

RIVEREAST

News Bulletin

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

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Remembering Red... On Oct. 5, the East Hampton Rotary Club had its 29th annual golf tournament – with this being the second year the tournament honored the late Red McKinney. The Rotary said it is very grateful to the McKinney family for allowing the club to now call the annual event The Red McKinney Rotary Golf Tournament. The club said McKinney is dearly missed by his fellow Rotarians and community. This year’s tournament featured almost 190 golfers, with 100% of the proceeds going back to the community. Next year’s Red McKinney Golf Tournament will be Oct. 4, 2023. Pictured from left are Taren O’Connor, Kirsten Penner, Anne McKinney, Ryan McKinney and Shannon Roy.

Belltown Council Trims Guard Funding

By Jack Lakowsky

The East Hampton Town Council on Tuesday cut \$20,000 from the school district’s requested \$105,000, money meant to fund the hiring of three armed security officers at the district’s lower grade schools.

Council Republicans had balked at the price tag, which, according to schools superintendent Paul Smith, was originally \$150,000.

With its funds cut, the school system will have to delay hiring the guards till at least early 2023.

The decision now goes to voters. The council set a town meeting for Oct. 26; residents will be able to say yes or no to using the money, which would come from the town’s contingency fund.

While the council reluctantly moved the measure forward, discussions Tuesday evening appeared to further fracture an already-frayed relationship between the council and the school board.

During the spring budget process, Republicans also tried at the 11th hour to cut \$200,000 from the school board’s budget, a move that did not pass. At that time, Republican council chair Mark Philhower said the proposed cut would’ve aligned with his ticket’s campaign promises.

And on Tuesday, Republicans again were not happy about giving the schools more money.

“Be very careful about how much you increase your [next] budget,” Philhower warned schools. He said anything between a three or four percent increase “won’t fly.”

Philhower said he doesn’t like mid-year hiring, and that he wants Smith to again reevaluate the now-\$85,000 figure.

Walck said she wanted the figure lowered further, displeased with the extra spending.

Republican Eric Peterson questioned why schools couldn’t find the money for the guards

in their existing funds, saying it’s “ridiculous” schools had to ask.

“That being said, let’s go forward,” said Peterson.

Peterson said in the private sector, anyone unable to find \$100,000 in an almost-\$40 million budget would find themselves looking for a new job.

The council’s likely to have a bigger pill to swallow come budget season early next year. Smith told the *Rivereast* Wednesday he’ll ask for the full \$150,000, vowing to put forth a budget that meets students’ needs.

Smith said he expects to hire the ASOs in January.

Smith said he was “quite surprised” Philhower brought up the district’s upcoming budget, saying it wasn’t on the agenda or a topic for discussion.

“It’s the Board of Education that puts the budget forward,” said Smith, adding he starts the process with a recommended budget, then the school board has final say in what’s sent to the town finance board and council for approval.

Smith said he wasn’t sure why the schools were the only town department given a hard budget limit.

“I can’t say at this point what we’ll come in at,” said Smith. “But it’s going to prioritize kids,” and be a sound request to the community.

School board chair Tammaro Dzagan, a Republican, said in an email to the *Rivereast*:

“My budget concerns are not specific to the ASOs,” Dzagan wrote. Based on comments made at last night’s meeting, my concerns are

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RHAM Star Relives Record-Breaking Day

By Josh Howard

507 total yards and eight touchdowns is a solid season’s worth of statistics for a high school football player.

But putting up those numbers in one game is otherworldly.

RHAM’s senior captain Max Nylen pulled off the phenomenal feat, dominating from start to finish during the Raptors 69-39 victory over Farmington on Oct. 1.

Playing in front of family and friends at RHAM High School, Nylen ran for 375 yards, scoring seven touchdowns on the ground and hauling in a receiving touchdown from 29 yards out. He added 103 return yards – 31 on kick returns and 72 more on an interception.

Once the dust had settled, he had obliterated the RHAM record books and his eight touch-

downs are the third highest in the history of Connecticut high school football.

“Throughout the game I was just focused on winning, because those touchdowns would be for nothing if we didn’t come out on top,” recalled Nylen.

The 30-point margin on the scoreboard may have been lopsided, but that wasn’t the case throughout the first three quarters.

Playing in rainy conditions, the high-octane teams traded touchdowns throughout the first three quarters and the Raptors led by only two points in the fourth quarter before scoring the game’s final 28 points to cap off a record-breaking 69-point day for the offense.

Nylen was an equal opportunity end zone visitor, scoring three times in the first half and

adding five in the second half.

“I knew at halftime I had three, but it didn’t feel like I had three because we were only up seven points,” recalled Nylen. “Going into the second half, we kept scoring, but they kept scoring too, so I wasn’t paying too much attention to what I had. Once we started pulling away in the fourth quarter, I began to realize the history that I was making.”

All told, the teams combined for 15 touchdowns with RHAM crossing the goal line 10 times.

Offense was king, yet it was a defensive play by Nylen that permanently swung the momentum in favor of the Raptors. Leading 41-39, Nylen intercepted a pass and returned it 72

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CHOREs Program Makes Return

Andover, Hebron and Marlborough seniors have access to the AHM CHOREs program. Young people are paid through AHM, resulting from grants and private donations, to help local seniors with small household projects. AHM works in partnership with the Andover, Hebron, and Marlborough senior centers to offer this service.

CHOREs is offered at no cost to seniors who

have physical or financial limitations. Applications are available through AHM.

Teens who would like to work in the program should call Smith at 860-324-1820. Seniors requesting CHOREs services should also contact Smith. Leave your name and number and expect a weekday call back.

For more information on AHM, visit www.ahmyouth.org.

AHM News & Notes

AHM Youth and Family Services has announced the following items. For more information, contact Jenn Boehler at jenniferb@ahmyouth.org or 860-228-9488 ext. 22.

National Drug Take-Back Day: Saturday, Oct. 29, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at RHAM High School in Hebron. Residents will be able to dispose of unused/expired prescription, over-the-counter medications and vitamins. Bring meds with name crossed off and in original container. No sharps accepted.

Project Graduation Fundraiser: Simply Soy Candles are on sale until Friday, Nov. 4. Available scents are: Home for the Holidays,

Balsam Fir, Cinnamon Strudel and Christmas in Connecticut, in two sizes: 16 ounces for \$25 and 8 ounces for \$16. In addition – exclusive to the fundraiser – there is the option to purchase Christmas in Andover, Christmas in Hebron and Christmas in Marlborough. It's the same scent as Christmas in Connecticut – just personalized for the RHAM community. A percentage of total sales to AHM Project Graduation for the Class of 2023. All candle orders will be ready for pick-up at the AHM building in the beginning of December. To order, go to ahmyouth.org/fundraisers-events/project-graduation.



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From the Editor's Desk

Observations & Ruminations

By Mike Thompson

"It breaks your heart. It is designed to break your heart. The game begins in the spring, when everything else begins again, and it blossoms in the summer, filling the afternoons and evenings, and then as soon as the chill rains come, it stops and leaves you to face the fall alone."

-- A. Bartlett Giamatti, former commissioner of baseball

And so it was that the New York Mets' season came to a most unwelcome – if not entirely unexpected – close last Sunday, with an ignominious 6-0 loss at home to the San Diego Padres.

After a 101-win season, the Mets couldn't make it past the first round of the playoffs.

Now, what do I mean by it being "not entirely unexpected"? Why wasn't I convinced a 101-win team would go deep into the playoffs?

Because, frankly, the Mets looked pretty uneven the last month of the season. I wrote last week about that disastrous trip to Atlanta – but it's not like the rest of September were all beer and Skittles either.

The Mets started the month losing 2 of 3 to the lowly Nationals, but the true low point came two weeks later when they got swept, at home, by the last-place Chicago Cubs. And to be honest, none of those games were particularly close. On paper, all those were games the Mets absolutely should have won – but they absolutely did not.

When you wind up losing the division by one game, you wind up looking at those lost opportunities and wondering...what if?

Had the Mets won just one of those five

games I just mentioned – or, as I wrote last week, just one of those ugly three games against Atlanta – they'd have finished the season in first place, had a bye for the first round of the playoffs, and would have opened the division series at home against, as it turned out, the immensely beatable Philadelphia Phillies.

Alas, it wasn't meant to be.

As depressing as the finish was, I'd be a fool if I let it ruin the entire 2022 season for me. Because the fact of the matter is, from April through August the Mets were just immensely fun to watch. Night in and night out, they played smart, sharp, crisp baseball – which is frankly something the Mets hadn't always done in seasons gone by.

Much was written this year about the culture change in the Mets' clubhouse, and indeed throughout the whole organization, and it was certainly evident from watching those games. It was just a fun, joyful team to watch.

Unfortunately, several players on the team – including four-fifths of their starting rotation – are free agents, so the 2023 Mets may look very different from the 2022 one. And I'm confident (well, cautiously optimistic?) that, under the current ownership, the right decisions will be made to replace those guys if they do indeed leave.

But, truth be told, I hope they don't. This team was so much fun to watch this year; I'd love to see an encore in 2023.

Just maybe, this time, with a little more winning in September.

See you next week.

Bulletin Board

Dreams are funny things.

The other day a dear friend confided that he dreamt he went to a local agricultural fair only to find they had run out of Italian sausage. I tried to reassure him that such a disastrous event was extremely unlikely to happen in real life, but I'm afraid he went away still troubled.

I rarely remember my dreams, though the other day I had one in which I was delivering a load of firewood to a widow. Her backdoor looked like the door to a dishwasher, and when I stepped up to push the "on" button, my feet got all tangled in a blanket and I fell off the porch into a flower garden populated by ceramic gnomes.

I'm not entirely sure what all this means, though I'm a little concerned about the dishwasher door thing. Maybe I have repressed guilt about leaving my dirty dishes in the sink? The widow, by the way, was nowhere to be seen, so (not knowing what she looked like) I have no idea whether my firewood delivery was charitable or opportunistic.

Many recurring dreams—at least those I remember—that I've had over the years are apparently not unique. A lot of them revolve around my school/college years, such as not attending a class all semester and then finally dropping by to find out they're administering the final exam (this actually happened to me in an 8 a.m. freshman geology class, so perhaps I am merely suffering from post-traumatic stress syndrome in this particular case).

Others include forgetting where my dorm room was, having no key to the room, forgetting the combination to my gym locker, being chased by kazoo-playing zombies in kangaroo costumes, finding the Ten Commandments in my basement, and realizing as I waited in line at the school cafeteria that I'd neglected to put on my trousers that morning.

All pretty typical stuff, I'm sure.

But, just to be absolutely certain, I went online to consult a site called "Dreams Dictionary: Meanings of Dreams," which lists various dream symbols in alphabetical order—everything from andirons to weevils and then some. Incidentally, dreaming of weevils apparently portends loss in trade and falseness in love, in case you were curious. Happily, I can say unequivocally that I've never dreamed about a weevil, though considering the present state of my stock portfolio, I'm surprised my nocturnal wanderings aren't overrun with the things.

Sadly, the listing, while surprisingly comprehensive, did not include the dream significance of dishwasher doors. However, to dream of widows is said to mean "you will have many troubles through malicious persons," which (speaking strictly from my own day-to-day experience) strikes me as sort of stating the obvious. I mean, have you tried to do business in person at a bank recently?

Delving into the symbolism of past dreams, I was also disappointed to find there is no interpretation of kazoo-playing zombies wearing kangaroo suits, though dreaming about just plain old everyday kangaroos is said to indicate I "will outwit a wily enemy." How you get that from what is basically an oversized rodent who thinks it would be fun to kick you in the crotch is a mystery to me, but I'll take it.

As for dreams of nudity in the lunch line, I am informed that dreams of embarrassing nudity "might indicate that you feel like a phony or that you are afraid of revealing your imperfections and shortcomings," which, at least in my case, is clearly utter nonsense since I am practically perfect in every way.

I couldn't find anything about gym lockers, but one dream interpretation site said that having dreams about taking an exam "might reveal an underlying fear of failure." Ya think? When it comes to me and geology, I'd say it's more of an expectation than a fear.

Anyway, I'm happy to report that none of my dreams (even the zombie kangaroo thing) are anywhere near as troubling as my friend's terrifying vision of going to the local agricultural fair only to find they've run out of Italian sausage with peppers.

That's not a dream. That's a nightmare.

Jim Hallas

Riverast Hours of Operation

The offices of the *Riverast News Bulletin* and *Glastonbury Citizen*, located at 87 Nutmeg Lane, Glastonbury, are open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., and can be reached at 860-633-4691. The *Riverast* can be reached any time via email at bulletin@glcitizen.com.



Choose Love... The Collaborative for Colchester's Children (C3) and participants of People Empowering People recently thanked local sponsors that supported the Choose Love Movement at Celebrate Colchester on Sept. 17. Jesse Lewis Choose Love Movement is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with a mission to create safer and more loving communities through character social emotional development programs that are suited for all stages of life. At the event, families took part in activities to learn about courage, gratitude, forgiveness and compassion-in-action, which is the Choose Love Formula. Sponsors included Colchester Co-Op Nursery School, Cragin Memorial Library, Inishmor Pub, Joe's Barber Shop, Kidsignments, Mark's United Auto Parts, Mel's Downtown Creamery, Noel's, NWC & Sons Consulting LLC, Red Rose Cafe, Smart Start Pediatrics and Sweet Aroma Coffeehouse & Bakery. Pictured here are Joy Lenares, Julia Lash, Scarlett Lewis, Casey Chasse and Abbey Dunbar-Willbanks.

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Correction

In a letter to the editor in last week's *Riverast*, a note indicated East Hampton resident Russell Bonaccorso is chairman of the East Hampton Board of Finance. This isn't true; he is simply a member of the board.

The *Riverast* regrets the error.

Child Tax Rebate

To the Editor:

My family and I were like many others in Connecticut, facing rising costs and living modestly to pay for everyday expenses during the COVID-19 pandemic. We have four children, so the burden to keep up with their costs was taking its toll. The child tax rebate, which was a part of the state budget that Norm Needleman supported, was an incredible financial and stress relief for our family. It allowed us to breathe again and enjoy our family more, instead of the burden of money. This also gave us some space to save a little more to prepare ourselves for other expenses. The child tax rebate was a much needed and very appreciated sum of money that made life a little bit easier.

The child tax rebate is just one of the many positive and forward-thinking initiatives Norm Needleman has supported. He has my confidence, and will have my vote, come Nov. 8.

Sincerely,
Dave Koji – Colchester

Student Debt Forgiveness

To the Editor:

Who gave our so-called leader the authority to make me and others pay someone else's bills? They could reform the credit system to accomplish the same thing and require the lending institutions to reduce their exorbitant rates. Lenders could charge students a very low rate while still in school and after graduation charge them their normal rate.

Lending institutions don't need to charge students these exorbitant rates. They can certainly afford to reduce them! If our president and his henchmen had half a brain they could figure this out themselves!

This November we need to put intelligent people in office. It's time for a change!

Frank Blume – Colchester

Fuel & Food Bank

To the Editor:

There seems to be some confusion regarding the East Hampton Volunteer Fuel & Food Bank. The Fuel & Food Bank is not funded by the Town of East Hampton nor is it associated with any local churches. We are a 401 nonprofit, non-denominational, all-volunteer organization located at 43 West High St., East Hampton, CT 06424 and our telephone number is 860-365-5978. Volunteers are there Monday and Thursday mornings from 9 a.m. to noon, for citizens of East Hampton (must provide proof of residency) to come and receive assistance. As our name implies, we assist citizens with fuel as well as food. In order to do this, we rely on donations of food as well as any monetary donations.

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

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

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With any monetary donations, donors receive a letter stating the amount of the gift that they can then use for their income tax deductions. These donations help us purchase items not normally donated to supplement our supplies and to pay for fuel that is delivered to clients. Monetary donations are also used to purchase eggs, milk, bread, frozen vegetables, chicken, ground beef, and hot dogs on a weekly basis.

Also during this time of year, we supply all the fixings, including the hams, turkeys/chickens, for holiday dinners to our clients. We are grateful for everything that is done throughout the year and we ask that the citizens of East Hampton keep us in your thoughts as we head into this holiday season. We started the holiday sign up list on Oct. 3 for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

So if you are in need and you live in East Hampton, just come, bring proof of residency and we will do our best to help. Should you have any questions our phone number is 860-365-5978 and we are there Monday and Thursday, 9 a.m. to noon.

**Thank you,
Sandy Fries
Board of Directors
East Hampton Volunteer Fuel & Food Bank**

Supports Weir

To the Editor:

As you may know, Steve Weir is running for state representative for the 55th District. A native of Glastonbury, Steve moved to the Gilead section of Hebron 20+ years ago, and he quickly became involved in his new town.

He has the heart of a servant, which is vital to this position. From his teenage years as an Eagle Scout to today, Steve has been a whirlwind of action.

Steve and his family joined the Gilead Congregational Church, and later Steve served as chair of its Board of Trustees. Even today, as time permits, he is the church's guest preacher. Steve is board chairman for the Connecticut River Valley Chamber of Commerce, and president of the UConn Club Board of Directors. For years Steve served as a mentor for Hebron Elementary School, and a volunteer basketball coach in Hebron.

Steve has a background in law enforcement, which is important for him to understand the needs of our state's public safety. Crimes that we heard about only on the evening news are now at our doorstep.

I have been impressed with Steve's forthrightness, integrity and his commitment to getting things done. In my past, I served as first selectman, tax collector, justice of the peace, and various boards as well. I mention this so that the reader can understand that I have an informed judgment in saying that Steve is just what the 55th District needs. He will be a workhorse in the 55th District, striving to improve our state's economy and way of life so that our children will be able to stay following graduation.

There is an old saying, "If you want something done, give it to a busy person."

Let's elect Steve Weir on Nov. 8. We need him.
Robert Warner – Hebron

Lies are Costly

To the Editor:

Defamation law may be one of our most effective weapons against media lies. Alex Jones will have to pay millions to Sandy Hook victims' parents for saying Sandy Hook was a hoax and the parents were actors whose purpose was to discredit the second amendment. OAN (One America News Network) is facing so many lawsuits that it's falling apart. Fox News is being sued by Dominion voting systems and could be on the hook for \$1.6 billion for election lies.

Fox is Russian propaganda for Americans and Tucker Carlson has become a star of Russian TV. Russian TV is so happy to see Carlson pin the Nord Stream pipeline sabotage on Biden. No evidence of course. Why does our government tolerate treasonous Carlson and Fox? Why? Enough is enough. Anyone supporting communist Russia is a traitor to the United States.

