are the Champions...** The RHAM Youth Soccer girls U15 team won the CJSA Northeast Division championship this year. The girls won the title by finishing the spring season undefeated, with 12 wins and no losses. This past weekend, they beat NEConn in the semi-final championship game, 3 goals to 0, and beat Stafford in the championship game, also 3 goals to 0. Pictured from left are, front row, Alexandra “Ola” Slyk, Jillian Sullivan; Sophia Wiktorowicz, Jordan Miller, Ella Mayo, Brenna D'Amico, Julia Gorbolino, Emma Skoog; back row, Audrey Eckert, Isabella Wiktorowicz, Tate Knox-Silvia, Natalie Groves, Kaitlin Kischell, Lauren Peters, Isabelle Sobieralski, Kenna MacDonald, Reese Montstream and Andrea Bartolucci. Not pictured: Lilyana Farrelly

Reader Forum • Reader Forum • Reader Forum • Reader Forum • Reader Forum •

## Support Senior Community

To the Editor:

I'm writing on behalf of the Colchester Senior Center project. I have only positive points; here are a few: Moving to Colchester as a senior citizen, the center has offered the connection needed to focus on belonging in the community. I have made many friends, and been able to help the community in ways I wouldn't have known. I have taken an art class, an AARP Safe Driving class. I love my yoga class, and play Mexican Train Dominoes faithfully every week. Each person I connect with is so special to me.

Please vote in favor of the referendum in September. Your senior community is important.

Sincerely,

Kathy Landry – Colchester

## Car Wash Thanks

To the Editor:

Troop 72 and Eagle Scout candidate Thomas Smith would like to thank everyone who came by the car wash last Saturday. There was a tremendous show of support by many, many people. The fund raiser was a success and the work on the new Cohen's Woods benches is soon to follow.

Scouting in Colchester is alive and well because Colchester and the surrounding Towns support their Scout and Cub Scout units. Thank you again for making this fundraiser a success.

Troop 72  
Colchester

## School Budget Too High

To the Editor:

There's a new superintendent in town, with no prior experience, telling us she cannot reduce her budget at all. She seems to think not telling us where cuts can be made is acceptable. She thinks we don't deserve to examine the spending at the school. She compares cutting her spending to grocery shopping!! While neighboring towns are able to teach their kids with as much as \$6,000 less per child she says her budget is bare bones! A *Rivereast* writer from Marlborough is happy with his kid's education as they managed to not lose a single day last year either. Andover is so proud of that distinction yet Marlborough did it with a lot less money. So did Hebron, Coventry and Bolton. How come we need so much? I'll tell you why. We've hired a hoarder. A hoarder of money. A hoarder of school supplies. Check out the line item for school supplies \$350,000 for 150 kids (we are not supposed to pay for pre-k) while other schools are \$150,000. A hoarder of teachers and paras.

Look, even without a single layoff the school could trim \$300,000 off their budget. The superintendent needs to be cooperative and remind herself that she is working for all of us. We want a sensible budget that keeps our school great. We want cooperation and transparency and we'll vote no Tuesday because the AES budget is too high.

Marcie Miner – Andover

## Bulletin Board

I realize now that I made a foolish mistake when I spent hours on the computer, then hours more waiting in line in my car in order to receive a Covid-19 vaccination last spring.

I should have held out for a prize.

In an effort to encourage the lazy, the oblivious, the chronic procrastinator and those who don't give a rat's patoot about “protecting grandma,” many states are now offering rewards for people to go out and get vaccinated. That's right, friends, get the shot and get a prize!

In California, Gov. Gavin Newsom has announced that 30 Californians have a chance to win \$50,000 if they complete their vaccinations. Another 10 will be eligible to win \$1.5 million prizes. Additionally, the first 2 million people to now begin and subsequently complete their vaccinations will automatically receive a \$50 prepaid grocery card.

Now I know what you're thinking: what do you expect from a state where people run around in tinfoil hats to guard against radio waves from malevolent aliens lurking in the Pleiades.

But for once, it's not just California.

Colorado has a five-week sweepstakes where five people will each win \$1 million for getting a vaccine; in New York State, kids ages 12-17 who get the vaccine will be eligible for one of 50 four-year scholarships to any public college or university in the state; in Illinois, Six Flags Great America is offering 50,000 free tickets to newly vaccinated state residents; get vaccinated in New York City and you can choose from a whole grab bag of prizes, including free tickets to Liberty Island, a free Public Theater annual membership or a \$25 gift card to NYC Public Markets; Nathan's hot dogs is offering a free wiener on the day of your vaccine (you've got to go to their original Coney Island location in Brooklyn); and Ledos Pizza is offering a free eight-inch cheese pizza to Maryland residents who've received their first dose of the vaccine through June 30.

If you're a really laid back seeds and weeds type, Washington State has a promotion called “Joints for Jabs,” which allows adults who are 21 or older to claim a free marijuana joint once they receive their shot. The promotion will run through July 12.

The list goes on and on.

You know what I got when I received my vaccine here in Connecticut?

A freakin' Band Aid.

Granted, it had a cute little zebra design on it, but still...

For this I risked (according to late night conservative radio) being injected with a tracking chip so Congress can monitor how often I get up during the night to use the bathroom. And now those of us who cooperated and risked being transformed into zombies for the good of the nation get to stand by and watch all the uncooperative laggards be showered with fabulous prizes without even having to wait in line?

I've got an idea. Since people apparently need to be paid to do the right thing, how about giving folks prizes for obeying traffic lights? Or for not driving away after running over a pedestrian?

Seriously, “Joints for Jabs”? No, I'm not bitter. Not hardly.

Jim Hallas

**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**

Letter Writers: Due to space constraints, letter writers must limit their letters to **300 words or less**. No exceptions will be made. E-mail is preferred. Word or text documents are best. Letters submitted without a contact phone number will not be published nor will anonymous letters or letters submitted by someone other than the person who wrote it. We cannot guarantee all letters will be published.

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**Overwhelming Success**

To the Editor:  
On Saturday, June 5, the State Police Troop K Cadets held a free car wash at the Saint Joseph's Polish Society. The event was to raise funds to purchase a neon sign which will be placed on the lawn in front of the Troop K barracks. A similar sign had existed in the mid-1930s but had deteriorated over time.

The car wash was sponsored by the following local businesses; Aurora McCarthy Funeral Home, Baldi Landscaping, Brakes and More, Clark's Landscaping, Clothes-Pin Laundry, Colchester Mill Fabrics & Quilting, Colchester Pizza, Colchester Veterinary Hospital, D.H. Marvin & Son, Dollar General of Colchester, Drs. Kierstein and DiFrancesca, Dunkin' of Colchester, Fresca Bar & Grill, Gano's Power Equipment, GH Trailers, Gung Ho Restaurant, Harry's Place, Hope Ace Hardware, Joe's Barbershop of Colchester, John Gagnon's Pet Resort, Mark's United Auto Parts, Merciful Savior Gift Shop, Noel's Supermarket, Performance Physical Therapy, Professional Therapeutic Massage, Rental Center of Colchester, Scottie's Frozen Custard, Skyview Realty, Southeastern Regional Action Council, State Farm Insurance of Colchester, The Inishmor Pub, Twisted Dog Yoga, Two Brothers Pizza Restaurant, and the Willimantic BJ's Wholesale Club.

We are also very thankful to everyone who attended the car wash and made personal dona-

tions. With the generosity of those individuals and also of the businesses, we were able to raise more than \$14,000. Finally, our very sincerest thanks to the Saint Joseph's Polish Society for making this event possible.

Once again, a very heartfelt thank you to all the businesses and individuals that made our fundraiser an overwhelming success.

**Sincerely,  
Nate Lochowski  
State Police Troop K Cadet Advisor**

**Andover Budget**

To the Editor:  
On June 4, the 2021-22 town budget passed at town meeting after a significant amount of the Board of Education spending increase was restored. Andover spends \$21,000 per student at our elementary school – the highest this side of the river, enrollment is declining to 178 students – yet the BOE demanded more money. I knew the “deck was stacked” and the fix was in when longtime resident and moderator Wally Barton was replaced by selectman Paula King (dressed very nicely for the occasion not by coincidence). She knew what her role was and as expected, the first speaker chosen was Board of Education member Celeste Willard, who immediately (without any discussion) called the question. Absolutely outrageous, but predictable; two weeks in a row they pulled the same stunt!! It failed to get the two-thirds majority needed but you knew what the outcome was go-

ing to be.  
Paula King then limited the dialogue to specific questions or to make a motion. She eliminated “public comments” from this meeting. When I starting speaking she tried to silence me – I was commenting on the “backroom” tactics used by the BOE and how it has divided the town. The town charter needs to be changed immediately to allow us to vote separately on the town government, the Board of Ed. and perhaps capital projects. This will help prevent the BOE and its dedicated members from future hostile takeovers of town budget meetings.

I was disappointed at the lack of seniors at this important meeting but with a continued mask mandate and it being the fourth meeting

arguing about the same 4.5% spending increase it was wearing on myself as well, but you have to stand up to bullies.

Vote ‘no’ on June 22 and remember, cancel culture has no limits.

**Don Denley – Andover**

**Don't Be Bullied**

To the Editor:  
I'm so disappointed with the last budget meeting outcome. We've attended the prior meetings but couldn't make this one. My desire to attend was not strong anyway. The bullying by the former chairperson and some parents was disgusting. In addition, parents had been advised

*See Letters, page 28*

**Editor's Desk continued from page 4**

“Kevin McReynolds stops at third and he scores.”  
“Solo homers usually come with no one on base.”  
“[Don] Sutton lost thirteen games in a row without winning a ballgame.”  
“The Mets have gotten their leadoff batter on only once this inning.”  
“The reason the Mets have played so well at Shea this year is they have the best home

record in baseball.”  
“There's a lot of heredity in that family.”  
“Tony Gwynn was named player of the year for April.”  
“Some guys are inwardly outgoing.”  
“The Mets just had their first .500-or-better April since July of 1992.”  
\* \* \*  
See you next week.

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The Portland Republican Town Committee recently announced its slate of candidates for this November's elections. From left are Stacey Benham, Kim Puida, Bill Donahue, Shaun Manning, Ryan Curley, Mike Hernandez, Bobby Hetrick, Dave Murphy, Mike Pelton and Tim Lavoy. Not pictured is Peter Castelli.

### Republicans Introduce Election Hopefuls

The Republican Town Committee announced its slate of candidates for the Board of Selectmen, the Board of Education and Board of Assessment Appeals at the committee's campaign kickoff event June 12.

All candidates were unanimously endorsed by the RTC at its June 7 meeting. The Board of Selectmen candidates are Michael Hernandez, Bobby Hetrick, Shaun Manning and Michael Pelton. The Board of Education candidates are Stacey Benham, Tim Lavoy, Dave Murphy and Kimberly Puida. The Board of Assessment Appeals candidates are Peter Castelli and William Donahue.

"I could not be happier to run alongside such a great group of passionate and qualified leaders," said Ryan Curley, candidate for first selectman. "Each candidate brings a wealth of unique experience and knowledge and is going to make a tremendous impact for the betterment of the town of Portland."

The nomination process will be finalized at the GOP caucus to be held in July. For more information on the candidates, visit facebook.com/RTCPortlandCT.

### Gardening is Murder

The Portland Garden Club invites all to hear "Gardening is Murder" – or what the club says is "the funniest gardening lecture you'll ever attend" – Wednesday, July 7, at 1 p.m., at The Waverly (Senior) Center, 7 Waverly Ave.

Neal Sanders is the spouse of an avid gardener, as well as the author of 15 mysteries, many with horticultural themes or garden club settings. Among other topics, he will explain why the internet can be the worst possible source of gardening advice, why you have to dig three holes to plant one shrub, and why folks have garden benches they never use.

The program is open to the public and light refreshments will be served. Town policy and CDC guidelines will apply. For more information, call Sue at 860-685-0593.

### Renters' Rebate Program

Select people are able to apply for Renters' Rebate; the period to apply runs through Sept. 30.

People are eligible if they have been a state resident for at least one year and were either age 65 or older on Dec. 21, 2020, or 50 and over but the surviving spouse of a renter who was eligible at the time of death. People may also qualify if they are under the age of 65 but eligible for permanent total disability benefits under Social Security. Qualifying income guidelines must be met.

Strict guidelines will be followed for appointments, and masks must be worn. Call Mary Pont at The Waverly Center in Portland at 860-342-6760 to make an appointment.

### St. Mary Church News

St. Mary Roman Catholic Church is located at 45 Freestone Ave. The church office can be reached at 860-342-2328. Office hours are 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Friday. For more information, visit [www.stmaryportlandct.org](http://www.stmaryportlandct.org). Pastor is the Rev. John Antonelle.

**Weekend Masses:** 5 p.m. Saturday and 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Sunday. The 10:30 a.m. Sunday Mass is livestreamed each week; visit

the parish website for more information.

**Weekday Mass:** Monday and Tuesday at 8 a.m., and Friday at 12:10 p.m.

**Confession:** Saturday at 4-4:45 p.m., or call Antonelle for an appointment.

**Other Programs:** For information on faith formation programs, baptisms, blessings of marriages, Knights of Columbus, the St. Mary Ladies Guild and more, call the church office.

### PHS Honor Roll

Principal Kathryn Lawson has announced the Portland High School Honor Roll for the third marking term of the 2020-21 school year.

#### High Honors

**Grade 12:** Mariana Bates, Ava Beeler, Julia Berthiaume, Nicholas Binezewski, Dorothy Black, Noah Charpentier, Justin Coe, Hallee Corley, Cody Daggett, Grace Darby, Jackson Decker, Lila Delaronde, Nathan DiSalvo, Samantha Dumais, Cailen Fienemann, Carly Graves, Tatum Hair, Olivia Handy, Natalie Holstein, Jason Jagoda, Benjamin Lucas, Nathan MacKinnon, Brandon Masal, Shawn Moreneau, Christina Paternostro, Lily Pelton, Mason Piersall, Eamon Pineda, Justin Renk, Katrina Renner, Haley Sroka, Thomas Stoto, Lucas Varano, Kylie Walsh, Paige Warshaw, Bryce Wiekrykas, McKenzie Wilk, Katherine Wright, Alyssa Young and Amanda Zajac.

**Grade 11:** Katelin Binezewski, Hannah Brunk, Owen Brunk, Julia Capello, Landry Carroll, Molly Coleman, Nicholas D'Angelo, Owen Delisle, Giuliana Discenza, Zachary Doncet, Tara Fitzgibbons, Jacob Hanks, Brynn Hennessey, Matthew Hernandez, Caiden Hetrick-Rivera, Isabella Hetrick-Rivera, Ava Hurley, Lindsey King, Sierra Koss, Kayla LaMalfa, Mia Lapinski, Samantha Lasky, Shawn Laverty, Megan Major, Gabriele Malu, Chyann Markham, Leah May, Sean Mazza, Blasia McAuliffe, Isabella Nolan, Sophia Palma, Raymond Picard, Jodie Pickel, Dana Pierce, Michael Quesnel, Jenna Randazzo, Lindsay Renk, Kendra Schoeps, Allison Scott, Maxwell Strycharz, Brady Talerico, Derek Tewksbury, Trevor Tewksbury, Jake Thompson, Kaitlyn Tripp, Jack Turecek, Theodore Williams and Didismay Yedra.

**Grade 10:** Victoria Bailey, Cole Bates, Rowan Bell, Sarah Black, Rachel Brown, Amelia Ciarleglio, Ryan Clarke, Harrison Collins, Kayla Deckelman, Faith Doyle, Lauren Eckert, Ava Evison, Ryan Green, Kyle Guibord, Alexander Hair, Amelia Hair, Gregory Ives, Tyler Ives,

Andrew Johnson, Ryan Kerr, Camille Kopacz, McKenzie LaMalfa, Lily Larson, Annette LeShane, Ginia Lin, Nathalie Liranzo, Caymus Lopez, Marley Malanczuk, Jacob Maruschock, Leah Masal, Heather McDougall, Brandon McPhee, Mya Mogulnicki, Katharine Nedobity, Natalie Przeszelski, Mia Quesnel, Drew Shortell, Angelina Steele, Madison Szymaszek, Mason Tuttle, Emma Warshaw and Joseph Woszczyna.

**Grade 9:** Sara Austin, Cooper Beck, Lillian Carroll, Gabriela DeLeon, Camryn DiMauro, Giovanni Discenza, Isaac Handel, Joshua Hanna, Erin Hunter, Abigail Keaveny, Sarah Kresser, Quinn Lapinski, Philip LeShane, Sunny Lin, Rachel Mailhot, Ava Maselek, Meghan McPhee, Carson Nicol, Abbey Pickel, Tyler Quinn, Cooper Rettich, Dorothy Riley, Selena Shukis, Grace Sockwell, Benjamin Sorrell, Morgan Sundell, Lillian Tabellione, Pierson Webster, McKayla Wilk, Jackson Williams and Corinne Woszczyna.

#### Honors

**Grade 12:** Hailey Carlson, Sydney Carlson, Lucas Francesco, Katherine Guilmette, Jacob Hill, Veronica Kandro, Jade Khim, Nicolas Matera, Caden Mazzotta, Margaret Mearman, Samantha Myers, Thomas Reddington, Tyler Tabellione, Connor Tatro and Johnathon Wolff.

**Grade 11:** Emiliana Burek, Jenna Converse, William Crawford, Tess Currier, Jack DeToro, Connor Egan, Eli Evison, Allanna Hallbert, Evan Johnson, Simon Kandeke, Matthew LaPila, Georgia Lukas, Travis Poulin, Kendall Prince, Rasheam Riley, Jaime Spooner, Sydney Wallengren, Ryan Wright and Katelyn Yankowski.

**Grade 10:** Ethan Dean, Andrew DiMauro, Yusuf Kadric, Sean Mearman, Spencer Rosado, Joseph Rusczyk, Austin Vess and Yu Zheng.

**Grade 9:** Matthew Binezewski, Noah Decker, Rocco DiMauro, Lincoln Hanks, Justin Jinks, Jamison Lasky, Mason Lavallee and Benjamin McGrew.



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### First Congregational Church News

First Congregational Church of Portland is a member of the United Church of Christ denomination, and is an Open and Affirming congregation. It is located at 554 Main St.

The church will welcome the Rev. Eva Cudmore as the sabbatical pastor for three months, at the worship service to be held at 9 a.m. Sunday, June 20. The sermon for the day is entitled "When God is Quiet."

Cudmore will provide worship leadership and pastoral care throughout the summer, while the Rev. Jane Hawken, the church's pastor, is on sabbatical leave. Hawken will return Sept. 7. Cudmore comes to the Portland church with 25 years of experience as an ordained clergy.

Cudmore is a pastor with the Evangelical Covenant Church, having been ordained in 1997 in Sweden. Born in Africa, she is the child of missionaries who lived and served in Africa until she was school-aged, when the family returned to Sweden where she was educated and attended seminary. She met her husband, who

is also an ordained clergy, while studying for a semester in Chicago. Cudmore has served pastorates in Sweden, Naugatuck, and also as an interim pastor in Cromwell, Granby, and North Easton, Mass.

Throughout the pandemic, the congregation has worshiped virtually, with Sunday services being available on the church's YouTube channel, First Church of Portland CT. Services will now be livestreamed on the YouTube channel, as well as being available for those who wish to worship at a later time.

Those who plan to attend in-person worship are required to wear a mask, regardless of whether they have been vaccinated.

To join church mailing lists (both email and regular mail), email first.church.pct@sbcglobal.net or call 860-342-3244. For more info, look for the church on Facebook at The First Congregational Church of Portland, or visit www.firstchurchportlandct.org.

### Parks and Rec. News & Notes

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

**Splash Pad at the Portland Recreational Complex:** Operates from 1-5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays in June.

**2021-22 Kids Blast:** Parks and Rec. is taking applications for this afterschool program for Portland kids in grades K-5. The program is based at Brownstone Intermediate School. Applications are at portland.recdesk.com. For more, call Andy Dionne at 860-342-6757.

**Quick Start Tennis:** Mondays, June 21-July 26, at the Portland High School tennis courts. Schedule: Grades K-2, 5:30-6:15 p.m.; Grades 3-5, 6:15-7 p.m.; Grades 6-8, 7-7:45 p.m. Fee: \$70 for Portland residents/\$80 for non-residents.

**Summer Quest:** June 28-Aug. 16. Programs include Kiddie Kamp (ages 3-5), Summer Quest Base Camp (grades 1-6), and Teen Adventure (grades 7-9). Kiddie Kamp location will be an-

nounced; the other two are at the Portland high and middle school complex. More information is at portland.recdesk.com.

**Skyhawks:** Registration is open for summer sports camps, such as Mini-Hawk, Sports and Games, Tennis, Track and Field, and Flag Football with USA Football. These programs start in July, but register soon.

**New Adult Mixed Doubles Tennis Program:** Starting Monday, June 21, this group will meet and play from 8:30-10 a.m. every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at the Portland High School tennis courts. The tennis is free, requires no partners and is open to all levels of adult play, except beginners. Registration not required; just come to the courts. For more information, contact Jim Doering at 860-657-2992 or the Parks and Recreation Department at 860-342-6757.

**Summer Concert Series: Summer Concert Series:** Portland Parks and Recreation and the Brownstone Quorum are bringing back the annual series. Tentative dates are Tuesdays, July 20-Aug. 10.



The Knights of Columbus Council 7 recently presented three \$1,000 scholarships. From left are recipients William Katches, Peter McNickle and Eoin Wallace.

### Knights Award Scholarships

Knights of Columbus Council 7 Grand Knight Mark Creighton and the Rev. John Antonelle, council chaplain and St. Mary Church pastor, recently presented three \$1,000 awards to the 2021 recipients of the Knights of Columbus Scholarship.

William Katches, a Vinal Regional High School graduate, is bound for University of New Haven; Eoin Wallace, a graduate of Xavier High School who will be attending Providence College; and Peter McNickle, a Portland High School graduate enrolling headed to at Southern Connecticut State University are the recipients of the Council 7 Memorial Scholarship. This year's scholarships are in memory and honor of Sal "Tootie" Pitruzzello.

The awards were based on an essay detailing how the graduates focus on serving others in their career choices. One of the principles of

the Knights of Columbus is charity, not only in writing checks, but in the broader meaning of serving others. Each of the award winners' future course studies this year would have pleased Pitruzzello, the Knights said, as they are coincidentally akin to the type of service, he gave his community for many years.

Katches will major in law enforcement, specializing in arson investigation, Wallace will study psychology to prepare for a career in criminal prevention, and McNickle's goal is to become a pediatric nurse.

The awards were presented during the St Mary Family Picnic which took place at Camp Ingersoll on Sunday, June 13. Antonelle commented, "It is wonderful to be able to have our parish family come together for a fun social activity, and to make this special presentation to these deserving young men."



