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RIVEREAST

News Bulletin

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

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July 9, 2021



Dancing Queens... The Marion Dondi Burke School of Dance in Glastonbury held its annual spring performances the weekend of June 12-13, and several awards were presented to outstanding students at the end of the second performance. Each year subject awards are given in the areas of ballet, tap, jazz and acro-gymnastics, as well as a class award for the best overall group. Awards can be based on improvement, achievement, dedication, enthusiasm, performance, or in some cases are career awards. In addition to the class and subject awards, two students are selected annually to receive an overall achievement award. This year, the class award was presented to a pointe (Ballet on toe) class. Pictured are this year's class award recipients: standing, Hailey Albert (of Glastonbury); kneeling in the middle, from left, Megan and Emily Migliaro (both of Marlborough); and kneeling in the front, Darah Maghaydah (of Glastonbury).

Young Inventors Place in National Competition

by Sloan Brewster

A young inventor from Hebron placed number one in her grade in the national leg of the Invention Convention and is going on to the final, global level of the competition, and another student from town came in second place in her grade level.

Rachel Smith of Amston, who will be in first grade in the fall, was in kindergarten when she invented the "Stairs Stuff Elevator" for the invention convention competition at Gilead Hill School. Little did she know she would make it to the state competitions and then move on to nationals where she would take first place and be one of seven Connecticut students accepted to globals.

Hebron Elementary School student Lily Nicholson, meanwhile, was in third grade when she invented The Calming Communicator in 2020. When school was closed due to COVID-19, the Invention Convention competition continued, but nationals were on hold and things were up in the air, so she decided to hold off a year.

"She held back until she could go as far as she could, which was actually a decision we were really proud of," her mom, Michelle Nicholson, said.

By waiting that extra year, she was able to take second place in her grade level, which at that time was fourth grade. She will be in fifth grade next year.

Rachel, with her invention, offers a way for someone walking on stairs to stay safe and keep from falling, she said. Sometimes, when people have items to carry they can't hold on to the railing, so Rachel came up with a way to transport the items so the people can hold the railing.

It all started one day when her mother, Eva Troyb, slipped on the stairs while holding a

baby.

"After that we talked a lot about how important it is use to the railing," Troyb said.

So Rachel connected clothesline ropes to the railing, added pulleys to the top and bottom and tied on a canvas bag. She said she tried it with bins and baskets but that didn't work because the containers tipped if they were too full.

"Everybody should use it," Rachel said about her invention.

Everyone was surprised when Rachel made it to the global leg of the competition and Rachel said it was "awesome."

Lily's invention helps calm non-verbal children and other children with special needs. She came up with it after noticing a little girl in her class named Izzy Mader was having trouble calming her emotions during the school day, she said. Lily knew there was an area in the school where students with special needs could calm themselves by immersing in colors and textures but that was not in the classroom.

She noticed, however, that Izzy had an iPad.

"I thought maybe on the back of the iPad, she could have textures," Lily said.

So she set about making a cover for the back of the device with colors and textures and gave it to Izzy one day when she was having some trouble calming herself.

Izzy seemed to know how to use it as soon as she received the gift.

"She started to calm down a little bit, she sat down and was just starting to feel it," Lily said. "She was touching two textures at a time." Izzy's mom, Catherine Mader, said the invention allows Izzy to feel safe and comfortable in her environment.

"We are so happy for Lily, who worked so

See *Young Inventors*, page 3

Andover Budget Heads, Again, to Voters

by Sloan Brewster

The proposed Andover town budget for the 2021-22 fiscal year is off to voters – again.

A \$12.43 million spending package will head to referendum next Tuesday, July 13. Voting will take place in the Community Room at Town Hall from 6 a.m.-8 p.m.

This will be the third referendum, and fifth overall trip before voters, for the proposed budget. This latest iteration is a \$107,946, or .86%, decrease from the 2020-21 budget – and represents zero percent increases for the town operations and local school board budgets.

The only increase in the budget is for Andover's portion of the RHAM middle and high school budget, First Selectman Jeff Maguire told voters at last Tuesday's town meeting.

RHAM's combined \$30.65 million 2021-22 budget, an increase of 1.67% or \$501,991, passed at referendum on May 4. Andover is on the hook for \$5.2 million of that amount, based on the student population of the schools.

The Andover budget translates to 35.88 mills, a .76% increase over the current 35.61 mill rate.

The new fiscal year has already begun, and the town was required to send out tax bills on July 1, Town Administrator Eric Anderson said in a phone call Tuesday. To that end, the Board of Selectmen passed a temporary mill rate of 36 mills.

If the final budget comes in with a higher mill rate, the town will send out a supplemental bill, he said. If it's lower, taxpayers are normally

credited the following year.

"So we don't have to send out additional bills, just because that's expensive," Anderson said.

While voters at town meeting last week advanced the budget proposal to referendum, it wasn't exactly an overwhelming mandate. The spending package was sent to referendum by just a 55-44 vote.

So far, the proposed Andover budget has failed at two referendums. In the first one, on May 18, a \$12.66 million spending plan – a .96% increase over the 2020-21 fiscal year – fell by a 281-225 vote.

A trimmed-down \$12.57 million budget – a .31% increase – fell June 22 by a 384-215 tally.

See *Andover Budget*, page 11

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Windham Man Killed in Crash

by Sloan Brewster

A car crash that took place on Route 6 in Andover last week left one person dead and two others seriously injured.

According to a press release from state police, Roderic Raiford, 64, of Windham, died as a result of the crash.

The head-on collision, involving a 1987 Chevy Blazer, driven by Raiford, and a 1996 Toyota Corolla, driven by Gregory Janty, 58, of East Hartford, occurred at about 1:40 p.m. on June 28 on Route 6 near Aspin Drive and the Andover Plaza.

A Facebook post on the Andover resident state trooper's page indicates the road was

temporarily closed while troopers conducted an investigation and traffic was detoured.

Raiford's passenger was seriously injured, according to police, and transported to Hartford Hospital.

Janty, was also seriously injured and transported to Hartford Hospital, police said. His passenger received minor injuries and was transported to Manchester Memorial Hospital.

The investigation is ongoing and state police are looking for witnesses. Anyone who witnessed the accident is asked to contact state police Trooper Anthony Ruggiero at Troop K at 860-465-5400.

Senior Citizen News & Notes

The following news items have been announced for Andover seniors, veterans, and disabled. To attend any event, call senior coordinator Cathy Palazzi 860-916-6122 to register. Transportation available for all events, as well as shopping on Tuesdays, Food share/food pantry rides on Wednesdays, lunches on Fridays.

There is a new pickup time for transportation to breakfast and shopping on Tuesdays. The new time is 7:30 a.m. On July 13, there will be breakfast at Anna's Kitchen in East Hartford, stop at Ocean Job Lot and lastly Stop & Shop in Manchester; on July 20, there will be breakfast at the Breakfast Place in Willimantic, then stops at Walmart and Stop & Shop; and on July 27, breakfast at Shady Glen then stops at Ocean State Job Lot and Stop & Shop. Masks are required on bus and in stores.

Today, July 9, at noon, there will be a senior picnic at Town Hall, put on by the Recreation Commission. Hot dogs, hamburgers, chips, beverages and dessert will be served. Call Palazzi for reservations.

It was voted to have Friday lunches every other Friday beginning July 9, so the next lunch after today will be July 23, and meatloaf will be served. Call Palazzi for transportation.

Movies will be shown Wednesdays, July 21, Aug. 4 and Aug. 18, at 1 p.m., in the Community Room at Town Hall. Call Sue Schmidt 860-604-1057 for information and Palazzi if you need transportation.

The Recreation Commission will hold concerts Saturdays, July 24 and Aug. 14, at 7 p.m. both nights, at the gazebo. On July 24, Zonic Band will perform and Aug. 14 will be Paula King's band. No charge. Bring a chair. Transportation available by calling Palazzi.

Rides to all town events, town meetings, referendums, or board meetings and all medical appointments available by calling Palazzi. All seniors, veterans, disabled are welcome. If you have a caregiver, they may come with you. Masks must be worn.

If you need a food delivery, let Palazzi know and it will be delivered.

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 Auction

The Andover Friends of the Library group is looking for donations of items that can be used in gift baskets, gift certificates and other items that can be sold at the annual goods and services auction.

People can bring items to the town clerk's office at 17 School Rd.

New Transfer Station Stickers

Transfer station stickers expired 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.

CPR Class at Fire Department

All are invited to learn CPR Monday, July 19, from 7-9 p.m., at Andover Fire Department. Cost is \$20 and includes use of training materials, CPR for Adult, Child and Infant, AED training, Choking and 2-year certification from the American Heart Association.

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

Dog Licensing

All dogs six months and older must be licensed. Current licenses expired 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.

Summer Programming at Library

Programming at the Andover Public Library for summer 2021 has begun. The following programs are scheduled - and more are likely on the way. To register for any of these programs, or for more information, call the library at 860-742-7428.

Sharpie Tie-Dye: Learn how to create a tie-dyed shirt using Sharpie markers during two different sessions on Tuesday, July 13. From 11 a.m.-1 p.m., there will be a single-session program for kids age 11 and younger, accompanied by a parent or guardian. From 4-6 p.m., ages 12 and up can create a more stylized, tie-dyed shirt during a two-part program. The second part of this stylized shirt program will be Thursday, July 15, from 4-6 p.m. To participate, bring a clean white T-shirt. Rain date for the ages 11 and under program is Thursday, July 15, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Sing Along with Mrs. Baver: Wednesday, July 14, 10:30 a.m.; rain date is July 21. Wendy Baver will lead kids ages 7 and younger in songs on the Andover Friends of the Library's patio. Older siblings invited, too.

Turtle Haven with Riverside Reptiles: The

folks from the Riverside Reptiles Education Center are bringing the turtles on Tuesday, July 20. There are two separate sessions of 25 minutes each. This program will be held outdoors and space is limited to 25 people per session (kids and adults). Session times are 1:30-1:55 p.m. and 2:15-2:40 p.m.

Summer Reading Program: Runs through Aug. 21. Grades six through adult are invited to read (or listen to) as many library books as they can, and keep track of the settings. The library will "pin" the location of the story on its maps, and see how many different places are "traveled to" this summer. For each book people read, they'll earn one chance to win an end-of-summer gift basket. For the younger readers, the library has an "Elephant & Pig-gie Love to Read!" reading log; kids will earn stickers and prizes for every four library books they read, and they'll get a chance for a kids' end-of-summer gift basket. Stop by the library to sign up for either of these programs. The library is open Mondays and Wednesdays, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Tuesdays and Thursdays, noon-8 p.m.; and Saturdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

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 for fully vaccinated individuals. 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.

There is no Bible Study during summer.

Food Pantry: Mondays from 5-7 p.m. Bring your own bags. The senior pantry is open every other Wednesday from 9-9:30 a.m.; next date is July 14.

Foodshare Van: Comes to the church every other Wednesday from 9-9:30 a.m.; next date is July 21.

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.

East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton • East Hampton



Summer Craft Pantry... The East Hampton Public Library recently unveiled the Summer Craft Pantry, in the Children's section. Due to support and sponsorship from Kindness with Kids and Bethlehem Lutheran Church, hundreds of arts and crafts projects are available to the community, free of charge all summer. A QR code is available to share completed projects online. Pictured From Kindness with Kids; Cameron Meacham, Jillian Meacham, Amie Meacham. From Bethlehem Lutheran Church; Kelly & Miles Oren, Rick Setterberg. From East Hampton Public Library; Stephanie Smith and April Hannon.

See more East Hampton on page 16



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LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF ANDOVER
REFERENDUM
TUESDAY, JULY 13, 2021

The Electors and Citizens qualified to vote in the Town of Andover are hereby warned to meet at their respective polling place in said town on Tuesday, July 13, 2021 for the following purpose: To adopt the Budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

The location of the polling place is as follows:
Community Room of the Town Office Building - 17 School Road - Andover, CT

The polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Absentee Ballots are available in the Town Clerk's Office for anyone who is eligible to vote in the Town of Andover who will not be able to vote in person at the polls.

Dated at Andover, CT this 5th day of July, 2021.
Carol H. Lee
Town Clerk

1TB 7/9

Cover Story • Cover Story

★ *Young Inventors cont. from page 1*
hard and has such a kind soul,” Mader said
Teachers in the school lauded the invention and have said other children may want to use it too, Lily and her mother said.

Michelle Nicholson said Lily’s aunt is an occupational therapist who does early intervention, and said the school where she works would also like to have a calming communicator.

“It was a great invention; it was very thoughtful,” Nicholson said.

Three other Hebron students went to the national portion of the competition – Avery Holzer, who was in fourth grade and invented Hand Sanitizing Slime; Samantha Maxwell, who was in fourth grade and invented The Flower Power Water-Saver, and Liam Roy, who was in fifth grade and invented the Entrance for Everyone 2020.

Portland resident Shannon Mahoney, who was in fourth grade at Center School in East Hampton invented the No-Doggo Blanket.

Shannon said her stepmom Jackie Mahoney doesn’t like cleaning dog hair off the furniture and that sometimes the family dog Dasha is not allowed on the sofa. To keep her off without making her feel like she’s in trouble, Shannon invented a noisy crinkly blanket that is not comfy for the dog to snuggle on and keeps her away from the couch.

The family tested the invention on a few dogs and found it worked, Shannon and Jackie Mahoney said.

“The blanket really helps because once she sees it, she knows she can’t go on the couch,” Shannon said. “She has a tendency to not like noises.”

Shannon said she felt pretty good about making it to nationals and that she was surprised the competition, which she thought was just schoolwide, went that far.

Mahoney was also surprised but said she was not surprised that Shannon put in the time to make something so creative.

“We’re proud of her,” Mahoney said.
Christine Lawlor-King, executive director for Connecticut Invention Convention, said the competition has been taking place for 39 years and began in Connecticut with a group of teachers that wanted to teach in a different way.



Rachel Smith of Amston, left, was in kindergarten when she invented the “Stairs Stuff Elevator.” Rachel, who will be in first grade in the fall, won first place in the national leg of the Invention Convention competition and is one of seven Connecticut students headed to final, global level. At right, Hebron Elementary School student Lily Nicholson, shown here with classmate Izzy. Izzy is using Lily’s invention, the Calming Communicator, which was awarded second place in the third grade level of the national leg of the Invention Convention competition.

“They wanted it to be minds on, hands on problem solving,” she said.

The competition is not about the end result or “shiny prototypes,” Lawlor-King said. Rather, it is about the process from start to finish, including failures and discoveries that ideas have already been done. All such challenges teach the young inventors and show their ability to keep going and find a way beyond them.

“They have to flex their creativity,” she said. “We train our judges to listen to how many times [inventors] ran into trouble and overcame them.”

The inventions that are chosen to move forward

are also ones that help others and not solely the inventor, Lawlor-King said.

She said she loved the story about hockey player Liam Roy, who invented the Entrance for Everyone 2020.

Liam said he chose his invention as an improvement on the entryway for his hockey rink, in Bolton, because the door to the ramped entrance, which is used by folks in wheelchairs and athletes lugging bags on wheels with all their equipment, swings back at the person opening it.

“You would try to open the door and the door would come toward you and you have to get off

the ramp,” Liam said

Walkers are able to jump off the ramp – leaving their bags – and then, once the door is open, they can jump back on and drag the bags through. People in wheelchairs, however, are unable to get in because they can’t jump.

“He was a great story,” Lawlor-King said.

She said judges, who watch videos about the process inventors go through, watch for problem solving within families who are encouraged to assist the inventors and look for community interaction. Liam’s story was a perfect example of community interaction, she said.

“They stick through the process because they’re solving a problem for grandma [or] they want to solve the problem at the hockey rink,” she said. “You’re solving a real-world problem that’s going to help someone.”

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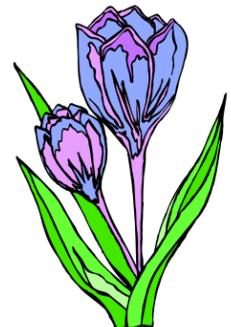
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From the Editor's Desk

Observations & Ruminations

by Mike Thompson

"It was a super article."

As editor, I always like to hear that – so it was a nice little welcome back from vacation when Portland resident Wayne Duff said those words to me Tuesday.

Wayne was calling me that day as it was the 77th anniversary of the awful July 6, 1944 Hartford circus fire, which claimed 168 lives.

In 2019, to mark the 75th anniversary of that terrible day, our Portland reporter at the time, Elizabeth Regan, interviewed Wayne for a story about the fire. Wayne, who turns 87 at the end of this month, is a survivor of the horrific blaze. I remember thinking at the time that Elizabeth – as she often did during her time at the paper – had penned a terrific story, so I was heartened to hear that Wayne felt the same way.

Wayne asked me if I could republish it this week, to mark the passing of another year. I agreed, and felt this would be a great space to share it. So, here's Elizabeth's story, complete and unedited, from the July 5, 2019, *Rivereast*:

Remembering the 'Day the Clowns Cried'

by Elizabeth Regan

Wayne Duff remembers holding his mother's hand.

Amid the chaos of approximately 7,000 people trying desperately to escape a flaming circus tent, he hurried to keep up with Dorothea Duff's long strides.

He was almost 10 years old.

"I just held my mother's hand and followed her out of there," the lifelong Portland resident said. "As soon as I looked back, I could see the inferno."

The Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus fire killed 168 people on July 6, 1944, according to the *Hartford Courant*. Survivors said the 48-foot-tall tent burned in less than 10 minutes. The flames were fueled by a mixture of paraffin wax and gasoline that had been applied to the canvas as a waterproofing agent. The cause of the fire, which allegedly began on the southwest side of the tent, remains unknown.

Duff told the *Rivereast* in 2008 that their tickets were for section C, which was only two sections away from the expansive set of bleachers where the fire originated. But Dorothea at the last minute found a better spot from which to watch the Greatest Show on Earth. They settled in section E, along the center aisle.

Duff, now 84, said he had been watching the lions when someone yelled "fire!"

"My mother and I were lucky," he said. "There was an exit right there."

He recalled knocking over a railing so

they could escape through the exit; then they spilled out into a nearby field. He never got separated from his mother.

They were among the earliest wave of people to escape the tent, he said.

Those that didn't make it were burned to death, suffocated or trampled.

Most of those at the circus that day were women and children. It was a Thursday afternoon, and many men were at war. Others were at work in support of the war machine. The Invasion of Normandy was raging in France, where Allied forces had landed exactly one month prior.

Duff doesn't remember much else about the chaos of what would become one of the deadliest days in Connecticut history. That's the thing about being a child singularly focused on survival 75 years ago.

"I can't hardly think of anything else that went on, other than getting out safe," he said.

His mother worked back then as a nurse at Elmcrest Hospital in Portland, which had only recently opened the gates to a campus dominated by three grand, old homes. She died many years later in 1996.

Duff grew up to become a truck driver and a volunteer firefighter, though he said that day under the big top did not influence his decision to fight fires.

He married his high school sweetheart, Marie; the couple had two daughters.

Then he "almost kind of forgot" about the circus, he said.

Duff kept busy after retiring from truck driving by taking on a job with Logano Waste Management in Portland and then driving a motorhome for NASCAR star Joey Logano's father, Tom. He followed Logano from track to track for years, until his wife became ill and died in May.

Duff said it was several years ago that his daughters convinced him to attend one of the remembrance ceremonies held at a memorial where the tent once blazed on Barbour Street. The memorial was erected in 2002.

What stands out for him about each ceremony he has attended since then is the reading of the victims' names.

"It's tough to listen to," he said.

The list of the dead includes 59 children under the age of 9, according to the *Courant*.

Sometimes, the names of whole families are read intact.

"Ages 3, 5, 8, 11," he said. "All these kids with their parents."

This year's ceremony, scheduled for Saturday at 2:30 p.m., will mark the 75th anniversary of the fire. Duff plans to attend.

He will remember holding his mother's hand.



Food for Families... State Rep. Christie Carpino (R-32) recently partnered with the state Department of Agriculture, the Cromwell Children's Coalition and the Town of Portland to distribute over 800 boxes of non-perishable food to local nonprofits and families in the community. Ruth Maio and the Public Works Department helped coordinate distribution of the boxes. Pictured are Carpino (center), Portland First Selectwoman Susan Bransfield and Portland Public Works Director Robert Shea.

Town-Wide Thanks

To the Editor:

We would like to thank our sponsors, all the shoppers, our society members, and especially all the registered tag sale hosts for making our Town Wide Tag Sale a success. This fundraiser has become a highly anticipated yearly event on the Saturday of Father's Day weekend.

We hope to see you all next year, June 18, 2022.

**Sandy Doran, President
and Debbie Day, Tag Sale Organizer
Chatham Historical Society of
East Hampton**

Supports New Senior Center

To the Editor:

A few years ago, I walked into the Colchester Senior Center to donate some magazines and greeting cards. I was directed to a tiny office where staff greeted me and proceeded to talk me into signing up as a member. They gave me a little tour and a packet of information. I had no plans to join in on any activities at the time. But then came 2020 and a pandemic that shut down life as we knew it. I started getting robocalls and emails from the senior center staff, with helpful updates and schedules of Zoom-based classes and activities. There were individual calls from staff, checking in on a personal basis, to see how I was doing. I got to know the

staff, and enjoyed some activities, including an art class. I'm now looking forward to some day trips scheduled for this fall.

I was very excited to see the plans for the new Colchester Senior Center! I intend to continue living in Colchester for many years to come, and these plans give me hope for the day I can walk into a beautiful facility with enough space for staff and all my fellow seniors. Staying active and connected is so important for us all.

I urge the voters of Colchester to support the new senior center! Vote for approval at the referendum this fall!

Charmine Dubrino – Colchester

Omission

A legal notice that should have been published in last week's *Rivereast* was inadvertently not included.

The legal notice was announcing the Town of Colchester special budget meeting and referendum. The meeting was to take place July 7, and the referendum July 14.

However, since the notice was not published, the meeting and referendum were rescheduled, and the correct legal notice is published elsewhere in this paper. The meeting will take place Wednesday, July 14, and the referendum on Tuesday, July 27.

The *Rivereast* apologizes for last week's omission.

Bulletin Board

As you may know, our esteemed state legislature failed to respond to calls to address the surge in juvenile crime—specifically car thefts—during the recently concluded session.

They did, however, pass legislation requiring improved safety measures involving ice cream trucks.

I am sure this bold action comes as a tremendous relief to us all.

While I am a firm supporter of ice cream truck safety, I do feel compelled to point out that it was not an ice cream truck that recently ran over and killed a jogger on a sidewalk in New Britain—nor, apparently, was it an ice cream truck driver who took a couple of shots last week at a Glastonbury woman who had the temerity to come to her front door at 3 o'clock in the morning to see who was attempting to steal the car out of her driveway.

Rather, in the first case, the culprit was a 17-year-old "child" driving a stolen car—an individual who has been arrested 13 times over the past three and a half years for crimes ranging from assault with a knife to robbery. The Glastonbury shooting incident also apparently involved juveniles, according to police.

It has been suggested that Covid is responsible for much of the criminal behavior we are seeing—ranging from shooting people cooking dinner to running people over on sidewalks. Apparently, Covid not only threatens your health, it also compels you to steal other people's cars. Who knew?

Thankfully, following cries of outrage following news of the New Britain hit and run and the lengthy criminal record of the juvenile driver, Democratic House Speaker Matt Ritter and House Majority Leader Jason Rojas issued a joint statement addressing the issue. If you missed it, here it is in part:

"We are always willing to meet and talk about informed and viable solutions to address an issue that is incredibly complex and cuts across social, economic and criminal justice policies. It will take time and hard work from every corner of the juvenile justice system, state and local government and law enforcement to find meaningful solutions."

Allow me to translate:

Blah, blah, blah, blah, blah, blah, blah, blah, blah.

I'm guessing that neither legislator felt compelled to attend the victim's funeral service.

In any case, while these legislative worthies continue to contemplate this "incredibly complex" issue, I suggest that you refrain from going to your front door at 3 o'clock in the morning should you hear someone breaking into your car. You might also want to stay off the sidewalk.

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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News Bulletin

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Priceless

To the Editor:

Colchester's Senior Center is currently in a building that has been in use for a century. We are long overdue for a new senior center to support many generations into the future.

When our family moved into our Colchester home that would support my parents as well as my own family, one of our priorities in choosing Colchester, was an active senior center. Little did we know just how important this would become for our family. My mother was a caregiver for my father who was suffering from Parkinson's disease. When my father passed away in March 2020, and COVID-19 forced us to 'shelter in place,' the senior center staff was our lifeline to the outside world! Having just lost her husband of over 60 years, my mother (and my husband and I) turned to the senior center for activities. The activities included puzzles, sign language classes, travel programs, games, movies, meals, friendship, painting classes, etc. Although most activities were virtual due to Covid restrictions, my mother is now meeting her new "virtual" friends in person and loving every minute of it. I can honestly credit our "senior center community" with being able to see my mother thrive and find new joy during her journey to a "new normal." To us, the value of the Senior Center and staff is priceless!!

My husband and I have supported the educational system and schools (although we have never had children) and I sincerely hope that you will consider supporting the Colchester Senior Center project by voting in favor of the project on 9/23/21. I have attended detailed presentations about the proposed center, and I am fully in support of this "priceless" project.

Jane Popov – Colchester

The Time is Now

To the Editor:

The current senior center has served Colchester well since it was first built in the early 1880s. For more than 130 years, it has seen the many faces of Colchester: the Civil War veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic, the Colchester Grange, the Bacon Academy Arts and Sciences, the kindergarten classes, and recently the seniors of Colchester.

With the ever-increasing population of seniors, the current building cannot sustain the demands of the modern-day senior. Not only is the senior center a place where seniors can meet up with friends and socialize, but it is a place where learning still takes place. Many programs and workshops are offered at the center; such as, health and disease issues relevant to seniors, dietary workshops, financial programs, art and music classes; as well as, exercise programs that fits the needs of today's senior.

These programs cultivate our senior population keeping them active and connected to the Town of Colchester. The time is now to build a new center for our town and seniors.

Your support for this project is greatly needed and deeply appreciated.

Mary Tomasi – Colchester

Note: Tomasi is chair of the Colchester Board of Education, but said she is writing as an individual.

Friendly Greetings

To the Editor:

"I'm so glad to see you!" That's the greeting heard over and over again as the seniors return to the Colchester Senior Center. It's apparent how much the folks missed seeing their friends while the Senior Center was closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. While the center was closed to the public the very capable staff kept in touch with the seniors via phone, email, zoom meetings and delivering lunches.

The seniors who had regularly visited the senior center not only missed the friendship and companionship but they missed the many programs offered – exercise classes, yoga, crafts, book club, games, movies, bingo, health clinics and of course the planned trips. Lunches will again be available in the near future.

The senior population in Colchester is steadily increasing. As the membership at the senior center continues to grow their needs must also be met. The present facility cannot provide the space needed to adequately provide all of the programs and events. There are only four rooms available including the dining room which also must serve as a meeting room.

A much-needed new senior center is on the drawing board, the land has been acquired and an extremely capable building committee has been hard at work with an architect to provide the plans for a functional and beautiful building. Photos and drawings of the proposed Se-

nior center may be seen in the Center's dining room and also at the Cragin Library.

The major final goal now is up to the voters of Colchester. We (all the voters young and old) must go to vote at the referendum to go forward for a new Colchester senior center. Remember each and every vote is important. Please vote at the referendum on Thursday, Sept. 27, at the town hall. Mark your calendar!!

**Thank you,
Goldie Liverant – Colchester**

New Center Badly Needed

To the Editor:

The veterans' community would like to thank the Colchester Senior Center for their efforts in honoring all veterans programs in past years. We frequently need to occupy the same space as the members of the Senior Center and support the design the Building Committee has proposed.

While we share the current building and other facilities, it has come to my attention that Colchester's senior population has outgrown the existing building. It is apparent that a new structure with double or triple the parking is needed. Other shortcomings include the meeting space and bathrooms. Both are lacking in space and utility. The 1950s bathrooms are not fully handicapped-accessible. The meeting rooms are too small for the many uses that go on daily. Lastly, the current building has a leaky roof and a barely functioning HVAC system.

All of these flaws have persisted for years while the town was distracted by other issues. Well it is time to take care of those Colchester citizens that have been the backbone of our town. They have been patient while other segments of the community have had new and improved facilities. They are taxpayers and deserve a return on the tax dollars they have paid over the long years they have been residents.

As one of Colchester's veterans that often uses the center, it is obvious that the planning committee is on the right track. All of Colchester should support the Senior Center Building Committee during a future project referendum. Our seniors need to be brought into the 21st century.

Alphonse J. Letendre – Colchester

Committee Sensitive

To the Editor:

"It is our conclusion, based on the facts detailed in the Committee's Report, that the Russian intelligence services' assault on the integrity of the 2016 U.S. electoral process and Trump and his associates' participation in and enabling of this Russian activity, represents one of the single most grave counterintelligence threats to American national security in the modern era."

Excerpt from the Senate Intelligence Committee report on Russian interference in the 2016 United States presidential election.

Annie Steinbrecher – Marlborough

Cowards, Not Patriots

To the Editor:

"Today we paint the patriots as Nazis," says Jason LaChapelle. No. We paint as Nazis those whose leader points to one group and blames it for all ills, calls the free press the enemy of the people, sends police against peaceful protesters, shouts lies to drown out the truth, incites followers to insurrection to keep him in power. Those duped by a con man like this are not patriots. They understand nothing about our country. They are cowards wallowing in the fear of change.

"The media," he continues, "refer to them as racist, sexist bigots." No. True patriots know this country was founded on tolerance and continually expands that tolerance, covering more of the excluded. The racist, sexist bigots marched in Charlottesville protesting the removal of monuments to traitors, chanting, "Jews will not replace us." They voted for "Grab them by the p***y" over the most qualified candidate in a generation – because she was a woman.

He is right: "Patriotism is not stupid, pointless or wrong." Patriotism is support for the ideals of our nation, ideals of freedom, of care for our neighbors and communities, of inclusivity and tolerance. Patriotism is the respect for the sacrifices of those who help win and keep those freedoms -- those who've fought in wartime and those who've helped expand our rights, people like Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Frederick Douglass, Frances Perkins, César Chávez, Martin Luther King Jr., and Audre Lorde.

Mr. LaChapelle promotes Nathan Hale as the consummate patriot. Remember, Hale was rebelling against the government, trying to fix

things, to increase freedom. That is patriotism. It's not uncritical support for the military or love of the flag. True patriots love the ideals of our nation, yet strive to improve it. Those acting oppressed because others gain freedoms are the exact opposite of true patriots.

**Sincerely,
Scott Sauyet – Andover**

Democrats, Wake Up

To the Editor:

Republicans still supporting Trump lies, voter suppression efforts and climate change denial are loathsome creatures. Disregarding voluminous and clear evidence that Trump is a grifting charlatan, that the only real voter fraud is (mostly) GOP gerrymandering, and that humans are imperiling the planet; an American majority regards you as American democracy's true enemy; as well as selfish Q-anon/Fox News sycophants who would willingly bequeath a degraded world to our children. We should celebrate those Republicans with the courage, integrity and morality to denounce national GOP idiocy, like my cousin Chip Beckett of Glastonbury, who renounced his Republican leadership role to become an Independent. This is an 'all hands-on deck' moment when the next few elections will likely decide the future of our country and our planet.

Sadly, some Democrats are doing their best to hand these future elections to GOP candidates. I speak specifically to Democrats' laissez-faire attitude concerning juvenile criminal behavior, an issue being debated in the Connecticut Legislature. All Connecticut motorists must earn licenses and pay for registration, insurance, town car taxes while obeying motor vehicle laws. To disregard any of these will likely lead to your arrest, fines and substantially increased insurance costs. Unless you are an underage teenager who can do whatever you want and face little to no consequence. Without training, license, registration, or insurance – you can steal anyone's car at any time of day or night, threaten the owners with guns, knives or bodily harm (even shoot at them), and then drive wherever you like. If police arrive you simply speed off recklessly so that police must withdraw pursuit. Even if caught and detained dozens of times, Democratic majorities have passed laws that will set you free to continue your mayhem. Innocent pedestrians and drivers are being killed. Democratic politicians need to wake up.

Ed Smith – Andover

Summer and Turtles

To the Editor:

"Summer is here in the United States, and it is the time that female turtles move about to find their preferred places to nest, and last year's hatchlings are exploring their new world. The encounter between a lawnmower and a turtle all too frequently ends in tragedy, even if not noticed by the human; but we can do something about that! Turtles move about mostly early in the morning, in the late afternoon/early evening, and during and after rain. During the heat of the

day, Box Turtles are mostly tucked away in and under dense tall vegetation. So if you have a choice, it's best to mow your lawn in the middle of a dry day, which not only minimizes the risk to turtles, but also to bees and any other animals in the grass. Other practices that help prevent mowing accidents is to set your mower blades at 4 inches high, and to mow 'from the center out', meaning that any animals are 'pushed out' to the safety of flowerbeds or shrubbery at the edge of the lawn. And should you see a turtle while mowing, or crossing a road, please move it out of the way by taking it to a safe patch of habitat in the direction that the animal was already going. Together, we can make this a safe and successful summer for all of us (Turtle Conservancy)."

**Thank you,
Maureen Heidtmann – East Hampton**

Senior Center

To the Editor:

I have been a member of the Colchester Senior Center for seven years. It is a place to go where I can connect with other people. It has been a key component in keeping me healthy as I engage in the exercise programs being offered. Because there is such a wide range of classes, it is hard to be bored or unmotivated. The staff is always extremely welcoming and helpful in answering questions. They are as committed to offering the programs as we are to taking them.

The senior center is an integral part of this community where seniors can go to socialize and participate in activities. A new facility will go a long way in enticing new members to join this very important part of our community.

Paulette MacDonald – Colchester

New Senior Center

To the Editor:

After three years of volunteering, I have become attached to so many of our seniors, in awe of our staff and eagerly anticipating our new facility.

This new senior center will enhance our community outreach by enabling staff and volunteer receptionists to be in a centralized area which will facilitate the communication between staff and members.

I am looking forward to seeing the smiling faces enter our new building.

Paulette Armandi – Colchester

Children at Meetings

To the Editor:

I am writing in response to the criticism regarding the presence of children at recent Andover town budget meetings. Parents should not have to choose between caring for their children and being engaged citizens. Furthermore, I cannot think of a greater way to teach children about the democratic process and instill an ethic of volunteerism in them than to routinely bring them to community meetings. (It should also be a great opportunity for them to watch adults

See Letters, page 22

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Portland Library News & Notes

Portland Library, 20 Freestone Ave., is open, with no appointments needed. Wireless is available. Registration required for the following programs unless noted. For more info and full program descriptions, visit www.portlandlibraryct.org or call 860-342-6770. The library is also on Facebook and Instagram.

Hours: Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Museum Passes and Yard Games: Many area museums and attractions are now open and the library offers several passes for free or discounted admission. To reserve a pass, go to the library website and click on 'Museum Passes' or call the library. The library also has available giant-sized yard games, such as Jenga, Connect 4, Yardzee and Yard Farkle.

Youth Programs: Summer Reading Program: The library's 2021 Summer Reading Program, "Tails and Tales," has launched. Visit the library website for more information and upcoming programs for children and teens.

Dancin' with Hoops! Wednesday, July 21, 6:30 p.m., on the Town Green by the gazebo. No hooping experience is necessary for this all-ages program hosted by Judi Jones, a.k.a. the Energizer. Families should socially distance from each other. Registration is required.

The Ben Anna Band: Wednesday, July 28, 6:30 p.m. This is a musical duo that thrives on audience participation. Families will be asked to continue to social distance from each other. Registration is required.

Adult Programs: Unless noted, meetings and events are held via Zoom. Join through the Zoom link on the library webpage. The ID is 8603426777 and the Passcode is Portland.

Adult Summer Reading Program: Sign up and get a \$2 coupon for a free item at the Friends Bookshop. The adult program is reading to benefit two music scholarships for

Brownstone Intermediate School students. Register for summer reading by visiting the library to pick up your reading log or register on the library website. You will receive another gift certificate when you have logged 2,000 pages. Logging can be done through the ReadSquared portal on the library website or by asking a staff member.

Paint Party for Adults: Thursday, July 22, 5:30 p.m., in the Mary Flood Room. Brigitte Roy, artist and art teacher, will lead the group of 15 participants in an evening culminating in a original 11x14 work of art. Registration is required for this free program & space is limited. The Friends of the Library supports all the library's summer programs.

Multi-Generational Drumming Circle: Mondays, July 12 and Aug. 9, 6:30 p.m., on the Waverly Green, featuring Mark Zarrillo. Drums and other percussion instruments will be supplied. No prior experience is necessary. Rain date for July Tuesday, July 20.

All About Owls: Whoooooo! Tuesday, July 27, 6:30 p.m. This is a multi-generational presentation for ages 10-adult, led by teacher-naturalist Joe Attwater from the Connecticut Audubon Society. There will be photos, short video clips and sound recordings of owls in Connecticut.

Portland Forum: Is currently on summer hiatus and will be back Thursday, Sept. 30, at 7 p.m., at the library. The first title will be the book and film *A Most Beautiful Thing: The True Story of America's First All-Black High School Rowing Team* by Arshay Cooper. Copies of the book are available at the library. The film can be viewed by Amazon Prime members or on NBC's Peacock streaming service.

Throughout July and August, books on diversity-related titles will be on display and available to borrow.

Resident Graduates

Matthew Blanchard of Portland recently graduated from the University of Massachusetts Amherst, with his master's degree in art history, with a specialty in ancient art.

Methodist Church News

Portland United Methodist Church, located at 381 Main St., holds in-person worship Sundays at 9 a.m. All are invited. Masks required for those not fully vaccinated.

Residents Graduate

Portland residents Emily Disalvo and David Higgs recently graduated from Quinnipiac University.

Disalvo received a Bachelor of Arts degree in journalism, and Higgs received a Master of Science degree in business analytics

Dean's List

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

Portland residents Bethany Dillon and Micayla Kelley made the Spring 2021 Dean's List at Roger Williams University in Bristol, R.I.

Vocal Chords to Mark 20th Anniversary of 9/11

The Portland-based Middlesex Hospital Vocal Chords will present a 20th Anniversary 9/11 Patriotic Tribute at The Bushnell Mortenson Hall Stage Saturday, Sept. 11, at 2 p.m.

The group is preparing for a patriotic musical journey along with special guests Todd Allen Herendeen, triple platinum country and gospel star; the advanced choirs of Middletown and Portland high schools, under the direction of Stephanie Zac, Middletown High School choral director, and Samuel Tucker, Portland Secondary Schools choral director, respectively; and the Middletown Police Benefit Association Pipes and Drums.

The event will begin with firefighters and state police honor guards leading in process-

ion firefighters/EMS, police departments, COVID-19 first responders, armed forces and veterans. Lt. Gov. Susan Bysiewicz, along with many state and local dignitaries, will be in attendance.

Proceeds from this tribute will be given to the Middlesex Health COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund and the CT Firefighters/EMS and Police Benevolent Fund. Tickets for the Mortensen (\$30 plus handling fee) will be available on June 28 and can be obtained by contacting The Bushnell. The Vocal Chords said the event is expected to be a sell-out.

The Middlesex Hospital Vocal Chords, a 90-member chorus, recently celebrated its 30th anniversary. For more information, visit www.vocalchords20.org.

First Congregational Church News

First Congregational Church of Portland, located at 554 Main St., is now holding indoor summer worship services at 9 a.m. Sundays. The Rev. Eva Cudmore leads worship and is offering pastoral care throughout the summer, while the Rev. Jane Hawken the church's pastor, is on sabbatical leave. Services are livestreamed on the church's YouTube channel, First Church of Portland. Services are posted on the YouTube channel for those who wish to worship at a later time.

Those who plan to attend in-person worship

are asked to wear a mask, regardless of whether they have been vaccinated. Other mitigation strategies will also be evident, including increased ventilation with open windows and fans, as well as socially distanced seating.

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.

Trinity Episcopal Church News

Trinity Episcopal Church, 345 Main St., holds services inside on Sundays at 9 a.m. All are invited. All are welcome to continue to wear masks, and some vaccinated may continue. Vaccinated individuals are not required to wear masks, while unvaccinated individuals must continue to wear masks. All must wear masks while singing. More information is at trinity-churchportlandct.org.

First Sundays on Main: On Aug. 1 and Sept. 5, 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.

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

Car Show to Return

On Friday, Sept. 17, in the parking lot of St. Mary Church, the Freestone Council Knights of Columbus Memorial Car Show will be held. The car show is in memory of Salvatore "Tooti" Pitruzzello, a lifelong member of the parish, 60-year member of the Portland Volunteer Fire Department and a leader in the KofC Council, who died in April 2020. The car show is organized by Portland's Freestone Council 7 at St. Mary Church. The proceeds of this event finance local charitable endeavors.

Lawn Irrigation Inspections

In July and August the town inspector will conduct inspections of irrigation systems on the public water supply. Your system must be activated. If it is not activated, call the office at 860-342-6733 to schedule an appointment for a different time. If the inspector comes out and your system is not activated, you will still be charged the \$75 inspection fee.

Second-Hand Prose Bookshop

The Friends of the Portland Library group has gardening, fiction, romance, teen and children's used books, as well as puzzles and DVDs, for sale in the Second-Hand Prose Bookshop, open at the library, 20 Freestone Ave., during regular hours. Books are 50 cents for paperbacks and children's books, \$1 for trade paperbacks and \$2 for hardcover. DVDs are 50 cents each and puzzles are \$2 unless marked otherwise.

FPL also has "I Love CT Libraries" reusable bags on sale at the library for \$1 each. Samples are available at the front desk.

All proceeds benefit programs funded by the Friends, such as the library's museum pass program, children and adult programs, and the library's DVD collection.

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

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MALOCCLUSIONS
Malocclusions of the teeth refers to several types of common dental issues involving the alignment of teeth and bite. A malocclusion is usually an inherited condition, but it can also be caused by habits including poor dental care, thumb sucking, and prolonged bottle feeding. One type of malocclusion is overcrowding, which causes teeth to grow in crookedly and overlap one another. Sometimes too much space exists between teeth, resulting in problems with chewing, bad breath, and bleeding gums. Over, under, and open bites also fall under the malocclusion umbrella. Impacted teeth (teeth that are unable to grow from the gum properly) and missing teeth are also sometimes referred to as malocclusions.
Don't let dental abnormalities keep you from smiling, chewing, talking, and just generally enjoying life. There are many strategies available today to solve the problems caused by less than lovely teeth. We'll be happy to discuss which ones would be best for your circumstances. For compassionate dental care, including cosmetic dentistry, complete restorations, and regular cleanings, our primary goal is to treat our patients with the utmost in modern dental care. Office hours are by appointment.
P.S. Untreated malocclusions can affect one's oral and digestive health.

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Senior Center News & Notes

Colchester Senior Center, 95 Norwich Ave., has announced the following. For full descriptions, call 860-537-3911, email csc@colchesterct.gov, or visit www.colchesterct.gov.senior-center. Programs taking place via Zoom are indicated with a (Z).

Monday, July 12: 8:30 a.m., Gardening; 8:30 a.m., Commission on Aging meeting; 9 a.m., Making Memories; 9 a.m., Exercise with Anne (Z); 10 a.m., Pet Therapy; 10 a.m., Sittercize (Z); 11 a.m., Learn to Sign with Ruth; 12:30 p.m., Mah Jongg; 12:30 p.m., Setback; 2 p.m., Live Well (Conference Call).

Tuesday, July 13: 9 a.m., Making Memories; 9 a.m., Senior Golf League; 9:45 a.m., Tai Chi (Z); 12:30 p.m., Pinochle; 12:30-3 p.m., CHOICES Counseling, by appointment; 1:30 p.m., Bingo; 7 p.m., Senior Center Building Committee (Z).

Wednesday, July 14: 9 a.m., Making Memories Program (Z); 10 a.m., Adult Coloring; 10 a.m., Walking Group meet-up at the Air Line Trail; 10 a.m., Sit & Be Fit; 2 p.m., CSC Staff Meeting; 6:30 p.m., AARP "The Science of Sleep & Stress"; 7 p.m., AARP "Your Wishes: Documents & Decisions" (Z).

Thursday, July 15: 9 a.m., Exercise w/ 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.

Friday, July 16: 10 a.m., Sit & Be Fit; 10 a.m., Card Making; 11 a.m., yoga (Z); 12:30 p.m., Reel Friends Movie Club – *If Beale Street Could Talk* (rated R); 1:30 p.m., Bingo.

Upcoming Programs: Book Club Discussion: Tuesday, July 20 10:30 a.m.; *Girls Burn Brighter* by Shobha Rao will be discussed; copies are on reserve at Cragin Memorial Library.

Community Conversation with the First Selectman: Wednesday, July 21, 10:30 a.m. First Selectman Mary Bylone will discuss Colchester happenings, town-wide events and more.

Step by Step Painting: Butterfly Night Garden: Tuesday, July 27, 10 a.m. This month, paint a magical nighttime garden complete with fireflies and butterflies. Materials are \$20 or you can provide your own paint and canvas and join for free. No experience necessary. Call the senior center to register.

In the Know: Tuesday, July 27, 12:30 p.m. Patty Watts will talk about the senior center and upcoming events and trips, and answer questions. All are welcome to participate; no registration required.

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.

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.

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 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.

Summer Meals Information

Colchester Public Schools will not serve meals this summer. There are, however, other districts that will be serving summer meals for children 18 and younger.

To find a location nearest you, you can call 211 or visit www.CTSummerMeals.org. You can also visit colchesterct.org, click on 'Breakfast and Lunch Menus,' scroll to the bottom of the page where there is a direct link to summer meals information and locations.

For more information, email district nutrition program coordinator Leanne Ranheim at 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.

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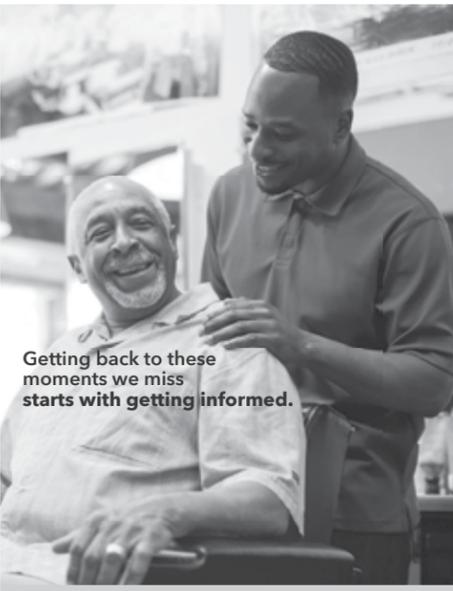
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Children's Programs at Cragin Library

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.

Cragin Book Club

The Cragin Book Club will meet Monday, July 26, at 6 p.m. All are invited. This month, Laurie Halse Anderson's *Shout* will be discussed. Copies are available for checkout at the Adult Circulation Desk at the library, which is located at 8 Linwood Ave.

Weather permitting, the club will meet at the Colchester Giving Garden which is located behind the Colchester Senior Center. Please bring a chair. The club will meet via Zoom in case of inclement weather; for the Zoom link, go to tinyurl.com/7vbpap4a.

This program is free; registration is required. For more information, call 860-537-5752.

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 westchestercongregationchurch.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 westcongregationchurch@gmail.com, visit the church website, or call 860-267-6711.

Dean's List

Colchester residents Giovanna Balderacchi, Torrie Fitzpatrick, Meagan Gallacher, Alexandra Peake and Alexis Petrowsky made the spring 2021 Dean's List at Quinnipiac University in Hamden.

Church Tag Sale Saturday

Westchester Congregational Church will hold a Tag Sale Saturday, July 10, from 8 a.m.-noon, at the parsonage, located at 95 Cemetery Rd. (across the street from the church) in the Westchester section of Colchester.

For more information, email westcongregationchurch@gmail.com.

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.

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 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. 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.

Dean's List

Colchester residents and 2020 Bacon Academy graduates Alison Banning and Jade Totten made the spring 2021 Dean's List at Marist College in Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

Ahavath Achim News

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

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

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.

Christian Life Chapel News

Christian Life Chapel, located at 392 S. Main St., Suites 4 and 5, holds worship in-person at 10 a.m. Sundays, or follow the church on Facebook for the livestream.

For more information, call Pastor Don Rivers at 860-398-9119 or visit christianlifechapel.org.

Kindergarten Registration

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

To register, visit tinyurl.com/d7t8hvxk. Once forms are completed, parents/guardians will need to schedule an appointment with the Board of Education office by calling 860-537-7267.

Dean's List

Jackson Tyler Hanrahan, son of Michael and Kathleen Hanrahan of Colchester, recently graduated from Bryant University in Smithfield, R.I., with a Bachelor of Science degree in financial services. Hanrahan also made the spring 2021 Dean's List.

Hanrahan has accepted a position at the Equitable financial advisory firms, and will operate out of its Wellesley, Mass. office.

Dean's List

Chelsea Kranc of Colchester made the spring 2021 Dean's List at Simmons University in Boston.

Boy Scout Car Wash

Boy Scout Troop 72 will hold a car wash Saturday, July 10, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., at Colchester Federated Church, 60 Main St., just in front of the Town Green.

The purpose of the car wash is to help the Scouts raise funds to defray the cost of the upcoming seven-day high-adventure Allagash River canoe trip to Maine. Scouts will also collect returnable cans and bottles. All funds earned will be directed toward reducing the trip's expenses.

For those who cannot attend the car wash, donations can be sent to: Troop 72 Canoe Trip, c/o Colchester Federated Church, 60 Main St., Colchester, CT 06415.



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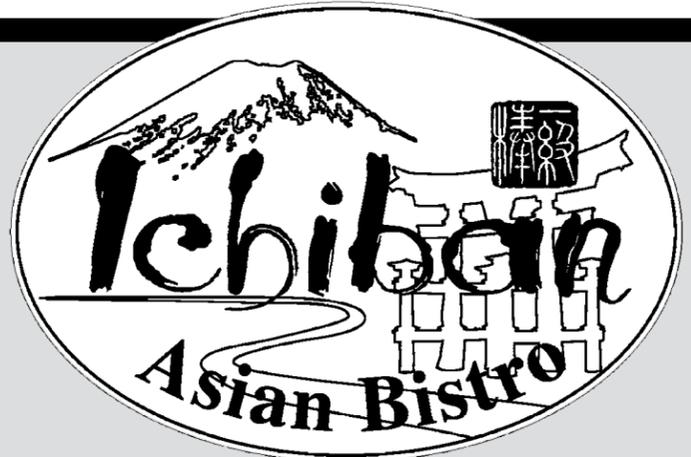


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Bacon Football Car Wash

The Bacon Academy football team is holding a car wash to raise funds for the upcoming season Saturday, July 10, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at Advance Auto Parts, 179 Linwood Ave. Donations will also be accepted.

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.

Football Friends Golf Tourney

Friends of Football is sponsoring a golf tournament at Blackledge Country Club on Friday, Aug. 6, to support Bacon Academy athletics.

Groups representing all teams are encouraged to participate. A portion of the proceeds from each registration will be provided to the team each group has chosen to represent.

Fee information and registration are at baconacademyfootball.com. Registration fee includes a box lunch from Illiano's and dinner. Dixon Golf will be present running various on course contests for chances to win prizes. Raffle and silent auction items will also be offered. Email questions to baconfof@gmail.com.

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.

Parks and Rec. Summer Day Camp

Parks and Recreation will hold its Summer Day Camp weekly through 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 or call 860-537-7297.

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 for further information and to register.

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.

Dean's List

Davin Roy of Colchester made the spring 2021 Dean's List at the University of New Haven. He is a freshman majoring in exercise science and playing football for the Chargers.

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 Preschool 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.

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.

Fire Calls

From June 27-July 3, the Colchester Hayward Fire Department responded to 42 calls: 33 emergency medical calls, five fire/fire-related calls, and four motor vehicle crashes. Calls included:

Fire: fire alarm, four; service call, one.

Medical: sick person, two; difficulty breathing, four; fall injury, three; cardiac distress, five; mental disorder, three; lift assist, three; overdose, one; medical alarm, one; unconscious, four; injured person, one; seizure, three; allergic reaction, one.

CHFD provided mutual aid twice last week – once each to Hebron and Marlborough – 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.

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, nine meals, 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.

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★ **Andover Budget cont. from page 1**

In between, there was also a June 1 town meeting, where a proposed \$12.49 million budget request – a decrease of .34% from the 2020-21 year – fell by a 128-58 vote at a town meeting.

At last week's town meeting, two moderators were nominated, Paula King and Wally Barton. King was elected by and hand vote and moderated the meeting.

Maguire went over the votes from the second referendum, including the answers to four non-binding advisory questions.

Officials, during previous own meetings, had said they would use the questions to gauge residents' concerns in the event the spending plan failed to meet with voter approval yet again, which it did.

Question one asked if Andover Elementary School's \$3.99 million – a \$97,000 or 2.5% increase over the current year – was too high or too low.

Of those who responded, 425 said it was too high and 160 said too low.

Question two asked if the town's budget \$3.41 million – a \$93,476 or 2.82% increase over the current year – was too high or too low.

Of respondents, 319 said it was too high and 199 said too low.

Question three asked if the resident state trooper position should be eliminated; 212 said 'yes' and 445 said 'no.'

Earlier in the budget season, the finance board grappled with the idea of cutting the position from the budget but ultimately decided against the measure. In 2018, the idea was knocked down at town meeting in a 70 to 30 vote.

Question number four asked if the town and elementary school budgets should be voted on separately, to which 421 said 'yes' and 224 said 'no.'

After the June 22 referendum failed, the Board of Finance went back over the numbers and came up with another recommendation, Maguire said. The board sliced \$50,000 from the town budget and \$97,000 from Andover Elementary School's budget.

The resulting \$12.427 million budget calculates to zero increases for the school and town, Maguire told voters.

Before opening the floor to speakers, Maguire said education spending takes up 75% of the budget.

"Education is the most important thing that the town does, it takes up the majority of every town's budget," he said. "The most important thing we do is educate our children we have to do it in a financially prudent manner."

He said he hoped people would be respectful of one another.

Resident Georgette Conrad, the first speaker, made a motion, which passed with a hand vote, to limit speakers to one and a half to two minutes at the mic.

Liz Lozeic, made a motion that all subsequent motions be voted on via paper ballot. The motion passed.

A motion to reduce Andover Elementary School's budget by an additional \$103,000 for a total of \$200,000 was made by resident Jeff Ballard, and was defeated with 35 'yes' votes to 63 'no' ones.

Xavier Headmaster's, Principal's Lists

Xavier High School has announced the Headmaster's List and Principal's List for the 2020-21 academic year. To qualify for the Headmaster's List a student must complete the academic year with a final grade point average of 3.75 or higher and have no final grade less than a B. The qualifications for the Principal's List: a student must complete the academic year with a final GPA between 3.25 and 3.74 and have no final grade less than a C.

Headmaster's List

Amston: Spencer Thompson, Class of 2022; Zachary Bulkovitch, '23.

Colchester: Shane Sutton, '21; Austin Zwick, '22; Noah Bergquist, '24.

East Hampton: Nicholas Connors, '22; Matthew Fuffo, '22; Noah Howell, '22; Dylan Levesque, '22; Wyatt McElroy, '22; Liam Sheeley, '22; Julian Henderson, '23; Peter O'Brien, '23; Evan Riegler, '23; Euan Hall, '24; Kyle Levesque, '24; Calan Lindsay, '24.

Hebron: James DeDonato, '22; Drew Kron, '22.

Marlborough: Aidan Muldoon, '22.

Portland: Mitchell Carella, '23; Nathan Nadolski, '24; John Thompson, '24.

Principal's List

Amston: Peyton Cruess, '23; Braden Hulland, '24.

Colchester: Rhys Snow, '21; Chase Bischoff, '22; David DeTuccio III, '22; Alexander Rowllins, '23.

East Hampton: Shea Krassner, '22; Brendan Oakley, '22; Chase Vitale, '22; Zachary Potter, '23; Luke DeAngelis, '24; Jacob Fagan, '24; Cameron Nephew, '24.

Hebron: Keegan Truscinski, '22.

Portland: Joshua Aresco, '21; Adam Bradshaw, '21; Eoin Wallace, '21; Michael Backus, '23; Aidan Fenton, '23; Jack Gouin, '23; Colin Wallace, '23; Kevin Kasperowski, '24.

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Knights of Columbus Golf Classic

The St. John Fisher Knights of Columbus Council 15734 will hold its eighth annual Golf Classic fundraiser Thursday, Sept. 23, at Blackledge Country Club in Hebron. Golfers, sponsors and patrons are invited to support the tournament, which benefits local individuals, families and other groups in need.

On tournament day, registration starts at 11:15 a.m., and shotgun start is at 12:30 PM. Cost is \$140/golfer and includes 18 holes of golf, free lunch, on course refreshments, and a banquet. Various contests will be available.

To register as a golfer or sponsor, email

KofCdrivefortheFish@outlook.com or call Jim at 860-295-9904. A sign-up will be immediately sent to you for all wishing to participate as: a golfer (or foursome), sponsor, donate a raffle gift or as a patron with instructions.

Republicans Seek Candidates

The Marlborough Republican Town Committee is seeking individuals interested in serving as elected officials for positions on the town's boards and commissions. The committee is currently assembling a slate of candidates for the November elections.

There are also currently some vacancies, which are in need of being filled on various town Boards and Commissions.

If interested, call Republican Town Committee Chairman Liz Gorgoglione at 860-966-0050 or Vice Chairman Sue Stolfi at 860-593-4763 to discuss specific vacancies and for openings on the November ballot, or visit www.MarIGOP.com.

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Parks and Rec Programs

Marlborough Parks and Recreation has announced the following. For full descriptions or to register, visit marlboroughct.recdesk.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: Weekly through Aug. 13 at Blish Park, for grades K-7. All campers are supervised by counselors and lifeguards trained in CPR/first aid. Registration per week is \$175/residents, \$185/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, 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.

Stand Up Paddleboard Class: Sunday, July 4, 7:30-9 p.m., at Blish Park, for ages 16 and up. Fee: \$40/residents, \$45/non-residents.

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.

Young Chefs Cooking Class: Friday, July 9, at 5:30 via Zoom. Kids aged 8 and up will virtually learn how to bake a blueberry pie. Email the library to register.

Camp Colorful with Ms. Eileen: Wednesday, July 11, from 11a.m.-12p.m. Outdoor art program, weather pending, for kids aged 5-12. Parents should remain on library property during the program.

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.

Ancient Alcohol After Hours: Thursday, July 22, 6:30 p.m., via Zoom. Virtually explore how ancestors partied like it was 5000 BCE. Participants will learn about an ancient Greek drinking game, a Mesopotamian queen who drank her beer out of a straw, the science that went into recreating the beverage served at the funerary feast hosted by King Midas, and more. Presented in partnership with Penn Museum and Philly Loves Beer, this tour will be led by a mix of both history and beer experts. Email richmondprograms@gmail.com to register.

Dean's List

Marlborough residents Brenden Duprey, Victoria O'Neill and Matthew Pina made the spring 2021 Dean's List at Quinnipiac University in Hamden.

Dean's List

Marlborough resident Sydney Farrar, a psychology major, made the spring 2021 Dean's List at The College of New Jersey in Ewing, N.J.

Outdoor Summer Concert This Saturday

Marlborough Arts Center, 231 N. Main St., has outdoor summer concerts planned for this summer. Concerts will be Saturdays at 2 p.m., with rain date the next day if needed. Concerts are free, but a donation of \$10/person is suggested.

The July 10 show features the married duo of Judy Handler and Mark Levesque. They have played over 2,000 concerts together in the USA and Europe. Their arrangements blend classical, Brazilian, Latin, American, Klezmer, gypsy and jazz. Individually, Handler has played with many guitarists including Charlie Byrd and has earned degrees from the Cincinnati Conservatory, the Aspen Mu-

sic School, a master's in music from Hartt School, as well as diplomas of merit from music academies in Italy and Spain.

Levesque started guitar at age 10 and was soon playing with rock and blues bands at this early age. He went on to study and research music all over the world while composing songs and instrumental music including synthesizer works.

Concertgoers should bring their own seating and observe pertinent COVID-19 restrictions. There is on-site parking.

Future concerts are: July 24, Sal Basile; and Aug. 28, Nick Catroneo.

Senior Center News and Notes

Marlborough Senior Center, 17 School Dr., is not only open for activities but is also a town cooling center. Call 860-295-6209 for the center's 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 homebound. 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.

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

Exercise with Anne: Tuesdays, 2-3 p.m., subject to change

Bingo: Starting Monday, July 19, from 1-3 p.m.

Tai Chi with Linda: Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.

Cards: Tuesdays, 11 a.m.
8-Ball Pool: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 10 a.m.-noon.

Congregational Church News & Notes

Sunday Worship at the Congregational Church of Marlborough, United Church of Christ, 35 South Main St., is at 10 a.m. During July and August worship services will be held in the air-conditioned Thienes Lounge.

Worship services and programs are open to the public. The church is an Open and Affirming Faith community. For more information about the church or its programs, contact the church office at 860-295-9050 or office@marlconggchurch.org.

Sabbatical: The Rev. Bob Faulhaber is on sabbatical in July. For pastoral care, contact the church office.

Sunday, July 11: Worship will be led by Pastoral Intern Val Seaver.

Second Blessings Thrift Shop: The shop is closed in July and August and will reopen Sept. 11. However, appointments to shop during the summer can be made by calling the church office. The shop sells year-round on eBay at bit.ly/MCCebay.



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Make-A-Wish Connecticut granted 18-year-old Andrew Lombardi's wish for a Jeep makeover. Lombardi has been battling leukemia

Resident Receives the Ultimate Jeep Transformation

Make-A-Wish Connecticut recently granted 18-year-old Andrew Lombardi's wish for a Jeep makeover.

Like most teens his age, Lombardi enjoys spending quality time with his friends and family, playing videogames, and working out. However, unlike most teens, he has been battling lymphoma, which consists of numerous hospital visits and rigorous treatment plans.

As his father was beginning the process of buying a Jeep, Andrew decided to pitch the idea of possibly "tricking out" the new vehicle to Make-A-Wish Connecticut. You could see his eyes light up with excitement as he went into extreme detail explaining all the modifications he desired. After utilizing Andrew's artistic abilities to draw a picture of his dream car, Make-A-Wish Connecticut got hard to work making his four-wheel wish a reality.

While at the autobody shop, a new electric blue wrap (Lombardi's favorite color) and parts, completely transformed the once black four-door Jeep wrangler.

A rainy wish day did not prevent friends, family, and a parade of 50 Jeeps from the Jeeps Enthusiasts' Club from coming out to support Andrew on Memorial Day weekend. After the keys were handed over, Lombardi with an umbrella in hand, began inspecting the uniquely designed Jeep that had just been unveiled to him. From top to bottom, he was impressed with the finished product which included the many exterior and interior upgrades and accessories he had requested: new wheels and rims, a lift kit, navigation system and high quality seats. Lombardi's family shared that they knew transforming this

Jeep was his heartfelt wish because it was the first time, in a long time, that they had really seen him get jazzed about anything.

Before driving off, Lombardi had a message for other wish kids: "Even though it is tough and it is hard in the moment, it is always going to get better, and you are always going to have friends and family to help you along in that journey."

Rough Country donated all the parts and Redline Restorations donated all the labor to make his Jeep transformation come true.

For more information on Make-A-Wish Connecticut, visit ct.wish.org.

Touch-a-Truck July 17

Marlborough Cooperative Nursery School (MCNS) will host a Touch-a-Truck event Saturday, July 17, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., at 35 S. Main St.

There are over 18 vehicles confirmed, including fire trucks, a plow truck, skid steer, and a mulch blower. Children are invited to see the trucks up close, climb into some cabs, and participate in a scavenger hunt. Two food trucks, Blue Chip Creamery and Dukes' Delish, will be selling lunch and snacks.

A kids' 12-volt ride-on tractor will be raffled off for \$10/ticket and tickets may be purchased in advance (winner doesn't need to be present). Additional raffle items for \$1/ticket include gift certificates from Pinwheels Toys & Games, Glazed Pottery Painting & Art Studio, virtual room consultations with Ophelia and Adele Home, a Cavanna Farms Christmas

tree, and a gift card for Gray Granite Railroad.

MCNS will also host an open house during the event where families can meet the new head teacher, Liz McKiernan, and tour the school. Limited spaces remain in the preschool classes, and enrollment will be accepted at the event for 3, 4, and 5-year-old children.

This is a fundraising event for MCNS, so there is a suggested donation of \$5 per child or \$20 per family for admittance. Per Chatham Health guidelines, everyone attending will be required to sign in.

Additional information can be found at MarlboroughCoop.org or by following MCNS on Facebook. Questions or to purchase raffle tickets in advance can be directed to MCNS-Board@gmail.com.

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 am 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).



Touch-A-Truck

Touch-A-Truck Fundraiser
for Marlborough Cooperative Nursery School

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BE SAFE!

Library Smashes Record with 100,000 Checkouts

by Jack Lakowsky

The East Hampton Public Library last week achieved a goal pursued for years; 100,000 items checked out in a single fiscal year.

This feat happened under the leadership of library director Ellen Paul, who credited staff, town officials and-especially-patrons for helping make this goal reality.

The 100,000th item was checked out on June 28.

"It feels amazing," Paul told the *Rivereast* last week. "This is the cherry on top of all the great things happening here right now."

Paul took the helm four years ago. At the time, the library was loaning about 66,000 items per year.

Paul said the library had actually been on track to achieve this deed last year-until the pesky COVID-19 pandemic disrupted checkouts and forced the library to close operations in March, just as they were nearing their goal.

"We lost some ground, but we've really roared back," Paul said.

One-hundred thousand checkouts has been a goal for two years, Paul said.

"We realized in July 2020, when we reopened and people started coming back, we could resume and continue to chase our goals," said Paul.

Before setting their next ambition, Paul said the library will take a breath to celebrate this never-before-seen milestone.

"That said, we can and will do more," Paul said. "This is only the beginning for us."

On their current trajectory, library checkout numbers will continue to grow, according to Paul.

Naturally, the library will share its celebration with the community. Grab a copy of next week's *Rivereast* to see a full-page ad from the library containing a coupon that, when redeemed, will get for free a pair of sunglasses for readers.

Paul said she opted to give sunglasses to thank the town, and to point out how bright the library's future looks. A generous donation paid for the sunglasses, Paul said.

Along with the 100,000 materials loaned, the library set a personal best for summer reading program enrollment.

As of last week, Paul said between the library's kids, teens and adults summer reading, 650 locals had signed-up. In 2019, 400 people were enrolled. In 2020, when all programs had to go virtual, just about 200 signed up.

This dubious reprieve is over.

"We've been joking that we should all wear

pedometers to keep track of how much we're running around," Paul said of summer reading going gangbusters.

To any who may have missed initial registration, Paul said don't worry. Even if a week or two is missed, sign-up is still available to residents. Contact the library for more information.

The library recently hosted a summer reading kick-off event, attended by more than 400 locals.

"The whole thing was outside," Paul said. "There were baby goats, balloon artists and free snow cones and, of course, sign-up for summer reading. It's so crazy, and so amazing to see people back here, using their library."

Paul credited the library's partnership with its East Hampton school district counterparts for making summer reading such a success.

Paul said throughout June, town librarians went to every single East Hampton school classroom, speaking to students about the benefits of summer reading.

"Thanks to the Friends [of the East Hampton Library], they were able to give each child a promotional summer reading neon stadium cup," said Paul. "I attribute a lot of our growth to our work with the schools."

Inside the cup was a flyer about summer reading which families could return to get a raffle ticket in the library's end-of-summer drawing that will give a special prize to one reader in the kids group, and a reader from among the teens and adults.

Kids in the program will aim to reach a weekly goal, to be measured in books or minutes spent reading. Children who meet their goals can, each week for eight weeks, earn a raffle ticket toward a grand prize- a bicycle donated by Main Street's Air Line Cycles.

An Air Line bike is also the prize for the adult and teen programs. Older readers will complete a series of challenges, ranging from reading one hour a day to simply going for a brisk walk. After a challenge is completed, a raffle ticket will be given, and a lucky winner will get the bike.

The library for the past year has been on a roll-eliminating late fees as a way to enhance



Along with setting a new record for checkouts in a single fiscal year, the library set also set a new standard for its summer reading program with over 600 registrants. Pictured are library staff sporting their summer reading regalia, along with a child signing-up for some warm-weather bookworm-ing, hopefully at the beach!



library inclusivity, reinstating a long-vacant librarian's position, seeing checkout and participation soar and in the spring, holding a town-wide, life-sized game of Candy Land that multiple state news outlets covered.

East Hampton Public Library won a state award for Candy Land as well, garnering statewide recognition.

Another win: the state allocated to the library \$17,000. This money flows from the American Rescue Plan stimulus package and is meant to "assist libraries in responding to and reopening from the pandemic," Paul said.

Paul said the money will primarily be spent on expanding technology access, as well as pandemic-friendly capital like easy-to-clean furniture.

To offer better library tech services, Paul said the building's Wi-Fi needs to improve, as right now it gets "a bit throttled" with users.

The money's also going to help add more charging stations, as the library was built in 1986 and doesn't have any. Paul predicts this work will finish in the fall.

The library also got money from the gover-

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.

nor's Everyone Learns Grant Initiative to install outdoor wireless access points.

Many of these successes grew from the library's multiyear Strategic Plan, which Paul, staff and the library board launched last September. Resident input solicited in a February 2020 survey currently guides the plan.

In the survey, Paul said patrons wanted a "welcoming, vibrant library for everyone."

Eliminating fines, a reform seen at massive establishments like the Chicago Public Library, was a way to improve accessibility and hospitality, enacted earlier this year after affirmative votes from both the library board and the East Hampton Town Council.

After fines ended, an influx of overdue items returned to the library. Also, many users' cards were cleared of overdue items, allowing them to again fully enjoy new items.

"We're striving for exceptional," Paul said.

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.

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.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church News

Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church holds live in-person services Sundays at 10:15 a.m. All are welcome. Enter via the front door and ushers will assist you.

For those not ready to attend in person, the livestream link will be at the church's Facebook page, at www.facebook.com/BethlehemEH.

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.

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We are the family of **Kyle Hermann, 23**, seeking information for our own personal use to understand fully the circumstances involved in our son's death caused by an impaired driver.

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East Hampton • East Hampton

In Meeting with Voters, Haines Talks New Education Policy

by Jack Lakowsky

Eager Belltown residents gathered at East Hampton Public Library last week to hear legislative updates from state Rep. Irene Haines (R-34), who gave an overview of recent major regulations to pass through Hartford.

Haines, who serves East Hampton, East Had-dam and part of Colchester, stopped by the library last Tuesday.

Haines is a ranking member of the state house chamber's Higher Education Committee, a group she said "did a great job this year." As a member of this body, Haines is part of the first stop of any education related lawmaking.

First among the passed bills Haines named was one allowing for a "fee-free day" at the University of Connecticut, as well as the rest of the state university system.

"This was to encourage exceptional people from out-of-state to apply to our schools," Haines said, further explaining that application fees can be prohibitive, discouraging talented students from applying.

Haines said, as her own daughters underwent the demanding steps needed to apply to college, her family spent between \$300 and \$500.

"You're only gonna go to one of those schools," Haines said.

On fee-free day, applications can be submitted to UConn or other state schools without cost.

Haines said policies for military veteran education credits were updated, which needs to be done every five years or so as armed forces training evolves.

Haines and the committee also helped pass two bills related to safety on college campuses, specifically regarding accidental deaths and sexual assaults.

As so often happens with legislation at both the state and federal level, the bill requiring colleges to list in their public safety reports any accidental deaths on campus that came about after tragedy struck a Connecticut family.

In a heartbreaking incident, Haines said, a Connecticut student died from injuries received in a skateboarding accident at their school in

Colorado.

"It was an accidental death," Haines told constituents. "But it did not have to be reported on the death list from that school. It's a school safety issue."

Haines said, as college-hopefuls apply and tour campuses, parents check the school's website for the institution's safety report, and also scrutinize the grounds, ensuring convenient locations of the blue towers students can use to contact campus police.

Online, parents can find a college's list of deaths that occurred on campus. However, for some reason, schools did not have to report accidental deaths.

"The boy's family came to Hartford to push through a bill for reporting accidental deaths," Haines said.

The family advocated mightily for the bill, calling every lawmaker they could. However, nails started to be bitten; as the latest session neared its end, the bill hadn't been brought to the floor.

Haines said the family had been unable to reach state assembly leader Jason Rojas (D-9), who serves East Hartford and Manchester, and so, on the last day of session, they waited at his parking space at the Connecticut Capitol. Haines said Rojas has the power to decide what does and does not get debated.

The family explained the bill to Rojas. It was brought to the floor and passed at the eleventh hour.

Haines used this as an example of how important it is for voters to contact legislators, even those regulators who don't directly serve their assembly or senatorial district.

"This [bill] happened because you, the voice, came to Hartford and made it happen," said Haines. "We don't have tolls because people got together and said no."

Haines advised voters everywhere to, when a bill reaches committee, contact relevant lawmakers between February and March, early in a session, before the entire assembly debates it which, Haines said, gets "sticky."

Lastly, Haines detailed a bill passed to aid



On Tuesday, June 29, state Rep. Irene Haines (back left) who serves East Hampton and part of Colchester in Hartford, visited the town library to update voters on recent legislation.

students reporting sexual assault on college campuses.

Haines explained that, because these traumatizing incidents occur at parties where underage drinking and other illicit activities are commonplace, victims and witnesses fear they'll get in trouble if they come forward.

"The reality is that sexual assaults occur on college campuses," Haines said. "This bill gives anyone who comes forward leniency. This is the type of bill that helps all of us. We're not just two parties, we're all people of this state, and this bill makes for a safer, more productive environment."

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 or by contacting the center at 860-267-4426 or 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 for more information.

Weekly Events: Quilting Group: Mondays at 9 a.m. Quilters bring their own projects. The group also works collaboratively to make quilts for the Hole in the Wall Gang Camp and makes a donation once a year for the campers. New members are welcome. To register, call the center or register online.

Mexican Train Dominoes: Mondays, 9:30 a.m. New members welcome. Call the center or register online.

Bible Study: Tuesdays, 1:30 p.m. This non-denominational group shares and studies scripture. Call the center or register online.

Bingo Hybrid: Tuesdays, 1-2 p.m., in person and via Zoom. Register online. If Zooming, call the center and let staff know.

Wii Bowling: Tuesdays, July 13 and 20, 10 a.m. Registration required and can be done online.

Mahjongg: Fridays, 10 a.m.-noon. Call or register online. This game is open to trained players. If interested, call the center and leave your name for a possible instruction class. The center will contact you when the class is arranged.

Textile Group: Fridays at 1:30 p.m. This group brings in their own projects, such as knitting or crochet projects. To register, call the center or register online.

Writing Our Lives to Open Our Hearts: Thursdays throughout the summer, 10:30-11:30 a.m. – or Wednesdays, July 14 and 28. Meet outside, weather permitting. In case of inclement weather, it will be inside, with masks recommended. Register online.

Virtual Lunch Bunch: Every other Monday from 12:30-1 p.m., via Zoom. Next date is July 12.

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.

Setback: Thursdays 1:30-3:30pm, in person. Pre-register via my MyActiveCenter.com or by calling in advance.

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 solar 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.

Movie Group: Lunch and Discussion/In Person, last Tuesday of each month from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Bring your own lunch and discuss movies. The next meeting will be July 27, movie to be announced soon. Sign-up on MyActiveCenter.com or call the Center.

Trips: Hudson River Cruise: Thursday, Sept. 23, 8 a.m. Pre-cruise lunch at Shadows on the Hudson in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., on a cliff above the Hudson with views. Select from Mediterranean chicken or penne a la vodka. The Rip Van Winkle narrated cruise offers views of the Hudson River, lighthouses, waterfront mansions and other sights. Cost is \$130 per person. Register at the Colchester Senior Center or call 860-537-3911 for more information.

Van Gogh: Exhibit in Boston: Wednesday, November 17. Explore Van Gogh's life, work, and secrets through digital projections, a virtual reality experience, and an atmospheric light and sound show. Cost is \$112 per person. Pick up flyers at the senior center. Payments accepted on Tuesdays and Thursdays or by appointment.

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.

Dean's List

East Hampton residents Liv Distefano and Emily Salisbury made the spring 2021 Dean's List at Quinnipiac University in Hamden.

East Hampton Library News & Notes

East Hampton Public Library, 105 Main St., has announced the following. To register, or for full program descriptions, call 860-267-6621 or visit easthamptonpubliclibrary.org.

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. through 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. through 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., July 12 and 26, and Aug. 9, in front of East Hampton Public Library, weather permitting. Siblings welcome. No registration required; just drop in.

Lego Saturdays: Saturdays, 10:30 a.m., for all ages. Follow the week's challenge or build your own adventure. All are welcome. No registration required; just drop in.

Creature Feature: Paws and Claws: For grades K-5 Wednesday, July 14, 6 p.m. Learn about animal tracks and a bit of forensics as you determine which tracks belong to which animal. The event will be held in front of the library, weather permitting.

Teen Program: Dungeons & Dragons: For grades 8-12. Wednesdays at 2 p.m., July 14 and

28, and Aug. 11, in front of the library, weather permitting. No experience required. Registration required.

Adult Programs: Camp Crafts: Mondays at 6 p.m. through Aug. 9, in front of the library, weather permitting. Registration required.

Plot Twist: Discussing Big Issues through Short Stories: Wednesdays, July 28 and Aug. 25, at 7 p.m., held outdoors at Dexter's Tunes, Tales and Ales, 91 Main St. Registration required.

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. July's title is *Twenty-One Truths About Love* by Matthew Dicks, and August's title is *The Vacationers* by Emma Straub. Registration required.

GOP Auction Coming

Thursday, Aug. 26, is the GOP Autumn Auction at Robert's Lake House in East Hampton. The auction will start at 6 p.m.

Auctioneer Andy Tierney will host the event inside. Items this year include tickets to Limerock Race Track, a kayak, original Elizabeth Sennet artwork, a New Hampshire vacation home, and more. All are welcome.

A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Senior Center and the Rotary's youth group, Interact. To donate an item or for more information, call Melissa Engel at 860-267-9738.

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.

Dean's List

Ardyn Lezak of East Hampton made the spring 2021 Dean's List at Springfield College in Springfield, Mass.

Lezak has a primary major of criminal jus-tice.

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-registrat-ion.

East Hampton • East Hampton

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.

Old Home Day Reverse Parade

The Old Home Day Reverse Parade is this Saturday, July 10, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. All are invited to drive around town and visit the properties listed on the map. The theme is: The Spirit of East Hampton Old Home Day at Home.

There will be voting for the winners, in various categories. Voting can be done at bit.ly/OHD2021 or www.surveymonkey.com/r/oldhomedays. Categories are: Best use of theme or spirit; Best in Show; Most original; Best use of air (inflatables); Best use of recycled materials; Best use of music; and Best use of theatre.

Look for the Eye Spy clues included with the map.

Summer Reading Program for All Ages

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

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.

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@gmail.com.

Hike at Hurd State Park

The Chatham Historical Society (CHS) is organizing a hike at Hurd State Park on Sunday, July 11, at 10 a.m. Andrew Dickinson, a member of the society, 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, contact Marty Podskoch at 860-267-2442 or podskoch@comcast.net, or visit www.chathamhistoricalct.org.

Police News

6/25: Kathryn Hanley, 32, of Yantic, was issued a summons for operating under suspension and failure to drive right, East Hampton Police said.

6/29: Dylan Krepcio, 19, of Gales Ferry, was issued a summons for speeding, misuse of plates, operating a motor vehicle without insurance and failure to obey an officer's signal, police said.

6/30: Gregory Perun, 39, of 13 Serafin Ter., was issued a summons for operating an unregistered and uninsured motor vehicle, police said.

6/30: Gwendolen Maldonado, 45, of Middletown, was issued a summons for failure to have tail light lit and operating while suspended, police said.

7/1: Nidia Gonzalez-Lopez, 35, of 48 Long Hill Rd., was charged with third-degree burglary, violation of a protective order and fourth-degree larceny, police said.

7/5: Tedford Kreder, 24, of 124 Hammond Ct., Colchester was issued a summons for speeding, police said.

Also, from June 14-July 4, officers responded to 14 motor vehicle crashes, 38 medical calls and 21 alarms, and made 72 traffic stops, police said.

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.

Goff House Concert Lineup

The Goff House Gazebo Concert Series is held Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. through July 29.

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

The remaining concerts are: 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 goffhouseehct.blogspot.com for more information.

Nominees Sought for Lake-Smart Award

Owners of lake or watershed property are invited to have their property evaluated for a Lake-Smart Award.

The East Hampton Conservation & Lake Commission (C&LC) started the "Lake-Smart Award Program" for property owners living on Lake Pocotopaug or in the surrounding watershed. The purpose is to encourage property owners to improve the quality of Lake Pocotopaug by doing projects to prevent infiltration of phosphates, nitrates, pesticides, and other impurities from entering the lake. Those that achieve seven requirements will receive a Lake-Smart

Award sign they can display on their property.

To be evaluated for the award, contact: Jeremy Hall of the Parks & Recreation Department (860-267-7300 or jhall@easthamptonct.gov) or Jeremy DeCarli of the Planning & Zoning Dept. (860-267-7450 or jdecarli@easthamptonct.gov), or any members of the C&LC. An appointment will be arranged for a C&LC member to visit the owners and help them evaluate their property. If there is a deficiency, owners will be given suggestions on improving their property. If they achieve all the goals, they will receive a Lake-Smart Award.

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 available via Zoom; visit cc-eh.org to access.

For more information, visit 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.



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Obituaries

Colchester

James L. O'Connell

James L. O'Connell, "Big Jim," "Okie", 81, of Colchester, beloved husband of Eva (Tapar) O'Connell passed away Friday, July 2, surrounded by his loving family. Born Jan. 19, 1940, in Hartford, he was the son of the late Arthur and Margaret (Plummer) O'Connell.



Jim resided in Newington, East Hartford and Colchester. He was a graduate of Newington Senior High School, Class of 1958. He proudly served his country in the U.S. Navy Reserves from 1957 through 1963, including two years of active duty.

Jim was a highly decorated member of the Hartford Fire Department, serving for 31 years. He was a member of the Emerald Society, the Police and Firefighter's Association, and the Firemen's Benevolent Society. Jim was a devoted catholic his entire life, he served as head usher at the St. Andrew Church in Colchester and was a third-degree member of the Knights of Columbus. He was also a member of the St. Joseph's Polish Society, American Legion Post 54 of Colchester, and the Antique Veterans, which renders military services for deceased veterans throughout Eastern Connecticut. Jim loved gardening, fishing, watching golf and *Jeopardy!*. We will miss all of his stories and funny jokes.

In addition to his loving wife, he is survived by his sons, James O'Connell, and wife Kelly of Rocky Hill, Patrick O'Connell and wife Suzanne of Marlborough, and Arthur O'Connell and wife Joan-Marie of Andover; his sister, Margaret Kleckner of Watertown, Mass., and a brother Arthur O'Connell and his wife Lyn of Virginia Beach, VA; his loving grandchildren, Ashley and fiancé Jackie Grant, Jameson, Danielle, Bailey, Shaun, Michael, Gracie and Sofia O'Connell; and several nieces and nephews and many dear friends.

In addition to his parents, he is predeceased by his sister Ruth Smichenko and brother-in-laws Peter Smichenko and Melvin Kleckner.

The family will receive friends for visitation today, July 9, at 10 a.m., directly at St. Andrew Church, part of the Guardian Angels Parish, 128 Norwich Ave., followed by a Mass of Christian Burial, starting at 11 a.m. Burial will follow at the New St. Andrew Cemetery on Gillette's Lane in Colchester.

James' family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the staff of Hartford Hospital, who provided excellent compassionate care and love to James during his stay.

In lieu of flowers, please make memorial donations to the Antique Veterans, P.O. Box 54, Colchester, CT 06415.

For online condolences, please visit www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

Portland

Sr. Ida Dolan Memorial Mass

St. Mary Ladies Guild will be hosting a memorial Mass for Sr. Ida Dolan on Saturday, July 10, at 10 a.m., celebrated by the Rev. John Antonelle. In honor of both Sr. Ida and Sr. Laura, two engraved candle holders for the ambo will be dedicated at the service. A reception will follow in the church hall.

Marlborough

John W. Gardiner

John W. Gardiner, 74, of Marlborough, beloved husband of 55 years to Lynn (Napoletano) Gardiner, died Wednesday, June 23, at UConn Health Center. Born Dec. 11, 1946, in Manchester, son of the late Elmer and Esther (Taylor) Gardiner, he grew up in Glastonbury, graduated from Glastonbury High School in 1965 and had lived in Marlborough since 1968. He owned and operated J. Gardiner Electrical Services in Marlborough.



Besides his wife he is survived by his son John W. Gardiner Jr. and his wife Zelia of Colchester; a daughter, Kelli DeBari of Columbia; a brother, Leon Gardiner and his wife Gail of Hebron; a sister, Nancy Quigley and her husband Dennis of East Hartford; a grandson, Jacob John Gardiner; a granddaughter, Chantel Saucier and her husband Justin; a brother-in-law, Francis Napoletano Jr. and his fiancée Sheila Palmer of Maryland; two sisters-in-law, Shelly Napoletano Flynn of West Hartford, Jann Oliver and her husband Jim of New Mexico; two nephews, Galen Flynn and Jacy Oliver and a niece Maya Oliver. He was predeceased by a grandson Christopher Patnode.

The family would like to thank the dedicated caring staff at UConn John Dempsey Hospital's Intensive Care Unit for the incredible care they provided to John and the family.

John will always be known for his love of family and friends and was in joy when spending time and laughing with them. Each and every one of us share special memories of John, and when you think of him, celebrate those memories. Remember that life is precious and should be lived to the fullest.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Wednesday, June 30, in St. John Fisher Church, 30 Jones Hollow Rd., Marlborough. Burial followed in St. Augustine Cemetery, South Glastonbury. Friends call at the Mulryan Funeral Home, 725 Hebron Ave., Glastonbury, on Tuesday June 29.

In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

For online condolences, please visit www.mulryanfh.com.

East Hampton

Lawrence Day

Lawrence Day of East Hampton was born in Montague City, Mass., to Ruth (Peterson) and Howard Day on Jan. 15, 1937. Larry grew up in Orange, Mass., and excelled in all sports at Orange High School and Wilbraham Academy. As a freshman at UConn he passed up the opportunity to play Major League Baseball to continue his education and his outstanding career playing football at UConn, setting many records. He graduated from the School of Pharmacy in 1959.

Larry leaves his wife of 59 years, Deborah (Dodge) Day, originally of Wakefield, Mass.; son, Jeffrey and wife Ellen of Colchester; son, Kevin and wife Erin of East Hampton; grandsons, Owen and Emmet Day of Colchester, Malachi and Rowan Lytle of East Hampton; and his sister, Barbara Day of Orange, Mass. Larry loved watching UConn basketball and at-



tending UConn football games. He was an avid fisherman and enjoyed working in his yard.

Friends may call at the Spencer Funeral Home, 112 Main St., East Hampton, Wednesday, July 14, from 6-8 p.m. Burial will be at the convenience of the family in Orange, Mass.

To leave online condolences, please visit www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com.

Colchester

Penny Markham

Penny Ann Markham of Moodus, passed away Tuesday morning, June 22, in Colchester, at the age of 59. After her battle to Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, an extremely rare, degenerative brain disease, estimated to strike one in a million people every year.



Penny Ann Markham was born Sept. 14, 1961, in Middletown, to William Ernest Markham and Connie Garafalo Markham. She was raised in East Hampton, at her family home on Chestnut Hill. She spent most of her childhood days helping take care of their farm with her siblings and parents, The Markham Homestead latter renamed the Chestnut Hill Gardens.

Penny went on to graduate at East Hampton High School in 1980. She went on to work at Arbor Acres Inc. with her two sisters and mother, and later went on to work at Brownell & Company, and soon after started her own cleaning business, Picture Perfect House Cleaning, and then went on to work for the East Haddam Board of Ed and was currently a custodian for the Hale-Ray Middle School, along with her fused glass jewelry making business Penny's Creations. Penny was always a very hard worker and loved to do as much as possible in her free time. Penny loved tag sales, going to the casino, hiking, camping, spending time at the beach, metal detecting, fairs, and horse races.

Penny is survived by her two daughters Jessica Norton-Krantz, 36, of Redrock, Ariz., Corie Witherly, 27, of Colchester, and son, John Witherly III, 24, of Moodus; mother, Connie Markham of Colchester; brother, Billy Markham and his wife Susan Markham of Middle Haddam; sister Robin Markham of East Hampton; sister, Debbie Westcott and husband Dave Westcott of East Hampton; and loving boyfriend, Chuck Henault of Moodus; along with many aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

She is predeceased by her father, Willam Ernest Markham III; sister, Helen "Sis" Markham; and brother, John G. Markham.

Services will be announced at a later date.

East Hampton

Gertrude T. Yenknner

Gertrude T. Yenknner, 94, passed away Tuesday, April 27, in Buda, Texas. She entered this world Dec. 13, 1926 in Meriden, born to Irving and Edna Buechler Tonge. Gertrude "Trudy" was raised in Meriden attending and graduating from Meriden High School. She was a graduate of Emerson College and worked in radio, which was a dream job for her, given her personality.



On the 7th Of December of 1947 she married Charles E. Yenknner at All Saints Church in Meriden. Although family and friends were all in Meriden she and Charlie moved to Glastonbury to be closer to work at Pratt & Whitney for Charlie in 1960. Glastonbury is where they

raised their three children before retiring to East Hampton and their lake house.

Trudy was predeceased by her husband, Charles E. Yenknner Sr. She is survived by her two sons and their wives, Charles and Tina, Robert and Ginny; a daughter Carol and her husband Terry Rodgers. Her grandchildren were the light of her life: Charles, Thomas and wife Logan Yenknner, Elizabeth and husband Ben Bansemer, Eric and his wife Lindsay Swanson, Chuck, Patricia and Catherine Swanson and husband James, along with five great-grandchildren: LuLu, Sylvie, C.J., Harper and Waylon.

Trudy was a communicant of All-Saints Church in Meriden and St. James Church in Glastonbury. Trudy was a volunteer with the Glastonbury Women's Club and Child & Family Services Thrift Shop for many years. Trudy and Charlie loved to travel, square dance, chatting with friends, swimming, beaches, boating and a good party.

Funeral services and burial will be held at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, July 13, at The Chapel at Walnut Grove Cemetery, 817 Old Colony Rd., Meriden, CT 06451.

In lieu of flowers, donations would be appreciated to Alzheimer's Association (www.alz.org) or

Special Olympics Glastonbury, c/o Lucie Carangelo, 65 Hawthorne Mead, Glastonbury, CT 06033.

Hebron

Susanna Mae Hills

Susanna Mae (Fuller) Hills, 75, of Hebron, beloved wife of 56 years to Oscar (David) Hills, passed away Saturday, July 3, after a brave battle with cancer.



Susanna was born July 27, 1945, to Arline (Jones) Fuller and the late Roy Fuller of Marlborough.

She was a loving and devoted wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, daughter and sister whose greatest joy was spending time with family. Her grandchildren were the light of her life.

Susanna was a 1963 graduate of RHAM High School, and after being a stay-at-home mom for her two sons, David and Daniel, she worked at the Connecticut Society of Genealogists until her retirement.

Besides her husband and mother, Susanna is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, Daniel and Sonja Hills of Vernon. She was predeceased by her son David Hills. She leaves behind five grandchildren, Ashley and her husband Ryan, Taylor, Heather, Austin and Joshua; one great granddaughter, Sophia; two sisters, Donna Lester and her husband Curtis of LaBelle, Fla., and Marlene Fuller of Colchester; two sisters-in-law, Laura Shriver of Coventry and Betty Dove of Florida; one brother-in-law Harold Hills of Worcester, Mass.; as well as several cousins, nieces and nephews.

Private graveside services will be held in the Gilead Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

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

★ Letters cont. from page 5

work collaboratively and respectfully with one another, but unfortunately this has not been the case lately for our children – and yes, blame falls on both sides of the table on that one.)

It is incredibly difficult to balance evening meetings with the care of small children. I know from personal experience as I am a former IWWC member and I have more than once needed to bring my young children to meetings with me. It was not my first choice, but it was the best choice I had available to me on those evenings. So, when you see a parent make the enormous effort to participate in town meetings by bringing their children along, they deserve your support not your criticism.

That said, if the presence of innocent young children at the recent town budget meetings is unsettling to you – if it troubles you to have to look at the children whose educations you are voting to undermine – then perhaps you should reconsider who the bully in the room really is. Please support Andover Elementary School and vote ‘No’ at the July 13 referendum.

Meghan Lally – Andover

Thanks, Troop 28

To the Editor:

Hebron, American Legion Post 95 wish to thank Hebron Boy Scout, Troop 28, for spring cleanup of Legion grounds.

American Legion Post 95

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

Andover Budget

To the Editor:

We go to referendum on July 13 for the third time. The Board of Ed. once again kept the stranglehold on the June 29 meeting, replacing longtime moderator Wally Barton with their ‘Chosen One’ Paula King. I was not present for a number of reasons: 1) I’m sick and tired of the forced “Mask Mandate.” 40,000 fans at Yankee Stadium, no mandate, and we have 120 people in the gymnasium. Really!!! 2) The continued presence of masses of children. Town meetings are for adults – taxpayers and citizens of Andover – and it’s not the kids’ fault; parents who want to participate and vote can either make private arrangements or have the BOE designate a room where the children can be housed with a monitor. Do we really need young children witnessing these hostile divisive meetings created by Loudon, Willard and King and the rest of the gang? 3) The outcome has been predetermined. Lest you forget my elders, the P.T.A. along with the BOE refused to allow seniors to use the half-empty school when the Old Firehouse was deemed uninhabitable. Are they claiming squatters’ rights or are they just so arrogant and selfish that they won’t share space in a Town Building?? This is unacceptable behavior and will not be tolerated – not now, not ever!!

Until we reach a zero spending increase in the elementary school, I will continue my and our fight for equity in Andover.

Don Denley – Andover

Editor’s Note: As reported in a story on the cover, the latest budget proposal comes in with a zero increase for the Andover Board of Education.

LEGALS

**LEGAL NOTICE
 TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
 ATTENTION ALL TAXPAYERS**

Notice is hereby given to the Town of East Hampton taxpayers that taxes for real estate, personal property and motor vehicles levied on the Grand List of October 1, 2020 are due and payable on July 1, 2021. The last day on which to pay without penalty is August 2, 2021. Real estate and personal property taxes over \$100 may be paid in two equal installments; July 1, 2021 and January 1, 2022. The tax is based on a mill rate of 34.53 mills which equates to \$34.53 in taxes per \$1,000 of net assessed value. Tax bills are mailed on June 29, 2021. Late payments will be subject to interest penalty at the rate of 1 ½% per month or a fraction thereof, 18 % per annum, from the due date of the tax, as required by Conn. Gen. Stat. 12-130, 145 and 146. Payments legibly postmarked by the USPS on or before August 2, 2021 are considered on time regardless of when they are received by the Tax Office. Payments received August 3, 2021 and later, including payments postmarked August 3, and later, are considered past due. The minimum interest charge is \$2 on each tax bill. A returned check fee is \$20. As owners of property, taxpayers are responsible to see that taxes are paid when due. Failure to receive a tax bill does not exempt the taxpayer from payment of all taxes and interest charges should the tax become delinquent. Please make checks payable to: Town of East Hampton. Payments may be mailed to Collector of Revenue, 1 Community Drive, East Hampton, CT 06424. Pay online by visiting www.easthamptonct.gov. Hours of collection are: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 8:00 am – 4:00 pm, Tuesday 8:00 am – 6:30 pm and Friday 8:00 am – 12:30 pm. Respectfully,
 Kristy L. Merrifield, CCMC
 Collector of Revenue

3TB 6/25, 7/9, 7/23

Email your classified line ads to sandy@glcitizen.com & call 860.633.4691 to pay with a credit card.

**LEGAL NOTICE
 Town of Andover, CT
 RFQ AN2021-01 Affordable Housing Plan**

The Town of Andover is accepting bids for the RFQ AN2021-01 Affordable Housing Plan. Scope of Work: Develop an affordable housing plan for the Town of Andover consistent with state law and Andover’s current Plan of Conservation and Development. Specifications may be obtained from www.andover.org, or request by E-mail at adminassistant@andoverct.org. All bids shall be submitted to the Town Administrator’s Office in a sealed envelope clearly marked Town of Andover, CT RFQ AN2021-01 Affordable Housing Plan. Bids shall be accepted until 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 1st, 2021. Bids may not be submitted or withdrawn after this deadline. The Town reserves the right to reject any or all bids in the best interest of the Town.

1TB 7/9

TOWN OF PORTLAND

Legal notice to the taxpayers of the Town of Portland that the first installment of real estate and personal property taxes if over \$100.00 on the Grand List of October 1, 2020 are due and payable July 1, 2021. If the amount owed is \$100.00 or under the bill is due in full. Motor vehicle taxes are due and payable in full by August 2, 2021. Taxes not paid in full on or before August 2, 2021 become delinquent and are subject to interest of 1.5% from due date of July 1, 2021. Minimum interest charge will be \$2.00. Quarterly Water and/or sewer usage bills are due and payable July 12, 2021. Payment not made in full on or before August 16, 2021 will be subject to interest of 1.5% per month from due date. Failure to receive a bill does not invalidate the tax. Please contact the Collector of Revenue immediately if you do not have a bill, for tax information or to PAY YOUR BILL ONLINE. Visit our website www.portlandct.org. The Collector of Revenue and Revenue Collection Assistant are available by telephone (860) 342-6737 or email cgotta@portlandct.org. The staff will be out of the office on Monday, July 5, 2021 in observance of Independence Day. The normal staffing hours are as follows: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday: 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Tuesday: 8:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Cynthia L. Gotta CCMC
 Town of Portland
 Collector of Revenue

3TB 6/25, 7/9, 7/23

**TOWN OF COLCHESTER
 SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING – July 14, 2021
 REFERENDUM – July 27, 2021**

The legal voters of the Town of Colchester and those qualified to vote at town meetings of said Town are hereby warned to meet for a Special Budget Meeting on Wednesday, July 14, 2021 at 7:00p.m., to be held at Bacon Academy, 611 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, CT for the following purposes:

- To consider and act upon the 2021-2022 fiscal year budget of the Board of Selectmen in the amount of \$15,783,341 as recommended by the Board of Finance.
 - To adjourn said Special Budget Meeting, pursuant to Section 7-344 of the Connecticut State Statutes and the Colchester Town Charter Section C-1102C, for a Referendum vote on Tuesday, July 27, 2021 between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. to be held at the Colchester Town Hall, 127 Norwich Ave., Colchester, CT.
- Dated at Colchester, CT this 7th day of July, 2021.

Gayle Furman, Town Clerk
 Mary Bylone, 1st Selectman
 Rosemary Coyle, Selectman
 Denise Mizla, Selectman
 Taras Rudko, Selectman
 Denise Turner, Selectman

**TOWN OF COLCHESTER
 Budget Summary**

Revenues	FY 2019-2020 Actual	FY 2020-2021 Adopted	FY 2020-2021 Projected	FY 2021-2022 Proposed
Property Taxes	40,759,158	41,410,675	41,108,311	42,504,421
Intergovernmental - Town	417,373	388,656	438,685	445,567
Intergovernmental - Education	12,669,229	12,540,218	12,381,500	12,490,218
Charges for Services	494,649	506,000	525,230	512,000
Revenues from Use of Money	269,519	196,200	34,125	34,920
Licenses/Permits/Fees	989,146	736,650	942,518	862,810
Other Revenues	593,302	380,076	459,307	379,460
Use of Fund Balance	414,089	314,000	714,930	381,000
Total Revenues	56,606,465	56,472,475	56,604,606	57,610,396

Expenditures	FY 2019-2020 Actual	FY 2020-2021 Adopted	FY 2020-2021 Projected	FY 2021-2022 Proposed
General Government	3,567,600	3,780,915	3,735,564	4,049,763
Public Safety	2,874,674	3,100,772	3,084,543	3,241,564
Public Works	3,325,588	3,686,622	3,644,785	3,832,014
Community & Human Services	1,594,794	1,691,056	1,592,260	1,702,017
Debt Service	2,075,164	2,075,164	2,075,164	2,075,164
Transfers to Other Funds	1,178,650	821,336	1,140,935	882,819
Total Town Expenditures	14,616,470	15,155,865	15,273,251	15,783,341
Education Expenditures*	41,262,496	41,316,610	41,397,941	41,827,055
Total Expenditures	55,878,966	56,472,475	56,671,192	57,610,396

Mill Rate Calculation

	Education*	Town	Debt Service	Transfers/Capital	Total
Appropriations	41,827,055	12,825,358	2,075,164	882,819	57,610,396
Estimated Revenue	12,823,278	2,576,697	0	381,000	15,780,975
Amount to be Raised by Taxation	29,003,777	10,248,661	2,075,164	501,819	41,829,421
Mills	22.69	8.02	1.62	0.39	32.72
				Dollars	Mills
Amount to be Raised by Taxation				41,829,421	32.72
Reserve for Uncollected Revenue (estimated 98.8% collection rate)				501,953	0.39
Total Tax Warrant				42,331,374	33.11

Grand List	1,259,592,300	2021-22 Proposed Mill Rate	33.11
Estimated Prorates	3,200,000	2020-21 Mill Rate	32.84
M. V. Supplement	19,000,000	Increase in Mill Rate	0.27
Less Estimated BAA & adjustments	(3,500,000)		
List Net	1,278,292,300		

*The Education budget was adopted at a referendum held on June 15, 2021. The current Town meeting and referendum are for the Town budget only (including debt service and transfers/capital).

1TB 7/9

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Ad Council

LEGALS

TOWN OF COLCHESTER LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that there will be a caucus of all the enrolled Republican electors of the Town of Colchester on 7/20/21 at 7:30 p.m. - Room 1&2 Town Hall 127 Norwich Ave Colchester CT to endorse candidates for municipal office.

1TB 7/9

Legal Notice of Marlborough Republican Caucus

The Marlborough Republican Town Committee will be holding a Caucus on Wednesday, July 21st 2021 for the purpose of endorsing candidates for election on November 2, 2021 for municipal office. The Caucus will be open to all enrolled Republican electors of the Town of Marlborough and will be held at Marlborough's Blish Park Pavilion on Park Road in Marlborough, CT. Check-in will start at 6:00 p.m. and the Caucus will commence at 6:30 p.m.. Submitted by Ken Hjulstrom, Chairman, Marlborough Republican Town Committee.

1TB 7/9

TOWN OF COLCHESTER LEGAL NOTICE

The Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a virtual public hearing on July 21, 2021, at 7:00 P.M. to hear and consider the following petitions:
1. Town of Colchester Planning and Zoning Department – Zoning Regulation Text Amendment (2021-008) – Amend Section Nos. 14.5 (Administrative Review Application) & 15.3 (Site Plan Class 1) to allow administrative approval of minor site modifications to previously approved plans.
2. Niantic Bay Group LLC – 347 Cabin Road – Resubdivision (2021-007) – Proposed six (6) lot resubdivision at 347 Cabin Road (MBL 03-00-001-005) consisting of six (6) duplexes on approximately 6.61 acres in the Suburban Use District. At this hearing interested persons may be heard and written communications received. A copy of this petition is in the Planning and Zoning Department and the Town Clerk's Office, Town Hall, 127 Norwich Avenue, and may be inspected during regular business hours (8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday). Planning and Zoning Commission
 Joseph Mathieu, Chair

2TB 7/9, 7/16

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

Notice is hereby given that the Portland Planning & Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, July 15, 2021 at a meeting to start at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom to consider the following:
Application #20-15: 173 Great Hill Pond Road. Request for a Special Permit to operate a home based dog grooming business. Application Debbie Galicia. Property of Frank and Debbie Galicia. Assessor's Map 35, Lot 66. Zone RR.
Application #20-16: 1163 Portland Cobalt Road. Request for a Special Permit to construct a 12 foot by 16 foot deck. Application of Valerie Lund. Property of Valerie Barber. Assessor's Map 23, Lot 2. Zone B2.
 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 28th day of June 2021
 Robert Ellsworth, Chairman

2TB 7/2, 7/9

TOWN OF ANDOVER PUBLIC NOTICE TO BUS AND TAXI DRIVERS

Town of Andover Senior Transportation 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 a 20-passenger bus to be used in meeting the special transportation needs of seniors and/or individuals with disabilities in the Town of Andover within a 35-mile radius. Any interested or paratransit operator in the proposed service area may review the proposed application by contacting Catherine Palazzi, 17 School Road, Andover, CT 06232 or call 860-916-6122. A public hearing will be held if requested by interested parties. Any comments should then be sent to the Town of Andover, Senior Transportation, Catherine Palazzi with a copy to the Town Administrator, Eric Anderson, 17 School Road, Andover, CT 06232. Comments must be received no later than seven (7) days following publication of the Legal Notice of July 9, 2021.

1TB 7/9

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF COLCHESTER ATTENTION COLCHESTER TAXPAYERS

Notice is hereby given to the Town of Colchester taxpayers that tax bills on the Grand List of October 1, 2020 are due and payable on July 1, 2021. Real estate, personal property and motor vehicle taxes are due and payable on July 1, 2021. Real estate taxes of more than \$100.00 may be paid in two equal installments, July 1, 2021 and January 1, 2022.
 The Town of Colchester does not have an approved budget for FY 2021-2022. Therefore, at this time you are receiving the tax bill based on last year's rate. Once the budget is approved, you may receive an ADJUSTED TAX BILL for any increase to the budget, which reflects the approved mill rate. Additionally, the Town of Colchester this year will be mailing the 2nd Real Estate installment.
 If any tax due on July 1, 2021 is not paid on or before August 2, 2021, the tax installment shall be delinquent and interest at the rate of 18% per annum (1 ½ % per month) shall be charged dating back to the original due date of the bill. Taxes that become delinquent on August 2, 2021 shall be charged delinquent interest for the months of July and August, 2021, or 3%. The minimum interest charge for delinquent taxes is \$2.00.
 Taxpayers who did not receive a bill should contact the Tax Office immediately. Failure to receive a tax bill does not invalidate the tax or any interest charged should the tax become delinquent. Taxpayers may access tax bill information and pay on-line from the homepage of the Town of Colchester website at www.colchesterct.gov and clicking the "View and Pay Tax Bills" link under Online Services – fees apply.
 Avoid waiting in long lines by paying on-line under Online Services, return your payment by mail or use our night drop box located to the left of Colchester Town Hall's entrance. If a receipt is desired, please send a self addressed stamped envelope and two copies of the bill. Mail postmarked (US Postal Service postmark only) on or before August 2, 2021 will be considered as having been paid on time. **Payments dropped in the town hall's drop box after 4:30 p.m. on August 2, 2021, will be considered as having been made on the following business day and will be deemed as paid late.**
 Please make all checks payable to the Tax Collector. Checks may be mailed to the Tax Office, 127 Norwich Avenue Colchester, CT, 06415. Questions concerning tax payments should be directed to the Tax Office, (860) 537-7210.
 Michele Wyatt, CCMC
 Town of Colchester
 Tax Collector

3TB 6/25, 7/9, 7/23

TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that there will be a caucus of all enrolled Republican electors of the Town of East Hampton on Tuesday, July 20, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. at Robert's Lakehouse (second floor), 81 North Main Street, East Hampton, CT 06424 to endorse candidates for municipal office.

1TB 7/9

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON

Notice is hereby given that the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency held a meeting at 6:30 p.m. on June 30, 2021 via ZOOM to consider the following:
 IW-21-012: Maurice Gagnon, Clark Hill Road, to construct a new home in the Upland Review Area. Map 11/ Block 40/ Lot 11B
 Jeffrey M. Foran, Chairman

1TB 7/9

TOWN OF MARLBOROUGH TAX COLLECTOR'S LEGAL NOTICE

All persons liable to pay taxes to the Town of Marlborough as levied on the October 1, 2020 Grand List which includes Real Estate, Personal Property and Motor Vehicle are hereby notified that the first installment is due July 1, 2021 and will be delinquent August 3, 2021. The second installment will be due January 1, 2022 and delinquent February 2, 2022. Delinquent bills will be subject to interest of one and half percent a month reverting to the due date or 18% a year. Minimum interest is \$2.00. Failure to receive a bill does not invalidate the interest or tax. If you do not receive a bill, please check on line at marlboroughct.net, bill look up or contact the tax office. Tax bills \$800.00 or less are due in one installment. Bills over \$800.00 are due in two installments. The Mill Rate for the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year is 35.84.
 Tax payments can be mailed to Tax Collector, PO Box 29, Marlborough, CT 06447, placed in the DROP BOX at the Town Hall, or brought into the Tax Collector's office. The Tax Collector's hours are Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Tuesdays, 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Fridays 8:30 a.m. to 12 Noon. Tax payments can be paid on line at www.marlboroughct.net with Master Card, Visa or ACH.
 Respectfully submitted,
 Barbara C. Murray, CCMC
 Tax Collector

3TB 6/25, 7/9, 7/23

PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION OF LAKE HAYWARD LEGAL NOTICE PAYMENT OF PROPERTY TAXES

All persons liable to pay real estate taxes to the Property Owners' Association of Lake Hayward as levied on the October 1, 2020, Grand List are hereby notified that the taxes are due and payable on July 1, 2021, at the mill rate of 4.608. The taxes will become delinquent on August 2, 2021, if not paid by this date. Delinquent tax bills shall be subject to interest of one and one-half percent (1.5%) per month reverting to the due date, July 1, 2021. The minimum interest charge is \$2.00. All persons in the Tax District who do not receive a tax bill should call the Tax Collector at 860-295-8769 to obtain their bill before the end of the grace period, August 2, 2021. Failure to receive a property tax bill does not invalidate the payment of the tax or related delinquent interest charges if not paid by August 2, 2021. Tax payments shall be made by mail to Tax Collector, Property Owners' Association of Lake Hayward, Post Office Box 230, Colchester, CT 06415.
 Edward F. Bader
 Tax Collector

3TB 7/2, 7/9, 7/23

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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



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EMPLOYMENT

PART-TIME EXPERIENCED ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT for established Glastonbury Financial Advisor. Good computer & organizational skills. Articulate, friendly, professional, client service oriented manner. Position involves significant phone and in-person client contact. Approximately 20-25 hours per week with excellent hourly rate & benefits. Keen, quick learning self starter. Minimal supervision. First-class office location. Email resume with phone contact to: RNLDTN@aol.com

KOCO Child Care Center is Hiring! Full Time, Part Time. Experience or Education Required. Must be 18 years or older. Positions Available Immediately. Excellent Pay and Benefits. Email director@koco4kids.org

GOOD PAINTERS WANTED, FT/PT, must be self motivated. Call 860 267-4125 after 6

PCA NEEDED FOR QUADRIPLÉGIC MAN IN GLASTONBURY. Morning and evening shifts available. Weekends are expected. Reliability a must. Call 860-573-4128

GLASTONBURY PIZZA HOUSE NEEDS COUNTER HELP, PIZZA/GRINDER MAKER - Some experience necessary but willing to train. Please come in to fill out an application, 30C Hebron Ave., Glastonbury. 860-652-9900 John.

WANTED: PART-TIME HANDYMAN to help with painting, gardening, weed whacking, in Middle Haddam. References required. \$16 per hour, one day a week. Please call 917-715-8240

COOK WANTED, 20 to 25 hours per week. Please call or stop in to the Greenleaf Cafe in Hebron, 860 228-8148

HELP WANTED: CLEANING ON WEEKENDS 2-3 people to thoroughly clean our home after weekly rentals. Needs to be immaculate, wash/dry remake beds, bathrooms, kitchen, vacuum and wash floors. Deck /porch blown off, outdoor tables wiped clean for new family arrival. 2 people 3.5-4 hrs (11am-3:30/4pm) Saturday or Sundays depending upon rental. \$350. per cleaning. Please call evenings 860-985-4534

TREE CREW MEMBER WANTED small, well established tree company, looking for 1 more crew member. Good pay, paid vacation, retirement plan. CALL 228-7297

HELP WANTED FOR LOCAL TREE COMPANY IN SALEM CT. PT/FT Ground man position, must have a valid drivers license, call Louie at 860-303-6507

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

EDUCATION: PARAEDUCATOR

Marlborough Elementary School is accepting applications for a Paraeducator for the 2021-21 school year. Please send a letter of interest, application, resume and references to Holly Hageman, Superintendent, Marlborough School District, 25 School Drive, Marlborough, CT 06447 or email to cmonte@marlborough.k12.ct.us. Deadline for applications is July 16, 2021. For application see website, www.marlborough.k12.ct.us (Employment Opportunities) or call 860.295.6236. EOE

1TB 7/9

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REF-18-21



RE7-2-21

EMPLOYMENT

CAREGIVER NEEDED

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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. 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: maiorano@andoverelementaryct.org

8TB 7/9, 7/16, 7/23, 7/30, 8/6, 8/13, 8/20, 8/27

YOUR AD

SHOULD BE HERE!

Call us at: 860-633-4691

Town of Marlborough Part Time Building Official

The Town of Marlborough has a position available for a part time Building Official for up to 24 hours per week. The position will work under the supervision of the Director of Planning and Development and report to the First Selectman. The job duties will include field inspections, processing permits, answering inquiries from contractors and the public on technical issues of the Building Code. Job requires a current licensed State of Connecticut Building Inspector. Also candidates need computer skills and familiar in the use of Microsoft Excel and Word, and shall hold a valid Driver's License.

Applications are available in the Town Clerk's Office, 26 North Main Street, Marlborough, CT, the deadline for filing applications is 12:00 p.m., Friday, July 23, 2021.

Town of Marlborough is Equal Opportunity Employer 2TB 7/9, 7/16

REAL ESTATE

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BUILDERS- 1.38 ac lot, 4 minutes to Colchester center, R/Ranch plans and site plan included. \$65,900. Call 860-537-1100

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REF-9-21

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REF-2-21



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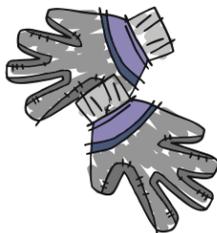
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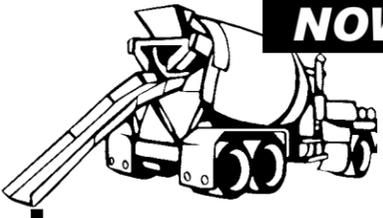
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