Annie Steinbrecher – Marlborough

Illegal Immigrants

To the Editor:

I need to apologize for misspelling William Tong's name. Somehow an "H" ended up in his name and that refers to a garment covering a lady's south end. Now with that said how come crybaby Blumenthal, his sidekick wannabe Murphy, Courtney and the rest of the Dems apologize for trying to impeach Trump on false information?

Kudos to Gov. Desantis for sending illegal immigrants to Martha's Vineyard, as one snooty lady from there said "you have to get these people out of here." What's the matter? Shouldn't you show some compassion, you're a free illegal immigrant state; oh, that's right, not in my backyard here, must apply.

How come Obama doesn't give up 15 acres of his 30-acre mansion estate that's next to the water for

tent housing? Remember when Obama told us on national TV that the ocean will rise, New Jersey will be under water, New York's subways will be flooded, due to climate change. I guess the ocean won't rise next to Martha's Vineyard or his other estate in Hawaii. Maybe an investigation should be started looking into his finances. Climate change is just another way of the government to spend money and put their thumb on all of us.

It takes more energy to produce solar panels and windmill blades than energy saved. Only about 5% of these articles can be recycled; the rest is garbage. If you sit down and fully calculate how much energy you are actually saved versus petroleum products energy you'll be amazed. If you think we can live without petroleum you're in trouble especially the ladies, no makeup and lipstick, yikes! There is a place for electric vehicles but not forced down throats as this government wants to do. One more thing, to the person that sent me an unsigned letter: LMAO.

God bless this Republic of the United States of America

Butch Przekopski – Colchester

Win with Weir

To the Editor:

We need Steve Weir in Hartford. Over the years we have had several dedicated Republican state representatives including Pam Sawyer and most recently, Robin Green. Now we are looking to Steve Weir to carry on as our voice in Hartford.

Steve Weir is a former police officer and is a small business owner. Steve knows how critical it is to provide an environment that promotes a Connecticut where people can thrive and feel safe. In times when so many young people and retirees are leaving Connecticut, we need to address the issues that will encourage people to stay here rather than fleeing to other states with lower taxes and a lower cost of living.

Steve has the energy and dedication needed to take our message to the state House and is committed to fighting for us. But first, Steve needs us to fight for him. Steve needs your vote on Nov. 8 to elect him as our next state representative for the 55th House District. I know that I and my friends will support Steve. I am asking you to do the same.

Sue Stolfi – Marlborough

401KO'd

To the Editor:

Have you checked the balance in your 401K and other retirement accounts lately? I just got my 401K statement and was devastated to see that my account balance has dropped 19% since the beginning of the year.

We are witnessing the disaster at the border, skyrocketing gasoline and heating oil costs, massive inflation and out-of-control crime. Now, top that off with a massive decrease in the value of your life savings.

Now, more than ever, the results of this November's election will determine the future for us, our children and our grandchildren.

Please join me in supporting Mike France for the U.S. Congress, Leora Levy for U.S. Senate and Bob Stefanowski for governor, along with other Republican candidates for the various other State offices including Steve Weir for state representative and Rocky Camardella for state Senate.

I ask you this.... How is one-party control in Washington and Hartford working for you? Our country's future, as well as the future of our state, depends on you to elect the people we need to turn things around.

Ken Hjulstrom – Marlborough

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

'Tis the Season

To the Editor:

Although most of New England's bats are in a deep sleep – hibernation – in late October, they are nevertheless associated with Halloween; accused of flying with witches and sucking blood from human victims. For that misconception, we can thank Count Dracula who could turn into a huge bat with the flip of his cape. For generations, centuries even, people have believed these myths fearing that bats would get tangled in their hair and – far worse – suck their blood.

But here's the truth:

Vampire bats are small and shy. They don't "suck" blood; instead, they drink a small amount after making a tiny incision in the prey animal, which is either a bird or non-human mammal.

Vampire bats are very social; they take care of each other. Orphaned bat pups are raised by foster-mothers, and "friends" care for ill members of the colony.

Although they see very well, bats use a sophisticated bio-sonar, echolocation, which can detect an object as tiny as a gnat or as large as a human head.

While flying at night, the bat uses this built-in technology to hunt for food and avoid bumping into objects. The last thing the bat wants is to get tangled in your hair.

New England's nine species of bats are insectivores that consume countless numbers of insects each night, including those that carry disease and destroy crops. In the U.S. alone, insectivorous bats save farmers billions of dollars each year in pest control, and bats consume insect vectors that carry malaria and West Nile virus.

Worldwide, more than 500 crop plants and 530 flowering plants rely on bats for insect control and pollination, and rainforests are regenerated through seeds dropped by fruit eating bats.

This Halloween, please thank bats for the services they provide. They're a treat, not a trick.

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

Skorski Fights Healthcare Costs

To the Editor:

The average list price for a vial of insulin in Canada is \$12. Step across the border into America, and it's \$98.70 (2018 data). This price differential for insulin and every other drug is outrageous. Why do Americans have to shoulder this immense burden?

A sweeping drug bill proposed but not passed in the House last spring would have greatly helped Connecticut consumers. It would have allowed consumers to import medicine directly from Canada and would have capped the monthly cost of prescription pharmaceuticals at \$250. Additionally, the bill would have stopped mid-year changes to drug formularies and banned "pay to delay" – a practice that postpones the introduction of generic drugs into the market.

This past year Medicare was finally allowed to negotiate drug pricing on a handful of drugs. An important step, but why not allow Medicare to negotiate prices on its entire formulary? You would think this would be a bipartisan effort to help seniors and the average taxpayer that pays into social security.

The exorbitant price of medicines and health care greatly influenced my reasons for running for office today. The only way to truly make health care more affordable is to get involved in the legislative process and change the laws that are making health care unaffordable for so many people in our state.

I applaud efforts already underway in the legislature to bring down prescription drug costs, and I will continue to work my hardest to contribute to those efforts in the House.

Warmest regards,

**Wes Skorski – Marlborough
Democratic Candidate for 55th District**

Note: The 55th House District covers Andover, Hebron, Marlborough and parts of Bolton and Glastonbury. Also, Skorski is chair of the Marlborough Board of Education, but said he is writing as an individual.

Blocking District Funds

To the Editor:

To most citizens, state and local budgets go unnoticed, although they are vital to keeping our state and towns running. The budget process is a big part of a state representative's responsibility to work as an advocate for funds, grants, and services for the district.

The budget process provides an opportunity for state representatives to debate and vote to appropriate funds for programs and services including tax cuts for businesses and individuals in the state.

As a state representative, I will be a strong advocate, working in a bipartisan manner focused on bringing funds to the district and supporting programs and services for the betterment of the communities.

I would support legislation to pay down the \$67 billion debt, by supporting an equitable tax system to reduce taxes on the middle and lower-income taxpayers who have shouldered this burden too long. Reducing state debt will be key to providing a strong economic future for Connecticut.

The 12-year district representative voting record shows that Carpino has voted against all budgets, excluding two, over the past 12 years, yet credits herself for bringing funds to the district. After voting in favor of the two state budgets, she voted against

all allocation of funds, including paying down state debt, funding our promises on pensions, and tax cuts for businesses and wage earners. As Republican caucus chair, she has put party affiliation over the district while making excuses for voting 'no' for 12 years. Whom is Carpino representing? www.cga.gov

Vote Nov. 8 for a common-sense candidate to represent Cromwell and Portland that will put people over politics.

**Rose Aletta – Portland
Candidate for State House District 32**

Norm Stands Up to Eversource

To the Editor:

The best legislators are more than just the (D) or the (R) next to their name. They aren't just there to rubber stamp a party agenda, they are there to fight for their community and make a difference on issues that affect the towns they represent. State senator Norm Needleman is one of those legislators. Norm's efforts to stand up to and hold Eversource accountable have impressed me. This is a key reason I believe he has earned support from Colchester voters this November.

Over the last several years, Eversource demonstrated it is unable to effectively respond to disasters in eastern Connecticut. This was most apparent in 2020 with the company's inept response to Tropical Storm Isaias which left many Colchester residents without power for days or longer. Norm was the first legislator I heard stand up and directly call for the Eversource CEO to resign for the company's recovery mismanagement and mistreatment of customers.

Following the storm, Norm worked as chair of the Energy and Technology Committee to create and pass the Take Back Our Grid Act. The act creates accountability when utilities like Eversource fail to restore power in a timely manner. Thanks to Norm's efforts, the act passed our state senate with bipartisan and unanimous support.

One law isn't a silver bullet, but as someone who deals with Eversource regularly in my own work, I have noticed a significant change in how they work with small towns since the act's passage. Of course, with a company like Eversource, problems and challenges remain. That's why I believe we are all better served with Norm Needleman in the state senate. As long as he is there, we have a powerful watchdog on our side – and Eversource knows it.

Bernie Denner III – Colchester

Who Says?

To the Editor:

Who says puppies can't climb? A very nice friend gave me a new folding indoor pen in a cloth case for my puppies. After finally making sure it was secure in the hallway. I put my two little puppies in it; turned around and walked 10 steps into the living room, leaned over to pick up the remaining old magazine scraps all over the floor – when two bouncy little helpers were there to join me! I put them back in the pen and observed out of sight; how did these little ones get out?? The little six-pound female checked out the best spot to climb. Then with all her effort and muscles she pulled herself up and plopped to the floor. Then encouraging her buddy and waiting for him to succeed, they happily, tails wagging, joined me.

All I can say is: Watch out, Ultimate Beastmaster – here they come!!

Lorraine J. Spiegel – Colchester

Irene Haines, Where Are You?

To the Editor:

The League of Women Voters has been trying to arrange for a debate between the two candidates running for state representative for the 34th House District. One of the candidates, John Olin, immediately responded that he would be agreeable to a debate. The other candidate, Irene Haines, has not yet responded. Why?

Is Ms. Haines afraid that she can't defend some of her votes?

Is Ms. Haines fearful that she doesn't have the knowledge and facts to respond to questions that she might be asked?

See Letters, page 6

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★ Letters cont. from page 5

Engaging in a debate is the one place in our modern campaigns where the candidates cannot control things. Debates can reveal a candidate's character traits and temperament. Debates can indicate how well a person might handle unexpected challenges. Debates are good for the political process because they acknowledge the vital importance of accountability and transparency in our democracy.

Ms. Haines' lack of response to the League of Women Voters this year is deeply troubling. But her apparent refusal to debate could be an important clue regarding Ms. Haines. What does this show about her character? What is she afraid of? What doesn't she want the citizens of the 34th District to know?

Tom O'Brien – East Hampton

Early Voting on Ballot

To the Editor:
This Election Day, voters will see a question about early voting on the ballot. This same proposed amendment was voted down in 2014 and re-appears now as an open-ended proposal that, if affirmed, would give unlimited powers to lawmakers to extend early voting in any manner and for any duration as decided by a simple majority of lawmakers.

Early voting is not right for Connecticut. Here's why:
· Unfunded Mandate. Establishing voting centers in 169 towns, with part-time registrars, for up to 30 days could cost as much as \$15,000 to \$20,000 in personnel and site rentals. Most schools would not be available as election centers.

· Reduced Voter Education. Connecticut primaries end in mid-August. Early voting reduces a voter's opportunity to learn more about the issues and candidates.

· Voter Turnout. Connecticut has one of the highest voter turnouts in the country. What problem are we trying to solve.?

Please vote 'no' on early voting.
Linda Ursin – East Hampton

Re-Elect Irene

To the Editor:
Irene Haines is seeking re-election in the 34th District, this coming November.

Irene has a proven record in Hartford and has always kept a mindful eye on her constituents and their needs.

We need Irene in Hartford; please remember to vote on Nov. 8, and vote for Irene.

Sincerely,
Susan McCann – Middle Haddam

Curley for Christie

To the Editor:
I could not be more proud to support Christie Carpino for re-election this November. Christie has been a tireless advocate for the Portland community during her time in office. She has continually fought to keep Connecticut as affordable as possible while working to support families, small businesses, and first responders, just to name a few. I strongly encourage you to look at Christie's record and see for yourself. Christie's long list of accomplishments includes working to expand early childhood education funding, helping to enhance access to critical healthcare needs, and fighting to increase benefit eligibility for our veterans.

It's not just about Christie's voting record, but who she is as a person. Christie has been a champion for Portland both inside and outside of the capitol. From handing out PPE and COVID-19 test kits during each surge of the virus to jumping in a dunk tank to raise money for Unified Sports, Christie has continually been there for us.

Please join me in supporting her this November.
Sincerely,
Ryan Curley – Portland

Note: Curley is first selectman of Portland, but said he is writing as an individual.

In Support of Steve Weir

To the Editor:
As many people know, Steve Weir is running for the 55th District state representative seat. Why vote for Steve on Nov. 8? Steve is involved in numerous civic, trade and community organizations, allowing him to have a pulse on our district. He supports public safety and law enforcement and will look to revise and improve the "flawed" Police Accountability Bill and restore public faith in the police.

Steve will work tirelessly to empower parents and ensure that our children are receiving a quality education; an education that stems from the basics of reading, writing and arithmetic. Connecticut should be a place where people can grow up, work, raise a family and retire from. Steve will work to see that to fruition.

Finally, Steve is the common-sense voice for the people of the 55th District. He will stand firm on his principles and will work hard for his constituents. On Nov. 8, vote Steve Weir for the 55th!

Angela Corentin – Hebron

Fix Public Works

To the Editor:
On Sept. 16, it was reported in the *Rivereast* that the trade union American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees informed the Town of Hebron that plans to improve the conditions at Public Works facility need to be put in place immediately. According to John Cole, a service representative for the union, "I don't need them to build a new building, I want them to fix what they have." Mr. Cole's comments came after conversations with the Public Works employees themselves.

I believe the town's continued push to build a

Reader Forum • Reader Forum

massive, dangerous and expensive new complex on unsuitable land at 17 Kinney Rd. is distracting them from addressing the current situation. The "Town Facility Study," created in 2003, and the Plan of Conservation and Development, created in 2014, both noted the need to address the deteriorating situation at Public Works. In fact, the 2014 POCD offered a direct path of action, reporting on page 179 that a combined maintenance facility for Public Works and Parks and Rec. at Burnt Hill Park would offer "added efficiencies by locating both department operations and vehicle storage and maintenance functions at the same location. This relocation project could be combined with leaving some vehicle storage spaces at the Old Colchester Road site with the Transfer Station and animal kennel." Why has the town failed to act on this Plan? Why are alternatives to the destruction of 17 Kinney Rd. being withheld from the community?

While I am committed to protecting the environment and history on Kinney Road from the risks posed by industrial development, I would also like to make it clear that I support the hardworking people of Public Works. I do not believe these two goals are incompatible. For more information, please visit Kinney Road Matters on Facebook and #Save17.

Sincerely,
Kevin J. Tulimieri – Amston

Rivers Deserves Your Vote

To the Editor:

Chris Rivers is the candidate with integrity, motivation and leadership qualities to make a difference for the citizens of 48th District. I have gotten to spend time with Chris and know him to be an extremely thoughtful person. He has spent time in Colchester, Bozrah, Lebanon and Franklin getting to know the citizens and the issues of concern in our communities. He will work hard to represent the 48th District and fight for the initiatives that will bring a positive impact to its citizens.

Rising to meet challenges is a big part of who Chris is as he reached the highest rank in Boy Scouting that of Eagle Scout in his youth. Chris knows what it means to fight for his fellow citizens. Heading the call following 9/11, Chris served in the Army with two tours of duty in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Chris will fight for our veterans and the benefits they deserve, support farmers and protect open space, and support and protect the rights that are important to women. On Nov. 8, Chris is ready to serve, and deserves your vote!

Krista Kardys – Colchester

History and Hebron

To the Editor:

Columbus-Indigenous People's Day has come again in Hebron with little recognition or celebration. The irony that the day is a federal holiday, but celebrates two polar opposites is a testimony to the American nation's ability to rewrite history for its best political advantage.

For those of us living in Hebron we need to remember all the invasive species Columbus' followers introduced. What would the song Old MacDonald be if we eliminated the invasive animals! Then again, what would Halloween be like, if Columbus hadn't introduced sugar cane, slavery and absconded with pumpkins! There is much to ruminate on here, even though most ruminative animals were part of the Columbian Exchange.

Counter – ubiquitously, where would the world be today without, corn, potatoes, tomatoes, pumpkins, tobacco, and Hollywood bad-guys? The short answer is starving!

So what does this have to do with Hebron? Hebron's government continuously fails to acknowledge there were people here for millennia before there was

a town. It is a governmental failing that promotes systemic racism by favoring one group over another. Fortunately, Connecticut's educational system has mandated a change, but Hebron's government lags far behind, clearly not comprehending the line "with liberty and justice for all." As a result, most of the Indigenous sites in Hebron have been destroyed with town approval. These losses at Amston Lake, Pendleton Drive/Douglas Library parking lot, and Burnt Hill Park can never be recovered. Much of this happened under the approval of previous disinterested town managers and selectmen, self-styled "benevolent dictators" who moved from town after their term expired because of high taxes!

Thus, "Historic charm with a vision for the future" – now needs to be based on a more inclusive understanding of Hebron's actual history and conscientiously preserved.

John Baron – Hebron

Thank you, Colchester Cares

To All of the Members of Colchester Cares:

On behalf of the Board of Directors and members of the Colchester Community Theatre (CCT), I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the members of Colchester Cares for supporting our organization with your very generous donation.

The mission of Colchester Cares is "...to make a meaningful impact in the town of Colchester by bringing local community members together and combining financial resources to support common causes." Your donation most definitely will make a positive impact for CCT. Like so many organizations, CCT has experienced a strain on our financial resources during COVID-19. CCT will benefit greatly from Colchester Cares donation as it provides our organization with some of the funds needed to move ahead with our February 2023 production of *Young Frankenstein*. Colchester is so fortunate to have Colchester Cares as they work for the benefit of others – the embodiment of kindness. For this we truly thank you!

The Colchester Community Theatre's mission is to provide a vehicle for the production and development of the performing arts in Colchester. This includes, but is not limited to, drama, musical productions and related cultural events. The CCT encourages community participation in all of its public activities, and shall ensure that its ticket prices are as low as reasonably achievable, while still providing for high quality entertainment and investment in its future. We are proud and privileged to be able to provide this opportunity for our community, and are grateful to Colchester Cares for joining together to support our town.

We welcome and encourage membership in both The Colchester Community Theatre as well as Colchester Cares. Please visit our websites at colchestercommunitytheatre.com and colchestercares.org for more information on how to become a member, and how to get involved.

With much gratitude,
Diane Ozmun, President
CCT Board of Directors

Status Quo

To the Editor:

Here we are four weeks from a very important mid-term election and I have much to say about our senile President Joe Biden and his incompetent racist Vice President Kamala Harris but I have to put it on the backburner and focus on our state elections.