# Portland Project Graduation 2021



The Project Graduation Committee would like to thank all of the families and friends of our graduating seniors for their generous support of the 2021 Project Graduation event. It is due to the amazing generosity of individuals and local businesses in our neighboring communities that we are able to provide a fun, all-night celebration for our graduating seniors, in a safe and drug/alcohol free environment.

Our sincere gratitude goes out to the following Business sponsors:

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| Inner Circle Family Martial Arts Center | Portland Dairy Queen        |                                   |                             |

The Committee would also like to express its gratitude to the following individuals for their continued support and assistance with Project Graduation: Kate Lawson, Dr. Britton, Portland Board of Ed, Kelle Young, Tricia Theobald, M&J Bus Company staff, Mike Masal, all of our car wash volunteers, and all the event chaperones. **Thank you to everyone who helped to make this event so special for our 2021 Seniors!!**



Portland • Portland

# High School's Top Learners Say Don't Stress, Get Involved

by Jack Lakowsky

Justin Renk, the Portland High School Class of 2021 salutatorian, said it may sound cliché, but he advises incoming PHS students to involve themselves in activities outside of academics – to engage with clubs, teams and other groups.



**Justin Renk**

"If that advice is overused, there's probably a reason for that," Renk told the *Rivereast* last week. "There's a lot of different sides to school."

Renk said extracurriculars were his favorite part of high school.

Although he leads a busy schedule, Renk also advised that new high schoolers, and everyone in general, not overexert themselves.

Renk in the fall will attend Colgate University in Hamilton, N.Y., his major undecided.

"I have an interest in history," Renk said. "World history, classics, Greek, Roman; the older, the better."

Renk said he's also interested in journalism and writing, adding that he likes the idea of travel writing.

Renk said he'll "refine [his] interests" in college, saying he's curious about many subjects, and for now is adopting an attitude of "Hey, why not look into that?"

In the vein of enjoying travel, Renk said he wants to broaden his horizons, to get around the country and the world and "get as far as I can."

Renk has attended Portland schools since preschool. He and his sister split time between their mom's house in Portland and their dad's in Cromwell.

High school sports scratched Renk's travel itch, if slightly so. He said his favorite high school memories are of travelling with the PHS

cross-country team, which takes an annual camping trip.

This year, Renk said, the team camped in Vermont, recalling an especially enjoyable, very-early-morning run.

"It was all great; getting out in the cold together, getting lunch together," Renk said.

It seems impossible to recount the past year without discussing the COVID-19 pandemic, which affected all theaters of life, including schools, businesses and governments.

The 2020 cross-country trip was a victim of the pandemic, Renk said.

Along with cross-country, Renk has served in student government since his first year in high school. He said this was a demanding activity, and through it he tackled activity planning, school social climate and looked at board of education policy.

"Student voice is a great thing to work with," Renk said.

Renk this year served as liaison to the school board, updating it on student goings-on.

Renk said although he found no difficulty learning remotely, he did find jarring the switching back and forth from in-person to remote.

"We missed some pep rallies, and the Disney World trip was canceled," said Renk, adding that he's happy the pandemic in recent months abated enough to allow for a relatively normal prom and graduation.

Despite some disappointments, Renk said he feels honored to have been among Portland's students, and that earning the title of salutatorian is a huge accomplishment.

"My grades have always been up there, but I never had [making salutatorian] as a goal," Renk said. "I was just enjoying my classes, learning things."

\*\*\*

Class of 2021 valedictorian Kylie Walsh echoed Renk, saying her best advice to a new

high school student would be to manage stress, to operate under the mindset that things will work out in the end.

Walsh also recommended getting involved with the community both in and out of school.

Of being the Class of '21's top learner, Walsh said she's very happy to see hard work pay off, and that making her family feel proud is as much a reward as any good grade.

Walsh said she hadn't been in the top spot until this school year, advancing to it in the late fall grading season.

Walsh will attend the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Cambridge, Mass., to study math as part of a longer-term plan to become an actuary, a position that analyzes financial risk for insurance companies.

"It's very in-demand," Walsh said of her intended career. "Especially in Connecticut. I plan to stay here; it's an insurance capital. I'll probably end up employed here, and I do want to be close to family."

Walsh will be a first-generation college student, and has a younger sibling in the district.

Walsh has attended Portland schools since first grade, when her family moved from East Windsor.

Walsh served many roles during her time in Portland schools, including as captain of the math league team, tennis, dance, gymnastics,



**Kylie Walsh**

cheerleading and band. She said from these experiences, she learned to be dedicated and persistent.

For volunteer work, Walsh previously helped Portland's middle schoolers with performances, and has served the Amazing Grace Food Pantry in Middletown.

Like every student across the nation, the COVID-19 pandemic affected Walsh's school year. However, Walsh's cool head did not waiver in an unusual time.

"I do prefer in-class learning, but it wasn't too bad when we had to go virtual," said Walsh. "I'm really happy we got to have prom and the senior trip and an almost normal graduation."

Walsh said senior prom was especially delightful, as pandemic precautions were relatively minimal, and that, having seen milestone events lost to uncontrollable circumstances, she appreciated the event all the more.

Although an athlete, Walsh doesn't play any fall sports, and so lucked out, not missing any gameplay.

"Only thing I feel we really missed out on was junior prom [last year]," Walsh said.

With imagination and a magic wand, Walsh said, she would improve a tennis uniform situation she experienced. She explained that new uniforms take a long time to come in, and so players often must wear dirty or worn-out shirts.

Overall, Walsh believes Portland schools use their resources well and meet student, staff and community needs.

*Portland High School's graduation was Wednesday night. Look for a full story, photos and class list in next week's Rivereast.*

## Zion Lutheran Church News

Zion Lutheran Church, located at 183 William St., has returned to offering indoor worship services. All are welcome.

The church continues to follow CDC guidelines. Masks must be worn when walking through, from, and around the sanctuary, but may be removed by fully vaccinated people when seated.

Physical distancing will be maintained, when seated and during Holy Communion. There will be no singing except the last hymn.

For those who prefer virtual services, a recording of the service will be posted online by 9 a.m. the following Monday. Search "Zion Lutheran Church Portland CT" on YouTube and on Facebook. Bulletins for each service are on the church website.

Evening services, or "Compline," are livestreamed to Zion's Facebook page at 7 p.m. each Wednesday and then posted on YouTube the following day.

Sara Stall-Ryan is pastor. The community is welcome to all worship services and special events. Call the church at 860-342-2860 to be added to the weekly email blast.

For more information, or if in need of pastoral assistance, call 860-342-2860, email zion.lutheran@snet.net or visit zionlutheranportland.org.

## Trinity Episcopal Church News

Trinity Episcopal Church, 345 Main St., holds services inside on Sundays at 9 a.m. All are invited.

The church is continuing to follow COVID-19 safety protocols, including safe distancing and wearing masks for the time being. More information is at trinitychurchportlandct.org.

**First Sundays on Main:** On Sundays, July 4 and Aug. 1, all churches in Portland, as well as Holy Trinity in Middletown, are invited to an ecumenical service on the Trinity Episcopal Church lawn. Service is at 9 a.m. Bring your own chair. In case of inclement weather, worship will be inside. Email trinitychurchportlandct@gmail.com or call 860-342-0458 for more information.

The church is open for prayer and meditation on Fridays from 2-4 p.m. Any group meeting at the church must wear masks and social distance.

For more information or to make an appointment with the Rev. Darryl Burke, email trinitychurchportlandct@gmail.com or call 860-342-0458.

## Transfer Station Seasonal Hours

Seasonal hours are being tried out at the transfer station. Until Oct. 1, hours are:

Tuesdays, 7:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.; Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; and Saturdays, 7:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

The scale closes 30 minutes prior to closing.

## Horseshoe League Seeks Members

The Portland Recreational Horseshoe League is welcoming new members of all abilities for the 2021 season. This is a co-ed, alcohol-free league. Matches are held every Thursday, 6-8 p.m., at the Horseshoe Pits located at Bransfield Park at 160 Rose Hill Rd.

Interested players should email Andy Bauer at AndyTBauer@gmail.com.

## Car Show to Return

On Friday, Sept. 17, the parking lot of St. Mary Church will be filled with a variety of show cars, as the Freestone Council Knights of Columbus brings back its Memorial Car Show.

This year, the car show is in memory of Salvatore "Tooti" Pitruzzello, who died in April 2020. Pitruzzello was a leader in the KofC Council, a lifelong member of the parish, and a 60-year member of the Portland Volunteer Fire Department.

The Knights of Columbus Memorial Car Show is organized by Portland's Freestone Council 7 located at St. Mary Church. The proceeds of this event are used to finance local charitable endeavors.

## Dean's List

Alexandra Stevas of Portland made the spring 2021 Dean's List at Lasell University in Newton, Mass.

## Dean's List

Harrison Deane of Portland made the spring 2021 Dean's List at Curry College in Milton, Mass.

## Grace and Mercy Church News

Grace and Mercy Family Ministries Church, 13 Waverly Ave., has announced a modified Sunday worship service schedule. From June through August, the Sunday morning worship service will begin at 10 a.m.

## Dean's List

Benjamin Kelley, a marketing pre-major major from Portland, made the spring 2021 Dean's List at Coastal Carolina University in Conway, S.C.

## Resident Graduates

Joy Vincenzo of Portland recently graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Vermont.

## Dean's List

Christopher Adamsons of Portland made the spring 2021 Dean's List at Connecticut College in New London.

A member of the Class of 2022, Adamsons made Dean's High Honors, and majors in neuroscience.

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### License Dogs by Mail

Due to COVID-19 and to reduce the number of people entering the Town Office Building, the town is asking all dog owners to purchase their licenses through the mail or by leaving the payment and pertinent information in the drop box outside the town clerk's office. Tags will then be sent via the U.S. Postal Service.

All dogs 6 months and older must be licensed during June. Fee is \$8 for a dog that is spayed or neutered dog, and \$19 for one that is not. After July 1, a penalty of \$1 will be added to the charge for each month the dog is not licensed.

A rabies certificate must be presented indicating an expiration date. If your dog is spayed or neutered, documentation must be

presented as well.

To register, send a self-addressed stamped envelope, and a check made payable to the Town of Hebron, to: Hebron Town Clerk, 15 Gilead St., Hebron, CT 06248. Include certificates (or copies) of rabies vaccination and neutering/spaying certificate; they will be returned to you with the license.

For more information, call the town clerk's office at 860-228-5971 ext. 125 during normal business hours: Monday-Wednesday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; Thursday, 8 a.m.-6 p.m.; and Friday, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

If you no longer have a dog that was previously licensed, you are asked to call the town clerk's office so as to update the town records.

### Church of the Holy Family News

Masses are celebrated at The Church of The Holy Family, 185 Church St. (Route 85), as follows: weekend Masses are on Saturday at 5 p.m. and on Sunday at 9:30 a.m.; weekday Masses are on Tuesday at 7 p.m. and on Thursday at 6:30 a.m.

The 9:30 a.m. Sunday Mass is no longer livestreamed, and attendance at all Masses is not limited to previous COVID restrictions. Also, masks are no longer required for people who are fully vaccinated.

Visit holyfamilyhebron.org for more information. The church office can be reached at 860-228-0096.

**Church Collecting for Homeless Shelter:** The church collects items for the Windham Region No Freeze Hospitality Center, which provides assistance to homeless adults. The

center is closed for overnight stays during the warmer weather months. Critical needs are: two-person waterproof tents; tent rope; disposable drinking cups; bottled water; snack bars; first aid supplies: anti-itch cream; Band-Aids and bandages, skin antiseptics; and antibiotic ointment; men's boxer shorts (L, XL); paper towels (always needed); nail clippers and can openers. Place donations of goods in the designated collection box next to the church's Cry Room. Place large quantities of donations in the Cry Room. For more information, call Monica or John McKerracher at 860-228-4211.

### Resident Graduates

Hannah Rumley of Hebron recently graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Vermont.

### Douglas Library News & Notes

Douglas Library, located at 22 Main St., has announced the following. For more info and full program descriptions, call the library at 860-228-9312 or visit [www.douglaslibrary.org](http://www.douglaslibrary.org).

**Library Reopens:** The library building has reopened to the public for computer use, materials browsing and all other services. All patrons are encouraged to wear masks and practice social distancing. Curbside pick-up requests will continue to be filled in the lobby of the building. Operating hours are: Monday and Wednesday, noon-7:30 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m.-7:30 p.m.; Friday, noon-6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. The library is closed Sundays.

**Green Garden Gang:** Hebron's own master gardeners will discuss pollinator gardens and perennials Tuesday, June 22, at 4 p.m. This program will be held outside behind the library, or in the community room in case of rain. Register online or by calling the library.

**Friday Films:** Newly-released feature films will be shown in the library community room, on the library's 80-inch 4K TV, starting Friday, June 25, at 1 p.m., when *Nomadland*, which recently won the Oscar for Best Picture, will

be shown. The movie is rated R. Water and individually-wrapped snacks will be provided. Registration is not required. Call the library for more information.

**Poetry Corner:** To have work considered for the Poetry Corner in our monthly newsletter, submit it to [info@douglaslibrary.org](mailto:info@douglaslibrary.org) with the subject line 'Poetry Submission.' All ages and skill levels are encouraged to participate. Poems should be original works written by individuals living in Hebron or Amston, and not copyrighted.

**Children's Department:** In the lobby there are children's activity kits; themed selections are added weekly. First-come, first-served. Summer programs will start Thursday, July 8, at 1 p.m., with Clay Cartooning with Debi Hamuka-Falkenham. Watch for more details coming soon.

### St. Peter's News & Notes

St. Peter's Episcopal Church, located at 30 Church St., holds Sunday services inside the church at 8 and 10 a.m.; COVID-19 protocols are followed. The 10 a.m. service is also broadcast online. Recorded services are available on [stpetershebron.com](http://stpetershebron.com), on the church's Facebook page, or on the church YouTube channel, accessible at [tinyurl.com/ydy6s4dn](http://tinyurl.com/ydy6s4dn).

**Meetings and Events:** Vestry meetings held in person the third Thursdays of the month at 7 p.m.; Buildings and Grounds Committee: first Wednesdays, 7 p.m.; Virtual Coffee Hours: Every Wednesday at 10 a.m.

**Outreach: Food Donations:** Items for various local food pantries can be placed in the brown donation box outside Phelps Hall. **Prayer Shawl Ministry:** This knitting group provides shawls to those parishioners suffering bereavement or illness. Contact the church for more info.

For more information, visit [stpetershebron.com](http://stpetershebron.com), search for St. Peter's Hebron on Facebook, or contact the church office at 860-228-3244 or [office@stpetershebron.com](mailto:office@stpetershebron.com).

### Christ Lutheran News & Notes

All are invited to worship at Christ Lutheran Church (LCMS), located at 330 Church St. Pastor is Dana Hallenbeck.

**Sunday Worship:** Sundays at 9 a.m., an in-person Divine Service is held at the church. Masks are required; for other safety protocols, visit [www.clchebron.org/open](http://www.clchebron.org/open). Worship is also online at [www.facebook.com/CLCHebron](http://www.facebook.com/CLCHebron).

**Sunday School:** Sundays at 10:30 a.m., in person and livestreamed at [facebook.com/CLCHebron](http://facebook.com/CLCHebron).

**Online Sunday Bible Study:** Sundays at 7 p.m. To attend, go to [global.gotomeeting.com/join/713476005](http://global.gotomeeting.com/join/713476005).

**Caring Shepherds:** Caring Shepherds will be in Willimantic Saturday, June 19, handing out hygiene kits and Bibles, and supplies at 11 a.m. at 877 Main St. in Willimantic. For more information, call Caring Shepherds ministry 860-494-0431.

**Early Childhood Center:** Open to all faiths. For details or current offerings call 860-228-5134. Summer camp is registering now.

**More Info:** For more information, call 860-228-1152 or visit [www.CLCHebon.org](http://www.CLCHebon.org) or [facebook.com/CLCHebron](http://facebook.com/CLCHebron).

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**The Worship Center News & Notes**

The Worship Center, a non-denominational Christian church, holds services and programs at 99 Marjorie Circle (unless noted). For more information and full program descriptions, visit theworshipcenterct.org and click on the 'events/calendar' link, or call 860-228-4442.

**Worship:** Sundays at 10 a.m., indoors. Services are also broadcast on Facebook at www.facebook.com/TheWorshipCenterConnecticut and on YouTube; go to tinyurl.com/yby64wph to access.

**Second Wednesday Overcomers Bible Study:** 7 p.m. each week, virtually. Call the church office for details on how to join.

**Praise and Prayer Night:** Held at the firepit every third Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.

**Youth Group:** For grades 6-12. Meets every other Sunday after the service; next meeting is June 6. Email theworshipcenter.hebron@gmail.com for meeting details.

**One-to-One Confidential Christian Care:** If in need of help, call the church office.

**Church of Hope News & Notes**

Hebron Church of Hope, 1 Main St., holds worship Sundays at 9:30 a.m. Church of Hope is a biblically-driven Christ-centered church.

Worship is in person and via livestream on the church website. For more information, and the guidelines for in-person worship, visit www.hebronchurchofhope.org.

The church office is closed until further notice. Pastor Jordan Brown can meet by appointment; use the church website to set up a time.

For more information about Hebron Church of Hope, visit the website or look for the church on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter.



**Church of the Holy Family News**

Masses are celebrated at Church of the Holy Family, on a limited attendance basis, at the following times: Weekend Masses are Saturday at 5 p.m. and Sundays at 9:30 a.m., and weekday Masses are Tuesdays at 7 p.m. and Thursdays at 6:30 a.m. The church is located at 185 Church St.

The 9:30 a.m. Sunday Mass is livestreamed. Visit holyfamilyhebron.org for more information. The church can be reached at 860-228-0096.

**Church Collecting for Homeless Shelter:** The church collects items for the Windham Region No Freeze Hospitality Center, which provides assistance to homeless adults. The center

is closed for overnight stays during the warmer weather months. Critical needs are: two-person waterproof tents; tarps (8'x10'; 10'x12'; green or brown; no blue); tent rope and stakes; durable backpacks; disposable drinking cups; bottled water; snack bars; sunscreen; insect repellent; first aid supplies; anti-itch cream; Band-Aids, skin antiseptics; and antibiotic ointment; men's boxer shorts (L,XL); paper towels (always needed); and disinfectant wipes and sprays. Place donations of goods in the designated collection box next to the church's Cry Room. Place large quantities of donations in the Cry Room. For more information, call Monica or John McKerracher at 860-228-4211.

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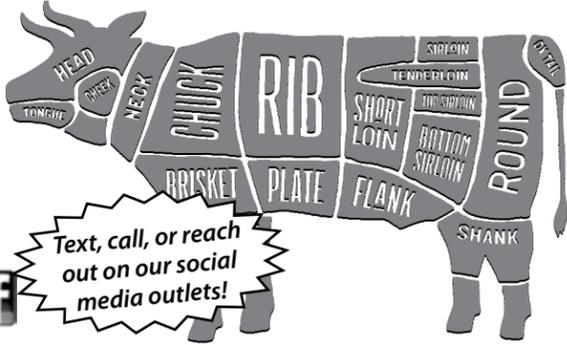
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# Mixed Results at Budget Referendum

by Karla Santos

The town operations budget failed at referendum Tuesday but the school spending plan passed – albeit barely, by a small enough margin that calls for a recount.

The proposed \$15.87 million town budget fell by a 1,022-845 tally, while the proposed \$41.82 school spending package passed 935-932. The three-vote margin prompted an automatic recount, which will take place at a date that, as of Wednesday afternoon, had yet to be determined, according to Town Clerk Gayle Furman.

Overall, turnout was 1,873 – or just 16% of the town’s registered voters. Furman said the number is “a little low,” yet close to what it was in previous years.

First Selectman Mary Bylone told the *Rivereast* she is “disappointed” the town budget did not pass.

“I thought that, based on the feedback I was getting from the majority of people, [the budget proposal] was representing what people said they needed or they wanted,” Bylone said.

Bylone said she’s now asking herself “what

do I need to do differently moving forward so the budget does represent the people?”

She explained that during the budget process she did not get a lot of people requesting specific items in or out of the budget, which is one of the reasons for her disappointment when it comes to the referendum results.

Bylone said she will engage in conversations with the Board of Finance to see what can be further done to pass the budget.

Bylone noted the town has a “healthy” reserve of money. She is now questioning whether or not more money should be taken from reserves to help fund the budget.

The Board of Finance approved the budget at its May 19 meeting. The budget was also successful in a Town Meeting that took place on June 3.

Robert Tarlov, chair of the finance board, said he expected the Board of Finance to set a mill rate and have a budget discussion Wednesday, after press time.

He said he was also expecting to set up a spe-

cial meeting where the board would decide on specific budget cuts before sending the budget to Town Meeting and referendum again.

Tarlov also said he felt “disappointed” about the budget not being approved.

He said the timing of the recent federal stimulus funds was not as beneficial to the budget process because the board had the pressure of finding out enough information regarding the funds at the same time they were trying to get the budget out on time.

Bernie Dennler III, vice chair of the Board of Finance, said he wasn’t surprised by the lower turnout, as he said that seems to be a trend across the state this year.

Dennler, just like Tarlov and Bylone, used the word “disappointed” to describe how he felt about the budget not being approved at referendum.

He explained “a lot of hard work” went into the budget. He said the budget met needs that have been talked about for a long time.

He said he is being mindful about the fact that planning and spending during a pandemic

is unusual.

He also mentioned the budget process was quick and there wasn’t a lot of time to educate the public about how the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds could be used.

“I think what’s important right now is for us to get some feedback from people who voted no and understand why and also maybe get feedback from people who didn’t vote to understand why,” Dennler said.

He stressed the Board of Finance should not rush the rest of the budget process.

“We should take maybe a little bit of a harder look,” Dennler said, and added he didn’t plan on voting on any budget items discussed at Wednesday’s finance board meeting.

Bylone explained that if the residents don’t approve the budget by the end of the fiscal year on June 30, the town will continue to operate under the current spending plan until the 2021-22 passes.

The budget will be adjusted by the finance board, then, a town meeting and referendum need to take place again.

## Children’s Programs at Cragin Library

The following programs are offered for children at Cragin Memorial Library. While the library is currently open, it is not hosting any in-person programming. For more information and full program descriptions, call the children’s department at 860-537-7201. The library is located at 8 Linwood Ave.

**Baby Activity Videos:** Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. on Facebook and YouTube. Often, activity bags will be available at the children’s circulation desk to accompany the videos.

**Sharing Stories:** Mondays at 10:30 a.m. on Facebook and YouTube. A craft will be showcased, and bags will be available for pick-up.

