



RIVEREAST

News Bulletin

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

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September 17, 2021



Deep Gratitude... Kevin Haggerty, a Marlborough business owner who since July 2019 has been recovering from a severe, life-changing accident, has expressed his sincere thanks to everyone who attended the golf fundraiser his family organized to help with medical costs, held Labor Day weekend. He's seen here with his wife, Nancy Haggerty. See related story on page 27.

Marlborough Abduction May be Hate Crime

by Sloan Brewster

State police say they are investigating an abduction that took place at the Big-Y in Marlborough last Saturday as a possible hate crime.

Police said that at about 10:04 p.m. Saturday, the Berlin Police Department notified Troop K in Colchester that Berlin officers had found a seriously injured 64-year-old woman who stated she had been abducted from the Big Y parking lot, robbed and severely beaten.

According to police, the woman stated that she was placing groceries into her car at about 7 p.m. when two young Black males wearing "COVID-19-style face coverings" approached her and demanded money.

The suspects, she told police, threw her in the back seat of her car, hit her several times in the face with a handgun and placed a bag over her head.

Police said, the two males then stole the car and, with the woman still in the backseat, drove to DND Food Mart in East Hartford, where one of the suspects used the woman's ATM card to obtain money from the ATM machine.

The two males then threw the woman out of the vehicle in the town of Berlin and drove behind a building where they lit it on fire, according to police. The suspects left the scene in what is believed to be a 1999-2003 Acura TL.

Police said the woman was being treated at a local hospital for serious but non-life-threatening injuries.

Wednesday, state police said they were looking into the possibility that the abduction and assault may have been a hate crime.

"There are certain aspects of this investigation that could possibly be related to a hate crime," Brian Foley, executive assistant to James C. Rovella, commissioner of the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protec-

tion, told the *Rivereast*. "As with any hate crime investigation, there are certain protocols that include investigating, tracking, reporting, as well as working with the state's attorney's office."

He did not give any additional information.

Leading up to the update from Foley, information was sparse from state police and online press releases, with minimal details were all that was available. The documents, according to Public Information Officer Trooper Sarah Salerno, included all the information the department was allowed to release.

In a phone call Tuesday, Salerno said she could "neither confirm nor deny" information released by other news outlets, including that the abduction appeared to be random.

Salerno said her office worked directly with the Eastern District Crime Lab, which was in charge of the investigation, and was "very specific" about could and could not be released.

This is not surprising, according to Marlborough First Selectman Gregory Lowrey, who said it was not unusual for investigators to withhold information while they vet out certain aspects of a crime. Doing so, he said, allows them corroborate statements.

If police shared all their clues, he said, they would be unable to determine if someone had really been at a crime scene as anyone could simply regurgitate details they read or saw on the news.

"It wouldn't make sense to release information about the crime scene," Lowrey said.

Lowrey said he did not know if there were any surveillance videos of the crime and that he had not seen any.

The first selectman asked residents to remain calm as the investigation continues. He said See *Marlborough Abduction*, page 2

Live Tigers at Hebron Fair Draw Criticism

by Sloan Brewster

A live tiger show at the Hebron Harvest Fair's 50th anniversary festivities has received mixed reviews.

The fair took place last Thursday through Sunday.

According to Russ Strumskas, fair superintendent, folks who watched the tiger show enjoyed it but others expressed concerns on Facebook.

Jessica Louise Murphy, a graduate of the University of Hartford, posted on the fair's page that she would not return until the display is canceled.

"Shame on Hebron Harvest Fair for having tigers in cages [Saturday] night for 'entertainment,'" she posted. "Disgusting and not what a

fair is about."

Strumskas said organizers take all comments seriously and use them to determine future acts. He said he did not know yet if the show would return.

"It's to be expected," he said of the negative comments. "There's always a little controversy around live animal acts."

Brunon Blaszak, tiger trainer from Bruno's Tigers said he loved the tigers and trains them using "a lot of positive reinforcement, love and respect."

"Just raising and keeping these animals alive and well for future generations to see and enjoy these creatures because there's less and less of them in the wild," he said of why he does what

he does.

After Saturday afternoon's show, in which tigers walked across tightropes and received treats when they completed the task, Blaszak's son, Sebastian Blaszak bent down, placing his face against one of the cages and whispering in the ear of the white tiger within. Mohina, the 15-year-old animal quietly looked at him, later stretching her paw on the edge of the grates and yawning before laying down for a catnap.

"She is our superstar," Brunon said of the tiger.

A fourth generation tiger trainer, Brunon said the acts were initially done at circuses but he took them to different venues, including motion

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State police have released surveillance photos relating to the alleged abduction of a 64-year-old woman from the parking lot of Big Y in Marlborough last weekend. According to police, with the woman in the backseat, two Black males drove the vehicle to DND Food Mart in East Hartford, where one of the suspects used the victim's ATM card to withdraw money. One of the suspects is shown at left, in the store. The two males then threw the victim out of the vehicle in the Town of Berlin and drove behind a building where they lit the vehicle on fire. The suspects left the scene in what is believed to be a 1999-2003 Acura TL (shown at right).

★ *Marlborough Abduction cont. from page 1*

that while people can get comfortable in a small town such as Marlborough, where there is little crime, he does not want the opposite to occur and for folks to become hypervigilant.

Certainly, he said, if anyone sees something suspicious they should report it to authorities, but Lowrey added that he does not people to "be on edge" or "get involved in friendly fire."

Lowrey recounted a story about a man in

New Fairfield, who heard something outside and when he went to investigate, accidentally shot his son, thinking it was an intruder.

According to the *New Haven Register*, in 2012, Jeffrey Giuliano unwittingly shot his son Tyler Giuliano, who was 15, in the driveway of his aunt's house, which was next door to their home.

"I want people to, kind of, to be alert but be

aware there's a risk of overreaction," Lowrey cautioned. "We have to be extra careful not just to avoid wrongdoers, but not to over react."

Monday, the manager at Big Y said he was unable to comment on the situation.

In a press release, the Connecticut State Police said the investigation remains active and ongoing.

Police also reminded people to be aware of their surroundings and to immediately report suspicious activity.

Anyone with information to assist with identifying the pictured suspect/vehicle is asked to contact Detective Frank Cuoco at 860-465-5469 or call the Troop K tip line at 860-465-5469.

Police said all calls will remain confidential.

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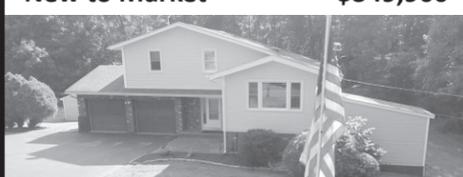
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Belltown Open Thanks

To the Editor:

The Belltown Open Golf Tournament Committee and the Congregational Church of East Hampton would like to thank all of the sponsors and golfers that made the 2021 Belltown Open Golf Tournament at the Blackledge Country Club a success.

We will be looking for interested sponsors and golfers for next year's tournament, which will be held on August 4th. It is a great event that supports the East Hampton Food and Fuel Bank so please consider putting together a four-some for next year.

Sincerely,
Belltown Open
Golf Tournament Committee

It is Time

To the Editor:

I have been a resident of Colchester since 1978. I have always loved living in this wonderful community. I feel safe and happy living here. I am one of the fortunate seniors; many do not have the sense of community, nor safety, to enjoy.

Over the years our town has grown and aged. Our seniors are a large and vital part of this town. Many of us lend support to others who need a ride, a shoulder to cry on or just someone to listen to. We are all going through some major life changes whether the loss of a loved one, financial change or health changes.

For this reason I ask all to come out and support the seniors on the important vote to be taken soon on the referendum for a new center. Our center is over 100 years old. Buckets have to be placed to catch leaks from the roof when it rains; the toilets are low (not handicapped-friendly) from the time the building was used for kindergarten; the windows rattle with the slightest wind; and there is little parking. It is time to address the needs of seniors by building a new senior center.

It is my understanding that the land was bought and there are architectural plans that

have been developed, now we just need to approve as a community to fund it. I hope the community can come together to make this happen. Each person who comes to the center finds a welcome face and a resource to guide them gently through this stage of life. A new center could make this stage of life even more of a positive journey. Thank you for listening and caring. Now I hope you will vote to support this project's funding.

Lorie Callis – Colchester

Beneficial, Blameless Bats

To the Editor:

Bats control insect pests that spread disease. More than 1,000 crops and other plants rely on bats for pollination and insect control. In this country alone, bats save farmers an estimated \$52 billion a year. Ninety-five percent of tropical forests are regenerated by bats' seed dispersal. Yet bats have long been misunderstood and persecuted due to superstition and ignorance, leading to unfounded fear.

Fact: most bats do not have rabies. Only 1/2 of 1% ever contract the virus; they are not asymptomatic "carriers" of rabies (CDC). Now bats are accused of being the "cause" of diseases such as NIPAH and COVID-19. The truth is, bats are not to blame – humans are. Human exploitation of wildlife and destruction of wild lands are the links that unleash viral pandemics (WHO, IUCN, CITES).

Zoonotic diseases are those that "jump" to humans. However, there is always a link, and it's always human-caused. For example, domestic animals encroaching into wildlife areas; the pet trade, both legal and illegal; markets that deal in the sale of wildlife such as the "wet markets" in China.

MERS traveled to humans via domesticated camels in Saudi Arabia. Consumption of "bush meat," including monkeys and bats, triggered the Ebola outbreaks in Africa. NIPAH was transmitted to humans by pigs that foraged in wildlife areas. Bird flu originated in wild birds, then moved to poultry, then humans.

Prior to the emergence of COVID-19, bats



Fun Run Recap... Portland Parks and Rec. recently wrapped up another season of Fun Runs. The series was held at the new Portland Recreational Complex this year. Pictured are trophy winners who attended each week of the series, in an effort to overcome their personal records. From left are, front row, Derek Mazzullo, Elliot Parmelee and Bri Rooth; back row, Steve Hibino, Gerry Hall, Mason Tuttle, Joe Heffernan and Deb Rooth. Additional winners include: Molly Donahue, Tim Dickerson and Phoebe Rago.

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were in severe decline worldwide. Now, they are blamed as the "source" behind this current pandemic, but the true source and method of transmission hasn't been identified, and there is no evidence of direct transmission of any coronavirus between bats and humans or vice versa (Merlin Tuttle <https://issues.org/a-viral-witch-hunt-bats/>).

Bats and other wildlife are blamed and punished for pandemics, but the truth is: humans are the culprits.

Thank you,
Maureen Heidtmann – East Hampton

Community Presentations

To the Editor:

The Colchester Senior Center Building Committee would like to thank the Colchester Lions, Colchester Business Association, North Woods Community, Colchester Commons, Colchester Cares, Colchester Chapter of AARP and the Senior Center for allowing the committee to make presentations to their membership over the past several weeks regarding the proposed new senior center. Hopefully we clarified any misunderstandings and answered any questions anyone had. The feedback we received was very positive and residents are looking forward to the new center being constructed.

Because this facility is designed to serve more than just the seniors, the committee would be more than happy to make presentations to other community members and organizations

like youth sports leagues, parent/teacher organizations, church groups, adult and youth recreational leagues, etc. in an effort to show how this facility will be available to the entire community and not just the seniors. Additionally we can clarify any questions anyone may have. We can arrange to do an in-person presentation or we can arrange a Zoom webinar if preferred. These presentations have to be completed prior to 30 days before the town referendum, once that date is established.

The committee can be contacted by sending an email to seniorcenterbuildingcommittee@colchesterct.gov. We monitor the site and someone will get back to schedule a time for the presentation.

Anthony Tarnowski, LEED AP
Chairman, Colchester Senior Center
Building Committee

New Center is for Everyone

To the Editor:

Over the 25 years I've lived in town, I've gone to the Senior Center for holiday fairs and to donate cards and calendars. Then COVID-19 happened and friends told me about exercise classes CSC offered on Zoom. I found out that you only have to be 55 years old to join so I did and have participated in many virtual programs – exercise, Tai Chi, cooking, some yoga and sign language, travel, movies, talks with Mary Bylone and the Historical Society. There are many more that also sound interesting.

Bulletin Board

My wife and I were sitting around on the patio this weekend, enjoying the evening air, despite the occasional mosquito attack.

"Did you know," I asked quite innocently, "that female mosquitoes are the only ones that whine?"

"Why are you trying to start an argument?" she replied.

"I'm not trying to start an argument. I'm trying to broaden your intellectual horizons."

"Right."

"Really, it's an endocrinological observation. Female mosquitoes whine. Male mosquitoes don't. I find that simply fascinating."

"Entomological."

"What?"

"Entomological observation. Endocrinology is the study of hormonal disorders. Entomology is the study of insects."

This is what happens when a C student marries a summa cum laude crossword puzzle wizard.

I forged ahead regardless. "Whatever. I find it very interesting that it's whining female mosquitoes that keep me up at night. I wonder what that means in the greater scheme of life."

I thought I was holding my own here. I should have known better.

"I'll tell you who whines," she replied coldly. "Men. Oooohhh, I have a stomach ache! Oooohhh, my chicken is too spicy! Oooohhh, I had such a bad day at work. Oooohhh, the kids don't listen to me! Oooohhh, there's no clean socks in my drawer."

"I don't whine."

"Oh please, that was a perfect imitation of you."

"Do you have any idea how annoying it is to be getting ready to go out someplace and not having any socks?"

"Pick up your own dirty clothes and do your own laundry and you'll have all the clean socks you want. Here I am running around like a banshee while you sit on the couch sucking down potato chips and watching the Red Sox lose."

Ouch.

One of my biggest character failings is that I don't know when to shut my mouth. The Spanish Inquisition could be getting ready to pluck my eyes out with hot tongs and if one of them said, "Hey, we'll let you off if you just say something nice about the Grand Inquisitor's new suit," you know what I'd do? I'd say, "Hey buddy, what did you do, get dressed in the dark this morning?" I just can't help myself. It's like some little demon inside me starts jumping up and down shrieking, "Say it! Say it!"

But she'll kill me, I tell him.

It'll be worth it! Say it!

So I did.

"I am woman, hear me roar," I mumbled under my breath.

"What?"

"Nothing."

Of course she knew perfectly well what I'd said. She can't hear me screaming in the next room for clean socks, but she can detect the smallest insult from as far away as Topeka, Kansas. It's uncanny.

"You'll be sorry when I'm dead," I added quickly, trying for the sympathy angle.

"No," she said quite calmly. "When you're dead—which, by the way, could be sooner than you think—I'll cancel your NRA membership and donate the refund to the American Civil Liberties Union."

"Now that's just cruel," I retorted.

"Did you know," she continued, "that certain female spiders kill and eat their mates."

"I believe that occurs after sex," I observed optimistically.

She laughed.

"No, really," I said.

"Stop your damn whining," she said.

Jim Hallas

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Many in Colchester are over age 55 and over 100 people joined CSC over the past year for activities, information, and virtual socializing. Patty and Ruth keep in touch with all members on a regular basis with current activities, special events, COVID-19 updates, financial and health help, etc.

The building is over 100 years old and is not large enough to accommodate all members for all programs desired. The proposed new center is not only bigger but has two large rooms and a large patio that can be used by anyone in town for meetings and special functions. We have needed spaces like these in town for a long time.

The new center will have much more parking, a library, a fitness center, a game/billiards room, and much more to keep seniors active and vital physically and mentally which is so important for good health and independence so that they can care for themselves and remain in their homes instead of needing care from family or nurses. The cost per household is very small per year to obtain a wonderful new building which offers so much to everyone so please join me in voting 'yes' for the new senior center.

Thank you,
Ines Kallmeyer – Colchester

Running for School Board

Dear Portland Residents:

I am excited to announce my candidacy for the Portland Board of Education.

I was born and raised across the river in Middletown. I moved to Portland 21 years ago and it was then that I started volunteering for events in the Chatham Court neighborhood as well as volunteering at the Valley View School Library and the Read Dog Program at Gildersleeve School. I served on the Gildersleeve PTO and as Vice President of the Brownstone PTO. I am currently a member of the Portland Solidarity Committee, the Board of the Chatham Children's Connection, the Portland Public Schools' Equity and Inclusion Coalition, and the Portland Social Justice Coalition.

This past year has been hard on so many in our community, especially our children, and if I am elected I will work with other members of the Board of Education to support the physical and social/emotional safety of our children and staff, and to ensure the educational needs of all Portland students are met. I have a 21-year-old son who went through the Portland Public School system and a 12-year-old son who is currently a student at the Portland Middle School. Being a father is what drives my volunteer service. I love the Portland community and I want to be a voice for positive change so we can build an even brighter future for all our kids. I am excited for the opportunity to advocate for our children and look forward to serving this great town of Portland.

Barry Rodgers, Candidate
Portland Board of Education

Support for New Senior Center

To the Editor:

For those who may not be familiar with their many valuable programs and services, I wanted to share my experience with the Colchester Senior Center. When my husband and I moved to town several years ago, I began taking exercise classes at the center. I found the staff, instructors and fellow senior center members to be friendly, welcoming, and kind and I found an instant sense of belonging there. Throughout our years in Colchester, I have become a regular attendee of many different programs and classes. I am particularly interested in programs which help me stay healthy and fit, and age with a sense of vitality. I find the fitness programs to be just right – not overly strenuous or difficult – where everyone is encouraged to participate at their own level of comfort, and where we can have a lot of fun together.

During the pandemic, the Colchester Senior Center worked with the Chatham Health District to set up a series of COVID-19 vaccine clinics. This was an invaluable service to the community, particularly for some seniors who had barriers with access to technology or lack of available transportation. The staff scheduled all of the appointments and made life so easy for us. Most of the people who live in my complex were able to receive both vaccine doses through this important service.

I hope this give you an understanding of the important role that the senior center plays in Colchester's community. The senior population is growing and the building that houses our current senior center is too small to serve its nearly 1,400 members. Please support the project to build a new and modern facility for Colchester seniors – it will be good for us all.

Donna Crawford – Colchester

More Arrests This Year

To the Editor:

I just watched the evening news. It was reported that another Connecticut prison is being shut down and the number of murders in our state has already met or exceeded last year's numbers. The good news that was reported was that there have been more arrests this year than last year so our efforts have been successful. I can't see why one of our governor's spokespersons would call that successful. If there are a record number of murders and our prisons are being shut down because we have fewer prisoners how could anyone in their right mind call this success?

There has to be a better solution to our crime problem. Why aren't our government leaders doing something to reduce crime? The police are doing their job. They arrest people that commit crimes. Increasing the number of police officers won't reduce crime; it will only result in more arrests. I don't think that releasing them early solves the problem. Wouldn't keeping them in prison be a better solution?

Frank Blume – Colchester

Sacrifice

To the Editor:

At the 20th anniversary of 9/11 at Shanksville, Pa., Gordon Felt, president of Families of Flight 93, gave a moving speech about the people on the flight who joined together with such courage to take control of the plane. He recognized their extraordinary sacrifice – risking their lives to save others.

I thought about sacrifice and what it means now with the divisiveness over the COVID-19 vaccine and masking. Erica Etelson, author of an article "Mask-Shaming Won't Work. Try these Five Things Instead" in *YES! Magazine* suggests one of the five things is, "If someone feels that masking infringes on their liberty, you can't expect to convince them that masking does not infringe their liberty or that their liberty is of secondary importance to public health."

I do not disrespect people who refuse to get vaccinated. But I do have a difficult time understanding how good people are willing to put other people at risk by not wearing a mask. Etelson says, "What you can do is suggest that people like them, people who care about others, are people who make personal sacrifices, such as masking, to protect others."

For those of you who won't wear a mask, I join Etelson in asking that you think about people who could become seriously ill and die if you infect them. How you would feel if you infected someone like the 4-year-old child from Texas whose mother said, "I wish I would have taken COVID-19 more seriously;" the 39-year-old father who, before he took his last breath said, "I should have gotten the damn vaccine;" and the 16-year girl from Illinois whose mother said, "Nobody should have to bury their child."

Please be a hero. Make a sacrifice. Wear a mask.

Suzanne Heise – Andover

Seeks BAA Reelection

To the Editor:

My name is Tom Malecky and I am running for reelection to the Portland Board of Assessment Appeals. This year, I am completing my third two-year term.

While I am retired now, I feel the need to seek reelection to the board, for yet another term, in hopes of offering some continuity during this current "reevaluation" process, which will probably result in a significant number of taxpayers exercising their right to an Assessment Appeals hearing, during March of 2022. I was on the board in 2016 for the last reevaluation and understand the potential workload.

I believe I have demonstrated the ability to work effectively with all board members and staff, to fulfill the town's statutory obligation, to provide fair and equitable appeals.

My wife, Susan, and I have lived in Portland since 1980 and both of our sons graduated from Portland High School. Soon after completing my MBA degree from the University of Hartford, while employed as Personnel Director for the City of Middletown, I began serving as a volunteer with many Town of Portland boards, commissions and committees, as well a number of nonprofit organizations.

Most notably, I served on the Portland Water and Sewer Board for 11 years and am currently chair of the town's Plan of Conservation and Development Implementation Committee and the Portland Long Term Capital Improvement Commission.

As a result of my employment experience as a labor relations specialist, I understand the extreme importance that every appellant be afforded their rights to a thoughtful and timely

appeal process. Therefore, I respectfully ask that the voters of Portland consider electing me to another two-year term to the Board of Assessment Appeals.

Tom Malecky – Portland

Live Tiger Act

To the Editor:

I was happy to read in last week's *Rivereast* that the Hebron Fair was on for this year. However, it was shocking to read the fair's advertisement in the *Rivereast* promoting a Live Tiger Act. This is the 21st century when circuses are closing, elephants are being retired to sanctuaries, chimps can no longer be pets, and exotic animals have no place in entertainment. This is morally and ethically wrong.

Most fairs these days do not include wild animal acts; even elephant rides at fairs are thankfully diminishing. Are sheep, chickens and pigs not enough for a fair?

Sadly, this sends the wrong message to our children- teaching them it is acceptable to cage exotic animals and watch them perform. Also, this act could pose a risk of danger and liability, another example of poor judgement.

What was the town of Hebron thinking? The show must go on, but live tiger acts have no place at local fairs!

Katherine Spada Basto – Portland

Balderdash

To the Editor:

Two things. First, I was surprised to agree with a recent letter from Gary Gile. He had described some serious concerns and presented actual facts. Last week he returned to true form and shared a laundry list of falsehoods and conspiracy-minded nonsense.

He structured his complaints as a review of the first months of President Biden's term, but talked about trends continuing from the previous administration: think murder rate, illegal immigration, gas prices, and especially the COVID-19 pandemic. (More details at FactCheck: <http://link.sauyet.com/29>.)

Most egregious was his COVID take. First,

"so-called pandemic"? How can he suggest this has been anything but a pandemic with over 219 million cases worldwide and 4.5 million deaths? He makes some crack about the recent flu season. It was far lower than normal for the simple and obvious reason that the flu is transmitted by the same mechanisms as COVID so all the COVID-prevention measures helped prevent the flu.

Worst, though was his claim that COVID is no more deadly than the yearly flu. How can you credit anything said by someone claiming such obvious balderdash? An average flu season in the US claims around 36,000 lives. COVID in the last 18 months has claimed over 660,000. It seems to have an infection fatality rate 10 to 20 times greater than the flu. These are not hard facts to find.

Second, Edmund Smith overstates his case regarding the origins of Christian beliefs. Certainly, scholars can find antecedents for nearly every facet of the religion. A few, like Christmas/Saturnalia and the English name for Easter are well-documented. The rest is at best well-grounded speculation. For someone who chides people for not understanding science and its methods, his letters are a little too cavalier in their confident historical claims about ancient events without any contemporaneous documentation.

Sincerely,
Scott Sauyet – Andover

Afghanistan

To the Editor:

Afghanistan is referred to the graveyard of empires for a reason. Nevertheless, some would have us believe ending a war should be an easy undertaking. Although, if it were really just that simple, it would've ended long ago. This war was built on lies, speculation and myths and despite the execution being imperfect, Biden's decision to leave Afghanistan was long overdue.

Not surprisingly, Gary Giles cites \$85 billion worth of military assets the U.S. left behind. However, he never mentions the \$300 million spent every single day for the last 20 years on America's longest war. He stated that "Biden is

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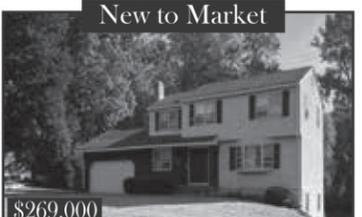


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★ *Letters cont. from page 5*

instilling public fear.” Ironically, Giles supports a political ideology that peddles fear of diseased immigrants invading our southern border, Muslim travel bans, and labels any reasonable gun control as government tyranny; masking and vaccines as infringement on liberty and freedom; universal healthcare as socialized medicine; and labor unions as anti-American. It is these types of stunning contradictions, and absurd statements from Mr. Giles, and those of his stripe, who close their eyes to radical things like facts concerning foreign policy, climate change, immigration, COVID-19 and health care. This type of rhetoric reveals an illusion of knowledge. A predisposed fear towards people never met, hate of books never read, and an allegiance to things that haven’t earned your loyalty.

The result is a political party who remains completely blind to just how ridiculous and offensive their rhetoric is to the rest of world. For example, Giles believes that COVID-19 is a “so-called pandemic that is no worse than the flu.” This type of dead-end thinking overlooks the fact that in just 18 months 4.5 million people have died from COVID-19. It ignores the reality that pandemics, like climate change, are global calamities with consequences that don’t care about your flawed ideology.

Joe Stevens – Hebron

Christianity is No Myth

To the Editor:

My response to Edmund Smith’s voluminous mythological smokescreen in his letter last week about the origin of Christianity will be simple and direct with these two quotations.

The Apostle Peter’s eyewitness account from his second epistle: “For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty.” (Just as Edmund Smith advised me to read Thomas Paine’s *Age of Reason*, I commend Apostle Peter’s short, 3-chapter, second epistle to his reading.)

And this slightly-altered line from Shakespeare’s *Hamlet*: “(Edmund Smith) doth protest too much, me thinks.”

Hellbent in his pummeling the true origin of Christianity, Smith avoided completely the major second point in my letter about intelligent design being the third rail of atheistic science.

After lecturing me and others, whose letters appear on these pages, for not including excerpts from his letters in our responses to him, on the matter of intelligent design there’s nothing in his letter to quote.

**Peter Kushkowski
“Almost Heaven”
Portland**

New Senior Center

To the Editor:

As time draws near, I would like to encourage the citizens of Colchester to please vote ‘yes’ on the upcoming referendum for a new Senior Center.

The present physical plant lacks adequate space and accessibility for its growing senior population. As a relatively new member of Colchester myself, I am impressed by the programming and activities it offers to the citizens here, which inspired me to become more of an integral part of this vibrant community.

Presently, I am a member of Colchester Cares, a member of the Commission on Aging and Parks and Recreation, a member of the Senior Center, and serve in the Colchester Veterans Honor Guard.

Please cast a ‘yes’ ballot when the time comes.

**Thank you,
Rosanne Tousignant – Colchester**

Animal Exploitation

To the Editor:

Hebron transformed its long running agricultural fair into a circus last weekend by adding a tiger act to its fall festivities.

In response to the ensuing animal welfare controversy, the fair’s superintendent defended the decision to Eyewitness News claiming the tiger show owner “educates the public” and “there was no cruelty to the animals at all. There was nothing I saw that concerned me. . .” while acknowledging he hadn’t “seen the show live yet. . .” Despite a garbled self-serving public relations message, most people clearly recognize the inhumanity of dragging wild animals around the country like luggage.