If you are truly satisfied with rising gas prices, double-digit inflation, Red China with their boot on our neck, \$5 plus for home heating oil, massive social programs that encourage people not to work, having the Department of Justice and the F.B.I. raid and silence a pro-life Minister and his family while point-

ing "long guns" at his children, teach sex education to elementary children, then all you sheep can continue to support Dick Blumenthal, Johanna Hayes and Ned Lamont.

It seems quite clear that our election process has been hacked and manipulated by the left-wing progressive Democrats. States like Wisconsin, Arizona and Georgia have been hijacked. In 2020, 41,000 votes in these three key swing states prevented President Trump from being re-elected which in part led to the Demonstration and protest on Jan. 6, 2021.

Here in Connecticut the sudden discovery of uncounted ballots in Bridgeport in the wee hours of the morning took away the Republicans' lead and resulted in a narrow win for "Jolly" Ned. Voters who are unwilling to accept this status quo of rising crime, open borders, the economy, and the failures of the Lamont/Biden tandem need to get out and vote these people out of office so we can regain our country and our freedom. Conservatives and the working class cannot sit this one out or it will erode our freedoms and undermine our faith in election results.

Please vote Republican on Nov. 8 so we can have our country back

Don Denley – Andover

Vote for Weir!

To the Editor:

Steve Weir has the hands-on experience and knowledge to help get Connecticut on the right track, and knows that this journey starts locally. Steve is a hard worker and an honest person that understands our small towns and communities from many different lenses; that of a successful business owner, former police officer, committed community volunteer, and parent of three. Steve knows that the cost of living, crime, and government are factors that make it hard for people to make the choice to live and stay in Connecticut. There are frequent Facebook posts on Hebron pages regarding attempted and successful car thefts and break-ins. Steve knows that policy needs to change to decrease crime and make our neighborhoods safer.

Lastly, Steve believes in the Constitution of the United States and understands that it is the foundation that our country is built on, and in his service will work to protect the constitutional rights of the people in our district.

Residents of Andover, Bolton, Hebron, Marlborough and Glastonbury, I hope you will vote for Steve Weir for state representative!

Cheryl Lage – Amston

Skorski Cares

To the Editor:

We have a chance to finally elect a state representative who cares about the people of Connecticut, all of the people, Wes Skorski. Wes has a long record on Marlborough's board of education of standing up for families and children. Our legislative 55th District of Andover, Bolton, Hebron, Marlborough and part of

Glastonbury needs a representative whose first concern is for the health and safety of the people. Wes walks the talk.

Wes Skorski made a business mistake trying to provide drugs at a reasonable price as the Riveeast documented last week. Since our country's drug supply is controlled by those for whom profit is the only goal, including at the expense of the lives and health of our citizens, he tried to make a difference. If he is elected he will have a substantive chance of making a difference for all who cannot afford the medications they need, such as seniors on limited budgets.

Wes Skorski's business experience and successes in addition to his long service in one of the toughest positions of any public office, a Board of Education member and leader, provides a transparent record of what he can do.

One measure of his success as a public servant in Marlborough was his popularity among Republicans, Democrats and unaffiliated voters. We need a person recognized as a bipartisan leader. I have known and watched his leadership since he began his public engagement in our town. His thoughtful comments and ability to listen to what residents needed has always stood out.

Vote on November 8th for a person who cares about the people, Wes Skorski.

Dave Porteous – Marlborough

Had Enough?

To the Editor:

I don't know about you but I have personally had enough of the state rule of the Democratic Party! I have had enough of high taxes, high utilities and watching business after business leave our state.

We need fresh new thinking with a candidate that wants to make Connecticut affordable again! Brandon Goff, a young, enthusiastic, eager and hard-working individual knows firsthand the impact that our out of control spending and taxes are having on young families and our seniors.

He's running to unseat Norm Needleman who by the way is the Senate chair of the Energy and Technology Committee. So when you open your Eversource bill each month thank Norm for the soaring prices. He has done nothing to help Connecticut residents lower energy costs since elected to the State senate.

Have you had enough? Vote for Brandon Goff who will fight for Connecticut families, young and old! Brandon is the right person to work for us and to make our state affordable again!

Deborah Cunningham, Chair
East Hampton Republican Town Committee

People Before Politics Please

To the Editor:

Twelve years may be a bit too long for a state representative to be in office. We live in a world where there are multiple school shootings every year. Carpino has voted 'no' on a bill for construction with

See Letters, page 8

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by George M. Mantikas, DMD

A Practice For
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MOUTH ULCERS

Mouth ulcers, small lesions inside the mouth, can be intensely painful. They make eating, drinking, and even talking uncomfortable, so determining the triggers that promote them is important to those who suffer sores frequently. Dental hygiene products that contain sodium laurel sulfate and sensitivity to acidic foods such as citrus, berries, and coffee are known ulcer triggers. Hormonal shifts and deficiency in vitamin B12, zinc, folate, and iron are also possible culprits. Unfortunately, mouth ulcers can also be a sign of more serious conditions including HIV/AIDS, diabetes, celiac disease, or inflammatory bowel disease. Most sores are temporary and heal on their own in a day or so, but others can linger for several weeks.

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RE10-26-20

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★ *Letters cont. from page 7*

renovations for improving the safety of schools.

Carpino has voted 'no' to safe firearm storage in private cars which essentially leaves easy access to guns to any child or adult who may be looking to harm others or themselves.

Carpino voted 'no' to establishing an inspector general to investigate police shootings and illegal uses of force (HB6004) and 'no' to SB380, requiring the release of police video cameras. These cameras protect officers against fraudulent claims and citizens against inappropriate police activity.

Why vote 'no'? I just cannot see anything rational about blocking such common-sense measures as these.

I truly believe that any person who takes the time to actually review Carpino's votes will be disappointed.

The citizens of this district are intelligent enough to recognize career building votes rather than constituent serving votes.

My vote is for Rose Aletta who is bright, honest and in touch with working people because she has been a hard working taxpayer for years.

Deborah Calavas – Portland

People Ahead of Party

To the Editor:

Norm Needleman had represented us in the Connecticut State Senate for the past four years in an effective, excellent manner. His experience as a businessman and in public service as a first selectman gives him the ideal background and a wealth of knowledge to do this. He has tackled many issues to our advantage including energy.

*Norm led bipartisan approval of the 'Take Back our Grid,' holding Eversource accountable for its terrible storm response, requiring increased staffing levels and providing customers credits on their electric bills for the prolonged power outage.

*Norm took the lead on legislation creating low-energy rates so that all hard-working families are able to keep their lights on.

*Where long-term energy planning is concerned, Norm is involved in planning for the expansion of renewable energy.

Norm's approach is simple: put people ahead of party politics. His leadership abilities are unquestionable, his focus is on what matters to us, and he welcomes input from everyone as he goes about the business of being our State Senator. Norm wants Connecticut to work for the people in our 33rd Senate District.

Respectfully,

Terry Concannon – East Hampton

Supporting Skorski

To the Editor:

Now, more than ever, we need representation that can unite us, instead of dividing us. That is why I am supporting Wes Skorski for Connecticut state representative. He has a proven track record of creating consensus with both Democrats and Republicans. His priorities already include:

(1) using the large Connecticut tax surplus to provide tax-relief to us and new and struggling local businesses,

(2) providing support for teachers and students to deal with the increasing issues brought about by COVID,

(3) making healthcare more affordable by bringing down the cost of prescriptions,

(4) protecting senior citizens from fraud,

(5) expanding benefits for veterans to ease transition back into civilian life,

(6) making renewable energy more affordable, and therefore accessible,

(7) investing in emerging technologies to prepare us for future climate threats, and

(8) restoring wetlands and protecting watersheds as fundamental to reducing the impacts of increased flooding and severe rain events.

Please join me in voting for Wes.

Thank you,

John Surowiecki – Amston

Goff for State Senator

To the Editor:

Brandon Goff is running for state senator in the 33rd District. Brandon served his country for five years of active duty in the Navy and I believe that gives him an edge over his opponent with zero military background. Under our Democratic leadership, Connecticut ranks 48th in economic performance. Connecticut also ranks poorly on taxes and energy. We also have the highest pension debt in the country. We are failing under high taxes, failure to attract new businesses, corporations and people are leaving.

As state senator, Brandon pledges to work to make Connecticut more affordable for its residents while eliminating wasteful government spending. He will also focus on more parental control for children's education, and passing effective legislation that makes our communities safer while supporting law enforcement and first responders.

It's time for a different leadership in Connecticut. If residents keep pulling the Democratic lever, we will no longer have a state to live in. Do your research. Let's save Connecticut!

Sincerely,

Bonnie A. Olivieri – East Hampton

Voting for Weir

To the Editor:

I strongly encourage everyone to vote for the best candidate to address the issues with which they are most concerned. For me, I'm concerned about public safety and supporting our law enforcement officers, which doesn't seem to be a top priority for those currently in office. I'm concerned about the current quality of education in Connecticut, and that the ability for parents to be involved in what their children are learning is being threatened. I highly value accountability and transparency in our school systems, and at every level of our government.

I will be casting my vote for Steve Weir for state legislature as he has made it clear to me that his priorities are the same as mine. Steve is dedicated to being the common-sense voice of the people of the 55th District. As a former police officer, he maintains a consistent relationship with local law enforcement and has had many conversations with them to understand their current concerns considering the passage of the Police Accountability Bill. He will support public safety and law enforcement and if elected, he will work to improve this bill and restore faith in the police.

As a successful small business owner, Steve has focused on service, commitment, and accountability. Steve believes in treating not only customers and employees, but everyone well! Steve is currently active in several trade and community organizations.

In closing, please take the time to research your

candidates before voting on Nov. 8. If you can take the time to talk with Steve before the election, or visit his website to learn more about him, you will understand why he is the best choice for the 55th District.

Please vote on Nov. 8! Thank you!

Sincerely,

Brad Franzese – Hebron

Note: The 55th District covers Andover, Hebron, Marlborough and parts of Bolton and Glastonbury.

Supports Haines

To the Editor:

I am a strong supporter of Irene Haines and will be voting for her this November. She consistently keeps her constituents informed on all important issues. She is not a politician that only shows up and communicates in an election year like so many.

She is focused and knowledgeable on the issues most critical to Connecticut citizens. Please join me in re-electing Irene so she can continue her work in the legislature.

Bridget McLennan – East Hampton

Note: McLennan is a member of the East Hampton Board of Finance, but is speaking as an individual.

All Elections Matter

To the Editor:

Local, state and national, elections result in having people in positions of power. That power in the wrong hands can undermine the republic, eroding rights from the bottom up. Restricting voters, gerrymandering, and biased courts can only lead to autocracy, because power will get concentrated in one party for a very long time. That one party is currently a minority-driven engine that lusts for power. Power in a democratic nation should be spread out: shared. Please vote for integrity in the upcoming election! Vote Democratic. Don't assume that Democrats will win. Don't be apathetic. Your vote matters!

And vote 'yes' for early voting. Early voting offers all voters another in-person option; more flexibility means more opportunities for eligible voters to cast their ballot without worrying about whether or not they can make it to the polls on Election Day. Vote 'yes' for early voting.

John Barnowski – Colchester

Voting for Goff

To the Editor:

Do you want a change in leadership? Brandon Goff is the just the young man to bring it about.

Do you want lower taxes? Brandon Goff will work to make that happen.

Are your electric bills off the charts? Brandon Goff wants those bills reigned in.

Do you want a bright young man representing you in Hartford? Then join me in voting for Brandon Goff on Nov. 8.

Sincerely,

Melissa H. Engel – East Hampton

Election Season

To the Editor:

It's always a treat to witness an election cycle in Connecticut. A time when you're constantly reminded of what a great place Connecticut is to live in... by the same people doing their best to completely destroy it. But we live in an illogical world run by people who usually have their own best interests at heart, so I guess we really shouldn't expect too much.

I recently tuned into a TALK 2022 Candidate Forum on Zoom - participants included Barry, Gianneli, Skorski, Weir, Crespan, Rahman, Doucette, and Meirer. Sadly, the forum was poorly attended with only 2/3 members of the public online to ask the candidate's questions. The group putting the forum on insisted the questions, as well as the candidates who responded to them, were picked at random...but that didn't appear to be the case.

While Democratic candidates were given softball questions that had more generalized/canned air answers, Republicans where asked pointed questions about individual bills, with the moderators even listing them by individual bill number rather than speaking about what the bill entailed. When questions from the public were asked involving controversial topics

they were directed toward the Republicans. When the moderators brought up the "aid in dying bill" (legalizing assisted suicide) they asked Jason Doucette to weigh in ... which was interesting seeing as he is one of the most outspoken proponents of this legislation as well as being a sponsor of the original bill (HB6425), which according to Connecticut Dems had "strong bipartisan support," with a 29 to 1 D to R ratio.

Canada has really made great progress in assisted suicide; it's currently the 10th-leading cause of death in young adults...so under Democratic leadership, at least we have that to look forward to!

Check it out for yourself @ www.***missing***
Colin McNamara – Marlborough

Rivers the Right Choice

To the Editor:

Chris Rivers is the right choice to be our next state representative in the 48th District.

This district has a history of individuals who understand the meaning of serving people - state Rep. Linda Orange and state Rep. Brian Smith. A good public servant understands the meaning of service, is a good listener and makes decisions for the right reasons. These are traits I have observed in Chris Rivers and why I am supporting him in the 48th.

Chris has that same underlying personal commitment to service and has demonstrated it from the time he was a teenager through the present. The impact of 9/11, when Chris was in high school, set the course of his life. After graduation he deployed to Operation Iraqi Freedom III. While deployed he applied and was accepted to West Point, studying physics and nuclear engineering. As an engineering officer the unit he was commanding was deployed to Afghanistan, but his quest for understanding and learning did not end there. He then graduated from Georgetown University with two master's degrees - public policy and foreign service. Then it was on to working for the U.S. Department of State and now a consulting firm that still works for our government and ultimately the people. After Chris and his wife, also a veteran, relocated to Colchester, he answered the call again to fill a vacancy on Colchester's Board of Education. Service of people is what Chris Rivers is all about.

In my conversations with Chris, I've learned that he listens intently, he understands the people's needs, and offers practical solutions. Chris Rivers' vast experience will assist in making tough decisions for the right reasons.

On Nov. 8, please join me in voting for Chris Rivers for state representative in the 48th District.

Sincerely,

Rosemary Coyle – Colchester

Note: Coyle is a member of the Colchester Board of Selectmen, but said she is speaking as an individual.

Why Rivers Makes Sense

To the Editor:

Over the years, I've voted for both Democrats and Republican candidates in various races. But, speaking personally, political parties should take a back seat to the person you're voting for and where they stand on the issues. And, as I've gotten to know Chris Rivers, I've seen someone with ideas and ideals that aren't about party lines in these partisan times but about the people in our communities.

Chris is acutely aware of the inefficiencies in Hartford and has forward-thinking and affordability-driven solutions to get more out of our state for less. He understands that as we move forward with a post-pandemic recovery, the emphasis needs to be on our businesses, educators, and first responders who've shouldered the heaviest load over the last few years.

Chris understands the unique character of District 48 and will work to support the farmlands that provide for our communities and the open spaces that attract visitors from all across New England. And, with that, Chris knows that succeeding here will require fighting in Hartford for the fair share of state funding that our communities deserve.

Lastly, as a veteran, I take both comfort and pride in knowing that Chris will not only stand by veterans but that he's one himself, serving in both Iraq and Afghanistan. He understands the oath of service to our country and our Constitution and the sacrifices made to uphold our freedoms and the American experiment. These are the reasons why Chris Rivers makes sense to me. But don't just take my word. Visit Chris's website at chrisrivers.com or reach out to Chris directly. You'll see why he'll earn your vote on Nov. 8th and forward as your voice in Hartford.

Scott Chapman – Colchester

Irreplaceable

To the Editor:

"There are things you can replace, and others you cannot. The time has come to weigh these things. This place is getting hot....."

On Sept. 21, 2016, one of the oldest trees in New Jersey died. The tree was 600 years old and I heard about it on NYC radio. It caught my attention because my parents, living in New Jersey in the 1970s, had an old tree on their property too. It was 375 years old and my folks regularly had it trimmed and fed.

For many people, trees are something special and cannot be replaced. They are there in our youth, after college, through all the children and grandchildren. Trees become members of our families and communities and ask little or nothing in return.

If you've walked the Raymond Brook Preserve you may have noticed numerous old trees. Often situated in damp portions of land, and along stone walls, they have survived all on their own and some are referred to as Wolf trees. 17 Kinney Rd. has breathtaking

See Letters, page 34

Talent SHOW

Hop Culture Gotz Talent Call for Entries

Hop Culture Brewing Company is happy to announce some exciting winter community fun.

We are organizing a talent show at our one-of-a-kind farm brewery in Colchester, CT.

Audition videos will be accepted from October 10th-October 24th.

All videos must be a current live performance. There are no rules. You can play your own instruments. You can sing to a track. You can sing acapella. You can recite poetry, do comedy, dance, spin plates, whatever.

Unfortunately, due to ceiling height and fire regulations we cannot accommodate tight rope acts or fire breathers, but clowns are always welcome.