**Milestone Moments:** Fridays at 10:30 a.m. on Facebook and YouTube. Activity bags will be available for many sessions.

**Baby Storytime Sign-Ups:** Tuesdays through June 29, 10:30 a.m., at Cohen Wood-

lands. Best for ages birth-2. Registration required and space is limited. Weather cancellations will be listed on Facebook. Physical distancing will be required and masks will need to be worn upon arrival, departure, and any time being socially distant isn’t possible.

## Giving Garden Up and Running

The Colchester Giving Garden is up and running weekly, as volunteers prepare and plant the garden for the 2021 season. Volunteers meet at the garden on Tuesdays at 5 p.m. to work together.

To join the Colchester Giving Garden or for more information, email colchestergivinggarden@gmail.com. All are welcome; no gardening experience needed.



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### Parks and Rec. Summer Day Camp

Parks and Recreation will hold its Summer Day Camp June 28-Aug. 20 for kids entering grades K-7 in the fall. Hours are 8 a.m.-3 p.m.; extended care is available from 3-5 p.m. for an extra fee. In case of inclement weather, Parks and Rec. will use a school for the day.

For more info and to register, visit [www.colchesterct.gov/day-camps](http://www.colchesterct.gov/day-camps) or call 860-537-7297.

### Don't Forget to License Your Dog

It's time for dog-owners to register their pooch, as per state law. People will need proof of a rabies vaccine with an expiration of July 1, 2021 or later and proof if your dog is neutered or spayed.

Licenses can be obtained at the town clerk's office; by mailing payment and a self-addressed stamped envelope to Town Clerk, 127 Norwich Ave., Colchester, CT 06415; or online, at [colchesterct.gov](http://colchesterct.gov) on the town clerk page. Online registration does include processing fees.

The license year is July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. A spayed or neutered dog is \$8 and an unspayed or unneutered dog is \$19. Penalty charges are added if licenses are not renewed by June 30. The penalty is \$1 per month, starting July 1.

For more information, email [townclerk@colchesterct.gov](mailto:townclerk@colchesterct.gov) or call 860-537-7215.

### Dean's List

Jack Blanco of Colchester made the spring 2021 Dean's List at Anderson University in Anderson, S.C.

### Resident to Attend Coast Guard Academy

Veronica Krystofik of Colchester has accepted an appointment to attend the United States Coast Guard Academy in New London.

Krystofik will be sworn in as a member of the Class of 2025 on June 28.

A 2020 graduate of Bacon Academy, Krystofik had been attending Georgia Military College in Milledgeville, Ga.

She is the daughter of Ron and Donna Krystofik, and the granddaughter of Robert and Elaine Haslob of Monroe, Gloria Hudak O'Hara of Jensen Beach, Fla., and Ron Krystofik Sr. of Chandler, Ariz.



### Cross Country 5K to Outrace Hunger

The fifth annual "Cross Country 5K to Outrace Hunger" will take place Saturday, June 19, at Zagray Farm, 544 Amston Rd. Check-in begins at 8 a.m. and the race starts at 9 a.m. Online registration and more information are at [www.5thOutraceHunger.racewire.com](http://www.5thOutraceHunger.racewire.com).

This walk/run is a fundraiser to cover the cost of meals packaged at a local hunger relief event through the nonprofit Feed My Starving Children.

### Dean's List

Colchester residents Lilly Hoeniger, Haylee Skoog, Liah Brown and Casey Hart made the spring 2021 Dean's List at Lasell University in Newton, Mass.

### 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](mailto:csc@colchesterct.gov), or visit [www.colchesterct.gov/senior-center](http://www.colchesterct.gov/senior-center). Programs taking place via Zoom are indicated with a (Z).

**Monday, June 21:** 9 a.m., Making Memories; 9 a.m., Exercise with Anne (Z); 10 a.m., Sittercize (Z); 11 a.m., Learn to Sign with Ruth; 12:30 p.m., Mah Jongg; 12:30 p.m., Setback; 1 p.m., Connect & Explore Castles of America; 2 p.m., Live Well, via conference call.

**Tuesday, June 22:** 9 a.m., Making Memories; 9 a.m., Senior Golf League; 9:45 a.m., Tai Chi (Z); 12:30 p.m., pinochle; 1:30 p.m., Bingo; 7 p.m., Senior Center Building Committee (Z).

**Wednesday, June 23:** 9 a.m., Making Memories Program (Z); 10 a.m., Walking Group meetup at the Air Line Trail; 10 a.m., Sit & Be Fit; 10 a.m., Adult Coloring; 10:30 a.m., Community Conversation with the First Selectman; 12:30 p.m., Pinochle; 1:30 p.m., Guess Who? Prom; 3 p.m., Welcome to Medicare Fair (Z).

**Thursday, June 24:** 9 a.m., Exercise with Anne (Z); 10 a.m., Sittercize (Z); 10 a.m., Wii Bowling; 11 a.m., yoga (Z); noon, chair massage; 12:30 p.m., dominoes; 1 p.m., Knit & Crochet; 1:30 p.m., Step by Step Painting; 6 p.m., CHS program (Z).

**Friday, June 25:** 10 a.m., Sit & Be Fit; 10 a.m., Reel Friends Movie Club – *The Secret*

*Life of Walter Mitty*; 10 a.m., Celebrate Freedom: Juneteenth (Z); 11 a.m., Yoga (Z); 12:30 p.m., Pinochle; 1:30 p.m., Bingo; 7 p.m., Con Artist's Playbook (Z).

**In the Know:** Tuesday, June 29, 12:30 p.m. Patty Watts will discuss issues about the senior center and upcoming events and trips, and also answer questions. All are welcome; no registration required.

**Strawberry Shortcake Social:** Wednesday, June 30, 2 p.m. If you would like to take your shortcake to-go, you can pick it up at 1 p.m. Dessert is \$2, and registration is required.

**Sit & Be Fit Video:** Wednesdays and Fridays, 10 a.m. Registration requested.

**Walking Group:** Wednesdays at 10 a.m., weather permitting. The group meets at the Air Line Trail entrance on Route 85 in Amston.

**Reel Friends Movie Club:** Fridays at 10 a.m. Every month will have a different theme; the theme for June is "The Great Outdoors." Registration required.

**Learn to Sign with Ruth:** Mondays at 11 a.m. This introductory course requires no previous experience and will teach you the basics of how to communicate using sign language.

**Weekly Zoom Programs:** Exercise with Anne: Mondays and Thursdays, 9 a.m.; Senior Yoga: Thursdays and Fridays, 11 a.m.; Sittercize: Mondays and Thursdays, 10 a.m.; Tai Chi: Tuesdays, 9:45 a.m.

### Ahavath Achim Chicken Barbecue

Congregation Ahavath Achim, located at 84 Lebanon Ave., will hold its annual chicken barbecue Sunday, July 11, from 3:30-6 p.m. Dinner includes half a kosher chicken, a baked potato, coleslaw, a roll and a dessert. Cost is \$16.

People can use either the drive-thru in the rear of the building, or have their dinner delivered free (in Colchester only). Call 860-537-2809 between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. on July 11 to arrange time for delivery.

### Resident Graduates

Antonia Lynn Jascowski of Colchester recently graduated from Connecticut College in New London, with a degree in psychology.

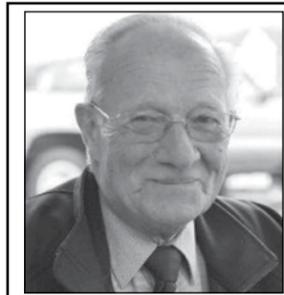
Jascowski also made the spring 2021 Dean's List at the school, earning Dean's High Honors.

### Democrats Seek Candidates

Have you ever thought about running for local office, serving on a board or commission, or volunteering for the local Democrats? This November, Colchester voters head to the polls to re-elect or elect leaders to multiple boards and we would welcome your involvement.

Offices that will be on the ballot include first selectman, board of selectman, board of finance, board of education, board of assessment appeals and treasurer.

Registered Democrats interested in learning more about how to get involved – as a potential candidate, for a non-elected board, or as a volunteer on our local campaigns – should contact Colchester Democrats Chair Michelle Gilman by Friday, June 25, at 860-334-5059 or [ColchesterCTDems@gmail.com](mailto:ColchesterCTDems@gmail.com).



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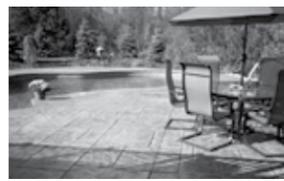
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# Top Two Bacon Students Look Back

by Karla Santos

Sara Rosenthal and Ashley Clark – the valedictorian and salutatorian, respectively, of the Bacon Academy Class of 2021 – will miss many aspects of their high school careers, but virtual learning won't be among them.



Sara Rosenthal

Rosenthal told the *Rivereast* this past school year has been particularly challenging, as Bacon students, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, have continued to learn through a hybrid model – partially from home and partially in person.

Clark said virtual learning was also her main challenge.

"The end of my junior year really hit me hard," Clark said. "I did not like being home alone staring at a computer screen."

She said her favorite part of school is the social aspect of it, and not having that definitely impacted her.

"It was hard to stay happy and enjoy everything about school when you are missing the best part," Clark said.

Clark recognizes things could've been worse, which is why she said she's thankful about being able to go to school, even if it's only twice

a week.

Despite the challenges faced by Rosenthal and Clark, they were able to concentrate in their education and achieve academic excellence. They both told the *Rivereast* their grade point average is above 4.5.

Rosenthal is going to the University of Connecticut to study biomedical engineering. She is also planning on taking classes in other fields, to explore other career paths.

As for being the top student in her class, Rosenthal said, "I feel very honored and excited to be in this position and also just grateful for all the people who helped me get here."

She added she had been at the top of her class for a few years in high school, but wasn't entirely sure she would end up being the class valedictorian.

Rosenthal explained that initially, becoming the class valedictorian wasn't a goal of hers, but once she learned she was tops in her class, it became "exciting and important to be able to maintain that position."

"But I didn't set out my high school career necessarily striving to make that an achievement," she said.

Rosenthal was at Bacon Academy for all four years of high school, and involved in a variety of extracurricular activities, including several clubs. She is also a student at Doreen's Dance Center.

She said her favorite things about high school were learning and being able to get a taste of different subjects, as well as teaching styles.

"It was just exciting to learn new information," Rosenthal said. "Academics have always just been something that I have been really interested in."

Through some of her extracurricular activities, Rosenthal was able to participate in debates and competitions, something which she said allowed her to have experiences and meet people

she wouldn't have otherwise.

She shared that, in high school, "challenges have been just finding that good work-life balance because it's important not just to have the grades but also to attempt to be well-rounded and have other interests outside of just academics."



Ashley Clark

Clark, meanwhile, is leaving Connecticut to attend Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia, Pa., where she will study textile design. With that career, she wants to be a part of a research and development team for a fashion related company.

"I really like the topic of textile design and that kind of science field because it's a perfect blend of the academic side of me and the artistic mindset that I have," Clark said.

According to Clark, she feels "pretty excited" to be this year's class salutatorian.

"I definitely put a lot of effort into trying to succeed in school," Clark said. "Being salutatorian wasn't really something that I cared too much about; like, GPA rank is not too big of a deal, but it's kind of cool to get the recognition for putting in so much work."

Clark also went to Bacon all four years of high school. She was active in clubs and sports such as volleyball and softball.

One of the most exciting high school experiences for Clark was being able to play volleyball, she said. She explained she had wanted to play volleyball since about fifth grade but there wasn't a school team until she got to Bacon Academy.

When it comes to academics, Clark said she enjoyed the English class she took during her junior year and the art classes she has taken

through the years.

Michael Mal, a social studies teacher at Bacon, described Rosenthal and Clark as "exceptional young women." He noted he was their advisor for National Honor Society and explained that over the course of this year they proved to be "true leaders" amongst their peers.

He said Rosenthal and Clark dedicated a significant amount of time to their community through numerous service projects as part of National Honor Society, including a district-wide tutoring program for students, organizing trash-cleanup along Norwich Avenue, advocating for a local small business and organizing a holiday gift drive for a local nursing home. Mal also said the pair recently painted a "gorgeous" black-and-gold mural in the Bacon Academy courtyard for their peers to take pictures in front of during prom.

"I will always remember Sara's witty personality, and dedication to excellence," he said. "I will always remember Ashley's eclectic personality, interest, and her amazing Senior Capstone project, where she explored fiber sciences."

While going to school through a pandemic hasn't been a piece of cake for Rosenthal and Clark, something they are excited about is Bacon Academy's in-person graduation, which will take place tomorrow, June 19, at John D. "Jack" Long Field.

## Tag Sale June 19

Westchester Congregational Church will hold a Tag Sale Saturday, June 19, from 8 a.m.-noon, at the parsonage, located at 95 Cemetery Rd., across the street from the church.

For more information, email westcongchurch@gmail.com.

## Republicans to Caucus

The Colchester Republican Town Committee will hold a caucus Tuesday, July 20, at 7:30 p.m., in rooms 1 and 2 at Town Hall, 127 Norwich Ave., to elect candidates for the November municipal elections.

## Physical Therapy Helps...

by Kirsti Stennett, P.T.



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**CCT Makes Donation...** Due to COVID-19, the Colchester Community Theatre was unable to stage its annual February musical this year – but it instead staged an online performance of the play *Almost Maine*. Instead of charging for tickets, CCT asked viewers to pay whatever amount they wished, with the net proceeds to be split evenly between the Colchester food and fuel banks. Pictured, First Selectman Mary Blyone (far left) and Colchester Youth and Social Services coordinator Stephanie Turbes (second from left) receive two checks, each in the amount of \$500, for the food and fuel banks, from CCT Vice President of Production Wallis Johnson (far right) and CCT President Diane Ozmun (second from right). CCT is planning to resume all productions this year, including its annual Children’s Theater Workshop in July. For more information, visit [www.colchestercommunitytheatre.com](http://www.colchestercommunitytheatre.com).

**Dean’s List**

Tessa Lee Komoroski of Colchester made the spring 2021 Dean’s List at Wofford College in Spartanburg, S.C.

**Dean’s List**

Ariana Golias of Colchester made the spring 2021 Dean’s List at Plymouth State University in Plymouth, N.H.

**Senior Trip to Canadian Rockies**

Colchester Senior Center members and their guests over the age of 18 are invited to join the Colchester Senior Center and Collette Tours for a trip to the Canadian Rockies in 2022.

Highlights of the trip, which runs June 18-24, 2022, include: Calgary, Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump, Waterton Lakes National Park, Glacier National Park, Going-to-the-Sun Road, Banff, Athabasca Glacier, Chateau Lake Louise and choice on tour of a Glacier Ride or walk the Glacier Skywalk.

Cost is \$3,379/person for double occupancy includes airfare, transportation, 9 meals included, and admission to all sights on the itinerary, taxes, fees, and gratuities. Passport is required. There is a \$100 discount for anyone who registers before Dec. 18.

Call the senior center at 860-537-3911 for more information or to register online, visit [gateway.gocollette.com/link/948344](http://gateway.gocollette.com/link/948344). Space is limited.

**Photographic History of Merchants’ Row:**

All are invited to join Cragin Memorial Library, 8 Linwood Ave., on Thursday, June 24, at 6 p.m., via Zoom, as Gary Walter from the Colchester Historical Society delves into the history of Merchants’ Row in Colchester.

Walter will present a series of photos and events from 1873 to 1949. This program is in partnership with the Colchester Historical Society and the Colchester Senior Center.

Registration is required. To sign up, go to [tinyurl.com/rdsmr48w](http://tinyurl.com/rdsmr48w). The library does not record virtual programs.

For more information, call 860-537-5752.

**Renter’s Rebate**

This year, Colchester Youth and Social Services has two options for people to complete their applications for the income-based Renter’s Rebate program: people may schedule a time and wait outside or in the lobby while CYSS completes their application, or they can drop off, mail or email the paperwork.

Appointments are Monday through Wednesday and can be made by calling the office at 860-537-7255. If mailing or dropping off, the address is at Town Hall, 127 Norwich Ave., Colchester, CT 06415. To email, send to: [socialservices@colchesterct.gov](mailto:socialservices@colchesterct.gov). After CYSS completes the paperwork, it will contact people for a signature and to return any documents.

For more information – and a list of necessary paperwork – call 860-537-7255.

**Grab-and-Go Meals Offered**

Through the end of the school year in June, Colchester Public Schools will offer free breakfast and lunch to all students and children 18 and younger; meals include entrée, fruit, veggie, and milk.

Pick-up is at Bacon Academy, in front of the auditorium doors, on Mondays and Thursdays from 10-10:30 a.m. For more information, contact nutrition coordinator Leanne Ranheim at 860-537-9421 ext. 381 or [lrnheim@colchesterct.org](mailto:lrnheim@colchesterct.org).

**Crafters Sought for September Show**

The 30th annual Festival on the Green Craft Show will be a one-day event this year, on Saturday Sept. 18. Admission for the public is free, and exhibitors are expected to include a variety of arts and crafts, including woodworking, painting, photography, food items, pottery, stained glass and more.

Applications for booths (10’ by 10’) are still available for at \$60 for a single space, or, \$115 for a double space. All products must be personally crafted; no imports or mass-produced items are allowed.

For more information, call 860-809-0011 or email [ColchesterLionsCraftFair@gmail.com](mailto:ColchesterLionsCraftFair@gmail.com).

**Colchester Cougars Registration Open**

Registration is now open for Colchester Cougars Football and Cheer. Residents of Colchester, East Haddam, Salem, Bozrah and Lebanon are eligible.

Cheer and tackle football for ages 6-13. Flag football is open for youth ages 4-5.

Visit [colchestercougars.org](http://colchestercougars.org) for further information and to register.

**Residents Graduate**

The following Colchester residents recently graduated from Bryant University in Smithfield, R.I.:

Jonathan Caley, who earned a Bachelor of Science in International Business degree in finance; Jackson Hanrahan, who earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree in financial services; Nicholas Henkin, who earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree in information systems; and Caroline Lovering, who graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree in marketing.

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### Fire Calls

From June 6-12, the Colchester Hayward Fire Department responded to 34 calls: 24 emergency medical calls, eight fire/fire-related calls, and two motor vehicle crashes (both single-car crashes). Calls included:

Fire: fire alarm, four; service call, one; structure fire, one; haz mat, one; outside fire, one.

Medical: sick person, nine; difficulty breathing, one; cardiac distress, two; abdominal pain, two; mental disorder, one; lift assist, two; seizure, two; bleeding, two; stroke, one; choking, one.

CHFD provided mutual aid twice last week, both to East Haddam, and did not receive any.

CHFD also offers free CO checks, and car seat safety checks and installations by appointment only; call the department at 860-537-2512 to schedule one. Reflective address marker signs are also available to order in blue or green, vertical or horizontal; cost is \$12. Forms are available at the firehouse, 52 Old Hartford Rd., or online; go to colchesterct.gov, click on 'departments' and select 'fire department.'

Note: The Department of Emergency Management conducts tests of the emergency sirens throughout town, on the first Saturday of every month between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. These are just tests.

### Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration for 2021-22 is open to children who turn 5 by Jan. 1, 2022.

To register, visit [tinyurl.com/d7t8hvxx](http://tinyurl.com/d7t8hvxx). Once forms are completed, parents/guardians will need to schedule an appointment with the Board of Education office by calling 860-537-7267.

### Grant-Subsidized Preschool Available

Colchester's School Readiness Program is now offering grant-subsidized preschool for the 2021-22 school year. There are two school-day options, at CASTLE and Colchester Elementary School.

The program is for Colchester residents who want a five-day a week program and may find it difficult to pay for preschool. For the application and more information, go to [colchester3.org/school-readiness](http://colchester3.org/school-readiness).

### Ukrainian Catholic Church News

All are invited to worship each week at St. Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church, 178 Linwood Ave. The church offers Eastern Rite Divine services. Church doors are open for Divine Liturgy on Saturdays at 4 p.m. and Sundays at 9 a.m.; the Sunday service is bilingual.

For more information, call the church at 860-537-2069.

### Resident Graduates

Nuratu Quarshie Salifu of Colchester recently graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in biology from Westminster College in Fulton, Mo.

### Dean's List

Ben Amor of Colchester made the spring 2021 Dean's List at Curry College in Milton, Mass.

### Colchester Federated Church News

Colchester Federated Church is an Open and Affirming church located at 60 Main St. Pastor is the Rev. Lauren Lorincz. The church office is open Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. The office can be reached at 860-537-5189 or [cfc06415@gmail.com](mailto:cfc06415@gmail.com).

Worship services are Sunday mornings at 9 a.m.; masks required. For those wishing to worship from home, the service will be broadcast via Facebook Live each Sunday at 9 a.m.

Worship videos are at [www.colchesterfederatedchurch.org](http://www.colchesterfederatedchurch.org) under the Worship & Sermons tab. Updated information is also on the church's Facebook page.

**Twelve-Step Meetings:** AA meets in the church library Monday-Wednesday and Friday at noon and Thursday at 10 a.m., and at 7 p.m.

### Ahavath Achim News

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

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

There are daily prayer classes on Facebook Live.

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.

### Westchester Church News

Westchester Congregational Church, 98 Cemetery Rd., has lifted most COVID-19 restrictions for in-person worship services on Sundays at 10 a.m. Masks are not required for those who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19. The services are also available on Zoom; visit the church website at [westchestercongregation.org](http://westchestercongregation.org) for login information.

The church has a small white wooden Blessings Box in its lower parking lot, with non-perishable food items and other items. All are welcome to give or take a few items.

For more information, email [westconchurch@gmail.com](mailto:westconchurch@gmail.com), visit the church website, or call 860-267-6711.

on Wednesdays. On Saturdays at 9:30 a.m., Al-Anon meets in the Jerusalem Room.

**Vacation Bible School:** Aug. 9-13, from 9 a.m.-noon. This is a free program open to all children ages 5 (by Aug. 9) through fifth grade. Registration will run through July 31. Space is limited; masks are required for all participants. Visit the church website to register.

### Abundant Life Church News & Notes

Abundant Life Church, a Christ-follower church that believes salvation through Jesus Christ, is located at 85 Skinner Rd. For more information, call 860-537-3082 or visit [AbundantL.com](http://AbundantL.com).

**Sunday Services:** Sunday School is at 9:30 a.m. and the main service is at 10:30 a.m. Social distancing guidelines are followed. Call the church to attend. The service is also broadcast live each week on Facebook, and includes a special children's program. Visit [www.facebook.com/groups/abundantlifeCT](http://www.facebook.com/groups/abundantlifeCT) or look for the church on Facebook. For more information, call the church.

**Power of Prayer:** If in need of prayer, call the church to be placed on the prayer list. You may also ask about the various days and times the prayer groups meet and come at that time.

### Resident Receives Award

Shruti Rajkumar of Colchester recently received an Emerson Recognition & Achievement Award of Distinction from Emerson College in Boston.

Rajkumar is a member of the Class of 2022 and is pursuing a degree in journalism.

The award recognizes those who have left a long-standing impact on the Emerson College community through change and an impactful legacy. This year, the recipients are those who worked to seek meaningful change on campus for students of color through the #ESOCWeek-ofAction. The week is a movement designed to hold the college accountable for creating a campus where every student can feel welcome and safe, regardless of race or background.

### Cragin Book Club

The Cragin Book Club will meet Monday, June 28, at 6 p.m. This month, *Real Life* by Brandon Taylor will be discussed. Copies are available for checkout at the Adult Circulation Desk.

If the weather is good, the club will meet at the Colchester Giving Garden, which is located behind the Colchester Senior Center. Bring a chair. If the weather is bad, the club will meet via Zoom. To register for the Zoom link, go to [tinyurl.com/48pv49je](http://tinyurl.com/48pv49je).

This program is free and open to the public. Registration is required. For more information, call the library at 860-537-5752.



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# EHHS Valedictorian, Salutatorian Reminisce

by Jack Lakowsky

East Hampton High School Class of 2021's top two students are both stepping into the next chapter of their lives with a blend of excitement and nerves, they told the *Rivereast* in a recent interview.



**Alex Nikolov**

Alex Nikolov, valedictorian, and Danielle Adams, salutatorian, and their class will graduate today at 6 p.m. at East Hampton High School.

EHHS principal Eric Verner said Nikolov and Adams are leaders in a class that, throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, has been a model of adaptability, resilience and high spirits.

"Their whole class led the school in what turned out to be a great year," Verner told the *Rivereast*.

Adams' journey will continue to the University of Connecticut, where she will study physical therapy, adding that UConn's program is superb.

"Physical therapy has always been a calling for me," Adams said. "I have an older brother in UConn already, and it's close to home."

Nikolov has a slightly different sentiment, wanting to thrive in a bustling city rather than sleepy Belltown. He'll soon attend Boston's Northeastern University to study computer engineering and computer science.

"I really love Boston; I want to be in the city," Nikolov said. "And it has a very good engineering scene."

Nikolov said he has always pushed himself to do his best, attributing this work ethic to his earning the class's top spot.

Adams said she never thought about finishing as salutatorian, but that as a perfectionist, she's always strived for good grades. She said she saw her second-place spot and resolved to keep herself there.

In her junior year, Adams won the Rochester Institute of Technology's Innovation and Creativity Award, as well as the Gettysburg College Book Prize. She is also a National Honor Society scholar.

A four-year varsity athlete, Adams played soccer, basketball and track, saying the team's two shoreline conference championship wins are her proudest high school achievements. She will run track and field at UConn.

Verner said Adams is the first student he's

known in his lengthy career to be recognized as a CAS-CIAC Scholar Athlete and to win the CAS Art Award.

Nikolov's accolades include the Society of Women Engineers Certificate of Merit for Excellence in Mathematics and Science. He was named a National Merit Scholar Commended Student and his SAT scores garnered national recognition.

A saxophone player, Nikolov was inducted into the Tri-M Music Honor Society as a sophomore. He played varsity soccer and track and field.

Both students have attended East Hampton schools since preschool. They have siblings who also graduated from EHHS and are both currently in college.

Adams said the COVID-19 pandemic, which began to abate only in the final few months of the school year, caused the class to miss some important events. This "stunk," she said.

"But for the most part, [the year] was as normal as possible, given the circumstances," Ad-



**Danielle Adams**

ams said. "We had a senior picnic and prom, and graduation will be pretty normal."

Alluding to the time of hybrid – half in-person, half-remote – learning, Adams said she can't complain about being home three days a week.

Nikolov agreed, saying that, aside from a disrupted sleep schedule and the extra layer of difficulty remote learning added to his calculus course, "the online stuff worked out pretty well in the end."

To incoming high school students, both Adams and Nikolov advised judicious time management which, to them, also means carving out time to relax, to enjoy a friend's, or their own, company.

"If you feel comfortable with yourself, and the work you put into things, you'll probably feel happier," Nikolov said. "Don't worry so much about grades."

"High school flew by," Adams observed. "You don't wanna waste it worrying all the time. Focus on yourself, your goals, and of course, treat people kindly. Sometimes people just forget about that."

## Driving for Drafts

Driving for Drafts – a.k.a., the Duke Memorial Charity Golf Tournament, benefiting Connecticut Draft Horse Rescue (CDHR) of East Hampton, will take place Saturday, Sept. 18, at Portland Golf Course, 169 Bartlett St.

In 2015, the CDHR rescued a neglected, emaciated Clydesdale from shipping to a slaughter auction in Pennsylvania, and soon discovered this horse was Duke, a former Budweiser Clydesdale. As he regained his health, Duke quickly became a local celebrity at the CDHR, making appearances at events, including the golf tournament, and posing for pictures with visitors.

Sadly, Duke passed away about a year after his rescue, surrounded by his loving volunteer caretakers. To honor Duke's memory, the CDHR

named its annual golf tournament after him.

Shotgun start is at 1 p.m., with check-in beginning at noon. Cost is \$150/person, and also includes a grilled lunch and a buffet dinner along with raffles, auctions and prizes. Sponsorships are also available, including an "In Memoriam" sponsorship to honor a loved one or a pet. All proceeds benefit the rescue horses of CDHR. Registration closes on Sept. 3.

To sign up as a participant or become a sponsor, visit [www.ctdraftrescue.org](http://www.ctdraftrescue.org) or email to [cdhr.golf@gmail.com](mailto:cdhr.golf@gmail.com).

Driving for Drafts is sponsored by Connecticut Horse Cremation and the HK Dairy Barn.

Note: All precautions will be taken to be sure this is a safe event, CDHR said, and the format will be adjusted accordingly, if necessary.

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## Finance Board Lowers Mill Rate

by Jack Lakowsky

The East Hampton Board of Finance on Monday voted to reduce the town's 2021-22 mill rate from what town voters approved on June 8.

The mill rate was projected to increase by 1.48 mills but instead will rise 1.39, bringing the mill rate to 34.53, or about 4% over the current year. The new fiscal year starts July 1.

In a press release announcing the reduction, Town Manager David Cox said unanticipated dollars from the state allowed the finance board to set a lower rate than what voters approved.

The East Hampton Town Council urged the finance board to reduce the mill rate, the release said.

"The change is possible due to a decision made in the [state] legislature during preparation of the state's [upcoming budget]," Cox wrote.

According to Cox, the state revised the grants it sends to towns to maintain state property within municipal borders. The town will receive another \$100,000 to this end, money it hadn't anticipated before sending the budget to a vote.

"That change and increase [was] not decided upon until the final days of the state's legislative session," Cox wrote.

In a Tuesday phone call, Cox said changes such as this are rare.

The town manager went on to say that, in talks with town finance officials, he learned as far as anyone can remember, the town has only done this once or twice before, under the similar circumstances of unexpected state money.

"The Board of Finance took advantage and reduced the tax levy," Cox told the *Rivereast*.

In East Hampton, the finance board, not the Town Council, has final say in setting the mill rate.

The council in April tried planning for last-minute state funds. It voted to delay final approval of the town and school board budgets until early June so the town would have a better chance of knowing what the state budget contains.

It seems the town just missed the mark.

"The changes we made in the process this year paid off immediately and our taxpayers will benefit," said Pete Brown, council chair.

## St. Patrick Tag Sale Coming

St. Patrick Church, located at 47 W. High St., will hold an outside tag sale Saturday, June 26, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Rain date is Saturday, July 3.

Organizers are not taking donations this year; do not drop any items for sale.

## Police News

6/2: Tiffany Longhi, 26, of Waterbury, was arrested and charged with disorderly conduct, East Hampton police said.

6/3: Wesley Nuckols, 22, of 19 N. Blackledge Rd., Marlborough, was issued a summons for operating a motor vehicle without insurance, police said.

6/3: Michael Bower, 30, of 230 Old West High St., was arrested and charged with third-degree criminal mischief and disorderly conduct, police said.

6/3: Terri Ann Sears, 46, of 65 Clark Hill Rd., was issued a summons for misuse of plates and operating an unregistered and uninsured motor vehicle, police said.

Also, from May 31-June 6, officers responded to two motor vehicle crashes, 15 medical calls, six alarms, eight hazardous conditions and 23 property checks, and made 27 traffic stops, police said.

## Bethlehem Lutheran Resumes In-Person

Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church will celebrate its first face-to-face live post-COVID service this Sunday, June 20, at 10:15 a.m. All are welcome. Enter via the front door and ushers will assist you.

Current parishioners can expect to receive an email indicating the guidelines that will be in place as we begin live services. For those not ready to join us in person, the livestream link will be at the church's Facebook page, at [www.facebook.com/BethlehemEH](http://www.facebook.com/BethlehemEH).

## Body Pulled from Lake Pocotopaug

by Jack Lakowsky

The body of a Marlborough restaurant owner was found in Lake Pocotopaug June 4, according to East Hampton Police.

East Hampton Police Chief Dennis Woessner last week identified the body as that of Bi-Fang Chan, who owned The New China Sea, a popular Chinese restaurant in Marlborough.

Woessner last week told the *Rivereast* there's no evidence of suspicious activity, and that the state medical examiner's office has the woman's remains.

The medical examiner will release further details in the coming weeks, Woessner said.

According to a GoFundMe organized by Chan's family, Chan's death was a suicide. It should be noted that the state's investigation has yet to verify this information.

"She had been battling with severe depression for the past year, dealing with eye complications, financial stress with the new restaurant," Chan's family wrote. "[U]nfortunately, the help and care she received was not enough to get her out of a very dark place that tragically caused her death."

The family set up the GoFundMe to help cover funeral expenses.

As of Tuesday, the effort has surpassed its \$20,000 goal, reaching nearly \$21,000.

"We love you mom and hope that you're in a better place now," the family wrote. "You will be forever loved and missed."

In a press release, East Hampton Police said that on June 4, a little after 6 a.m., they were

alerted to the possibility of a body floating in Lake Pocotopaug.

Officers responded, finding a deceased female in the water, just west of the intersection of Route 66 and Old Marlborough Road.

The East Hampton Volunteer Fire Department and East Hampton Volunteer Ambulance assisted in the recovery.

Local police are investigating, and available details are slim.

According to both the family's description and commentors on the GoFundMe campaign, Chen was the owner of former restaurant The China Sea and the more-recently opened The New China Sea in Marlborough.

Greg Lowrey, Marlborough's first selectman, in an email to the *Rivereast* said he would ask friends, neighbors and customers to extend sympathy over Chen's passing.

Lowrey described Chen as a "longtime business leader" in Marlborough, adding that he's visited both restaurants, always enjoying prompt service, a warm welcome and personal attention.

"I know she will be greatly missed by all who knew her," said Lowrey.

Help is available for those in crisis. Anyone experiencing or anyone who knows someone experiencing a suicidal crisis or other emotional distress is urged to call the 24/7 National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at the toll-free number, at 800-273-8255.

## Tag Sale, Jazz Band

The Bay Point Club will hold its annual tag sale rain or shine Saturday, June 19, from 8 a.m.-2 p.m., and Sunday, June 20, from 8 a.m.-noon, at the clubhouse, located at 24 Spellman Point Rd. Items for sale include life jackets, water skis and other sporting goods, children's toys and games, household goods, bicycles, holiday items, adult and children's books, and furniture.

Also, Bay Road Jazz, a band performing jazz songs from the 1940s, will perform on the side lawn by the clubhouse at noon on Saturday.

## Household Hazardous Waste Collection

The Lower Connecticut River Council of Governments will hold a free Household Hazardous Waste Collection Saturday, June 19, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., at the East Hampton WPCA, 20 Gildersleeve Drive.

The collection is open to residents of the RiverCOG region, which includes East Hampton. No commercial or business waste allowed.

Visit [rivercog.org/household-hazardous-waste](http://rivercog.org/household-hazardous-waste) for more information.

## Residents Graduate

Dharma Perron of Haddam Neck and Graham Gilarde of Cobalt each recently graduated with Bachelor of Science degrees from the University of Vermont.

## Veterans' Appreciation Steak Dinner

On Monday, June 21, from 4-6 p.m., VFW Fowler-Dix-Park Post 5095 East Hampton is hosting a Veterans' Appreciation Steak Dinner. People may dine in or take it home.

Dinner includes, steak, mashed potatoes, corn on the cob and a variety of desserts for \$20. Only 65 meals will be available.

To purchase tickets, call the post at 860-267-8837 Tuesday-Sunday any time after 3 p.m.

## Spirit of Old Home Day at Home

Old Home Days has been canceled for the year, but on Saturday, July 10, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., there will be a new town event – a reverse parade.

In "The Spirit of Old Home Day at Home," participants will decorate their homes, businesses or an entire neighborhood. On July 10, townspeople will ride around town and vote for their favorite address based on several different categories. Prizes will be awarded after the tallying is done.

This event is free. Parks and Recreation is going to manage the registration and voting. East Hampton Public Library will provide maps designating the address of the participants.

As the date draws closer, more details will be shared at [www.ehohd.org](http://www.ehohd.org), the Parks and Rec. and library websites, the Old Home Days Facebook page, and in the *Rivereast*.

## Golf and Yoga Outing

The East Hampton High School Sports Boosters Club will hold its annual golf and yoga outing Thursday, June 24, at Fox Hopyard Golf Club in East Haddam.

Various options for participation in the golf tournament and yoga session are available. Registration and sponsorship information is available at [ehsboosters.com](http://ehsboosters.com) or by calling Chris at 860-227-9941.

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# Local Officials Disagree on Effect of Zoning Reform Bill

by Jack Lakowsky

In a June 8 meeting, the Town Council went back and forth with town staff over a bill, which recently passed both houses in the state legislature, that attempts to reform Connecticut's zoning laws.

Gov. Ned Lamont signed the bill into law last week.

Town Zoning Official Jeremy DeCarli crafted a document wherein he wrote how provisions in the bill, HB-6107, could potentially impact zoning regulations in East Hampton.

Overall, DeCarli concluded that the bill's influence is minimal, describing five local zoning elements that could be changed or influenced.

Supporters of the bill say it will help to desegregate the state. The population of Connecticut is largely divided between mostly white suburbs and small towns, like East Hampton, and cities with majority populations of people of color.

Opponents of the bill say it takes away local control of zoning and will encourage developments not consistent with a town's "character."

Robby Hill, a coordinator for the fair housing advocacy group Desegregate CT, in a Portland fair housing discussion said that Connecticut is one of the most segregated states in the nation.

Hill said more than 90% of the state's residential zones allow by-right single-family housing, not requiring much of a review process, unlike multifamily housing, and added that 70% of the state's Black population lives in 17 of its 169 towns.

Hill said developments of multifamily homes, which tend to be more affordable than single-family homes, face extensive review processes in most towns, and are often restricted.

"When you restrict those, you restrict affordability," Hill said.

Hill said this is no accident. He said throughout the 20th century, state governments created residential segregation through racist policies and redlining-when insurers refuse to back mortgages for Black communities.

He said such poor policy has since been outlawed, but that the negative results of this racism exist to this day, and that municipalities have continued to perpetuate this inequitable home market.

"Black people have lost out on decades of home equity appreciation," said Hill. "Black people were denied the 1950's housing boom that white people had."

Hill said this prevented a disproportionate

amount of Black and Brown people from accumulating generational wealth.

Hill said the Fair Housing Act of 1968 helped this somewhat, but that towns continue to entrench wealth with exclusionary zoning.

Hill explained that the phrase "exclusionary zoning" encompasses land use practices that limit housing supply, drive up home prices, block affordable housing developments like apartment buildings, set unreasonably high development standards, require a high minimum acreage and enforce onerous review policies.

Consequences of exclusionary zoning include low housing supply with unaffordable prices and preventing low to middle-income people, especially Black and Brown people, from moving to higher-income towns.

This, Hill said, is how the state has become so segregated.

According to the Associated Press, the bill is scaled down from its original language, and lawmakers on both sides are in *CT Mirror* quoted as feeling "underwhelmed" by what was ultimately passed.

DeCarli characterized the bill as one of "reorganization", saying the state's checkerboard of zoning laws has been "a mess for a long time."

Arguably the most significant possible change, DeCarli said, involves accessory dwelling units or ADUs, also called in-law apartments.

The law requires this type of dwelling to be allowed by-right, as single-family homes currently are, meaning town staff would approve the building of an ADU, rather than having it go through a commission approval process.

The bill has an opt-out provision towns can use to forgo the new ADU law. In order for an opt-out to go through, the town's Planning and Zoning Commission and Town Council would need a two-thirds vote to do so.

Republican chair of the town's zoning board, Ray Zatorski, advised the council to forgo the ADU law, in what appears to be a subversion of the bill's purpose.

Zatorski said he wants to keep East Hampton's familial ADU policy, allowing only members of a family to live in one attached to the property's main structure.

Currently, the town allows detached ADUs.

Zatorski said he does support the bill's goal of trying to increase and diversify the state's housing stock, however, this seemingly contradicts his effort to have only attached ADUs in

town as currently, local law allows for detached ADUs, although they are subject to restrictions.

Philhower agreed with disallowing detached ADUs.

Zatorski did not return request for explanation of this apparent contradiction.

For example, in East Hampton, detached ADUs are limited to 2 bedrooms, and stairs leading to an ADU above a building's first floor must be inside the building.

Also, there can only be one ADU per property.

East Hampton ADUs are limited to 900 sq. ft., whereas the state bill requires a minimum of 1,000 sq. ft.

Zatorski said he doesn't want a "de facto set of duplexes" to enter town and wants to maintain East Hampton's "small-town feel."

Council Republican Mark Philhower disagreed with DeCarli, saying the bill will have an adverse effect on East Hampton, although he did not detail exactly how.

In a previous council meeting, Philhower said the bill could damage the town's "nice neighborhoods," saying it would lead to an influx of multifamily housing, and that the state is attempting to superimpose its own Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) over the town's POCD.

DeCarli said the town's POCD must already conform to the state's, and that in any case, both documents are "fuzzy".

Philhower said allowing detached ADUs would open the town to "new markets", and that requiring attached ADUs would eliminate this "issue", going on to say people don't typically want another person walking through their house.

Philhower, who owns rental properties, said now "there's nothing to stop me from putting down a four-family home."

Philhower likened the new bill to the introduction of seatbelt laws, which became mandatory in 1985, saying it went from this to "traffic stops."

East Hampton also requires off-street parking be provided for multifamily lots, to retain a

given lot's "single family feel," and the lot cannot have more than two parking spaces.

DeCarli told the council parking would be another change for Belltown, as the bill prevents towns from dictating that there be more than one parking space. DeCarli said this is not a major change.

DeCarli went on to say that the bill provides zoning opportunities for more multifamily housing. He said two zones in town already allow for multifamily buildings. He said this provision could very much impact some towns, but it's not likely to be an appreciable issue in East Hampton.

DeCarli said the bill disallows towns from enforcing a percentage cap of their multifamily housing stock.

"We can't say 'Okay, once 30% of our housing is multifamily, we're gonna stop,'" the land use official explained.

DeCarli added a potential change to the town's mobile homes to his list of possible changes, though he said he'll need to look further into this.

The bill requires additional training for zoning board members. DeCarli said this is also minimal, as members of the town's many boards already engage in such training and education.

"I don't foresee a major impact," said DeCarli.

In his written conclusion, DeCarli said many "changes" in the bill simply put into words existing case law.

"The market will continue to be the dominant force when it comes to development," DeCarli said. "Nothing in this bill would create a massive influx of large-scale development, nor [does it] force East Hampton to allow something not allowed in the past."

In general, DeCarli wrote, the bill lets developers construct in sensible locations projects believed to be marketable and financially feasible, while removing "some of the roadblocks [typically] encountered."

"More often than not, the capacity of the land will dictate what is realistic," DeCarli wrote.

## Dean's List

Ethan Powers of East Hampton made the spring 2021 Dean's List at Nichols College in Dudley, Mass.

## Chatham Historical Society News

The Chatham Historical Society (CHS) has announced the following two pieces of news. For more information, call 860-267-4732.

**Museum:** Also, the historical society museum opens the first Sunday of every month from 2-4 p.m. or by appointment; call 860-267-8953.

**Historic House Tour:** Saturday, Sept. 25, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Six residences will be included.



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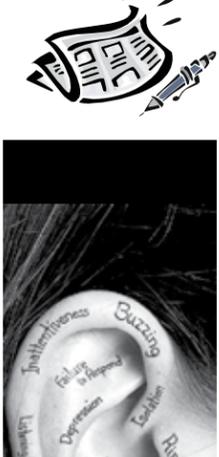
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A view of the Connecticut River from a trail in Hurd Park in East Hampton.

### Hike at Hurd State Park

The Chatham Historical Society (CHS) is organizing a hike at Hurd State Park on Sunday, July 11, at 1 p.m., as part of its "Explore East Hampton" monthly series of walks. The walk is sponsored by the East Hampton Parks and Recreation Department.

Hurd State Park is located in East Hampton on the east side of the Connecticut River. The park is named after the Hurd family, which came to the Middle Haddam region from Massachusetts in 1710 and settled on the land high above the Connecticut River. Later, the region was mined for the feldspar in the granite ledges. The state purchased 150 acres for a park in 1914. Today there are almost 1,000 acres in the park. It is also popular with boaters who camp at the three camp

sites.

Andrew Dickinson, a member of the CHS, will lead the hike and share some history of the park.

Directions: Follow Route 66 to Cobalt. Take Route 151 South and follow to Hurd State Park on right.

For more information about upcoming walks or the Chatham Historical Society, contact Marty Podskoch, coordinator of the "Explore East Hampton" walks, at 860-267-2442, podskoch@comcast.net, or visit: www.chathamhistoricalct.org.

### Middle School Soccer, Cross-Country Registration

Student/athletes who are interested in trying out for boys soccer, girls soccer or boys/girls cross-country teams can register online at www.FamilyID.com.

Athletes must have all the proper paperwork submitted online and have an updated physical in order to try out. Registration should be completed by Monday, Aug. 23.

For more information, call EHMS athletic director Michael Mercaldi at 860-463-6837.

### Tax Bills to be Mailed

Tax bills will be mailed June 29, for real estate, personal property and motor vehicles levied on the Grand List of Oct. 1, 2020. Taxes are due and payable July 1, and delinquent after Aug. 2.

Real estate and personal property taxes over \$100 may be paid in two equal installments, July 1, 2021 and Jan. 1, 2022. The January tax bill is included with the July tax bill; there will not be a second mailing.

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 www.easthamptonct.gov.

Failure to receive a tax bill does not exempt the taxpayer from payment of all taxes and interest charges. Taxpayers that did not receive a bill should contact the tax office immediately at 860-267-2300.

### Goff House Concert Lineup

The Goff House Gazebo Concert Series will be held Thursdays at 6:30 p.m., from June 24-July 29.

There will be no rain location or bathrooms available during the concerts. Listeners should wear masks when arriving and leaving the shows and maintain six feet apart from other audience members. Picnics are welcome. Admission is free.

The band lineup is: June 24: T Ray, performing acoustic country, rock, folk and pop music from the 1940s to today; July 1: Centerline Band, performing a mix of rock and roll, country and blues; July 8, Mick and Vic Acoustic Duo, performing hits from the 1950s to present; July 15, Flamingo Big Band, a 15-piece, all-female group of experienced professional musicians performing music from the swing era, with a sprinkling of rock, pop, rhythm and

blues; July 22, 3 Gals 3, a vocal trio of three female Connecticut musicians who have been performing three decades of musical genres together for 15 years; July 29, Leaf Jumpers, performing rock hits of the 1990s through today, along with their own modern originals.

Reminder: Tax-deductible donations to help pay for the bands are being accepted from \$250, \$150, \$75, \$50 and \$25 levels (or any amount) and can be mailed to the Joseph N. Goff House, P.O. Box 337, East Hampton, CT 06424. Visit goffhousehct.blogspot.com for more information.

### Parks and Rec. News & Notes

Parks and Recreation has announced the following. For full program descriptions or to register, call 860-267-7300 or visit easthamptonrec.com.

**Morning and Afternoon Adventure:** This before and after school program at Memorial School has availability.

**Nerf Blaster and Fairy Garden Camps:** June 21-25 at Memorial School, for grades K-3. Nerf Blaster meets 9-11 a.m. and is \$100; Fairy Garden meets 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. and is \$110.

**STEAM Camp:** June 21-25, 9-11 a.m., at Memorial School, for grades 2-3. Fee: \$110.

**Track and Field Clinic/Camp:** June 21-25 at the East Hampton High School track. Fee for 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. is \$250, and fee for 8:30-11:30 a.m. is \$150.

**Sears Park Summer Camp:** June 21-Aug. 3, at Sears Park. Fee: \$165. Breakfast and lunch will be offered free of charge for Sears Park campers; must pre-order lunch through a link on the Parks and Rec. website.

**Golf Tourney Save the Date:** The Seamster Park Golf Tournament will take place Thursday, Sept. 2, with a 10 a.m. shotgun start, at the Blackledge Country Club in Hebron.

### Haddam Neck Covenant Church News

Haddam Neck Covenant Church, located at 17 Haddam Neck Rd., invites all to Sunday worship at 9 a.m., online at www.facebook.com/Haddam-Neck-Covenant-Church or in person. Masks are optional. Pastor is the Rev. Tom Cowger.

**Puppet Ministry:** Each Sunday, the church's Puppet Ministry features Digger the Dog and friends from Farmer M's Red Barn to help Cowger explain the message topic.

**Bible Study:** Every other Thursday, 7-8:30 p.m., via Zoom. All are welcome. Contact the church office for a Zoom invitation.

**Office Info:** The office can be reached at 860-267-2336; hours are Monday-Friday, 12:30-4:30 p.m. The church website is at www.hncovenantchurch.org.



Summer meals are offered again this summer to children age 18 and younger – and this year, fresh, farmstand-style produce will be a feature of the meals.

### Fresh Produce Added to Summer Meals

Summer meals at no charge are offered again at East Hampton High School on Mondays and Thursdays from noon-1 p.m., and this year there is new farmstand-style produce included.

The meals are available to all children 18 and younger from any town, regardless of income or what school they go to. The new farmstand selections allow families to pick fresh produce. Family-friendly recipes are offered each week.

The summer meal service started this week, and no pre-order is needed. Parents can drive up to the side parking lot at EHHS, located at 15 N. Maple St., on Mondays and Thursdays from noon-1 p.m. and pick up breakfasts, lunches and fresh produce for their children for all seven days of the week. Total meals received may not exceed seven breakfasts and seven lunches per child per week.

### Christ Episcopal Church News

Christ Episcopal Church, 66 Middle Haddam Rd., Middle Haddam, holds Sunday services via Zoom each week at 10 a.m. Sunday school is on pause until the fall. Bible study, followed by Compline, is Wednesdays at 6 p.m., also via Zoom.

The Rev. Ann Perrott is Priest-in-Charge, the Rev. Joanne Neel-Richard oversees Children's Ministry, and Martha Alimi is the music director. For more information or if in need of pastoral assistance, call the church at 860-267-0287 or visit www.christchurchmiddlehaddam.com.

### Youth Football, Cheer Registration

Registration for the 2021 season of East Hampton Youth Football and Cheerleading is open for children aged 3-14 years. Cheerleading, tackle and flag football are available. Fee for the season is \$150.

Registration runs through Aug. 15, at www.ehyouthfootball.org. Practice begins Aug. 2 at East Hampton Middle School. There are four home games, three away games and one bye.

Also, volunteer coaching positions are available.

For more information, email info@ehyouth-football.org.

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### Summer Reading Program for All Ages

For the first time, East Hampton Public Library is offering summer reading programs for all ages – including adults.

Sign up online or in person at the Summer Reading Kick-Off Party Friday, June 25. Visit [EastHamptonPublicLibrary.org/Summer](http://EastHamptonPublicLibrary.org/Summer) for more information.

**Children’s Summer Reading:** For birth to grade 5. Set a weekly reading goal with your child. You can choose to read a certain number of books or to read for a certain amount of minutes. Children can read independently or can be read to. Once your child has met their goal, visit the library for an animal sticker and raffle tickets to win great prizes.

**Teen Summer Reading:** For grades 6-12. Each week, complete different challenges like

reading for an hour, going for a walk, or giving someone a compliment. Then check in at the library to receive raffle tickets to win prizes like art supplies, piñatas or *Dungeons & Dragons* books. One participant will win a new bike donated by AirLine Cycles.

**Adult Summer Reading:** For ages 18 and up. Each week, complete different challenges like reading for an hour, taking a hike, or attending a library program. Then check in at the library to receive raffle tickets for prizes like book baskets, craft kits and more.

**Summer Reading Kick-Off Party:** Friday, June 25, 3-5 p.m., outside in front of the library. This all-ages party will feature live farm animals, a balloon artist and more. People can also sign up for the Summer Reading programs in person.

### East Hampton Library News & Notes

East Hampton Public Library, 105 Main St., has announced the following. For more information and full program descriptions, call 860-267-6621 or visit [easthamptonpubliclibrary.org](http://easthamptonpubliclibrary.org) or [facebook.com/EastHamptonLibrary](http://facebook.com/EastHamptonLibrary).

**Library Hours:** Monday-Wednesday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; and Thursday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. If you’re fully vaccinated, you can choose whether to wear a mask in the library – but the library encourages people to wear them, out of respect for children in the community who use the library and cannot yet be vaccinated.

**Children’s Programs: Baby Rhyme Time Outside:** For ages birth through 18 months. Thursdays at 10:15 a.m., June 24-Aug. 26, at the Center School gazebo on Main Street, weather permitting. No registration required; just drop in.

**Stories and Songs Outside:** For 18 months-5 years. Wednesdays at 10:15 a.m., June 30-Aug. 25, at Seamster Park, weather permitting. Siblings welcome. No registration required; just drop in.

**Teacher Read Aloud Series:** For ages 5-10. Mondays at 4 p.m., June 28, July 12 and 26, and Aug. 9, in front of East Hampton Public Library, weather permitting. Siblings welcome. No registration required; just drop in.

**Teen Programs: Mini Comic Con:** For grades 6-12. Monday, June 28, at 2:30 p.m., in front of the library, weather permitting. Register at [easthamptonpubliclibrary.org](http://easthamptonpubliclibrary.org) or call the library.

**Dungeons & Dragons:** For grades 8-12. Wednesdays at 2 p.m., June 30, July 14 and 28, and Aug. 11, in front of the library, weather permitting. No experience required. Register at [easthamptonpubliclibrary.org](http://easthamptonpubliclibrary.org) or call the library.

**Adult Programs: Camp Crafts – Adults:** Mondays at 6 p.m., June 30-Aug. 9 (no program July 5), in front of the library, weather permitting. Register at [easthamptonpubliclibrary.org](http://easthamptonpubliclibrary.org) or

### Congregational Church News

The Congregational Church of East Hampton, UCC, located at 59 Main St., holds in-person services at 10 a.m. each week. All are welcome. For the fully vaccinated, mask-wearing is not mandatory except when singing. Those who aren’t fully vaccinated should continue to wear masks and practice social distancing.

Services are still available via Zoom; visit [cc-eh.org](http://cc-eh.org) to access.

Also, the church will take part in the Town-Wide Tag Sale Saturday, June 19, from 8 a.m.-noon. Many Christmas decorations will be available.

The Teen Youth Group will next meet Friday, June 25, from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Grades 6-12 are welcome.

For more information, visit [cc-eh.org](http://cc-eh.org) or call 860-267-4959; office hours are Tuesday-Friday, 8 a.m.-noon. In case of pastoral emergencies, the Rev. Jim Latimer can be reached at 610-568-2480.

call the library.

**Plot Twist: Discussing Big Issues through Short Stories:** Wednesdays, June 30, July 28 and Aug. 25, at 7 p.m., held outdoors at Dexter’s Tunes, Tales and Ales, 91 Main St. Register at [easthamptonpubliclibrary.org](http://easthamptonpubliclibrary.org) or call the library.

**Book Club:** Third Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. and third Thursday of every month at 2 p.m., in front of the library, weather permitting. Copies available for checkout at the circulation desk. June’s title is *Friends and Strangers* by J. Courtney Sullivan; July’s title is *Twenty-One Truths About Love* by Matthew Dicks; and August’s title is *The Vacationers* by Emma Straub. Register at [easthamptonpubliclibrary.org](http://easthamptonpubliclibrary.org) or call the library.

### Village Center Summer Stroll

The East Hampton Village Center business community will hold a Summer Stroll for Saturday, June 26, from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Visit any participating merchant on Summer Stroll Day and pick up a Bingo-like raffle card that will list all participating merchants.

Many Village shops and eateries will be offering specials and discounts for this unique Summer Stroll 2021 event. In addition, visit each participating merchant and receive an in-store stamp on your raffle card and drop off your completed card at Dexter’s Tunes, Tales and Ales by 4 p.m. to be entered into a raffle of various gift cards and prizes provided by participating merchants. The raffle is scheduled for 4:15 p.m. when winners will be announced; winners do not need to be present to win.

As part of the Village Summer Stroll festivities, the East Hampton Economic Development Commission (EDC) will be soft-launching the recently-approved Good Luck Bridge Bells initiative. Customers may purchase a Good Luck Bridge Bell at participating Village Center merchants and personalize a good luck message or memorialize an event or celebration on the bell before securing it to the Main Street bridge for good luck.

A broader town launch of the Good Luck Bridge Bells program is being planned for the near future.

### Concert Coming

All are invited to a free concert featuring the Marlborough-based band Seat of Our Pants Friday, June 25, at 6:30 p.m., at the Bay Point Club, 24 Spellman Point Rd.

The concert will be outdoors, weather permitting, so bring a chair. In the case of rain, it will be moved indoors and masks will be required.

A \$10 donation is suggested. For more information on the show, email [info@seatofourpants.org](mailto:info@seatofourpants.org) or call 860-930-0503. For more information on the band, visit [seatofourpantsmusic.com/home](http://seatofourpantsmusic.com/home).

### Senior Center News & Notes

East Hampton Senior Center, 105 Main St., has opened for those registered for programs. Most programs will be held outside unless there is inclement weather. Masks are recommended for participants who are not vaccinated or are not comfortable without a mask.

Register online through [myactivecenter.com](http://myactivecenter.com) or by contacting the center at 860-267-4426 or [seniorcenter@easthamptonct.gov](mailto:seniorcenter@easthamptonct.gov). Normal business hours: Monday- Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m., and Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Visit [www.easthamptonct.gov/east-hampton-senior-center](http://www.easthamptonct.gov/east-hampton-senior-center) for more information.

**Weekly Events: Bingo Hybrid:** Tuesdays in June, from 1-2 p.m. Those who have been Zooming are asked to continue to do so. The center will reserve 10 seats at the center for those without computer access. The first 10 people to sign up will be able play in person. Call or register online at [myactivecenter.com](http://myactivecenter.com).

**Mahjongg:** Fridays, 10 a.m.-noon. Call or register online.

**Writing Our Lives to Open Our Hearts:** Thursdays in June, 10:30-11:30 a.m., outside, weather permitting. In case of inclement weather, it will be inside, with masks recommended. Register online.

**Juneteenth, Celebrate Freedom:** Virtual event, June 25, 1-2:30pm, via Zoom. Sponsored by Connecticut Healthy Living Collective and AARP. Call the Senior Center to receive the link.

**Movie Group, Lunch and Discussion/In Person:** A group of movie buffs meet in-person the last Tuesday of each month, from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., to discuss film. On June 29, *Audrey: More Than an Icon*. Bring your own lunch. Register online or call the center.

**Virtual Lunch Bunch:** Every other Monday from 12:30-1 p.m., via Zoom. On June 28, two pastors will talk about why it is they only work on Sundays. Register online.

**Nature’s Everywhere Series:** Wednesdays, July 14 and Aug. 11, at 10 a.m. Learn about nature outside at the senior center. Bring a chair. This is a rain or shine event. Attendees should wear masks and socially distance as needed. If you have family members that would like to join, let the center know. Class limited to 10 participants. There is some walking involved; short distances. Register online or call the center.

**Lunch on the Patio with Staff:** Monthly, the center will draw two names to join two staff members for a free lunch outside. Call to submit your name or register online.

**Creative Crafts:** Wednesday, July 21, 1 p.m. This will be a garden craft. Space is limited; register online.

**Volunteer Shopping:** If interested in having a volunteer shop for you, call 860-267-4426 or email [jewling@easthampton.gov](mailto:jewing@easthampton.gov) for more information.

### Artwork on Display at Town Hall

Watercolor paintings by Marlborough artist Mary Horrigan are on display throughout June at East Hampton Town Hall.

More East Hampton News on page 27

### Town-Wide Tag Sale

East Hampton’s Town-Wide Tag Sale is this Saturday, June 19, from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Nearly 70 tag sales have been registered to participate. Look for the Chatham Historical Society signs and balloons at people’s houses.

On the day of the event, more than 300 maps will be given out for free at the Village Center and in the parking lot at the old Town Hall across from McDonald’s on East High Street.

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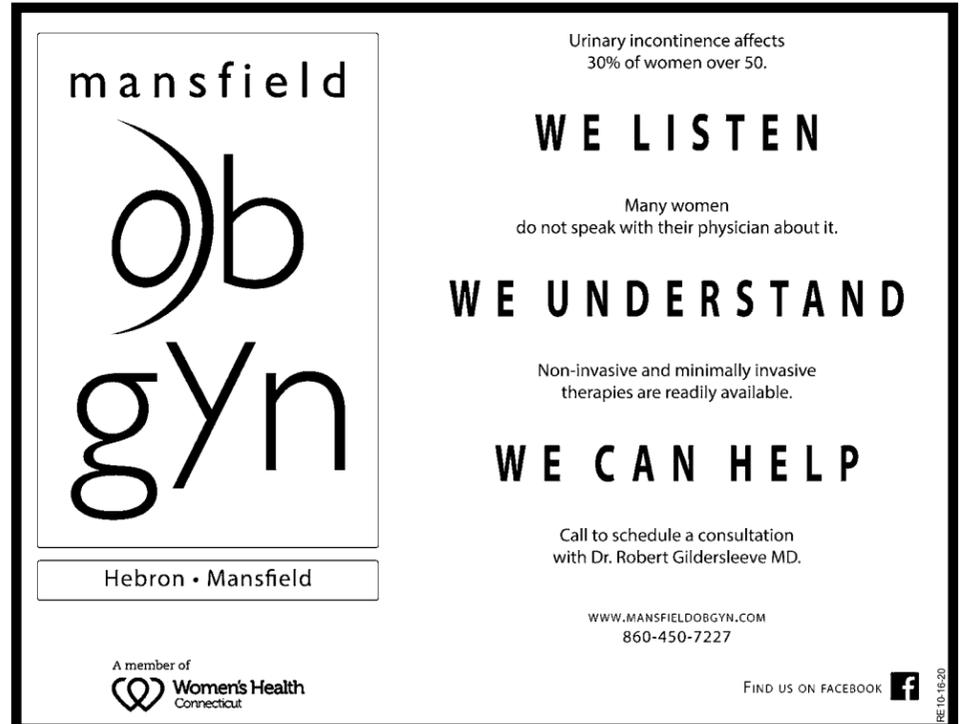



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### Parks and Rec Programs

Marlborough Parks and Recreation has announced the following. For full descriptions or to register, visit [marlboroughct.recedesk.com](http://marlboroughct.recedesk.com) and click on "programs," stop by the office at Town Hall, 26 N. Main St., or call 860-295-6203.

**Youth Programs: Netto Summer Day Camp:** June 21-Aug. 13 at Blish Park, for grades K-7. All campers are supervised by counselors and lifeguards trained in CPR/first aid. Registration is \$175/residents, \$185/non-residents.

**Skyhawks Basketball Camp:** June 28-July 2 at Blish Park, for boys and girls ages 5-12. Ages 5 and 6 meet 9 a.m.-noon, and ages 7-12 meet 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Fee for ages 5 and 6: \$129/residents, \$139/non-residents. Fee for ages 5-12: \$155/residents, \$160/non-residents.

**Skyhawks Multi-Sport Camp (Soccer, Baseball and Basketball):** July 6-9, 9 a.m.-noon, at Blish Park, for ages 4-10. Children are broken into two age groups – one, Mini-Hawk, for ages 4-6, and one for ages 7-10. Fee: \$109/residents, \$114/non-residents. There will also be a session Aug. 2-6, 9 a.m.-noon at Blish Park, for ages 4-6. Fee for that camp is \$129/residents, \$134/non-residents.

**Skyhawks Sand Volleyball Camp:** July 12-16, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., at Blish Park, for ages 10-14. Fee: \$140/residents, \$145/non-residents.

**Skyhawks Flag Football Camp:** July 19-23, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., for ages 6-10. Fee: \$140/residents, \$145/non-residents.

**Marlborough Grip 'n Rip Tennis Camp:** July 19-22 and July 26-29, at Blish Park. Ages 5-7 will meet 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. July 19-22, and 3:45-4:30 p.m. July 26-29. Ages 8-12 will meet 12:15-1:15 p.m. July 19-22 and 4:30-5:30 p.m. July 26-29. Fee for ages 5-7 is, per week, \$80/resident and \$85/non-resident. For ages 8-12, fee per week is \$100/resident and \$105/non-resident.

**Horseback Riding Lessons:** For ages 5 and up. Days and times are flexible. Fee: four lessons for \$175/residents, \$180/non-residents.

**Adult Programs/Fitness: Zumba:** Thursdays through July 15 (started June 10), 6:30-7:30 p.m., in the conference room at Blish Park. Cost is a \$12 drop-in fee each week.

**Adult Cardio Tennis:** For ages 18 and up. Tuesdays, June 29-Aug. 8, 6:30-7:30 p.m., at Blish Park tennis courts. All levels welcome. Fee: \$30/resident, \$35/non-resident.

### Dean's List

Caroline Kenyon Orzech of Marlborough made the Dean's List at Northeastern University in Boston. Orzech is majoring in bioengineering.

### Outdoor Summer Concerts Start Saturday

Marlborough Arts Center, 231 N. Main St., has outdoor summer concerts planned for June, July and August. Concerts will be Saturdays at 2 p.m., with rain date the next day if needed. Bring your own seating. Masks and social distancing are requested. Concerts are free, but a donation of \$10/person is suggested.

Kicking off the concerts is, on June 19, the acoustic duo Deep Ellum. The duo is composed of musicians Rich Johnson and Jon Swift, who have performed separately and together while appearing on radio and TV shows, with various bands, and in many Connecticut venues including the Arts Center. The duo plays Americana – a mix of blues, old jazz, folk music, bluegrass and oldies. Johnson and Swift play a variety of instruments including the dobro with its distinctive sound.

Future concerts include: July 10, Handler and Levesque; July 24, Sal Basile; and Aug. 28, Nick Catroneo.

### Second Blessings Thrift Shop

Second Blessings Thrift Shop is open Saturdays from 9 a.m.-noon on the ground floor of Marlborough Congregational Church, 35 S. Main St.

There will be a 50%-off sale on handbags and jewelry June 19 and 26. New merchandise continues arriving every week, with decorative, giftware, glassware, china, household, framed prints, antiques and vintage, and more. Donations are accepted during shop hours. The shop also sells on eBay, at [bit.ly/MCCebay](http://bit.ly/MCCebay).

The shop will be closed in July and August, and reopen Sept. 11.

### Dog Licenses Available

Dog licenses are now available in the town clerk's office at Town Hall, 26 N. Main St. A current rabies certificate is required. Fee for spayed or neutered dogs is \$6 and for unspayed/unneutered dogs fee is \$16. Checks should be made out to the Town of Marlborough.

License your dog before July 1 or a \$1 late fee will be added each month.

The town clerk's hours are 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Thursday; 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Tuesday; and 8 a.m.-noon Friday.



**Lions Award Scholarship...** The Marlborough Lions Club's 2021 annual scholarship was awarded this year to Shannon Visco (left), who is graduating today from RHAM High School. Lions Treasurer Jean-Paul Bolduc recently presented the \$1,000 scholarship check to Visco, who will attend Albertus Magnus College in New Haven this fall and major in psychology, with plans to pursue a career as a therapist. Visco also stated that she "loves anything involving theater, music and dance." For more information on the Marlborough Lions, call President Megan Lloyd at 413-687-5537.

### Student Wins Award

Ciara Tennis of Marlborough recently received one of Eastern Connecticut State University's annual Library Research Awards. Tennis is a recent graduate who majored in art.

Tennis' project was titled "Reading Like a Dadaist: Francis Picabia, Wallace Stevens, and the Art of Industrialized Warfare." Tennis was mentored by art professors Anne Dawson and Gail Gelburd and English professor Allison Speicher.

### Resident Graduates

Rebecca Ellen LaPoint of Marlborough recently graduated from Connecticut College in New London, with a degree in a student-designed interdisciplinary.

LaPoint also made the spring 2021 Dean's List at the school, earning Dean's High Honors.

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### 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.-6 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. The **book drop** is open for returns. Overdue fines are not accruing at this time.

**Digital New York Times Subscription:** The library has purchased a one-year subscription to the digital edition of *The New York Times*. For information on how to view

the newspaper, visit the library website.

**Museum Passes:** Discount passes are now available for: The Connecticut Historical Society, Lutz Children's Museum, The Zoo in Forest Park, Sturbridge Village, New England Air Museum, New Britain Museum of American Art, Florence Griswold Museum, Beard-sley Zoo, and the Roaring Brook Children's Museum and Nature Center. All passes check out for two days and are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

**Beautiful World of Butterflies:** Monday, July 12, 6 p.m., via Zoom. Learn about the residents of the Milwaukee Public Museum's Butterfly Vivarium. This is an all-ages program. Email the library to register.

### Senior Center News and Notes

Marlborough Senior Center, 17 School Dr., has reopened. Call 860-295-6209 for hours and more information. The senior center has also announced the following:

**Transportation:** Offered five days per week, with a 36-hour advance reservation. Rides are available to the senior center, shopping and doctor appointments, as well as other activities. The service is for any senior or disabled person. Advanced notice required for any stops other than the requested reservation. The driver is required to contact the dispatcher before any additional stops or changes to the schedule are made. There are no exceptions.

The **Food Bank** is located at 3 Wilhenger Drive (860-295-6008) and is open every Tuesday from 10 a.m.-noon and 3:30-5:30 p.m. It is open to qualified residents in need of food. Transportation for seniors and/or physically challenged individuals is available; call the senior center if needed.

**Regular Activities: Meals:** Meals-on-Wheels will continue for those who are home-bound. The Community Café may begin in

September; until then, the center will be closed from noon-1 p.m.

**Not Just Quilting:** Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

**Quilting (Paper Art):** Friday, 1-4 p.m.  
**Tap Dancing (with Sharon):** Wednesdays, 5:30-7 p.m.

**Exercise with Anne and Tai Chi with Linda** are still pending. Tai Chi will be Tuesday and Thursday mornings. **Cards** are also pending, but will be Tuesdays at 11 a.m.

**8-Ball Pool:** Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 10 a.m.-noon.

### Dean's List

Caroline Kenyon Orzech of Marlborough made the spring 2021 Dean's List at Northeastern University in Boston. Orzech is majoring in bioengineering.

### Dean's List

East Hampton residents Molly Conklin, Tyler D'Anna, Dharma Perron, Isabella Siewert and Emilia Winquist all made the spring 2021 Dean's List at the University of Vermont.

### St. John Fisher Church News & Notes

St. John Fisher Roman Catholic Church is located at 30 Jones Hollow Rd. Pastor is the Rev. Thomas J. Sas, Pastor, John McKaig is deacon emeritus and the pastoral assistant is Holly Bangham. The church office can be reached at 860-295-0001; hours are Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. People are asked to call before heading over or connect via the phone.

**Weekend Masses:** 4 p.m. Saturday and 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday. All are welcome. Masks are required, and there is an area for those who prefer to continue to be socially distant. Call the office for more information. Also, through June, each weekend's Mass will continue to be available on the parish website, www.stjfisher.org, starting at 4 p.m. Saturdays.

**Weekday Mass:** Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m. Masks required.

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:** Sundays, 4-4:45 p.m. Masks required.

**Community Outreach and Service:** Food drives are held the second full weekend of each month for Marlborough Food Bank; you may also bring food or household donations directly to the Marlborough Food Bank Monday and Tuesday mornings. Sandwich-making and collection continues on the last Thursday of the month for St. Vincent de Paul in Middletown. Also, the Community Garden to benefit Marlborough Food Bank is well underway. Other service opportunities are scheduled monthly; see the church website for details.

**Other Programs and Offerings:** For more information on such programs as adult or child faith formation, youth group, RCIA or Knights of Columbus, call the office, visit the church website, or look for the church on Facebook (Saint John Fisher Roman Catholic Church) or Twitter (@StJohnFisher\_CT).

### Resident Graduates

Marlborough residents Caitlin Hartman and Kylie Tardif recently graduated from the University of Vermont.

Hartman graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree, and Tardif graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree.

### Dean's List

Marlborough residents Alana Hruska and Madison Czarnecki recently graduated from Assumption University in Worcester, Mass.

Hruska is a member of the Class of 2022, and Czarnecki is a member of the Class of 2023.

### Meatball Madness

All are invited to the second annual Meatball Madness on Monday, June 28, from 4-8:30 p.m., at Marlborough Pizza & Restaurant (7 Independence Drive) to help raise funds for the CT Draft Horse Rescue, a nonprofit organization in Haddam Neck dedicated to saving the lives of neglected or abused draft horses as well as draft horses headed to slaughter.

There will be live music and outdoor dining. Ten percent of the proceeds will benefit CDHR. There will be a 50/50 raffle as well.

For more information, visit www.facebook.com/ctdraftrescue or www.ctdraftrescue.com.

### Congregational Church News & Notes

Marlborough Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, and the Rev. Bob Faulhaber invite the community to attend an in-person worship service in the pavilion at Lake Terramuggus on Father's Day, Sunday, June 20. If attending, bring a chair.

Mission-giving in June will go to the AHM Mental Health Fund. To donate, make a check payable to MCC, note second quarter missions, and mail it to the church at P.O. Box 57, Marlborough, CT 06447.

Phone messages are checked regularly at Faulhaber's direct line at 860-295-0432 and at the church office at 860-295-9050.

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To learn more, check out [MarlboroughCoop.org](http://MarlboroughCoop.org) or contact us at [MCNSboard@gmail.com](mailto:MCNSboard@gmail.com).

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### Senior Citizen News & Notes

The following news items have been announced for Andover seniors, veterans and disabled. If you want to attend any event, call senior coordinator Cathy Palazzi 860-916-6122 to register.

**Town Hall Reopening:** The Board of Selectmen has granted permission to reopen Town Hall effective Wednesday, June 16. No masks need to be worn if a person is fully vaccinated. No senior will be allowed to participate in senior events if not vaccinated. Masks are still required on all town buses. Should there be changes, it will be printed in this article.

**Senior Lunches:** Fridays at noon. On June 25, the seniors will go to Elizabeth Park to see the roses at peak season. Transportation will leave Andover at around 10:30 a.m. Following the park visit, there will be a stop at Jimmie's Pizza in West Hartford for lunch. Call Palazzi for price details and reservations. On July 2, lunch will be served at Town Hall, outside at the gazebo area. Reservations required. On July 9, there will be a senior picnic at Town Hall, put on by the Recreation Commission. Hot dogs, hamburgers, chips, beverages and dessert served. Call Palazzi for reservations.

**Rec Commission Concerts:** The Recreation

Commission will present multiple concerts this summer. All shows are free and start around 6 p.m. On June 26, Route 66 will play; on July 24, the Zonic Band will play; and on Aug. 14, Paula King's band will perform. Bring your own chair. Transportation available by calling Palazzi.

**COVID-19 Vaccinations:** All are eligible. If you need a ride, call Palazzi.

**Rides to Medical Appointments:** Call Palazzi to reserve a ride. All seniors, veterans, and ADA individuals are welcome. If you have a caregiver, they may come with you. Temperatures will be taken by the driver. Masks must be worn in the van.

**Shopping:** Transportation is available for shopping in Manchester on Tuesdays at 7 a.m. Masks must be worn and temperatures will be taken by driver before clients can access the bus. Call Palazzi for a ride.

**Foodshare/Food Pantry:** Rides are available for all seniors, veterans and disabled who need one. If in need of a food delivery, let Palazzi know and it will be delivered. Other than that, people should call Palazzi for a ride to Foodshare or the food pantry, and the bus will take them.

### Tag Sellers Sought

In conjunction with the Town-Wide Tag Sale, Andover Congregational Church, 359 Route 6, will hold a tag sale on the lawn Saturday, June 26, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.; a bag sale will be from 1-2 p.m.

High-visibility 10x10 spaces are available for \$15; fee is non-refundable. The church will accept donations for this sale daily from 3:30-5:30 p.m. until June 20.

For more information or an application, call the church at 860-742-7696 and leave a message.

### Congregational Church News

Andover Congregational Church, UCC, located at 359 Route 6, invites all ages to worship Sundays at 10 a.m. Enter through the Narthex. Social distancing and masks are no longer required if you have been fully vaccinated. Sunday School is provided.

The service also streams live on the church's Facebook page (First Congregational Church, Andover, CT). For more information, call the church office at 860-742-7696, email andoverctchurch@gmail.com or visit www.andoverctchurch.org.

**Bible Study:** Not offered during the summer months.

**Food Pantry:** Mondays from 5-7 p.m. Bring your own bags. CDC guidelines are observed and masks are required. The senior pantry is open every other Wednesday from 9-9:30 a.m.; next date is June 30.

**Foodshare Van:** Comes to the church every other Wednesday from 9-9:30 a.m.; next date is June 23.

**Sonshine Stampers:** This group meets Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. at the church to make greeting cards. All are invited. Masks and social distancing required.

### Veterans Monument Park Brick Fundraiser

The town is selling bricks for walkways to be installed at Andover Veterans Monument Park.

All are welcome to buy a brick to honor a veteran, living or deceased, or to show support as a civilian. All proceeds benefit upgrades to the park.

Brick order forms are available on the town website at andoverconnecticut.org or in the town clerk's office at Town Hall, 17 School Rd.

### Transfer Station Stickers Expire Soon

Transfer station stickers expire June 30, and new stickers are available from the town clerk's office.

To purchase a new sticker, bring your vehicle and registration along with \$40 cash or check and ring the bell at the side door of the Town Office Building, 17 School Rd. Your permit will be processed and the sticker placed on your windshield.

### Bingo & Baskets

Andover Congregational Church, 359 Route 6, will hold a Bingo & Baskets night Friday, June 25, starting with dinner at 5:30 p.m. The game starts at 6:30 p.m.

Admission is \$10 and includes dinner, drink, dessert and bingo. Call 860-742-7696 for more information.

### Dog Licensing

All dogs 6 months and older must be licensed. Current licenses expire June 30.

People can renew licenses by mail by sending an updated rabies certificate (if the one on file has expired), a check payable to Town of Andover - \$8 if the dog is spayed or neutered or \$19 if unaltered - and a self-addressed stamped envelope for return of the license to: Town Clerk's Office, 17 School Rd., Andover, CT 06232.

People may also renew or license in person at the town clerk's office.

For more information, call 860-742-0188 ext. 218

### Dean's List

Michael Jacewicz of Andover made the spring 2021 Dean's List at Eastern Connecticut State University. His major is health sciences, with a concentration in public health.

### Residents Sought for Town-Wide Tag Sale

The annual Town-Wide Tag Sale will be held Saturday, June 26 (rain date June 27), from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. - and participants are sought.

Residents who would like to be included and have their address listed on the tag sale map should send a check for \$10 payable to Town of Andover and mail it or bring it to: Town Clerk, 17 School Rd., Andover, CT 06232. Residents should include a list of items they will have for sale.

Information and payment are due June 21. Proceeds benefit the Andover Senior Luncheon Program.

Anyone who would like to have a tag sale but doesn't want to have it at their home can call Andover Congregational Church at 860-742-7696, to rent a space on the church lot.

### Dean's List

Andover resident Sara Pompa made the spring 2021 Dean's List at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Va.

### Farmers Markets Held Monthly

The Andover Farmers Market is held the first Wednesday of each month through October, from 4-7 p.m. each week, outside at First Congregational Church on Route 6. The market includes farmers, bakers, a food truck and music. Face masks required.

The final market will be Saturday, Nov. 6, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

### Items Sought for Library Auction

The Andover Friends of the Library group will hold its annual auction in July, on a date yet to be determined. Organizers are currently looking for donations of gift certificates or items that can be added to gift baskets.

Call Carol Lee 860-989-6988 to arrange for pick-up of items or bring them to the Town Office Building, 17 School Rd.

### Dean's List

Liam O'Brien of Andover made the spring 2021 Dean's List at Curry College in Milton, Mass.

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### ECSU Dean's List

The following area students made the spring 2021 Dean's List at Eastern Connecticut State University:

**Amston:** Alex Katsarakas who is majoring in psychology and philosophy; Brylene Laws, early childhood education and English; Rebecca Ristow, theatre; Ericka Sandstrom, business administration.

**Andover:** Brian Briggs, physical education; Julia Carso, whose major is exploratory - undecided; Jessica Golemba, elementary education and English; Elisabeth Miano, biology; Michael Jacewicz, health sciences.

**Colchester:** Brianna Alessio, history and social science; Caroline Banning, mathematics; Evelise Boenig, criminology; Matthew Coleman, communication; Cecilia Dell, art; Sarah Eslami, psychology; Emory Francis, early childhood education and liberal studies; Megan Gabriel, health sciences; Caleigh Graff, communication; Raymond Harwood, computer science; Rachael Lebiszczyk, exploratory social sciences; Courtney Losier, secondary education certification and English; Kayla Maldonado, business administration; Alexandria McKelvey, social work and sociology; Cassandra Neudecker, psychology and criminology; Matthew Reynolds, criminology and sociology; Lizbeth Ryan, communication; Alexa Savidakis, business administration; Hannah Stella, art; Le'Nora Stewart, social work; Ashley Todaro, criminology; Samantha Urbowicz, art; Rylee Vadenais, social work; Jameson Violette, accounting; Noah Violette, accounting; Benjamin Williams, secondary education certification and

English; Meghan Wood, psychology; David Zachas, sociology.

**East Hampton:** Grace Adams, elementary education and liberal studies; Caitlyn Anderson, communication; Joshua Anderson, sport and leisure management; Annie Audige, business administration; Meagan Bibisi, sociology; Joseph Caruso, criminology; Zachary Fauvel, criminology; Cody Goodson, biology; Joshua Hull, political science; Allison Ireland, social work; Amanda Weech, social work.

**Hebron:** Cecelia Charron, accounting; Heather Clough, elementary education and English; Michael McMahon, accounting; Samuel Oldach, computer science; Delaney Pike, early childhood education and psychology; Jaclyn Santella, English; Colby Scott, communication; Mason Shalayda, social work; Daniel Sousa, business information systems; Caili Wilkinson, criminology.

**Marlborough:** Margaret Bielaczyc, English; Gracey DuBois, business administration; Chantal Duisenberg, biology; Alexa Jacobson, biology; Jacob Lee, psychology; Jenna Lord, elementary education and English; Cameron Soulagnet, environmental earth science; Jessica Tardif, social work; Rachel Woodmancy, elementary education and English.

**Portland:** Brendan Albert, criminology; Kaitlin Capello, sport and leisure management; Georgia Carlson, biology; Bryan Dinis, finance; Julia MacKinnon, English; Anna Maselek, elementary education and communication; Kelly Schneider, biology.

### Cadets Aiming to Replace Signs

The State Police Troop K Cadet Post 028 is raising funds to replace the State Police Troop K sign, which has been displayed in front of the Troop K barracks in Colchester since the mid-1930s.

The Post is seeking donations to help raise funds to replace the sign. Anyone interested in supporting this project can send their donations to: Troop K Cadets, 15A Old Hartford Road, Colchester, CT 06415. For more information, call advisor Mindy Johnston at 860-465-5468.

### Hey, Take a Hike!

All are invited to join members of the Meshomasic Hiking Club on one of their upcoming hikes throughout the Rivereast area.

Hikes are offered year-round each week, both on weekends and mid-week. A list of June hikes - including hike leaders' names and phone numbers - is at meshomasihikingclub.org.

The Meshomasic Hiking Club is a member-supported volunteer organization. Visit the website for more information or call Diane at 860-985-1861.

#### SAMPLE BALLOT TOWN BUDGET REFERENDUM ANDOVER, CONNECTICUT JUNE 22, 2021

SHALL THE BUDGET APPROVED AT THE ANNUAL TOWN BUDGET MEETING FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2021 TO JUNE 20, 2022 BE APPROVED?

Our Voices are being drowned out by loud mouths during town meetings! Tell them we do not approve! Show them, we the majority want more fiscal responsibility. We want government for all Andover citizens, not just a few!

#### Non binding advisory questions

- |   |  |         |
|---|--|---------|
| 1. Is the Andover Elementary School budget                                      | too high <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | too low |
| 2. Is the Andover Town Budget   | too high                                     | too low |
| 3. Should the resident state trooper program be eliminated                      | Yes  | No      |
| 4. Should the Town and Andover Elementary School budget be voted on separately? | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>      | No      |

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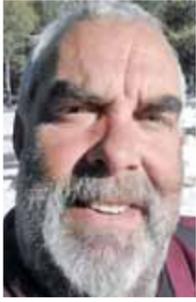
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# Obituaries

## Portland

### Richard Spencer Greaves

Richard "Richie" Spencer Greaves of Vallecitos, N.M., passed from this life Wednesday, June 2, following a brief illness. Son of the late Edward and Elizabeth "Betty" Russo Greaves, he was born May 17, 1956. Richie lived in Connecticut until his retirement in 2018, when Richie moved to his "little slice of heaven" in Vallecitos.



Richie is survived by his brothers, Ted (Rosanne) Tine of Placida, Fla., and Noel (June) Greaves of Meriden; aunt/godmother, Helen Sutkowski of Portland; aunt, Margaret "Sissy" (Greaves) Millott of Middletown; as well as numerous cousins. Richie was well loved by his family and friends from Connecticut to New Mexico.

A graduate of Portland High School Class of 1974, Richie worked for Electric Boat in Groton, the Connecticut Laborers Union, worked as a powder coater at Essex Motor Sports and retired from Smith & Wesson Gun Manufacturer in Essex. Richie was a connoisseur of food and loved sharing a good meal with family and friends. Richie also had several hobbies including rock/gem collecting, an avid firearms enthusiast, and ardent motorcycle rider and collector, and a well-known herbalist. Richie shared his loveable self by portraying Santa Claus for the Espanola Fire Department/community center for the past two Christmas celebrations for the local residents.

The Tine/Greaves family would like to thank the medical and nursing staff of the Presbyterian Hospital Albuquerque, N.M., for their compassionate care in Richie's final days.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation in Richie's memory to the charity of the donor's choice. Funeral services will be held in Vallecitos and Connecticut at a date to be determined.

The Greaves Family has entrusted their loved one's final arrangements to Rivera Family Funerals and Cremations of Espanola, N.M.

## Hebron

### Robert Griffin

Robert "Skip" Griffin, 80, of Hebron, formerly of Salem, passed away peacefully Friday, April 24, 2020, at Bride Brook Health and Rehabilitation Center in Niantic. Born Sept. 23, 1939, in Hebron, he was the ninth of 11 children of the late William and Ellen (Olin) Griffin.



Skip proudly served our nation by enlisting in the United States Marines. After his service, he worked as a professional truck driver for the Teamsters Local 493. Skip was also a former member of the Yesteryear of Oakdale car club, Willimantic Elks, American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, Hebron Lions Club, and Hebron Senior Center. He enjoyed watching local sports teams, the Patriots, Yankees and UConn basketball teams and his favorite pastime was playing blackjack at the casino. However, his greatest joy came from spending time with his grandchildren.

Skip was predeceased by his loving companion, Jean Ann Schreiner. Skip will be forever loved and remembered by his son, Robert (Paula) Griffin II of Nazareth, Pa.; daughter, Lori Griffin Cannon of New London; and his stepson, John (Sue) Schreiner of Andover; his seven grandchildren, Ryan, Megan, Ryan, Raven, Kathy (Cassie and Katie), and McKayla; and numerous extended family and friends.

Robert's family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the staff at Bride Brook Health and Rehabilitation Center for all of their compassionate care over the years.

Memorial services, with military honors, will be held Sunday, June 20, at 11 a.m., at the Salem Green Cemetery in Salem.

The Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home of Colchester has been entrusted with care of arrangements. For online condolences, please visit [www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com](http://www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com).

## East Hampton

### Lloyd Thomas Boutilier

The world lost a great man in the passing of Lloyd Thomas Boutilier of East Hampton, formerly of Manchester, on Monday, June 14.



Lloyd was born in Houlton, Maine, on Aug. 2, 1947, and was the husband, best friend and soulmate of Laura Robb Boutilier. He also was the proud father to Lindsey (wife Amy) and Leland (wife Melissa) who will carry on his legacy. His best role was that of "Bubba" to his five grandchildren, Stella, Elle, Landen, Maxton and Boden, and special four-legged friend Sunny.

Lloyd was predeceased by his parents, Lloyd and Mary Boutilier; sister, MaryAnn; and brother, Brion. He is survived by a special sister, Denise Perri; sister, Stephanie Letendre; brother, Miles Boutilier; and numerous other close family members and friends.

Lloyd lived life to the fullest, enjoying his boat on Lake Pocotopaug in his later years or golfing playing softball, coaching or umpiring in his younger years. Lloyd was a 1965 graduate of East Catholic High School and served in the Connecticut National Guard. He owned numerous restaurants in the Manchester area, most notably Sunny Side Up and Gus's. Lloyd was passionate about family and friends, had a great wit and a sometimes-sarcastic sense of humor and was fortunate to call many his friend. He took great pride in helping others, whether family, friend or a stranger. Lloyd and Laura celebrated their 50th anniversary in 2019, having grown up together since their early teens.

In spite of cardiac issues and dementia, Lloyd maintained his wit and desire to "do something" through his decline. Many friends and family members own a "pallet project" made by Bubba.

Lloyd will be greatly missed by all who knew him for his generosity, giving spirit and love and dedication to family. He was one of a kind who now joins his family in heaven and leaves

behind a hole in the hearts of many.

A Mass and celebration of life will be held Monday, Aug. 2, at Saint John Fisher Church in Marlborough. Tribute donations may be made to Alzheimer's Association at [Alz.org](http://Alz.org).

Spencer Funeral Home in East Hampton is in charge of arrangements. To leave online condolences, please visit [www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com](http://www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com).

## Colchester

### Jessica Lynn Minney

Jessica Lynn Minney, 38, of Colchester, formerly of Hebron, passed away Tuesday, June 8. Jessica lost her hard-fought battle at home with her beloved son, Cameron Isaiah, and her parents, Fred and Ava Minney, by her side.



Jessica left this earth to join her brother, Grayson Paul Minney, who lost his life May 11, 2013. She loved him and his music he wrote and played with his band, Columbia Fields.

Jessica was an animal lover and rescued numerous cats and dogs to give them love and a second chance. Jessica had a huge heart and would help anyone in need.

Jessica was employed in management at United Parcel Service for many years. Even during her illness she tried to work a bit, due to her dedication to coworkers and company. That is a rare character trait today.

Jessica will be sorely missed by family, friends, UPS and the world. God will reunite us one day.

Special thanks to Hartford Healthcare at Home. Their hospice unit help at home was invaluable for us caring for Jessica in her final days. God bless hospice nurses.

Final arrangements are private but there will be a celebration of life event to come soon. Jessica will be laid to rest next to Grayson in the family plot at New Hebron Cemetery.

East Hampton • East Hampton

## Belltown Open Golf Tournament

The Congregational Church of East Hampton is seeking sponsors and golfers for the 15th annual Belltown Open Golf Tournament.

The tournament will be held Tuesday, Aug. 3, at the Blackledge Country Club in Hebron. Proceeds will benefit the East Hampton Food & Fuel Bank. Cost is \$125/golfer for the four-person scramble event that includes cart, breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

To register, contact John Tuttle at [tuttlekahn@gamil.com](mailto:tuttlekahn@gamil.com).

## Athletic Hall of Fame Nominations

The East Hampton Athletic Hall of Fame is accepting nominations through Sept. 15 for its 2021 induction class. The Hall of Fame recognizes people and teams that have "made a significant impact to the athletic landscape of East Hampton."

The induction banquet will be Friday, Nov. 5, at Blackledge Country Club in Hebron. For more information or to submit a nomination, email Tom Seidl at [seidlt@sbcglobal.net](mailto:seidlt@sbcglobal.net).

## Haddam Neck Fair to Return

The Haddam Neck Fair will take place over Labor Day weekend, opening Friday, Sept. 3.

Traditional events will include cattle and beef shows, oxen and tractor pulls, a baby show and even a dog agility competition. There will also be favorites like the skillet-throwing, redneck strongman and beard contests, as well as more traditional contests like baking and quilting.

There will also be a variety of events for children, live music Friday, Saturday and Sunday, and a 5K road race Sunday morning. Rides, concessions, fair food, and a general store featuring items made by Haddam Neckers, will also be featured.

The fair will abide by any COVID-19 regulations in effect at the time. Additional information is available at [haddamneckfair.com](http://haddamneckfair.com).

## Volunteers Sought to Serve

The town continues to look for volunteers to serve on various boards, commissions and agencies. Groups with vacancies for either full members or alternates are:

Arts & Culture Commission, Clean Energy Task Force, Conservation-Lake Commission, Design Review Board, Ethics Commission, Inland Wetlands Watercourses Agency, Library Advisory Board, Middle Haddam Historic District Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals.

Applications are available in the Town Manager's Office at 1 Community Drive or at [www.easthamptonct.gov/home/pages/volunteers-needed](http://www.easthamptonct.gov/home/pages/volunteers-needed).

## Epoch Arts Summer Session

Epoch Arts is bringing back its in-person summer session in July; this year there will be two weeks of offerings, based on ages: July 19-23 for grades pre-K-5, and July 26-30 for grades 6-10.

Both sessions will feature breaks in outdoor classrooms. Class sizes will be small, social distancing regulations will be followed and masks are required. Classes are held at 27 Skinner St.

Space is limited. For full details and to register, visit [www.epocharts.org/classes-registration](http://www.epocharts.org/classes-registration).



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Charges apply for obituaries of persons who were not residents. Contact the advertising director at (860) 633-4691 for rates.



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★ *letters cont. from page 5*

to bring their young children. What a lesson on how to bully people to get what they want! In 52 years, I can't remember such disrespectful displays from some parents and a couple of board members, but their bullying paid off with another budget increase. If it passes, our mill rate will increase from 35.61 to 36.67, more than one mill. In her letter last week, Joanne Hebert explained how the revaluation will affect most homeowners. Real estate prices are very high now and the increased assessments on the October 2021 grand list will be the value in effect for 10 years. If you think the mill rate will go down in those 10 years, think again.

You don't appease a bully by giving in. Ms. Loudon made the point that the school was well taken care of, but the town was not. Where does she think the money came from to keep the school in good repair? The superintendent responsible for overseeing that was Andy Manegia and before Ms. Loudon's time on the BOE. He always worked with the Board of Finance, breaking down all items in the budget for full transparency. He also applied for grants and would return money of budgeted items covered by the grants, to the town. We were able to use that money in a future year, to offset a mil rate increase.

I sympathize with the Board of Finance, but please vote 'no' on the budget. Don't be bullied.

**Respectfully submitted,  
Georgette Conrad – Andover**

**Let's Replant!**

To the Editor:

Over the last few decades, Colchester has steadily lost some of our most important resources, our trees. Drive or walk along our streets and sidewalks and you will realize that many great trees are gone due to disease, interference with power lines, or old age. Around 1850, our town government planted hundreds of gracious elm trees around the Town Green and throughout the downtown area. Unfortunately, due to hurricanes and Dutch elm disease, most of these have died, were cut down and never replanted. Now our ash trees are dying or are threatened by the emerald ash borer, which is killing this wonderful species at an alarming rate.

Imagine if we could initiate a movement to join together and better our town with a new generation of trees. As citizens, families, organizations and local government we can mobilize and begin to replant. In a short while we would see our investment in our town's future pay dividends, just imagine the rewards. Perhaps this will be the seed that begins the growth.

Don't say we can't; let's replant!

**Sincerely,  
Arthur S. Liverant – Colchester**

**Thank You, Portland!**

To the Editor:

A big thank you to everyone who came out this past Saturday to our campaign kickoff event. To say that it was a success would be an understatement as it was great to see so many new and familiar faces.

It was an honor to introduce the RTC slate of candidates for the Board of Selectmen, Board of Education, and Board of Assessment Appeals. Also thank you to all of the people who volunteered their time to help. This event would not have been possible without the support of a lot of amazing people.

In case you missed it, we'll be planning many more events soon!

**Ryan Curley  
Candidate for First Selectman  
and Vice Chair of the Portland RTC**

**Free Outdoor Concert**

To the Editor:

As a member of the East Hampton Lions Club, I am excited that we have a wonderful opportunity for the residents of our town, and surrounding towns, to be able to attend a free outdoor band concert by the United States Coast Guard Academy on Monday evening, June 21, at 6 p.m., at East Hampton High School, 15 N. Maple St. Tickets are not required. There will be plenty of seats set up on the field behind the school. We particularly welcome all veterans and seniors from East Hampton and surrounding towns as well.

There's nothing to bring except yourselves; it's handicapped-accessible. We're just looking to fill all the seats and show our appreciation for this opportunity to enjoy a wonderful evening of great music. I guarantee you will not be disappointed. No alcohol is permitted on school property and, if possible, please carpool.

**Donna Marsden, member  
East Hampton Lions Club**

**Band Concert**

To the Editor:

Come enjoy a free concert by the United States Coast Guard Band on Monday, June 21, at 6 p.m., at the East Hampton High School. All are welcome.

**Sandy Giordano, President  
East Hampton Lions Club**

**Colchester Senior Center**

To the Editor:

I am delighted to know that the Colchester Senior Center is going to be moving to their own, new building. Planning is underway. The senior center certainly needs the space with 1,390 members.

I am a member of the senior center but I'm not a regular. If I try to remember all we participated in, it actually turns out to be an interesting variety. I have enjoyed the program selection both in person and virtually, during the pandemic.

Patty, Susan and Ruth show us they enjoy their work.

In spite of my irregular attendance, the staff knows me and my husband Neal by name, always with a smile. They even know my daughter Rachel, who lives in a group home in Manchester.

Whether you are a senior or not I'm sure you feel part of this important organization, while keeping track of the building's progress.

**Dorothy Alderman – Colchester**

**Legalizing Marijuana**

To the Editor:

I am totally against legalizing Marijuana in any way, shape or form. I also find it very hard to believe that over 50 per cent of those participating in a recent survey are in favor of this bill, unless the survey was taken in a prison, on a college campus or another location where pot smokers are likely to congregate. Surveys can differ greatly depending on where they are taken.

Legalizing marijuana could lead to legalizing other drugs in the future. That could result in a large increase in fatal drug overdoses. Is this how we want to raise our children?

Another fault of this bill is that it only allows people with low incomes to sell it. Those with good incomes are not allowed to sell this! I remember reading somewhere, a phrase, "with liberty and justice for all." Maybe we should have our legislators change that to "with liberty and justice for some."

**Frank Blume – Colchester**

**Pasta Dinner Thanks**

To the Editor:

The Tri-County American Legion baseball program would like to extend its appreciation to all of those who volunteered their time and expertise to make our drive-thru pasta dinner fundraiser on June 12 an overwhelming success.

In a two-hour period, the amazing group served up more than 150 meals from Marlborough Post 197 with virtually zero wait time for our customers.

Thanks to all members of the American Legion family, including the American Legion Auxiliary and the Sons of the American Legion – and specifically the following individuals who went above and beyond in their efforts: Chef Jerry Poulin, Michael Wood, Elliot Dodge, Raymond Theobald, Ralph Braun, Paul Spedaliere, Charles "Chip" Seagrave III, Corinne Seagrave, Sadie Seagrave and Calleigh Seagrave.

Finally, I'll use this opportunity to invite all baseball lovers to come out and catch a Legion game or two this summer. Check out our schedule at [www.tcleion.com](http://www.tcleion.com) and come watch the local players in action.

**Len Lampugnale  
General Manager  
Tri-County American Legion Baseball**

**A Great Resource**

To the Editor:

I have lived in Colchester for the past 19 years and joined the Colchester Senior Center when I retired five years ago. At that time I joined a pinochle group and enjoyed weekly meetings with this group until the pandemic hit. I found my time with this group most rewarding.

I also found the Senior Center had a lot more to offer and have since taken advantage of bus trips, topical presentations, income tax preparation through AARP, and even had my COVID-19 vaccine coordinated by them in town so I did not have to drive far away to get vaccinated.

Colchester's senior center has been a great resource for its elderly and is committed to keeping seniors informed and provide them with activities, programs and transportation.

**Tom Czaja – Colchester**

**DOJ**

To the Editor:

DOJ under Trump subpoenaed metadata on 73 phone numbers and 36 email addresses from Apple, and then gave Apple executives a gag order to keep it all quiet. The department sent a broad request in February 2018 as part of its investigation that collected data on members of Congress, staffers and their families. This started in Sessions' tenure, was renewed three times, spanning Whitaker and then Barr. Data for Reps. Schiff and Swalwell were among the targeted and they both are on the House Intel Committee (*New York Times*, MSN, NBC, CNN, Fox).

This is Watergate on steroids.

**Annie Steinbrecher – Marlborough**

**Separate Entities**

To the Editor:

Recent articles in the *Rivereast* regarding the Town of East Hampton's budget proposals have mentioned the inclusion of a line item to fund a 19.5-hour, part-time position for a deputy fire marshal. The justification for this position, provided by town officials in earlier budgetary hearings, was due to "the fire department has trouble meeting routine inspections of commercial and multi-family buildings."

As a point of clarification, the Office of the Fire Marshal and the East Hampton Volunteer Fire Department are two separate and distinct entities, and the responsibility for conducting code inspections of the properties noted above resides within the Office of the Fire Marshal, not the Fire Department. Although the organizations work closely together, legal and ethical considerations require an "arms-length" relationship be maintained between the two in order to protect the integrity of fire investigations and code enforcement activities.

With the recent passage of the current budget, the office of the fire marshal will now consist of a fire marshal, a deputy fire marshal and an administrative assistant, all of which are paid, albeit part-time, positions. In contrast, the East Hampton Volunteer Fire Department is a 100% volunteer organization and no member – chiefs, line and administrative officers or firefighters – is compensated for their service to the town on a salaried, hourly or per diem basis.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Respectfully,  
James J. Burke  
Public Information Officer  
East Hampton Volunteer Fire Department**

**Pass Andover's Budget!**

To the Editor:

Please vote 'yes' to approve of Andover's town budget on Tuesday, June 22! After five months of haranguing and divisiveness, let's come together to pass our budget and allow the Town to move forward.

The town's budget includes: the RHAM Board of Education's (BOE's) budget in the amount requested by the RHAM BOE; and the town's and the Andover BOE's budgets in amounts that the Board of Selectmen, the town administrator, and the Board of Education have indicated they can make work during the 2021-22 fiscal year.

It's time that we pass Andover's town budget and start working together. Vote 'yes' to approve of the budget on Tuesday, June 22! Thank you for your consideration.

**Sincerely,  
Shannon O. Loudon, Esquire  
Andover**

*Note: Loudon is a member of the Andover Board of Education, but said she is writing as an individual.*

**Why New Senior Center?**

To the Editor:

Why does Colchester need a new senior center that will be used by both seniors and the community?

The newest town building will be a new senior center and will add to the existing Town Hall campus. It's a building designed to meet senior needs and senior programming but also provide an incredible after-hours community space with one-third of the building devoted to community use. In 2030, the Colchester Plan of Conservation and Development estimates that 40% of Colchester will be 55 and older, and this facility will meet that growing population. Here is why we need a new senior center:

The current building was built in 1871 and was used as a Bacon Academy school. Expansion for growth, programming, activities and outreach are now prohibitive. A new center will provide independence and social engagement to older adults through a broad mix of programs,

services, activities and amenities. A state-of-the-art 14,650-square-foot facility is proposed with a creative arts and crafts room, game room, library/computer room and community meeting space that can accommodate up to 300 people, a fitness center, a commercial kitchen, and outdoor gathering space to be used by all. There will be a large foyer and community space for social events, youth activities, guest lectures, community-based meetings, entertainment and cultural events on evenings and weekends. Please support our new senior center. The referendum is scheduled for Sept. 23.

**Marge Mlodzinski – Colchester**

*Note: Mlodzinski is chair of the Commission on Aging and a member of the Senior Center Building Committee, but said she is speaking as an individual.*

**Very Thankful**

To the Editor:

The Knights of Columbus are very thankful for the local business that supported our 2019 Knights of Columbus Memorial Car Show. Please consider patronizing these fine establishments:

Tommy Lagana Family, The Bordonaro Family, All Ears Hearing Aid, Carl Guild & Associates, CFM Construction Corporation, Cisco Environmental, Island Cove Marina, Primary Landscaping, Snyder Civil Engineering, LLC, Spencer Funeral Home, Standard-Knapp, Inc., The Rossi Group, American Concrete Pumping Co., B & B Equipment, Bafumi Insurance Agency, LLC, Belltown Motors, Bergan Architectural Woodworking, Biega Funeral Home, Brownstone Bottle Shop, Cameron Plumbing and Heating, Cara Mia Skincare Studio, Classic Auto, Inc., Colla Signs, Connecticut Valley School of Music, Crouch & Lagana Memorials, CT Rental Center, D'Angelo Funeral Home, DEL Printing, Dufford Well Drilling & Pump Service, Frank Magnotta PE, Gildersleeve Spirit Shop, Gotta's Farm and Cider Mill, Grippo's, Henkels & McCoy Inc, Joe's Auto Electric, Keser's Flowers, Law Office Of Robert L. Curzan, Middletown Plate Glass, Midstate Tractor, Moore Brothers, Mustang Madness Motorsports, NAPA Auto Parts, Pizzeria DaVinci Cobalt, Portland Collision, Portland Electric, Portland Liquors, Portland Memorial Funeral Home, Portland Restaurant LLC, Precision Plastic Products, Quality Welding Service LLC, Rev Masters Auto Club, Savvy Swap Consignment, Symmetry Physical Therapy LLC, The Emanuele Practice, The Flood Law Firm LLC, The Law Offices of McHugh & Associates LLC, Wrang Builders, Yankee Optical, Your Dairy Queen, Portland CT.

Joe Loban, the 2021 co-chair said, "We are very fortunate to have such community minded business to help support the Knights charitable efforts."

This year's show will be Friday, Sept. 17, in the parking lot of the Church of Saint Mary.

**Joseph Loban, Co-Chair  
Knights of Columbus Memorial Car Show**

**Announces BOS Candidacy**

To the Editor:

I am very excited to announce my candidacy for the Portland Board of Selectmen. I have had the opportunity over the last three and a half years to serve on the Portland Library Board of Directors, most recently as co-chair, and for the last two and a half years on the Board of Education. My time on the Board of Ed, particularly through the pandemic, has been challenging, meaningful, and personally fulfilling. Through my work on these boards I have discovered just how much I love serving the families in our community, and I see an opportunity here to broaden my perspective and support the important and ongoing work of growing our town into the kind of place that folks love to call home.

My husband Chris and I chose to make Portland our home: to buy a house, raise our three children, and grow our community here. Portland's future depends on others wanting to make that same choice. It depends on us continuing the work Susan Bransfield and many others have been doing for decades, on economic development, riverfront development, water affordability, and making the necessary investments in our public schools and community services. I want to continue to be a part of this work. Alongside Jim Tripp and our exceptional slate of BOS candidates, with our broad set of backgrounds and perspectives, I believe we can do a whole lot of good.

I look forward to connecting with my Portland neighbors through the summer and fall to hear what your ideas, concerns, and top priorities are for our community. Reach out any time: 860-398-9081.

**Laurel Steinhauser  
Candidate for Portland Board of Selectmen**

RHAM • RHAM

# Top Two Students Recall Unusual Senior Year

by Sloan Brewster

RHAM High School's valedictorian and salutatorian share an astrological sign and similar lessons from the pandemic.

Morgan Balesano, valedictorian, and Taryn Simon, salutatorian, are both 18-year-old Geminis from Hebron.

After missing a year of typical high school activities, they said they saw classmates sweaty and mask-free for the first time in a year on the packed dance floor at their senior prom on June 5.

It was an image of what a normal year would have looked like, they said.

At the beginning of the school year, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, learning was a mixture of hybrid and remote learning. Only in the past few months have students returned to the classroom full-time. All that remote and hybrid learning meant there were no pep rallies or standard daily fun.

Students were able to follow one annual tradition – sort of. Every August, before the school year starts, incoming seniors adorn a wall in the school with their names and handprints. This year, Simon said, students took on the custom in shifts with small groups doing their paint jobs in a limited amount of time to make sure everyone had a chance.

That was when the seniors realized this year would be different, Simon said.

It was a lonely time for students, Balesano and Simon said, especially during the holidays.

"I felt like I just wasn't bonding with anyone in the class and I just felt so isolated," Simon said.

Then, when school reopened for in-person studies on March 29, the school year felt like it had been split down the middle, with the early months feeling like they were cut off from the more recent months, Balesano said.

The girls said they felt there were some gaps in what they learned, especially last year, when the pandemic first started the state shutdown came unexpectedly with no chance to plan or prepare.

"I felt a lot was taken away," Balesano said.

Despite that, they said they also gained from the experience.

Simon said by "being thrown out there on your own to kind of teach yourself" she learned to be more of an independent learner. She said she feels better prepared for college and that successfully navigating the unusual schedules brought on by remote learning has had a positive impact on her.

"If I can get through this then I can get through anything," she said. "I just feel everything will be easier in comparison."

Balesano said by getting around the Zooms and Google Meets and still completing her homework, she honed her time-management skills.

Both Balesano and Simon have plans to attend the University of Connecticut next year.

Balesano plans to major in computer science and minor in math or statistics. She said she is as yet undecided what her future career may be, but said she plans to focus on cyber security.

Simon plans to major in the biological sciences and public health and will be going into pre-dental studies.

Balesano said her interest in computer science stems from classes in the subject by Gregory LaChance, whose passion inspired her own.

"It's been really great to have someone who wanted to learn the subject rather than just teach the curriculum," she said.

She said her love of math has been particularly guided by Patricia Dorman, with whom she said she has taken calculus classes this year.

"It's been great to have teachers who have stuck with the classes during COVID and done



**Taryn Simon, RHAM High School Class of 2021 salutatorian, and Morgan Balesano, class valedictorian, sat down with the *Rivereast* to share high school memories in the year of COVID-19.**

Reader Forum • Reader Forum • Reader Forum • Reader Forum • Reader Forum

## Safe Recreation

To the Editor:

With summer fast approaching, we begin to make plans for fun under the sun at the town parks. The following list serves as a reminder of the safety rules and regulations for swimming, boating and recreation at Lake Terramuggus and other town athletic fields.

General Rules: 1. The following items are strictly prohibited at all town parks and fields: use or sale of alcoholic beverages; operation of unauthorized motor vehicles; feeding or annoyance of wildlife; unauthorized camping; pets (except service animals); smoking; glass containers; firearms or weapons.

2. No mooring of boats or boats with engines greater than 3.3 horsepower.

3. Parking is restricted to designated areas and for use by town residents with a town parking sticker.

4. Beach closings may occur if one or more inches of rain have fallen within 24 hours.

5. Take out what you take in.

6. Open fires and cooking is restricted to designated areas with permission only.

7. One or more lifeguards may be on duty between Memorial Day until the end of the season.

8. Parks and athletic fields are open from dawn to dusk.

For a full list, please visit the Parks and Recreation link through the [www.marlbroughct.net](http://www.marlbroughct.net) homepage.

**Louise Concodello, member  
Marlborough Lake Advisory Commission**

## Monday Night Concert

To the Editor:

The East Hampton Lions Club is once again presenting the United States Coast Guard Band in concert Monday night, June 21. The concert is free and will begin at 6 p.m. in the back of the East Hampton High School. The United States Coast Guard Band is the premier band representing the United States Coast Guard. The band was established in 1925, has 55 members and is under the direction of Commander Alan Williamson. The band appears in Washington, DC, at presidential and cabinet level functions and once a year it undertakes national and international tours to promote the Coast Guard.

Monday night's concert will include stirring patriotic favorites, virtuosic concert band classics and swinging Dixieland Jazz. A special thank you to the East Hampton Public Schools and the East Hampton Police Department for their assistance. This is an event you will not want to miss. What a way for you and our family to kick off the summer season. Hope to see you at the concert.

**Kevin M. Reich – East Hampton**

## Who Jesus Is

To the Editor:

I'm responding to Joe Stevens' letter of June 11 in which Stevens misses the whole point of who Jesus is (having risen from the dead he's still alive!), and why he came to Earth. It's all spelled out in Jesus's mission statement in the New Testament Gospel of John:

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16 ESV)

The following refute Stevens' attempts to press Jesus into his Progressive suppositions:

Jesus was not an immigrant. He lived entirely in lands under Roman rule. Neither was he homeless. He lived with family before beginning his public ministry at age 30, after which his was a nomadic existence which does not meet the definition of homelessness.

Jesus was not an anti-capitalist. His parable about the talents encouraged financial investment.

Jesus's refusal to stone the woman caught in adultery was about sinners condemning sin, not anti-death penalty.

Jesus did not say wealth was wrong, but condemned the love of money above God, others, and everything else.

That Jesus held life in high regard is evidenced by his saying "greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends."

Jesus believed that marriage should only be between a man and a woman. (Matthew 19:4-6).

In summary, Jesus did not come to our world to be a political prop for the right or the left, but to die on the cross, to provide salvation for our sins. His resurrection on the third day validated who he said he was and his earthly mission.

**Allan Wick – East Hampton**

## ADVERTISERS

*The Glastonbury Citizen and Rivereast News Bulletin* will make every effort to see that all advertising copy is correctly printed. The publisher assumes no liability or financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertising, but will reprint, without charge, that part of an advertisement in which an error may occur, provided that a claim is made within 5 days of publication. The liability of the publisher on account of errors in or omissions from any advertisement will in no way exceed the amount of the charge for the space occupied by the item in error, and then only for the first incorrect insertion. Also, the publisher takes no responsibility for statements or claims made in any advertisement, and will upon request, reveal the name and address of the person or persons responsible for placing any display advertisement, political or otherwise, except for "blind" box ads. The Glastonbury Citizen Inc. reserves the right to reject advertisements which it deems unsuitable for its publications. Every effort will be made to verify the legitimacy and propriety of all ads for the protection of our readers. *The Citizen* will take requests for specific placement of ads and will try to accommodate everyone's requests. *The Citizen* cannot guarantee specific placement.

everything they can to make things go as smoothly as possible," she said.

Simon said she could not choose a favorite teacher because "everyone I've had at RHAM has been so amazing," but she said Kristin Spinelli and Alexa Mitchell made her "fall in love" with biology through "hands-on learning" infused with "their passion for the subject" and "real-world application."

"One of the coolest" in-class memories from senior year was when her biology teacher got an email that a past student was working on a COVID-19 vaccine.

"She was like, 'Oh my gosh, I had him a few years ago, this is crazy,'" Simon said.

As the students read about what that graduate was doing, Simon said she realized it was some of the same things they were doing in the lab. Realizing science translates to solving actual real-world problems, he said, sparked an excitement to do research and lab work in college and got her jazzed for her field of study.

Balesano said she didn't have any specific anecdotes about senior year but that she enjoyed seeing a different side to teachers and fellow students through remote learning and seeing people at home.

"It was really nice to see teachers' pets [and] see that they have a life outside of school like we

do," she said. "It made the year more fun seeing little things like that."

She said she has also learned to stay more connected with people and not simply focus on schoolwork. She said she plans to carry the lesson with her and apply it to her life and the relationships she has.

The girls shared pandemic memories including sitting around bonfires, socially distanced and catching up with friends or walking on trails or sitting at parks and reconnecting with people.

"I remember what was exciting was the first time my mom let me leave the house and we all went around the bonfire at my friend's house and we all talked about where we were going to go to college," Simon said.

Balesano said, when she met with friends, the nice thing wasn't just meeting up again but also being out.

"It was really nice to see what things used to be like and what we took for granted," she said.

Balesano and Simon said they were grateful for everything they have experienced at RHAM and for how things ended up as they head into college next year.

*The RHAM High School Class of 2021 graduation ceremony is today, June 18, at 6 p.m., in the field behind the high school.*

## AHM Family Resource Center Offerings

AHM Youth and Family Services is offering a variety of summer activities, including Summer Youth Theater, CHOREs for seniors, and the following Family Resource Center activities:

**Play and Learn Groups:** A new six-week session starts in June. Choose from inside at Gil-ead Hill School in Hebron or outside at Veterans Memorial Park. These groups are for families or caregivers with children ages birth-5 from Andover, Hebron and Marlborough. They will be held for one hour each week. During the groups, children can participate in art projects, play, and have circle time with songs and stories.

Inside classes will be Tuesdays, June 22-Aug. 3; no session July 20. Families can choose from 9-10 a.m. or 10:30-11:30 a.m. Masks are required for children ages 3 and older and all adults. Outside classes will be Wednesdays, June 23-Aug. 4, from 10:30-11:30 a.m.; no session July 21. Rain dates are Thursdays.

Fee for either group is \$35 per family for the six-week session. Register online at [ahmyouth.org/programs-services/family-resource-center](http://ahmyouth.org/programs-services/family-resource-center).

**Summer First Steps in Music:** At Burnt

Hill Park in Hebron. This program is for children ages birth-5 and parents or caregivers. The program includes singing, dancing, movement games, and instruments. Two three-week sessions will be held: Session 1 will be Fridays, June 25-July 9, from 9:30-10:15 a.m., and Session 2 will be Fridays, July 30-Aug. 13, from 9:30-10:15 a.m. Rain dates will be Mondays.

Fee is \$45 per family. Register online at [ahmyouth.org/first-steps-in-music-registration](http://ahmyouth.org/first-steps-in-music-registration).

Contact Becky at 860-573-1260 or [beckym@ahmyouth.org](mailto:beckym@ahmyouth.org) or Jahanna at 860-819-4620 or [jahannas@ahmyouth.org](mailto:jahannas@ahmyouth.org), for more information about any of the Family Resource Center programs.

## Schools to Provide Summer Meals

The RHAM middle and high schools will work with the Hebron elementary schools to provide summer meals to families.

Meals continue to be free to children ages 18 years and younger throughout the summer months. Meals will be distributed at RHAM High School's loading dock on Mondays and Wednesdays from 8-9 a.m., starting June 21 and ending Aug. 30. Parents/guardians should check their email for a weekly sign-up form.

For more information, contact Kate Caselli at [kathleen.caselli@rhamschools.org](mailto:kathleen.caselli@rhamschools.org) or 860-228-9474 ext. 3710.

## Tennis Courts to Close

The RHAM tennis courts will be closed for maintenance June 21-25 (weather permitting). Check [www.rhamschools.org](http://www.rhamschools.org) for any additional updates.

Cover Story • Cover Story

★ Pastor cont. from page 1

bystanders shared memories of Esslinger.

Annette Langevin pulled out a scrapbook made two years ago for Esslinger's 20th anniversary and showed some photos of accomplishments the church has made since she became pastor.

In 2010, she inspired the building of the hall, which includes a gathering space and kitchen. The \$1 million note for the project was recently repaid, according to Ellis.

She founded a youth group that has gone on missions and done outreach projects, including a yearly tradition of sleeping in cardboard boxes in the cold to learn about and increase awareness of homelessness.

An empathetic preacher, Esslinger "has stressed love in everything" and asks her congregation to put themselves in other peoples' shoes, Ellis said.

In 2002, Esslinger brought about the church's first refugee sponsorship and since then the church has sponsored other families, including one that stopped by to say farewell Sunday, hugging her and thanking her for all she has done.

"She challenged our congregation to do further outreach and take on something that was out of our comfort zone and it was; it was out of our comfort zone," Annette Langevin said of the sponsorships.

"The church has become open and affirming and that was something where we had to do a lot of soul searching," Ellis added.

There was even a story in which Esslinger "full-on kissed" a cow for a fundraiser for the church's youth group "Christians Outreaching with Service [COWS], which now has T-shirts with pictures of cows.

Membership at the church has grown in the decades Esslinger has led it as well, Annette Langevin said.

Currently the church has 432 members and in 1988 there were approximately 180, Esslinger said.

"She brings the church services literally alive," Stewart said.

Esslinger also started the tradition of the blessing of pets, a consequence of which has been cats, dogs, a duck and a snake making appearances in the sanctuary, Stewart said.

The snake story was among those in the roast and came with a slithery surprise, a stuffed snake that Esslinger proudly wrapped around her neck as she laughed at the recollection of her fear of snakes and Bruce Langevin's musing over whether the pastor actually touched the live creature at the time of the blessing.

Participation in church has increased even more since the onset of COVID-19, which put

services online and drew in folks from all over the country, Stewart said.

On Easter Sunday, April 4, in-person services resumed, Esslinger said.

Services are still filmed and posted online, however, Stewart said.

Esslinger's husband, Phil Parizeau - who has been a Sunday School teacher for 30 years - said Esslinger wanted to depart the congregation on a high note, "when she was on her game." The showing at her bon voyage was an indication she accomplished that goal, he added.

"It's a hard job," Parizeau said. "Until you're married to a pastor you don't get it."

He recalled "at least five" vacations when someone from the congregation passed away and Esslinger insisted on returning home to be there for the grieving family. There were myriad times when the phone would ring at 4 a.m. and they would rush off to the hospital without grabbing a cup of coffee, he said.

Jan Andrews, longtime church member, who was on the search committee that found Esslinger and is on the committee seeking her replacement, described her as "loving, caring (and) inspirational."

Esslinger on Tuesday said she was overwhelmed by the celebration, "Oh my gosh, it was fabulous."

Reiterating what her husband and other commenters had told the *Rivereast* about leaving when the church was in a strong position, she said it was time to let the congregation find a new leader more cognoscente of technology as that appears to be the wave of the future and, she said, is not her strength.

"I just came to the understanding that it's time for this wonderful church to have a new leader that has those gifts," she said. "That's part of being a leader."

While it will be hard to let go, she said, it has been an honor to serve the church and Hebron community and she hopes to leave it for someone who will help "move to a place in God's future."

Ordained 25 years ago, and in the ministry for a couple years before that, Esslinger said faith has always been a part of her life and that her father was also a minister. She said he planted seeds in her that she was gifted in the family vocation.

Still, Esslinger didn't start out following in her father's footsteps. She worked for advertising agencies in New York City and Philadelphia for five years before succumbing to "that unsettled feeling" and following her calling, which



The Rev. Denise Esslinger received a stuffed snake during a roast at her farewell party Sunday and wrapped the creature around her neck, laughing as a story of her fear of snakes was retold by emcee Bruce Langevin. Annette Langevin, the church's party planner who organized the bash, is also on stage.

she said "has been the right path."

"I needed to do something else in my life," she said. "I started exploring ministry."

She envisioned herself in an urban setting, however.

"I never ever thought I would be serving a church in a small town," she said. "Just sometimes I think God takes us places we never imagined."

She and Parizeau will be moving from the church house in Hebron to their house in Woodstock and spending time with family, including

their three grandchildren. They plan to make no commitments for a couple of months "just to take a breath and see where God leads," Esslinger said.

One of the gifts the community gave at the party was for Parizeau - a hat printed with the words "Will somebody please tell my wife I'm retired." According to Bruce Langevin, the hat came with a promise from Esslinger that Parizeau could use it to get out of one commitment per day but he warned that may not last.

LEGALS

LEGAL NOTICE MARLBOROUGH ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS NOTICE OF ACTION. The Marlborough Zoning Board of Appeals at its meeting on Wednesday June 09, 2021 took the following action: APPLICATION DENIED WITHOUT PREJUDICE: APPLICATION #ZBA-3-21 - Lea Georgiades (applicant)/Diana Lucek (property owner) 19 Edstrom 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 D. 2.a Front Yard Setback, in order to construct a porch on a single family house with a Front Yard Setback of 26 feet where 50 feet is required. Alan Miller/ ZBA Chair Dated at Marlborough, CT this 14th day of June. 1TB 6/18

LIQUOR PERMIT Notice of Application. This is to give notice that, I, CHRISTOPHER D OZMUN, 44 SASHEL LN COLCHESTER, CT 06415-2055 Have filed an application placarded 06/09/2021 with the Department of Consumer Protection for a RESTAURANT WINE & BEER PERMIT for the sale of alcoholic liquor on the premises at: 43 HAYWARD AVE COLCHESTER, CT 06415 The business will be owned by: OZNBONES BBQ LLC Entertainment will consist of: No Live Entertainment Objections must be filed by: 07-21-2021 CHRISTOPHER D OZMUN 2TB 6/11, 6/18

TOWN OF COLCHESTER COLCHESTER CONSERVATION COMMISSION NOTICE OF DECISION. At the regular meeting of the Colchester Conservation Commission held on Wednesday, June 9, 2021, the following action was taken: W2021-3062 - 115 Windham Avenue, Michael Rogers Jr. - Owner/ Applicant, Assessor's Map 27-00 Lot 013-000, proposed property improvements within wetland regulated areas. -Approved W2021-3063 - 59 Cato Corner Road - Donald Dubois - Applicant, Paula Jervasi - Owner, Assessor's Map 4W-09 Lot 019 - 002, Request for Declaratory Ruling - Proposed Timber Harvest -Declaratory Ruling Respectfully Submitted, Falk von Plachecki, Chairman 1TB 6/18

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF MARLBOROUGH WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY Notice of Action. The Marlborough Water Pollution Control Authority Control Commission at its meeting of June 10, 2021 took the following action: Approved the FY21-22 O & M Budget, EDU Allocation and Fee Schedule. Dated at Marlborough, Connecticut this 15th day of June. MARLBOROUGH WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY John A. Murray, Chair 1TB 6/18

Town of East Hampton 20 East High Street East Hampton, CT 06424 LEGAL NOTICE. The following proposed water use rates or changes for owners of properties connected to the Village Center and Royal Oaks Water System were unanimously adopted by the Town Council at their regular scheduled meeting of June 8, 2021. Effective July 15, 2021. A. Water Billing Schedule 1. Monthly; if not paid within 30 days, such charges shall bear interest from due date at the interest rate charged for delinquent taxes. B. Water Use and Meter Charges 1. Monthly Meter Charge a. \$40.00/EMU (5/8" meter) b. larger meters incur a multiple of \$40.00/EMU 2. Commodity Charge: a. \$11.50/1000 gallons Town Council Pete Brown, Chairman Dean Markham, Vice Chairman Tim Feegel Derek Johnson Barbara Moore Mark Philhower Kevin Reich Dated on this day June 8, 2021 The 2021/22 budget of \$233,712.00 will not require an increase in water commodity rates. 1TB 6/18

LEGAL NOTICE BOARD OF SELECTMEN PUBLIC HEARING TOWN HALL July 6, 2021 6:00 P.M. The legal votes of the Town of Marlborough and those eligible to vote at Town Meetings, are hereby notified and warned that a Public Hearing will be held at the Marlborough Town Hall, 26 North Main Street, Conference Room, Tuesday, July 6, 2021 at 6:00 P.M. to hear comments and discuss the following: Amendment to Town Ordinance A.5.1 Penalties for Violations of Certain Land Use Regulations Proposed changes are available in the office of the Town Clerk or on the Town website www.marlbroughct.net. Dated at Marlborough, Connecticut, this 11th day of June 2021. Gregory Lowrey, First Selectman Joseph Asklar, Selectman Amy Traversa, Selectman 2TB 6/18, 6/25

TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON LEGAL NOTICE. Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Board of Appeals held a Regular Meeting at 7 pm on June 14, 2021 via Virtual Meeting (Zoom), to consider the following: Application ZBA-21-006, Michael Epright, Esq., 145 Main St., to reduce the side setback from 25' to 10' and to increase the lot coverage from 10% to 12.64% to construct a 24' x 36' accessory building with detached garage Map 6A/Block 56/Lot 27. - Approved Application ZBA-21-007, Philip Healey, 63 Skyline Drive, to increase the lot coverage from 10% to 12% for a 420 SF pool and 592 SF deck Map 18/Block 44/Lot 48 - Approved Matthew Walton, Chairman 1TB 6/18

TOWN OF PORTLAND ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING. Notice is hereby given that the Portland Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, June 24, 2021 at a meeting to start at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom to consider the following: Application #20-05: 54 Lake Road. Request for a variance to Zoning Regulation Table 4.2.1 to locate a 14 foot by 24 foot accessory building 7 feet from the front yard where 50 feet is required. Application and property of Norman Ward. Assessor's Map 26, Lot 41. Zone RR. 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 9th day of June 2021. Rose Aletta, Chairwoman 2TB 6/11, 6/18

LEGAL NOTICE MARLBOROUGH ZONING COMMISSION NOTICE OF ACTION. The Marlborough Zoning Commission at its meeting of June 3 2021, took the following action: APPLICATIONS CONTINUED; PUBLIC HEARINGS SCHEDULED: Application #Z-04-21 -Special Permit - Bill G. Jonbalaj (Applicant) 21 Austin - HGB LLC (Property Owner) - South Main Street (Between 11 & 19 South Main Street) & Johnson Road - Village Cluster Residential Planned Development. A public hearing is scheduled for July 8, 2021 at 7pm. Application #Z-07-21 - OM Village, LLC (Applicant) - Text Amendment - article 7A.F.e lot coverage. A public hearing is scheduled for July 8, 2021 at 7pm. Application #Z-08-21 - Special Permit - Raymond Snarski (Applicant/Property Owner) - 30 Gina Ln - Family Cemetery. A public hearing is scheduled for July 8, 2021 at 7pm. Application #Z-09-21 - Special Permit - Dwight Merriman (Big Y Real Estate) / M3-5 LLC (Applicant/Property Owner) - 3-5 E Hampton Rd - Increase seasonal merchandise on exterior. A public hearing is scheduled for July 8, 2021 at 7pm. Application #Z-10-21 - Special Permit - Big Y Fuel (applicant)/ OM Village LLC (property owner) Convenience Store/Fuel Station - 1 South Main Street. A public hearing is scheduled for July 8, 2021 at 7pm. PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULED: Lake Terramugus Overlay Zone. A public hearing is scheduled for August 12, 2021 at 7pm. KEVIN ASKLAR, ZONING COMMISSION CHAIR Dated at Marlborough, CT this 14th day of June. 1TB 6/18

LEGAL NOTICE Public Notice to Transportation Operators. The Town of Andover, CT is applying for a capital grant under Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities of the Federal Transit Act, as amended in the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST) legislation, to replace vehicles to be used in meeting the special transportation needs of seniors and / or individuals with disabilities in the Town of Andover and within a 35 mile radius. Any interested transit or paratransit operator in the proposed service area may review the proposed application by contacting: Eric Anderson - 17 School Road - Andover, CT 06232 or call 860-742-7305 extension 1. A Public Hearing will be held if requested by interested parties. Any comments should then be sent to: Town of Andover - 17 School Road - Andover, CT 06232 with a copy to the Capitol Region Council of Governments - 241 Main Street - 4th Floor - Hartford, CT 06106-5310. Comments must be received no later than seven (7) days following publication of this Legal Notice in the Rivereast on June 18, 2021. 2TB 6/18, 6/25

LEGAL NOTICE MARLBOROUGH CONSERVATION COMMISSION NOTICE OF ACTION. The Marlborough Conservation Commission at its meeting of June 7 2021, took the following action: APPLICATIONS CONTINUED; PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULED: Application #16-20 - Bill G. Jonbalaj (applicant) 21 Austin - HGB LLC (Property Owner) South Main Street (Between 11 & 19 South Main Street) & Johnson Road - Special Permit - Village Cluster Residential Planned Development. A public hearing is scheduled for July 7, 2021 at 7pm. Application #03-21 - Town of Marlborough (Applicant) - Park Rd - Reconstruction of boat launch. A Public Hearing is scheduled for July 7, 2021 at 7pm. APPLICATIONS CONTINUED; SITE WALKS SCHEDULED: Application #09-21 - Paul & Jennifer Badeau (property owner/ applicant) - 51 Lakeridge Dr. - Reconstruction & extension of stone wall 20ft at water line. The application has been continued to July 7, 2021 at 7pm. A site walk has been scheduled for July 7, 2021 at 6:30pm. Application #10-21 - Carl A. Castanho (property owner/applciant) - 77 Cheney Rd. - Proposed home reconstruction and addition with related site improvements. The application has been continued to July 7, 2021 at 7pm. A site walk has been scheduled for July 7, 2021 at 6:00pm. APPLICATION APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS: Application #06-21 - Hartford Building LLC / Ruth and Jesse Wagner (Applicant / Property Owner) - 25 Lakeridge Dr. - construct 10' x 19'10" seasonal cabana on lakefront property. Dated at Marlborough, CT this June 14, 2021. MARLBOROUGH CONSERVATION COMMISSION Yvonne Bolton, Chair 1TB 6/18

MIDDLE HADDAM HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION MEETING Thursday, June 24, 2021 6:30 pm at TOWN HALL LEGAL NOTICE. Public hearing will be held to consider the following: Application 555 for a Certificate of Appropriateness on Lot #5 Long Hill Road --- to construct a 2400 SF modern farmhouse --- for applicants Alan R. Hurst and Valerie Greco Hurst. The foregoing application is available for public review at the East Hampton Building Department. At this hearing interested persons may be heard and written communications will be received. Dated: June 16, 2021 Regina Starolis, MHDC Clerk 1TB 6/18

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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# EMPLOYMENT

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**MEDICAL SECRETARY FOR MANCHESTER MEDICAL PRACTICE** - Greet and bring patients into room, schedule tests, renew prescriptions and more. EMR experience necessary. Send resume to [DRLKRITZER@gmail.com](mailto:DRLKRITZER@gmail.com)

**Andover School District**

School Psychologist position available at Andover Elementary School. Ten hours per week or as approved by the Director of Special Education. Appropriate CT Certification required. Application available online at [andoverelementaryct.org](http://andoverelementaryct.org). Please send completed application, letter of interest, resume, copies of transcripts and certification, and three letters of reference to:

Holly Maiorano, Director of Special Education  
Andover Elementary School  
35 School Road  
Andover, CT 06232

- or -  
Via Email: [maioranoh@andoverelementaryct.org](mailto:maioranoh@andoverelementaryct.org)  
7TB 5/14, 5/21, 5/28, 6/4, 6/11, 6/18, 6/25

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CIT5-20-21

**Parks Maintainer I (Part-time)**

The Town of East Hampton is accepting applications for the position of Parks Maintainer I. This position performs a wide variety of manual labor tasks in the construction, installation, repair and maintenance of parks, grounds and recreational areas and facilities. Participates in snow removal operations. Applicants must have knowledge and experience in the safe operation of equipment including but not limited to manual shift trucks, towing trailers with equipment, hand and riding mowers, hand and power tools, trimmers, paint machines, snowplow and other equipment used in maintenance of municipal facilities, turf, athletic fields, recreational areas, snow removal, etc. Custodial duties include cleaning restrooms, refuse removal, and general housekeeping tasks as assigned. Applicants must be 18 years or older, possess a valid Connecticut driver's license and have a clean driving record. \$18.89 per hour. Up to 19.5 hours per week. Job description and application are available at [www.easthamptonct.gov](http://www.easthamptonct.gov). Please submit your cover letter, application and resume to the Town of East Hampton, Department of Human Resources, 1 Community Drive, East Hampton, CT 06424, by July 2, 2021, or until filled. EOE/AA/M-F.

1TB 6/18

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REB-18-20

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1TB 6/18

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REB-18-21

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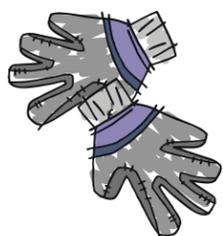
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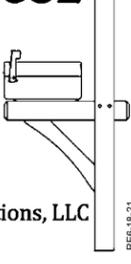
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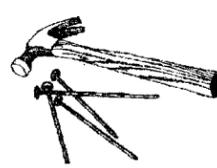


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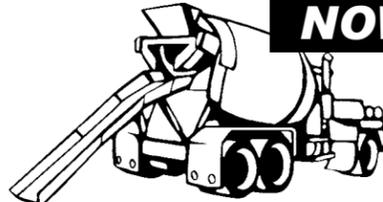
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