Justifying the exploitation of animals for “education” is lame and baseless – it’s intended to give legitimacy to making money off the backs of animals who should have been left in their natural habitat on another continent. Caged ani-

mal tricks are orchestrated for amusement, not education. Your learning would be better served by checking out internet offerings or enrolling in an animal behavior course.

Connecticut allows animals to be used as cash cows, inhumanity and all. But a movement across the country to limit wild animal acts is gathering momentum. Our legislators must be encouraged to step up and abolish this cruel exploitation in their next session. Meanwhile, boycott these noxious events.

As Mahatma Gandhi reminds us: “The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated.”

Katherine Throckmorton – Middle Haddam

Vote ‘Yes’ on Budget

To the Editor:

Colchester has the unfortunate distinction of being the only town in Connecticut without an approved town budget. As we approach our third town budget referendum on Tuesday, residents must understand that this issue makes it extremely challenging for the town to move forward productively. We’ve been in a holding pattern since July 1 and it’s time to move ahead.

The proposed town budget represents a 0% tax increase to citizens. The part-time clerk in the Planning and Zoning office is the only new position and is desperately needed to expedite the processing of applications that will ultimately bring revenue into the town. This position has the potential to help pay for itself at no cost to the taxpayers.

Voter turnout is a perpetual problem. It was ~16% in the last two referenda. A government run by citizens requires voter participation. It only takes a few minutes to vote. Please remind your friends and family to do the same.

Please vote ‘yes’ to support the town budget on Tuesday, Sept. 21. The polls will be open at Town Hall from 6 a.m.-8 p.m.

**Sincerely,
Monica Swyden – Colchester**

Hebron Land Stewardship

To the Editor:

“The inland wetlands and watercourses of the Town of Hebron Connecticut are an indispensable and irreplaceable but fragile natural resource with which the citizens of Hebron have been endowed. The wetlands and watercourses are an interrelated web of nature essential to an adequate supply of surface and underground water to hydrological stability and control of flooding and erosion; to the recharging and purification of ground water; and to the existence of many forms of animal, aquatic and plant life.” (Section one. Inland Wetlands and Watercourse Regulations of the Town of Hebron.)

I am having trouble understanding how land so wet, lush and teeming with life can pass the strict requirements for preservation laid out and voted on by our town. And I fail to see how building on heavily wet property balances out the town’s need to grow when the risk of dangerous contamination is so high. And when simply moving these soils around will affect the

flow of ground waters, the risks seem to outweigh the need.

Let’s also examine the toll this development will take on all the wildlife that lives on these 88-plus acres. What percentage of these creatures will lose their lives once they lose their habitat? As it stands right now, we seem to have a good balance of predator to prey ratios. Coyotes and bobcats versus deer, rabbits and other small prey. The vultures and hawks are thriving. We also have a healthy owl and turtle population.

Think long and hard people, because once it’s gone, it’s gone. You cannot unscramble an egg. And as citizens of Hebron you, we, are responsible for the stewardship of this land. The town might own this land, but we are the town and we are ultimately responsible.

Jean Tulimieri – Amston

Tag Sale Thanks

To the Editor:

The Andover Congregational Church would like to thank all the folks who donated to or attended their Tag Sale on Sept. 11. The Tag Sale was a success thanks to all your contributions. Special Thanks go to the family of Gail True-man.

Thank You!

**Beth Lundberg
Fundraising Team Chair
Andover Congregational Church**

9/11 and Trumpists

To the Editor:

Americans poignantly remembered the 3,000 lives lost 20 years ago in the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Unfortunately, an equal number of Americans are now dying every two days from COVID-19 as Republican governors push anti-science policies. These self-proclaimed Christians thus achieve exponentially more American deaths than the Saudi terrorists could ever hope to attain. Whether or not those suicidal Islamists got their 70 virgins is probably as likely as DeSantis, Abbott, Noem et al. getting to meet Jesus in their afterlife. Along with other Trumpists currently admiring the Taliban for being a conservative religious force that defeated what they claim is a “liberal and effeminate” America, it appears the whole lot will probably end up in the same place after all. I certainly do hope it exists in their cases.

Additionally, with roughly 35,000 Americans being killed by guns every year, GOP anti-gun control politicians also help us exceed the 9/11 kill rate, though only by a measly factor of 10. Climate change is the Republican’s dark horse, which with their continued encouragements of adding more carbon ‘fuel to the fire’ may end up killing more people than anything else they ever got behind.

“Gullible or easily deceived persons” defines ‘suckers.’ Gary Gile keeps marketing the charlatan Dr. Joseph Mercola to *Rivereast* readers, having long ago proven Connecticut’s own P.T. Barnum prescient for having said there is one born every minute. Mark Twain also noted “It’s easier to fool someone than to convince them they have been fooled.” This explains why Fox News and other conservative media outlets, that lack any substantive journalism awards, have so easily mesmerized their flock of gullible sheep; and additionally, why the *New York Times* and other Pulitzer award-winning media outlets

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Senior Center News & Notes

Russell Mercier Senior Center has announced the following. For more information and full program descriptions, call the senior center at 860-228-1700. The senior center newsletter is also online at tinyurl.com/3xfm862d.

Masks Required: Until further notice, masks are required to be worn in the senior center in all areas; this includes everyone, even those vaccinated. They can only be removed during a specific program if there is enough space for social distancing, but due to the types of programs running, most will require keeping the mask on.

Enhance Fitness: Mondays and Wednesdays, 9-10 a.m., Oct. 4-Nov. 10; no class Monday, Oct. 11. Cost is \$33, or a \$5/class drop-in fee. To register, call the center.

All Levels Yoga Class: Mondays and Wednesdays, 10:15-11:15 a.m., from Oct. 4-Nov. 10; no class Oct. 11. Cost is \$33, or a \$5/class. To register, call the center.

Flu Clinic: Chatham Health will hold a flu clinic at the senior center Tuesday, Oct. 5, from 10 a.m.-noon. No appointment needed. You will need to present your insurance card and is free if covered by your insurance. If you have United Healthcare, you will need to pay a \$75 fee and then submit your claim to UHC for reimbursement. It is anticipated that the high-dose vaccine will be available, the senior center said.

Grab and Go - Congregate Meals from CRT: The senior center is offering frozen congregate meals from CRT for pick-up. On Mondays, receive four frozen meals, two milks, sides, and snacks for a suggested donation of \$12 (\$3 per meal). There is no menu, but fish will not be served due to potential allergy is-

ues. People must call and sign up for each week's meals by 3 p.m. the on the Thursday prior. Open to anyone age 60 or up, from any town. These meals are to be heated and consumed at home. Meals will be distributed outside and can be curbside pick-up. Pick-up times are 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m., but alternate times can be arranged. Delivery also available for those who cannot drive. To sign-up, call 860-228-1700 ext. 202 or email aroczniak@hebronct.com. When picking up the meals, mask and adherence to COVID-19 guidelines are required.

Bingo Returns - Bingo Callers Needed: Thursdays, 1-3 p.m., for senior center members only. The first card costs \$1; each additional card is 50 cents. Prizes awarded each game. Bring your own beverage; no food or beverage provided. Sign-up is required and everyone must check in each week. Masks required for everyone in all areas; they can only be removed if there is enough space for social distancing. Volunteer callers are also needed. To sign up to play or volunteer to call games, call the center.

Hand and Foot Canasta Cards: Tuesdays, 1-3:15 p.m. Pre-registration required prior to the first time attending and check-in for all attendees required. To sign up, call the center.

Setback and Bridge: The weekly Setback card game has been postponed due to lack of players. If interested in playing, call to sign up and when there are enough players it will resume, on Wednesdays from 10-11:50 a.m. Weekly Bridge will be at the senior center on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 1 p.m. On the first, third and fifth Mondays of the month, it will be played at the Colchester

Senior Center. If interested in playing in Hebron, call to pre-register (which is required). Everyone participating must complete membership paperwork and have a MySeniorCenter scan card. To sign up, call the center.

Exercise Equipment Room: Open by reservation only, in 45-minute time slots from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Thursday (last time slot at 2 p.m.), with 15 minutes between appointments for cleaning. On Fridays, slots are from 9 a.m.-noon. (The last time slot is 11 a.m.) Maximum of three people per time slot, and if coming together from different households it is highly recommended that you are all vaccinated. Masks are required in the common areas, and you will need to check-in. To reserve a time, call the center.

Sunshine Singers: Thursdays, 10:10-11:40 a.m. All are welcome; registration required by calling the center.

Knitting/Crocheting/Needle Group: Tues-

days, 10-11:30 a.m., at the senior center with masks required. If weather permits, this activity will be held outdoors and masks would be optional for vaccinated individuals. Registration required, by calling the center.

Senior Transportation: Available Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.; and Friday, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m., for ages 60 and over and adult disabled individuals. Transportation is for medical care in Hebron and surrounding towns (a full list of locations is at the senior center), personal needs, grocery shopping or other pre-approved needs. COVID-19 guidelines are followed, and all passengers must wear a mask during transportation and will be asked screening questions before the ride. Fares are charged; contact the senior center for a fee schedule. Appointments must be scheduled at least 24 hours in advance; new riders need at least 48 hours' notice. Rides are first-come, first-served. To schedule an appointment, call the center.

Christ Lutheran News & Notes

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

Sunday Worship: Sundays at 9 a.m., an in-person Divine Service is held. Current mask requirements have been lifted for those who are fully vaccinated or cannot wear a mask for medical reasons; all others are required to wear masks.

In-Person Sunday Bible Study and Coffee Hour: 10 a.m., after the morning service. Topic: "Why Do You Think You Are a Lutheran?" There will be a review of the Augsburg Confession.

Caring Shepherds: Caring Shepherds will be in Willimantic Saturday, Sept. 18, at 11 a.m., at 877 Main St., handing out hygiene kits and Bibles. For more information call Caring Shepherds ministry at 860-494-0431.

Early Childhood Center: Open to all faiths, the center offers childcare, preschool and before/after school educational opportunities in a Christian environment. Now enrolling for fall classes. For more information, call 860-228-5134.

More Info: For more information, call 860-228-1152 or visit www.CLCHebron.org or facebook.com/CLCHebron.



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East Hampton • East Hampton

Stimulus Could Fund Police Cameras, Sewer Upgrades

by Jack Lakowsky

In a meeting last Tuesday, an East Hampton Town Council subcommittee tasked with deciding uses for American Rescue Plan federal stimulus dollars met with town administrators to hear how the money can be spent.

Earlier this year, the town received \$1.3 million. Its share in the amount given to Middlesex County is \$2.5 million, making for a total of \$3.8 million that will become available to the town, according to Town Manager David Cox.

Funds must be encumbered by 2024. Cox advised the subcommittee, which includes counselors Tim Feegel and Barbara Moore, to start making decisions by the end of the year.

The money's coming in several payments. Currently, the town has access to \$1.8 million. This may seem like an overflowing pot of gold, but once all the needs presented last week are priced, this could go quickly.

Although not yet incorporated into discussion, local nonprofits could also receive some of this money, if the town decides to solicit them.

The local volunteer East Hampton Ambulance Association has previously gone to the council advocating for \$600,000 to fund two part-time, 24/7 positions. Ambulance chief Donald Scranton said volunteerism is down, a fact the pandemic has surely worsened, but one that has persisted for years.

Chief of East Hampton police Dennis Woessner made a claim for new equipment and new officers. The chief listed several big-ticket items for potential funding.

Cashing out with a hefty price tag were the police body cameras Woessner requested, now required by law, as a possibility. He said as of now, towns are only being reimbursed 30% of the cost. Towns are responsible for the rest, he said.

In a council meeting Tuesday, Woessner said he had selected a vendor for the cameras, a firm called Axon, that gave him a price of about \$146,000 to outfit police and cruisers with cameras.

Woessner said Axon is used by a dozen agencies in Connecticut, and by police in many major cities, including in Los Angeles.

All local and state police departments, personnel and police vehicles, must have cameras by July 1, 2022.

"If we cover [cameras] with rescue plan money, there'd be less impact financially on the town," Woessner said.

The equipment to store the cameras, Woessner said, is somewhere in the neighborhood of \$26,000. He said there's a small chance at a 30% reimbursement for this cost but has heard nothing definitive.

Woessner said the security camera systems town buildings use are insufficient and cumbersome.

"All our systems are independent," Woessner told the subcommittee. "Police department, town hall, [public works], the library, the senior center. Every system is separate, and you have to log-in to each camera."

Woessner suggested switching over to "one, big server" to streamline this inefficiency. The chief said he's still waiting on an estimate for the cost of this proposal.

The next job for potential funding Woessner described is a pressing one, and a result of an oversight when the police quarters were built.

The police records room, Woessner said, is currently behind a lock-and-key door. The problem, Woessner said, is this makes tracking who goes in and out of the records room more difficult.

Woessner recommended a card-fob system to better track who accesses records, adding that state and federal law enforcement oversight bureaus take record access very seriously.

New staff at PD was another need Woessner named. He said his goal is for EHPD to have 20 officers. There's currently one vacancy, which the department is "struggling to fill."

Woessner said technically, the department has no second in command, no lieutenant's position. When he's on vacation, the de facto leader becomes one of the department's sergeants.

To meet staffing needs, Woessner is asking for \$100,000, to cover a sergeant's promotion to lieutenant and, possibly, to hire a detective who, to free-up patrol officers, would investi-

gate long term, "extreme" cases, of which the department recently received several.

Woessner said PD is currently investigating four different cases of sexual assault on minors. All were reported in the last two weeks. Further coverage of this appears in a separate brief in this week's *Rivereast*.

Currently, four officers are investigating the cases. Woessner said these officers are capable people, but that it would be better to have a single, consistent focus on such sensitive incidents, and that these time-consuming investigations eat overtime and labor.

Woessner said he hopes that, if and when these funds for a detective and a lieutenant are expended, the town could then adopt them into the regular budget.

The money can also be used to make up for revenue shortfalls the town incurred as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Jeff Jylkka, town finance director, said this is pretty broad, with language allowing for funding of "provisional government services," which is as general as it gets, he said.

Jylkka said, in the last budget year, the town

was shorted \$950,000.

Infrastructure is another possible beneficiary. East Hampton has longstanding water and sewer system problems, and the system needs an upgrade. However, given that the cost of this, Cox said, far exceeds \$3 million, he doesn't plan to use ARP money for this.

The Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA), the body that oversees East Hampton's and Colchester's water/sewer systems, did include some piecemeal items, including an upgrade to the Royal Oaks water system, at a cost of about \$60,000.

Other items Cox received from town administrators included more emergency response vehicles for the fire department, and a new \$25,000 inspection camera public works crews could snake through a culvert or pipe and assess any damage.

Cox went on to name Village Center streetscape improvements as a potential beneficiary, and also the development of the derelict, disused 3 Walnut Ave. property, which could be converted to a multi-use site.

Registration Open for Red McKinney Golf Tourney

The East Hampton Rotary Club invites all to participate in the 28th annual Golf Tournament Wednesday, Oct. 6, on the Anderson Glen course at Blackledge Country Club. This annual event has been renamed the Red McKinney Golf Tournament in honor of longtime Rotarian Red McKinney.

All proceeds fund the East Hampton Rotary Club community service projects benefitting the East Hampton and Marlborough communities.

The tournament is scramble format with prizes for first-, second- and third-place teams, closest to the pin, longest drive, closest to the line. There will be a putting contest from 10-11:30 a.m. with a 50/50 payout, and last but not least a \$10,000 hole-in-one contest.

Registration starts at 10 a.m., followed by

lunch at 11 a.m. and a shotgun start at noon. The tournament will be capped at 144 fully-paid players. There will be a waiting list if the cap is exceeded, and we may open another course if there is enough interest. There will be a dinner following the tournament. Non-golfers are welcome to come for dinner and the auction for \$25. After dinner we will award all prizes for the day and hold a teacup raffle and live auction with many prizes.

Register online at easthamptonct.rotary-7980gives.org/redmckinneyrotarygolftournament, or visit www.easthamptonrotary.org to download a registration form.

For additional information on the tournament or sponsorship, email easthamptonctrotary@gmail.com.

Youth Football Results

The East Hampton Hawks youth football squads opened their seasons last weekend. Here is how they fared:

A Squad: Topped Colchester Cougars, 30-13. The offensive assault was led by Caleb Wagner scored a touchdown on a 70-yard scamper. The Hawks' second score was set up by a pass reception from John Haley to Bryson Milton that resulted in a red zone first down. Haley scored a touchdown to cap the drive. Haley later scored on runs of 50, 20 and 85 yards. The offensive line played outstanding anchored by Davion Smith, Garrett Sharpe and Noah Mokrzycki. On the defensive side of the ball, Evan Wagner had 2 pass interceptions and Caleb Wagner added another. Tyler Crumb had a solid performance with multiple tackles and Jimmy Harris executed a touchdown-saving tackle late in the game.

B Squad: Lost to Springfield, 20-13. The offensive line contained the Springfield defense for quarterback Logan Supinski to lead the Hawks down field for two touchdown runs by Connor Hill and Joey Guiliano with an extra point run up the middle. The defense led by Axl Rostosky with several fumbles and a recovery with help by Jordan Hinton, Derek Guiliano, William Supinski, Mathias Bueno, Taylor Canterbury, Colton Burgin, Danielle Riley, Logan Supinski, Trevor Philbrick, Nathan Philbrick, Kayleigh Philbrick, Julian Faden, Connor Hill and Joseph Guiliano. The defense held the Springfield offense until a late touchdown run in the fourth quarter to put Springfield on top.

Both Hawks teams are off with bye weeks before heading to Stafford for their next games.

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Tim's Tips

Tim Feegel, Service Manager

Top 3 Tips for Fall Tire Maintenance

1. Rotate Your Tires

Did you know that regular tire rotations can help prevent wear and tear on your vehicle's tires? Consider having your tires rotated on a regular basis, but especially before the fall & winter months come. Regular tire rotations ensure that each of your tires wears evenly regardless of your driving style. There are several factors that can cause your tires to wear in an awkward way, including improper alignment or strange driving patterns, but regular rotations can help extend the lifespan of your tires.

2. Check Your Tire Pressure

It's also important that you regularly check your tire pressure. Low tire pressure can cause you to use more gas than usual, but it can also cause other problems for your vehicle, including fast wear-and-tear on your tires. On a similar note, air pressure that is too high can make you more likely to pop a tire if you run over a small rock or obstacle in the road. You can easily check your tire pressure using a tire gauge, but we can also help you with this.

3. Replace Tires As Needed

Eventually, even the best tires wear out. If your tread depth is low or you have bald tires, it's especially important to replace worn-out tires. While it may be tempting to put off replacing tires, keep in mind that your safety is important. Tires that have low tread depth or that are worn out may cause you to hydroplane, so make sure you consult with us at Belltown to determine whether your tires should be replaced soon.

If you're ready to get your car in great shape for autumn, call us to schedule an appointment!

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Survey Gauging Senior Needs Launches Today

by Jack Lakowsky

Going live today, the East Hampton Commission on Aging's (COA) survey aims to document actionable needs named by the town's older adult population, including housing, medical care and an experience worsened by the pandemic-loneliness.

Eric Rosenburg, commission member, and Bob Atherton, commission chair, unveiled the idea for the survey to the East Hampton Town Council in late July.

When it was nearer completion, Rosenburg and Atherton discussed the survey with the *Rivereast*. The survey is an evolution of one disseminated in 2017, one based on an AARP template.

The time has come for an update, and the commission decided to submit a more modern survey to the public.

The survey has sections on housing, transportation, health care and affordability, as well as demographic questions.

"We're keen on understanding the needs of our older adults," Rosenburg said in the interview. "We'll have a richer data set, and the ability to inform the council about senior needs."

In July, Town Manager David Cox said there are over 2,000 seniors in town, a number expected to rise.

The new survey, Rosenburg said, diverts more from the AARP model. He said a new topic for surveying is loneliness. Town senior staff and volunteers have made efforts at tackling isolation, including a pen pal program and phone call check-ins.

Other updates include changes of demographic terminology to those used in the latest census and, Rosenburg said, a better set of ques-

tions about transportation needs.

Another new topic, and a seemingly unavoidable one, is the COVID-19 pandemic, and its impact on daily life. Pandemic questions were devised with input from the Chatham Health District, the town's public health oversight board.

The commission had originally not included COVID-19 questions, but included them after the July council meeting, wherein counselor Dean Markham suggested they be added.

Housing, Rosenburg said, was a major concern in the 2017 survey, and he expects this will not change. The matter of the subject will be a bit different, though, with more of a focus on accessory dwelling units (ADUs), or in-law apartments.

"We'll be asking, 'Is this a viable option for you, or do you need more information?'" said Rosenburg.

When the survey is done, the commission will review the data, and then present its findings to the council.

The 2017 survey received about 240 responses. The average age of takers was about 69, and 70% of respondents were women.

A solid majority of East Hampton seniors, 65%, said there is not enough housing in town to accommodate aging individuals. At the time, the commission concluded the town needs more one-level homes and senior apartments.

Seventy-one percent said they have funds for retirement, and 67% said they plan to stay in town after retiring.

Reactions to whether East Hampton is a good town in which to age were mixed; 45% said it's a good place to age, while 37% said it was fair,

and another 18% said it's poor.

A vast majority of respondents, 91%, said it's important that people age in their homes.

The commission in that survey also concluded the town needs better walking areas and must attract more healthcare services.

The COA said the survey will be open for six weeks. It will be anonymous and distributed largely online through SurveyMonkey.

Rosenburg told the council hard copies of the 25-question survey will be available for those who'd rather take it that way.

The COA will run an ad in this week's *Rivereast* with a QR code and survey link.

There will also be links on the town's website, on the Let's Talk East Hampton Facebook forum, the town's own Facebook page, and in emails in the senior center's newsletter.

Chair Atherton said paper copies are available at the local senior center, library and Stop & Shop. The survey is anonymous.

Atherton praised town senior staff for their work, adding that the COA's effort is to gather information the senior center needs but has no time to gather itself. He said the survey will be fuel for a long-term plan addressing senior needs.

"This project is trying to look at what we need to develop over the next 20, 30 years," Atherton told the *Rivereast*, going on to cite a University of Connecticut survey that revealed that effectively every Connecticut town's population will be older than 60 by 2030.

The last survey had about 240 responses. Atherton's hope for this round is a bit more am-

bitious. He said around 1,200 local seniors take part in center activities and programs.

"If we could a number somewhere in that neighborhood, that'd be great," Atherton said.

Although the survey addresses a variety of topics, Atherton expects housing to again be a primary concern of senior residents, saying it's been "an issue stirring for quite some time."

"There are a lot of people in town becoming solitary homeowners," he said, adding that after spouses pass on and kids strike out on their own, people often look to downsizing. Here an obstacle arises for Belltown seniors—a dearth of assisted living facilities or senior housing.

"The town has two small housing units, and that's all," Atherton said.

According to the town's website, the local housing authority's two locations, Chatham Acres and Bellwood Court, have a combined 70 units, the latter of which does not have wheelchair access, and has a turnover rate of just 10 units per year.

Atherton cited information a developer sent to the town, saying if people choose to move into senior housing, they often don't want to be more than five miles from their prior home. Local seniors who aged out of their home have to find out-of-town facilities, like the large Colebrook Village in Hebron.

"People want to be able to go to the same church, the same stores, be in the same community" Atherton said. "Establishing a continuum of services will help the town offer that. We'd love any information we can get."

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: The library is open in the summer Monday-Wednesday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Thursday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Masks are required at town facilities – including the library – for people ages 3 and up.

Children's Programs: Take and Make September: For ages 3-5 and grades K-5. Decorate a pencil case. Supplies are limited; registration is underway. Reserve kits online and pick up in person or curbside.

Stories and Songs Outside: Outdoors at Sears Park by Lake Pocotopaug Wednesday, Sept. 22, 10:15 a.m., for ages 18 months-5 years and their caregivers. Siblings welcome. No registration required.

DIY Days: For grades 2-8. Saturday, Sept. 25, 11 a.m., or Monday, Sep. 27, 6 p.m. Kids will create their own Magic Drawing Board. Space is limited; reserve your seat for this in-person, indoor program.

Dungeons and Dragons: For grades 8-12. Wednesdays, Sept. 22, Oct. 13 and 27, and Nov. 10 and 24, 5:30-7:30 p.m. each day, in person at the library. No previous playing experience required and all supplies will be provided.

Teen Fandom Mondays - Marble Locker Magnets: Monday, Sept. 20, 5:30 p.m., for grades 6-12. Make marble magnets using pictures from your favorite fandoms – such as Disney, *Star Wars*, *The Hunger Games*, Marvel and more. Come in cosplay if you like.

Adult Programs: Take and Make September: Adult: Decorate a mini sneaker and add this keychain to your backpack or keys. Supplies are limited; registration is underway. Reserve kits online and pick up in person or curbside.

Book Club: Tuesday, Sept. 21, 6:30 p.m. or Thursday, Sept. 23, 2 p.m. The club will discuss Connecticut author Megan Collins' newest novel, *The Family Plot*.

President's List

Tracy Heath of East Hampton made the summer 2021 President's List at Southern New Hampshire University in Manchester, N.H.

Lobster Fest Returns Sept. 25

Sales end tomorrow for East Hampton's Fowler-Dix-Park Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5095's 16th annual Lobster Fest.

The Lobster Fest will take place Saturday, Sept. 25, from noon-5 p.m., on the grounds of the VFW post on North Maple Street. The VFW Lobster Fest raises funds for the upkeep of the post as well as to serve the needs of veterans.

Ocean-fresh live lobsters are trucked in the morning of the fest. There are two options for tickets. A single ticket (white color) entitles you to either two fresh-boiled lobsters with drawn butter or two grilled steaks, or one of each, one boiled lobster and one grilled steak, plus one pound of fresh-steamed clams with drawn butter, one cup of homemade clam chowder and one ear of corn.

A double ticket (red color) entitles you to ei-

ther two fresh-boiled lobsters with drawn butter or two grilled steaks, or one of each, one boiled lobster and one grilled steak, plus two pounds of fresh-steamed clams with drawn butter, two cups of homemade chowder and two ears of corn.

Soft drinks will be available, as well as a cash bar. The entire feast is served "in the rough" under shade canopies behind the Post Home with music. Take-out and local delivery is available at no additional cost.

Tickets are limited, and sales will cease Sept. 18. Tickets are \$55 for a single (white) ticket and \$70 for a double (red) ticket. The post will have tickets available after 3 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, as well as noon to close on Saturday and Sunday. People can also call the post at 860-267-8837.

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Police Investigating Four Sexual Assault Cases

by Jack Lakowsky

In a Sept. 7 meeting of the town's subcommittee on how to spend federal stimulus dollars, East Hampton Police Chief Dennis Woessner revealed that the department is investigating four separate cases of sexual assault.

Woessner said in the meeting that victims include a teenager, and three younger juveniles.

In a follow-up call Monday, Woessner told the *Rivereast* the cases are unrelated to each other, and that there are people under investigation for the alleged assaults.

Woessner brought the assaults up to the Town Council subcommittee as part of his bid for use of funds from the American Rescue Plan stimulus package, saying time-consum-

ing, extreme, sensitive cases such as sexual assault necessitate bolstering staff, coverage of which appears in a separate story in this week's *Rivereast*.

Due to mandated confidentiality surrounding sexual assault cases, Woessner had to be sparing in the details he could share.

He explained the assaults did not all occur in the same few-week period when they were reported. Some were reported by the Department of Children and Families (DCF), and some were from individuals who came forward.

Four officers are investigating the cases. Help is available for victims and their families. The National Sexual Assault Hotline is 800-656-4673.

Senior Center News & Notes

East Hampton Senior Center, 105 Main St., is open. All participants are asked to register for a program before entering the center; register online at myactivecenter.com. For full program descriptions or more information – or if unable to register via computer – call 860-267-4426, email seniorcenter@easthamptonct.gov, or visit www.easthamptonct.gov/east-hampton-senior-center. Senior center hours are Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Note: Masks are required for all participants, regardless of vaccination status.

Lunches: The Community Renewal Team is serving meals at the center Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Call the center to reserve a meal or sign up online through MyActiveCenter.com. One must be 60 or older to register. Reservations for the next day's meal must be made before 11 a.m. the day before. Masks are required; however, once you have your meal and are seated you can take off your mask. Meals are funded through a federal grant and the meals are free, but a \$3 donation is requested to help cover costs the grant does not. No one registered will be denied a meal due to lack of a donation.

Weekly Activities: Registration is required for all of the following; to do so, contact the center. **Quilting Group:** Mondays, 9 a.m. **Mexican Train Dominoes:** Mondays, 9:30 a.m. **Bible Study:** Tuesdays, 1 p.m. **Bingo:** Tuesdays, 1-2 p.m., in person and via Zoom. **Setback:** Thursdays 1:15-3:15 p.m. **Mahjongg:** Fridays, 10 a.m.-noon. **Textile Group:** Fridays at 1:30 p.m.

Wii Bowling: Tuesdays, Oct. 5 and 12, 10 a.m. Pre-registration is required.

Writing Our Lives to Open Our Hearts: Thursdays, 10:30-11:30 a.m., or every other Wednesday (next date Sept. 29), at 9:30 a.m. Meet outside, weather permitting. In case of inclement weather, it will be inside, with masks recommended. Register online.

September is National Senior Center Month: There will be various events throughout the month to help celebrate.

Movie Theatre @the Senior Center: Monday, Sept. 20, 1 p.m. Watch the movie *Big Stone*

Gap. Snacks provided. Registration required.

Harvest Time at Hemphill Farm: Take a virtual trip to a potato farm Tuesday, Sept. 21, at 10 a.m., via Zoom. Pre-registration required.

Getting to Know Trees: An Introduction: Wednesday, Sept. 22, at 10 a.m., with Master Naturalist Lynn Kochiss. Class limited to 10 participants. There may be walking involved, short distances. Pre-registration and masks required.

September Birthday Celebration: Monday, Sept. 27, 1 p.m. There will be cupcakes, presents, lemonade and more. Sign up ASAP; seating is limited.

Creative Crafts: Wednesday, Sept. 29, 1 p.m. Make Autumn Mesh Wreaths. Registration required.

iPad Training: Thursday, Sept. 30, 11:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Learn how to use an iPad. The center will have iPads, or you can bring your own. Registration required.

Volunteer Shopping: The center has instituted a shopping program where a volunteer will shop for you. Call in your list to 860-267-4426 or email it to Jewing@easthampton.gov. List must include name, address, phone number and email if you have one, along with a complete shopping list. The shopper will call you before the drop off to let you know the cost of the groceries. You can write out a check for the amount, payable to the Town of East Hampton. The volunteer will drop off the groceries at your door and pick up the check in a pre-arranged designated spot.

Trip: Dining and a Cabaret Show: At the Newport Playhouse Wednesday, Dec. 8, to see the new comedic farce *A Christmas for Carol*. There will be a staff-served buffet with a variety of hot entrees, salads and more. Cost is \$129/person. Payments will be accepted at the center on Tuesdays and Thursdays, or by a pre-arranged appointment time.

Dean's List

Ricardo Bailen of East Hampton made the summer 2021 Dean's List at Southern New Hampshire University in Manchester, N.H.

Presentation on Edible Flowers

Sandy Morrell from New England Seed Company will give a presentation on edible flowers at the Belltown Garden Club's monthly meeting Monday, Sept. 27, at 6:30 p.m., at East Hampton Public Library, 105 Main St.

The event is open to the public. There will be edible flower refreshments following the presentation.

The Belltown Garden Club is a member of Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut and National Garden Clubs. For more information about the club and its activities, call President JoAnn Hewitt at 860-267-4129.

Historic House Tour

Tickets are ready for the historic house tour sponsored by the Chatham Historical Society of East Hampton. The tour will take place Saturday, Sept. 25, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Six houses will be included in this year's celebration of homes, from the very earliest built in 1748 to the 1930 craftsman-style cape. Tickets will be available at East Hampton Public Library and at Town Hall, in the town clerk's office. People may also purchase tickets by calling 860-267-4732.

American Legion Post 64 to Meet

Treadway Cavanaugh American Legion Post 64 will hold its next meeting Tuesday, Sept. 21, at 7 p.m., at 55 Main St., East Hampton. All members are encouraged to attend. Meetings are held every third Tuesday of the month, from September through June.

Art Exhibition at Town Hall Gallery

The East Hampton Art Exhibition has a new artist for September for the Town Hall Gallery – Jacqueline Jones.

Jones teaches at the Glastonbury Art Guild and the Lyme Art Association. Her work and more information can be found at www.jacquelinejones.com.

Barbecue Chicken Takeout Event

Haddam Neck Covenant Church is hosting a barbecue chicken dinner drive-thru takeout event Saturday, Sept. 25, by reservation only. Some outdoor seating is available.

This is the same barbecue chicken recipe the church has used at the Haddam Neck Fair for over 40 years. The dinner includes a barbecue thigh/leg chicken quarter, baked beans, coleslaw and corn bread. Price is \$10, cash only.

Order deadline is Sept. 19. Call in your reservation to the HNCC office at 860-267-2336 and indicate your pick-up time: noon-1 p.m., 1-2 p.m. 3-4 p.m., 4-5 p.m. or 5-6 p.m.

Haddam Neck Covenant Church is located at 17 Haddam Neck Rd.

Electric Car Show Coming Soon

The East Hampton and Portland clean energy task forces will hold the third annual Electric Car Show Saturday, Sept. 25, from noon-3 p.m. at East Hampton High School, 15 N. Maple St. Rain date is Sunday, Sept. 26.

The event will showcase electric, hybrid, and alternative fuel cars from private owners and various dealerships.

The clean energy task forces are inviting any residents who own any electric, hybrid or alternative fuel vehicle to show off their clean energy machine as well. There is no registration fee. Owners that want to showcase their electric and hybrid cars can simply show up before the show commences and be included in the display area. Other electric vehicles are welcome as well – bikes, scooters or anything that moves.

Registration is also open, at no charge, to any town groups, non-profits, associations or clubs interested in using less fossil fuel for vehicles. There will be music and food as well.

Booth registration forms can be found by emailing the East Hampton Clean Energy Task Force at ehcetf@gmail.com.

Off to College

Dean Fontano of East Hampton is attending Nichols College in Dudley, Mass., as a member of the Class of 2025.

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Residents can get personal assistance using SurveyMonkey at East Hampton Senior Center and Library during regular business hours and at Town Hall Youth & Family Services Office on Tuesdays 9:30am-12:30pm and 3:30pm-5:30pm and Thursdays 9:30am-12:30pm. (Residents of Chatham Acres and Bellwood Court can get their SurveyMonkey help onsite).

Paper surveys are available at East Hampton Stop & Shop, Senior Center, Library, Town Hall Town Clerk's Office & the Post Office. You can return them there after completion.

ALL INDIVIDUAL RESPONSES ARE CONFIDENTIAL!

East Hampton • East Hampton



Senior Picnic... East Hampton Senior Center celebrated National Senior Center Month, picnic-style, at Sears Park on Wednesday, Sept. 8. The picnic featured the Whey Station food truck from Middletown, and Momma's Ice Cream truck from Colchester. Portland Care and Rehab provided a two-piece band.

Parks and Rec. News

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

East Hampton Travel Basketball: For boys and girls. Tryouts will be Sept. 22 and 24. Grades 4/5 and 6 will be from 6:30-7:30 p.m., and grades 7 and 8 will be 7:30-8:30 p.m. Attend one of the tryout nights. There is no cost to try out.

Paint Night with Miss Amy: Oct. 16, 4-5:30 p.m., at the Sears Park pavilion. At this family-friendly paint party, learn how to paint a Halloween Spooky Cat. Dress up in your Halloween costume to be entered in an art kit giveaway at the end of the program. Cost: \$25.

Wolfpack Game: Saturday, Feb. 26, 7 p.m., at the XL Center. Cost is \$18/ticket.

Applications for Jim Morris Scholarship

Applications for the sixth annual East Hampton Ambulance Association Jim Morris Scholarship are currently being accepted. The scholarship is available to East Hampton or Haddam Neck residents who have completed one year of studies in an Allied Health program at a four-year college or community college. In addition, members of the East Hampton Ambulance Association, or their family, who are furthering their education are also eligible.

Applications must be postmarked or delivered by Sept. 30; any received after that date will not be considered. For applications, go to www.ehems.org and click on 'Scholarship,' or call 860-267-9679. Completed ones should be sent to: Liz Whitty, Scholarship Chairperson, East Hampton Ambulance Association, P.O. Box 144, East Hampton, CT 06424.

Tax-deductible donations, to help continue these scholarships, are also welcome, and can be made out to: The East Hampton Ambulance Scholarship Fund, earmarked 'Scholarship,' and sent to Whitty at the same address.

End-of-Summer Forum

State Rep. Irene Haines (R-34), who represents East Haddam, East Hampton and part of Colchester, will host an end-of-summer forum Saturday, Sept. 25, from 9:30-10:30 a.m., at the East Haddam Grange Hall, 488 Town St., East Haddam.

Constituents will be able to meet with Haines and discuss any state concerns they may have. Masks are required for this event.

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.

Police News

8/31: Thomas Doran, 31, of 59 Freestone Ave., Portland, was issued a summons for operating an unregistered motor vehicle and misuse of a marker plate, East Hampton police said.

8/31: Thomas Oswell, 59, of 114 N. Pond Rd., Amston, was issued a summons for failure to have stop lamps, misuse of plates, and operating an unregistered and uninsured motor vehicle, police said.

8/28: Javiar Ordaz, 30, of New Britain, was issued a summons for misuse of plates, operating without a license and operating an unregistered and uninsured motor vehicle, police said.

8/31: Jordyn Marineau, 31, of Middletown, was arrested and charged with reckless driving, speeding, disobeying an officer's signal and having improper headlights, police said.

Also, from Aug. 23-Sept. 12, officers responded to 15 motor vehicle crashes, 51 medical calls and 22 alarms, and made 43 traffic stops, police said.

Art Association Oil Painting Demo

The next meeting of the East Hampton Art Association will be held Wednesday, Sept. 22, at 7 p.m., at the East Hampton Community Center at 105 Main St. The guest artist for the evening will be Frank Bruckmann of New Haven. He will present a still life demonstration in oils.

Bruckmann studied at the DuCret School of Art in New Jersey and then took classes at the Art Students League in New York City. He also studied at the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris and spent nearly a decade in France and Spain, copying the masters in the museums and painting landscapes in the cities and countryside. He spent a year painting in France recently.

The public is welcome at all East Hampton Art Association meetings. There is a suggested donation of \$4 for nonmembers. Masks are required of everyone attending the meeting.

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.

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: The Zoom Bible study – held every other Thursday evening – will resume in the fall.

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.

Epoch Arts' Annual Tag Sale Approaching

Epoch Arts will hold its six-day annual tag sale over two weekends in September – Sept. 17-19 and Sept. 24-26. Time slots will be available from 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

This year, Epoch is again limiting the number of people allowed in the building at one time. The time slots are two hours each. While people can only sign up for one time slot per day, they may attend multiple days. Walk-ins are allowed as long as there is capacity in the building at the moment, but Epoch recommends reserving a time slot online in order to be guaranteed admission immediately. There will only be online reservations during the first weekend of the sale.

Cash registers will be outside this year to ensure the safety of tag sale workers. Epoch will not provide bags or be able to hold items for people this year, but people can cash out numerous times, bring your purchases to your car and re-enter during their time slot. There will be

only one entrance and one exit to the Tag Sale, and they will be clearly marked.

This year, only children 10 years old and up will be allowed to attend the tag sale, but there will be a special kid's day the second Saturday, Sept. 25. Kids of all ages can attend the tag sale this day only, but keep in mind if you bring another member of your household, they will be counted during the time slot.

This is Epoch's biggest fundraiser, and, to help offset costs and lost revenue due to the pandemic, there will be an entrance fee of \$20 for the first time slot only, on Sept. 17 from 8-10 a.m. As of press time, masks are only recommended, but that may change. There will also be no public bathrooms available.

To reserve a time slot, go to epocharts.org/tagsale. The sale will take place at Epoch, 27 Skinner St. Visit www.epocharts.org for more information.



This stars and stripes blanket will be among the many raffle prizes at tomorrow's Markham Meadows Car Cruise. The event is from 3-7 p.m. and includes food, music, raffles and trophies.

Car Cruise for Wounded Warriors

The annual Markham Meadows Car Cruise will be Saturday, Sept. 18, from 3-7 p.m., at the campgrounds, located on 9 Markham Rd.

Proceeds benefit local wounded warriors as well as Flags Across East Hampton and the East

Hampton Police K-9 unit. The day includes cars, trucks, tractors, bikes, trophies, food, music and many raffles. Bring your cooler. Call Melissa Engel at 860-267-9738 for more information.

Lions Club Scholarship Raffle

The East Hampton Lions Club is conducting a raffle to support its annual scholarship program. The club offers four \$1,000 awards to East Hampton graduating students.

The raffle offers a \$2,021 grand prize. There are also two first prizes of \$221, two second prizes of \$121 and two third prizes of \$51. Also, the first-, second- and third-prize winners are re-entered for grand prize drawing.

The drawing will be at the Lions Club picnic pavilion, 62 North Main St., at 2:21 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 21. Winners need not be present.

For information or tickets call Lion Tom Denman 860-519-4951 or 860-267-4512.

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 not fully vaccinated should continue to wear masks and practice social distancing.

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

The Teen Youth Group will next meet Saturday, Sept. 18, from 1:30-3:30 p.m. at Gillette's Castle State Park for hiking and a picnic lunch. Grades 6-12 are welcome.

For more information, visit cc-eh.org or call 860-267-4959 during office hours, Tuesday-Friday, 8 a.m.-noon. In case of pastoral emergencies, the Rev. Jim Latimer can be reached at 610-568-2480.



The Colchester Cougars youth football squads began play on Sunday. Pictured is the B squad ready to tackle the season. The squad would win its season opener, 18-0.

Youth Football Recap

The Colchester Cougars youth football squads opened their seasons on Sunday. Squads B, C and D played Plainfield, and A played East Hampton. Here is how they fared:

D Squad: Won, 27-13. The offense was led by Maverick Bernier and Ty Carraro with quick cuts, explosive runs and lightning speed. Xavier Smith led the blocking and cleared up holes for the Cougar offense. Also rounding out the strong Cougar offense were Dayton Hindle, Eva Duguay, Mason Petro and Brennan King. The defense was led by Parker Chaplinsky, Sam Gorman, Christian Nunez-Melendez, Cash Smith, Jayden Lirette, Kaitlin Peck, Connor Peck and Cam Brodeur. Special teams was integral in securing the Cougar win.

C Squad: Won, 33-6. Cougar touchdowns were scored by Niko Ibrahim, Keegan King and TJ Garvie. Karter Bernier led the Cougars in

yards gained. The offensive line of Aiden Francis, Brady Bigelow, Behr McCormick, Jack Wissler, Casey Donat, CJ Little, PJ Brodeur and Jack-Jack Ploski held strong allowing the Cougars to dominate and push forward time and again. Both Drew Browning and Jakob Sheehan had multiple quarterback sacks. The Cougars play at home this Sunday, Sept. 19, vs. Ellington.

B Squad: Won, 18-0. There were touchdown runs by Vinny Arrigoni, Edward Gignac, and Luke “smash” Sands. The running attack was led by the blocking of James Wissler, Kobe Wyman, Charlie Gorman, Adam Bigelow, Jake Hashem, Gavin King, and Ryan Browning. Led by Noah Garvie, Jameson Grant, Alan Marshall, Dominic Helm, Cody “bday boy” Obryon, and Sam Collazzo the defense held strong the entire game. Chance “bubba” Markovitz dominated on special teams with his kicking.

A Squad: Lost, 30-13. Joey Gignac was able to find the end zone twice, with one of his touchdowns resulting from a pick 6. Tyler McLaughlin had a QB sack and a fumble recovery for the Cougar defense. Josiah Wells shined with an interception while Michael Krol and Riddick Burroughs combined for 28 tackles from the linebacker position.

Democrats Collecting for Food Bank

In honor of National Hunger Action Month, First Selectman Mary Bylone and the Colchester Democrats will be collecting non-perishable food and personal hygiene items to benefit the Colchester Food Bank throughout the month of September.

Donation bins can be found at Colchester Democratic Headquarters at 392 S. Main St. Items can be dropped inside the headquarters door Monday through Thursday, 6-7:30 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.; and Sunday, noon-3 p.m. Unopened/unexpired non-perishable food and other products may be left outside the headquarters door if preferred.

Colchester Democrats will also have collection bins at upcoming community events on the Town Green.

As a reminder, the Colchester Food Bank accepts donations at Town Hall (cart in lobby) during regular business hours. Monetary donations may also be made to the Town Hall drop box.

More information on accessing food, fuel and other services through the Colchester Youth and Social Services programs is available at colchesterct.gov or by calling Town Hall at 860-537-7200.

From the Superintendent’s Desk...

We are excited to see our students back in classrooms! Teachers and staff are hard at work reigniting our students’ passion for learning, reimagining learning opportunities, and restoring a sense of community in our schools. The first 30 days of school will be primarily focused on re-establishing our sense of community to foster a safe, warm environment to ensure that the best learning can take place.

In an ever-evolving pandemic, our priorities remain unchanged. Safety has been our first priority; however, our mission still stands. “We create innovative thinkers for a dynamic world.” Our mission still drives all we do here in Colchester. “We” embodies the notion that everyone in our community plays a role in developing innovative thinkers, and that Colchester collectively thrives when students develop the skills to solve problems, work collaboratively, and communicate effectively.

Building upon this mission, the Board of Education recently established the following four goals:

Goal #1: The Board is known for fostering and cultivating a welcoming, inclusive, and equitable culture that promotes the overall well-being of our students, staff, caregivers, and the community.

Goal #2: The Board is known for growing innovative thinkers by investing in student achievement through dynamic and appropriately resourced instruction that maximizes the individual potential of students.

Goal #3: The Board is known for effective reciprocal communication that builds connections with the CPS community and promotes advocacy efforts at the local and state level.

Goal #4: The Board is known for purposefully aligning the needs of students with a fiscally responsible, equitable, and transparent budget.

The district’s goals are in perfect alignment with the Board of Education’s goals. We’ve spent much of the last 18 months reacting to the impact of the pandemic on our community. While we will continue to support a recovery, we must also sustain instructional and operational programming. The district has been able to implement a number of initiatives and programs over the past decade that need to be sustained in order to continue the tradition of excellence in our schools.

I am grateful for the strong partnerships we have cultivated with parents, caregivers, educators, business owners, and community members. I will continue to listen to and learn from you, and work with the Board of Education and my colleagues to foster the best educational, social, and emotional environment for all of Colchester’s children. Working together for children, we can help them strive for excellence.

Regards,
Jeffrey E. Burt
Superintendent, Colchester Public Schools

Senior Center News & Notes

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

Monday, Sept. 20: 9 a.m., Making Memories, Exercise w/Anne; 10 a.m., Community Conversations with First Selectman; 11 a.m., Learn to Sign; 12:30 p.m., Mahjong; 1 p.m., Bridge, Watercolor Workshop.

Tuesday, Sept. 21: 9 a.m., Making Memories; 9:45 a.m., Tai Chi; 10:30 a.m., Book Club discussion; 12:30 p.m., Pinochle; 1:30 p.m., Bingo.

Wednesday, Sept. 22: 8:30 a.m., Walking Group meet-up at the Air Line Trail in Amston; 9 a.m., Making Memories Program; 10 a.m., Adult Coloring, Sit & Be Fit; 1:30 p.m., Line Dancing; 4 p.m., Made in Colchester celebration; 7 p.m. AARP – Frank Sinatra History (Z).

Thursday, Sept. 23: 8 a.m., Hudson River Cruise departs; 9 a.m., Exercise w/ Anne; 10 a.m., Sittercize, Wii Bowling; 11 a.m., Yoga; noon, Chair Massage; 12:30 p.m., Dominoes; 1

p.m., Knit & Crochet.

Friday, Sept. 24: 10 a.m., Sit & Be Fit; 10:30 a.m., Choral Group; 11 a.m., Yoga, Lunch Bunch to Portland Ale House; 1:30 p.m., Bingo.

Upcoming Programs: Fall Card-Making Workshop: Friday, Oct. 1, 10 a.m. Senior center member Barbara Gozzo will lead this workshop in which you will go home with a set of handmade cards to keep or send. There is a \$5 charge for the materials. Pre-register in the office by Sept. 24.

Foot Clinic: Wednesday, Oct. 6, 1:30 p.m., by appointment only. Call 860-537-3911 to schedule an appointment at the senior center with Dr. Anthony Morgan, D.P.M., from Colchester Foot Specialists. Bring your Medicare and insurance information or \$40 for those without insurance coverage.

Resident on Soccer Team

Thirty-two student athletes are competing on Eastern Connecticut State University’s women’s soccer team this fall 2021 season.

Among the student athletes is first-year student Addison Belcamino of Colchester, who plays the position of midfield and majors in pre-social work.

Land Recording Fraud Alerts

The Colchester town clerk’s office is offering a new service to help residents protect their home from fraudulent recordings.

This program allows users to sign up and receive email alerts whenever a document is recorded in Colchester under their name(s), such as a deed, mortgage and more.

To access this option, go to searchiqs.com/fraudalert. For more information about this service, call at 860-537-7215.



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Church Makes Donation... Members of the Westchester Congregational Church recently contacted the New Haven Fire Department about fireman Ricardo Torres, who died in a fire, and his partner, Samod Rankins, who was injured. The members of the group donated prayer shawls to the wives, a lap robe to the injured fireman and sweater, booties and quilt for the Torres baby due this month and a sweater to an older sibling. Accepting the gift bags is Assistant Chief Justin McCarthy of the New Haven Fire Department.

End-of-Summer Forum

State Rep. Irene Haines (R-34), who represents East Haddam, East Hampton and part of Colchester, will host an end-of-summer forum Saturday, Sept. 25, from 9:30-10:30 a.m., at the East Haddam Grange Hall, 488 Town St., East Haddam. Constituents will be able to meet with Haines and discuss any state concerns they may have. Masks are required for this event.

Ahavath Achim News

Congregation Ahavath Achim, 84 Lebanon Ave., has announced the following schedule: Friday night service, 6:30 p.m., Zoom; Shabbat morning 10 a.m. hybrid service; Tuesday, Sukkot hybrid service, 9:30 a.m.; Talmud class, 6:30 p.m., and Kabbalah class, 8 p.m. on Zoom. For more information, call 860-537-2809. Office hours are 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday; 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Tuesday; 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Wednesday; and 9 a.m.-noon Friday.

Cragin Book Club to Meet

The Cragin Book Club will meet Monday, Sept. 27, at 6 p.m., at Cragin Memorial Library, 8 Linwood Ave. This month, *Interior Chinatown* by Charles Yu will be read, as part of the "One Book, One Region" program. Copies are available for checkout at the Adult Circulation Desk. Weather permitting, the group will meet at the Colchester Giving Garden, which is located behind the Colchester Senior Center at 95 Norwich Ave. Please bring a chair. The group will meet via Zoom in case of inclement weather, at tinyurl.com/bkclubseptember. This program is free and open to the public, but registration is required. For more information, call the library at 860-537-5752.

Christian Life Chapel News

Christian Life Chapel, located at 392 S. Main St., holds worship in-person at 10 a.m. Sundays. Follow the church on Facebook for the livestream. For more information, call Pastor Don Rivers – the church's bi-vocational pastor, who also serves as president for "Racing with Jesus Inc." – at 860-398-9119 or visit christianlifechapel.org.

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. There is also Children's Church available for ages 4-11. All are welcome. The main service is also broadcast live each week on Facebook. 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.

Paint Night at Library

Cragin Memorial Library invites all teens and adults to a Paint Night Tuesday, Sept. 21, at 6:30 p.m., via Zoom. Register at tinyurl.com/r8xvtd8. Participants will receive an email when supplies are ready to be picked up. This program is free. For more information about current library services, visit www.craginlibrary.org.

Project Graduation Cornhole Tournament

Bacon Academy Project Graduation is holding a Cornhole Tournament Saturday, Sept. 25, at the Ruby & Elizabeth Cohen Woodlands property on 95 McDonald Rd. Check-in begins at 11 a.m. with tournament play beginning promptly at noon. Tournament is a double elimination/bracket format. Players can bring their own standard bags, no double-sided/pro bags are allowed. Cost is \$80 per adult team, \$40 for student teams (high school students and younger), \$60 for mixed adult/student teams. All ages are welcome. Masks and social distancing guidelines will be enforced. Team cash prizes for winners are \$320 for first place, \$160 for second place and \$80 for

third place. To register, go to www.baconacademyprojectgrad.org and click on the 'Cornhole Tournament' page or send payment by check with team member names and contact information (email or cell phone) to BAPG, P.O. Box 393, Colchester, CT 06415. Registration is due Wednesday, Sept. 22. Email Melanie Hathaway at ba.projectgrad@gmail.com with any questions. The mission of Bacon Academy Project Graduation is to enhance drug- and alcohol-free awareness by providing safe and healthy graduation events for all graduating seniors of Bacon Academy. For more information, go to www.baconacademyprojectgrad.org.

Military Honor Squads for Veterans

Military honor squads have been a tradition in the United States military since its earliest days. It can take many forms but usually serviceman's fellow soldiers will accompany the casket that is draped with the national flag, fire a rifle salute, play taps, then fold and present the United States flag to the family. In Connecticut, volunteer service organizations (VSOs) step in to render the military honors for departed veterans. Honor guard services are coordinated through the funeral provider and the Connecticut Army National Guard Mil-

itary Honors Unit. A family need only provide proof of honorable service to the funeral home, in order for their deceased veteran to get the honor squad services they have already earned. The National Guard will contact one of the VSOs to provide the rifle salute and play taps. Military honors are rendered at no cost to the family. If interested in joining one of the two area VSOs, veterans in New London County can call 860-537-6516 or email letendrej@sbcglobal.net for more information.

Schools Announce Staff of the Year

Colchester Public Schools has announced its staff of the year at the school system's annual Convocation held Monday, Aug. 30. Paraeducators that were recognized for 2021 were: Nicole Brownson, Colchester Elementary School; Rosemary Mlynarski, Jack Jacker Intermediate School; and Nancy Casey, William J. Johnston Middle School. The 2021 District Paraeducator of the Year was presented to Esmeralda Zurita, a paraeducator at Bacon Academy. Classified staff that were recognized for 2021

were Christina Kessing, CES; Russ Pater, JJIS; and Tammy VanLanen, Bacon Academy. The 2021 District Classified Staff Member of the Year was presented to Cindy Noniewicz, district nurse supervisor and WJMS school nurse. Teachers that were recognized for 2021 were: Anne Lemke, CES; Amanda LaSaracina, WJMS; and Jodi Mendlinger, Bacon Academy. The 2021 District Teacher of the Year was presented to Heather Johnson, a third-grade teacher at JJIS.

Fire Calls

From Sept. 5-11, the Colchester Hayward Fire Department responded to 45 calls: 40 emergency medical calls and five fire/fire-related calls. Calls included: Fire: fire alarm, one; service call, one; tree down, one; smoke investigation, one; gas leak, one. Medical: sick person, six; fall injury, two; cardiac distress, two; mental disorder, three; difficulty breathing, four; back pain, one; overdose, one; lift assist, one; seizure, four; alcohol disorder, two; stroke, two; injured person, four; bleeding, one; unconscious, two; medical alarm, two; abdominal pain, two. CHFD provided mutual aid five times last week – three times to East Haddam and once each to Hebron and Lebanon – and received it one time, from Gardner Lake.

Troop 72 Scouting Adventure Day

All children age 5 and older are invited to Troop 72 Scouting Adventure Day Saturday, Sept. 18, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., at Lions Pond, 292 Halls Hill Rd. Scouting-aged boys and girls, and their siblings, will be able to throw tomahawks, shoot arrows (certified instructor present), learn canoeing skills, take part in field games, and more. Troop 72 Scouts will demonstrate several skills throughout the day. This will be a hands-on event for all participants. For more details, contact the troop chairman at letendrej@sbcglobal.net.





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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.

Polish Dinner at St. Joseph's

The St. Joseph's Polish Club at 395 South Main St. will have a dine-in or take-out Polish dinner Saturday, Sept. 25, from 1-2:30 p.m.

Dinner will include pierogies, golumpki, kielbasa, kapusta, rye bread and butter. Polka music will be performed by The Maestro's Men in the pavilion from 1-5 p.m. It is a tribute to Joe Milardo and the Musical Cavaliers, who have been performing for over 60 years.

Advanced ticket sales only. Tickets are \$18 each and on sale at the bar during normal business hours: Monday-Friday, 4-10 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, noon-9 p.m. Call 860-537-2550 for more information.

Senior Trip to Chicken Restaurant, Casino

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

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

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

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

St. Andrew Ladies Guild Fundraiser

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

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

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

CCO Changes Announced

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

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

Sunday School: Sunday School is held during worship from September through June. Children in grades pre-K through 8 are welcome. The nursery is located just off the sanctuary. Visit the church website to register youth for Sunday School.

Twelve-Step Meetings: AA meets in the church library Monday-Wednesday and Friday at noon and Thursday at 10 a.m., and at 7:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. On Saturdays at 9:30 a.m., Al-Anon meets in the Jerusalem Room and AA meets in the Stage Room.

Boy Scout Troop 72: Meetings are held in the Stage Room every Monday at 7 p.m.

Bacon Receives Bequest to Continue Scholarships

The estate of the late Irene (Bryson) Herden has bequeathed \$25,000 to Bacon Academy for the continuation of two long-standing scholarships: the Lillian M. Herden Memorial Scholarship and the Everett Herden Memorial Biology Scholarship.

The scholarship in memory of Lillian M. Herden is presented yearly to a graduate of Bacon Academy who will attend an institution of higher learning and pursue a career in a business-related specialty. Selection of the recipient is made on the basis of a spirit of helpfulness, character, and financial need.

The Everett Harden Bacon Academy Biology Scholarship was established to assist a Bacon Academy graduate in the pursuit of an education in the biological sciences.

September Children's Programs at Library

The following children's programs will be offered in September at Cragin Memorial Library. For more information and full program descriptions, call the children's department at 860-537-7201. The library is located at 8 Linwood Ave.

4H STEAM Kits: Mondays in September; best-suited for elementary school and above. Kids are invited to come in each week and get a new STEAM kit. Supplies are limited.

Take & Make Craft Bags: Mondays: These crafts follow the storytime themes. If you can't make the in-person storytime, there will be recorded storytimes Mondays at 10:30 a.m. Upcoming themes: Sept. 19, Marble Pumpkin; Sept. 26, Robot.

Foodie Fun: Pencil Cookies: Saturday, Sept. 18, 10 a.m., for all ages. Grab your bag at the Children's Desk and follow the video to create this snack.

Camping Take & Make Craft: Wednesday, Sept. 22, for all ages. Create a camping scene.

C3 Play & Learn Groups

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

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

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

Ahavath Achim Welcomes Jewish New Year

Congregation Ahavath Achim, 84 Lebanon Ave., will wrap up its celebration of the Jewish New Year. With a Sukkot hybrid service Tuesday, Sept. 21, at 9:30 a.m.

For more information, call 860-537-2809.

The Scarecrows are Coming!

It's time to register for the 22nd annual Scarecrow Contest on the Colchester Town Green. Friends, neighbors, businesses and local organizations can compete against each other or just participate for fun.

The 2021 Scarecrow Contest will be held from Oct. 4-31 on the Colchester Town Green. This event is open to all. Prize categories include scariest, funniest and most imaginative. Setup of scarecrow displays is Oct. 4-8. The parade of costumes this year will be

Friday, Oct. 8, at 6 p.m., on the Town Green, complete with refreshments and a costume parade. Online voting will be held Oct. 9-31.

Cost to enter a scene is \$10 each, \$2.50 per support stake, and \$7 per hay bale. Register by the end of September. Visit bit.ly/22ndScarecrow for a registration form.

For more information, call 860-537-0340. This event is co-sponsored by the CBA and Colchester Parks and Recreation.

Poetry Contest for Children

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

Flyers and entry forms may be picked up at the Cragin Memorial Library Children's Circulation Desk or requested by email from colchestergardenclub@yahoo.com. Contest deadline is Dec. 1, with awards and recognition being made in spring 2022. In the past years, the Colchester Garden Club has organized an afternoon reception and reading of all the Colchester contest student entrants' poems for their families and friends at which time any prizes are distributed which is hoped to return spring 2022 depending upon the public health situation.

Contest Rules: All entries must be typed and titled. On the back of the entry, affix the Colchester Garden Club Entry Form which includes name, address, age, grade and school of participant and sponsoring garden club and state garden club name information. All entries become the property of National Garden Clubs, Inc. Poems do not have to rhyme; poems may be traditional verse, acrostics, blank verse, cinquains, diamond poems, limerick or Haiku.

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

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

The Colchester Garden Club is a member of the Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut, New England Garden Club Inc. and National Garden Clubs Inc. The club supports the Community Wildlife Habitat of Colchester (certified by the National Wildlife Federation in 2010) and the Colchester StoryWalk. Club member volunteers maintain the Butterfly-Pollinator Garden and new children's garden at Cohen Woodlands on McDonald Road, as well as the gardens at Colchester Senior Center and Cragin Memorial Library, and the xeriscape garden on the corner of Linwood Avenue and Main Street.

The Colchester Garden Club holds their monthly meetings on the fourth Monday of each month at 6 p.m., currently via Zoom. New members are always welcome. For more information on the club, email colchestergardenclub@yahoo.com or call 860-267-4471.

Church Tag Sale

Colchester Federated Church is having a Tag Sale on Sept. 24 from 3-7 p.m. and Sept. 25, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., at the church, 60 Main St.

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.

President's List

Colchester residents Alexander Perez and Kevin Kretzenger made the summer 2021 President's List at Southern New Hampshire University in Manchester, N.H.

Vendors Sought for Snowflake Bazaar

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

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

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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 westchestercongregationalchurch.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 westcongregationalchurch@gmail.com, visit the church website, or call 860-267-6711.

Senior Trip to Amish Country

Colchester Senior Center will travel to Pennsylvania Amish Country Nov. 30-Dec. 2.

This three-day tour will start with a meal in the home of an Amish family. There will also be a guided tour of the Amish countryside, and a stop at Kitchen Kettle Village. The trip also includes tickets at the Sights & Sounds Theatre for a new production of *Queen Esther*.

The trip will feature two breakfasts, two dinners, a two-night hotel stay, theatre tickets, deluxe motorcoach, tour escort, and gratuity. Cost is \$599/person, double occupancy.

Call the senior center for more information at 860-537-3911 or stop by the center, 95 Norwich Ave., to register in person.

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'x10') 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.

Introduction to Scouting

Boys and girls ages 5-17, and their parents/guardians, are invited to join Troop 109 and Pack 109 outdoors at Westchester Congregational Church Tuesday, Sept. 28, from 6-7:30 p.m. both nights.

There will be a variety of Scouting activities, designed to show people what Scouting is all about. There will be the inflatable Gaga Pit, a Bow Saw Relay, and Box Oven Cookies (yes, you can bake cookies in a cardboard box but only the safe Scout way).

For more information, contact Jessica Cusano at 860-705-1077 or jessicacusano@gmail.com.

Young at Heart Info

Andover Young at Heart will meet Wednesday, Sept. 22, at 12:30 p.m. There will be a business meeting and Bingo for those gathering, and dues of \$5 are due for each individual joining YAH.

YAH also has Goodspeed scheduled for Oct. 20 (see Georgia O'Brien) and Nov. 17 is Cracker Barrel entertainment.

On Dec. 1, there will be a Christmas gathering at Georgina's in Bolton; watch for more info.

YAH hopes for future entertainment in year 2022.

All gatherings at Town Hall will be held at the community room in Town Hall at 12:30 p.m. Remember to contact Cathy Palazzi for bus transportation at 860-916-6122, as drivers will pick you up and return you home.

Masks are to be worn.

Senior Trip to Newport Playhouse

Colchester Senior Center is offering a trip to the Newport Playhouse & Cabaret Restaurant Thursday, Dec. 9, to see the new holiday comedy *A Christmas for Carol*.

Lunch will be prior to the show, at the staff-served buffet. There are reserved seats for the play and then back to the dining room for a cabaret show. Cost is \$129/person. The bus will depart at 9:30 a.m. and is estimated to return to Colchester by 6 p.m. Space is limited; call 860-537-3911 for more information.

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

Congregational Church News

Andover Congregational Church, UCC, located at 359 Route 6, invites all ages to worship Sundays at 10 a.m. 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 andoverchurch@gmail.com or visit www.andoverchurch.org.

Food Pantry: Mondays from 5-7 p.m. Bring your own bags. Masks not required for the fully vaccinated. The senior pantry is open every other Wednesday from 9-9:30 a.m.; next date is Sept. 22.

Quilt Tickets Available

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

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

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

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.

Donations, Volunteers Sought for Tag Sale

A tag sale will be held Saturday, Sept. 25, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., in the community room at Town Hall. One hundred percent of the proceeds benefiting the Andover Senior Lunch Program.

Donations are sought; call Carol Lee 860-989-6988 if you have items to donate. If interested in volunteering to help at the sale, call senior coordinator Cathy Palazzi at 860-916-6122.

Foodshare Van: Comes to the church every other Wednesday from 9-9:30 a.m.; next date is Sept. 29.

Prayer Requests: Need prayer? Contact the church and leave a message.

Sonshine Stampers: This group meets Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. at the church to make greeting cards. All are invited.

Back to Church Sunday: Sunday, Sept. 19, is National Back to Church day. All are invited to worship and welcome children back from summer vacation. The worship service will begin at 10 a.m.

Town-Wide Flu Clinic

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

For more information, call Cathy Palazzi at 860-916-6122.

Bingo & Baskets

Andover Congregational Church, 359 Route 6, will hold a Bingo & Baskets night Friday, Sept. 24, starting with dinner at 5:30 p.m. The game starts at 6:30 p.m.

Admission is \$10 and includes dinner, drink, dessert and Bingo. No reservations required.

Leave a message at the church at 860-742-7696 with any questions.

TOWN OF ANDOVER LEGAL NOTICE PUBLIC HEARING / SPECIAL TOWN MEETING TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2021

The Electors and Citizens qualified to vote in town meetings in the Town of Andover are hereby notified that a Public Hearing immediately followed by a Special Town Meeting for the Town of Andover will be held in the Andover Elementary School Gym - 35 School Road - Andover, Connecticut on Tuesday, September 28, 2021, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Attendees are advised to wear face masks and reasonably distance themselves from one another to protect everyone from COVID infection. This Public Hearing and Special Town Meeting are for the following purposes:

To hold a **Public Hearing** led by the Board of Selectmen pursuant to Town Charter Section 404, regarding the following proposed Ordinances, proposed amendments to Town Ordinances, and proposed repeal of Ordinances to be considered by the Town Meeting:

Proposed Ordinances:
 *Ethics Ordinance, repealing and replacing the "Creation of an Ethics Commission for the Town of Andover" Ordinance #05-01, enacted on June 1, 2005;
 *Hearing Procedure for Citations Ordinance (NEW)
 *Blight Ordinance, repealing and replacing the "Abandoned Property Blight Ordinance," #02-17, enacted in 2017;
 *Town of Andover Event and Use of Town Property Ordinance (NEW);

*Repeal and replacement of the Minor Ordinance regarding: Resignation and Replacement of Any Town Official, #01-20, enacted by the Selectmen on June 8, 2020.

Proposed Amendments to the following Ordinances:
 *Regional Council of Elected Officials Town of Andover, Connecticut, #06-01, enacted March 25, 1966;
 *Ordinance Prohibiting Excavation of Town Roads or Rights-of-Way, #74-02, enacted on October 17, 1974;
 *Ordinance Regulations Concerning Installations of Driveways Connecting with Highways Maintained by the Town of Andover, #60-03, enacted May 7, 1960.

Proposed Repeal of the following Ordinances:
 *Change of the Fee for an Appeal to the Zoning Board of Appeals, #56-02, enacted April 5, 1956;
 *Ordinance Fixing Terms and Method Choosing Representatives on Capital Region Planning Agency #60-02, enacted on May 7, 1960.

Complete copies of all of the foregoing proposed Ordinances, proposed amendments to Town Ordinances, and proposed repeal of Town Ordinances are available on the Town Website andoverct.org, or in the Office of the Town Clerk at 17 School Road, Andover.

To Adjourn the Board of Selectmen Public Hearing - To choose a Moderator for the Special Town Meeting.

1. To elect a member to the Region 8 Board of Education.
 2. To vote on each of the foregoing proposed Ordinances considered in the Public Hearing separately and individually to determine whether any such proposal shall be enacted. **Voting by absentee ballot is not permitted for this meeting.**

Dated at Andover, Connecticut this 17th day of September, 2021
 Andover Board of Selectmen

1TB 9/17

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CROP Walk on Oct. 3

The 30th CROP Walk, the “walk to end hunger,” will take place Sunday, Oct. 3, starting and ending at The First Congregational Church of Andover, 359 Route 6.

All money raised by walkers will go to Church World Service International Hunger relief program and to local food banks or pantries.

The route follows the Hop River State Park Trail, with easy grades and a smooth walking surface. Registration is at 1:45 p.m., with walking stepping off at 2 p.m. Snacks and water will

be available for walkers. All COVID-19 protocols in effect at that time will be observed. Those uncomfortable with an in-person walk can register online and participate in a walk of their choice.

The walk is sponsored jointly by the Congregational churches of Andover, Columbia and Gilead. For online registration go to www.crop-hungerwalk.org/columbiaact.

Call Betsy Houle at 860-559-9718 with any questions.

Items Sought for Book & Bake Sale

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

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

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

Historical Society Museum Open Saturday

The Andover Historical Society will open its Museum of Andover History Saturday, Sept. 18, from 4-6 p.m. New items are continuously being added to the display.

Properly worn masks are required. The museum is located in Old Town Hall, on Monument Lane.

Police News

9/12: Timothy Heim, 41, of Ellington, was charged with breach of peace, interfering with an emergency call, violating a protective order and third-degree assault, police said.

Senior Citizen News & Notes

The following 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, Foodshare/food pantry rides on Wednesday, and lunches on Fridays. For all YAH events, call Judy Knox at 860-643-6824; for all movie information, call Sue Schmidt at 860-604-1057; and for all trip information, call Georgia O'Brien at 860-742-9947.

Manchester Shopping: Tuesday, Sept. 21. Masks required on bus and in stores.

Flu Clinic: Rides will be provided for the flu clinic to be held Thursday, Oct. 14, from 2-6 p.m., at the AES gym. Call Palazzi for details or a ride.

Masks: Must now be worn at the town hall

community room for all events. Only those who have been vaccinated should attend senior programs.

Senior Luncheon: Friday, Oct. 1, at noon. Palazzi will let you know where it will be held. Call her for reservations or a ride.

Ride to Town Meeting: The meeting will be Sept. 28; if you want a ride, call Palazzi. Visit andoverct.org for all senior events and information.

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.

Food Deliveries: If you need a food delivery, let Palazzi know.

Waiting List for Senior Trip to Goodspeed

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

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

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

Departure from the Old Firehouse on Center Street is promptly at 10:30 a.m. Return is approximately 5-5:30 p.m.

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

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

Vacancy on RHAM Board

Any Andover elector interested in serving on the RHAM Board of Education for a term ending June 30, 2023, should send a letter of interest to:

Town of Andover, c/o Region 8 BOE Vacancy, 17 School Rd., Andover, CT 06232.

St. Andrew's Guild Offers Travel Opportunities

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

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

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

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

TOWN OF ANDOVER HELP WANTED

The Town of Andover is looking for a part time, 12 to 15 hours per week Senior Transportation driver. CDL is preferred but will accept "F" endorsement. Please call Cathy Palazzi - Senior Coordinator for information 860-916-6122.

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Resident Publishes Kids' Wrestling Blueprint

by Jack Lakowsky

Dan Harding, a local writer whose book *Elite Youth Wrestling: Your Blueprint to Helping Your Child Win on the Mat-And In Life* was published in August, said to be successful in writing and in wrestling, one needs discipline.

Quoting Dan Gable, an Olympic gold medalist regarded as one of the best wrestlers in history, Harding told the *Rivereast*; "Once you've wrestled, everything else is easy."

Harding said since hearing this truism for the first time, he's learned it's not always true, but that any pursuit, whether authoring a book or pinning an opponent, requires "lacing up your shoes and getting after it."

Support from friends, mentors and loved ones, Harding said, is another shared key element of both writing and wrestling.

"Success is rarely something done alone," Harding said. "I could not have done this without the wrestling community coming out to help, or without my wife who's been extremely supportive of me."

Harding said, given that he and his wife have a newborn, his wife's support is especially commendable, not batting an eye when Harding would come home from his day job as editor and chief of the boating magazine *Power & Motoryacht* and seclude himself for an hour to get some writing done.

A writer by trade, Harding coaches a Berlin youth wrestling team, the Minutemen.

It was this role that inspired Harding to craft his book the writing of which, he said, took about a year. Under lockdown, he committed to 500 words per day.

He said the idea marinated for about six or seven years, mostly as he devised topics to tackle. In it, he discusses strength training, nutrition, burnout and the rules of wrestling. He said some sections, like burnout, which he himself has experienced and observed in others throughout his wrestling life, wrote themselves.

Others were a bit harder to write about, like strength training, and he had to conduct multiple interviews with experts.

"The book came in fits and starts," Harding said.

All this work had a clear goal, giving parents, especially those new to the wrestling world, a thorough, informative guide.

"Connecticut attracts a lot of first-time wrestlers," Harding said, adding that over his seven years of coaching, he's enjoyed teaching parents the nuances of the sport which, according to Olympics.com, has been played for more than 5,000 years, making it one of the oldest competitive sports.

Harding said the book is meant to give new faces a solid foundation.

"It can be totally new territory for parents," Harding said. "It's tricky to learn about weight-cutting, training, conditioning. There's a steep learning curve. I really wanted to write a book for these parents."

Harding said the COVID-19 pandemic shuttered all school-run wrestling programs. A bit of silver lining of this shutdown was the time it gave Harding to write.

Harding and his youngsters kept up with their training, going for socially distanced runs.

"Today's kids really need wrestling more than ever, they're under so much pressure and stress," Harding said. "Wrestling gives the skills necessary to deal with these."

He said the book was "100% a passion project", absent a goal of attaining clout and a sack of money.

Harding can speak personally to the positive influence of wrestling. He started in ninth grade, in his native Long Island, and in his final year of high school, was ranked fifth in the county.

"More than anything, the sport taught me confidence," said Harding. "Before signing up, I wasn't very confident, was pretty average in everything. My coaches believed in me before I

believed in myself."

Harding went on to play for his alma matter, the State University of New York at Cortland. He did well and almost made All-American, but an eye injury stopped him short of this accomplishment.

He stepped away from competing his junior year in Cortland. After college, he lived and worked in Rhode Island. He took work in Connecticut and moved to Portland four years ago.

"I didn't know anyone in this state," Harding said, going on to say this became a lonely period for him, as his girlfriend lived in Boston at the time.

"Like most people, I met some people at work, but it was difficult to make close friends," Harding said.

Harding, seeking community, leveraged his youth coaching experience, and reached out to the Minutemen Youth Wrestling team in Berlin.

"The team took me right in, and the other coaches have become some of my closest friends. I like to think I've had a positive impact," Harding said. "It's so, so rewarding to teach these young people."

When he isn't writing or coaching, Harding and his family take to water.

"My family is big into boating; we love to do it," he said.

Harding confessed to being a severe magazine junky, and said he also reads historical fiction, biography, and recently came off a motivational book binge.

The book is available on Amazon, in both Kindle and paperback versions. It has a 5/5-star



Dan Harding

rating on the site, with one reviewer writing "this book is so helpful for parents being introduced to the sport of wrestling."

Youth Wrestling's back cover says readers will be armed with the "knowledge that you [the parents] helped [your child] become a resilient young man or woman."

The book's cover, Harding said, pictures kids from the Minutemen program in Berlin. Families in the program will be getting free copies.

Although he has nothing drafted quite yet, he said he isn't ruling out future books.

"I really enjoyed writing this," Harding said. "If you think you have a book in you, I could not recommend the process enough. If you want to be a huge money-maker, the next J.K. Rowling, I don't know if I can help you, but I can say bringing this book to life was such an incredible experience."

Parks and Rec. News & Notes

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

Tai Chi for Long Life: At Riverfront Park Wednesdays through Sept. 22, 9:30-10:15 a.m., or Saturdays through Sept. 25, 10:30-11:15 a.m. Contact Parks and Rec. if interested in drop-in registration.

2021-22 Kids Blast: Parks and Rec. is taking applications for this afterschool program for Portland kids in grades K-6. The program is based at Brownstone Intermediate School. Applications are at portland.recdesk.com. For more, call Andy Dionne at 860-342-6757.

Abakadoodle: Parks and Rec. is offering art enrichment programs for ages 2-3, 3-5, and 5+ starting Sept. 23 at the Buck Foreman Community Center. For more information, check the Parks and Rec. website.

GG Leagues: Parks and Rec. is offering

esports. Participants will Portland and face off with competitors from surrounding towns. There are leagues for Fortnite, Rocket League, Super Smash Bros. and more. Check the Parks and Rec. website for more information.

Jr Golf Workshop with Gerry D'Amora: This workshop is designed to acquaint participants with the game of golf. The daily schedule includes demonstrations, learning the rules of golf, golf skills & techniques, learning the short game (putting and chipping), golf etiquette, and a chance to walk and play Portland's Executive Course, Portland West. Registration is open for Fall Clinics that begin Oct. 5.

"Come on Over" - 18th Annual 5K Run/2.1 Mile Walk: This year's event will take place at Riverfront Park on Oct. 30. For more information, or to register, check the website.

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First Congregational Church News

First Congregational Church of Portland, located at 554 Main St., is open for in-person worship and church school Sundays at 10 a.m. Masks and social distancing required.

In addition, the Sunday worship service is livestreamed on the church's YouTube channel, First Church of Portland CT, and a recording is also available for those who wish to worship at a later time.

On Sunday, Sept. 19, the 10 a.m. worship service will include a celebratory recognition of First Church Nursery School. The Rev. Jane Hawken will preach a sermon titled, "Welcome the Children." Under the direction of Kasha Breaux, the choir's anthem is "Yes, My Jesus Loves Me."

The Center Cemetery Tour, hosted by the 300th Anniversary Committee, takes place on Saturday, Sept. 18, from 6-7 p.m., with Sunday, Sept. 19, as a rain date. Meet at Center Cem-

etry on Bartlett Street Extension.

First Congregational Church of Portland is a member of the United Church of Christ, and is an open and affirming congregation, welcoming everyone. The church is celebrating its 300th anniversary this year.

The church is a member of the United Church of Christ, and is an open and affirming congregation, welcoming everyone. 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.firstchurch-portlandct.org.

Grace and Mercy Church News

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




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“Look ma, no tailpipe!” says Andy Bauer about his Nissan LEAF electric car. Bauer, a member of the Portland Clean Energy Task Force, will be one of the many residents and car dealers that will be showing their electric and hybrid vehicles at the third annual Electric Car Show, which will be held Saturday, Sept. 25, from noon-3 p.m., at East Hampton High School.

Electric Car Show Coming Soon

The East Hampton and Portland clean energy task forces will hold the third annual Electric Car Show Saturday, Sept. 25, from noon-3 p.m. at East Hampton High School, 15 N. Maple St., East Hampton. Rain date is Sunday, Sept. 26.

The event will showcase electric, hybrid, and alternative fuel cars from private owners and various dealerships.

The clean energy task forces are inviting any residents who own any electric, hybrid or alternative fuel vehicle to show off their clean energy machine as well. There is no registration fee.

Owners that want to showcase their electric and hybrid cars can simply show up before the show commences and be included in the display area. Other electric vehicles are welcome as well – bikes, scooters or anything that moves.

Registration is also open, at no charge, to any town groups, non-profits, associations or clubs interested in using less fossil fuel for vehicles. There will be music and food as well.

Booth registration forms can be found by emailing the East Hampton Clean Energy Task Force at ehctef@gmail.com.

Senior Center News & Notes

The Waverly Senior Center, 7 Waverly Ave., is open for weekly daytime activities. Hours are Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., and Friday, 8-11 a.m. Unless noted, the following programs are being offered at the center. To register, call 860-342-6760.

Weekly Programs: **Light Aerobics:** Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 9:30-10:30 a.m. **Stretch & Flex:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **Mahjongg:** Thursdays, 12:30 p.m. **Bocce:** Played at the Route 17 Complex on Wednesdays at 10:30, weather permitting, call the center that morning if you intend to play. **Knit & Stitch:** Thursdays at 10 a.m. **Setback:** Tuesdays, 1 p.m.; **Scrabble:** Thursdays, 1 p.m. **Watercolor Lessons with Bivenne Staiger:** Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m.-noon. Email bivenne@yahoo.com for full details for the six-week session. **Syncocize Exercise:** Wednesdays at 11 a.m. Fee is \$5 per class or you may use the tip jar if you cannot pay the \$5.

Crafting with Tracy: Monday, Sept. 27, 10 a.m. Seashell wreaths will be crafted. Call the center in advance to sign up.

Coupons for Troops: Tuesdays at 11:30 a.m. Cut manufacturer’s coupons to be donated to military families. Coupons – up to six months past their expiration date – can also be dropped off at the center Monday through Friday, by calling 860-342-6760.

Bears on a Journey Group: Meets Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. to make teddy bears for cancer patients. The group is in need of a variety of tasks, such as sewers, cutters, stuffers and more. Every few months, the group then travels to the Helen and Harry Gray Cancer Center to deliver the bears.

Social Duplicate Bridge: Second and fourth Fridays of each month. Call the center if inter-

ested. **Van Trip:** The Van will travel to Alforno’s Restaurant in Old Saybrook Thursday, Sept. 23, departing the center at 11:15 a.m. To be picked up at home, call the center. Transportation fee is \$5.

Flu Clinic: The Chatham Health District will hold a Flu Clinic in the Mary Lou Rice Room at the Senior Center on Tuesday, Oct. 19, from 10 a.m.-noon. Call the center to schedule an appointment.

Cans-4-A-Cause: Cans and bottles for this project may be dropped off at the center Monday-Thursday between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. at the side entrance at the top of the steps. For more information, call the center or email Jeff directly at myjakjeff@gmail.com.

Medical Rides: The center is providing seniors and disabled with rides to the doctor. Fee is \$5 per person. Try to give a two-week notice for a ride. Masks are required.

Foot Care: Offered at the center the fourth Tuesday of each month. Appointments are available from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; call the center to make one. Fee is \$35, cash or check.

Free Hearing Screening: Second Tuesday of each month at 11:00 a.m. in the upstairs Multipurpose Room. No registration is necessary.

Hair by Alexa: Men’s and women’s haircuts and styling at the senior center. Call the center for an appointment at 860-342-6760.

Therapeutic Massage: Appointments are offered at the center. Call 860-301-6507 for full details.

Tai Chi with Tom Cushing: A new date has not been set for the next eight-week session; to be placed on a wait list, call the center. Fee is \$40.

Travel Basketball Registration Open

The Portland CT Travel Basketball Club (PTBC) has opened registration for tryouts/evaluations for the 2021-22 season for girls and boys in grades 4-8.

Registration is open to all boys and girls in Portland, including those who have never played on a travel team before. To register, visit www.portlandcttravelbasketball.com and click on the registration button.

Registration will close Oct. 7. See the website for additional details or email Jon Daggett at daggett22@comcast.net.

Vocal Chords Seek Members

The Portland-based Middlesex Hospital Vocal Chords group is looking for members. No auditions necessary; just a commitment to rehearse every Tuesday night. New members in all voice parts are welcome.

Rehearsals start Tuesday, Sept. 21, at 6:45 p.m. at St. Francis Church, Msgr. Fox Parish Hall, 10 Elm St., Middletown, in preparation for the holiday concert Sunday, Dec. 12, at 2 p.m., at Portland High School.

For more information, visit www.vocalchords20.org, look for the group on Facebook (Middlesex Hospital Vocal Chords) and Instagram (@mhvocalchords) or call Joyce Ghent (860-342-3120) or Diane Abdul (860-347-2787).

Band Playing for Food Bank

Local classic rock band Jam Station will play the Portland Food Bank benefit at Portland Discount Liquors at 348 Marlborough St. This year’s show will start at 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 18. Rain date is Sept. 19, same time and place.

Attendees are asked to bring donations and nonperishable food items. Band members are Alex Cadieux (guitar and lead vocals) Joe Marini (drums) Raymond Hale (guitar) John Henley (bass and vocals).

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.

Republican Town Committee Raffle

The Portland Republican Town Committee is holding a raffle from now until Oct. 8. The raffle has three grand prizes consisting of a Generac portable generator, a Stihl backpack leaf blower, and the winner’s choice of 100 gallons of either heating oil or propane.

Only 250 tickets are available, at \$20 apiece. The drawing will be held at 252 Main St. (PRTC headquarters) on Friday, Oct. 8, at 6 p.m.

To purchase tickets, contact Bobby Hetrick at 860-209-0489 or hetrickrobert@sbcglobal.net.

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Trinity Concert Series to Benefit Food Bank

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

Sept. 19: Ric Allendorff: This award-winning Massachusetts songwriter has performed throughout New England. His songs tell narratives of love, loss, renewal and forgiveness.

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

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

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

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



Massachusetts songwriter Ric Allendorff will perform a concert at Trinity Episcopal Church this Sunday, Sept. 19, at 4 p.m.

Portland Joins International Walk to School Day

Portland will join communities from around the world to celebrate International Walk to School Day on Wednesday, Oct. 6 (rain date Oct. 7).

This annual event began in 1997 by the Partnership for a Walkable America to encourage walkable communities and has grown to an international event that takes place in over 40 countries worldwide. Walk to School Day events are intended to help create safer routes for walking and emphasize the importance of issues such as physical activity, pedestrian safety, traffic congestion, concern for the environment, and building connections between families, schools and the broader community.

The Complete Streets Group of Portland, with support from Portland schools and the Brownstone Intermediate PTO, is sponsoring two Walk to School Day events this year. One walk is for the Portland high and middle

schools, and the other is for Brownstone Intermediate School. Students, school officials, families, local leaders and community members are invited to participate. COVID-19 safety precautions will be observed.

On Wednesday, Oct. 6, high and middle school walkers will gather at Town Hall at 6:45 a.m., with the walk beginning at 7 a.m. Check-in for Brownstone Intermediate School (BIS) will begin at the St. Mary Church parking lot at 7:45 a.m., with the walk beginning at 8 a.m.

Permission slips for student participation and request for adult volunteers will be sent home to BIS families next week. The Portland Police Department will provide a police escort for both walks.

For more information, contact Complete Streets Group member Deb Rooth at ccrooth@snet.net, or PTO contact Heather Guilmette at latinallloyd@hotmail.com.

Zion Lutheran Church News

Zion Lutheran Church, located at 183 William St., invites all to worship indoors and in-person, Sundays at 9 a.m.

Worship is in the sanctuary, where there is room for proper social distancing. Holy Communion is offered with individual, disposable wine cups. Masks are required for all throughout the church, but may be removed by fully vaccinated attendees once they are in their seats.

Sunday, Oct. 3, will mark both the start of Sunday School and Confirmation classes; both will take place following worship. Call the church to register your child.

Adult Bible Study will follow worship beginning Sunday, Oct. 10, and will continue on the second and fourth Sundays in October, November, January and February. The focus of this study will be season 1 of the series *The Chosen*, using the book *What Does It Mean to Be*

Chosen? The book will be used as a guide for biblical study, reflection and conversation about our faith. Participants will be asked to view the episode at home prior to the day of study. Cost for the study guide is \$15. Deadline to sign up for the study is this Sunday, Sept. 19.

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

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

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

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.

Info for Patrons: The library welcomes visitors. No appointments are needed. Masks for those over the age of 2 and social distancing are required. Computers and wireless access in the building are available to walk-ins and by appointment. Wireless access is also available on the library grounds. "Curbside Delivery" of requested items continues; call the library, or reserve items online and you will receive a notice or call when your materials are available.

Summer Reading Recap: The adult Summer Reading Program, wherein participants logged their reading, benefitted two music scholarships for Brownstone Intermediate School students. In the children's program, 314 youth participants read for more than 186,000 minutes.

Youth Programs: Fall Storytimes: Weekly storytimes will be held outdoors by the gazebo on the Town Green. All are invited for some singing, counting rhymes, stories and more. A take-home craft will be provided at the end of the program. Registration is required. In case of inclement weather, the program will be canceled and participants will be notified. Program dates are: Preschool Storytime (ages 3-5): Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. through Oct. 26; Toddlers and Tots (ages 0-2): Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. through Oct. 27.

New Storywalk: September is Library Card Sign-Up Month. Follow the storyboards along the library's sidewalk near the playscape to read *Lola at the Library* and then visit the library to sign up for your own library card.

Family Craft Night: Painted Pumpkins for the Fair: Wednesday, Sept. 29, 5:30 p.m. Even though the Portland Fair has been canceled for 2021, kids of all ages are still invited to come participate in painting pumpkins. Participants meet by the flagpole across from the

library. Pumpkins can be taken home that night or picked up at a later date. Pumpkins and paint will be supplied. A parent or guardian must be with children to help with supervision. Registration is required.

Upcycled Crafts: For grades K-5. Thursdays, Sept. 23-Oct. 28, at 3:30 p.m. Save those bottles, jars and toilet paper rolls, as they'll be turned into creative "upcycled" projects in this virtual program. Most materials will be supplied each week and can be picked up in advance of the program. Registration required.

Adult Programs: Social Security Planning Workshop: Monday, Sept. 20, 6 p.m., in the Mary Flood Room. Tyler Boling, AIF, AAMS, CRPC from FinLit Wealth, will discuss what you need to know to make the most out of your retirement benefits. Masks and social distancing required. Registration required; space is limited.

Knifty Knitters: Saturdays 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. This is a weekly knitting circle where people gather to knit while sharing ideas and tips. All are welcome - including beginners.

Book Clubs: Mystery Lovers Book Club: Tuesday, Sept. 21, 1 p.m. *The Witch Elm* by Tana French will be discussed. **T.A.B. (Talk About Books):** Thursday, Oct. 14, 1 p.m. *The Alice Network* by Kate Quinn will be discussed.

Portland Forum: Thursday, Oct. 28, 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.

Food Bank Drive-Thru Event

Portland Food Bank will hold another Drive-Thru Food Truck visit at 7 Waverly Ave. Monday, Sept. 27, at 1 p.m.

Enter from Freestone Avenue by Portland Library and exit past the Senior Center onto Waverly Avenue.

For more information, call the Food Bank at 860-342-6795 or the Senior Center at 860-342-6760.

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Police News

9/1: Wencke Lossius, 59, of 49 West Cotton Hill Rd., was charged with driving under the influence, operating an unregistered motor vehicle, making a restricted left turn, and operating a motor vehicle with no insurance, Portland police said.

9/3: Khilahyn Wiggins, 19, of Middletown, was charged with reckless driving, operating an unregistered motor vehicle, and operating with insufficient insurance, police said.

9/9: Jill Gould, 25, of 221 East Cotton Hill Rd., was charged with third-degree assault and disorderly conduct, police said.

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Municipal Election Information

Election Day is approaching, so the town has released several pieces of related information. As was the case in 2020, folks can vote this year either in-person at the polls or by absentee ballot. If you are not registered to vote, you can do at: <https://voterregistration.ct.gov>.

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

There are three ways to receive an absentee ballot application:

1. Print out an application online at www.portlandct.org/town-clerk.
2. Stop by the town clerk's office at Town Hall, 33 East Main St., during regular business hours and fill out an application in person.
3. Call the Town Clerk's office at 860-342-6743 and we will mail an absentee ballot ap-

plication to your house.

Folks can then drop off their completed application in the Official Ballot Drop Box, located at Town Hall., or mail them to: Portland Town Clerk, 33 East Main St., P.O. Box 71, Portland, CT 06480.

Once the completed application is received, the town clerk will begin to prepare your ballot for mailing. As per state law, all ballots will be available starting Oct. 1.

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

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

Knights of Columbus Car Show Sept. 24

The Portland Knights of Columbus Car Show will take place Friday, Sept. 24, starting at 3 p.m., at St. Mary Church on Freestone Avenue. This year, the show is dedicated to Sal "Tootie" Pitruzzello.

The show was originally scheduled for Sept. 17 but had to change due to the rain.

Pitruzzello was a lifelong Portland resident. After serving in the Navy, he returned to Portland to marry, settle, and contribute to his community. He became a member of the Portland Volunteer Fire Department, Company No. 2, in 1953, and over the years served as assistant chief, department training officer and treasurer.

He was also a 60-year member of the Knights of Columbus. He was always a ready

participant and volunteer at various Knights events – everything from making coffee for post-Mass coffee and doughnuts, to serving as an Honor Guard at funerals for brother Knights.

All are invited. There will be several car categories, from antiques to street rods; a raffle featuring signed items from NASCAR champion Joey Logano; and food by Duke's Delish and the Knights Kitchen.

The show opens at 3 p.m., and there will be an awards presentation at 7:30 p.m.

The proceeds from the car show go to the funding the Knights' annual scholarships, the Portland Food Bank and several other local charities.

Second-Hand Prose Book Shop

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

FPL also has "I Love CT Libraries" reusable bags on sale for \$1 each. Purchase a bag to show your support for Connecticut Libraries and reduce your use of plastic bags. See a sample at the front desk and purchase them from the library staff.

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

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

Trinity Episcopal Church News

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

Sunday School is back in session and is held during the service. Children ages 4-12, baptized and unbaptized, are welcome to attend Church School. Lessons and activities are aimed at encouraging the children to think outside of themselves and about the community at large. Please email trinitychurchportlandct@gmail.com or call 860-342-0458 for more information.

The church has resumed the use of masks for all, vaccinated and unvaccinated, while inside the church. More information is at trinitychurchportlandct.org.

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 trinitychurchportlandct@gmail.com or call 860-342-0458.

Historic Walking Tour of Center Cemetery

First Congregational Church invites the community to discover some of Portland's early history through a self-guided tour of the grounds of Center Cemetery on Bartlett Street Extension.

The tour will take place on Saturday, Sept. 18, from 6-7:30 p.m. Rain date will be Sunday, Sept. 19, at the same time. Park along Fairway Drive or inside the cemetery off the roadway.

Folks walking the grounds can also take in the view of the western sunset and the almost-full "Corn Moon" rising in the east. Using a pam-

phlet as a guide, they will also encounter some of the 300th Anniversary committee members serving as docents with a story or two to tell. Children of all ages can get involved in a special scavenger hunt with a prize for all participants.

Bring a lantern or flashlight if you desire, and weather permitting, there will be some refreshments of cider and cookies at twilight, to end the tour.

The book *The History of the First Congregational Church of Portland* (\$20) and a special 300th anniversary pewter ornament (\$12) will also be available for sale.

For more information, call Nancy Johnson at 860-342-4098.

Upcoming Trivia Night

On Wednesday, Sept. 22, all are invited to join the Portland Republican Town Committee for a night of trivia and a candidate meet-and-greet.

The event begins at 6:30 p.m. and will be held at Farrell's Restaurant. There will be hors d'oeuvres and raffle baskets or goods.

Suggested donation is \$25. Email gopportlandct@gmail.com or call 860-212-3114 to reserve a spot.

PSC Golf Tournament

The fourth annual Portland Soccer Club golf tournament will take place Saturday, Oct. 9, at Portland Golf West, 105 Gospel Lane. There will be a 10 a.m. shotgun start.

Cost is \$125/person, and includes 18 holes with cart, a four-person scramble, lunch at the turn and a buffet meal. There will also be raffle drawings, prizes and more.

Don't golf? People can also donate a raffle prize, or sponsor a hole for \$100.

All proceeds benefit Portland Soccer Club. To register, go to portland-soccer-club.cheddarup.com. For more information, email Laura Kuskey at LKuskey@yahoo.com.

Travel Soccer Results

The Portland Soccer Club boys' U11 travel soccer team, the Red Crush, was in action last weekend, playing two highly contested games, which they wound up splitting.

The Red Crush hosted Glastonbury and Somers at the town's new soccer facility at the Portland Recreation Complex. The team won one game and lost the other.

Tyler Fournier and Luke Lawrence paced the offense with multiple goals. Cooper Vardon, Jackson Vadola, and Mason Richey also found the back of the net with accurate shooting. Ryan Quinn and Logan Desmarais provided strong defense to the cause, while Raul Cornejo Jr. and Liam Witschy "contributed plenty of hustle and grit," the club said.

St. Mary Church News

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

Weekend Masses: 5 p.m. Saturday and 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Sunday. The 10:30 a.m. Sunday Mass is livestreamed each week; visit the parish website for more information.

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

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

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

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Richmond Library News & Notes

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

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

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

Donations Needed: The library is currently accepting donations of new and used puzzles and books for an upcoming sale (with all proceeds directly benefiting the library). Puzzles must contain all of their pieces. Textbooks, magazines, and VHS tapes will not be accepted and materials must be in good shape.

September StoryWalk: This month's StoryWalk celebrates the start of school and as well as Library Card Sign-Up Month, which is September. *I Got the Rhythm*, by Connie Schofield-Morrison and award-winning illustrator Frank Morrison, is this month's book. Kids are invited to clap along with oil-on-canvas illustrations.

Fairy Goatmothers: Wednesday, Sept. 22, at 3:30 p.m., outside. Bradley Mountain Farm will

stop by with a guest goat. Suggested for ages 3 and above with a parent/caregiver. Registration and farm waiver required.

Paint Night with Pam's Picassos: Thursday, Sept. 23, 6:30 p.m., inside the library. Pam Halligan of Pam's Picassos will lead this fall adult paint night program. Supplies will be provided. Masks are required inside all town buildings and social distancing practices must be followed. Call or email the library to register. There is a limit of 15 participants.

History of the Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens: Learn about the history of the organization and discover some of its offerings in a virtual program held Tuesday, Sept. 28, at 7 p.m., via Zoom. To register, email richmondprograms@gmail.com.

Medicare Updates, Changes and Benefits for 2021: This virtual program, held via Zoom Tuesday, Oct. 5, at 6 p.m., will explore the latest updates to Medicare. Discussed will be the differences between original Medicare, Medicare supplements, Medicare Advantage and prescription drug plans. The state assistance qualifications for the Medicare Saving Program will be covered, and there will also be a review of how the Part D coverage gap or doughnut hole works and how the Insulin Saving Program can impact one's annual drug cost. This event is being facilitated by Senior Health and Retirement Service, located in Clinton. Email richmondprograms@gmail.com to register.

Lions to Hold 'Masquerade 5K'

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

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

will proceed on a course which circles Lake Terramuggus.

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

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

Congregational Church News & Notes

Sunday in-person worship at the Congregational Church of Marlborough, United Church of Christ, 35 South Main St., is at 10 a.m. Churchgoers are asked to wear a mask. The worship service is also livestreamed at mcc.marlborgchurch.org for those unable to attend in person.

Sunday, Sept. 19: The service will include an infant baptism and be led by Senior Pastor the Rev. Bob Faulhaber Jr. His sermon title is "Getting in Line," based on Mark 9:30-37.

Faith Formation Study Group: Meets Thursdays, upstairs in the lounge, at 10:30 a.m. All are welcome.

Mission Support in September: Will go to the Seminary Fund in support of a local United Church of Christ seminary student. Donations to missions or for any other giving may be sent to the church at P.O. Box 57, Marlborough, CT

06447 or placed in an offering box on a Sunday.

Second Blessings Thrift Shop: The shop will reopen for the fall season on Saturday, Sept. 11, from 9 a.m.-noon, and will be open every Saturday through Dec. 18. Shelves and tables are restocked every week with new items. Fall and holiday merchandise is now featured along with name-brand jewelry and handbags, infants and children, cookware and more. Masks required. Second Blessings accepts donations during shopping hours. The shop sells year-round on eBay at bit.ly/MCCebay.

General Info: Worship services and programs are open to all. The church is an Open and Affirming faith community. For more information about the church or its programs, call the church office at 860-295-9050 or Faulhaber's direct line at 860-295-0432.

Lions Have Signs Available

The Marlborough Lions Club has "Be Kind" and "Peace on Earth" signs available for \$10 each. They can be purchased by calling Marlborough Lions Club President Megan Lloyd at 413-687-5537 or Lion Club Treasurer Jean Paul Bolduc at 860-798-2054.

Those interested can also visit the Marlborough Lions Club Facebook page to learn more about the signs as well as for more information about the Lions Club's services and activities.

Lions Club Cornhole Tournament

The Marlborough Lions Club will hold a Cornhole Tournament Saturday, Oct. 2, starting at 2 p.m., at Blish Park. Rain date is Sunday, Oct. 3. The tournament is open to all ages and the winner will take home a set of cornhole boards.

For more information, call Marlborough Lions President Megan Lloyd at 413-687-5537.

**The Marlborough
Town Wide Tag Sale**
will be held on
Saturday, October 2nd, 8:30AM-1:00PM
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Huntington's Fundraiser at Winery

The Connecticut chapter of the Huntington's Disease Society of America (HDSA) will present Music on the Vine Saturday, Sept. 18, from 2:30-7 p.m., at Chateau Lé Garí winery, 303 S. Main St. The winery has been the presenting sponsor since the event's creation four years ago.

Children under 12 are admitted free. General admission is \$20, with all proceeds supporting HDSA's mission to improve the lives of people affected by Huntington's disease and their families.

The event will include live music, food and wine. The One Love Rolling Cookshed will have gourmet smashed burgers and gourmet

fries with vegan, vegetarian, and GF alternatives for sale. Rita's Ice of Farmington will have Italian ices, frozen custard and ice cream for sale. Live music will be performed by: Peter Lehdorff and Susan Hill, offering original, folk and Tin Pan Alley songs; Sequel, a jazz quartet; and Bruce and Caelyn, playing '70s and '80s music. There will be children's activities outside.

For more information, contact Susan McGann at cthdsa@gmail.com or 860-267-0288. Online registration and donation info can be found at connecticut.hdsa.org/musi-conthevine.

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.

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 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).

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: Transportation to the senior center, shopping, medical and non-medical appointments will be offered each day from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m., with a 36-hour advance reservation. Masks are required as well as appropriate distancing.

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.

Monday, Sept. 20: Assistance, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; 8-Ball Pool, 10 a.m.-noon; Not Just Quilting, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Congregate Meal: lemon baked chicken, cornbread stuffing, broccoli

and cauliflower, oatnut bread, peaches; Bingo, 1-3p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 21: Setback or cards of your choice; assistance, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; 8-Ball Pool, 10 a.m.-noon; Meals-on-Wheels, noon.

Wednesday, Sept. 22 Grocery Shopping, 9 a.m.-noon; Not Just Quilting, 10 a.m.; Assistance, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; 8-Ball Pool, 10 a.m.-noon; Meals-on-Wheels, noon; Congregate Meal: grape juice, apple-glazed pork loin, rice pilaf, peas, 12-grain bread, frosted cake; Sophisticated Ladies (Tap Dancing), 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 23: Tai Chi with Linda, 10:30 a.m.; assistance, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; 8-Ball Pool, 10 a.m.; Meals-on-Wheels, noon.

Friday, Sept. 24: Not Just Quilting, 10 a.m.; assistance, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Meals-on-Wheels, noon; Congregate Meal: orange juice, roast turkey with gravy, cut-up sweet potatoes, spinach, cranberry sauce, 100% whole wheat bread, fruit cocktail; Quilting, 1-4 p.m.

Off to College

Stanley Cipkas of Marlborough is attending Nichols College in Dudley, Mass., as a member of the Class of 2025.

Resident on Volleyball Team

Sixteen student athletes are competing on Eastern Connecticut State University's women's volleyball team this fall 2021 season.

Among the athletes is first-year student Gabriella Johnson of Marlborough, number 12, who plays outside hitter and majors in psychology.

Resident Graduates

Lindsey Anderson of Marlborough recently graduated cum laude from Wentworth Institute of Technology in Boston, with a Bachelor of Science in interior design and a minor in media communications.

Anderson is heading into the master's in architecture program.

Grants Available for Nonprofits

The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving has established a \$100,000 community fund for Marlborough – and the new Marlborough Greater Together Community Fund Advisory Committee is looking for project proposals. Proposals are due today.

Up to \$10,000 will be awarded in grant funds to each of one or more proposals. All projects must benefit the residents of Marlborough. While applicants must be registered 501-c3 organizations, individuals and groups may be sponsored by a registered nonprofit organization.

For more on project guidelines and how to apply, visit: www.hfpg.org/marlborough-cf. Project applications or grant proposals will be accepted until Sept. 17. Email communityfund.marlborough@gmail.com with questions. Organizations that do not have access to a computer or need technical help can call Richmond Memorial Library at 860-295-6210.

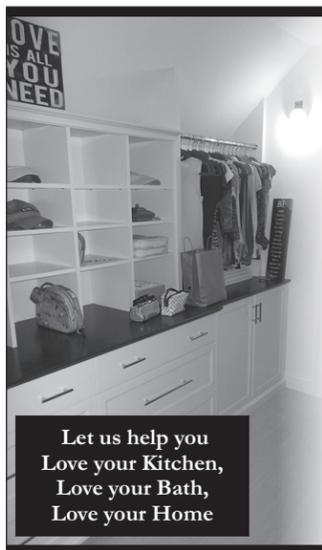
For more information about the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, visit www.hfpg.org.

Lions to Raffle Generator

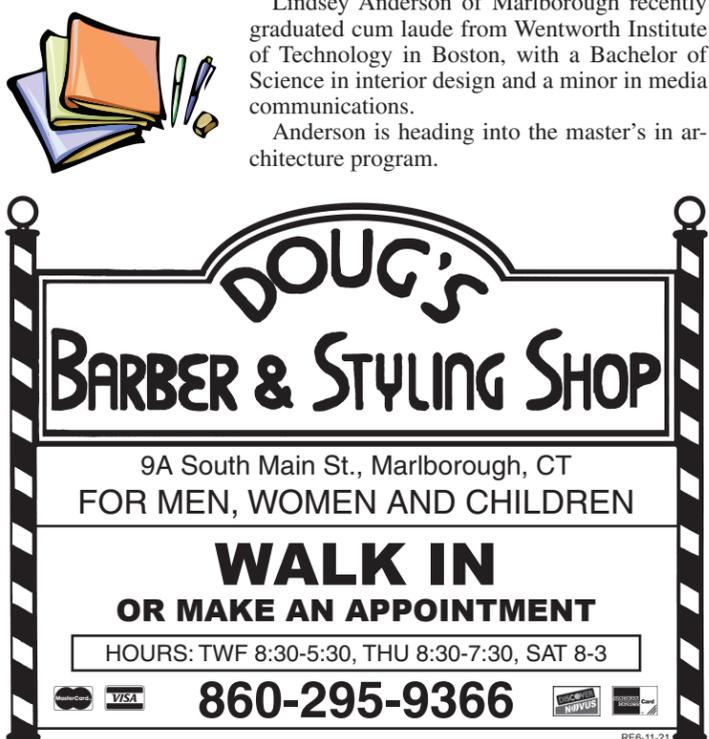
The Marlborough Lions Club is raffling off an 8,000-watt Generac portable generator with a retail value of \$1,100. The generator has features such as a pushbutton electric start with trickle charger, hours counter and 120V/240V outlets.

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

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



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After Accident, Sadler's Owner Bruised, but Unbroken

by Jack Lakowsky

Kevin Haggerty, owner of Sadler's Ordinary restaurant, was enjoying an activity so many New Englanders indulge when summer sun shines, a swim at the beach, the day a strong wave swept him up and slammed him down.

"That wave was extremely powerful," Bryan Haggerty, Kevin's son, told the *Rivereast* Monday morning.

In late August the Haggerty family, along with friends, family and residents, organized a fundraiser in support of Kevin, called Kev-Strong "You've Got a Friend" '21, a 36-hole golf tournament, attended by more than 200 people, that raised around \$25,000.

Kevin's accident occurred at the family's other home in Rhode Island. Brendan Haggerty, his other son, and a Good Samaritan saved his life, rescuing him as he screamed for help in the surf.

"We were unsure if he was gonna make it," Bryan said. "He's very lucky to have survived."

Kevin went into surgery, where doctors removed some of his spinal column. His movement is now limited, his limbs largely unable to move.

"He couldn't move or feel a thing," said Bryan.

At the scene of the accident, Kevin managed to spit up water he'd swallowed, but was otherwise touch-and-go. A prayer group actually happened by and offered assistance.

In the subsequent two years, Kevin has made small-but-significant recoveries, including use of his hands. His resolve, however, remains un-

marred, and he has maintained a positive outlook, often saying he still feels like the luckiest man alive.

"He has his ups and downs, he has his struggles," Bryan explained. "He's getting stronger, fighting for everything."

Bryan said his father must work very hard each day, or otherwise risk what progress he's made.

"Mentally, he blows everyone away," Bryan said. "He always says he's lucky, and he means it. He doesn't feel like a victim."

Bryan said another event is very likely for next year and is in the early stages of planning. He said this year, he was worried the event would be overwhelming, and so eventually put a cap on entrants, to help make sure the maiden voyage went smoothly. It did, attended by almost 200, raising thousands and staffed by about 30 volunteers.

The event featured a buffet and live music, as well as a speech from Kevin describing his moving to and building a house in Hebron in 1982. He opened Sadler's Ordinary ("ordinary" being an old term for a pub/inn) on North Main Street in 1994, and now lives in Marlborough.

In Kevin's quasi-absence- he's still playing as "armchair quarterback", according to his son-Sadler's head chef and front-of-house manager have ably taken the helm. Bryan described them as the business's "saviors."

Bryan said the event's success is a testament to how much Kevin has invested in the community in the decades since opening. The idea was

initiated by a golfing buddy of Kevin's, Steve Wade.

"My dad said yes to every single person who came in asking him to sponsor Little League, donate to the Lions Club, and to every campaign looking to help someone with cancer," Bryan said. "He's known as a guy with something to give. So many people who came out said they were there to help, to return the favor."

One local woman, Jackie Lovett, whose son passed away years ago, was instrumental in planning the event, Bryan said. She ran her own fundraising golf tournament after her son's passing, an event Sadler's often sponsored, and "as soon as she heard we had one, she came out to help.

"She was our fairy godmother," Bryan added, emphasizing his gratitude to the Lovett family.

Use of the funds raised is earmarked to help Kevin and his family pay for physical therapy and the equipment he needs while he does not have use of his limbs.

Bryan said insurance is only covering one hour of therapy a week. His dad wants to do an hour daily. Accessibility equipment to aid Kevin's movement, like ramps, and 24/7 homecare, will all be paid for by funds raised.

Kevin's biggest asset, rivaled only by his family's and community's support, is himself. Bryan said Kevin earned a reputation in his aftercare facility, Gaylord Hospital in Wallingford, as willing to work extremely hard at the intimidating task of extensive recovery.

Bryan said the COVID-19 pandemic, which struck as Kevin was in the midst of recovery, added stress to an already strenuous and taxing situation.

Gaylord, where Bryan stayed for about 120 days, is a specialty unit for people who've had strokes, spinal injuries or have respiratory problems, according to Bryan.

"[Gaylord had] an amazing community of people in the same boat, it was such a powerful group," Bryan said.

And then there was COVID.

For safety, Gaylord closed to visitors. Bryan

said this was the greatest struggle for his dad who then, as now, had to spend the majority of his time in bed. Bryan said throughout this ordeal, Kevin's had a "stalwart" group of friends and supporters.

Kevin, also known as "Haggs", spoke to the *Rivereast* on Monday. Asked how he felt, he replied he's taking it one day at a time.

He said he remembers being in the surf, hurt bad, and thinking God, don't take me now, adding that images of the faces of his friends and loved ones flashed in his mind.

"I am the luckiest man in the world because I'm alive," Kevin said. "My son and another man rescued me. With that kind of injury, if you moved me the wrong way, you could kill me. Two years later, and everything is working out okay."

Kevin said during the tournament, he was "up on a cloud" and joyful at the outpouring of support.

"It was amazing," he said. "I have so much gratitude for everyone who came, for all their prayers."

Kevin said his friends and family have been around since the start. When he returned the town welcomed him back like a "warm blanket."

"I could take years to heal," said Kevin. "In the meantime, I'm staying active with people, keeping those social and spiritual avenues open."

Kevin said, and his doctors agree that maintaining a positive outlook and fostering a social circle are as good as any medicine.

As advice to anyone dealing with a major accident or other life-altering incident, whether it reduces mobility or other functions, Kevin said to "always have faith," to work and hope to improve quality of life.

"I've had my family and friends around me to lift me and my spirits up," he said. "I was immediately welcomed back, and everyone since then has been amazing."

For more information on how to contribute to the cause, email kevstronggolf@gmail.com.



Golfer and part-time "fashion model" Scott Reid shows off his outfit for this year's Marlborough Congregational Church Golf Classic, to be held at Blackledge Country Club in Hebron on Tuesday, Sept. 28.

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 p.m. 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.

4th Friday @ the Arts Café

The Marlborough Arts Center's 4th Friday @ the Arts Cafe opens the season next Friday, Sept. 24, with Marlborough-based musical group Seat of Our Pants (SOOP) at 231 North Main St. The concert begins at 7:30 p.m., but doors open at 7. Admission is \$10 per person. There is on-site parking and the center is fully accessible.

SOOP features Mike Frantzen on fiddle, Mark Hall on Cajon/cowbell/percussion, Jeff Gorman on bass, and Carolyn Brodginiski on vocals and whichever stringed instruments she decides to bring along for the night. Seat

of Our Pants is an acoustic folk/blues/bluegrass/country/old time/rock quartet that plays throughout the state. For more information on the band, visit seatofourpantsmusic.com.

The Marlborough Arts Center is a nonprofit regional center for the fine arts, performing arts, and fine crafts. The center is following CDC and state guidelines for indoor events. For this concert, chairs will be set up to maintain social distancing. All attendees should wear masks and are asked not to bring any wine, food or other drinks.

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: Youth Programs – Art/Crafts: Acrylic Landscape Painting: Wednesdays, Sept. 29-Oct. 20, 3:30-5 p.m., at Marlborough Elementary School. For grades 4-6. Instructor and students will wear masks in accordance with CDC. Students are encouraged to bring a snack. Fee: \$90/residents, \$95/non-residents.

Artventures – Sticky, Shrinky, Shiny! Thursdays, Oct. 7-Dec. 2, 5:30-6:30 p.m., at MES, for grades K-4. Fee: \$88/residents, \$93/non-residents.

Afterschool Programs: Co-Ed Kickball: Wednesdays, Sept. 22-Oct. 27, 3:15-4:15 p.m., at MES, for grades 5 and 6. Registration fee is \$30.

Mad Science – Eureka: Mondays, Oct. 4-Nov. 29 (no class Oct. 11), 3:15-4:15 p.m., at MES, for grades 1-6. Fee: \$135 residents, \$140/non-residents.

Soccer Shots: Saturdays, Sept. 18-Nov. 20, at the West Road baseball field. Mini, for age 2, meets 3-3:45 p.m., and Classic, for ages 3-5, meets 3:45-4:30 p.m. Fee: \$90/residents, \$95/non-residents.

Horseback Riding Lessons: For ages 5 and up, English- or Western-style instruction. Lessons are private and one hour. Lesson days and times are flexible. Fee is four lessons for \$175/residents, \$180/non-residents.

Adult Programs: Dog Obedience – Polite

Dog Manners: Tuesdays, Sept. 21-Oct. 26, 6:30-7:30 p.m., at Marlborough Senior Center. Beginner level classes for dogs 5 months and older. Fee is \$115/residents, \$120/non-residents.

Barre/Pilates: Mondays through Sept. 27, 5-6 p.m., or Wednesdays through Sept. 29, 6-6:50 p.m. Instruction is virtual. All levels welcome. There is a \$10 fee to drop in.

Yoga: Mondays through Sept. 27, 6-7 p.m., or Tuesdays through Sept. 28, 9-10 a.m. Instruction is virtual. All levels welcome. There is a \$10 fee to drop in.

Zumba: Tuesdays, Sept. 17-Oct. 22, 7-8 p.m., at MES. Fee: \$50/residents, \$55/non-residents, or a \$10 drop-in fee. Register on the Parks and Rec. website.

Special Events: Town Wide Tag Sale: Saturday, Oct. 2, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

Driveway Reflective Number Signs: Signs cost \$35. Each vertical sign is double-sided 8"x24" with 4" numbers on blue highway reflective metal. Order forms are online and at Town Hall.

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Reader Forum • Reader Forum

★ *Story cont. from page 6*

have failed in helping ‘zombified Trumpists’ find their misplaced living and functional brains again.

Edmund Smith – Andover

Candidate for Town Council

To the Editor:

My name is Dean Markham, seeking reelection to the East Hampton Town Council together with my Democratic colleagues Pete Brown, Derek Johnson, Kevin Reich and Barbara Moore. We seek your support based on our “vote taken in the preparation and adoption of the previous fiscal year budget at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic to address expenses, minimize the tax levy and to freeze the Mill Rate.” We ensured that every student had the necessary technology, along with the addition of four teaching positions that enabled our schools to not skip a beat enacting viral learning with no down time for our children. We reinstated a police officer and an adult/children librarian – both cut years ago. We witness monthly the positive results with the acclaimed library programming. While calls to defund police departments dominated many budget discussions, we funded and supported the integrity of our department. We maintained our fire department’s equipment and ability to respond to emergency for the protection of all our families. All of this with no tax mill increase, and the unanimous council vote on the 2021-22 budget is almost unheard of.

During the next few weeks, you will read or hear more of the many Democratic initiatives and accomplishments during the past 2 years and our vision for the future. I have often written stories about East Hampton Past. My vi-

sion as a council member is focused not on the past, but the future. My experience as your state representative, Town Councilor, and Board of Finance member, along with my business background as a CPA, realtor and business manager, provides me with the skills and understanding to tackle the issues facing our community, such as a water system and creation of a manageable budget. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve you.

Dean Markham – East Hampton

Thrilled with Biden

To the Editor:

Joe Biden, our weak, befuddled commander-in-chief’s honeymoon is over. The left-wing socialist-minded Democrats were so anxious to get rid of Donald Trump (editor Mike Thompson and his fellow sheep) that they elected a doddering old man. His accomplishments in seven months couldn’t get much worse – leaving American citizens and Afghan loyalists behind in Afghanistan along with billions of dollars of U.S. military equipment and weapons for our enemies (China, Taliban, Iran) to repurpose sell or use against us. Great job, General Austin, Secretary of State Blinken!!! Also, his allowing and actually encouraging Illegal Immigrants to cross our southern border (without being vaccinated or tested for COVID-19) supporting sanctuary cities, defunding police, record food and gas prices along with significant supply shortages and record crime in our cities (usually Democratic-controlled). I’m sure the list will continue to grow under the Harris /Biden Administration as they take our country into a deep dark hole we may never recover from.

In a briefing before the evacuation was “ended,” Biden claimed success and declared,

“I see no question of our credibility around the world.” This is a delusional statement from a president lost in space. Our allies are aghast at Biden’s display of weakness and his indifference to their interests. The damage he is doing to our allies and our credibility in the world is irreparable.

Let’s not forget that the Gitmo prisoners who were released by Barack Obama are now leading the new Taliban government. Look it up!!

On one final side note for today: I’m never surprised at the muck that comes from Edmund Smiths writing. He is now a self-proclaimed animal control officer who can visually spot a rabid raccoon while cruising down Route 6 and he compares rabies deaths to those getting COVID. You can’t make this stuff up; well, Edmund Smith does – all the time!!!

Don Denley – Andover

I’ve Heard Your Concerns

Dear Portland Residents:

Over the last few months since announcing my candidacy for Portland first selectman, I have been out in the community knocking on doors, listening and discussing the issues that are important to you. I have heard loud and clear your concerns over how to grow our tax base to help keep taxes reasonable, the need for a long-term solution to address our water costs, and the importance of supporting our schools. As your next first selectman I will use my management and leadership experience, gained over 20 years of volunteer service and 30 years of experience in the private sector, to address these and other pressing issues our community faces. Through my years of service, my singular goal has always been to do what is right for Portland. My promise to this community is that I will keep that goal front and center and work hard every day to make our town an even better place to live, work, and raise a family.

You are invited to join me for a cup of coffee at our next Community Conversation on Saturday, Sept. 25, at 9 a.m., at the Arch on Main Street next to the police station. Bring your questions, thoughts, and concerns, or just stop by and introduce yourself. You are also welcome to reach out to me directly on my cell phone anytime, at 860-398-9208. I love connecting with Portland residents and I look forward to hearing from you.

Jim Tripp

Candidate for Portland First Selectman

Experience Matters

To the Editor:

My name is Jeff Duigou. As a businessman and environmental/public health consultant for over 30 years, I have been following local politics in Colchester for over 35 years as a resident and registered Republican. Like most businessmen, I am fiscally conservative and am concerned over the lack of experience portrayed by actions and comments in the public record of the current elected officials seeking election as the first selectman in Colchester.

The current political climate amongst our elected town officials appears to be divisive. With inflation on the rise, poor job numbers, Colchester property revaluation, political and social divides at the federal and state level we can’t afford continual division amongst local elected officials. My professional experience includes successfully working across party lines within municipal government. This experience includes development of fiscally responsible budgets through input of stakeholders within the communities I served.

With this and other issues in mind, I am declaring myself as a write-in candidate for the first selectman. For over 30 years, I have demonstrated leadership experience and manage-

ment skills on the following examples of city and municipal taxpayer and privately funded projects in Connecticut: new school construction; combined low-income housing and commercial space buildings; elderly housing; and development of shelters (including housing, health services and work training) for the homeless and our veterans in need.

I request that you consider the experience and tools I bring to bear as first selectman, look forward to meeting with you during the next several weeks, and will provide more information on my approach to always make Colchester First. I look forward to your support and vote on Nov. 2.

**Respectfully,
Jeff Duigou – Colchester**

Proud and Excited

To the Editor:

I am proud and excited to announce I am running for a position on Portland’s Board of Education. I have been a public school teacher for almost 20 years, during which time I served as a representative on the union executive board. As an educator in a neighboring district and parent to three students currently attending PHS, I have a personal interest in ensuring all students receive a high quality education in our public schools. I am a passionate supporter of public education, and if elected, I will be a strong advocate for the students and employees of Portland Public Schools.

I obtained my bachelor’s degree in Early Childhood Education from UConn. I received my master’s from SCSU and obtained a dual certificate in general education and special education. Most recently I obtained an Educational Leadership Sixth Year degree from CCSU. Through my coursework and internship experience, I learned the importance of valuing, respecting and celebrating each student’s uniqueness. Teaching students in an inclusive classroom has provided me with the opportunity to work with students with diverse learning, cultural, and socio-economic backgrounds.

In my work as the preschool coordinator for the past 5 years, I have had experience with staffing, budgets, policy-writing, grant management and infrastructure needs. If elected, I will use my experience and knowledge to ensure Portland’s school buildings are safe, while the climate and culture within these buildings provides every student with an equitable, high-quality education. I hope to have your support on Nov. 2.

Sincerely,

**Kim Nagy-Maruschock,
Portland Board of Education Candidate**

Foolish Progressives

To the Editor:

When you hear progressives dismiss Ivermectin as horse de-wormer, understand you’re dealing with group-thinking zombies incapable of independent thought. The scientists who developed Ivermectin were awarded Nobel prizes in 2015 because of its amazing success in treating river blindness and elephantiasis in humans. Subsequently, it was found to prevent COVID-19’s spike protein from replicating.

These foolish progressives, who have falsely discredited both Hydroxychloroquine and Ivermectin, have blood on their hands. If these therapeutics had been rightfully approved as effective treatments, thousands of lives could’ve been saved and the “pandemic” would’ve been easily subdued. But politics and greed prohibited that from happening. The “vaccines” could not have been legally approved through Emergency Use Authorizations if viable therapeutics were deemed to exist.

Despite what you’re hearing, the “vaccines”

HEALTH CARE SERVICES

Better Dental HEALTH
A Practice For Optimal Dental Fitness
by **George M. Mantikas, DMD**

THE FLOSSING SEQUENCE

There is a reason dentists ask their patients at every visit if they floss their teeth. Flossing helps prevent gum disease and the sneaky cavities that form between teeth. And those who floss their teeth at all are already doing better than 70 percent of Americans. But it is possible you are making a pretty big mistake if you are flossing after you brush your teeth. Flossing releases food, plaque, and bacteria into the mouth, and if you have already brushed your teeth, all that is going to linger in your mouth until the next time you brush. Flossing first also makes brushing more effective by allowing toothpaste and bristles to reach areas that were blocked by food and plaque.

Everyone can benefit from preventive dental care. Experience proves it is to your advantage to take time for your oral health no matter how busy your personal or professional schedule. A few minutes spent each day on your teeth can not only help preserve good dental health, but it can also help you save on future dental visits. Nothing is more economical than regular dental checkups, so please let us help you take care of your dental health. We can make financial arrangements for extensive treatment plans.

P.S. If you are only going to floss once a day (twice is recommended) it is better to do so at night after you’ve finished eating for the day so that food does not sit between your teeth overnight.

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Reader Forum • Reader Forum

are possibly killing many more than those that are perishing “from” the virus. Only 6% (according to the CDC) of those claimed to have died with Covid have actually died directly from it. Based on the 600,000 deaths reported that means only 36,000 have actually died from it.

A recent Harvard study determined that events reported in the CDC/FDA’s Vaccine Adverse Effects Reporting System (VAERS) represent only 1-10 percent of the actual number of events. This suggests that the 6,000 deaths reported in VAERS could actually be well in excess of 50,000, meaning the vaccines, quite possibly, are more deadly than the virus. And this estimation doesn’t even account for how many more are possibly going to die once, as many prominent doctors and researchers fear, Antibody Dependent Enhancement syndrome (ADE) kicks in over the next few years where people’s immune systems begin attacking and overwhelming their own bodies.

Why are government and media suppressing factual reporting of these documented adverse vaccine effects?

Sam Prentice – Andover

Vote ‘Yes’ on Sept. 21

To the Editor:

On Sept. 21, Colchester will be holding its third referendum to pass the town budget; the Board of Education budget was already adopted at referendum on June 15. The referendum is on Tuesday, Sept. 21, from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m., to be held at the Town Hall on 127 Norwich Ave. in Colchester.

The town budget for fiscal year 2021-22 is \$15,704,962, a 3.62% increase from the 2020-2021 budget, with the adopted Board of Education budget of \$41,827,055 the total budget is an increase of 1.496% from the 2020-21 budget. The increase in the mil rate though is 0.21 and is due to the school budget that has already passed, the proposed Town Budget does not increase the mill rate.

This budget cut an additional \$78,379 from the budget that went to referendum on July 27th and was defeated by only four votes in very light turnout. The additional cuts made eliminated almost all new initiatives as well as across the board cuts to services in most town departments. Colchester is the only municipality in Connecticut that has not passed its town budget, and there are serious implications in operating the town’s finances without an approved budget well into a new fiscal year.

Unfortunately, there has been a dearth of misinformation in a process that has been overly politicized but voting for this budget is needed to support the services and the town employees that have been here for all of us during these difficult times. Now Colchester it’s time to do your part. This is about keeping the basic operations of this town functioning, for a budget that itself does not raise the proposed mill rate.

Vote ‘yes’ next Tuesday.

Mike Egan – Colchester

Note: Egan is a member of the Colchester Board of Finance, but said he is speaking as an individual.

Enemy No. 1

To the Editor:

Some people felt that President Trump was Enemy No. 1 and others feel Biden is Enemy No. 1 (note his popularity in the polls have taken a nosedive).

Both groups are wrong. Enemy No. 1 around the world is fear and the current administration has mastered the power of fear with the help of Gates, Soros, and Schwab (through the WEF). Read the quote below:

“Maybe someday the left will realize that people are not the issues they support and maybe they shouldn’t lazily dehumanize people to absolve themselves from having their preconceptions and prejudices challenged.” – Dana Loesch

People say, “follow the science, take the shot and wear the mask.” Yet, which science? The science that is paid for by the G, S, and S team or the science that actually does research, observes what they find, and then adjusts their findings to discover more effective ways of viewing things? For scientists to arrive at possibly better conclusions, they need to discuss and debate other scientists with differing findings and not ridicule those with different points of view.

At one time it was believed the world was flat [I was told that some still believe that] until a few were brave enough to state differently. At one time it was believed the sun revolved around the earth until it was proven the other way around.

Perhaps one day it will be shown that the fake vaccine (actually it is not a true vaccine until the WHO renamed what constitutes being a vaccine) actually does not protect people from SARS-CoV-2 and that the virus is no more deadly than the yearly flu. Time will tell as given enough time the truth always surfaces. Maybe even the true events surrounding 9/11 will be revealed.

<https://youtu.be/4bsZIGPvVfQ>

Gary Gile – Andover

Time to Move Forward

Dear Colchester Neighbors:

Please find the time to come out and vote yes for the latest budget. This budget vote is the third referendum now. There is real harm from not passing a budget. We have to get this budget passed for the good of the town.

The budget is a reasonable budget that keeps Colchester affordable and a great place to live. The entire process has been transparent and open. Cuts have been made to make this a 0% tax increase from the town side of the budget.

It’s time to move forward. The last budget failed by only a few votes, so please ask your friends and family to vote with you if you are planning on voting.

John Farrell – Colchester

We Need a Town Budget

To the Editor:

Next Tuesday, Sept. 21, Colchester will hold its third referendum on the town budget. It’s time to put politics aside and pass this budget. There is a zero percent tax increase (this for the second year in a row) and the lack of a town budget impedes both operations and its ability to hire new employees (who would work for a town if the position is not guaranteed for the coming year?). The lack of a town Budget makes it difficult to enter into contracts for needed services.

Folks, we need a town budget. I hope that you will all join me in voting on Sept. 21. I hope you will help to advance the interest of our town and approve this budget. Voting will be a Town Hall, 127 Norwich Ave., Colchester, between the hours of 6 a.m. and 8 p.m.

John F. Malsbenden – Colchester

Honor and Privilege

Dear Portland Residents and Families:

It’s my honor and privilege to announce that I’m running for reelection this Nov. 2 to the Portland Board of Selectmen and I’m hoping to earn your vote.

Since moving to Portland 21 years ago, I’ve grown to love and appreciate this town more than ever. My three kids came up through the Portland school system so I’ve seen firsthand how good our teachers and educators truly are. I was also fortunate enough to serve several terms on the Board of Education and was proud of the bipartisan works we did for the sake of all of our kids!

Since starting my business in town in 2010, I’ve had the pleasure of getting to know many residents, families and their kids, and that’s given me a great insight into what our town wants and needs. I’ve used that insight to help guide me over my last three terms on the Board of Selectmen. I’ve also worked closely with everyone on the BOS and town government to do what’s in the best interest of our town.

Lastly, I enjoy giving back to our town and our kids on many levels, from track coach of our middle school kids to several volunteer organizations right here.

Portland has come a long way in the 21 years that I’ve lived here, yet our best years are still ahead of us and I look forward to having a positive impact on the town in every way I can! I ask for your vote this Nov. 2 because I want to continue to make a difference for all of us.

Michael Pelton - Portland Board of Selectmen Candidate

Asking for PZC Vote

To the Editor:

My name is Natalie Wood and I’m chairman of Hebron’s Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC). I am running for reelection this Nov. 2 and I’d like to introduce myself and ask for your vote. I’ve lived in Hebron since 1997 and have served on the commission for 20 years. I’m a business manager and commercial contracts negotiator for an IT company. I taught high school locally and practiced law in Simsbury. A good deal of positive changes have occurred in Hebron and I am proud that, with dedicated town staff and fellow Hebron residents willing to serve, I played a small part in that success.

The PZC is one of the most important

boards in determining the face and appeal of Hebron. An important tool in this endeavor is the town’s Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD). The POCD looks ahead in 10-year increments and sets goals to preserve the town’s unique assets. The POCD is also vital to qualify for grants. I’m proud to have been part of the initial drafting (2004), the first revision (2014) and now the second revision (2024) of the POCD. Unlike towns who hire consultants, Hebron created its POCD in-house with town staff and PZC members. The POCD has made it possible to be awarded Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP) grants which funded sidewalks, landscaping, façade improvements, and expanded parking at Douglas Library; as well as LOTCIP grants and other grants which spared the use of tax dollars to fund town improvements.

The Hebron Republicans have a full slate of enthusiastic and passionate candidates eager to serve the Town of Hebron. I hope that come November 2, you will vote to re-elect me to the PZC and as well as the rest of the Republican team. Thank you for your consideration!

**Respectfully,
Natalie Wood – Hebron**

CORE Commission Established

To the Editor:

In the ongoing march of growth and development, Colchester’s Openness to Respecting Equity (CORE) Commission was established last week. This commission will promote a spirit of inclusiveness, while helping with town concerns such as economic development and mental health. CORE passed with 69 in favor and 17 opposing.

Let’s bring everyone along – and get to work! The town will begin accepting applications for the commission beginning Sept. 20. Please stop by Town Hall for an application.

Shout out to my friend and BoE colleague, Joanne Rose, who along with the Town of Colchester Diversity and Inclusion Ad-Hoc committee shepherded this commission into existence. I was proud to stand up and vote ‘yes.’

**Amy Cahill Domeika,
Candidate for Colchester Board of Education**

Wonderful Tribute

To the Editor:

Thank you to the organizers of Colchester’s 9/11 remembrance ceremony. It was a thoughtful, moving and a wonderful tribute to our first responders, active and retired military, and all who helped on 9/11. As the bell rang each time and the details of what happened on that tragic day were revisited, it brought back memories of why we will never forget.

I was president of the Connecticut Education Association during 9/11 and worked to support teachers, students, and staff who had lost husbands, wives, parents, brothers, sisters, relatives, and friends. Those were difficult days attending memorial services for so many and working to help those affected. As an organization we wanted each of them to know we were there to help in any way we could. The tragedies of that day brought our country together. Everyone focused on helping each other and being sensitive to how individuals were affected by the events. We need to always remember how kind we were to each other and carry that sentiment forward in our lives.

I’d also like to remind Colchester voters of the budget referendum scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 21. The budget referendum will be held at Town Hall from 6 a.m.-8 p.m. Absentee ballots are available at the town clerk’s office. Please exercise your right to vote. Thank you.

**Sincerely,
Rosemary Coyle – Colchester**

Note: Coyle is a member of the Colchester Board of Selectmen, but said she is speaking as an individual.

Colchester: Vote Tuesday

To the Editor:

Think your vote doesn’t matter? Colchester budget referendums tell a different story. In June, the Board of Education budget passed by just three votes. One month later, the town budget failed at its second referendum by just four votes.

On Tuesday, Colchester will hold its third budget referendum of 2021. Turnout in the other referendums this year has been low. Between summer, COVID-19, and everything else in everyday life, the town budget might not be at the forefront of everyone’s mind, but we all know the budget matters.

I hope with summer over and school back in

session that more people will cast their ballots at Town Hall this Tuesday, but I also know life has a knack for getting in the way. So on Tuesday, if you find that the vote slipped your mind until you already drove past Town Hall and you’re trying to decide whether to turn back, remember: your one vote could decide the outcome.

When you come home and your spouse tells you they voted and you realize you forgot because you were busy picking up the kids or dinner or both, remember: your one vote could make the difference.

Colchester’s system of direct democracy can only succeed when we participate in it. It needs all of us to survive and it needs all of us to vote. So, on Tuesday, don’t just vote ‘yes’ or ‘no’ on a budget; vote for Colchester – because your town needs your voice.

Bernard Dennler III – Colchester

Note: Dennler is a member of the Colchester Board of Finance and currently a candidate, but he said he is writing as an individual.

Budget Referendum 9/21

To the Editor:

I was so inspired last Thursday night by the large group of citizens who came out to support the creation of the Colchester’s Openness to Respecting Equity (CORE) Commission. The turnout was perhaps the largest I have ever witnessed as first selectman. The motion to create CORE passed 69-17, showing clearly that celebrating diversity in all of its forms is something residents are enthusiastic to do. This commission will explore ways to make sure that everyone can live their best life possible here. The goal is to create equity and ensure that all people feel respected. I’d like to thank all members of the Ad Hoc Committee for Diversity & Inclusion, especially Chair Denise Turner, for their hard work to move this forward.

I know that residents care about the future of Colchester. They proved it Thursday night. It is clearly apparent that Colchester citizens want to be involved in important decisions. Which leads me to my next topic...

On Tuesday, taxpayers will vote in the third town budget referendum. The turnout for the last budget referendum was approximately 16%. Colchester is the only town in the state without an operating budget. Voter participation is critical to the success of our form of government, so therefore, I implore you to please cast your ballot at Town Hall next Tuesday, Sept. 21, from 6 a.m.-8 p.m.

More information about the proposed budget can be found on the town website.

**Sincerely,
Mary Bylone
Colchester First Selectman**

Electric Car Show

To the Editor:

Once you’ve driven an electric vehicle, it’s kinda tough to go back! All are welcome at the Electric Car Show Saturday, Sept. 25, from noon-3 p.m., at East Hampton High School. We’ll have dealers and owners on hand who are happy to discuss their rides, plus how and where to charge your cars.

Got an EV or hybrid car you’d like to bring and brag about? Feel free to join us! Please do us the courtesy of registering ASAP at EHctcf@gmail.com or 860 748-5165. Hope to see you there.

**Andy Bauer
Portland Clean Energy Task Force
and Russ Kaplan
East Hampton Clean Energy Task Force**

Respect for Hebron

To the Editor:

Despite the actions of Hebron’s Board of Selectmen, the residents now have an opportunity to create a town based on mutual respect and thoughtfulness. From the beginning of the discussion about a proposed Public Works facility, the residents of the small neighborhood on Kinney Road have been belittled and ignored. In fact, we were described as the “f---ing neighbors” by our town manager. This was his response to a suggestion that local residents participate in a committee to study the impact of an industrial facility on a historic residential area surrounded by important wetlands. It was also suggested that environmental scientists, historians and other specialists join the committee. But the majority of the Board of Selectmen chose to ignore this inclusive option and send a dangerous question to referendum.

The Mission Statement of the Board of Selectmen is published on each meeting’s Agenda, “Acting as stewards of the Town and agents of

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Reader Forum • Reader Forum

★ *Letters cont. from page 29*

the people, will provide services that promote safety, an affordable healthy living environment; and through effective land use and town resources, an economic base that creates jobs and tax assistance to the community while preserving our rural historic character." So not only did the BOS ignore the Plan of Conservation and Development they also ignored their own Mission. They have not acted as stewards of the Town or agents of the people, they are pursuing their own narrow goal. They are not promoting a healthy living environment or effective land use, they are putting it at risk. And their plan to put Public Works in the ancient fields of a residential neighborhood is certainly not preserving our rural historic character, it would destroy it. Now our hope is with you, the people of Hebron. We look forward to speaking with you and working together to defeat this referendum.

Sincerely,
Kevin J. Tulimieri – Amston

Concert Series Thanks

To the Editor:

Portland Parks & Recreation Department and the Brownstone Quorum would like to express our gratitude to all of the performers and supporters of the 2021 concert series. We would like to give a special thanks to our lead Presenting Sponsor, Liberty Bank, for the generous provision of free ice cream from ice cream emergency!

This year's Gold sponsors included Liberty Bank, The Flood Law Firm, and Gildersleeve Spirit Shop. Our Silver Sponsors included DBA Budget Blinds, Jarvis Airfoil Inc., Portland Automotive Inc., Portland Home and Hardware, and the Portland Lion's Club. The Bronze Sponsors were CSB. Inc. Charlie's Water Wagon, Portland Dairy Queen, Gotta's Farm, Moore Brothers Inc., Portland NAPA, Water and Sewer Specialties, Portland Discount Liquors, Portland Memorial Funeral Home, and A Contribution in Memory of Skip Wagner. We would like to thank our sponsors again for all of their support!

Thank you to the Town of Portland's Building Maintenance and Grounds Crew for their daily hard work and dedication to keep our parks beautiful for events like these! We would also like to thank the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) who volunteered and coordinated an efficient flow of parking and traffic. Special thanks to Greg Rose for assisting in the coordination the bands again this season.

We estimated approximately 2,500 guests over the 2021 concert series, and we truly enjoyed seeing so many of our friends and neighbors enjoy this experience of entertainment and community. It was especially gratifying this season to see so many members of our community reconnect at the park following the challenges of the past year and a half. On behalf of the Brownstone Quorum and Portland Parks and Recreation, we thank you all for a great summer and we hope to see you next year!

Sincerely yours,
James K. Tripp, President
Brownstone Quorum, Inc.
and Nate Foley, Director
Portland Parks and Recreation

Once-in-Generation Mistake

To the Editor:

The current Municipal Complex/DPW proposal is a once-in-a-generation mistake for the town of Hebron. I am concerned that the town will stampede the referendum vote on the Public Works facility under the guise of safety and liability concerns. According to the town, the current Public Works facility on Old Colchester Road has safety and liability concerns that date back at least ten years. If that is so, why wasn't the new facility built on the Old Colchester Road site when viable and practical designs were provided by a credible engineering firm seven years ago? The reason given was that operations could not be interrupted to build the facility. Was this very weak and dubious excuse used to delay the project until the favored proposal – a municipal complex on the Horton property – could be presented? Still, how could one responsibly delay mitigating safety and liability concerns when a reasonable proposal to build a DPW on the Old Colchester Road site was available?

It seems likely that building the DPW facility on the Horton property will be defeated in referendum in May 2022. By then, most people in town will know the details of the proposal and its terrible consequences. Given the feedback I've been getting, anyone who knows about this expensive boondoggle, is against it. As such, the Hebron Board of Selectmen needs to provide

a contingency plan so that safety and liability concerns at the DPW site are not neglected for another ten years after defeat at referendum. I suggest that DPW engineering plans at the Old Colchester Road site be made in parallel with the Horton property. (For more information, contact me at johnbcollins27@gmail.com or 860-549-3273.)

John Collins – Hebron

Note: Collins is a member of the Hebron Board of Selectmen, but said he is speaking as an individual.

Jim Tripp for First Selectman

To the Editor:

A candidate running for first selectman must show they are qualified to hold that position with a history of community service, leadership capabilities and a work history to qualified for the job. Jim Tripp fits these qualities and is ready to take on the job as Portland's next first selectman. As long as I've known Jim, if there's a committee Jim would be on it, chair it or was once on it. Jim has volunteered countless hours over the past 20 years working on boards and committees to improve either the people or town of Portland. Some would recognize Jim from participation on the PTO, BOE, baseball league, the summer concerts in the park, working with the Lions club collecting for the food bank or the other numerous town committees.

Jim is a present member of the Board of Selectman and chair of the water commission looking for new more affordable water sources for the town. Jim is also working with the re-development of the waterfront commission to open our waterfront to the people of Portland. Jim wears many hats along with a 20-year work history in engineering and managerial project positions for AT&T. Jim is ready and qualified to tackle the jobs Portland faces over the coming years as first selectman. This is why Jim Tripp has earned my vote on Nov. 2 for first selectman running at the top of the Democratic ticket.

Rose Aletta – Portland

Honest Questions

To the Editor:

If the vaccine doesn't stop infection or transmission, what is the point of a vaccine passport other than it being used as a control mechanism?

If "Black Lives Matter" as much as they claim, why does the left wing media applaud the idea of vaccine passports when Blacks are the least likely to be vaccinated?

Why did Haiti initially refused the COVID-19 vaccines only to have them delivered by the U.S. State Department three days after its president was assassinated?

If 9/11 was the result of "blowback" from failed U.S. interventions in the Middle East, what will happen now that the Taliban possesses the third-largest cache of military hardware in the world?

How much money will we need to print to finally "fix" the economy?

It's 2030, we "own nothing and are happy"... if we own nothing, who will own everything?

If you no longer believe in a high spiritual authority, who is the most powerful identity in your life?

What do we need representatives and senators for when we can just rule by executive order?

When was the last time you turned on the news and it wasn't terrifying?

When do you think it would be an appropriate time to voice your dissent? Now or when there is a knock at your door?

Why are national politicians and their staffs exempted from vaccine mandates, but you are not?

How did it go from "15 days to flatten the curve" and "we're all in this together" to "get vaccinated or you lose your job and you can't travel"?

What will change the character of a small town more – a public works building built near a wetland or vaccine passports being required to enter a store?

Joe Biden's patience is "wearing thin"....what will happen when his patience finally runs out?

Colin McNamara – Marlborough

E-Mail Letters

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

Senior Luncheon Donations

To the Editor:

Our Andover senior luncheon program is continuing for the time being but we will soon run out of money to have our seniors enjoy these wonderful two hours together. When this program began there were 12-14 people attending and currently, we have 38 or more each week.

Cost of the lunches has increased from \$10 per person through the years to \$14 per person. I charge \$5 for a meal and do not want to increase the cost as it is imperative that seniors and non-seniors enjoy this time together to visit, eat a good meal and have a conversation with all. Lots of laughs occur and there is always a discussion of some type at the end of lunch; perhaps our Trooper Nesci has something of importance to mention, perhaps we need an update on the proposed Community Building, perhaps there is some event going on that we need to mention, things like the flu clinic and booster vaccine clinics.

I am requesting donations from our residents to help keep this program running. Any amount is helpful and if you are able to help us continue this program, please make your check out to the Town of Andover and in the memo line state for "Senior Luncheons" it would be very much appreciated. Thank you to all who in the past have helped us keep this program afloat: Eric Anderson, Adrian Mandeville, Rep. Robin Green, Tiuu and Ylo Anson, Frank and Pat Chaves, Lt. Dave Gostanian, George and Judy Knox, Jed and Janet Larson, Carol and Ken Lee, Lois Popoff, Elinor Skoog, Sgt. Darrell Tetreault, and all the wonderful people who want to remain anonymous. Without the help of these people our program would have had to close. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Cathy Palazzi
Andover Senior Coordinator

Tradition – Part I

Dear Colchester Residents:

Growing up, my parents taught me the importance of tradition. Tradition allows us to share common values and honor those who came before us. As Greek-Americans, my parents would take me to Greece every summer to learn more about our history, faith and deep traditions. I believe these trips were a catalyst that fostered a deep love and appreciation of these tenets. As a social studies teacher at Windham Public Schools for eight wonderful years, I have brought that passion and love of history into the classroom.

Being a 34-year resident of Colchester, I also share a deep passion for the history of this community and its wonderful traditions. As a proud member of the Colchester Historical Society, I believe that our history is worth preserving and investing in. Many of our historical buildings need work. If elected, I will designate a portion of our ARPA dollars to address these concerns. We cannot allow our history to crumble. The current administration dropped the ball on the Coggsshell-Robinson House as its owner demolished it on Aug. 22, 2020. Preserving history and tradition is notably absent from the current first selectman's platform this election cycle. Our historical buildings and monuments will be a priority under my administration.

While preserving our history is important, learning from history is imperative. I believe that the Colchester Public Schools system

should richly incorporate Colchester's history as part of its curriculum. Students should be graduating high school having knowledge about the community that they live in. Some teachers already incorporate Colchester's history in the classroom, but I believe we have an opportunity to do so much more. As first selectman, I will strongly collaborate with our school system and the Colchester Historical Society to achieve this.

Sincerely,
Andreas Bisbikos – Colchester

Note: Bisbikos is a candidate for Colchester first selectman.

Dèjà Vu

To the Editor:

Watching the Discovery Channel late last night
Was April the 15th, 1945, what a sight
Hitler isolated in his bunker

At his birthday party,
eating cake getting drunker
His military leaders claimed 'we were strong'
Being the Russians wouldn't take long
Disillusioned by this advice
He knew everything would turn out nice
Hearing the wheel squeak, refusing to oil it
Sent his country down the toilet
Shaved his mustache and
came out from hiding
Looks just like Joe Biden!
What Hitler did took 10 years to do
Joe Biden trying to do it in two!

Don Nowsch – Marlborough

Addressing Horse Sense

To the Editor:

Disparaging Senator Rand Paul M.D. (medical doctor) and Trump supporters isn't the proper way to solve a problem but perhaps doing some research before speaking is a better approach.

It has recently come to light that Trump was correct about hydroxychloroquine. Ivermectin, by the way, won a Pulitzer and has long been used to treat humans as well as livestock. It appears to be safe with no drug interaction. In 20 randomized trials it showed significantly large benefit in treating COVID-19.

Rolling Stone recently published an article about an Oklahoma hospital being overrun with Ivermectin overdoses and the story was picked up by many in media. The story was proven to be false, no one retracted their reporting. Sadly this is how false information is spread.

The "vaccine" is not well-researched, it has many documented side effects such as heart problems, especially in the young (even death). So, a Trump supporter or not, it should be an individual's personal choice, treatment with Hydroxychloroquine, Ivermectin, or any of the other treatments or take the shot. If the vaccine protects you, don't worry about the unvaccinated.

By the way, Trump never told people to drink bleach and Dr. Fauci lied to Congress about funding Gain of Function Research; he used taxpayer money to do so. His previous statements were "even if it gets out and causes a pandemic it's worth doing the research." So Dr. Fauci, now that it's happened, was it worth it?

Respectfully,
Carol Johnson – Marlborough



IT AGE VER.

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

Together We Are Stronger.

MS National Multiple Sclerosis Society

Obituaries

Portland

Mary Ann Traska

Mary Ann (McGlynn) Traska of Portland passed away Tuesday, Sept. 7, at her home, at the age of 85. She was the loving wife of the late Robert J. Traska (Bob) until his death in 1988.



Mary Ann and Bob shared a lifelong passion for teaching foreign languages and science, respectively. When they were not busy teaching, Mary Ann and Bob enjoyed spending their summers together near the ocean at their cottage in Point Judith, R.I., and raising their beloved daughter, Jennifer (Traska) Gibson.

Born Sept. 30, 1935 in Woonsocket, R.I., Mary Ann was the daughter of the late Edward and Anna (Coffey) McGlynn. She was a 1952 graduate of Saint Clare High School in Woonsocket, R.I., and a proud alumna of the College of Mount Saint Vincent in New York City. After graduating from CMSV in 1956, Mary Ann pursued her love for foreign languages by teaching high school French and Spanish in Cromwell, for 38 years and touching the lives of countless students. As a passionate teacher and shameless Francophile, one of Mary Ann's greatest joys was organizing trips for her students to travel to Paris to study the French language, cuisine, art and culture.

Mary Ann was a devout Roman Catholic. She belonged to St. Mary Parish in Portland, where she taught faith formation classes for many years.

Although fiercely independent until the end of her life, Mary Ann had a deep sense of empathy and was always quick to lend a helping hand to those in need. Ever a lover of words and language, Mary Ann could often be found doing a crossword puzzle (in pen). She loved traveling and spending time with friends and family. She had a generous spirit and was loved by many.

She is survived by her loving daughter, Jennifer, and her husband, Robert Gibson of Brooklyn, N.Y., and Narragansett, R.I. She was the dotting and treasured grandmother to Timothy and Connor Gibson. She was also a dear friend to Louis V. Negrelli. Mary Ann leaves behind many cousins, nieces and nephews, friends, and cherished former students. She will be greatly missed.

The funeral was held Monday, Sept. 13, from the Portland Memorial Funeral Home, 231 Main St, Portland, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial that morning, in St. Mary Church, Portland. Burial was in the family plot in St. Mary Cemetery, Portland. Friends called at the funeral home Sunday evening, Sept. 12.

In lieu of flowers, gifts in her memory may be made to Portland Food Bank, P.O. Box 71, Portland, CT 06480.

Colchester

Jeffrey S. Frazer

Jeffrey "Jeff" S. Frazer, 49, of Colchester, passed away suddenly Saturday, Sept. 11. His passing comes as a shock, and he will be greatly missed. He was born on Dec. 28, 1971, to the late Francis and Anna Marie (Larsen) Frazer.



Jeff was a "lifer" with the Anelli Paving Company and to his beloved community of Colchester. Jeff was no stranger to adversity, and unlike so many, was able to persevere through the hard times in his life, setting a great example to his friends and family. He will be fondly remembered as having a heart of gold, and adored for his free spirit and charismatic nature. Jeff was an avid lover of rock and roll as well as cats.

He is survived by his sister, Kimberley and her husband Moe Mailhotte; as well as his nephew, Timothy Mailhotte.

A visitation will be held Monday, Sept. 20, from 3-6 p.m., at the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home, 167 Old Hartford Rd., Colchester. A graveside celebration of Jeff's life, will be held on Saturday, Sept. 25, at 11 a.m., in the Linwood Cemetery, 235 Linwood Cemetery Rd., Colchester. A time of reception will follow the graveside celebration of life at the Colchester Fish and Game Club, Old Amston Road, Colchester, at 1 p.m.

To share a memory or sign the online guestbook, please visit: www.auroramccarthy.com.

Portland

Frank J. Ramondetta

Frank J. Ramondetta, 81, of Portland passed away unexpectedly at Middlesex Hospital Sunday, Sept. 12. Born in Lawrence, Mass., he was the son of the late Frank and Jennie (Spano) Ramondetta.



Frank is a former Rocky Hill and Newington resident following his early years in which he attended schools in Hartford. He was self-employed in the automobile sales industry for many years. Frank was a free spirit who chose to live his life on his own terms. Frank had many talents, he was an avid photographer, a jazz drummer in his early years, and especially a lover of automobiles.

Surviving are his daughter, Roslyn Desjardin of East Hampton; his sister, Janice Dugger and her husband Robert of Glastonbury; his brother, Vito Ramondetta and his wife Rose of Rocky Hill. He also leaves behind several special nieces, nephews, and cousins and some close friends.

Frank was predeceased by his beloved son, Randy, and his brother, John Ramondetta.

The family wishes to thank all of the individuals who assisted Frank in his journey along the way. A special thanks to the many health care providers for their vigilant care and compassion.

Service and burial will be at Mount Saint Benedict Cemetery, 1 Cottage Grove Rd., Bloomfield, at 10 a.m. Monday, Sept. 20. There are no calling hours.

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

Colchester

Marion Gallagher

Marion "Marnie" M. (Fay) Gallagher, 85, of Colchester, formerly of Wallingford, passed away peacefully Sunday, Sept. 5, at William W. Backus Hospital. She had been the loving wife of the late William R. Gallagher for nearly 40 years. Marion was born April 26, 1936, in Dorchester, Mass., one of 11, to the late William and Ruth (McMillan) Fay.



Marion was kind, forgiving, selfless, and had unconditional love for her family. She enjoyed reading, loved her flower beds and will be remembered for having the strength of a warrior.

Marion is survived by three children: daughter, Pamela Veilleux and her husband Greg of Plantsville; son, Steven Gallagher and Elizabeth Lawrence of Northford and daughter Melinda Machalick and her husband Walter of Colchester; former daughter-in-law, Janice Block of Wolcott; 12 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her siblings: Ruth M. Tobin of Pembroke, Mass., Mary T. Prew of Newport, Maine, Joseph W. Fay and his wife Ruth of Dedham, Mass., James M. Fay of Ayers, Mass.; her sister-in-law, Joan Fay of Weymouth, Mass.; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her husband Bill, she was predeceased by siblings William S. Fay, Jr., Thomas A. Fay, John "Charlie" Fay, Katherine McKay, Patricia A. O'Brien and Francis X. Fay.

For funeral service information and online condolences, please visit Plantsville Funeral Home's website at www.plantsvillefuneralhome.com.

Hebron

Donald G. Heath Jr.

Donald G. Heath Jr., 70, of Leesburg, Fla., previously of Hebron, passed away suddenly Friday, Aug. 6, from complications of COVID-19.

Don was the son of the late Donald G. and Dorothy Froeburg Heath. He spent his youth in Hebron and Amston Lake, where he graduated from RHAM High School. Upon graduation, Don enlisted in the U.S. Army, serving in Vietnam as a sniper, receiving a Bronze Star. After his honorable discharge he lived in Vermont, later moving to Leesburg, Fla.

Don was predeceased by his brother-in-law, Peter Heath; brother-in-law, Frank Clifford; and nephew, Wesley Clifford. He is survived by his sisters, Marjorie Clifford of Randolph, Vt., and Donna Farnsworth of Hebron; his brother Eric and his wife Mildred Heath, also of Hebron; plus, several nieces and nephews; as well as a longtime friend, Gale Harris of Florida.

There are no services at this time.

East Hampton

Shirl Lee Gillis

Shirl Lee Gillis, 68, passed away Sunday, Sept. 5, in Connecticut, while visiting family and friends. She was the wife of Charles Wesley Gillis Jr.



Mrs. Gillis was born Nov. 8, 1952, in Texas, the daughter of the late Blanche (Meyer) Colbert. She was raised in Meriden and resided in East Hampton before moving to Georgia in 2008.

Besides her husband of 40 years, Mrs. Gillis is survived by her son, Michael Gillis (Elizabeth) of Berlin, and daughter, Jessica Otlowski (Richard) of Cheshire. She was grandmother, "Grammy," to Elise Spalla, Mark Golembeski, MJ Gillis, Allie Otlowski, Richie Gillis, Tori Otlowski, and Joe Otlowski. He also leaves four great-grandchildren; sisters, Lynn Snedeker of Vermont and Patty Roccapiore of Rhode Island; as well as cousins, aunts and numerous friends that she loved as family. She will also be missed by all.

Services for Mrs. Gillis were held Sunday, Sept. 12, at the Alderson-Ford Funeral Home of Cheshire, 615 S. Main St. A period of visitation was held Sunday before the service.

For her Georgia friends that had become family, a service will be held in the near future.

In lieu of flowers, Memorial contributions may be made to your local animal shelter or a charity of your choice.

For online condolences, to share a photo or a story, please visit www.fordfh.com.

Obituary Policy

The *Rivereast News Bulletin* will publish obituaries free of charge if the deceased person is a resident or former resident of Towns in our coverage area..

Charges apply for obituaries of persons who were not residents. Contact the advertising director at (860) 633-4691 for rates.

Amston

Joseph Emil Gaudette

Joseph (Normand) Emil Gaudette, 87, of Amston, beloved husband of Patricia (Dicara), entered eternal rest Wednesday, Aug. 18. Joseph was born in Hartford July 23, 1934, the son of Joseph and Doria (St. Pierre) Gaudette. He was a member of the U.S. Army and a member of Teamsters Local 559.



Joseph was a communicant of St. Columba Church in Columbia and enjoyed fishing with his brother, children, and later grandchildren, usually in his canoe on Bolton Lake or Bishop Swamp (Jurovaty Pond). He loved going to the casino and vacationing at Myrtle Beach. He and Pat enjoyed a drive across the country, visiting historic landmarks, on their way to Las Vegas to visit friends.

Along with his loving wife Pat, he is survived by his daughters, Donna Sobol, Gayle Anderson and her husband Tim, and Joanne Block and her husband Brian; as well as four grandchildren, Travis and Troy Anderson, Laura and Steven Block and his fiancée Alyssa Korten; four great-grandchildren, Haley and Dayton McCarthy, Adrienne Block and Weston Day. He also leaves two sisters, Gloria Mecteau and Laurette Carpenter, as well as several nieces and nephews.

Besides his parents he was predeceased by his brothers Maurice and Roger, sisters Jeanine Corrette, Doris Carter and Yvette Monroe.

There are no calling hours. A celebration of his life will be private and held at the convenience of the family.

Memorial donations in Joseph's name can be sent to the Hebron Volunteer Fire Department, 44 Main St., Hebron, CT 06248.

Portland

Susan Starkowski

Susan (Susie) B. F. Starkowski, 59, passed away Sunday, Sept. 12. She was born on Luke Air Force Base in Arizona Aug. 7, 1962, and was the daughter of Theresa M. Ferguson and the late William J. Ferguson.

Susie graduated from Portland High School in 1980 and continued her studies at Central Connecticut State University, graduating with a degree in communications. She was employed at The Connecticut State Lottery as a fiscal administrative officer since 2006 and enjoyed her work greatly.

Susie was a wonderful person who greeted every day and everybody with a smile. She was thoughtful, kind and entertaining. Susie loved her family and friends immensely and always made new friends quickly and easily wherever she went. She was always fun to be around and was able to find humor in the toughest of situations.

Susie was a talented writer and loved music, the beach, and gathering with family and friends. Susie's legacy is one of love, laughter, and triumph.

She is predeceased by her father, William J. Ferguson; sister, Mary Ferguson; and nephew, Manny Ferguson.

She is survived by her mother, Theresa M. Ferguson; her stepmother, Diane Grier Ferguson; her daughter, Kristen Starkowski; her son,

See *Obits*, page 34

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Cover Story • Cover Story •



Clockwise from top left are some scenes from last weekend’s Hebron Harvest Fair: Zack, a 3-year-old tiger – “the baby of the family,” according to Brunon Blaszk, tiger trainer from Bruno’s Tigers – prepares to walk a tightrope; graffiti artist Ryan Christenson, also known as ARCY, works live on a mural commemorating 50 years of the fair; Savannah Bravo, 2, of East Hartford, checks out a Southdown ewe; and Evan Leveau of Woodstock cuddles with Spankies of Got to Be Different Farm, also in Woodstock.

★ *Live Tigers cont. from page 1*

pictures and tiger educational encounters. Brunon, who said he sometimes gets negative feedback, said the show had “an amazing turnout” and as of Saturday afternoon, he had received “nothing but good compliments.” The Martinsens of Bolton – Robert and Vanessa and their two sons Tyler, 6 and Noah, 3 – said they came upon the tigers unexpectedly on Saturday and enjoyed the show. “It was cool, it was very cool,” Robert said. On Wednesday, Strumskas joked that he and his family “were recovering” from the long weekend working the fair. He said ticket sales rolled in at about 119,000, a number he said was pretty even with previous years. Rain on Thursday slowed sales that night but more folks showed up over the weekend, ultimately evening it out, he said. The rain led to an additional issue. According to Strumskas, the already saturated ground

where onsite parking takes place left a bit of a mess, with the parking crew working to make sure cars did not sink. To make matters worse, the fair’s offsite parking lot was also flooded, so crews could not direct vehicles there most of the weekend, meaning there were times when traffic backed up on Route 85, leading to the fairgrounds. The crowd at the fair Saturday was, for the most part, mask-free – which Robert Martinsen said was a relief. Martinsen and his family shared a shady picnic table with this *Rivereast* reporter Saturday afternoon. He said he was happy to see smiles on people’s faces and that he is “kind of over” masks. He said he tried a few different fair delights, including a sausage grinder and fried dough. He and his wife, Vanessa, rated the fried dough as their favorite treat so far, but Robert said he was

on the hunt for a turkey leg. Vanessa said 6-year-old Tyler had enjoyed playing games and won a teddy bear. Strumskas said the fair went well overall. He said a new act – Pirates of the Colombian Caribbean Aerial High Wire Thrill Show – mesmerized his children, whom he took to the show Sunday. “They did a great job, a live action story line,” he said. “[My kids] were starring the entire time, so that’s good too.” The music was great too, he said. Saturday’s act, Alex Shillo’s Tribute to Bruce Springsteen “did a really good job,” Strumskas said. Shillo dedicated the show to 9/11, bringing first responders on stage and performing “a good rendition of ‘Born in the USA.’” Sunday’s headliner, Jo Dee Messina drew a huge crowd and, according to Strumskas, “ev-

everyone loved it; it sounded great.” Throughout the weekend different local acts, performed on the stage in the community courtyard, Strumskas said. While most of the acts were local acoustic performers there were a couple with electric guitars. Dreamland Amusements brought in a new ride called Flying Bobs, a new take on the Himalaya-themed ride, with individual bob cars. That ride as well as the Ferris Wheel were popular among fairgoers, bringing long lines of people waiting for their turn. Strumskas said the final numbers of how much the fair, which one of the Lion’s biggest fundraisers, brought in will be calculated in the next few weeks. “It was a good year and hopefully that gets us where we need to be to donate to the community,” he said.

Obituaries cont.

Michael Starkowski; and their father, Brian Starkowski. She also leaves behind her beloved sisters Catherine (Kenneth) Onouha, Loretta (Michael) Foley and Janet Ferguson.

In addition, our sweet Susie leaves behind a veritable village of nieces, nephews, grand-nieces and -nephews, longtime friends (including her "taco girls"), her special friend Eddie Socha, co-workers, and neighbors.

She will be deeply missed and always loved. God bless Susie.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held Saturday, Sept. 25, at 10 a.m., in St. Mary Church, Portland. Burial will be in the family plot in St. Mary Cemetery, Portland. Friends may call at the Portland Memorial Funeral Home, 231 Main St., Portland, on Friday, Sept. 24, from 5-8 p.m.

Hebron

Albert Pitre

Albert Pitre, "Joe," 74, of Hebron, died Wednesday, Sept. 1.

Born Sept. 13, 1946, he was predeceased by his parents, Alexander Pitre and Arnelde (nee Duclos) Pitre, and a sister, Irene Morin.

He is survived by his siblings, Lorraine Staples, Pauline Sampoli, Estelle Campbell, Larry Pitre, Arnelde Pitre, Gisele Buehler; a son, John Atkins; two grandchildren; and many nephews and nieces.

He had a career as a mechanic and inspector at Pratt & Whitney Aircraft. He was also a Vietnam veteran in the U.S. Navy.

A funeral Mass will be held at St. Mary Church in Willimantic Tuesday, Sept. 28, at 11 a.m.

LEGALS

For Sale by Auction:

The Town of Hebron Public Works Department is accepting sealed bids for a 2007 GMC Canyon, 4 Wheel Drive with plow. Mileage 124,664. Minimum bid \$500. Vehicle will be sold "as-is" no warranty. Please call 860-228-2871 for an appointment to view the truck. Bids should be delivered by 12 PM, October 1, 2021 to the Town Manager's office, 15 Gilead Street, Hebron CT 06248

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MIDDLE HADDAM HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION MEETING

Thursday, September 23, 2021
6:30 pm at TOWN HALL
LEGAL NOTICE

Public hearing will be held to consider the following: Application 556 for a Certificate of Appropriateness at 23 Knowles Road -- to repair the leaking roof on sunroom, and replace the flat asphalt roof. Included in the additional work on the sunroom will be to replace the wooden deck and rotting wooden railings, to replace malfunctioning hanging gutters, and to replace damaged soffit and fascia boards -- for applicants Bryna Linett and Peter Shapiro. The foregoing application is available for public review at the East Hampton Building Department. At this hearing interested persons may be heard and written communications will be received. Dated: September 15, 2021
Regina Starolis, MHHDC Clerk

TOWN OF PORTLAND ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Portland Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, September 23, 2021 at a meeting to start at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom to consider the following: Application #21-01: 36 Jobs Gate 2. Request for a variance to Zoning Regulation Table 4.2.1 to locate a foundation 34 feet from the front yard where 50 feet is required, 21.5 feet from the east side yard where 25 feet is required, and 21 feet from the west side yard where 25 feet is required. Application and property of Larry Whitmore. Assessor's Map 24, Lot 3. Zone RR. At this hearing interested persons may appear and be heard and written communications will be received. A copy of this application is available for public review in the Portland Land Use Department or on the Town of Portland Website: www.portlandct.org. Dated at Portland, CT this 7th day of September 2021.
Rose Aletta, Chairwoman

LEGALS

TOWN OF COLCHESTER LEGAL NOTICE

On September 13, 2021 the Zoning Enforcement Officer made the following decision: Sharr Realty, LLC. - Site Plan Modification Administrative Review (2021-010) - APPROVED activities to be conducted at Colchester Plaza, 139 South Main Street, Colchester with modifications as proposed. A copy of this notice has been filed in the Town Clerk's office. Planning and Zoning Department
Daphne C. Schaub, ZEO

LEGAL NOTICE MARLBOROUGH CONSERVATION COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

Town Hall (26 No Main St.)

The Conservation Commission will hold the following Public Hearing on Monday September 20, 2021 at 7:00 PM at Town Hall (26 No Main St.) Application #11-21 - Justin Williams, Justin Williams Estates LLC/ Timothy Peer (applicant/property owner) - 125 So Main - construct new driveway and residence. The room capacity will be limited due to Social Distancing requirements and masks are mandatory for those who are unvaccinated and attend in person. Written testimony will be received at the public hearing and written testimony can be sent to the Building / Land Use Department at Town Hall ahead of the public hearing. All testimony and application materials will be available to the public on the Town Website, www.Marboroughct.net, under Minutes/Agendas then Agenda 2021 then Conservation Commission. Yvonne Bolton, CONSERVATION COMMISSION CHAIR

TOWN OF COLCHESTER COLCHESTER CONSERVATION COMMISSION NOTICE OF DECISION

At the regular meeting of the Colchester Conservation Commission held on Wednesday, September 8, 2021 the following action was taken: **W2021-3066**- Modification of permit #W2021-3064- Niantic Bay Group, LLC-Resubdivision, Cabin Road, Proposed sewer connection -**Approved** Respectfully Submitted, Falk von Plachecki, Chairman

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON PUBLIC HEARING

The East Hampton Town Council will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, September 28, 2021 at 6:15 p.m. in the East Hampton Town Hall Council Chambers, 1 Community Drive, East Hampton, CT 06424 and via Zoom. The Council will review an amendment to Article III of Chapter 130 of the Code of the Town of East Hampton Regarding Board of Finance Term Limits to clarify that an individual can be elected to two consecutive terms. The Zoom login information will be included with the Public Hearing agenda posted on the Town website. A copy of the proposed ordinance amendment is available in the Office of the East Hampton Town Clerk and on the Town website at www.easthamptonct.gov.

EAST HAMPTON TOWN COUNCIL

James Brown, Chairman
Dean Markham, Vice Chairman
Tim Feegeel
Derek Johnson
Barbara Moore
Mark Philhower
Kevin Reich

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF HEBRON SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

The electors and voters of the Town of Hebron are hereby given notice and warned that a Special Town Meeting will be convened on Thursday, September 30, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room at the Douglas Library of Hebron, 22 Main Street, Hebron, Connecticut, to consider and act upon the following resolutions: 1. In accordance with Hebron Town Charter Section 303 C, to consider the acquisition by donation of the "Morin Property" an approximately 4.4-acre parcel of land located off Crouch Road abutting the Colchester Spur of the Air Line Trail for open space purposes. 2. In accordance with the Hebron Town Charter Section 303 C and Town Code Chapter 42, Article II Section 42-8, to consider the acquisition of "The Bernstein Property" an approximately 215.5-acre parcel of land located on Old Colchester Road, in the amount of \$499,900, funding to come from DEEP OSWA Grant \$199,960 and from the Land Acquisition Fund \$299,940. 3. In accordance with Hebron Town Charter Section 304 B, to consider a Supplemental Appropriation from the Unassigned Fund Balance in an amount of \$1 million to the debt management fund. Dated at Hebron, Connecticut, this 2nd day of September 2021.
Hebron Board of Selectmen
Daniel Larson, Chairman
Gail B. Richmond, Vice Chairman
John B. Collins
Peter Kasper
Marc Rubera

LEGAL NOTICE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION HEBRON, CONNECTICUT

The Hebron Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing at a Regular Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, September 28, 2021, at 7:00 P.M., to be held virtually through the GoTo-Meeting Platform, on the following: **1. Petition 2021-11 & 12** - Special Permit and Site Plan Applications of Christopher and Annette Peterson requesting approval of demolishing an existing single-family dwelling and building a new year-round single-family house, application is filed under Sections 2.C.1.4 and 2.F.1.3 of the Hebron Zoning Regulations, property located at 206 Deepwood Drive, AL District. Dated at Hebron, Connecticut, this 8th day of September 2021. Gerald Garfield, Secretary
PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION
Tue, Sep 28, 2021 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM (EDT)
Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone. <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/176265749>
You can also dial in using your phone.
United States: +1 (872) 240-3212
Access Code: 176-265-749
New to GoToMeeting?
Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/176265749>

CLASSIFIEDS PAY

in The Glastonbury Citizen & Rivereast News Bulletin

Fill out, clip and mail to:

The Glastonbury Citizen
P.O. Box 373
Glastonbury, CT 06033-0373

Citizen Deadline: Monday Noon
Bulletin Deadline: Wednesday Noon

Category (example: For Sale)

Classified Text: Please print one word per line. A word is anything with spaces around it. For example: Rd., 2BR, 6-cyl. are all one word each. A phone # is one word.

Additional words: (20¢ per word):

Please Check One

- \$10.00 per week for 25 words or less in *The Glastonbury Citizen*; 20¢ for each additional word.
- \$9.00 per week for 25 words or less in *The Rivereast News Bulletin*; 20¢ for each additional word.
- \$18.00 per week combination rate; 20¢ for each additional word. for insertion in both *The Glastonbury Citizen* and *The Rivereast News Bulletin*.

Make checks payable to: *The Glastonbury Citizen*.

(We regret we cannot take ads over the phone or via email at this time.)

TOWN OF MARLBOROUGH, CONNECTICUT PAVING PROJECT INVITATION TO BID

Sealed Bids for the Paving Project will be received by the **Town of Marlborough** by hard copy at the Issuing Office until **10:00 AM** local time on **Monday, October 4, 2021**. Received Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at this time. **The Project consists of full depth reclamation, grading, and paving of the front parking lots at Firehouse #2 200 West Road & Public Works Department 66 South Road and Flood Road from the Ogden Lord intersection to the Quinn Road intersection.** Bids will be received for a single prime Contract. Bids shall be on a lump sum and unit price basis as indicated in the Bid Form. Bidding Documents are available in the **Town Clerk's Office, Marlborough Town Hall, 26 North Main Street, Marlborough, Connecticut (860-295-6200)**. Prospective Bidders may examine the Bidding Documents on line at Marlboroughct.net, CT Source, or at the Issuing Office during Town Hall hours of operation. A pre-bid conference will be held at **2:00 PM** local time on **Tuesday, September 28, 2021 at Fire House #2 200 West Road**. Pre-bid conference attendance is encouraged but is not mandatory. The successful Bidder will be required to provide a Performance Bond in the amount of one hundred percent of the Contract Price. The Surety Company shall be licensed in the State of Connecticut and listed on IRS Department Circular 570. A Payment Bond and Payment of Prevailing Wage Rates will not be required unless Contract amount is equal to or greater than \$100,000. Bid Bond is not required. The bidder agrees that its bid shall be good, capable of being accepted, and may not be withdrawn for a period of thirty (30) days, Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays excluded, after the opening of bids. The Town reserves the right to waive any technical defects in the bids; to reject bids which do not conform to the terms and conditions described in the specifications; to reject any, any part of, or all bids; to waive informalities or irregularities in the bidding process; and to accept that bid which the Town deems to be in its best interest, whether or not it is the lowest dollar proposed. All work to be performed in connection with the proposed project will be subject to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances and regulations. If the Town determines, in its sole discretion, to proceed with the work, the successful bidder must execute and deliver the Contract and furnish a valid Certificate of Insurance with full policies, a Performance Bond, and Payment Bond if applicable, to the Town prior to the start of any work. It is the responsibility of the bidder to ensure that it has received any and all addendums to this Invitation to Bid prior to submitting a bid. This Invitation to Bid is not binding on the Town. The Town reserves the right to revise or amend the plans and specifications from time to time as it deems necessary. This Invitation to Bid has been prepared solely to solicit bids and does not constitute a contract offer. The Town reserves the right to amend, cancel, postpone, withdraw, or resubmit this Invitation for Bid at any time if it is in the best interest of the Town to do so. The Town is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Minority/Women Business Enterprises are encouraged to apply. Owner: Town of Marlborough, Connecticut
By: Gregory J. Lowrey, First Selectman
Date: September 15, 2020

INVITATION TO BID HVAC Bid # 2022 - 001

Regional School District 8 (the "District") is seeking bids for HVAC upgrades at RHAM High School for the Locker Rooms, Head End Room, and Dimmer Room located at 85 Wall Street, Hebron, CT (the "Project"). The Information for Bidders, Proposal Form, Plans, Specifications and other Bid Documents, as prepared by RZ Design Associates, Inc. 750 Old Main Street Suite 202 Rocky Hill, CT 06067; will be available beginning on Friday, September 17, 2021 via the Regional School District 8 Website. The District's website address is www.rhamschools.org (the "District's Website"). A nonmandatory Pre-Bid Conference will be held on **Thursday September 23, 2021 at 11:00AM**, at RHAM High School, 85 Wall Street, Hebron, CT, in the Principal's Main Conference Room. Questions regarding the Bid Documents shall be submitted in writing only by email to Michael Schlehofer, Director of Facilities, at michael.schlehofer@rhamschools.org no later than September 29, 2021. Answers to questions, modifications to the Bid Documents and other information concerning the Bid Documents and/or the bid process shall be set forth in addenda and published on the District's Website. Sealed bids may be mailed to Regional School District 8, 85 Wall Street, Hebron, CT 06248 or delivered in person to the Central Office, Regional School District 8, 85 Wall Street, Hebron, CT 06248. Bids will be accepted until **1:45 PM on Friday, October 8, 2021** at which time they will be opened and read aloud. The Bid opening will take place in the Principal's Main Conference Room unless otherwise provided in an addendum. The exterior of the sealed envelopes containing the Bids must be clearly marked with the name of the bidder and "HVAC Upgrades at RHAM High School HVAC Bid # 2022 - 001". The District will not be responsible for the premature opening of any Bid that is not properly marked. Any Bid, any portion of a Bid, or any documents relating to a Bid submitted by means other than mail or hand delivery as indicated above, or that otherwise fails to comply with the submission requirements stated herein, **will not be accepted or considered in the bid process**. As security, each Bid must be accompanied by a Bid Bond issued by a Surety Company or Companies properly licensed and authorized to issue bonds and otherwise do business in the State of Connecticut, of an amount not less than 10% of the Bid Price. The successful Bidder shall be required to furnish Performance, Labor and Material Payment Bonds, each for 100% of the Contract Sum. The Project is subject to the prevailing wage requirements of Connecticut General Statutes §31-53. The successful Bidder will be required to comply with all applicable governmental orders, laws, regulations and guidelines issued, enacted and/or adopted in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as guidelines issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as are in effect for the duration of the Project. The District reserves the right to amend or withdraw this Invitation to Bid for any reason, to accept or reject any or all Bids, to waive any informalities or non-material deficiencies in any Bid, and to make such award (or make no award) of a contract in connection with this Invitation to Bid all as determined by the District, in its discretion, to be in the best interest of the District. A Bid may be rejected for irregularities of any kind, including without limitation, alteration of form, additions not called for, conditional proposals, and incomplete Bids.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WANTED TO BUY

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

ADVERTISERS

The Glastonbury Citizen and Riverast News Bulletin will make every effort to see that all advertising copy is correctly printed. The publisher assumes no liability or financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertising, but will reprint, without charge, that part of an advertisement in which an error may occur, provided that a claim is made within 5 days of publication. The liability of the publisher on account of errors in or omissions from any advertisement will in no way exceed the amount of the charge for the space occupied by the item in error, and then only for the first incorrect insertion. Also, the publisher takes no responsibility for statements or claims made in any advertisement, and will upon request, reveal the name and address of the person or persons responsible for placing any display advertisement, political or otherwise, except for "blind" box ads. The Glastonbury Citizen Inc. reserves the right to reject advertisements which it deems unsuitable for its publications. Every effort will be made to verify the legitimacy and propriety of all ads for the protection of our readers. The Citizen will take requests for specific placement of ads and will try to accommodate everyone's requests. The Citizen cannot guarantee specific placement.

REAL ESTATE

RENTAL WANTED

SEARCHING FOR A SMALL HOUSE TO RENT in Moodus, East Haddam, East Hampton or Colchester. Contact 860-884-9098



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REG-17-21

REAL ESTATE



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83 Old Marlborough Rd., East Hampton

Darling beautifully decorated for today's contemporary lifestyle 3 BR cape minutes from private beach at Lake Pocotopaug features open flr plan, FP, hardwood, 1st floor master, bright sunroom connector with its own entrance (home office?) and gorgeous outdoor spa with spacious decking to include the sparkling above ground pool, eating area and place for the hot tub.

Call Cynthia Pond at 860-301-7133



Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices New England Properties

10 Edgewater Circle, Suite 1, East Hampton, CT 06424

EMPLOYMENT

FT POSITION- AP/AR, process invoices, account set ups, respond to account inquiries, reconcile accounts, other accounting tasks as needed. Submit resumes to: MKay@MysticLogistics.com

EXPERIENCED LINE COOK NEEDED, 1-2 years experience minimum, 32-40 hours per week, overtime possible, 5 day work week, weekends and holidays a must. \$14-\$16/hour depending on experience. Apply in person at Robert's LakeHouse, 81 N. Main Street, East Hampton
BOOKKEEPER/OFFICE ASSISTANT FOR GLASTONBURY SMALL BUSINESS. Must be well organized, detail oriented, self starter and an independent worker. Computer experience with QuickBooks and Microsoft Office programs is required. This position is part-time and requires working from our office. Please email resume to: gondexbuilder@yahoo.com.

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

AUTOMOTIVE MECHANIC - Independent auto repair shop in Hebron looking to hire FT auto tech. If you like to stay busy, are energetic, dependable and have either an auto trade school certificate or minimum of 2 years experience in automotive repair, then this position is for you. You'll work on all makes and models, both foreign and domestic. Competitive pay and benefits, no Saturdays and a friendly work environment. We'll also consider a more experienced technician, looking to make a move and be valued for your knowledge. Fill out application at 24 Wall Street Hebron or email resume to sarastarc@comcast.net.

PART-TIME NURSE, 8am-12:00 noon, 3-4 days/wk includes every other weekend. Please call Christal at Greystone 860-342-2509

SKILLED CARPENTER WANTED FOR BUSY PROPERTY MANAGEMENT CO. Reliable transportation a must, well toiled carpenter, 3-5 years experience preferred. \$20-\$25/per hour. Contact: JOHN@ADVANCECO.NET

HOUSING DISCRIMINATION IS ILLEGAL For Help Call 888-247-4401

If anyone refused to rent to you because of your source of income, race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, gender, religion, marital status, age, disability or because you have children, you may have been the victim of illegal housing discrimination. Contact the Connecticut Fair Housing Center.



PT POSITION- ACCOUNTS PAYABLE, process invoices, set up vendor accounts, respond to account inquiries, reconcile accounts, other accounting tasks as needed. Submit resumes to:

PART-TIME KITCHEN ATTENDANT - 3 days/wk including every other weekend. Please call Christal at Greystone at 860-342-2509.



Suburban Sanitation Service (860) 267-6102

80 Middletown Ave., East Hampton

NOW HIRING Laborer Position

Must have clean driving record, proof of Covid vaccination required. Full time position \$20.00 per hr. Excellent benefit package. Apply in person 7am-3pm.

FULL-TIME STAFF ACCOUNTANT NEEDED

BYCCPA LLC in Rocky Hill seeks application for a staff accountant position.

1. Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, or in the final year of school.
2. A fifth-year and passing the CPA exam will be a future requirement.
3. Knowledge in basic financial accounting
4. Excellent written & verbal communication skills, strong numeracy and analytical skills, good problem-solving and time management skills.
5. Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite

Competitive compensation and comprehensive benefits package. Not a remote job.

Send letter and resume via email to lpfeifer@byccpa.com.



REG-3-21

CIT 9-16-21

EMPLOYMENT

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Apply in store, call 860-633-6966 or www.munsonschocolates.com/employment

CIT 9-16-21

KOCO4Kids Corner



NOW HIRING

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

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

koco4kids.org

ACTIVELY HIRING!



CASTLE & MARINA

Looking for motivated individuals to join our team. Currently seeking servers, bussers, kitchen utility, housekeeping and housemen positions. Every position is an integral part in providing an exceptional experience for our couples and guests! Must be available to work weekends and have a flexible schedule.

If you would like to be considered for employment please complete the Employment Application at: www.saintclementscastle.com/employment

If you have further questions you can call 860-342-0593 or email: eventmanagers@saintclementscastle.com

REG-10-21

EMPLOYMENT

PT OFFICE MANAGER - Flexible hours. Call 860-537-1526

HIRING! DRYER EXHAUST TECH WANTED - \$15-\$18/hr, 40+ hours a week. Training and company vehicle provided - experience not necessary. Basic tool use and ability to climb heights, along with a good personality required. For more info, email dryerventcleanersofct@gmail.com

NOW HIRING GUTTER INSTALLERS. Experience preferred. Call 860-563-8820

PART-TIME RESIDENT ATTENDANT, 3pm-11pm, 3-4 days/wk, includes every other weekend. Please call Christal at Greystone 860-342-2509

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

FT/PT SEWING ASSISTANT - position available immediately in my drapery workroom located in Haddam. Sewing experience is required, will train the right person. NONSMOKER. Call 860-306-4252 Susan

WESTSIDE MANOR IS SEARCHING FOR ATTENDANTS TO FILL OUR 2ND AND 3RD SHIFT. 3PM- 11PM and 11PM-7AM shifts. Attendee Responsibilities: Housekeeping, Meal Prep and medication administration required for the position. Medication Certification a plus but not necessary. Benefit of Attendee: Medical (Full time) Dental (full time). Interviews are done by appointment only following strict COVID guidelines at our location Monday thru Friday. Please call us at 860-267-4401 to schedule an interview today! We are a COVID free facility. 9 West High Street East Hampton. Job Type: Full-time/Part-time. Salary: \$14.00/HR

CAREGIVER NEEDED

Non-medical, mostly companionship, meals & light housekeeping. Colchester. Part-time days. Great small caring agency. Must have caregiving experience, paid or non-paid & pass background check. Looking for long term employee. Mon-Sat hours. Older adults encouraged to apply. Immediate work. **Call 860-967-0831**

TOWN OF ANDOVER JOB OPENING FOR ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK

GENERAL DESCRIPTION
The Town of Andover is hiring an Assistant Town Clerk. The individual hired will insure the daily functioning of the Town Clerks office, which records land records and vital statistics; issues licenses and permits; assists in the administration of elections; provides office administrative assistance to Town Clerk; and assumes Responsibility of office in the absence of the Town Clerk. This is a part-time position (26 hours/week). This Position is part of Local 1303-386 of Council 4, AFSCME A complete job description and application can be found on the town's website at AndoverCT.org. Please send Application and Resume to Carol Lee townclerk@andoverct.org Applications will be accepted until position is filled. EOE

EDUCATION: PARAEDUCATOR

Marlborough Elementary School is accepting applications for a Paraeducator for the 2021-22 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 September 30, 2021. For application see website, www.marlborough.k12.ct.us (Employment Opportunities) or call 860.295.6236. EOE

Town of Hebron Senior Services Dial-a-Ride Driver

The Russell Mercier Senior Center in Hebron is seeking a part-time dial-a-ride driver providing senior and adult disabled transportation utilizing a car, 10 and 20 passenger handicapped accessible buses to the Senior Center and to various activities of daily living in town and the surrounding areas. Driver must hold a valid Connecticut Driver License; CDL Class C preferred, Passenger Endorsement (Endorsement F) is required. Dial-a-Ride service is typically available Monday through Friday. Drivers are typically scheduled in accordance with transportation needs. Starting rate \$15.00 per hour with no benefits. For additional information or an application please call the Senior Center at (860) 228-1700 x 203 or visit www.hebronct.com. Please send applications/resumes to Andrew J. Tierney, Town Manager, Town of Hebron, 15 Gilead Street, Hebron, CT 06248. The Town of Hebron is an EOE.

TOWN OF ANDOVER JOB OPENING FOR BUILDING AND LAND USE DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

GENERAL DESCRIPTION
The Town of Andover is hiring an Administrative Assistant for the Building and Land Use Department. The individual hired will ensure the daily functioning of the department, and provide administrative and clerical support to the Building Official, Zoning Enforcement Agent and Inland Wetland and Watercourses Agent, and Health District. Performs all necessary functions to ensure proper record keeping and PermitLink software. This is a part time, non-exempt 20-hour per week position subject to collective bargaining Local 1303-368 of council #4 ASFCME. A complete job description and application can be found on the town's website at AndoverCT.org. Please send Application and Resume to adminassistant@andoverct.org. Applications will be accepted until position is filled. EOE

TREE & LANDSCAPING

PRZEKOPSKI SAND & GRAVEL

Septic Sand • Screened Sand Stone • Gravel • Fill Screened Top Soil

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Spring Clean-ups
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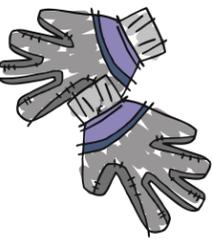
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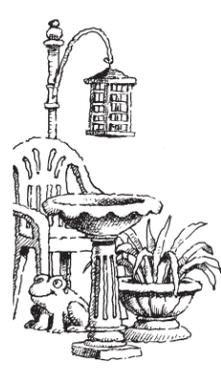
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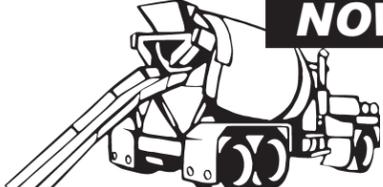
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TAG SALE FROM TWO HOUSEHOLDS- Sat., 9/18, 9-1. Rain date Sunday, 9/19. File cabinets, 1970's Tonka Trucks, exercise weights, tools, Melissa & Doug wooden toys, household items, home decor including Japanese, pet care. Corner of New London Tpke & Main Street, Glastonbury.

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3 STAGE 26 INCH CUB CADET SNOW BLOWER. Power steering, heated hand grips, like new. Call 860-295-0132

TAG SALE- 12 South Road, Marlborough, Saturday, Sept 18, 8-2. Early Birds welcome. A little of everything- something for everyone. Make offers- everything must go!

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TAG SALE - Saturday, Sept. 18 at 60 Stanavage Rd., Colchester. From 9 am to 5 pm.

END ROLLS OF NEWSPRINT. Great for art projects, wrapping and packing, table coverings for public dinners, etc. **The Glastonbury Citizen**, 87 Nutmeg Lane (off Oak Street). 633-4691.

14 cu. ft. UPRIGHT FREEZER. 7.5 ft pre-lit Christmas tree, Christmas and Halloween decorations, futon, frame, Cracker Barrel rocking chairs. 860-295-0292

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