All selected participants will be placed on a performance schedule held live at the brewery starting in November, Wednesday evenings between 6-9pm, exact hours and start date TBD based on number of participants. Please send submissions or inquiries to talent@hopculturefarms.com



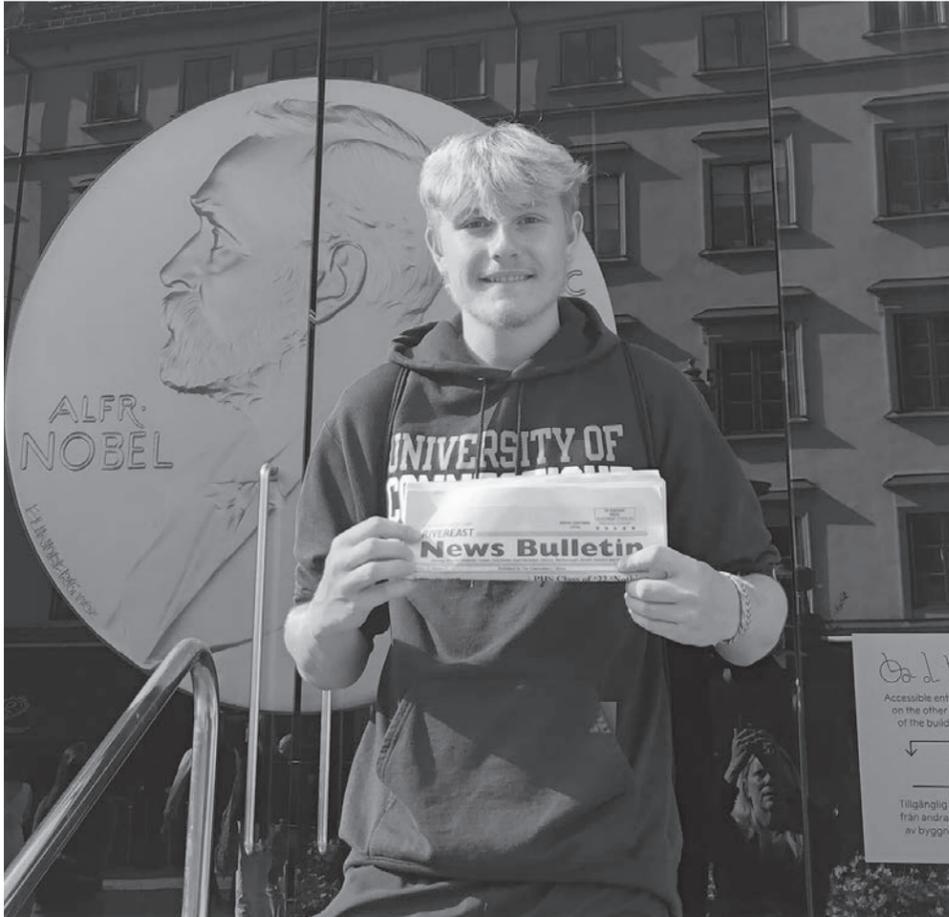
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Nobel News... Aiden Gibeault of Andover visited family in Sweden in July and brought along the *Rivereast* to the Nobel Prize Museum in Stockholm.

Where in the World is the *Rivereast*?

Hey! Are you taking a vacation or a day trip soon? Bring the *Rivereast* along with you, snap a picture with it, and email the photo and your address to bulletin@glcitizen.com.



Hello Hawaii... Aloha! Pictured at Mt. Kilauea on the Big Island of Hawaii are Alyssa and Hailey Madden of Portland – and of course, their *Rivereast*!



Bumblebee Bulletin... The Maher family of Colchester recently traveled to Maine and took their *Rivereast* on a hike on the Bumblebee Trail in Acadia National Park. Here are Carleigh, 11, and Harrison, 8, at the summit.



Pompeii Press... Todd and Corinne Machowski from Marlborough flew the *Rivereast* to Rome with their entire family and the Askars – 15 people in total. They then cruised to Greece, Turkey and Naples, where they took the *Rivereast* on a tour of the lost city of Pompeii. Pictured are the Machowskis' children, from left, TJ, Ava and Dylan.

Where in the World?

**Going on a trip?
Bring along the *Bulletin*!**

Submit your travel photo holding the *Rivereast News Bulletin*, and you will win a \$25 Gift Card to Campagna Restaurant if your photo is one the four entries selected!

To enter, email your photo and address to: bulletin@glcitizen.com

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Needleman-Goff Race in Final Weeks

By Jack Lakowsky

The two candidates vying to serve the 33rd state Senate district – incumbent Democrat Norm Needleman and Republican challenger Brandon Goff – don't share much in common.

Needleman is in his seventies, a political veteran serving for a decade as first selectperson of Essex and since 2018, as senator for the state's second largest district, which includes East Hampton, Portland and Colchester.

The Democrat also owns a manufacturing company based in Essex. He's a native of New York City, starting out as a cab driver, eventually set on his path when a generous customer offered him a better job.

Goff, in his mid-twenties, is comparatively new to the scene. He sits on the East Hampton Town Council, winning his first election last November, and previously worked on the town's brownfield redevelopment commission.

In council discussions Goff tends to fall in line with his Republican co-councilors, though he is the only member of the party outwardly supportive of allowing cannabis retail in East Hampton.

Goff is a Navy veteran and a native of East Hampton, son of locally prominent Democrat Chris Goff; the elder Goff has served as school board chair and as a town councilor, and unsuccessfully ran for state representative in 2012, losing to Republican Melissa Ziobron.

There is one issue the opponents agree on, though: reproductive rights. Needleman has brought up the topic in past interviews, staunchly supporting bodily autonomy.

This week Goff told the *Rivereast* because he's a Republican, voters think he's against abortion.

"That's been asked a lot, what my stance is," said Goff. "I'm very pro-choice; I never hid that."

Goff said in every media interview he's had, the interviewer asked if he believes Joe Biden is his duly-elected president. He said he does believe Biden is president, and that he finds the question's frequency surprising.

According to an AP survey conducted in September, nearly one-third of Republicans running for state offices have embraced the lie that

Joe Biden did not win the 2020 election against former president Donald Trump, a falsehood the ex-president himself perpetuated.

In a previous *Rivereast* interview Goff hinted there were discrepancies in the 2020 contest needing attention, but said Biden is indeed the legitimate president.

Goff said he finds this question "nonpolitical" – he said "normal people" he talks to are more concerned about their wallets, their safety and their kids' educations.

Not unusual for Connecticut, Goff and Needleman both said chief among voters' concerns are Connecticut's high property taxes and utility rates. Coupled with inflation, Connecticut's high cost of living is putting the squeeze on residents.

"No matter who I talk to it always comes back to taxes," said Goff.

Goff is also critical of the state's police accountability bill, passed in the wake of the George Floyd murder, saying he'd look to repeal at least parts of it, and says he's a strong supporter of emergency responders.

The bill indirectly caused some heated debate at the East Hampton Town Council during the end of the budget process. The local police chief asked for another \$25,000 for the department, saying he needed to promote an officer to lieutenant, a position that would've helped meet the department's demands, increased by the accountability bill.

Council Republicans, including Goff, voted down the request, much to the chagrin of the council's Democrats. One Republican did not join his colleagues.

Goff said this issue is an example of why he wants the bill changed or repealed, that it forced unfunded work and mandates on local police departments and, by extensions, local taxpayers.

Goff said he's spoken to the chief and that the discussion will likely continue in the coming budget process (which, if he wins, Goff won't have much part in).

The bill is among the main reasons Goff decided to run.

Goff's first name, Brandon, has taken on a

new euphemistic meaning since last year, at least among Trump's supporters. The expression "Let's Go Brandon" has become a popular way to criticize Joe Biden, acting as a more family-friendly way to say "f--- Joe Biden."

The phrase has been controversial in some circles,

In the spring Goff told the *Rivereast* he wouldn't coopt this polemic. Since then, though, he's changed his mind – and indeed his campaign website encourages supporters to use the hashtag #LetsGoBrandonGoff.

"Nothing rhymed with Brandon," he said. "It just kinda stuck."

"I openly said in the beginning I don't approve of Biden's work," Goff continued. "It's just kind of a cute slogan."

Goff has said Needleman is entrenched in Hartford politics. But, he said, experience doesn't necessarily correlate with performance, adding that the capital needs a "new face with new ideas." He said this week he's challenged Needleman to a debate and hasn't received a reply.

However, the two already have a debate scheduled for Nov. 1 at Valley Regional High School in Deep River.

On Monday, Needleman told the *Rivereast* it doesn't seem Goff has any real policy ideas, and that the Republican didn't show up to a recent forum.

If he wins, Needleman said he intends to return as chair of the legislature's energy and technology committee, which keeps him abreast of utility rate changes, and in this position, he hopes to make sure residents get the best rates possible.

Continuing to improve grid reliability, Needleman said, remains a priority in Hartford.

Needleman said he wants the state to form a plan for dealing with solid waste for the next 20 years. The state's trash-to-energy plant in Hartford closed this year.

"We were the most progressive forward-

thinking state at the time when we made the plant, but now that's shut down and we have to have a new plan going forward," said Needleman.

Energy production and dealing with waste, Needleman said, are two key ways of mitigating the effects of climate change, an issue voters bring up to him.

As he has before Needleman pressed that he's not an idealogue, that he believes in pragmatism.

He said ideals cloud judgement, coloring peoples' opinions before they get informed.

Needleman said he'll also push the state to meet its goal of net carbon neutrality by 2040, "not at the expense" of residents, he said.

The 33rd is a mixed district, with towns both red and blue, many of them not to the extreme of either side. Needleman's predecessor in the Senate seat, Art Linares, was a Republican. When Linares opted not to seek re-election in 2018, Needleman barely beat Ziobron for the seat.

Needleman said likes the makeup of the district, saying that it suits his moderate tendencies.

Republicans have momentum from the last local election cycle, sweeping the three *Rivereast* towns in the 33rd, with Republicans winning majorities on the Colchester, East Hampton and Portland executive boards.

Needleman said Democrats aren't blameless for losing towns they've historically held or at least been competitive in. He said Dems haven't focused on rural America, particularly poor areas. He said Republicans have capitalized on, but not done anything alleviate, this resentment.

"You see this pain driving through towns," said Needleman.

Needleman said he's again asking for the 33rd's votes because he has the ability and know-how to keep serving.

Elections are set for Nov. 8. Check with your town for your local polling stations.

Needleman Endorsed by Police Association

State Sen. Norm Needleman (D-33) was recently endorsed by the Police Officers Association of Connecticut.

The POACT, founded in 2016 and representing approximately 5,000 sworn police officers across Connecticut, endorsed Needleman for his "strong support on issues that are important to police officers and their families," including his commitment to public safety and his support for fair working conditions for first responders.

The 12-town 33rd Senate District includes the *Rivereast* towns of Colchester, East Hampton and Portland.

"As first selectman of Essex and the civilian

chief of police, I work alongside our police and fire departments and know firsthand the dedication, hard work and sacrifice our first responders bring to the job every day," said Needleman. "I'm honored to receive the support and endorsement of the Police Officers Association amid the challenges they face in protecting public safety. I'll continue supporting policies that keep our communities and our officers safe upon re-election to the state Senate."

Needleman has additionally been endorsed by groups including the Uniformed Firefighters, Independent Party and Connecticut Realtors in his campaign thus far.

Flu, COVID Booster Clinics

Chatham Health District, which serves Colchester, East Hampton, Hebron, Marlborough and Portland, is holding flu vaccine and COVID-19 booster vaccine clinics.

No appointment necessary. Ages 6 months and over can get the flu vaccine, and ages 12 years and over for COVID-19 booster (Moderna Bivalent and Pfizer Bivalent available). Both the flu and COVID-19 vaccines may be received at the same time.

Bring a copy of your insurance card and a filled-out, printed copy of the consent forms (one for each vaccine) for each person receiving a vaccination. Forms are at www.chatham-health.org.

The following health insurances are accepted: Medicare (Part B); ConnectiCare; Aetna; Cigna; Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield. People who are covered by these insurance plans must bring their cards to the clinic. Note: UnitedHealthcare and other insurances are not accepted.

Call the Chatham Health District at 860-365-0884 for more information. Contact the office for proof of vaccination if needed.

Terrifying Tales and Frightening Folklore

By Amanda Howard

Kevin staggered out of bed, slapping the alarm clock that read 4 a.m. to stop the blaring noise. He walked over to his desk, and slumped down in the chair at his typewriter.

A senior at Xavier High School in 1977, Kevin had to finish his paper before school started. It was a quiet morning, like most in Killingworth; the only sounds in the historic farmhouse that morning were the clack of typewriter keys and the shuffling of papers. With his family still asleep in bed, Kevin realized how loud the typewriter was against the deafening quiet of the morning.

At first, when another sound joined the cacophony of keys, he didn't recognize what it was. But it started increasing in volume. The voice of a small girl, who sounded like she was 6-8 years old, was repeating over and over in a monotone voice, "help me ... help me ... help me."

Imagining his little sister was in need of assistance, he got out of his chair and traveled down the hallway to investigate. But as he made his way closer and closer to the source of the sound, it faded in volume until he found himself surrounded only by silence. His sister's door was cracked, so he peered in to see her fast asleep. Kevin felt oddly at ease as he tiptoed back to his room, not fearing the sound or the presence.

Two weeks passed before one morning Kevin's father, who left the house for work before sunrise daily, asked the family if they ever heard anything in the twilight hours, mainly before sunrise. Unable to recall the recent incident at first, Kevin told his father that he had but couldn't recall exactly what he heard. Suddenly the morning at the typewriter rushed back to him, the calm voice stating, "Help me ... help me ... help me."

He shared the story with his father. His father quietly nodded his head and admitted, "I hear that every morning." He took a pause and asked, "Did you hear the older woman too?" As Kevin shook his head no, his father admitted he would often hear what he described as

the cackling of an older woman outside an upstairs window.

Kevin and his family speculated about what could cause these spirits to remain. They needed answers, so they set out to the local library that weekend. It was there as they pored over old newspapers and land records that they discovered the grim past of their home. Originally built in the early 1800s, it had been ravaged by a fire in the late 1800s. A fire so vicious that it caused a fatality.

The records didn't state who died in the fire, but Kevin's family knew it must be the young girl. Her pleas were a cry to save her from the fire, and the woman Kevin's father heard outside must have been hysterical as she watched her home burn with the young child trapped inside.

Whether it was fear or instinct, from that day on, Kevin refused to look out the window where his father heard the woman each morning. Kevin never heard the girl again, and after a year in the house, his family moved away.

While the years passed, the memories of that morning, the request to "help me ... help me ... help me," remained. An animated storyteller, Kevin would regale his listeners with his otherworldly encounter when they asked if he believed in ghosts.

Three decades after the incident, Kevin and his wife were out joyriding one day, driving past his old childhood haunts when they drove by the old farmhouse. As they pulled up, they were greeted with a realtor's lawn sign announcing an open house that day. They were giddy; the house in Kevin's stories was for sale and they could go inside.

As they walked the rooms, Kevin noted that nothing had changed. The house looked the same, and they bridled with anticipation as they climbed the stairs to the second floor hallway. But the only encounter they had was with Kevin's memories. Kevin remains convinced though that in the wee hours of the morning, the sounds of spirits trapped in time remain in that old farmhouse in Killingworth.

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Please make checks payable to: *The Glastonbury Citizen*

Book and Bake Sale

Andover Friends of the Library will hold a Book and Bake Sale Saturday, Oct. 15, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., at First Congregational Church of Andover, located at 359 Route 6, across the street from library.

Help is needed. If you are available to volunteer – such as donate baked goods, set up tables on Friday, Oct. 14, sell books/baked goods, straighten/consolidate books, and break down tables on Saturday at the end of the sale – email the Library Friends at andoverfol@gmail.com, call the library at 860-

742-7428 or let the library staff know when you visit.

The specific volunteer shifts needed are: Friday, Oct. 14, from 3:30-5 p.m., at the church for set-up (a pickup truck at 3 p.m. is also needed); Saturday, Oct. 15, from 8:30-11:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., and then for breakdown from 2-3:30 p.m.

For directions or more information, call the library at 860-742-7428, or visit www.Face-book.com/AndoverPublicLibrary.CT.

Andover Pumpkin Patch

Andover Food Pantry is sponsoring its first-ever “Pumpkin Patch Fundraiser” behind the pantry, in the historical field at 359 Route 6 in Andover. The sale runs through the end of the month.

Hours are Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; and Sunday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

Featured for sale will be pumpkins, gourds, corn stalks, bales of hay, apples, cider, jellies and jams, and more. Take a photo with your family in the photo-op area. Different events

will take place throughout the month.

All are asked to consider donating their no-longer-needed wagon or special outdoor fall decoration to the pantry for this fundraiser. People can drop it off behind the Andover Congregational Church where the food drop-off boxes are. A tax donation letter will be given to you upon request.

For more information, call Food Pantry Director Joan Soucy at 860-208-3226.

Andover Seniors Christmas Party

Andover seniors will hold their annual Christmas party at Georgina’s Restaurant in Bolton on Tuesday, Dec. 6, from noon-4 p.m. Door prizes will be raffled, with proceeds to benefit local charities.

Attendees are encouraged to each bring a wrapped gift for the raffle table. Entertainment will be provided by Tony Susi.

Cost is \$15 for any Andover senior, and is due Nov. 15. Call Georgia O’Brien at 860 742-9947 to sign up and make your menu choice

with your payment. Entrée choices are: Chicken Francaise, Baked Salmon with Creamy Dill Sauce, or Sliced Sirloin with Mushroom Brown Sauce. All entrees include honey-glazed carrots and rice pilaf, salad with Italian or ranch dressing, coffee or tea, and marble sheet cake for dessert. There is a cash bar.

For any senior needing a ride, senior transportation pickup will be at 11 a.m. Return is approximately 4:30 p.m.

This event is open to any Andover senior.

Congregational Church News

Andover Congregational Church, UCC, located at 359 Route 6, invites all ages to worship Sundays at 10 a.m. The service also streams live on the church’s Facebook page (First Congregational Church, Andover, CT). For more information, call the church office at 860-742-7696, email andoverctchurch@gmail.com or visit www.andoverctchurch.org.

Children’s Church: Sunday school is provided.

Food Pantry: Mondays from 5-7 p.m. Bring

your own bags. The Foodshare Van comes to the church every other Wednesday from 9-9:30 a.m.; next date is Oct. 26. The senior food pantry is open the opposite Wednesdays, also from 9-9:30 a.m.; next date is Oct. 19.

AA Meetings: Saturdays and Mondays, 7 p.m.

Sonshine Stampers: All are invited to join this group, which meets Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. to make greeting cards.

Tag Sale: Saturday, Oct. 29, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Senior Citizen News & Notes

The following have been announced for Andover seniors, veterans and disabled. To attend any event, call senior coordinator Cathy Palazzi at 860-916-6122 to register. Visit the senior page at andoverct.org for all senior events and information. A new events calendar will soon be posted for November and December.

Rides to Food Pantry: The bus is now available for the Food Pantry on Mondays at 5 p.m. and for the Wednesday Foodshare or food pantry – all of which take place at Andover Congregational Church.

Tuesday Shopping: To Manchester Oct. 18, and to Willimantic Oct. 25. Masks available on all vehicles.

Belltown Orchard Trips Wednesday, Oct. 26. Bus will leave Andover by 10:30 a.m. Call Pala-

zzi to reserve a home pick-up.

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

New Seniors Welcome: New seniors are welcome to all events. Call Palazzi for all luncheon reservations and transportation needs including medicals, Foodshare, food pantry, weekly shopping, movie rides, Farmers Market, and town meetings and scheduled voting dates. Call Judy Knox at 860-643-6824 to join Young at Heart, call Georgia O’Brien at 860-742-9947 for all trip information, and call Sue Schmidt at 860-604-1057 for all movie information.



Happy Birthday to You... Andover Seniors Young At Heart celebrated October birthdays with cake and ice cream at the meeting Oct. 5. Pictured are Pat Chaves and president Judy Knox. Photo by Mary Duval.

Adult Volleyball

The adult volleyball program will start on Friday, Oct. 21, from 7-9 p.m., at the Andover Elementary School gym. All adults 18 and over are welcome.

Members Sought for EDC

The Andover Economic Development Commission is need of new members. Contact Elaine Buchardt at 860-202-4619 or email AndoverCTEDC@gmail.com for more information.

Youth Basketball Program Starts

The Andover Youth Basketball Program will start on Wednesday, Oct. 19, from 5:30-7 p.m., for girls in grades 3-6. Boys in grades 3-6 will start Thursday, Oct. 20, from 5:30-7 p.m.

Any seventh- or eighth-grade boy or girl who would like to participate in the basketball program should fill out a registration form in the town clerk’s office at Town Hall, 17 School Rd., or call 860-742-0188 ext. 4218.

Candidates’ Luncheon

The Andover Senior Luncheon program will host the following Republican candidates on Friday, Oct. 14:

Mike France, candidate for U.S. representative for Connecticut’s 2nd Congressional District; state Rep. Robin Green (R-55); Steve Weir, candidate for the state House of Representatives – 55th District; and Jacqueline Crespian, candidate for state senator from the 4th District.

Lunch will be served at noon, and the speakers will talk at 1 p.m.

Reservations are required due to the limited space. For reservations, call Cathy Palazzi at 860-916-6122. No walk-ins will be permitted.

Huge Tag Sale

Andover Congregational Church, located at 359 Route 6, will hold a Huge Tag Sale Saturday, Oct. 29, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. There will be a bag sale from 1-2 p.m.

Last Farmers Market Nov. 5

The final Andover Farmers Market of the season will be Wednesday, Nov. 5, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., outdoors at First Congregational Church, 359 Route 6. There will be several farmers, bakers, crafters, a food truck and music.

The final market will be Saturday, Nov. 5, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., and it will include crafters.

Bingo & Baskets

Andover Congregational Church, located at 359 Route 6, will be hold a Bingo & Baskets night Friday, Oct. 21, starting with dinner at 5:30 p.m. The game starts at 6:30 p.m. Admission is \$10 and includes dinner, drink, dessert and bingo. No reservations required.

For more information, leave a message at the church at 860-742-7696.

History Museum Open Monthly

The Andover Historical Society will next open its Museum of Andover History on Saturday, Oct. 15, from 4-6 p.m. The museum is located in the Old Town Hall on Monument Lane.

The museum will also be open Saturday, Nov. 19, from 4-6 p.m.

New items are continuously being added to the display.

Planning for Veterans Day

All veterans, military members, and spouses are invited to the community room at Town Hall on School Road on Saturday, Oct. 15, from 1-3 p.m.

This meeting will be hosted by Veterans Municipal Town Representatives, CSM (R) John Botti and COL (R) Susan Camoroda. They plan to discuss and develop the Veterans Day ceremony for 2022. And again, the primary purpose of the meetings is to come together in fellowship and friendship.

For more information, call Botti at 860-839-3481 or Camoroda at 703-472-3209.



Trail Celebration... All are invited to the Center Street Rail Trail trailhead Saturday, Oct. 15, at 9:30 a.m., to celebrate the work done to help make Andover more walkable and bikeable. Improvements include an informational kiosk, directional signs, benches and bike racks installed off Center Street.

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- East Hartford facility — Cats: clean & feed; socialization; medical & placement teams



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Hebron • Hebron •

Public Invited to Virtual Forum

“Voices of Young People: Housing and Community of Choice,” the eighth in a series of virtual forums sponsored by the Coalition on Diversity & Equity (CoDE), will be held Wednesday, Oct. 19, from 7-8:30 p.m., via Zoom.

The forum will highlight the voices of young people who grew up in Hebron.

The panelists will share what an ideal community looks and feels like to them. What type of housing do they prefer? What type of town

center do they like? What types of businesses, eateries and recreational opportunities do they want in their hometown? How important is it to them to live in a community that is culturally, economically and racially diverse?

Registration is required. To register, go to tinyurl.com/2p9xknax or visit the CoDE Facebook page. Questions can be sent to CoDE.diversity1@gmail.com. For more information, visit www.code-diversity.org.

Senior Center News & Notes

Russell Mercier Senior Center has announced the following. For more information and full program descriptions, and to register, call the senior center at 860-228-1700. Pre-registration is required for all programs. The senior center newsletter is online at tinyurl.com/3xfm862d.

Medicare Annual Open Enrollment: Begins Oct. 15 and runs through Dec. 7. During Medicare open enrollment, recipients are advised to review any materials their current plan sends. If interested in evaluating your options for Medicare health and drug coverage, call the senior center to set up an appointment. Appointments available starting Monday, Oct. 17.

Energy Assistance Winter Heating Program: Starting Oct. 17, the senior center will take applications for the Connecticut Energy Assistance Program (CEAP), which is designed to help offset winter heating costs. If a household's primary heating costs are included in rent, the household may also apply for assistance. To make an appointment, call the center.

Movie Monday: Monday, Oct. 17, 12:45 p.m. *Top Gun: Maverick* will be shown. Movie runs two hours and 10 minutes. Come early and sign up for lunch (\$3), which is at noon. To sign-up for the movie or lunch and a movie, call the center.

All-Levels Yoga Class: Mondays through Nov. 7 (started Sept. 26), 10:15-11:15 a.m. Fee is six classes for \$18, or \$5 per class for drop-in. Bring a yoga mat if you will not be using a chair.

Grocery Shopping Trips: Fridays at 10 a.m. Schedule: Oct. 7 to Walmart; Oct. 14 and 28 to Stop and Shop; Oct. 21 to Big Y. Sign up by noon on the Wednesday prior to each Friday trip.

Bus Trip to Bill's Seafood in Westbrook: Wednesday, Oct. 19. Bus will leave at 10:30

a.m. and return is approximately 2:30 p.m. There are only 12 spots available. Bill's is cash only. Lunch payment is on your own, but the bus fee is \$5. Register by Monday, Oct. 17, by calling the center.

Flu and COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics: Thursday, Oct. 20, from 10 a.m.-noon, for all ages. The high-dose flu vaccine for 65+, the regular flu vaccine, and the reformulated versions of the Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech booster vaccines are available. Consent forms required, and are available at the senior center or at chatham-health.org. Bring your insurance card and ID. Insurances accepted; Aetna, Anthem BC/BS, Cigna, ConnectiCare, Medicare Part B. United HealthCare is not accepted. This is a walk-in clinic, no registration required.

Community Café: Onsite meals take place Monday-Thursday at noon. Reservations due by 10 a.m. the day before the meal, and by 10 a.m. Friday for Monday's lunch. Requested donation is \$3. Reservations required; call the center to register. For the full month's menu, check the newsletter, the website, or at the senior center.

Senior Transportation: Offered to ages 60 and up and all adult disabled individuals, for medical care, personal needs care, grocery shopping, or other pre-approved needs. Transportation available Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m., and Friday, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Appointments must be scheduled a minimum of 24 hours, but 48 hours is recommended; it is first-come, first-served. New riders need to schedule their first appointment a minimum of 48 hours in advance. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call the center.

For information on various other weekly classes, meetings and activities, contact the senior center or look to the senior newsletter.

Portland • Port

Halloween Activities are Brewing

Halloween is coming – and Portland Youth and Family Services (YFS) has a variety of activities in the works. For more information, call 860-342-6758.

Costume Donation & Swap: The Portland Little Free Pantry is bringing back its costume swap, and the Portland High School G.I.V.E Club is collecting donations of gently used costumes to add to the collection. G.I.V.E Club donations can be brought to any of the schools through Wednesday, Oct. 19. YFS will open the costume closet on Friday, Oct. 21, from 4-7 p.m., at the Buck-Foreman Community Center. People can come pick out a new costume free of charge. If you are unable to make it that day, call Jesse at YFS to set up a time to come in.

Trick-or-Treating on Main Street: Friday, Oct. 28, from 4-7 p.m. For businesses located outside the Village District who want to participate in this year's event, space will be avail-

able in front of the Brownstone Intermediate School and playground for decorated tents and displays. There may also be opportunities to partner with village district businesses to share the task of supporting the hundreds of trick-or-treaters. Maps and listings of businesses and organizations participating will be posted by Youth & Family Services the week of the event.

Monster March: Saturday, Oct. 29, from noon-2 p.m., at Riverfront Park. The costume parade for kids and pets starts at 12:30 pm. There will be pumpkin-decorating, a craft for kids, spooky stories, and refreshments. Local businesses are welcome to set up a table and participate.

If interested in learning how to support or participate in any of these events, contact Jesse Revicki at 860-342-6758 jrevicki@portlandct.org.

First Church Fall Fair

The community is invited to an old-fashioned church fair Saturday, Oct. 22, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., at the First Congregational Church of Portland, 554 Main St.

At “Grandma's Country Store” one will find baked goods, candy, jams and jellies. “Timeless Treasures” will offer a variety of vintage items and collectibles including tea cups, jewelry, hats, purses, doilies, linens, magazines, toys, and so much more. An array of homemade crafts will include greeting cards made with antique postcards and lavender sachets using vintage ladies' hankies. There will be a “Tea Cup Auction” and children can have a framed thumbprint creation made at the “Children's Corner.” Morning muffins and a simple luncheon including the church's famous apple crisp will be available at the “Garden of Eat'n Café.” For those interested in history, “A Journey to the Past” room will be filled with church memorabilia encompassing their 301 years of existence.

Admission is free and masks are optional. For more information, call the church at 860-342-3244 or visit the church website, firstchurchportlandct.org.



“Timeless Treasures,” offering a variety of vintage items and collectibles, will be featured at First Congregational Church's fall fair Saturday, Oct. 22, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Portland • Port



The National Federation of Independent Business has endorsed Republican state Rep. Christie Carpino's candidacy for reelection. Carpino is shown here with Mike Holcomb, local business owner.

Carpino Endorsed by National Business Association

The National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) has endorsed Republican state Rep. Christie Carpino's candidacy for re-election, signaling their support for her continued efforts to serve the small business interests of the 32nd General Assembly District of Cromwell and Portland in the state legislature.

NFIB is a small-business association, with thousands of members in Connecticut. For more than 75 years, NFIB has been advocating on behalf of America's small and independent business owners. NFIB is nonprofit, nonpartisan, and member-driven.

“The NFIB Connecticut PAC is pleased to inform you that we have endorsed your candidacy for the Connecticut General Assembly in this November's election,” NFIB Senior State Director Christopher Carozzi wrote in a letter

to Carpino. “We believe that you will be committed to the needs of thousands of Main Street small businesses and their employees in Connecticut when you are elected to serve in Hartford.”

Carpino also recently received a 100% score from the Connective Business and Industry Association (CBIA) for her votes during the past session supporting our state's businesses.

“I am honored to be endorsed by NFIB and receive such recognition from the CBIA,” said Rep. Carpino. “Especially in our current climate, our struggling small businesses need the support of their representatives in government. I will continue to advocate on behalf of the business owners in Cromwell, Portland, and across the state.”

YFS News & Notes

Portland Youth & Family Services has announced the following pieces of news. For more information, visit www.portlandct.org/youth-services or the YFS Facebook page at www.facebook.com/PortlandCTYouth, email jrevicki@portlandct.org, or call 860-342-6758. To receive email updates about YFS programs and events, sign up at eepurl.com/h5m35f.

Group Facilitators Wanted: YFS is in the early stages of working on setting up support group-style meetings for LGBTQ+ youth, and a second group for parents of LGBTQ+ youth. We're looking for facilitators for these groups. Social work background and/or a member of the LGBTQ+ community is a plus, but definitely not needed. Anyone interested should contact Jesse (jrevicki@portlandct.org or 860-342-6758), and would be trained by the Director of Health Care Advocates International's Youth & Family Program.

Youth Wanted: YFS invites youth to par-

ticipate in the Youth Services Advisory Board, which allows youth a seat at the table in planning programs and events and helps guide YFS programming. Youth are also invited to join the Prevention & Wellness Council, which deals with substance use, mental health, and healthy choices. YFS is also looking for help at its events. All of these opportunities will earn community service hours.

Juggling and Circus Skills: Saturday, Oct. 15, noon-1 p.m., on the Town Green by the gazebo. In this free workshop event for kids of all ages, learn juggling, Chinese Stick, Balancing, Diablo, and other circus skills, from the artists at Oddfellows Playhouse.

Little Hikers: Friday, Nov. 4, 10:30 a.m., at the Middle Haddam Road parking lot of the Portland Air Line Trail (weather permitting).

Drop-In & Draw: Tuesday, Nov. 8, 1:30-4:30 p.m., at the Buck-Foreman Community Center, 265 Main St.



Pictured are members of Portland's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). From left are Tim Dickerson, June Martin, Jane Klemba, Beth Anderson, Ryan Curley (first selectman), Wayne Martin (CERT coordinator), Don Gouin (Emergency Management director), Robert Granger, Phyllis Clark, Sharon Paddock, Joe Dinegar, and Susan Bransfield. Additional CERT team members not pictured include Wayne Chapman, Barbara Felgate, Linda Martin, Pam Nordstrom, Linda Prelli and Susan Young.

First Responders Month

Portland's Committee on Solidarity is celebrating First Responders Month.

Each week in October, the committee will showcase one of the town's first responder teams by sharing who the first responders are, facts about each group and introducing the community to the roles and responsibilities they have in town.

This week, the committee is celebrating Portland's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). The team's mission is to educate the community about disaster preparedness and assist Emergency Services in the event of a major incident or large-scale disaster. Team members

are trained in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, and traffic control. The team regularly assists with parking control at community events and provides educational outreach on disaster preparedness.

During the pandemic, CERT members oversaw the distribution of Portland's supply of COVID-19 test kits and masks. CERT is always ready should the town need to open an emergency shelter during extended power outages or other emergencies.

The team is always looking for new members to support its mission. For more information or to join the team, email CERT@portlandct.org.

Portland • Portland

Over 30 Years, Portland Automotive has Evolved

By Jack Lakowsky

Last Saturday, Portland Automotive celebrated 30 years serving customers' auto care needs, an impressive longevity owner Mike Turner attributes to hard work, adaptability and customer focus.

At the celebration, state and local leaders honored the repair shop with plaques commemorating Portland Automotive's lasting success.

With a food truck and some gift bags, Turner ran the event as a small thank-you, a way to "give back to the customers who've taken of us for so long," Turner told the *Rivereast* on Monday.

The business received commendations from town and state officials, like First Selectman Ryan Curley and Portland's assemblyperson in Hartford, state Rep. Christie Carpino (R-32). Officials from the Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce also stopped by to congratulate the business.

Turner still has customers from his start in 1992, and the relationships are like friendships, he said. After working in auto repair for a while, Turner moved on to start his own business on Route 66, where he's been since.

"When we started we had pen and paper, now we're totally paperless," said Turner. "We fix more cars with a laptop than we do tools."

This is a far cry from his start when he had to use an entire room just to store manuals.

As the years went on, cars became more and

more sophisticated, built with more and more complex technologies. Turner, ever adaptable, kept himself and his staff up on dynamic car tech. Now, the crew services electric vehicles, hybrids, and can calibrate self-driving cars, the stuff of science fiction in 1992.

"We've evolved to be super high-tech," Turner said.

Evolution, in the automotive industry, requires education. Turner and his crew frequently hit training courses as far off as New York.

"You have to train all the time," he said. "This isn't something that just comes to you."

The training appears to have paid off. Portland Automotive has rave reviews online, with nearly 5/5 stars on Google after almost 500 reviews.

"We try hard every day for our customers, it's all about them, making sure they're taken care of, like how we have a fleet of loaner cars," said Turner. "That's what made us different."

The pandemic has caused a subsequent plague for many small businesses- a shortage of workers. Luckily, Turner said, he's fared pretty well thanks to his loyal, well-compensated staff.

In a statement, first selectman Curley said "Portland is home to many wonderful and long-standing businesses and Portland Automotive is no exception. It was an honor to recognize Michael Turner and Portland Automotive on 30 successful years in business on behalf of the entire Board of Selectmen."



Two Saturdays ago, Portland Automotive achieved its milestone pearl anniversary, celebrating with food and memories. Owner Mike Turner (center) got both local and state honors.

To anyone looking to start their own shop, or who has any entrepreneurial ideas, Turner's advice is simple: "Go to school." Take marketing, accounting and management courses, he said. They help in a big way.

You may be the world's best carpenter, he

said, but you might not have a great head for business.

"You've got to educate yourself," he said.

For more information visit portlandautomotive.com or call 860-342-0640.

Library Friends' Fall Book Sale

The Friends of Portland Library will hold its annual Fall Book Sale Saturday, Oct. 22, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. 23, from 10 a.m.-noon at the library located at 20 Freestone Ave.

There will be a special preview sale for Friends' members only on Friday, Oct. 21, from 5:30-8 p.m. Anyone interested in becoming a Friend can join at the door. Members will receive an imprinted reusable bag and discounted pricing during the clearance event.

The sale will offer thousands of hardcover and paperback books, DVDs, CDs, puzzles and games. There is also a large collection of history books as well as a variety of comic books

being featured.

Due to the Friends' large inventory of books, at Friday's members-only preview sale all books will be available for \$10/bag. On Saturday, books will be available for \$10/bag from 10-11:30 a.m., and books and DVDs will be available for \$5/bag from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. On Sunday, all items will be available for \$3/bag (or \$2/bag for members).

The Friends of the Portland Library (FPL) is a volunteer-based, nonprofit organization whose mission is to support the Portland Library in its efforts to offer quality services and programs.

To help with the book sale, email Maureen at MLTSherman@gmail.com.

Parks and Rec. News & Notes

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

Drop-In Tai Chi at Riverfront Park: Wednesdays, 9:30-10:15 a.m., or Saturdays, 10:30-11:15 a.m. Fee is \$7 per session.

Sunset Yin Yoga: Wednesdays through Oct. 26, 5-6 p.m., at the Riverfront Park stage. Fee is

\$20 to drop in.

A Second Chance CPR and First Aid Classes: Parks and Rec. is offering a two-day babysitting-focused program on Oct. 11 and Oct. 12.

'Come on Over' 5K Run and 2.1 Mile Walk: This year's event is taking place Saturday, Oct. 29, at 9:30 a.m. Register at runsignup.com/Race/CT/Portland/ComeonOver5KandWalk

Portland Library News & Notes

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

Hours: Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m.-8 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.

Youth Programs: Fall Storytimes: Pre-school Storytime: Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m., through Nov. 15 (no program Nov. 8), with a craft offered weekly; **Storytime for Toddlers and Tots: Mother Goose on the Loose:** Wednesdays, 10:15 a.m. or 11:15 a.m., through Nov. 16; this is an interactive session using rhymes, a story, songs, puppets, scarves and more.

Pokémon Party: Thursdays through Nov. 3, 3:30 p.m., for grades K-2. Space is limited.

Superhero Training Academy: Tuesday, Nov. 8, 10:30 a.m., for grades pre-K through 2. Space is limited.

Teen Programs: #KusamaPumpkins: Monday, Oct. 17, 3:30 p.m. Yayoi Kusama is a Japanese artist famous for her pumpkin and flower art. In this program, use #KusamaPumpkins and the work of other famous artists to create your own pumpkin masterpiece.

Teen Advisory Group: Monday, Nov. 7, 3:30 p.m. Teens will earn community service hours for each meeting they attend.

Adult Programs: Social Security Workshop: Tuesday, Oct. 18, 6:30 p.m. Tyler Boling, a VOYA retirement financial advisor, will discuss the ins and outs of Social Security.

Mystery Lovers' Book Club: Tuesday, Oct. 18, 1 p.m. *Djinn Patrol on the Purple Line* by Deepa Anappara will be discussed.

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



Jean Selleck and Mike North from the Portland High School Class of 1982 present a check for \$500 to Kim Franklin of the Portland Food Bank. The donation was the proceeds from the official fundraiser held on Sept. 10.

Class of '82 Reunites, Donates to Food Bank

The Portland High School (PHS) Class of 1982 held its 40th Class Reunion on Saturday, Sept. 10 – and also collected money and donated food items to benefit Portland Food Bank.

The outdoor reunion, held at Quarry View Historical Park in Portland, raised \$500 and 6 bags of donated food items.

Mike North, an organizer for the event, said he felt it was time for PHS alumni to give back to the community, and helping residents in need seemed like the perfect idea. "The economy and inflation have really impacted people in need the most, and any help we can provide is extremely important," North said.

The weather for the outdoor event was beautiful, and all in attendance were excited to help out. Jean Selleck and John Coman helped make this event possible, and Mark Cika cooked the burgers, hot dogs and kabobs on the grill.

PHS '82 alumni who were not able to attend are encouraged to make donations to the Portland Food Bank. Donations may be made by contacting staff at 860-342-6795 or by visiting the food pantry at 7 Waverly Ave, Portland. Food donations may be dropped off on Mondays and Thursdays between 9 a.m. and noon. People can also contact www.portlandct.org/social-services for more information.

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Help Build Portland's Riverwalk

The Brownstone Quorum will hold a food truck event Saturday, Oct. 15, to raise funds for the Portland Riverwalk at Riverfront Park.

Food trucks will be present from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. on the town parking lot at the end of Middlesex Avenue (284 Brownstone Avenue). V's Rolling Stone Wood Fired Pizza, Cousin's Maine Lobster, the Farm Kitchen, and Los Mariachi's on Wheels are participating. In addition, Brownstone Quorum will conduct a bake sale.

Visit Brownstonequorum.org for the food truck menus. For more information, call 860-538-3607.

The rain date for both events is Sunday, Oct. 16.

Portland • Portland

Portland Fair Makes Long-Awaited Return

By Jack Lakowsky

After three long years and difficulties finding a host site, the Portland Agricultural Fair made a triumphant return last weekend, crowds swarming to see among much else an ox pull, a giant rodent and a helicopter.

Over the past few years, fair organizers struggled with more than the pandemic, which certainly put a damper on planning.

Organizers also struggled to find a venue. The show again went on at the Portland Fairgrounds, as it traditionally has, but this wasn't certain until recently.

Fair planners and the Exchange Club that owns the fairgrounds had a falling-out over the fairground's conditions. It was prone to flooding and a pole barn was out of code.

Planners appealed to the town's Board of Selectmen for help and presented plans to use the vacant piece of Brownstone Avenue. Selectmen didn't go for this, with first selectperson Ryan Curley preferring the parcels reserved for prospective businesses.

There was also a shortage of volunteers and supplies.

In September, the fair committee announced the long-running event would return. Organizer and committee vice president Kelly Chester told the Rivereast in September the fairgrounds were "in the throes" of a fix-up.

"We always had full intentions of returning this year," said Chester.

Chester said after a long hiatus, it was important the show went on this year, keeping viable relationships with vendors and, arguably more consequentially, maintaining the fair's official status as a Connecticut agricultural fair. Chester said official state fairs have to meet certain criteria, one of which is actually having a fair.

This year's attractions included the usual rides, artery-suffocating food, a petting zoo and a ribbon contests- and many firsts. One first timer was Records and Burpee, a kids' zoo based in Dudley, Mass.

Owner Alexandra Burpee said her capybara – a member of the world's largest rodent species – drew the adoration of countless 20-somethings. Capybaras, she said, recently became TikTok darlings.

"Every 20-year-old runs in screaming," Burpee told the Rivereast on Sunday, the fair's final day.

The star's name, Burpee said, is Armig – a portmanteau of "armor" and "pig," named by the owner's son.

Burpee also had a lounging kangaroo, Gideon, possibly lovelorn for his girlfriend, who's a homebody by nature and prefers not to travel.

With faces like a racoon and a fox had a baby and that baby had another baby with a lemur, a



Historically marking the end of fair season, the Portland Agricultural Fair lost not a step during its three-year break, with bustling crowds all weekend. No doubt the perfect weather helped!

coati pair lay in an upcycled milk crate, snuggling.

Burpee said she could talk about her animals' personalities for hours.

Fairgoers own animals had a chance to take part in the fun. Sunday afternoon, local doggies dressed up cute and scary for the fair's costume contest.

Though he just missed it, Stephen Poggio brought his friendly pug Luna in full bat regalia. "She loves dressing up," Poggio said.

Dawn Barlow, from Moodus, returned to her usual fair activity after a three year wait-spinning wool.

Barlow, along with her friend Chris Murray, sat making yarn from wool out of Twist of Fate Spinnery in Portland, hand-spinning hats and gloves and other cozies on their own. They make the yarn and dye it themselves.

The fair was full of vendors like East Hamp-

ton-based Soft Petal Organic Cosmetic, owned by Asma Fahd, fresh off a successful few nights at the Big E.

Fahd's handmade organic skincare is clean and green- "really healthy stuff, like food for the skin."

Fahd said with inflation, it doesn't seem people are spending as much as they used to, but nonetheless the push toward organics-whether in eating or self-care- is driving business up.

And nothing makes a fair complete like a tent of politicians, with local Democrats and Republicans putting up tents.

State Rep. Christie Carpino (R-32), one of Portland's Hartford legislators running for reelection this year, said she was at the fair all three days, and that it'd been a blockbuster.

"This has been a great fair," said Carpino. "The fair committee deserves all the credit in the world."

Trinity Episcopal Church News

Trinity Episcopal Church, located at 345 Main St., invites the community to celebrate each week.

Bible Study starts at 8:30 a.m. each Sunday. Worship is at 9:30 a.m. Sunday School is in session and held during the service. Children ages 4-12, baptized and unbaptized, are welcome to attend Church School.

All who are vaccinated may remove their masks for the service. All who are not fully vaccinated are asked to wear their masks.

This Sunday, Oct. 16, there will have the Blessing of the Animals during the church service. All are welcome to bring their pets for a blessing.

The church is open for prayer and meditation on Fridays from 2-4 p.m., and there will also be a gathering in the church office at the same time, for Anglican Prayer beading at the same time. No prior beading experience is required. All are welcome.

Check out more information, the church's calendar of events, donate, or listen to past sermons at www.trinitychurchportlandct.org. If you have any other prayer requests to lift up, email the church office at trinitychurchportlandct@gmail.com.

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

Senior Center News & Notes

The Waverly Senior Center, 7 Waverly Ave., is open Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., and Friday, 9 a.m.-noon. For more information or to register, call 860-342-6760.

Food Bank Donations: People donating for Portland Food Bank are asked to not leave Food Bank donations at the senior center unless the food bank is open. The food bank is open Mondays and Thursdays from 9 a.m.-noon. Also, the senior center does not need any donations directed toward the center; please only leave donations for the food bank, and only during food bank hours

Next Week's Programs: **Monday:** Light Aerobics, 9:30-10:30 a.m., Flu and Booster Clinic, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.; **Tuesday:** Bears on a Journey, 9:30-11 a.m. – making fleece teddy bears for cancer patients; donations are sought of light fleece, one yard or more for making teddy bears for cancer patients throughout Connecticut. If you would like to donate, call 860-342-0809; Watercolor Lessons, 9:30 a.m.-noon (to register, email bivenne@yahoo.com); Stretch & Flex: 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; Coupons for Troops, 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m.; setback, 1 p.m.; Exercise Tap Class, 1:30 p.m. **Wednesday:** Light Aerobics, 9:30-10:30 a.m.; Syncoize Exercise, 10:15-11 a.m.; Let That Stuff Go session, 11:30 a.m.; Social Duplicate Bridge, 12:30-4 p.m. on the second and fourth Thursday; Tai Chi Qi Gong with Lisa, 1 p.m. **Thursday:** Syncoize II Balance & Core, 9 a.m.; Knit & Stitch, 10 a.m.; Stretch & Flex, 11:30 a.m.; Mahjong, 12:30-4 p.m.; Scrabble, 1-4 p.m. **Friday:** Light Aerobics, 9:30 a.m.

Free Hearing Screenings: The second Tuesday of each month at 11 a.m., with Virginia Duclos of "All Ears" in Portland. No registration

is necessary.

Medical Rides: The center provides seniors and disabled with rides to the doctor. Cost is \$5/person round trip. Two-week notice requested. Masks required.

Cans-4-A-Cause: Drop off washed cans and bottles in a bin in the rear parking lot of the center. For details or to volunteer, email Jeff Myjak at myjakjeff@gmail.com.

Foot Care: Held at the center on the fourth Tuesday of each month. The fee is \$35, cash or check. Call the center to make an appointment.

Trip to Kent Falls: Tuesday, Oct. 19. The trip is sold out.

Oktoberfest: Thursday, Oct.26, 11 a.m. Sign up for this free event by calling Lynn or Alexis at 860-342-6761.

Volunteers Sought for Meals-on-Wheels: The senior center is currently recruiting a volunteer coordinator to assist with the administration of the Meals-on-Wheels volunteers, and is also looking volunteer drivers for the program. For full details, call Alexis or Lynn at 860-342-6761.

Great History Weekend in Portland

Portraits, a tour and motorcycles, oh my!

The Portland Historical Society had a great weekend Oct 7-9. Highlights included the first public opening of the Ruth Callander House Museum of Portland History in over two years, since being shut down by the COVID-19 pandemic. Sunday afternoon from 1-3 p.m., Joseph Morneault, Overton biographer, presided over the unveiling of the portraits at the grand opening of the Overton Gallery.

At 4 p.m., Bob McDougall conducted the first of four cemetery tours in our Celebrating Cemeteries series; the tour featured over 20 at-

tendees. For those who were unable to attend the tours, reviews will be presented at future meetings of the society.

Also, from Oct. 7-9 at the Portland Fair, George Gilbert set up a booth for the society, featuring his story boards of Oscar Hedstrom, inventor of the Indian Motorcycle.

The next museum opening will be 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 13, featuring author Sarah Carastasis, reading *The Adventures of Nibbles Munk Munk*, a children's book that highlights local history.

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Discenza's Highlanders Headed in Right Direction

By Josh Howard

After coaching at the middle school for three years prior to the pandemic, John Discenza is thrilled to be back coaching soccer in Portland as the head coach of the boys' program at Portland High School.

Discenza described his return to Portland as "excellent" and added "it's been a dream."

After a slow start to the season, the Highlanders are starting to find their groove, ending last week with shutout victories over Westbrook and Valley Regional.

Even in defeat, Discenza has liked what he's seen out of the team.

In an Oct. 4 loss to E.O. Smith, a Class L school from the Central Connecticut Conference, the Class S Highlanders played to a half-time draw before surrendering three goals over the final 40 minutes on a rain-soaked field at Portland High School.

"I thought at times we outplayed them and went toe-to-toe with them," said Discenza, who replaced Michael Searson in the offseason. "We had a few miscommunications with the goalie and our defense, which cost us two goals, but other than that I couldn't be more proud."

Senior captains Cole Bates and Andrew Johnson are helping carry out Discenza's vision on the field.

Discenza, who previously coached at Portland Middle School, said that his senior leaders have been invaluable as he implements his stamp on the program.

"They have been phenomenal," Discenza said of his captains. "I couldn't ask for better leaders and they give everything they have on the field."

Bates and Johnson are two of the team's four seniors, joining Brandon McPhee and Ryan Clarke.

Johnson said there is a family feel on and off the field, adding, "Now I'm the bigger brother that has to look after my teammates. They are family members to me; we build our team

around that."

Joining the four seniors are a talented group of younger players that feature junior starters Alexander Dawson, Benjamin McGrew, Giovanni Discenza, Benjamin Sorrell, Cooper Beck, along with sophomore starters Parker Thompson and Raymond Lin.

"The younger guys bring in a new perspective," said Bates. "They bring a new energy."

Bates added that the seniors learned the ropes from an influential senior class a season ago and went to work in the summer league, helping prepare the younger players and get ready for the coaching change.

The time spent together is beginning to pay dividends. After struggling to put the ball in the back of the net over the first six games – scoring only seven goals – they matched that season's scoring output in the Shoreline Conference (SLC) wins over Westbrook and Valley Regional last week.

In a 4-0 win over Westbrook on Oct. 6, Bates netted a pair of goals. Thompson and junior Kadir Hamidovic also found the back of the net. Two days later, they blanked Valley Regional 3-0.

Discenza said that the team always had the right mindset and now it appears the team is starting to play to their full potential.

"I love the attitude, the hustles, the way they come out to play. They never give up," said Discenza. "They are a scrappy team; they give you all that they got. The way they play the game gets me really fired up."

Defense has been a key for the Highlanders, who have shut out four opponents this season.

Protecting the backend is goalie Erik Medvecky, a first-year starter.

Discenza said he wasn't exactly sure what to expect out of Medvecky, but he has been pleasantly surprised, crediting the junior net minder with picking up the positions quickly and for his powerful leg.



Portland senior Cole Bates controls the ball in a game against E.O. Smith on Oct. 4. Bates and Andrew Johnson are the captains for the Highlanders, who are in their first season under head coach John Discenza.

"He has been an anchor back there," added Discenza. "He is still learning the position, but he's coming along very well. Every game you can see the improvements."

The Highlanders next visit Cromwell this

Saturday, Oct. 15 for a primetime game against the SLC rival Panthers, starting at 6 p.m.

They return home for their annual grudge match with East Hampton under the lights at PHS, starting at 7 p.m. on Thurs., Oct. 20.

Zion Lutheran Church News

Zion Lutheran Church, located at 183 William St., offers in-person worship Sundays at 9 a.m. Masks may be removed when seated.

For those unable or reluctant to worship in person, a recording of the service is posted to YouTube on Mondays by 9 a.m. Bulletins for the service are posted each week on the church's website, zionlutheranportland.org.

Sunday School has resumed for the year, but there is always time to join. Ages 3 to 16 are welcome. Sunday School meets the first and third Sunday of the month at 10:15 a.m., following worship. Attendance at worship is not required but is certainly welcome and encour-

aged. Contact the church for information about registering your child.

Adult Bible study takes place on the second and fourth Sunday of the month, following worship at 10:15 a.m. The focus is on season two of the television series *The Chosen*. Anyone may join at any time. Call the church for details.

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

First Congregational Church News

The First Congregational Church of Portland, located at 554 Main St., is a member of the United Church of Christ. The church is an "open and affirming" congregation, welcoming everyone. Facial mask-wearing is optional. The worship service is livestreamed as well as available for later viewing on the church's YouTube channel; search on YouTube for First Church of Portland CT.

The Sunday worship service on Oct. 16 begins at 10 a.m. The Rev. Jane Hawken's sermon is titled "Proclaiming the Message." Under Kasha Breaux's direction, the choir will sing the anthem, "I Will Joyfully Sing in the Morning." Church school and infant/toddler care are available during the service. All are invited to coffee hour following the service.

First Church Nursery School offers a program for 3-year-olds on Tuesday and Thursday,

and one for 4-year-olds on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. 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.

The church emails a weekly newsletter, *The Weekly Word*. 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. Those who wish to follow the church on Facebook may do so at The First Congregational Church of Portland, CT.

Part of Senior Center Renamed for Volunteers

By Jack Lakowsky

Longtime Portland volunteers Ruth and Nunzi Maio, both now in their golden years, will forever be memorialized in the Waverly Senior Center for their "commitment and exemplary service" to the local food bank.

The whole lower level of center will now bear the Maio name, in hopes it will "inspire all those that work here and beyond."

Last week, the local selectboard voted to dedicate the center's lower portion.

Respected community pillars, Ruth and Nunzi Maio have served at the food bank for decades, giving food and other needs to residents in need of resources.

For their work the couple's been honored twice. They won the 2009 Ralph Paley Spirit of Portland Award and, earlier this year, Ruth Maio won the 2022 Humanitarian of the Year Award.

Originally, the Friends of the Portland Food Bank asked Portland First Selectman Ryan Curley to rename the senior center entirely, but this comes with some hang-ups and obstacles, so dedicating part of the building was more practical.

"They've been operating there for decades," Curley told the *Rivereast* this week. "They worked through the pandemic."

Curley pointed out that earlier this year Portland Food Bank won a regional Lions Club award, beating out entrants from nearly every town in the state.

"Certainly, Ruth and Nunzi are more than well-deserving," said Curley. "Ruth is 88 and she's still such a force. We're thrilled to have her."

An interview with Ruth Maio couldn't be coordinated before press time.

The Portland Food Bank is open on Monday and Thursday from 9 a.m.-noon, and is at 860-342-6795. Be sure to drop off non-perishable items only on Mondays and Thursdays between 9 a.m. and 11:45 a.m. Monetary donations are also welcome.

The food bank provides to Portland residents: non-perishable foods, toiletries/personal care items, holiday food baskets, Christmas gifts, and occasionally winter jackets, gently used clothing, furniture and household appliances.

Community Drive to Benefit Streetfire Ministries

During October and November, the Grace Guild of Zion Lutheran Church will collect new men's and women's underwear in all sizes, as well as men's T-shirts, and men's and women's socks and gloves for Steetfire Ministries.

Steetfire serves those in need and the homeless population of Middletown and surrounding

communities. It provides food, clothing, housing and spiritual guidance.

All donations can be left in the "red box" located at the side entrance of the church located at 183 William St. in Portland.

For more information, call Donna at 860-262-1070.



Keeping on the momentum from its spring show, Trinity Church at 345 Main Street is set to host a jazz and bluegrass band for its fall show. Trinity renewed its concerts this year after a hiatus during the worst of the pandemic. Proceeds from the shows go to a charitable cause; this time, money goes to local volunteer firefighters.

Trinity Church Continues Concerts this Month

By Jack Lakowsky

After raising nearly \$3,000 to support Ukraine in its fight against Russia, Portland's Trinity Church will turn its focus local with its next benefit concert.

This time, every cent raised will go to the Portland's volunteer firefighters.

On Saturday Oct. 22 at 7 p.m. the striking old brownstone building will host The Hot Flashes, a swing, jazz, bluegrass, folk and blues band with an international following.

Ray Phillips, organizer for Brownstone Vital Connections, along with other church personnel and music enthusiasts revived Trinity's benefit concerts, which had a brief but successful run before hitting a snag called the pandemic.

Acoustically the church's interior is ideal, and it recently invested in a state-of-the-art sound system, a step in Trinity's goal of becoming an inclusive community space.

"I think we'll have another successful show," Phillips told the *Rivereast* last week.

"We picked another very good band. We've booked them in the past and we still get compliments about them. If we do them justice and get the word out, they'll sell out."

The Hot Flashes, formerly Amy Gallatin and the Hot Flashes, has played from right here on the river to festivals in the Netherlands and Germany.

The band is a tight vocal trio offering a wealth of tunes drawn from swing, jazz, bluegrass, folk, and blues, delivering pop and period swing tunes.

Backed by the chops of mandolinist JD Williams, Dobro veteran Roger

Williams – both from Gallatin's band Stillwaters – and bassist John Urbanik, the instrumentation also includes the occasional clawhammer banjo.

For more information and for tickets, email trinityvitalconnections@gmail.com or call 860-463-6444.

Portland • Portland

Absentee Ballots for November Election

Applications for absentee ballots for the Nov. 8 election are available in the town clerk's office at Town Hall, 33 E. Main St.; online at www.portlandct.org/voting-info; or by calling 860-342-6743.

Any applications or completed absentee ballots should be mailed back to the town clerk's office at: P.O. Box 71 Portland, CT 06480, or left in the election drop box, located by the rear entrance of the Town Hall. Portland residents

can also obtain a voter registration card at the town clerk's office.

Additionally, there are candidates for this November's election who are mailing absentee ballot applications out to residents. If you receive an unsolicited application in the mail, and wish to vote by absentee ballot, you can complete the form and return it to the town clerk's office.





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onions, prosciutto peas in a cream sauce

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black mussels sautéed with garlic, hot cherry peppers and grape tomatoes served over linguini in a white wine sauce

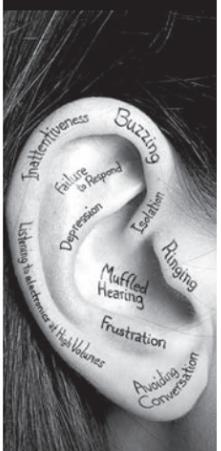
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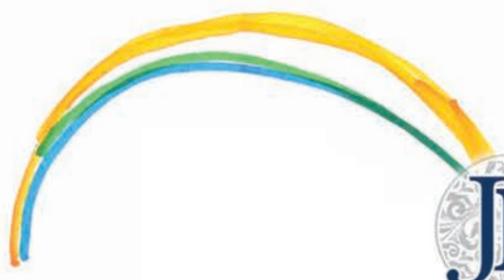
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Free Paper-Shredding Event

The Lower CT River Council of Governments will hold a paper-shredding event Saturday, Oct. 15, from 9 a.m.-noon, at the Chester Town Hall, 203 Middlesex Ave., Chester. The event is open to residents of the River-

COG region which includes East Hampton and Portland. No commercial or business shredding will be allowed. Visit rivercog.org/household-hazardous-waste to learn more.

Craft and Art Show

Quarry View Historic Park and Campground will have its third Artistic Craft and Art show Saturday, Oct. 15, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; rain date is Oct. 16. This is a large fundraiser for the park. Ven-

dors from all over the state will showcase their art and wares. There will also be food trucks located in the upper parking lot courtesy of the Brownstone Quorum.

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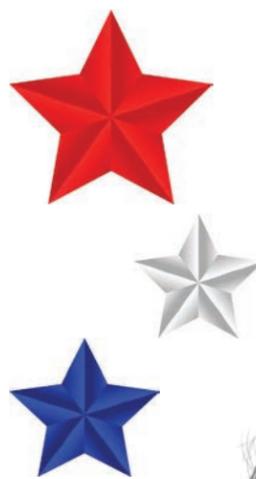
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Food Bank Benefit

On Saturday, Oct. 15, local classic rock band Jam Station will play the annual Portland Food Bank benefit concert. The show will start at 1 p.m. at Portland Discount Liquors on 348 Marlborough St., at the Adams plaza. Opening will be special guests The Attic Slugs. Rain date is Oct. 22, also at 1 p.m.

Cemetery Meeting

The annual meeting of The Portland Burying Ground Association (Center Cemetery) will be held Tuesday, Oct. 18, at 6 p.m., at the home of Peggy Tierney, 22 Rogers Rd. Anyone interested in the cemetery is invited to attend.



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Class of '92 Reunion

Portland, Mercy, Xavier and Vinal high school Class of 1992 will have its 30th reunion Saturday, Oct. 22, from 6-10 p.m., at Concentric Brewing Company. For more information or tickets, email Dana DiMauro at danak1927@gmail.com.

Republicans Seek Volunteers

The Portland Republican Town Committee is seeking individuals to serve their community as members of one of the town's various boards and commissions. In addition, the committee is seeking individuals who are interested in running for local elective positions. If interested, email GOPPortlandCT@gmail.com or call Tim Lavoy at 860-212-3114. The Portland RTC holds its regular meetings on the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at 7 Waverly Ave. Republicans interested in public service or in learning more about becoming a member of the RTC are welcome to attend.

'Come on Over' 5K

Portland Parks and Recreation's 19th annual 'Come on Over' 5k and 2.1-mile fitness walk will take place Saturday, Oct. 29, at 9:30 a.m., at Portland Riverfront Park. Register at runsignup.com/Race/CT/Portland/ComeonOver5kandWalk. Day-of-race registration is online only. People are also invited to set up a table, and there will be a food truck after the race. For more information, call 860-342-6757.

Resident's Artwork on Display

All month, Portland Library, located at 20 Freestone Ave., is hosting an art exhibit of paintings by resident Paula Lee. There are approximately 25 paintings exhibited in the Mary Flood Room of the library. All will be available for sale. Lee's subject matter covers a range of topics, from local landscapes, to wildlife, and to her favorite subject horses. She frequently works on commission creating pet portraits for her clients.

Classes of '76, '77 Reunion

The 1976 and 1977 Portland class reunion is Friday, Oct. 21, at 7 p.m., at Campagna Restaurant, 151 Marlborough St., Portland. All class of 1976 and 1977 graduates from Portland High School, Mercy, Xavier and Vinal are invited. Cost is \$45 per person, and includes a buffet dinner and music. There will be a cash bar. Members of the class of 1976 should send a check to Carol Revicki, 20 Edwards Rd, Portland, CT 06480, or email Kimfischburg@gmail.com for more information. Members of the class of 1977 can Venmo payment to Colleen Kimball @Colleen-Kimball-4 or mail a check to Kimball at 53 East Main St., Portland, CT 06480, or email kimball7984@gmail.com for more information.

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East Hampton • East Hampton

Congregational Church Harvest Dinner

The Second Congregational Church of Middle Haddam is serving a takeout harvest dinner on Sunday, Oct. 23, from 3-4 p.m. The church is located at 51 Middle Haddam Rd., Middle Haddam.

The meal consists of a cheesy zucchini summer squash casserole, pulled pork, butternut

bisque soup and quick breads. Price is \$24 per meal, which serves two people.

Call Kathy at 860 510-8102 to place your reservation. Last call to reserve is noon Oct. 23.

The church is handicapped-accessible; come to the lower hall for pickup.

Spaghetti Supper

All are invited to a spaghetti supper Wednesday, Oct. 19, from 5-6:30 p.m., at Bethlehem Lutheran Evangelical Church, on the corner of Route 66 and North Main Street.

A good-will offering will be accepted.

Library Friends Book Sale

The Friends of East Hampton Public Library will hold a book sale in the library community room Friday, Nov. 4, from 4-7 p.m., and Saturday, Nov. 5, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. The library is located at 105 Main St.

Gently-used book donations will be accepted Saturday, Oct. 29, through Thursday, Nov. 3, in the library, during regular hours.

During the book sale, Friends in good standing will receive a free book. To become a member please find an application in the library or visit www.easthamptonpubliclibrary.org to fill out an application form online.



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Police News

10/1: Brett Caswell, 38, of Granby, was arrested and charged with operating under suspension, possession of a controlled substance, and possession of drug paraphernalia, East Hampton Police said.

10/6: Matthew Miramant, 41, of 5 Edgerton St., was issued a summons for driving under suspension and failure to stop at a stop sign.

10/9: The East Hampton Police Department arrested a 12-year-old juvenile male for Threatening in the 1st Degree with a Firearm and Harassment in the 1st Degree. The juvenile made a video of himself holding what appeared to be a real firearm in which he could be heard saying "I'm going to get you pow pow pow." The firearm turned out to be a BB gun which was an exact replica of a Glock model 19. He then sent that video to another juvenile, police said.

Also, from Oct. 3-10, officers responded to three medical calls, four motor vehicle crashes and eight alarms, and made 33 traffic stops, police said.

East Hampton Library News & Notes

East Hampton Public Library, 105 Main St., has announced the following. Registration required unless noted; 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.

Family Pumpkin Decorating Contest: Saturday, Oct. 15, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Work as a team to decorate the best pumpkin at this all-ages event. All supplies provided. One pumpkin per family. Registration required. Pumpkins donated by Paul's and Sandy's Too. The program is sponsored by the Friends of the East Hampton Public Library.

Children's Programs: Toddler Time: Wednesdays, 10:15 a.m., for children ages 18 months to 3 years. **Stories & Songs:** Wednesdays, 11:15 a.m., for ages 3-5.

Mindful Movements – Outside: Mondays, 10:30 a.m., at Sears Park/the lake. For ages 18 months and up; siblings welcome.

Baby Rhyme Time: Thursdays, 10:15 a.m., in the library community room.

DIY Days: Saturdays, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., for ages 5-14. Children and families in grades K-8 are invited to create a different toy, game or treat together. These activities are available while supplies last. No registration required; just drop in.

Nintendo Switch Tournament: Saturday, Oct. 15, 2-3 p.m., for grades 1-5. All skill levels welcome.

Kids Comic Creators: Big Nate: Wednesday, Oct. 19, 4:30 p.m., for grades 2-5. Learn about different styles of comics and make your own. This program includes read-alouds, drawing, games, prizes and more.

Middle-Grade Programs: Pre-Teen Advisory Board: Tuesday, Oct. 18, 5 p.m., for grades 5-8. New members are welcome. The library wants to know what you want, from program ideas, to community service, new materials recommendations and more.

Fandom Showdown: Friday, Oct. 14, 3:30-5:30 p.m., for grades 4-7. Are you a superfan? Has a book, movie or TV series changed your life? Come on down to the Fandom Showdown for debate and games about your faves.

Teen Program: Dungeons & Dragons: Wednesdays, Oct. 26, and Nov. 9, 5:30-7:30 p.m., for grades 8-12. No previous playing experience required. The library will provide basic, fifth edition, level four characters, and all supplies.

Teen Friday: Friday, Oct. 28, 3:30-4:30 p.m., for grades 6-12. Kick back, relax, and start the weekend off with fun, crafts, games and more.

Adult Programs: Book Club: Tuesday, Oct. 18, 6:30 p.m. *In: The Graphic Novel* by Will McPhail will be discussed.

Make a Seasonal Flower Arrangement: Tuesday, Oct. 25, 6:30 p.m. Learn how to create a seasonal flower arrangement using pumpkins or other fall/winter-themed items. The library will provide everything you need for this flower arranging class. Space is limited.



Think Pink... The East Hampton Police Department has gone pink for Breast Cancer Awareness Month. EHPD changed the graphics on one of the vehicles to pink, to raise awareness and show support, while also remembering those who have lost their lives to this disease. Breast cancer is the second-most common cancer in women and is responsible for tens of thousands of deaths every year. East Hampton Police Officer Brandy Lenois is a breast cancer survivor and is one of the officers who will drive the car on patrol. The pink graphics were funded from private donations given to the department for education awareness projects.

Knights' Spaghetti Supper

The Knights of Columbus Belltown Council 6190 at St. Patrick Church in East Hampton will be sponsoring its semi-annual spaghetti and meatball dinner on Oct. 14, from 4:30-7:30 p.m., at the church parish center, located at 47 West High St. Rain date is Oct. 21.

Takeout and dine-in meals will be offered. Meal prices are \$12 for adults and \$11 for seniors. Children 6-12 are \$5, and children under 5 eat for free. The meal will include a

salad, bread, dessert, coffee, tea and punch drinks. Soda and water are not included; they are sold separately for \$1 each. Proceeds will support local charitable programs. Raffle prizes and musical entertainment will be offered as well.

The Knights of Columbus will also collect non-perishable food items for the East Hampton Food Bank.

Contact Jim Radavich at 860-319-9288 or jravadich@yahoo.com for more information.

Calling All Artists!

All painters, photographers and fiber artists are invited to submit their work to "Save a Horse – Buy Art," a juried art show taking place at the Essex Art Association (10 North Main St., Essex) from Oct. 21-23. The show benefits Connecticut Draft Horse Rescue (CDHR) of East Hampton.

Awards will be: Best of Show, Viewers' Pick, Best Painting, Best Photo, Best Fiber Art. This year's theme is comprised of four words: Connecticut, Draft, Horse, and/or Rescue. All accepted entries will be notified via email and via the CDHR Facebook page (www.facebook.com/ctdraftrescue) on Oct. 14.

There will be an opening reception Friday, Oct. 21, from 6-8 p.m.

For more information, email CDHRartshow@outlook.com.

Lions Holding Raffle

The East Hampton Lions Club is holding a raffle to support the funding of scholarships for graduating seniors from the East Hampton community.

The grand prize is \$2,022. There will be two first-place winners, at \$222 each; two second-place winners at \$122; and two third-place winners at \$52. The first-, second- and third-place winners are reentered for the grand prize drawing.

Cost is \$10 per ticket. A total of 750 tickets will be sold. The drawing will take place at 2:22 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 22, at 62 N. Main St. Tickets will be sold right up until the drawing date.

For tickets or more information, call Tom Denman of the East Hampton Lions at 860-519-4951 or 860-267-4512.

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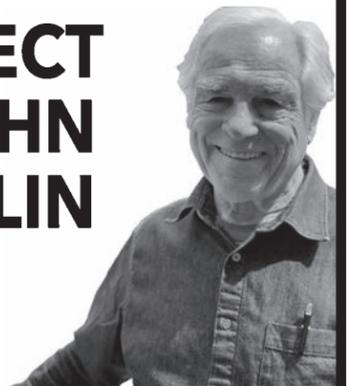
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Spencer Loves a Parade... Members of the Connecticut Draft Horse Rescue participated in the parade at the Big E on Sunday, Sept. 25. Spencer the Percheron, one of CDHR's ambassadors, was driven by Dr. Stacey Golub, founder of the rescue. Visitors to the Big E were in awe of Spencer's size and gentleness, cheering him along the parade route. Connecticut Draft Horse Rescue is an all-volunteer organization in East Hampton, dedicated to saving the lives of draft horses who are victims of abuse and neglect, as well as those bound for slaughter. Visiting hours are Saturdays and Sundays, 10 a.m.-noon. For more information, look for CDHR on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ctdraftrescue. Photo by Sarah Grote Photography.

Middle Haddam Public Library News

Middle Haddam Public Library, 2 Knowles Rd., Middle Haddam, has announced the following. To register or more information on any program, email middlehaddamlibrary@gmail.com, visit middlehaddamlibrary.com or call 860-267-9093.

Library Hours: Monday and Thursday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Tuesday and Friday, 3-6 p.m. Masks are optional.

Yoga: Tuesdays at 7 p.m. and Saturdays at 9 a.m., with Erin Day of Ten Summit Yoga. In October, there will also be an additional day, Mondays at 9 a.m. Cost is a \$15 drop-in fee. Register at tensummitst@gmail.com.

Mahjong: Mondays at 11:30 a.m. All players

welcome.

Nimble Knitters: Thursdays at 1 p.m.

Cacao Ceremony: Saturday, Oct. 23, 10 a.m., with current artist Megan Desrosier. This ceremony will include a guided meditation into the heart space and an art project. Artistic ability is not required. Please register.

Writers' Workshop: Wednesday, Oct. 26, 7-8:30 p.m. Published author Jack Matthews will discuss the elements of writing and publishing. Please register.

Space Available: Are looking for space for meetings? Or a space to work from home? There are options at the library; stop by to take a look.

Senior Center News & Notes

East Hampton Senior Center, 105 Main St., is open. Advance registration required for all programs unless noted; register at myactive-center.com or by contacting the center at 860-267-4426 or seniorcenter@easthamptonct.gov. Senior center hours are Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Masks are encouraged, but not required. Visit the senior center online at www.easthamptonct.gov/easthampton-senior-center.

Lunches: Served at the center Monday through Friday, to ages 60 and up. Call the center to reserve a meal or sign up online. Reservations for the next day's meal are due by 11 a.m. the day before. Meals are free, though a \$3 donation is requested.

Weekly Activities: **Quilting Group:** Mondays, 9 a.m. **Mexican Train Dominoes:** Mondays, 9:30 a.m. **Setback:** Mondays, 1 p.m., and Thursdays, 1:15 p.m. **Bible Study:** Tuesdays, 1 p.m. **Bingo:** Tuesdays, 1-2 p.m., in person and via Zoom. **Game Day:** Fridays, 10 a.m.-noon - space will be available and open to Mahjongg, cribbage, Mexican Train and setback players. Registration required. **Textile Group:** Fridays at 1:30 p.m.

Writing Our Lives to Open Our Hearts: Thursdays, 10:30-11:30 a.m., or every other Wednesday (next date Oct. 26), at 9:30 a.m. The group will meet outdoors, weather permitting; otherwise it will be indoors or via Zoom.

Setback: Mondays from 1-3 p.m. and Thursdays from 1:15-3:15 p.m., in person.

Mighty Magnificent Men's Group: Monday, Oct. 17, 10 a.m. This is a social hour of facts, activities and snacks.

Connecticare: Tuesday, Oct. 18, 10:30 a.m. Beverly Goodrich will walk people through the programs offered.

Corn Hole: Wednesday, Oct. 19, at 10:30 a.m. Played inside or outside. This is a friendly competition with junior rules.

Wonderfully Wicked Women's Group (WWW): Friday, Oct. 21, 1 p.m. This first meeting of this new monthly group will establish what people want to discuss: current events, holistic medicine, entertainment, support systems, etc. Snacks will be available.

Wii Bowling: Thursday, Oct. 27, 10 a.m.

This is a friendly competition between friends.

Family Tree Friday: Friday, Oct. 21, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Ken Doney will help participants search the histories of their families. Bring your own mobile device to the program.

Art w/Karen: Sunday, Oct. 23, 2-4 p.m. Karen Williams will take people through beginner steps of creating an acrylic painting. The cost of the class is \$5 for supplies. Pay Williams the day of the event.

AARP Safe Driving: Monday, Oct. 24, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., for drivers 50 and older. Cost is \$20 for AARP members, \$25 for non-members, payable by check only. Payment due at registration.

Flu Clinic & Bivalent Booster: Tuesday, Oct. 25, 9-11 a.m. Sponsored by Chatham Health District. United HealthCare not accepted. No registration needed.

Medicare 101: Tuesday, Oct. 25, 10 a.m. Learn the ins-and outs, when you need to sign up, and more.

Special Luncheon Sponsored by the Democratic Town Committee: Friday, Oct. 28, noon-1:30 p.m. The menu is boneless roasted chicken, potatoes au gratin, fresh green beans, yellow squash, tossed salad, rolls and butter, plus dessert. Seating is limited.

Halloween Happening: Monday, Oct. 31, 10:30 a.m., in the library community room, for ages birth through 5. There will be Halloween-themed stories, songs, games and crafts. Costumes encouraged but not required.

Trip: In the Christmas Mood: See the Glenn Miller Orchestra Wednesday, Dec. 7, at the Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville. Lunch will be served. Cost is \$114 per person. Call for more information.

Volunteer Shopping: The center has a program where a volunteer will shop for you. Call in your list to 860-267-4426 or email it to Jewling@easthampton.gov. The shopper will call you before the drop-off to let you know the cost of the groceries. You can write out a check for the amount, payable to the Town of East Hampton. The volunteer will drop off the groceries at your door and pick up the check in a pre-arranged designated spot.

EHACC Accepting Grant Applications

The East Hampton Arts & Culture Commission is accepting applications from East Hampton High School juniors and seniors for \$200 grants to support an annual East Hampton High School capstone project.

The grant will help support two students' proposed capstone projects. The capstone project is 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.arts-foreasthamptonct.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, 1 Community Drive, East Hampton, CT 06424.

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Haunted House and Hayride

Over 30 Epoch Arts students and staff members have joined together to create yet another year of spooks and scares. This year's Haunted House is themed Time Warp.

Visit with the March Hare as you venture down the dark rabbit hole to find the crazy White Rabbit. Get your ticket for a boat ride that will leave you dizzy and frightened. Venture through a Wasteland with spooks around every corner, and find your way through the Psycho Distortion rooms of mind trips and mirrored hallways. Also, there will be hayride with Epoch's "outdoor friends" that are waiting to meet you.

The Haunted House is four nights – Oct. 21, 22, 28 and 29 – from 7-10 p.m. each night. Admission is \$15 admission for both the Haunted House and the hayride. Make reservations and purchase time slots at www.epocharts.org/events/haunted.

Epoch Arts is located at 27 Skinner St.

Beginner Bellringer Preschool

East Hampton High School's Beginner Bellringer Preschool Program is taking applications for the 2022-23 school year. Parents may have a preschool sent to them by contacting Kasey Tortora at 860- 365-4030 ext. 1300 or ktortora@easthamptonct.org. All applications must be received by Nov. 4.

Preschool will be held three afternoons per week (Mondays, noon-2 p.m. and Thursdays and Fridays, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Sessions are open to 3- to 5-year-olds as of Jan. 1, 2023; in some cases, older 2-year-olds will be accepted.

There is a limit of 12 students per class.

The preschool program will begin Thursday, Jan. 5, 2023, and will end May 26, 2023. The cost is \$200 per student. Enrollment is limited. Applications will be selected this year on a first come first serve basis. Further information may be obtained by contacting Kasey Tortora via telephone or email as listed above.

All preschoolers must present completed documentation of a current physical and adequate immunizations (including the flu shot) before the start of the program.

EHVFD Designing Commemorative Patch

In 2023, the East Hampton Volunteer Fire Department will proudly celebrate its 100th anniversary. Several events are being planned to commemorate this important milestone, one of which involves the creation of a special uniform patch.

The department is inviting members of the community to submit their own designs for a 100th Anniversary patch.

The patch needs to measure 4.0 inches wide (at its widest point) by 4.5 inches tall and each prospective design shall include:

"East Hampton Fire Department"; "Est. 1923"; "100th Anniversary"; and some other

element emblematic of the town and/or fire department

For reference, the EHVFD's current patch is shown as the profile photo on the department's Facebook page (www.facebook.com/EHVFDCT).

Submit your design via email to ehvfd.100th.anniversary@gmail.com by Oct. 31 and please include your name, address and phone number along with a photo of your entry. All entries will be considered and the winner will receive special recognition and be invited to ride in a fire truck during a parade in 2023.

Congregational Church News & Notes

The Congregational Church of East Hampton, UCC, located at 59 Main St., is open for in-person services with the Rev. Amie McCarthy every Sunday at 10 a.m. All services can also be accessed via Zoom by going to cc-eh.org. All are welcome.

Lunch Bunch at the Turquoise Table: Meets every Wednesday from 12:30-1:30 p.m. Bring a bagged lunch.

The Yarners meet every Thursday from 10:30 a.m.-noon in the Fellowship Hall. All knitters and crocheters are welcome.

For more information about CCEH and its activities, visit cc-eh.org or call the church office at 860-267-4959 during office hours: Tuesday-Friday, 8 a.m.-noon.

Lake Drawdown

The owner of the dam for Lake Pocotopaug is planning a lake drawdown to begin the week of Monday, Oct. 17. The lake will be drawn down approximately 28 inches.

The drawdown will give residents an opportunity to work on seawalls and do beach clean-up. Residents are reminded that activities along the shoreline may require an Inland Wetlands permit. Residents should contact the Land Use Department at 860-267-7450 as soon as possible concerning questions and applications before doing any work in the lake watershed.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church News

Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church holds live in-person services Sundays at 10:15 a.m. All are welcome. Enter via the front door and ushers will assist you. There is also a livestream link will be at the church's Facebook page, at www.facebook.com/BethlehemEH.

Resident Joins Brokerage

Carl Guild & Associates recently announced real estate sales professional Laurie DeGross has joined the brokerage. Carl Guild & Associates is a full-service, independent real estate brokerage based in East Hampton, which services clients throughout the central Connecticut region.

"We're thrilled to welcome Laurie to Carl Guild & Associates," says Carl Guild, broker/owner of Carl Guild & Associates. "She's not only dedicated to her community but encompasses the full meaning of kindness and patience, skills she uses with her clients daily!"

DeGross, who coaches soccer, basketball and T-Ball, resides in Colchester with her husband and son. She can often be found hiking, rock-climbing and biking local trails as well as camping.

In addition to her career in real estate, DeGross has been a teacher for 20 years.



Laurie DeGross



Funds for Eagle Project... East Hampton Lions Club vice president Liz Cooper presents Aiden Maiorino, Eagle Scout candidate, with a \$500 check to help with his Story Walk that will be installed at Memorial School.

American Legion to Meet

Treadway Cavanaugh American Legion Post 64 will hold its next meeting Tuesday, Oct. 18, at 7 p.m., at the East Hampton VFW Post 5095, 20 North Maple St. All members are encouraged to attend.

Meetings are held every third Tuesday of the month from September through June.

Athletic Hall of Fame Election

The East Hampton Athletic Hall of Fame has elected two former star athletes and a state championship team for the 2022 induction class.

The inductees are: Jacqueline Beaulieu, a 1999 East Hampton High School graduate who was a standout track athlete; James Brown, who is being inducted posthumously, a 1987 graduate of Xavier High School who lettered four years in basketball; and the 2011 East Hampton High School baseball team, which won the state championship.

Beaulieu, Brown and the 2011 baseball team will be inducted Friday, Oct. 28, at the Blackledge Country Club in Hebron. Tickets are \$55 per person and include a buffet-style dinner. For tickets, email Mike Vasquez at mjvasquez@gmail.com.

Middle School Basketball and Cheerleading

East Hampton Middle School student/athletes who are interested in trying-out for boys' basketball, girls' basketball or cheerleading teams can register online through FamilyID.com.

Athletes must have a physical within a 13-month period in order to try out.

Deadline for registration is Monday, Nov. 7. For more information, contact EHMS athletic director Michael Mercaldi at 860-463-6837.

Free Paper-Shredding Event

The Lower CT River Council of Governments will hold a paper-shredding event Saturday, Oct. 15, from 9 a.m.-noon, at the Chester Town Hall, 203 Middlesex Ave., Chester.

The event is open to residents of the River-COG region which includes East Hampton and Portland. No commercial or business shredding will be allowed.

Visit rivercog.org/household-hazardous-waste to learn more.

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Christ Episcopal Church News

Christ Episcopal Church, 66 Middle Haddam Rd., Middle Haddam, holds in-person and Zoom services at 10 a.m. each Sunday. In order to connect electronically, go to www.christchurchmiddlehaddam.com for directions. The Rev. Cathi Benckin will conduct the service.

Sunday School: Will begin at 9:55 a.m. in the Parish Hall. The Rev. Joanne Neel-Richard helps direct the class.

Donations: Place donations of returnable bottles in the designated barrels near the shed. Food items for the local food bank may be placed in the black totes near the church rear door.

Save the Date: The Autumn Leaves Fair will be held Nov. 4 and 5. Donations of crafts, food and seasonal items are needed as well as new items for a “regifting” table. Contact Regina Starolis at 860-788-2711 or Winnie Edmonds at 860-267-6226 for more information.

Bible Study: Wednesdays at 6 p.m., via Zoom. The Rev. Bobette Reed-Kahn will lead the discussion. Call her at 860-267-4896 if interested in participating.

For more information or if in need of assistance, call the church office at 860-267-0287 or Donna Hryb, senior warden, at 860-633-0472.

Alaska Wild Salmon Fundraising Dinner

Fresh Alaska salmon caught off-shore in Nome, Alaska, is the featured entrée for a fundraising dinner at Haddam Neck Covenant Church, 17 Haddam Neck Rd., on Saturday, Oct. 22, at 5:30 p.m.

One hundred percent of the free will offering proceeds will be given to KICY’s radio ministry to offset escalating fuel costs. Providing the salmon and the after-dinner presentation will be Patty Burchell, general manager of KICY AM and FM of Nome, Alaska.

The fresh salmon is shipped in and will be featured along with ham as an alternative meal choice. RSVP with the number of people in your party and meal choices by Oct. 15 to Joal in the church office (860-267-2336), or to Sandy (860-655-2198).

For more information on the church, visit www.hncovenantchurch.org.

Parks and Rec. News & Notes

East Hampton Parks and Recreation has announced the following pieces of news. For more information, call 860-267-7300 or visit easthamptonct.myrec.com.

Trunk or Treat Halloween Fun: Thursday, Oct. 27, 5:30-7 p.m., Center School. Register to trunk or treat or be a vehicle host.

Calendar-Making and Crafting: Wednesday, Nov. 2-16, 3:30-4:30 p.m., at Memorial School, for ages 5-9. Cost is \$40.

Annual Air Line Trail Ghost Run: Saturday, Nov. 5. Must pre-register online. Cost is \$45 per runner, and \$90 per relay team.

Air Line Trail Maintenance Day: Saturday,

Nov. 19, 8:30 a.m.-noon. Maintenance will be at Bishop Cut, Cranberry Bog, Forest Street, and the viaducts. Register at one of those locations online.

New York on Your Own – Bus Trip to NYC: Saturday, Dec. 10. The bus leaves East Hampton Town Hall at 7:30 a.m. and will depart NYC at 6 p.m. Cost is \$70/person.

American Red Cross Babysitting Course: Friday, Jan. 20, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., at the Town Hall community room. Cost is \$100.

Pollinator Pathway Presentation

The Belltown Garden Club of East Hampton will offer a Pollinator Pathway Presentation at its next meeting, being held in the community room of East Hampton Public Library, 105 Main St., at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 24.

The club will welcome Michele Sinkez and Candice O’Shea, representing the Hebron Pollinator Pathway, who will speak about planting gardens to create a corridor of life and sustenance to support bees, butterflies and birds.

Members of the public and prospective members are welcome to attend. The East Hampton Belltown Garden Club is a member of Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut and National Garden Clubs.

Call Judy Barclay at 413-328-8059 for more information.

Art Association to Meet

The East Hampton Art Association will hold its monthly program Wednesday, Oct. 19, at 7 p.m., in the East Hampton Community Center at 105 Main St. Bivenne Staiger will be guest artist.

Staiger will demonstrate the watercolor techniques she uses to paint a flower with its pollinator, both local to the area and in a natural setting.

Creator of wildlife and floral paintings, Staiger is the recipient of many prestigious awards for her work in watercolor, including the Silver Medal from American Watercolor Society’s 152nd Annual Exhibition (2019), which was also selected as part of the AWS Travel Exhibition. She was a featured artist in Watercolor

Artist magazine’s January/February 2020 issue, is the author of *White! Light! Bright! How to Make Your Backgrounds Support and Enhance Your Watercolor Paintings* (2022, Schiffer Publishing), and writes a blog on her painting techniques (<https://bivennesartblog.wordpress.com>). She offers classes, workshops, and demonstrations in watercolor throughout the southern New England region and has been sharing her love for watercolor for over 20 years. She is represented by Spectrum Art Gallery in Centerbrook. For more information, visit www.bivenneart.com.

The program is free to students and members, with a suggested donation of \$4 for non-members. All are welcome to attend.

Prescription Drug Take-Back Day

The East Hampton Prevention Partnership will participate in DEA’s National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day on Saturday, Oct. 29, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at Town Hall, 1 Community Drive.

Items that are accepted are prescriptions, Rx patches, Rx medications, OTC medications, vitamins, and medications for pets. Items that are not accepted include thermometers, inhalers, aerosol cans, needles and ointments/liquids.

Contact Courtney Fitzkee at cwidrick@easthamptonct.gov for more information.

Teen Halloween Costume Dance

Students in grades 6 and up are invited to dress up in a Halloween costume and go to Epoch Arts’ Teen Halloween Costume Dance Saturday, Oct. 15, from 7-9 p.m., at Epoch, 27 Skinner St. A live DJ will provide the sound, and prizes will be given out throughout the night for costumes, dance moves and craziness.

Admission is \$7 and includes admission and free food and drinks. For more information, visit www.epocharts.org.

Correction

In last week’s *Rivereast*, a story entitled “Belltown Seniors Lonely, Lacking Proper Care” reported that “more than one of every five seniors said Chatham Health District doesn’t meet their needs when they need to find a specialty medical provider.” This was not accurate, however. The survey response didn’t mention Chatham Health – and in fact the health district isn’t charged with direct specialty medical care nor referral to specialty medical care.

The *Rivereast* regrets the error.



Working For The 33rd District

As your State Senator for the 33rd District, I will be a strong voice in Hartford, and I am committed to taking on Connecticut’s most critical issues. It’s time to put people first and make Connecticut a more affordable state that encourages job growth, supports small businesses, and lessens the burden of over-taxation and poor leadership. I am not a millionaire who can ignore everyday increases at the pump and grocery stores. It’s time for change and new blood that can make a difference in our communities.

— Brandon Goff

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- **REPEAL** state mandates without funding to support them
- **SUPPORT** the rights of parents to have greater control over their children’s education
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Police News

9/24: Otis Cleon Allen, 42, of West Hartford, was arrested and charged with reckless driving, illegal racing on highway, improper passing, and following too closely, state police said.
 9/27: Joseph Forsyth, 43, of New Britain, was arrested and charged with violation of probation, state police said.
 9/28: Stanley Lyonel Merise, 46, of Norwich, was arrested and charged with fourth-degree sexual assault, state police said.
 9/29: Nathan Ryan Bair, 35, of 84 Lynn Lane, was arrested and charged with DUI, operating an unregistered motor vehicle, operating a motor vehicle without minimum insurance, and failure to drive in proper lane, state police said.

10/1: Maryelizabeth Rose Bradford, 25, of Hartford, was arrested and charged with failure to renew registration, operating a motor vehicle without minimum insurance, operating a motor vehicle under suspension, and failure to renew registration, state police said.
 10/2: Zachary S. Alexander, 32, of New Britain, was arrested and charged with DUI, making an improper turn and failure to obey a stop sign, state police said.
 10/5: Leigh D. McQuarrie, 41, of 70 Longwood Drive, was arrested and charged with second-degree failure to appear, Colchester Police said.

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.

Monday, Oct. 17: 9 a.m., Making Memories, Exercise with Anne; 10 a.m., Sittercize, Ham Radio Presentation; 11 a.m., Learn to Sign, Pet Therapy; 12:30 p.m., Mah Jongg; 12:45 p.m., Setback; 1 p.m., Bridge; 1:30 p.m., Cooking Demo; Pretzel
Tuesday, Oct. 18: 9 a.m., Making Memories; 9:45 a.m., Tai Chi; 10:30 a.m., Book Club; 12:30 p.m., Pinochle; 1:30 p.m., Bingo.
Wednesday, Oct. 19: 9 a.m., Making Memories Program, Walking Group meet-up at the Air Line Trail in Amston; 10 a.m., Adult Coloring, Sit & Be Fit; 11 a.m., Oktoberfest; 1:30 p.m., Seasonal Crafting: Mask-Making; 1:30 p.m., line dancing.
Thursday, Oct. 20: 7:30 a.m., West Point

Trip departs; 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Energy Assistance by appointment only; 9 a.m., Exercise w/Anne; 10 a.m., Sittercize, Wii Bowling; 11 a.m., Yoga; noon, Chair Massage; 12:30 p.m., Dominoes; 1 p.m., Knit & Crochet.
Friday, Oct. 21: 10 a.m., card-making, Sit & Be Fit; 10:30 a.m., Groundbreaking Ceremony at Town Hall; 11 a.m., Yoga; 1:30 p.m., Bingo.

Upcoming Programs: Annual Halloween Costume & Pizza Party: Monday, Oct. 31. Engage in traditional Halloween festivities including a costume parade, contests, and games. Tickets are \$7 each. