



RIVEREAST

News Bulletin

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

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East Hampton's Chelsea Tartaglia is seeking a kidney after hers failed following complications with her pregnancy. A GoFundMe has been launched to help the family finance her journey to recovery. Born in March 2020, the baby entered the world just days before the pandemic shutdown.

Local Woman Could Wait 9 Years for Kidney

by Jack Lakowsky

Chelsea Tartaglia, who has lived in East Hampton since last year, had a career in nursing before her organs began to fail.

She was 27 weeks pregnant. An emergency cesarean section brought into the world her daughter, Payton, at not even three pounds.

"Now she's almost two, and doing really well," Tartaglia told the *Rivereast* in a Tuesday phone call. "She's a little spitfire."

Tartaglia's daughter was born in March 2020, right before the pandemic paralyzed the world.

Due to her ailments, Tartaglia hasn't worked since her daughter's birth.

"It all started when I was pregnant," she said. Tartaglia has had health struggles her whole life, but pregnancy pushed them over the edge. Payton's birth caused Tartaglia's current struggle, but the child is also what keeps Tartaglia motivated to get better, no matter how enormous that task may be.

Tartaglia experienced preeclampsia, a pregnancy complication characterized by high blood pressure and signs of organ damage, according to the Mayo Clinic. It usually begins after 20 weeks of pregnancy.

Delivering the baby is the most effective treatment, according to Mayo.

According to medlineplus.gov, preeclampsia is common throughout the world, occurring in 5% to 8% of pregnancies.

Tartaglia's preeclampsia then worsened, be-

coming Hemolysis, Elevated Liver enzymes and Low Platelets (HELLP) syndrome. According to preeclampsia.org, HELLP is a life-threatening variant of preeclampsia.

Unlike "standard" preeclampsia, HELLP is rare, affecting less than three in every 1,000 pregnancies, according to the March of Dimes website.

Tartaglia's maladies caused her to go blind. Following a surgery, and with ongoing treatment, her eyesight has recovered.

She also went into kidney failure, and is now on dialysis, a process in which the blood is cleaned because the kidneys no longer can serve the function. She's also been living with Type-1 diabetes since she was a teenager.

Tartaglia is on the waiting list for a kidney transplant. She was told it could take as long as nine years-unless someone volunteers one of their own.

According to kidney.org, most people wait an average of between three and five years for a kidney transplant.

"It's so stressful," Tartaglia said of languishing on the waiting list. "You never know when, or if, you're gonna get a call. The wait list is huge."

Tartaglia said receiving from a living donor is a far faster process than waiting for a deceased one.

Tartaglia has a type O blood type, the most common, and a universal donor. However, people with type O blood can only receive the same type of blood, or organs from a person with the same type.

See Local Woman page 2

School Board Chair Resigns

by Jack Lakowsky

According to a special meeting agenda of the East Hampton Board of Education, board chair Jim Radavich resigned his seat.

He was slated to serve until November 2023.

On Wednesday, Radavich told the *Rivereast* he resigned due to "differing opinions and thoughts" with his Republican colleagues on how to move the board forward.

"It was nothing negative, nothing bad," said Radavich.

Radavich said he's going to shift his focus to launching a local young Republican's club for high schoolers, one not sponsored by the schools.

Radavich said his ultimate goal with the group is to moderate debates. Not debates with local officials he said, but ones with state level leaders, state senators and reps.

"It's something I've always been interested in doing," Radavich said.

The board will elect a new chair on Jan. 10.

On Wednesday, Superintendent of East Hampton Schools Paul Smith said it's not uncommon for boards of education to choose their

vice-chair as chair in the event of a leadership vacancy.

The current vice-chair, Republican Christina Tammara-Dzagan, is now acting chair of the board.

The school board will conduct interviews on Jan. 27, according to the agenda, to fill the vacancy with a new member.

The move follows a *Rivereast* report on Radavich's effort to scrutinize how school district libraries select books.

Radavich did so after a parent complained a book about the first Chinese American woman to serve in the U.S. Air Force had an ulterior and "anti-American" motive and was inappropriate for his child.

The book was about Hazel Ying-Lee. She tested fighter planes during World War II. She died in the line of duty, in an accident.

Many board members criticized this as a move to censor the library's books. Radavich said he wanted to review the processes as he feels the board doesn't know enough about it. Most of Radavich's Republican party-mates

agreed with him.

Radavich told the *Rivereast* that by taking this issue up at the board level, he eschewed policy and said he was still "learning" board processes.

Parent complaints, by school policy, go from the ground-up- from teachers to principals to administrators and, if no solution is found by then, to the school board.

Whether the analysis of the library's selection will go forward without Radavich is unclear.

Smith said the board works best with members from diverse backgrounds. Businesspeople tend to work best at budgets, while members with experience in the field of law usually like to look at legal aspects of running a school district.

Smith added being a parent to a local student is "certainly a help," and also exemplified coaches as good candidates, as they work closely with kids.

"There's a real variety of backgrounds on our board," said Smith. "We never want a board of just the same person."

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Regional Schools 'Staying the Course' Amid COVID Surge

by Jack Lakowsky

The year has begun as its predecessor did. A surge of COVID-19, this time the Omicron variant, has case rates in Connecticut, and across the country, soaring.

Case positivity rates have broken records consistently the past few weeks, reaching as high as 24% on Tuesday.

The Chatham Health District is no exception. According to information from the district, there were 580 new COVID-19 cases between Dec. 12 and Dec. 30.

Chatham also includes East Hampton, Portland, Hebron, Marlborough, Colchester and East Haddam.

Last school year, schools local and nation-

★ Local Woman cont. from page 1

"If someone's a match for me, it basically trumps the waiting list," said Tartaglia.

The process is frustrating. Valid donor candidates make to the last stages of preparing to give Tartaglia a piece of themselves, only to be denied at the last minute for any number of reasons.

"The last person was almost in the clear," she said. "Then she got denied because she was going through a divorce and has young kids. She's my friend and we're going to help her with childcare and food, but that didn't matter I guess."

Tartaglia's also had a lifelong bout with gastroparesis, a condition that affects the normal movement of the stomach muscles, according to Mayo. Normally, strong muscle contractions propel food to the digestive tract.

Tartaglia's doesn't. She's frequently hospitalized for extreme vomiting.

The hardest part of dealing with all this, she said, is not having the energy to play with her toddler.

"It makes me so tired," Tartaglia said. "I have no energy for anything, it's why I can't work. I can't be on my feet longer than 10-15 minutes. The whole thing is so frustrating, especially with a young kid. You want to keep up with them, bring them to do things."

wide had to deal with fluctuating learning environments—whether in the classroom or at the kitchen table. In school board meetings last year, parents expressed the hardship having a child learning at home can cause.

In the fall, kids returned in-person, and have stayed there, mitigation protocols in place. According to Paul Smith, superintendent of East Hampton schools, and Charles Britton, superintendent of Portland schools, kids are going to stay in their classes.

Superintendents Scott Leslie of RHAM and Jeff Burt of Colchester schools each echoed their counterparts.

"We are staying the course," Smith told the

The pandemic, she said, has been very difficult for her.

"Before the pandemic and before everything happened, I was outgoing, hanging out with friends, doing stuff. Now I never leave the house except for doctor's appointments or grocery shopping."

But even at the grocery store, Tartaglia said, she needs someone to help her out.

She's also received mixed information from doctors about getting the COVID-19 vaccine, so for now, she's opted not to.

Help Tartaglia on her journey to recovery by visiting her GoFundMe at <https://GoFund.me/9e07e3d6> or by searching "Chelsea's kidney transplant" on the site.

The effort has raised about \$4,000 of its \$20,000 goal.

Tartaglia has joined Facebook groups with people trying to overcome similar obstacles. Her family is her best support, she said.

"They remind of all the good stuff," Tartaglia said. "Lots of times I kind of just want to give up, but then I remember I have a little one and simply can't do that. I try to be around for her. She and my family keep me going. One day, I know it'll all be better. Payton is my main motivation, the light at the end of my tunnel."

Rivereast Monday. "We're open, and we plan to stay open."

All superintendents said that on Tuesday, they would be getting from the state large shipments of COVID-19 testing kits and N95 masks. These supplies were expected last week, but a supply issue delayed the state's shipment.

After the *Rivereast* conducted interviews for this story, Gov. Ned Lamont announced the distribution of nearly 700,000 rapid self-tests for K-12 schools and early childcare providers.

Smith estimated East Hampton would get around 800 tests, accessible to staff and teachers if experiencing symptoms. Students can also get a test if they have symptoms though, Smith said, it's not a requirement.

"We're not curtailing anything," said Smith, adding athletics and activities like drama club are running full-swing, and participants are masked. Britton said the same.

Smith said this year, people are feeling different than they did at this time last year. Adding, with vaccines, people are more comfortable.

Like last year, said the superintendents, COVID-19 spread has been minimal in schools, attributed to mitigation tactics.

Smith said the Omicron variant does not seem to be affecting people as much as previous COVID-19 variants.

"I think people are calmer about it," said Smith. "We're still being cautious and recommending nothing but caution."

On Monday, the state shortened quarantine periods from 10 days to five. Smith and Britton said, if and when a student or staffer needs to quarantine, the shorter quarantine impacts them, and schools overall, less.

Vaccinated students and staff with COVID-19 symptoms should isolate at home, but can return to school with a negative test, if they are fever-free for 24 hours, and have improved symptoms, according to the state guidelines.

If schools have to close for any reason, namely a staff shortage due to spreading infection, it will be treated like a snow day, to be made up at the end of the school year, said Britton.

Smith said the state has made it clear it does not want any remote or hybrid learning. He said superintendents do not have the power to switch.

"[Remote or hybrid are] not in the cards at this time," said Smith.

Britton said there are only two ways by which schools can close due to COVID: either the governor shuts things down, or the number of absent prevents proper functioning of the buildings.

"So far, we've been lucky with staff," Burt said of Colchester schools in a Tuesday call.

Burt said Colchester schools are seeing a higher number of absentees than normal, and that a "significant" number of cases have occurred outside schools, with no in-school transmission detected.

Burt said this week, there were between 60 and 70 absent students. Burt said like last year, there's a case spike following the holidays—a time of gathering for most.

"It's more widespread than it was in the past," said Burt.

Colchester schools received 2,000 N95 masks this week. Burt said schools need to be judicious with how they distribute masks, as

there are roughly 2,000 kids in the district.

Burt said schools have heard no word on future shipments of masks and test kits.

"We're right in line with what everyone else is doing," said Superintendent Leslie of keeping RHAM students in the building.

Leslie said RHAM has made an effort to inform its families on how to get test kits, and on how to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

RHAM received far fewer N95s than Colchester, less than 400, enough to give one to each staff member, Leslie said.

Leslie said RHAM has redoubled on informing students on mitigation moves, such as how to properly wear masks. Leslie said mask compliance at RHAM is good.

Leslie and Burt both complimented the work of the Chatham Health District and of its director, Russel Melmed.

To parents feeling apprehension, Smith said Belltown schools haven't changed any safety measures since opening in the fall.

"We're still very cautious at lunches," Smith said for example. "Kids face one direction and sit three feet apart. There's been very little spread in school."

Smith said, though the district can't control spread in students' social lives, it can at least keep schools a safe place.

To the Portland school community, Britton said though he doesn't sugarcoat or tell people there's no risk, he "know[s] as fact there's been very little in-school transmission."

"Mitigation strategies, with masks and vaccines, are working and we haven't seen major outbreaks," said Britton, adding Portland schools are also receiving masks and test kits from the state.

"Our activities are still a-go," Britton continued. "As long as everyone exercises common sense, we'll be able to keep doing everything we're doing."

COVID-19 Land Use Policy

For all scheduled land use activities, such as soils testing and inspections, in district towns of East Hampton, East Haddam, Marlborough, Colchester, Hebron, and Portland, Chatham Health District is limiting the number of persons for on-site work to no more than two other people; although one other person besides the inspecting sanitation is preferred.

Tri-County American Legion Baseball

Registration is open for tryouts for Tri-County American Legion baseball program's 2022 summer teams.

Serious players who will be between 13 and 19 in 2022 – and who have a parent residing in Andover, Colchester, East Haddam, East Hampton, Hebron, Lebanon and Marlborough – are eligible. Tri-County is planning teams at all four levels of American Legion baseball – 19U, 17U, 15U and 13U.

Tryouts will begin in early February at some local indoor facilities, with the deadline to register Jan. 15, after which tryout dates and schedule will be finalized and shared.

Interested players should register at www.tcleague.com

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- Nancy in East Hampton



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From the Editor's Desk

Observations & Ruminations

COVID tried to take out the newspaper today, but we muddled through, sans a few sick and quarantining staff members and our editor Mike Thompson, who remains stranded in Alabama after three flight cancellations in as many days. Apparently, the pilots keep testing positive.

So, it would seem Omicron is just as contagious they say. But maybe it's not the end of the world. Maybe, as some infectious disease specialists are touting, it could finally be the end of the pandemic, a highly transmissible but mostly mild variant that leaves survivors with natural immunity.

Will the army of the masked finally set aside their face coverings and breathe the fresh air? A wild idea to be sure. Will sun catching crystals and air fresheners be revealed from beneath rearview mirrors once more as used masks are tossed in the trash and no longer left dangling in the wind? Will creepy masked drivers, sitting alone in their vehicles rip out their mouths and nostrils to the taste the air openly? I know it's terrifying for many of you, but did you notice that you were alone in the car? I'm always left to wonder whose germs these solitary drivers are afraid of. It's even more disturbing to see masked children sitting in faceless rows in classrooms or alighting from the school bus. As I stopped for a bus the other day, a little girl got out and before she crossed to her driveway and waiting mother and brother, she raised her mask back over her nose.

All I could think was, "You're free now. Take that suffocating thing off! Breathe!"

Will these youngsters, having grown accustomed to masks balk at removing them when there is no longer a need? Will they fear the fresh air? I pray not, but they are small, and it doesn't take long to develop a habit. What

other long-term effects will the masks deliver, I wonder.

As folks take to masking up more again, it seems more of them are opting for the N95, telling themselves the germs will surely stay out. Towns and schools are distributing them and the popularity of the handmade cloth mask is waning. Fashion designers are taking on N95s too. From Gucci to Louis Vuitton they are offering eye popping styles with which to cover noses and mouths.

I've never bought into the mask frenzy and I'd be caught barefoot in the snow before wearing a fashion mask – seems like capitulation to me. A rule breaker always, I'm that person who's wandering the store breathing freely. If you glare angrily at me, I may deign to lift my scarf over my face but more than likely, I'll return the expression and the scowl on my mouth will actually show. When I see people wearing masks, I envision mosquitos and a chain link fence. The bugs are getting through, make no mistake. People on both sides of that fence are going to be scratching at itchy bites.

I can only hope images of the masked will soon disappear and we'll once again see the faces of our friends, colleagues and fellow shoppers. Can you imagine actually getting a smile from someone as you take your place in line behind them? I'm sure I'm not alone in noticing that the masks – not to mention the social distancing – are serving as an excuse for people to stop connecting. Of late, at least in my experience, those momentary chats with a stranger as you wait to pay for groceries or search the empty shelves feverishly are further and farther between.

I won't even discuss vaccines. Well maybe for long enough to remember Mel Gibson in Braveheart in 1995, before he was beset with

controversy for being Anti-Semitic. Whenever the government overreaches as it is doing with vaccine mandates, I see him rallying the troops atop his horse yelling, "Freedom!!!"

Another thing I'm not buying is the rapid test.

The governor has announced he will distribute 700,000 of them to schools and early childcare providers. I simply can't imagine achieving any piece of mind from taking one of those. They're not exactly known for their efficacy. I know of someone who took three in a day and received a different result each time and someone else I've spoken to is going to take a loved one to a physician to get retested there after getting one negative and one positive result via a rapid test, so why bother? You don't really have an answer.

While we wait for Omicron to wipe out the virus, it seems folks are taking extra precautions again. More people are donning heretofore mentioned face masks as they wander

through the aisles of the grocery store. Town Halls and government buildings are asking folks to mask up again and senior centers are cancelling functions. In Andover, for example, all senior functions are on hold this month. Schools are closing in some areas, though not so far in any of our *Rivereast* towns. Many of the local churches, too, are returning to virtual services while others are chiding congregants to wear masks in the sanctuary and reminding them of new HVAC systems they have installed that circulate the air.

On the upside, quarantines are shorter now, per CDC, and people who test positive are being told to stay away from others for only five days, unless, of course, they have lingering symptoms.

Bottom line, it's not over yet, we're still waiting for the fat lady to sing.

Sloan Brewster

Assistant Editor, Reporter, Acting Editor

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

First Responder Thanks

To the Editor:

I want to thank all the first responders, EMS and fire department, and police officers for showing up so quickly to help me stay on this Earth. Everyone was so helpful and kind. I heard someone saying he was one of my customers on Barton Hill. I think that brought me to. Thank you. Also thank you to all my customers for their cards and well wishes. How grateful I am for having you all for so many years. I am working on getting back.

Happy healthy New Year to you all.

Gail Smith - Portland

Against Funding Complex

To the Editor:

I am against funding the \$50M Hebron Municipal Complex on the Horton property, which includes the unneeded new Public Works building. The rationale given by Mr. Larson, "that the employees deserve it," is not sound public policy. This new complex will take the Road to Nowhere, another public boondoggle, all the way to Kinney Road. This will cause more traffic congestion, destroy a hugely valuable town asset, and ruin the Hebron we love.

To pay for this scheme, taxes will be raised for decades to come (not this year, of course, the year of the referendum). Higher taxes for the town will mean our schools will be short-changed. High taxes, not zoning, is the predominant social justice issue in Hebron, preventing a new and more diverse population from moving to Hebron. If you are for more town spending, you are against schools and social justice. It is that simple.

To make matters worse, this plan is now being combined with an initiative for public-financed, subsidized housing on the Horton property. This proposal (see survey at hebronct.com) has

the unique effect of destroying our children's legacy, increasing social inequality and burying our history while having the taxpayers of Hebron foot the bill.

This is not first time this Board of Selectmen has wasted public money. Their misguided decision to buy the old library building, a pet project of one selectman, has cost the town over \$1M and counting. The Horton building, another selectman's hobby, is now an annual \$50K – \$100K budget line item. Huge tax abatements have been given to businesses that have required additional town infrastructure paid for by taxpayers. With this government, is it any surprise that the town lost six percent of its population in the last decade?

John Collins - Hebron

J6 - Coup

To the Editor:

The Republican Party attempted a coup on January 6, 2021. Donald Trump, the 45th President of the United States, in collusion with his team and current sitting members of Congress, deliberately attempted to overthrow the government of the United States and end democracy as we know it. The plot was premeditated, is ongoing, and includes active military personnel, some trained in psyops. They lied to millions of our neighbors, friends and family. They coor-

See Story, page 6

Correction

In last week's issue, Rose Aletta was listed as a member of the Marlborough Zoning Board of Appeals. Aletta is actually a member of the Portland Zoning Board of Appeals.

Bulletin Board

"You know how you suggested I should find something personally rewarding to occupy my idle hours?" I said to my wife as we entered the new year. "Well, I'm thinking about embarking on a second career as a spirit coach to the lost and confused."

"A spirit coach."

She said "spirit coach" kind of flatly, sort of like a parent might say "Really" to their teenage daughter who wanders in three hours after curfew with her sweater turned inside out and claims she'd been abducted by space aliens disguised as clowns and that her boyfriend could vouch for her story.

Like any self-respecting space alien would ever dress up like a clown. I mean, really.

"You sound less than enthusiastic about my proposed new venture," I said.

"No, I just don't want you to set yourself up for another disappointment. I remember the tepid public response when you tried to create your own religion with yourself as the primary deity."

"I'll admit donations weren't what I had hoped for," I observed. "I probably shouldn't have called for a plague of locusts to descend on your miserly uncle, however. I had no idea he had a weak heart."

"Verily, you could have been a bit more tactful. But tell me, what exactly is involved in being a spirit coach?"

"I would be sort of a morale booster to folks who could use a little encouragement."

"You?"

"I don't know why you sound so surprised."

"Well, no offense, Sweetie, but you've just spent the last three weeks wandering around the house muttering about the hypocrisy of the holidays and concocting recipes for reindeer steaks. Some of us might view you more as the agitator organizing a 'jump!' chant when some poor soul is standing on a window ledge than as a unicorn and rainbows guy."

"That's just the hard shell I've erected to protect my sensitive inner self against the cruel vagaries of an uncaring world."

"Ah. So this business of calling down vile curses on various U.S. congressmen and other politicians is just a charade?"

"No. I actually mean that. Being a spirit coach doesn't mean losing complete touch with reality."

"I see. And you think this new you will feel personally rewarded by helping people to cope with the world?"

"I do. Plus there will be the exorbitant fees I will charge for my services."

"Right. How silly of me."

"I mean, you can't expect me to rescue humanity for free."

"No. Of course not."

"So what do you think?"

"I think the suicide rate is probably high enough already without your personal assistance."

"Hey, you're the one who said I might consider doing something on behalf of the community."

"Yes, but I was thinking more along the lines of adopting a stretch of scenic roadway and picking up litter or something. Something that doesn't bring you into direct contact with the general public."

"Like professional hermit."

"Try to think of it as a community service."

Jim Hallas

Rivereast Hours of Operation

The offices of the *Rivereast News Bulletin* and *Glastonbury Citizen*, located at 87 Nutmeg Lane, Glastonbury, are open Monday through Wednesday, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., and Thursday from 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. The *Rivereast* can be reached any time via email at bulletin@glcitizen.com.

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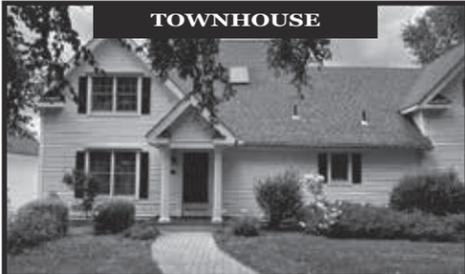
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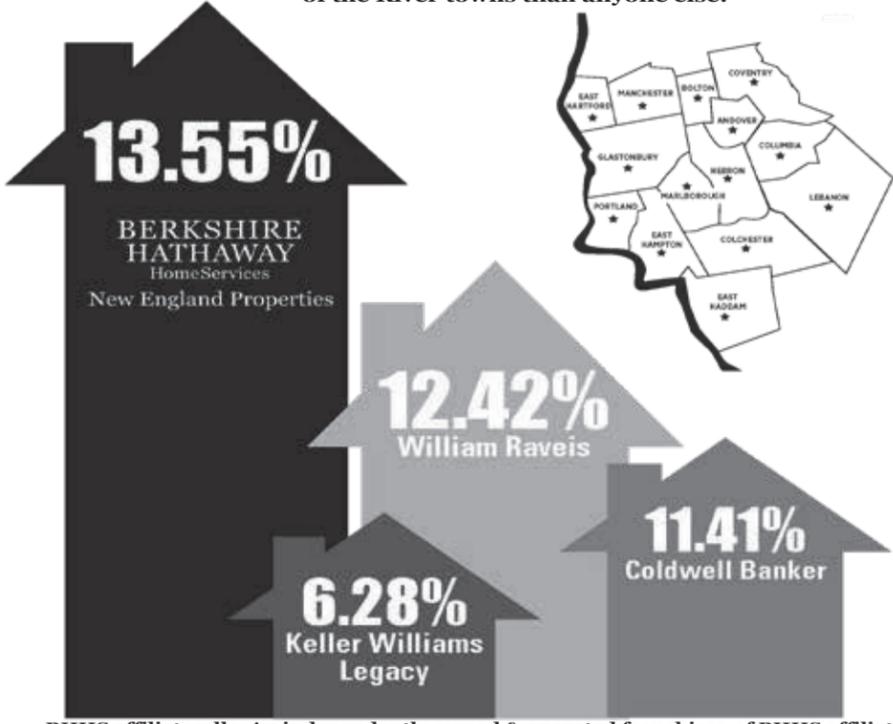
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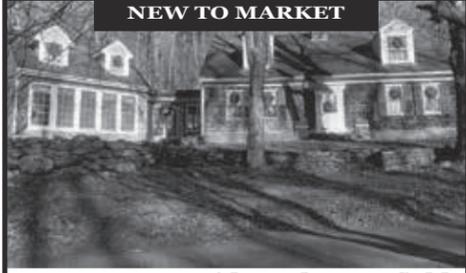
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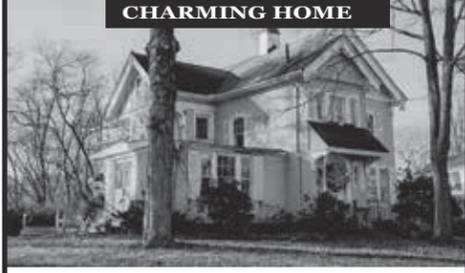
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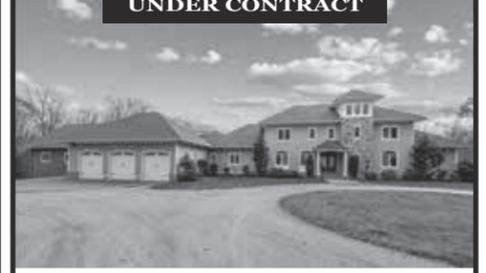
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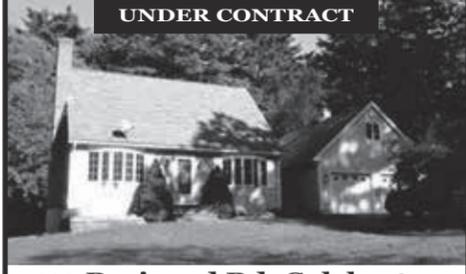
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Fred Martins 860-841-9333



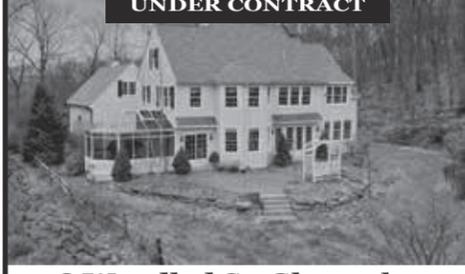
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Yola Feery 860-306-6553



UNDER CONTRACT

113 Brainard Rd, Colchester
Kellee Smith 860-373-8849



UNDER CONTRACT

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Michelle Collins 860-982-4984



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193 Carriage Dr, Glastonbury
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Corrie Brindamour 860-227-4347

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★ Letters cont. from page 4

minated with Trump media to deceive their followers and continue to do so. MAGA terrorists broke into the Capitol and tried to kill members of Congress and the executive branch. They were after the chain of command. I watched in horror as they killed an officer with an American flag and put a noose in front of the Capitol in order to hang Mike Pence. Justice is coming.
Annie Steinbrecher - Marlborough

additional information, contact Commander Joe @ 203-848-5913.
Again, if the funding is positive this year, consider contributing to the Scholarship fund. Enjoy a healthy and safe 2022.
Respectfully submitted for the Commander of Hebron, American Legion, Post 95.
RAM R. A. Bob Mangillo, Hebron, American Legion, Post 95, Adjutant

Have a Healthy and Safe 2022

To the People of Hebron:
The Commander of Hebron, American Legion, and the Commander of the Hebron V.F.W., the respective executive committees, the S.A.L., the Auxiliary, and the entire veteran contingent, extend a message of health, and safety for this 2022.
Informational, a shout-out, to all of the friends, and businesses of whom donated/contributed to the Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament, and for of the participants in taking part in experiencing the fundraising functions, i.e., Famous Legion Burgers, V.F.W. meals, the S.A.L. grinder fund raiser and other Hebron area veteran fundraising functions.
It is greatly appreciated, and just a note of information, the golf scholarship outing will be in September of 2022, and other annual functions will be available.
Additionally, the American Legion Hall is available for gathering functions, parties, awards, and like functions for a nominal fee, for

RHAM Records
To the Editor:
Thanks to Josh Howard for his November 26th piece on the recent changing of the athletic guard in RHAM running. It got me thinking. When senior Eric Cloutier set the boys cross country record in 1988 running the 5K in an impressive 16:43, did he think it would stand for a good long while? Or, did he know then freshman Mike Judenis was coming?
From 1991 to 1992, Mike Judenis set multiple school records in indoor track and field for the 800M, 1600M, and the high jump. And, he bettered Cloutier's cross country feat by 14 seconds, taking hold of the school record at 16:29. A record that stood until Liam Calhoun ran just a bit faster this past fall.
None of us know how long the senior from Andover will hold the boys record. Nor, frankly, how many records he will accumulate. But, you've got to like a guy who's confident his kid sister will one day own the bragging rights as RHAM's fastest runner ever!
Tim Fellman - Hebron

More Questions

To the Editor:
The Rivereast's December 24th article exposed Colchester's First Selectman's decision to circumvent the Board of Selectman and violate the Town Charter to hire a questionable attorney to represent town employee defendants in the Taras-Rudko election recount lawsuit. At the December 16th BOS meeting Andreas Bisbikos was questioned on this decision. He was notified in a subsequent email of the Charter requirement to present any further deliberations between the parties of the lawsuit before the BOS for approval prior to a final agreement. Again, Andreas ignored the Town Charter and BOS requests and had the case expedited. He agreed to a settlement that gives in to unreasonable demands without any notification to the BOS and even more amazingly, without notification to the named defendants.
NONE of the defendants were questioned by the lawyer hired by the First Selectman. Though the town clerk has documented evidence that six of the seven "dead" voters are alive, and that the other didn't vote, she was never asked for this evidence. Taras claims harm by not being notified of the recount, but both Republican and Democratic testimony confirm his attendance. There are even photos of him at the recount. None of this was presented to or by this law firm.
If this firm was representing the best interest of the town, why were none of the defendants questioned? Why rush for a settlement before BOS review? Why was an ethically-challenged

law firm that just rolled over in this case chosen? Why wasn't the election moderator or the Democratic registrar named in the suit, but the town clerk from the opposing party who is up for reelection in two years and has a very limited role in elections or recounts named? These questions need to be answered. I fear we may not like the answers.
Mike Egan - Colchester

Never-Ending Variants

To the Editor:
With the holidays behind us the powers that be are again ramping up their hysteria regarding COVID's newest variant - Omicron. Rapid testing is going strong but the CDC has stricken its use of the PCR test as of the New Year, finally admitting that the test cannot distinguish COVID from influenza or pneumonia. This is important, as so much of our public policy regarding COVID is informed by the results of these tests. Whereas a normal flu season averages 29,000,000 cases the 2020-2021 flu season only recorded 1675 cases...in the entire country. The PCR tests reportedly had upwards of a 90% false positive rate for COVID (NYT). The new rapid antigen tests are said to be "not as accurate as the PCR tests"...so who knows what the incidences of false positives from these tests may be. It's really anyone's guess and no one in power is asking hard questions. Coupled with the fact that the vast majority of these tests are being manufactured in China, the American public should be very hesitant about believing any statistical data regarding testing numbers.

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We are told that our positivity rates are exploding, which can be attributed to several things, a surge in testing, an increase in false positives from faulty tests, and the dumping of multiple days' worth of data following the holidays, when the bean counters were on vacation.

Omicron is also said to completely evade the jabs, but for some reason the professionals in the public health sector keep telling people to get boosted...which is further compromising your bodies' innate ability to fight off infections. The White House tweeted videos of an a capella group and a bunch of dancing nurses singing Christmas carols telling you to get another jab. It's an upside down world we live in.

Lastly, a joke to end on...what do the vaccinated and the unvaccinated have in common? They will both never be "fully vaccinated".

Colin McNamara - Marlborough

the New Year" baking & cooking spice drive, with Bethlehem Lutheran Church, to benefit East Hampton and Marlborough Food Banks.

We look forward to the new and unique ideas that will come alive in 2022! Thank you for being on this journey with us, as our groups begin its fifth year spreading kindness in East Hampton. The world needs it now more than ever.

**Sincerely,
Amie Meacham
Kindness with Kids**

A Dangerous Precedent

To the Editor:

As a former history teacher I can tell you that banning books because they may deal with uncomfortable subjects is not only dangerous, but also irresponsible. Why? Here are some examples of what I experienced during my time teaching history PRIOR to 2016: Swastikas drawn on arms, desks, and notebooks. Once even being painted on a school building. Students calling other students Jews-and not in a polite way. Students denying the holocaust took place and others saying Muslims should have been put into internment camps like the Japanese were. I even had a student give the Nazi salute in class. And after 9/11 it took a lot to break Muslim stereotypes.

Let me be clear here, I did not blame them. They were young teenagers and had very little knowledge of such things. Teaching them just what fascism and racism was/is was my job as

their teacher.

I did this in part through primary sources such as books. Books such as "Farewell to Manzanar" and some from my own selections on Western Europe. Thus they learned about concentration and death camps, as well as the extermination squads and the German-American Bund-from the actual time period.

If Texas is any indication of where we might be going the precedent worries me greatly. These are things they NEED to know.

The examples I have given should be reminders of what will happen when books, and the unsettling things they bring up, are banned. We do future generations a great disservice by not teaching them about racism, fascism, ignorance, and fear - Not to mention forgetting the cost in defeating such things.

A World War 1 veteran by the name of Frank Biddle once said: We have no right to forget. And we DO NOT!

Erik Dill - East Hampton

Rosenbloom to Perform

To the Editor:

On the second Wednesday of every month, the Donald Oat Theater in Norwich hosts a blues performer. This January 12 will be especially great because Seth Rosenbloom will be performing. He is well-known in the blues world and although you may never have heard of him, he is truly fantastic. Check him out on Youtube and you will agree. The drummer for

the show, Livu Pop, is also a wonderful musician as well. He just got back from touring Europe and is a talented and versatile performer. I discovered this second Wednesday night couple of years ago and I've never seen a bad show! Look up the details at norwicharts.org. Ticket prices are very reasonable. The theater is small and intimate, that being said there is a good ventilation system. Personally I know I have to be careful but some things in life are worth taking risk for! There is definitely one of them! If his is your first time attending this venue and you say you saw this article in the Rivereast, I will buy you a beer or soda at the concession stand. See you there!

Steve Friedberg - Colchester

Chatham Health to Distribute Radon Test Kits

January is Radon Awareness Month. The Chatham Health District is offering a limited number of free radon test kits from the Connecticut State Health Department, while supplies last. One test kit is available per residence for those living within the district. Once the test is complete, mail the kit in for analysis at no charge. The results will be sent to you and will not be public information. If you are interested in a test kit, please call 860-365-0884.

Thanks from Kindness with Kids

To the Editor:

On behalf of Kindness with Kids, I would like to thank everyone who supported our kindness mission in 2021! Another year of service during a pandemic; we were caught off-guard, like many others. We had to be creative and safe with the outreach projects that we planned last year, but the support from this community never waned!

A few of our most impactful projects include:

- The completion and installation of the Free Little Pantry at KOCO, after being delayed almost a year!
- The creation and management of the Free Little Craft Pantry in the Children's Department, at East Hampton Public Library over the summer. (As usual, the staff was amazing with their support!)
- Raising birthday donations to purchase Colors of the World crayons for the classrooms at both elementary schools in town.
- Ending the year with a successful "Spice Up

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Bacon Basketball Splits with New London

by Josh Howard

Bacon Academy girls' basketball rallied to defeat New London 53-45 on Jan. 3, improving to 7-1.

It was the first game for the Raptors since they suffered their first loss of the season, a 50-38 defeat against E.O. Smith.

Junior Marissa Nudd was again spectacular, leading the team with 21 points and cementing the contest by hitting all four of her free throws in the closing minute.

It was a dominant defensive effort that ultimately made the difference. After trailing 32-27 at the half, Bacon Academy clamped down and limited the home Whalers to only 13 second-half points on 3 of 20 shooting.

Trailing 42-41 early in the fourth, Ashley Lizotte and Valerie Luizzi hit consecutive three-pointers, giving the road Raptors the lead for good with three minutes left.

Luizzi finished with 14 points and senior Emma Mancuso posted a double-double, ten

points and ten rebounds.

Serenity Lancaster scored a team-high 17 and Olivia Goode added 15 for New London, who fell to 5-2.

New London got revenge the following day when boys' basketball handed Bacon Academy a home loss.

Rhodie Perry scored a game-high 30 points and Savahn Warren added 20 for the Whalers, who earned their third consecutive win.

New London exploded for 28 points in the second quarter to take a 38-22 halftime lead and never looked back.

Sam Blumberger scored a team-high 18 points, while Matt Lizotte (13) and Ryan Claffey (10) both scored in double figures for the Raptors, who fell to 3-3.

The boys will look to bounce back on Friday, Jan. 7 when they are scheduled to host Ledyard at 7 p.m.

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: Sundays 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.

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.

Ahavath Achim News

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

Friday Night Service, 7 p.m., Zoom; Shabbat morning Hybrid Service, 10 a.m.; Tuesday, Talmud class, 6:30 p.m., and Kabbalah class, 8 p.m. via Zoom.

There are daily Facebook live classes on Ken Alter Facebook on the meaning of our mitzvot (commandments).

Coming soon: Conversational Hebrew. 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.

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.

Parks and Rec. News

Colchester Parks and Recreation has announced the following. For more information or full program descriptions, and to register, call 860-537-7297 or visit www.colchesterct.gov/recreation-department.

2021 Holiday Ornaments: Ornaments are \$6 each and can be purchased at Town Hall Monday-Friday, between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Pickleball: Wednesdays, Jan. 5-March 30, from 7-9 p.m. each week, at the Jack Jackter Intermediate School gym. One court will be reserved for beginners to learn the sport from 7-8 p.m. with the help of more advanced players. The remaining courts will be open for use by intermediate to advanced players. Depending on the number of people registered and their skill level, this could change from week to week. The program is open to anyone ages 16 and older. There is a minimum of 10 players required and a maximum of 40. Cost is \$99 for residents and \$104 for non-residents. Register online.

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.

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.

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Free C3 Monthly Workshops

C3, the Collaborative for Colchester's Children, is offering several new, free programs for families in January, including Monthly Conscious Discipline Workshop, Joyful Noises Play & Learn Group, Stroller Walk on the Airline Trail, Dad's Class on Communication and Listening. To register or learn more, go to ColchesterC3.org.

Westchester Church News

Westchester Congregational Church, 98 Cemetery Rd., holds worship 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 westchesterconchurch.org for login information.

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

For more information, email westconchurch@gmail.com, visit the church website, or look for the church on Facebook.

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CYSS News and Notes

Colchester Youth and Social Services has announced the following. For full program descriptions or more information, contact CYSS at 860-537-7255 or youths@colchesterct.gov. Register for programs online at www.colchesterct.gov/youth-social-services.

Youth Action Council: Thursdays, 2:15-4 p.m., for grades 7-12. As a member of the council, students will have the opportunity to engage with town leaders, travel to regional conferences, create activities for teens, and more. Register online.

Half Day Hooray: For children in grades K-5. On professional development-shortened days, Half Day Hooray takes place right at the child's school and includes STEAM-related performances, hands-on activities, take-home

crafts and more. Each session is \$10. Register online. Schedule is: Jan. 14: Winter Wonderland; Feb. 18: Funky February; March 24: March Madness; May 27: Last Blast.

Youth Center Activities – Drop-In: 2-4 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, for grades 6-8. During Drop-In, kids can have a snack, read/do homework, play pool, air hockey, video games or basketball, work on crafts, and more. Students will receive instructions for online registration at their first visit; they must be registered online to attend again.

After School Adventures: Tuesdays, 2-4 p.m., through the end of the school year. Grades 6-8 are invited to the Youth Center after school for fun activities and even some trips.

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. Items marked with a (Z) are held via Zoom.

Upcoming Programs: Zentangle Workshop: Fridays, Jan. 7-28, 10 a.m. Instructor Jamilah Zebarth will lead this four-week workshop. Cost is \$25 and includes materials. Registration is limited.

Prevent Accidental Poisonings at Home: Wednesday, Jan. 12, 10 a.m. Robert Kanehl, Community Based Education Specialist for the Connecticut Poison Control Center, will teach about the role the center plays in the community. Robert will also be sharing important infor-

mation on how to protect from accidental poisoning at home. This is a free program, please pre-register by January 10th.

Welcome The New Year With A Bang! Special Luncheon: Wednesday, Jan. 19, 11 a.m. Take part in an interactive and hilarious group drumming party with Bob Bloom. Bob's unique program incorporates music, education and fun in a wild party that is unforgettable. The jam session will be followed by a lunch of meat lasagna, green beans, yellow squash, dinner roll & margarine, pudding and apple juice, provided by TVCCA. Tickets are *\$9. Please register by January 12th. *Prices for special events are being raised by \$1.00 in 2022 due to increasing cost of entertainment.

Pedestrian Killed on Route 6

by Jack Lakowsky

A 43-year-old Vernon man was crossing Route 6 near Hickory Hill Drive when a car struck him, according to police.

Todd Uriano was brought to Windham Hospital, where he was declared dead, according to police.

Why Uriano crossed the road is unknown, according to the police report.

The vehicle, an Audi, was driving east-bound when it struck Uriano, according to police. The vehicle's two occupants, one a minor, reported no injuries. The vehicle was towed due to disabling damage.

The incident remains under investigation. Witnesses can call Connecticut State Police Troop K at 860-465-5400.

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.

Senior Events Cancelled: All senior events including meetings, movies and luncheons are canceled for January with the hope of reopening in February. The seniors will be holding its annual fundraiser in the AES gym on Sunday, February 6 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. To volunteer to bake for the senior's bake table contact Palazzi at 860-916-6122.

Limited COVID Testing Kits: Andover has a very limited supply of COVID testing kits. Anyone who suspects they have been in contact with a person who has tested positive or who is not feeling well, may be able to receive a test kit

from Town Hall.

Manchester Shopping: Tuesday, January 11. Call Palazzi for a ride. Temperatures will be taken before entering bus. Masks required on bus and in stores. Please stay safe.

Handicapped Equipment: If anyone needs equipment such as wheelchairs, walkers or ramps, call Palazzi.

Rides to all town events, town meetings, referendums, or board meetings and all medical appointments available by calling Palazzi. All seniors, veterans and 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.

Young At Heart Activities Cancelled

Due to rising COVID concerns, Young At Heart Activities have been cancelled for the month of January. There will be no YAH meetings on Jan. 19. The potluck lunch will be rescheduled for another month and date, as will other planned activities. An updated Silver Lining newsletter will be issued at the end of January. Call Sue Schmidt at 860 604-1057 or YAH president Judy Knox at 860 643-6824 with any questions.

Senior Center Fundraiser

Andover Seniors will be holding their annual fundraiser on Sunday, February 6th at the Andover Elementary Gym from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. All money raised supports the luncheon program. We are looking for bakers for our bake table and vendors. If you can help please contact Cathy Palazzi, Senior Coordinator at 860-916-6122 or nanas-world@comcast.net.

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Congregational Church News & Notes

Sunday worship and programs at the Marlborough Congregational Church are suspended until January 16 with in-person and live stream worship resuming on January 23. The Sunday worship service will continue to broadcast live every Sunday at 10 a.m. through the church website mcc.marlconchurch.org.

Sunday School: A message for the children from Christian Education Director, Gwen Lawson, will be livestreamed at 11 a.m. January 9 and 16. In-person Sunday School will resume on January 23.

Mission Support in January will go to the Marlborough Food Bank. Donations to missions or for any other giving may be sent to the church at P.O. Box 57, Marlborough, CT 06447. Mission Support in January will go to

the Marlborough Food Bank. 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.

AA: Meets downstairs in the Great Hall Wednesdays with two meetings, noon and 7:30 p.m.

Second Blessings Thrift Shop will re-open Friday, Feb. 4 at noon with new merchandise for spring. Second Blessings sells year-round through eBay at <https://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.

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, 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 or email at stjohnfisher30@yahoo.com.

COVID-19 Protocol: For the fully vaccinated, masks are optional. For the unvaccinated, masks are required. Call the office for more information.

Weekend Masses: 4 p.m. Saturday and 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday. All are welcome. Week-day Mass: Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.

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

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. Seasonal outreach to include the Community Garden to benefit the Marlborough Food Bank and various giving programs to support area organizations continue. Other scheduled service opportunities can be found on the church website, www.stjfcchurch.org.

Other Programs and Offerings: For more information on such programs as faith formation for children, youth and adults, 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).

Police News

Sarah Espada, of Windsor, was charged on Dec. 30, 2021, with driving under the influence of alcohol/drugs after her car allegedly left the roadway and entered, and remained in, the grassy median. No injuries were reported. She will be arraigned in Manchester court on Jan. 31.

On Jan. 1, Lexi Bell of Stafford allegedly evaded the scene of a crash. Police said Bell's vehicle left the road, hit the guardrail, then went down the embankment until hitting a tree. Minor injuries are "suspected," police said.



'Ramblin' Dan Stevens to Perform @ Arts Center

The Marlborough Arts Center hosts "Ramblin' Dan Stevens for its first fourth Friday @ the Arts Café of the year on Jan. 28, 2022 at 231 North Main Street in Marlborough CT. "Ramblin' Dan Stevens performs an eclectic mix of traditional finger-style blues, popular songs and originals, and has entertained audiences throughout the USA, Germany, UK, Canada, and Virgin Islands. Of special interest is his unique style of "bottleneck" slide playing popularized by the early Mississippi Delta bluesmen including his use of a home-made, three-stringed "Cigar Box Guitar" and

one-stringed "Diddly Bow," both primitive blues instruments. As a finalist in the International Blues Challenge '08 on Beale Street in Memphis, TN, and protégé of the legendary Dave Van Ronk, Dan has been lauded for his ability as a raconteur and for the authenticity of his approach gained by many years on the road as a traveling blues musician.

Admission is \$10/person at the door. Doors open at 7 p.m. The show starts at 7:30 p.m. Masks are required and chairs will be set up for social distancing. There is ample parking and the Arts Center is fully accessible.

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.-4 p.m.

Meet Polly the Penguin: Polly the Penguin is new to Marlborough and has been visiting the library. She gets a little curious at night when staff go home and goes exploring, oftentimes getting lost. From now through February, kids are invited to help find Polly. Each Monday she will move to a new location. If you find her, you'll earn a prize.

RHAM • RHAM

RHAM Youth Lacrosse Spring Registration Open

RHAM Youth Lacrosse registration is now open for our 2022 spring season. There are programs for boys and girls in grades K-8. Visit the website www.rhamyouthlacrosse.com for more information and to sign up. RHAM Youth Lacrosse is open to players that reside in Hebron, Marlborough, Andover and other local towns that do not offer a youth lacrosse program.

Information night will be Thursday, Jan. 20 from 6-7 p.m. at Gilead Hill School in Hebron. Board members and coaches will have information regarding the spring season, teams, uniform sizes and equipment needed to play. Visit the website to register for the spring season on or before Jan. 31 to avoid deadlines and late fees. Email any questions to ascibek@gmail.com.

'Around the Worlds' Founder to Present

The SOAR Youth Group is inviting RHAM High School and RHAM Middle School students to a presentation given by Stephen Schirra, who will talk about his amazing non-profit Around the Worlds and his own personal journey that led to its creation. Presentation will be at RHAM High School on Wednesday, January 19 from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. at no cost to the students. To register visit www.ahmyouth.org >Prevention>SOAR Youth Group, scroll to bottom for registration button.

At the end of the presentation all in attendance will sign/decorate soccer balls for Mr. Schirra to take to his next soccer clinic – somewhere in the world!

SOAR is a youth group for RHAM High School and Middle School students who embrace positivity and strive to make a positive impact among their peers in the school and within the community. AHM Youth & Family Services in partnership with RHAM High School leads this group. Upcoming 2022 mini-fundraisers are being planned now. If there's a RHAM MS or HS student who would be a good fit for this youth group please have them email Mrs. Boehler at jenniferb@ahmyouth.org or Aly Hoagland at alysse.hoagland@rham-schools.org.

Senior Center News & Notes

Marlborough Senior Center, 17 School Dr., is open for activities. Call 860-295-6209 for the center's hours and more information. The senior center has 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. Assistance is offered each day from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

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.

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Meditation at Marlborough Arts Center

On Thursday, January 20, from 7-8 p.m., the Marlborough Arts Center at 231 North Main Street in Marlborough Ct is offering an introduction to the benefits of meditation, led by Chuck Shad, an experienced teacher of mindfulness through meditation. In this introduction we will learn how we can better relax, create a positive way of thinking, and use mindfulness techniques that can help reduce stress throughout the day. This informative and interactive hour is free of charge. Come and see if you like it. Masks and social distancing will be required.

Marlborough Arts Seeks Donations for Tag Sale

The Marlborough Arts Center, located at 231 North Main Street, is accepting donations for its Winter Tag Sale.

Donations will be accepted Tuesdays, Jan. 11, 18, 25, and Feb. 1 from 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m.; Saturdays, Jan. 8, 15, 22, 29 from 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Items may be left at the lower level next to the door. Working household goods will be accepted but no books, TVs, or clothes.

The Winter Tag sale will be held Saturday, Feb 5, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.; snow date: Saturday, Feb. 12.

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EHACC Accepting Capstone Grant Applications

The East Hampton Arts & Culture Commission is accepting applications from East Hampton High School Juniors and Seniors for \$250 grants to support two East Hampton High School Capstone Projects.

The grants will help support two student's proposed Capstone Project, a multifaceted assignment that serves as a culminating academic and intellectual experience for students. Capstone projects may take a wide variety of forms including a long-term investigative project that culminates in a final product, presentation, or

performance.

Applicants for the EHACC Capstone Grant will be invited to present his/her Capstone Project idea to commission members during an agreed upon commission meeting. Deadline to apply is Feb. 1.

Applications are available at www.artsforeasthamptonct.org and can be submitted to arts@easthamptonct.org or can be mailed/dropped off at the town manager's office at the East Hampton Town Hall.

Residents Artwork on Display in Town Hall

Carole Jeffries will be exhibiting her artwork in the East Hampton Town Hall Gallery during the month of Jan.. Jeffries has painted in oils since a child and extensively since retirement. She studied and attended workshops with many outstanding local and regional artists and earned prizes in many local shows.

Having lived in Connecticut most of her life, Jeffries is very aware of the many varied landscapes close to home that have provided subjects for her colorful paintings, done both from photographs and Plein Aire. She also paints portraits of pets (and people) on commission. Her paintings hang in private collections in several states and can be viewed in many local businesses.



Artwork by local artist Carol Jefferies.

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Middlesex Hospital Vocal Chords Looking for Singers

The Middlesex Hospital Vocal Chords has many members who love to sing and cannot read music. No auditions necessary. Rehearsals every Tuesday night. New members in voice parts alto, tenors and basses are especially welcome. Proof of COVID-19 vaccination required.

Rehearsals start Tuesday, Feb. 1st at 6:45 p.m. at St. Francis Church, Msgr. Fox Parish Hall, 10 Elm St. Middletown, in preparation for the spring concert on May 7 at Portland High School at 7 p.m. Samuel Tucker, music teacher and choral director at Portland High School, is the new Music Director. Tucker brings choral experience to his first season as Music Director

of the Middlesex Hospital Vocal Chords. Proceeds from concerts are given back to the community in the form of scholarships bestowed upon high school seniors from Middlesex County who are pursuing a career in nursing or music. To date, a total of \$76,000 has been awarded. The Vocal Chords also sing at various community activities, such as the annual Hospice Service at Mercy High School and the Veterans Day Dinner at Portland High School. For more information, visit www.vocalchords20.org, check them out on Facebook (Middlesex Hospital Vocal Chords) and Instagram (mhvocalchords) or call Joyce (860-342-3120) or Diane (860-347-2787).

Hope Church to Host Night to Shine 2022

Hope Church will be a host of Night to Shine 2022, sponsored by the Tim Tebow Foundation. The unforgettable prom night experience, centered on God's love, celebrating people with special needs will be held by host churches around the world simultaneously on Friday, Feb. 11 through a unique 'Shine Thru' drive-thru event followed by an online event later in the evening.

Due to the global circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the safety of every honored guests with special needs, Night to Shine 2022 will be offered as an unforgettable drive-thru and virtual experience. This unique event will be complete with all of the treasured prom elements, as every guest will get to enjoy music, dancing, prom favors,

messages from special guests. Each guest will be crowned prom king or queen. Drive-thru at Hope Church parking lot will begin at 4 p.m. on Feb. 11, when guests will pick up their prom kits and visit prom stations from their car to get ready for the big night at home.

For additional information on the Night to Shine hosted by Hope Church, including how to register to participate, visit cthope.com/nts. Deadline for guest registration is Jan. 11. Volunteer registration is ongoing and can be found at that link as well.

For more information on the worldwide movement of Night to Shine, sponsored by the Tim Tebow Foundation, visit: www.timtebowfoundation.org.

Vocal Chords Awarding Scholarships

The Executive Board of the Middlesex Hospital Vocal Chords is requesting applications for its annual scholarships to be awarded to students from Middlesex County, who have been accepted at an accredited college or university and are pursuing a career in nursing or music. The review committee will consider academic records, extracurricular and community service activities, the student's ability to articulate

his/her career goals and the recommendations of references. The \$1,000 scholarships will be paid directly to the recipients at the Spring Concert at Portland High School, Saturday May 7, 7 p.m. at Portland High School. Applications are available at the school guidance office or by calling Dianne at 860-344-0743. Deadline is Tuesday March 8. Visit us on the web at vocalchords20.org for more information.

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Bellringers Basketball Growing Up Quickly

by Josh Howard

East Hampton girls head coach Shaun Russell was impressed with how his young squad responded during a 44-38 win over Cromwell at EHHS on Dec. 28.

Russell's team had just been limited to two points in the entire third quarter, digging themselves a seven-point deficit going into the final frame.

That's when a flipped switch for the home team, particularly Jackie Russell who scored 15 of her game-high 24 points in the final quarter, to spark a comeback over their conference rivals.

"In the fourth quarter they saw the ball go through the net and that picked us up. Jackie made some really big shots tonight and I thought the other kids played their roles tonight," Coach Russell said. "It's a really good team win and now we can focus on some of the things we need to work on."

Coach Russell's starting line-up consists of a freshman, three sophomores, and a junior. The entire roster consists of only two seniors, but that hasn't stopped the Bellringers from excelling early in the season

The win over Cromwell improved the team to 4-1 and handed the Panthers their first loss of the season.

The evenly-matched teams battled to a 7-7 tie after the first quarter and the home Bellringers took a one-point lead into the halftime break.

Following a stagnant third, the maturation of the team was evident during the fourth quarter turnaround.

"We got good shots in the third quarter. We had five or six wide open looks and just didn't knock them down. During the quarter break we

discussed staying with it and being positive about it because the shots we were getting were the shots we were seeking," recalled Russell. "In the fourth, we got some transition opportunities and that helps us because we need to find some opportunities to get some easier shots and I thought defensively we were tremendous all night. We rebounded the ball so well, which we need to do to compete with a team like that."

Jackie Russell provided the offensive fireworks, nailing seven three-point shots, including four during a two-minute stretch early in the fourth. The sophomore's personal 12-point provided the Bellringers the lead for good at 33-27.

"I feel like the team is blending really well right now and I feel like we do have that chemistry," added Jackie Russell. "It's easier to get through these games when we have everyone's back and everyone's support."

Freshman Liana Salamone scored 12 points, including five in the final frame. She hit three clutch free throws after Cromwell cut the deficit to a single point midway through the fourth.

"Liana was very steady tonight. On the court, she has a certain basketball IQ that is probably ahead of what you might see out of a ninth grader," Coach Russell said. "She had a few possessions where she looked a little rattled, so we took her out and calmed her down and she got right back in there and picked it up. You don't want to take her aggressiveness away from her because that is what dictates her mindset on both ends of the court."

Along with Salamone, sophomore's Jackie Russell, Delaney Russell, and Amber Murphy are all starting.

Jackie Russell said the sophomore group knew



East Hampton freshman Liana Salamone looks to attack against Cromwell's Camryn Hickey during the Bellringers' 44-38 victory on Dec. 28

Salamone would make a big impact this year because they had all played with her in middle school.

Jordan Murphy, a junior who scored seven points, is the team's oldest starter. She was tasked with guarding Cromwell's leading scorer, Nevaeh Clarke, who was coming off a season-high 20 points in a win over Pomperaug. Murphy limited Clarke to 11 points and grabbed a pair of key offensive rebounds, which she converted into three points in the final minute of regulation.

Coach Russell praised Murphy's efforts and the team's willingness to do the little things, "Coming into the game it was about defense, rebounding, and taking care of the ball, and I thought we did a good job at that and we survived a third

quarter that was pretty sluggish."

The balanced line-up gives the veteran coach plenty of flexibility and upside for this season and beyond.

Jackie Russell believes the team is just starting to figure out how good it can be, "We've had a chemistry since we were younger playing together and we tried really hard at practice. We just have to keep working towards playing like we are on a string together."

Following a long layoff, the Bellringers play the next two away from home, at North Branford on Jan. 7 and at Hale Ray on Jan. 11. Both road games tip at 7 p.m. They return to EHHS for a date with Coganchoag on Friday, Jan. 14 at 7 p.m.

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East Hampton witness needed for accident at intersection of North Main Street and Main Street and Route 66 in East Hampton Saturday, December 18th at 6:30 AM. Specifically the large plow truck with large wing plow that turned left onto Route 66 off North Main Street which was ahead of the truck that hit me head on.

Please call East Hampton Police at 860-267-9544

THANK YOU – Gail Smith

RE-17-22

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Senior Center News & Notes

The East Hampton Senior Center, 105 Main St. East Hampton is open. To participate in any event, pre-register online through myactivecenter.com, call 860-267-4426 or email seniorcenter@easthamptonct.gov Center hours are Monday - Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. www.easthamptonct.gov/easthampton-senior-center

Please note: Masks are required regardless of vaccination status.

Meals: The Community Renewal Team is serving meals at the East Hampton Senior Community café. Meals are offered Tuesday and Thursday. Please call the center to reserve your meal or sign up online through MyActiveCenter.com. Participants must be age 60-plus. Make reservations for the next day's meal before 11 a.m. the previous day. Masks can be removed when seated with a meal.

The meals are free, but a \$3.00 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.

Quilting Group: Monday's at 9 a.m. Bring projects and use share talents. New members welcome.

Mexican Train Dominoes: Monday's at 9:30 a.m.

Bible Study: Tuesday's at 1 p.m. This non-denominational group shares and studies scripture Pre-registration required.

BINGO: Tuesdays from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. In person and Zoom.

Wii Bowling: Meeting Thursday, Jan. 20 at 10 a.m. A friendly competition between friends.

Writing Our Lives to Open Our Hearts: Thursdays, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., or every other Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. In person, outside, weather permitting, otherwise meeting is indoors or via Zoom. Lead by Elizabeth Thomas.

Setback: Thursdays at 1:15 to 3:15 p.m., in person.

Textile Group: Fridays at 1 p.m. Bring knitting or crochet projects.

Game Day: Fridays, 10 to noon. Space available for Mahjonn, Cribbage, Mexican Train, and Setback players.

Monthly and Special Events: I-Pad Training with Elizabeth: Sign up for two classes on Tuesday, Jan. 11 and 25 from 1 to 2 p.m. Learn the basics of using an I-pad.

Book Club: Tuesday, Jan. 11, 10:30 a.m. The book "Instructions for a Heat Wave," by Maggie O'Farrell, is available at the library. The book club is open to new members and meets the second Tuesday of the month.

Creative Crafts: Wednesday, Jan. 19, 1 p.m. Work on a project, or help finish something from the inventory.

Art with Karen: Sunday, Jan. 23, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Join Karen Williams in the beginner steps of creating an acrylic painting. \$5.00 for supplies.

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 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 January: Kids aged 3-5 and Kids grades K-5. Tuesday, Jan. 11, 10 a.m. Activity kits for school aged children, littles learners, plus one for teens and one for adults. Inside your kit are supplies to make a fun art or craft project. Reserve a kit online on the library website and pick it up in person or arrange for curbside pickup. Supplies are limited. This month, practice your fine motor skills by making a popsicle stick bird feeder. **Stories & Songs:** Ages 18 Months and up, Wednesdays, starting 10:15 a.m. Registration required. Siblings welcome. Held indoors in the Library community room.

Cozy Crafts: Weaving - Grades 2-5 Wednesdays, starting Jan. 12, 4:30 p.m. Children in grades 2-5 are invited to make their own fuzzy coasters using pipe cleaners, yarn, and pom poms. This program will take place in person at the library, and space is limited. Registration required. **Baby Rhyme Time:** Ages 0-18 Months and their caregivers Thursdays, 10:15 a.m. Program combines singing, dancing and whole body movement. Siblings welcome, Registration required. Held indoors in the Library community room.

Teen Programs: Teen Monday: Grades 6 - 12 Monday, Jan. 10, 5:30 p.m. Fun crafts, games and more, or whatever teens want to do. Catching up with friends and library staff. **Switch Game Tournament:** Grades 6 - 12 Saturday, Jan. 22, 2 p.m. Held in person at the East Hampton Public Library. A Nintendo switch game tournament, MarioKart or Super Smash or something else. All skill levels welcome. **NEW! PreTeen Advisory Board:** Tuesday, Jan. 25, 5:30 p.m. Board is a group of teens who come together to plan and create events and programs they want at the library. Staff provides input to expand the YA/Teen collection. Students in 6th - 8th grade are welcome to join the group. Requires a monthly commitment and participation. **Teen Advisory Board:** Wednesday, Jan. 26, 6 p.m. A group of teens who come together to plan and create events and programs they want here at the library. Staff provides input to expand the YA/Teen collection. Students in 9th-12th grade are welcome to join our group. Requires a monthly commitment and participation.

Adult Programs: Cabin Fever Series: Caryn B. Davis, to discuss her newly published second photography book "Connecticut Waters: A Celebration of Our Coastline & Waterways." **Take and Make January:** Tuesday, Jan. 11, 10 a.m. Reserve your adult kit online on our website and pick it up in person or arrange curbside. Act fast; supplies are limited. This month's take home kit will include all the materials to make two peppermint lip balms.

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East Hampton • East Hampton

Red Watch Band Class

A Free Red Watch Band Class Jan. 22, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the PD Room at East Hampton Town Hall. Space is Limited. Participants will learn how to help save a life by identifying and responding appropriately to an alcohol related emergency. Upon completion, participants will be awarded a certificate and red watch, symbolic of the "band" of students trained to "watch" over one another when "every second counts."

Snacks will be provided. To sign up contact Courtney Widrick at cwidrick@easthamptonct.gov or 860-267-4468 Ext. 3227

Board of Ed. Seeks Candidates

The East Hampton Board of Education is seeking citizens interested in serving on the board to complete a term that ends in November 2023.

Letters of interest and a resume should be submitted to the East Hampton Board of Education by U.S. Mail to East Hampton Public Schools, 1 Community Drive, Suite 1, East Hampton, CT 06424 by Tuesday, Jan. 18 at noon. Information can also be submitted to Paul K. Smith, Superintendent of Schools, at psmith@easthamptonct.org.

Candidates for the vacancy will be contacted and interviewed by the Board of Education on Monday, Jan. 31 in the evening at the Town Hall. If you have any questions, please contact Paul Smith at 860-365-4000.

Congregational Church News & Notes

The Congregational Church of East Hampton, UCC, located at 59 Main St., holds in-person services every Sunday at 10 a.m. For the fully vaccinated, mask-wearing is not mandatory; those not fully vaccinated should continue to wear masks and practice social distancing. All are encouraged to wear a mask when indoors at the church. All services can be accessed via Zoom by going to the website at cc-eh.org.

The church Christmas Eve service of stories, hymns and lights will be held at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary.

Nursery care is available during Sunday services for children under 3 years old.

For more information about CCEH and its activities, visit cc-eh.org or call the church office at 860-267-4959 during office hours, Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-noon. In case of pastoral emergencies, Rev. Jim Latimer can be reached at 610-568-2480.

Haddam Neck Covenant Church News

Haddam Neck Covenant Church, located at 17 Haddam Neck Rd. in East Hampton, offers Sunday Worship at 9 a.m. online at www.facebook.com/Haddam-Neck-Covenant-Church or in-person. Pastor is the Rev. Tom Cowger. Refreshments are served after the service. The church said all are welcome.

Missionaries: Sunday, Jan. 9, Covenant Church Missionaries Ken and Adrienne Satterberg will talk about their work in France helping women who are victims of human trafficking.

Puppet Ministry: Each Sunday, the Church's Puppet Ministry features Digger the Dog and some of his friends from Farmer M's Red Barn to help Pastor Tom explain the meaning of the message topic.

Bible Study: The Zoom Bible Study is every other Thursday from 7 to 8:15 p.m.

The church office can be reached at 860-267-2336; hours are Monday through Friday, 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. The church website is at www.hn-covenantchurch.org.

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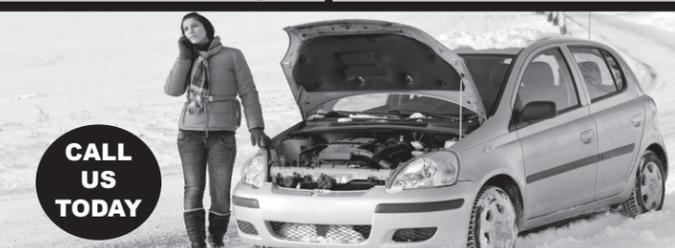


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<p>Clos Du Bois Chardonnay \$17⁹⁹ (1.5 L)</p>		<p>Black Box Wines \$19⁹⁹ (3 L box)</p>	<p>Anthony's Hill Wines \$10⁹⁹ (1.5 L)</p>
BEER		<p>Bud & Light 12 oz., 30-pack cans \$26²⁹</p>	<p>Busch & Light 12 oz., 30-pack cans \$18⁴⁹</p>
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The Worship Center News & Notes

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

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

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

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

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

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

Gilead Congregational Church News

Gilead Congregational Church, an Open and Affirming Congregation located at 672 Gilead St., has announced the following. For more info, visit gileadchurchucc.org, email gcc@gileadchurch.net, or call 860-228-3077.

Sunday Worship: Sunday services are live-streamed for the foreseeable future. Join via YouTube or FaceBook: YouTube: www.bit.ly/GileadChurchUCC. Click on subscribe to be notified of future live streams or new videos. Facebook: http://tinyurl.com/GileadChurchUCC

Scheduled Events/Meetings: Sunday, Jan. 9: 10 a.m., Worship live stream only; Monday, Jan. 10, 9:30 a.m.: Bible Study via Zoom; Tuesday, Jan. 11, 7 p.m.: AA; Wednesday, Jan. 12, 10:30 a.m.: Book Group; Thursday, Jan. 13, 7 p.m.: Trustee Meeting.

Liturgist Sign Up: Liturgists are still needed. Contact Ginny Miller or the Church office

with any questions.

Faith and Film: The next film will be today (Jan. 7) and will begin with a potluck at 6:30 p.m. followed by dessert and the film entitled, "The Terminal," a 2004 American comedy-drama produced and directed by Steven Spielberg and starring Tom Hanks, Catherine Zeta-Jones, and Stanley Tucci.

Holy Cow Survey Presentation: The results of the Holy Cow survey will be presented on Sunday, Jan. 16 at 11:30 a.m. following worship service. The presentation will be held through Zoom. See the eNews for the link to the Zoom meeting.

AHM Mission Moment: Executive Director, Tressa Giordano, will be joining the worship service on Jan. 16 to share information about various programs.

Senior Friends January Bash Cancelled

The Senior Friends of Hebron January Bash, originally scheduled for Jan. 13, has been cancelled due to the pandemic. Later in 2022 other programs will be scheduled when permitted. The Bennett Family concert is presenting the Christmas Concert on YouTube at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OZlqhdKR-GM The members of the Board said they wish all members a Happy New Year and look forward to the abatement of the pandemic so that

they will be able to meet safely in person.

Anyone interested in becoming a member please visit our website, www.seniorfriendsofhebron.com for information and application for membership. Dues are \$10.00 per year or \$75.00 for lifetime membership.

The mailing address is P.O. Box 60, Hebron, CT 06248.

Call Barbara at (860) 228-3106 or Cecile at (860) 643-8768 with questions.

Church of the Holy Family News & Notes

The church collects items for the Windham Region No Freeze Hospitality Center, which provides assistance to homeless adults. Critical needs are: men's sweatpants (sizes M and L); men's solid color T-shirts (M and L); cough drops; individually wrapped snack bars; men's stick deodorant; nail clippers; shower shoes (men's L, XL flip flops; great need; available on-line); men's pullover sweatshirts and hoodies (M, L, XL,); men's heavy winter gloves (L,

XL); knit boxer shorts (M, L, XL); men's stick deodorant; nail clippers; disposable razors; earbuds for phones; paper towels; disinfectant spray cleaner; laundry detergent pods (no liquid); paper towels; and toilet paper. Place donations of goods in the designated collection box next to the church's Cry Room. Place large quantities of donations in the Cry Room. For more information, call Monica or John McKerracher at 860-228-4211.

Democrats to Hold Caucus

The Hebron Democratic Town Committee will hold a caucus at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 10, at the Douglas Library of Hebron, 22 Main Street, Hebron. The purpose of the caucus is to endorse candidates for the Democratic Town Committee and to transact any such business as may be proper to come before said caucus. The caucus will be an in-person event with no virtual option available. Masks are required for entry and participation.

Up to 35 registered Democrats may serve on the DTC for a two-year term. All registered Democrats in Hebron are eligible to attend the caucus and vote for candidates to serve. For more information, contact hebrondems@hebrondems.com.

Church of Hope News & Notes

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

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

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

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

Police News

On Dec. 28, 2021, Benjamin Baker of Lebanon was charged with driving under the influence of alcohol/drugs, failure to comply with fingerprinting and resisting arrest following a sobriety test on Main Street, police said. He will appear in court for these allegations on Jan. 19.

On Dec. 30, 2021, Antonio Incontro of Gilead Street allegedly failed a sobriety test after officers on a patrol check tested him on Gilead Street. He will appear in Rockville Court Jan. 13.

On Dec. 30, 2021, Frank Adam Burnett of Gilead Street turned himself into state police for an arrest warrant, police said. He was charged with disorderly conduct, violation of a protective order and third-degree assault. He was released on a cash bond of \$7,500, given a court date of Jan. 3.

Boy Scout Honors

BSA Troop 28 of Hebron, said, with the start of the New Year, it would like to congratulate the seven boys who became Eagle Scouts so far during COVID-19. An accomplishment in normal conditions, the troop said it takes great pride in acknowledging their earning of Eagle during such challenging times. In order, the Scouts are Thomas Atwood, Jr., Ryan Maleryn, Dylan Puschel, Matthew Richard, Adam Lemieux, Kevin Braunwart, and Anthony Bogue. They are the 161st - 167th Scouts to earn Eagle in the history of Troop 28.

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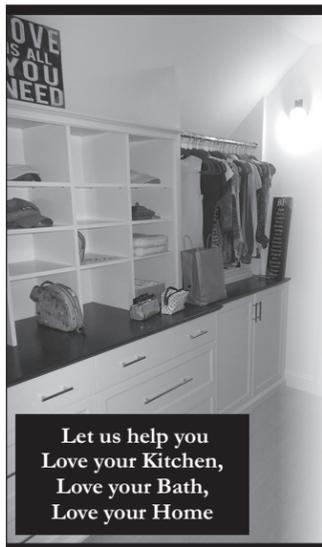
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Portland • Portland

Talks for NRG Turbines (Might) Restart this Month

by Jack Lakowsky

According to John Hall, director of the Jonah Center for Art & Earth in Middletown, the Middletown Common Council-the city's executive board- quietly tabled talks with an energy company looking to increase its production.

Until last year, energy supplier NRG owned and operated an energy plant on River Road in Middletown, straddling the Connecticut River and directly across the water from Portland.

Last year, NRG sold its Connecticut assets to Generation Bridge, a subsidiary of ArcLight Energy Partners.

In proceedings early last year, many Portland residents, including Clean Energy Task Force Chair Andy Bauer, spoke against the project and the added air pollution it would produce.

Right now, the facility only runs at peak demand periods. Though the company planned to install a more efficient turbine, it would run more, producing more pollution overall.

Since June 2019, NRG and Middletown have had a property tax agreement contingent on NRG's updating one of its 375-megawatt combustion turbines and the company's passing ISO

New England's Forward Capacity Auction (FCA) in February of last year.

The capacity auction, according to ISO New England's website, is when energy companies compete in bids to obtain a commitment to supply capacity in exchange for market-priced capacity payments.

NRG failed in 2021's FCA. According to common council information, the city terminated this agreement last May, citing the failure at the FCA.

The city, according to the termination resolution, "invited" the facility's new owners to a resumed discussion some time in Jan. 2022. Common council minutes from its June 7 meeting say nothing could move forward until this year.

At the time, Generation Bridge had not finalized its acquisition.

According to industry outlet Power Technology, this sale was finalized in December, with a price of \$760 million.

The status of current or upcoming discussions is unclear. Middletown Mayor Ben Florsheim did not return request for comment on this story.

In December, Hall reached out to the *Rivereast*

to alert it to the tax agreement termination.

On Jonah's website, an article on the matter says the issue "was not on the [June 7] meeting agenda, but rather 'taken off the table' during the meeting."

Hall wrote this is good news for those concerned about climate change and air pollution, as well as for taxpayers.

"Still, in light of the high level of public engagement in the preceding months, how and why the agreement was terminated without our knowing [or] a public statement is a bit of a mystery," Hall wrote.

Hall quotes council member Vinnie Loffredo as saying the "termination date came about through discussions with the mayor, the office of general counsel and representatives of NRG. The parties came to mutual agreement on the issue. Also, NRG was in the process of selling the

[plant]."

Last year Hall, a Portland resident, said the town would receive most of the increased output of particulates and greenhouse gases. Hall and the center had been calling for the tax agreement's rescission since early last year.

In a February 2021 meeting, the city council asked NRG Senior Director of Development Brian McCabe if he wanted to refute any of Hall's claims. McCabe refuted nothing.

Increased tax revenue to the city was another benefit NRG named. NRG pays the city about \$1.8 million in taxes. After the project, operation could net the city \$2.7 million.

Hall in last year's meeting said the agreement is far more beneficial to NRG than Middletown, that the company pays a third of what it would pay under normal taxation.

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. Masks are required in the building for those over the age of two. Wireless access is available on the library grounds. "Curbside Delivery" of requested items continues: Call the library at 860-342-6770, or reserve items online at www.portlandlibraryct.org, or via e-mail at portlandlibrary@portlandct.org. Someone from the library will call when materials are available.

Hours: Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. 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.

Read & Recycle: Saturday, Jan. 15 10 a.m. to noon. The Friends of the Portland Library will collect gently used items. Bring gently used books, DVDs, CDs, puzzles and games. Sales of these items benefit library services. Zoom. The ID is 8603426777 and the Passcode is Portland

Museum Passes & Games: Reservations recommended. Check out the latest on museums. On the library website, click on Museum Passes or call to reserve a pass, or a game to borrow. Board games are available also to be borrowed without reservation.

Youth Services Upcoming Programs: Alien Invasion! Visit the library in January and February 2022 and go on an intergalactic adventure with the chance to win a prize. While at the library, grab a square to color and help unlock scenes of alien adventures. Coming Soon, Winter Reading 2022. **Online Storytimes:** Weekly storytimes will remain online via Zoom for the winter session. A take-home craft will be available each week for anyone who wants to pick one up. Registration is required and can be done through the website calendar or by calling the library at 860-342-6770. Library will send out a Zoom link each week in advance of the program. **Preschool Storytime:** Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.; Jan. 18, 25, Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22. Storytime for Toddlers and Tots: Mother Goose on the Loose Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.; Jan. 19, 26, Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23.

Minecraft Mania: Wednesday, Jan. 13 from 3:30-5 p.m., Grades K-5 A private 90-minute Zoom program that will be run and monitored by Minecraft Mania and Ms. Jenn. Only library registrants will have access to the Minecraft worlds in use, making it safe and private. Registration is required and space is limited.

Teen Advisory Guild (TAG): Mon., Jan. 10 at 3:30 p.m. Monthly meetings to brainstorm

ideas for new programs, talk about books and enjoy snacks and laughs with friends. Earn community service hours for each meeting attended. Registration is required. This meeting will be in the large meeting room in the library.

Portland Library Tech Talk: Friday January 14 at 10 a.m. Kevin Armstrong, presenter will offer help with new devices, talk all about Zoom, and offer a Q&A. At the Portland Library, in collaboration with the Library & the Senior Center.

Adult Programs: Mystery Lovers Book Club: The Thursday Murder Club, by Richard Osman. Tuesday Jan. 18 at 1 p.m. Portland Library. **T.A.B. (Talk about Books):** - next meeting Tuesday January 4th at 1 pm., a discussion of a classic book: "The Sun also rises" by Ernest Hemingway. Note date change. Books are available at the Library and online at Hoopladigital.com.

Decoding the Mysteries of Cats: Cat Lovers can join a Virtual Zoom program on Feb. 1 at 6:30 p.m. with Stephen Quandt, feline behaviorist and feline behavior coordinator for Animal Care Centers of NYC. The sixty minute program, including a Q & A explains cat behavior from the perspective of the evolutionary and adaptive forces that help shape their lives. Registration Requested!

Portland Forum: Regularly scheduled events include book discussions and planned presentations in support of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. Call or visit the Library webpage for updated information.

Knifty Knitters: Saturdays 10 a.m. to 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.

Second-Hand Prose Bookshop

The Friends of the Portland Library (FPL) have puzzles, games, CDs, DVDs and 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, \$1.00 for trade paperbacks and \$2.00 for hardcover. DVDs and CDs are 50 cents each disc and puzzles and games are \$2.00 unless marked otherwise.

FPL also has "I Love CT Libraries" reusable bags on sale for \$1.00 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.

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 our website at www.friendsofportland-libraryct.org for more information or email questions to friendsoftheportlandlibrary@gmail.com

Senior Center News & Notes

The Waverly Senior Center, 7 Waverly Ave., is open Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., and Friday, 8 a.m.-noon. For more information or to register, call 860-342-6760.

Live Music Returns: Jam Session: Enjoy live music for free on Tuesday, Jan. 11, beginning at 7 p.m.

Third Thursdays: Every third Thursday of the month will be an "open" performance for any artist who would like to play a tune, share poetry or a dance routine. There will be a Thankful Light Dinner option for \$5. If you choose not to eat, the music fee is \$2 to listen to the artists. Pre-registration is appreciated.

Qi Gong with Lisa: Wednesdays, 1-2 p.m. The four-week session is \$40. There must be seven students to run this class.

Watercolor with Bivenne: New six-week session begins Tuesday, Jan. 11. Email bivenne@yahoo.com for full details.

Teacup Bingo: Monday, Jan. 10, 1 p.m. Registration requested.

Zoom Tai Chi with Tom Cushing: A new 8-week session begins Tuesday, Jan. 4, from 10:30-11 a.m. Registrations now being accepted. Fee is \$40, payable to Portland Senior Center.

Thursday Lunches: Jan. 13 and 27, 12:15 p.m. Enjoy soup and sandwiches from Melilli Caffe. Pre-register and pay (\$5) by the Tuesday before.

Van Trip: Wednesday, Jan. 12, departing at 11:30 a.m. for Joey Garlic's for lunch. Transportation fee is \$5. If you need to be picked up at home, contact the center in advance.

AARP Tax Preparation

AARP Tax Preparation will be held Wednesdays beginning Feb. 2 between 9 a.m. and noon at the Portland Senior Center. Participants should have their paperwork prior to scheduling an appointment. Due to Covid-19, precautions will be implemented. Please call 860-342-6760.

K of C Basketball Free Throw Event

The Portland St Mary's Council 7 Knights of Columbus will be hosting their annual youth basketball free throw event at Portland Middle School, 95 High St, Jan. 14, 7 p.m. Girls and boys age 9 thru 14 are invited to participate. Entry forms will be there for parents or guardians to fill out.

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Portland • Portland

Highlander Soccer Standout Commits to Eastern

by Josh Howard

Caiden Hettrick-Rivera, a senior at Portland High School, will stay in the state of Connecticut for the next phase of his soccer journey.

“Proud to announce my commitment to Eastern Connecticut State University to further continue my academic and athletic career,” Hettrick-Rivera announced via Instagram on Dec. 29. “I want to thank my family, friends, coaches, and teammates for supporting me along the way.”

Hettrick-Rivera earned All-State this fall for his work as an offensive stud and all-around midfielder. He was also named All-Shoreline Conference (SLC) for a third straight season, making the all-conference first-team in each of the last two seasons and making it as an honorable mention as a sophomore in 2019.

“I couldn’t be more excited for Caiden as he takes the next step in his already stellar playing career,” said Portland High boys’ soccer coach Michael Searson. “His work ethic, field vision, individual ability, and overall tenacity will instantly translate to the next level. His leadership and understanding of the importance of team culture will enable him to fit in and make a difference for Eastern. Looking forward to seeing him play college soccer for a great program.”

Hettrick-Rivera’s time at PHS is littered with marvelous moments on the soccer fields, but it’s the little things that he remembers the most.

“A lot of people’s favorite memories are hitting game-winners or game-winning saves, but to me my favorite memories were the bus rides home after we won an away game. The whole team is singing and dancing and feeling on top of the world. To me that meant the most because it showed that we were together as a team,” recalled the senior striker.

Off the field, he participated in indoor and outdoor track and field, as well as tennis at the high school. He was a part of Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA), National Honor Society, and Class Act. He also participated in numerous sports clubs in an effort to expand his overall athletic skill.

Next fall, he’ll join a winning culture in Wilimantic. The Warriors are led by veteran coach Greg DeVito, who has been coaching the program since 2007 and has won nearly 70% of his games during his tenure.

This past fall, the team shook off a slow start before winning five straight games to capture a



Caiden Hettrick-Rivera, a senior at Portland High School, will play soccer at Eastern Connecticut State University.

Little East Conference championship with a 2-1 win over Western Connecticut State University in November. It was the program’s sixth conference title and first since 2013.

“I really loved the environment at Eastern. From the second I walked onto campus it really felt like a place that I could see myself being there for four years,” stated Hettrick-Rivera. “I loved what the school had to offer academically and I loved what the soccer program has become.”

The competitive and driven senior, who said he enjoys the process of going to the gym and seeing his progress in strength and conditioning, is itching for the next phase of his life, saying, “I think the part that excites me the most is how I am going to grow as a person, not only physically but as a person learning new social skills and meeting new people that could potentially be lifelong friends.”

First Congregational Church News

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

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.

In the event that changes to this schedule are necessary due to increased COVID-19 precautions, details will be available on the church website.

On January 9, the 10 a.m. service will focus on observing the Baptism of Christ. Rev. Jane Hawken’s sermon is titled, “Precious in God’s Sight.” Under Kasha Breau’s direction, the Choir will sing the anthem, “Just Two Words,” by Robert Lau.

Church school lessons are available on Zoom.

The First Church Nursery School has openings in its preschool program. The three-year-old program runs on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9-11:30 a.m. and the four-year-old program on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9-11:30 a.m. Please contact Amy Jahnke at 860-342-1111 or 1stchurchnurseryschool@gmail.com for more information.

First Congregational Church of Portland 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.firstchurchportlandct.org.

Parks & Recreation 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: With Ken Zaborowski at the Buck-Foreman Community Center: Wednesdays, classes run Dec. 1 through Jan. 19, 9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.; \$40 for the eight-week session, \$7 for drop-ins. Saturday classes run Dec. 4 – Feb. 5 at 10:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.; \$40 for the eight-week session, \$7 for drop-ins.

Kids Blast: Portland Parks and Rec. is accepting applications for its After School Kids Blast Program for the 2021 to 2022 school year, a structured after school program based at the Brownstone Intermediate School. The program is available for students in Kindergarten to sixth grade, who are residents of Portland. Sign up is on a first come first serve basis. Applications can be found at https://portland.recdesk.com. For any questions please call Andy Dionne at (860)342-6757.

Art Enrichment Programs with Abrakadoodle: Doodle Art Studio, at Buck-Foreman Community Center, Thursdays Jan. 20 through Feb. 24; \$58 for residents, \$68 for non-residents. Sessions for Mini and Twoosy Doodlers, aged two through five take place from 10:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. and Doodlers aged 5 through 14 meet from 4:15 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.

Recreation Basketball: Grades K – 2 Instructional Basketball: Saturdays Jan. 8 through Feb. 12 at Gildersleeve, \$40. Kindergarten sessions from 8 a.m. to 8:45 a.m.; first grade meets from 9 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.; second grade boys meet from 10 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. and second grade girls meet from 11 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

Fundamental Basketball: Grade 1 sessions are Mondays Jan. 3 – Feb 28 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Valley View; \$30. Grade 2, Jan. 3 – March 3, sessions are Mondays at BIS from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. and Thursdays at Valley View from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.; \$30.

Adult Drop-In Volley Ball: Wednesday evenings at Gildersleeve School at 565 Main Street. Participants may enter the building through the side doors nearest to the gym, a sign should be posted. Create an account on Recdesk to receive program information via email blast. Competitive Play runs 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Non-Competitive Play runs 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Adult Drop-In Basketball: 30-Plus men’s Drop-In Basketball takes place from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Portland Middle School on Tuesdays. Womens Drop-In Basketball takes place from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Portland Middle School on Mondays.

GG Leagues Esports in Portland: Back for the winter season offering *Madden*, *Mario Kart 8*, *Fortnite*, *Rocket League*, and *Super Smash Brothers* leagues for three different age groups. Compete against other gamers in Connecticut for a chance to be crowned State Champion and win a champion shirt and medal. Check their website at https://www.ggleagues.com/ for instructions on how to register.

Inner Circle: Check back soon for information about our youth martial art programs with Inner Circle. To register or to obtain additional information for any Parks and Recreation programs, please check https://portland.recdesk.com.

Contact Information: If you have any questions about our programs or events, please feel free to call 860-342-6757 or to email nfoley@portlandct.org or adionne@portlandct.org. Please remember to socially distance, wear masks, and bring hand sanitizer while visiting Town Parks or Facilities. Playgrounds and Outdoor Fitness Equipment are open for use, but they are not sanitized. Please refer to the signs posted at all of our Parks and Playgrounds for more information.

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.

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.

Zion Lutheran Church News

Zion Lutheran Church, located at 183 William St., invites all to worship. Sara Stall-Ryan is pastor.

Sunday worship services with Holy Communion are held in-person at 9 a.m. The church continues to follow CDC recommendations with masks required. For those who prefer virtual services, a recording of the service is posted on YouTube by 9 a.m. the following Monday morning.

Sunday School classes are held the first and third Sundays of each month, from 10:15-11 a.m., in person or, if circumstances necessitate, online via email. To register your child, call Sylvia LeShane, Sunday School director, at 860-342-0658.

Adult Bible Study will continue on the second and fourth Sundays in January and February. The focus of this study will be season one of the series *The Chosen*, using the book *What Does It Mean to Be Chosen?*

The community is welcome to participate in all worship services and special events. For more information about any church activities, or in need of pastoral assistance, call 860-342-2860, email zion.lutheran@snet.net or visit zionlutheranportland.org.

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Obituaries

Portland

Diane M. (Miller) Melluzzo

Diane M. (Miller) Melluzzo 78, of Portland, CT beloved wife of S. Michael Melluzzo passed away on December 31, 2021. Diane was born on January 29, 1943, in Hackensack, NJ to the late Eugene Miller and Anna (Erlick) Miller. She graduated from Middletown High in 1961. She Retired from Aetna.



She was an active member of St. Mary Church, Portland, CT and devoted much of her time in support of the parish. She was a member of the Ladies Guild, Mothers Circle, Bereavement Committee, Sacristans and K. of C. Freestone Council 7 Ladies Auxiliary, and St. Mary's Church Chorus. She had been a member of the Middlesex Hospital Vocal Chords and she started Families Anonymous in Portland.

After Retirement she loved to travel with her husband Mike and was able to visit many places around the world and made lasting friendships.

She leaves her six children Louis Loffredo (Joyce), Eva Roherl, Lisa Loffredo, Christie Ashworth (Wayne), Kenneth Melluzzo (Lynne), Kimberley Melluzzo (Pete). Eight grandchildren John Loffredo (Kat), Michael Loffredo, Ashley Ghent, Tyler Ghent (Emma), Christopher Melluzzo, Hunter Hemingway, and Noah Ashworth, Tej Ashworth, Heather Cottrill and Kevin Crabb; four great grandchildren, Caitlynn Robinson, Kevin Crabb, Ryan Cottrill and Rachel Cottrill; Siblings Edward Miller (Shirley), Debra Gould, Skip Miller (Mark), Thelma Zanelli (Robert), Brother-in-law Frank Melluzzo (Diane) and Many nieces, nephews and cousins as well as special friends Elaine Carella, Rich and Jackie Lagana Anna May Gustafson and the Loffredo Family.

Besides her parents, she was predeceased by her brother Gene Miller and sister Lorie Miller.

Funeral services will be private. There will be a Celebration of Diane's Life in the Spring. Memorial donations can be made to St. Mary Church 45 Freestone Ave. Portland CT 06480.

The Portland Memorial Funeral Home, 231 Main St, Portland, is in charge of arrangements.

East Hampton

Deborah Jean (Boule) Inlow

Deborah Jean (Boule) Inlow, 53, of East Hampton, beloved wife of Raymond Inlow passed away Tuesday Dec. 14th at her home. Born Feb. 13, 1968 in Derby, CT, she is the daughter of Diane (Lee) Turner and the late James Boule. Deborah was a 1986 graduate of East Hampton High School and was a lifelong resident of East Hampton.



Besides her beloved husband Raymond, Deborah, is survived by her mother Diane Turner of East Hampton, her step mother Joan Boule of FL, her two loving sons Joseph and Christopher Inlow, her sister Allison Dillon and husband Kyle of East Hampton, brother Darren Boule and wife Allison of FL, nieces and nephews Robert Dickinson and wife Michelle, Sara Moyles, Liam Dillon, Olivia Dillon, Owen Boule, Austin Boule, great nieces Arya and Ava Dickinson, and many other aunts, uncles, cousins, and in-laws.

Deborah (Deb, Debbie) completed her cosmetology license right after high school graduation and led a career of 33 years as a hairdresser. Through hard work and compassion she gained her own clientele, whom she truly cared for and developed close relationships with each and every one of them.

Deb's pride and joy in life was her family. She absolutely adored her two sons and husband - her everyday life revolved around them, always giving love and caring for their needs. Debbie had an unbreakable bond with her sister, was a super aunt to her nieces and nephews, and always gave unconditional love along with endearing words of encouragement to both family and friends. One of Deb's enjoyments was to decorate for every season, always creating a warm and welcome feeling that invited you joyfully into the Inlow's family home. She loved to gather at her home with family and friends and gave us many memories of laughter and happiness. Sundays will be a day of remembering Deb. She enjoyed the morning hours baking a delicious goody to share; her famous spice cake will undoubtedly be missed. Another traditional family favorite was her Polish Kapusta, a

yearly Easter time treat - always making extras and special deliveries to her few selected lucky ones. Deb had the amazing trait of being an animal whisperer. For years wild mallard ducks returned to nest in her backyard and ate cracked corn from her hand - a true delight for Deb. Her household pets were truly spoiled with her love and they had the honor to enjoy her company for many years. Debbie's heart was bigger than life itself - quiet and reserved; she always seemed to know the right words to say, able to give comfort, and she would reflect on the good in life.

Deb was a private person who took on life as a fearless determined warrior. She had a witty sense of humor and was able to make anyone who was in her company laugh, never embarrassing anyone - just a true giggle that could brighten your day. Her "one liners" and the ability to say the "right thing" will live on in all our memories. Debbie had the gift to enjoy the simple things in life, was able to take in a moment, never took anything for granted, and was content with a full heart.

Funeral services will be held on January 8, 2022 at 10:00 am at St. Patrick Church in East Hampton. To leave online condolences please visit www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com.

East Hampton

Nancy (Kernan) Cooper

Nancy (Kernan) Cooper, 76, passed away peacefully on December 25, 2021. Predeceased by husband Henry Cooper and parents George and Lillian (Bashand) Kernan.

Nancy touched everyone she met whether with her infectious laugh or giving nature. She could light up any room with her passion for life and could make a friend out of anyone. Family and friends were the most important thing in Nancy's life. She loved to spend her summers with her family at the family camp property in the Adirondacks. You could find her watching the boats on the water, laughing with her family around the fire requesting ice cream.

She is survived by her daughter Lisa Cooper-Smith of East Hampton, son Edward and Julie Cooper of East Hampton, granddaughters Caitlin Smith of South Windham, Kristina Smith and Fiancé James Valenti of Meriden, brother Richard Kernan of Albany, NY and sister Dorothy Kernan of The Villages, FL.

Burial will be private in the spring at Pine Grove Cemetery, Charlton, NY. In lieu of flowers Nancy wanted donations to be made to: Vasculitis Foundation (nonprofit) P.O. Box 28660, Kansas City, MO 64188 www.vasculitisfoundation.org. To leave online condolences please visit www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com.

Colchester

Denise D. Corder

Denise D. Corder, 63, formerly of Colchester, died Friday, December 31, 2021 at Middlesex Hospital with her husband at her side.

Denise was born in Middletown in 1958, daughter of the late Richard Dickinson Sr., and Joan DeGraff Dickinson of Portland. She married Matthew Corder in 1987; they were married 34 years and raised two daughters together. Denise was a parishioner of Saint Andrew Church where she taught Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) and Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA) for many years. She also served as a Eucharistic minister. She would often participate in many church functions, and loved to attend the craft fairs and Knights of Columbus breakfasts with her daughters. Denise retired from Pratt & Whitney in 2019 after 42 years in order to spend time with her beloved grandchildren. She started her career in the apprentice program as an electronic technician, and retired as a project engineer.

Denise's greatest love was her family. She loved to travel and go camping with her family and friends every summer. She immensely enjoyed living at the campground down the road from her grandchildren this past summer, and took every opportunity to take them swimming, or to the playground. She loved line dancing and participating in her dance class every week. She enjoyed building puzzles, and attending shows at the theater. Denise was best known for her calm demeanor and willingness to help anyone, often putting others' needs before her own.

Denise is survived by her husband, Matt, daughters, Aryn Davidson (Michael) of Columbia, and Rachel Corder (Jerry) of East Windsor; grandchildren, Emma and Maddox; sister

Cynthia Bennett of Lebanon; brothers Richard Dickinson Jr. (Theresa) of Niantic, and Ronald Dickinson (Carrie) of Portland; brothers-in-law Mark Corder (Christina) of SC, and James Corder (Marlese) of SC; a sister-in-law, Candace Corder of CT; and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by a sister, Cheryl Ranno, a brother, Michael Dickinson, and a brother-in-law, Ted Bennett.

The family wishes to express deep gratitude to the staff of Middlesex Hospital, especially those in the CCU.

Those who wish may send memorial contributions to St. Mary Church, Freestone Ave., Portland, CT 06480, or to St. Jude Children's Hospital, 262 Danny Thomas Place, Memphis, TN 38105. The family will be holding a private service; a celebration of life will be held at a later date. The Portland Memorial Funeral Home, 231 Main St, Portland, is in charge of arrangements.

Colchester

Louis G. Mangiafico

Louis G. Mangiafico March 3, 1941 - December 29, 2021

Louis Gino Mangiafico, 80, passed away on Wednesday, Dec. 29th.

Born in Sicily, Italy in 1941, Louis moved to New Britain, CT when he was 17 years old, and became a United States citizen. He was an electrical engineer (graduated from Northeastern University), and worked for Raytheon early in his career, before working for the Department of Defense for a number of years. This allowed him to move overseas with his family, where he was stationed in Stuttgart, Germany and Naples, Italy.

He returned to the United States and worked for the Naval Undersea Warfare Center (formerly NUSC) in New London, CT, living in Colchester, CT until his retirement in 1996. He also enjoyed coaching soccer and working on his garden. Louis then moved back to Augusta, Sicily with his wife to enjoy retirement, tending to his garden and trees, traveling, and visiting with family.

He is survived by his wife Gail, married for 49-plus years, sons Robert and his wife Christine of Hebron, CT, Anthony and his wife Cassandra of Sanbornville, NH, and Andrew and his wife Tanya of Tolland, CT. He is also survived by his brother Vincenzo and his wife Maria of

New Britain, CT, sister Connie of Augusta, Sicily, his sister-in-law Santina of New Britain, CT, his 7 grandchildren - Hannah, Dominic, Joseph, Derik, Dalton, Hunter, and Lukas, as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Due to current COVID concerns, services will be private for immediate family only. A larger celebration of his life will be held in the spring/summer of 2022.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to the Pulmonary Fibrosis Association (www.pulmonaryfibrosis.org) in his name.

To express condolences, please visit: www.peasleefuneralhome.com.

Marlborough

Ryan Mathew McCutcheon

Ryan Mathew McCutcheon, 36, of Marlborough passed away unexpectedly on December 27, beloved son of Roark and the late Ann (Sturm) McCutcheon. He is survived by his father, Roark McCutcheon of Marlborough, brother Zachary,



wife Alicia, and niece Zoey McCutcheon of Rocky Hill, Aunt Megan McCutcheon of Kensington, Aunt Raleigh (John) Stewart of Newington, Aunt Laura (Pete) Schmidt of Florida, Uncles Chris Sturm of Delaware and Tim Sturm of Florida, cousins Gentry and Ian Stewart, Nicholas and Michaela Sturm. Ryan grew up in Marlborough and graduated from RHAM High School. He worked in home construction and later started his own business Harmless Furniture making all kinds of outdoor wood products from recycled materials. He was an avid runner and lake swimmer who loved a good daily workout. He found a lot of peace in nature walking the local trails and streams. He would go out of his way to help a neighbor or anyone in need. He loved camping and sitting by a bonfire with his friends. Ryan is best remembered for his big heart and a smile that was contagious. He will be missed by all that knew him.

Calling hours will be on January 15, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. followed by a service at Spencer's Funeral Home, 112 Main Street in East Hampton. In lieu of flowers donations in his name can be made to Protectors of Animals, 144 Main Street, Unit O, East Hartford, CT 06118. To leave online condolences or share a memory please visit <http://www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com>.

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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.

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by George M. Mantikas, DMD

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Dental disasters do not always occur at a time when you can immediately get to the dentist. Chipping or breaking a tooth can be painful, but it can also create other problems if not dealt with quickly. A broken or chipped tooth should be rinsed with warm water, and any bleeding can be stopped with pressure. If the break or chip is very jagged, dental wax can be used to cover the tooth to avoid cutting the inside of your mouth and tongue. Deep cracks can go all the way down to the roots and cause severe pain, but smaller cracks may be painless and invisible. They should still be seen by a dentist, although they may not require treatment.

We dedicate ourselves to keeping our patients out of the dental chair with our focus on education and prevention. We provide the highest quality oral care services so that you'll spend less time in treatment and more time enjoying your healthy smile. We offer complete general dental care including repair of damage caused by trauma or neglect, periodic cleanings, cosmetic dentistry, and full mouth reconstruction. Please call for an appointment.

P.S. While the temporary tooth repair kits available in most pharmacies should never be used as an excuse to put off dental care, they can be very handy to have around for quick fixes if you need a day or two to get to the dentist.

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LEGALS

TOWN OF HEBRON TAX COLLECTOR'S LEGAL NOTICE

Supplemental Motor Vehicle and Real Estate (2nd Half) taxes levied on the Grand List of October 1, 2020 become due and payable on January 1, 2022. Taxes received/postmarked by February 1, 2022 will be considered timely. Payments not received/postmarked by February 1, 2022 will be subject to interest of 1.5% per month or 18% annually from the due date in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes. Initial interest starting February 2nd is 3% of outstanding taxes with a minimum of \$2.00 per tax bill. **State Statute dictates that failure to receive a bill does not invalidate the tax or subsequent interest.**

Please make checks payable to: Town of Hebron. Payments may be mailed to: Tax Collector, 15 Gilead Street, Hebron, CT 06248. If desired, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope for a receipt. A secured drop-box is located on the lower level, south side of the building for payments (no cash). Please see the town website www.hebronct.com for on-line payment options.

The Collector's office is located on the lower level of the Town Hall at 15 Gilead Street. Hours are Monday to Wednesday 8:00am to 4:00pm, Thursday 8:00am to 6:00pm, and Friday 8:00am to 1:00pm. We are closed for lunch Monday – Thursday 12:30 – 1:15.

Respectfully,
Adrian MacLean
Hebron Revenue Collector

3TB 12/24, 1/7, 1/21

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF COLCHESTER ATTENTION COLCHESTER TAXPAYERS

Notice is hereby given to the Town of Colchester taxpayers that the Motor Vehicle Supplemental taxes and the second installment of Real Estate taxes on the Grand List of October 1, 2020 are due and payable on January 1, 2022. In Addition with the approval of the budget there was a mill rate increase that may result in a 2nd installment for Personal Property taxes and Motor Vehicle taxes that came out in July. Taxes not paid in full on or before February 1, 2022 become delinquent and are subject to interest at the rate of 1 ½% per month or 18% annum, from the due date of the tax, as required by Conn. Gen. Stat. 12-130, 145 and 146. Mail postmarked (US Postal Service postmark only) on or before February 1, 2022 will be considered as having been paid on time. **Payments dropped in the town hall's drop box after 4:30p.m. on February 1, 2022, will be considered as having been made on the following business day and will be deemed as paid late.**

Failure to receive a tax bill does not invalidate the tax or any interest charged should the tax become delinquent. If you did not receive a bill and think you should please contact the office immediately. Conn Gen Stat. 12-130

Please make all checks payable to the Town of Colchester. Mail Payments to: Tax Office, 127 Norwich Avenue Colchester, CT, 06415. If a receipt is desired, please send a self-addressed stamped envelope and two copies of the bill. Pay on-line by visiting our website www.colchesterct.gov; online payments are subject to convenience fees. Hours of collection are Monday – Wednesday and Friday 8:30am – 4:30pm; Thursday 8:30am- 7pm. Questions concerning tax payments should be directed to the Tax Office, (860) 537-7210.

Respectfully Submitted,
Michele Wyatt, C.C.M.C.
Tax Collector
Town of Colchester

3TB 12/24, 1/7, 1/21

LEGALS

TOWN OF MARLBOROUGH LEGAL NOTICE

All persons liable to pay the second installment for Real Estate, Personal Property, Motor Vehicle and the first installment for the Supplemental Motor Vehicle tax to the Town of Marlborough as levied on the October 1, 2020 Grand List are hereby notified the taxes are due and payable on January 1, 2022 and will be delinquent February 2, 2022. The mill rate for the 2020 Grand List is 35.84. Delinquent bills shall be subject to interest of 18% per year (1.5% per month). Minimum interest is \$2.00. Tax payments may be paid at the Tax Collector's Office, 26 North Main St., Marlborough, CT or by mail to Tax Collector, PO Box 29, Marlborough, CT 06447. Checks are to be made out to the Town of Marlborough. The Tax Collector's hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday 8:30 am to 4:30p.m.; Tuesdays 8:30a.m. to 7:00p.m. and Fridays 8:30a.m. to 12 Noon. Tax Payments can be paid on-line at www.marlbroughct.net with Master Card, Visa or ACH (automatic checking). A Drop Box to the left of the main door to the Town Hall is available for payments or in the Tax Collector's office. Respectfully Submitted, Barbara C. Murray, CCMC Tax Collector

3TB 12/17, 1/7, 1/28

TOWN OF COLCHESTER LEGAL NOTICE

The Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a virtual public hearing on January 19th, at 7:00 P.M. to hear and consider the following petitions:

NIANTIC BAY GROUP LLC – Resubdivision (2021-015) – 347 Cabin Rd – 24 lot Resubdivision pursuant to CGS 8-30g. At this hearing interested persons may be heard and written communications received. A copy of this petition is in the Planning Department, Town Hall, 127 Norwich Avenue, and may be inspected during regular business hours (8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday).
Planning and Zoning Commission
Joseph Mathieu, Chair

2TB 1/7, 1/14

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF ANDOVER REVENUE COLLECTOR'S NOTICE

To the property owners of the Town of Andover: The third installment of the taxes listed on the October 1, 2020 Grand List becomes due and payable to the Town of Andover on January 1, 2022. Payments must be postmarked, paid on line, or brought to Town Hall by February 1, 2022 to avoid an interest charge. Interest will be charged starting February 2, 2022 on all delinquent bills at a rate of 18% per year (1½% per month) from the due date of January 1st, with a minimum charge of \$2 for each bill.

View or pay taxes online at www.andoverct.org. Cash, check or money order payments are accepted at the Town Hall during business hours. Payments by check or money order may be mailed to the Tax Collector's office or placed in the drop box outside Town Hall. Office hours in January are Monday 8:15 am – 7:00 pm and Tuesday– Thursday 8:15 am – 4:00 pm. The office will be closed on Monday, January 17th due to the federal holiday. Please refer to www.andoverct.org for updated office hours. Failure to receive a tax bill will not invalidate the tax or any interest which may, by State law, accrue. If you have any questions, please contact the tax office at 860-742-4035 option 4.
Eileen Curtin, Tax Collector
Town of Andover
17 School Road
Andover, CT 06232

3TB 12/31, 1/7, 1/21

Notice of Permit Application Town of Portland

Notice of Permit Application is hereby given that The Town of Portland of 33 East Main Street, Portland Ct. 06480 will submit to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection an application under section 22a-430 of the Connecticut General Statutes for a permit to initiate, create, originate or maintain a discharge of water, substance or material to the waters of the state. Specifically, the applicant proposes to renew the NPDES permit for its Water Pollution Control Facility. The proposed activity will take place at 3 Lower Main Street with the Effluent discharge 500' south of the Arrigoni Bridge. The proposed activity will potentially affect the Connecticut River. Interested persons may obtain copies of the application from the Public Works Department Director Robert Shea, 33 East Main Street, P.O. Box71 Portland CT 06480. Telephone: 860-342-6733. The application will be also be available for inspection at the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse, Water Planning and Management Division, Municipal Wastewater Section, 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106- 5127; 860-424-3704 from 8:30 to 4:30 Monday through Friday.

1TB 1/7

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON ATTENTION ALL TAXPAYERS

Notice is hereby given to the Town of East Hampton Taxpayers that taxes for the second installment of real estate, personal property, and supplemental motor vehicles levied on the Grand List of October 1, 2020 are due and payable on January 1, 2022. The last day on which to pay without penalty is February 1, 2022. The tax is based on a mill rate of 34.53 mills which equates to \$34.53 in taxes per \$1,000 of net assessed value. The supplemental motor vehicle tax bills were mailed on December 10, 2021.

Late payments will be subject to interest penalty at the rate of 1 ½% per month or a fraction thereof, 18% per annum, from the due date of the tax, as required by Conn. Gen. Stat. 12-130, 145 and 146. Payments legibly postmarked by the USPS on or before February 1, 2022 are considered on time regardless of when they are received by the Tax Office. Payments received February 2, 2022 and later, including payments postmarked February 2, and later, are considered past due. The minimum interest charge is \$2 on each tax bill. A returned check fee is \$20. As owners of property, taxpayers are responsible to see that taxes are paid when due. Failure to receive a tax bill does not exempt the taxpayer from payment of all taxes and interest charges should the tax become delinquent.

Please make checks payable to: Town of East Hampton. Payments may be mailed to Collector of Revenue, 1 Community Drive, East Hampton, CT 06424. Pay online by visiting www.easthamptonct.gov Hours of collection are: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 8:00 am – 4:00 pm, Tuesday 8:00 am – 6:30 pm and Friday 8:00 am – 12:30 pm.

Respectfully,
Kristy L. Merrifield, CCMC
Collector of Revenue

3TB 12/31, 1/7, 1/21

TOWN OF PORTLAND

Legal notice is hereby given to the taxpayers of the Town of Portland that the second installment of real estate and personal property taxes on the October 1, 2020 Grand List and the Supplemental motor vehicle taxes are due and payable on January 1, 2022.

Taxes not paid in full on or before Monday, February 1, 2022 become delinquent and are subject to interest at the rate of one and one half (1 ½) per cent per month from due date (3%, if paid in February). Minimum interest charge is \$2.00. Quarterly water and/or sewer usage bills are due and payable January 17, 2022. Payment not made in full on or before February 17, 2022 will be subject to interest of 1.5% per month from due date.

Failure to receive a bill does not invalidate the tax. Please contact the Collector of Revenue if you do not have a bill. Tax information is available on the Town of Portland website www.portlandct.org.

Online tax payments are accepted by visiting our website www.portlandct.org and are subject to convenience fees. Payments are accepted at the Collector of Revenue's office, 33 East Main Street, Portland, CT or by mail: Town of Portland Collector of Revenue, P.O. Box 71, Portland, CT 06480-0071. Office hours are as follows:
Thursday, December 30, 2021: 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Friday, December 31, 2021: CLOSED New Year's Eve
Monday, January 17, 2022 CLOSED Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday: 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Tuesday: 8:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Cynthia L. Gotta, CCMC
Town of Portland
Collector of Revenue

3TB 12/24, 1/7, 1/21

Legal Notice of Colchester Democratic Town Committee Caucus

To enrolled members of the Democratic Party of the Town of Colchester, CT- Pursuant to the Rules of the Democratic Party and State election laws, you are hereby notified that a caucus will be held on Monday, January 10th, 2022, at 7:30 PM at Cragin Memorial Library, 8 Linwood Ave, Colchester. The caucus will endorse members for the Democratic Town Committee for 2022-2024 and transact other business as may be proper to come before said caucus. Dated in Colchester, CT, on this day December 17, 2021.

2TB 12/31, 1/7

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF PORTLAND

Notice is hereby given that the Audited Financial Statements of the Town of Portland for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021, as prepared by Mahoney Sabol & Company LLP, Certified Public Accountants, are on file in the office of the Town Clerk of Portland, Connecticut, for public inspection.

ATTEST: Patricia Dean, Interim Town Clerk, Town of Portland Dated at Portland, Connecticut, this 30th day of December, 2021

1TB 1/7

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF ANDOVER ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Andover Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, January 19th, 2021 to solicit comment on the application of Shashank Kamat, 12 Brown Drive. The applicant is seeking relief from Section 11.2 of the Andover Zoning Regulations so as to construct a 10' x 20' garden shed. More specifically, the applicant is seeking a reduction in the front yard setback from 50' to 38' and the side yard setback from 25' to 8'. The meeting will be held on a web-based platform (ZOOM) and can be accessed at Andoverct.org – go the calendar section. Comments/questions will be entertained during the hearing or written comments can be submitted to the Building and Land-Use Office a minimum of 24 hours prior to the meeting. Additional details can be found on the Zoning Board of Appeals web page of the Town of Andover's web-site (andoverct.org) or by visiting/contacting the Building and Land-use Office at (860)742-4036, ext. 4 or 17 School Road.

If you need access to a public computer for the meeting please contact the Building and Land-Use Office at the aforementioned phone number.

Jim Hallisey
Zoning Agent

2TB 1/7, 1/14

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, January 11, 2022, at 7:00 P.M., to be held virtually through the GoTo-Meeting Platform, on the following:

- Petition 2021-16** – Ostrager Subdivision application of Bernard Rubb requesting to create one new ±3.95 acre building lot, property located at 119 Crouch Road (Assessor's Map 9, Lot #22D), application is filed under the provisions of the Hebron Subdivision Regulations, R-1 District.
- Petitions 2021-17 and 2021-18** – Special Permit and Site Plan Applications of Roger Barrett of Country Carpenters requesting to make an alteration to a legal non-conforming use and to construct a new 3,909 SF addition to an existing structure, property located at 326 Gilead Street (Assessor's Map 24, Lot #26), application is filed under the Section 6.B.3 of the Zoning Regulations, R-1 District.
- Petitions 2021-19 and 2021-20** – Site Plan and Special Permit of Scott Melville seeking a change of use to a processing laboratory at 21 Pendleton Drive (Assessor's Map 70, Lot #36.6), application is filed under the Section 3.B.2.5 of the Zoning Regulations, MS District.

Dated at Hebron, Connecticut, this 21st day of December, 2021.
Gerald Garfield, Secretary
Planning and Zoning Commission Regular Meeting
Tue, Jan 11, 2022 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM (EST)
Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.
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2TB 12/31, 1/7

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Send Town application with 3 letters of reference to: **First Selectman's Office, P.O. Box 71, Portland, CT 06480**
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Qualifications: Associates degree in construction technology or related field +6 years progressively responsible construction inspection experience including at least 2 years in supervisory capacity or equivalent combination education/experience; valid Connecticut Driver's License. CAZEO certification a plus. Must have thorough knowledge of building inspection principles and practices. 1TB 1/7

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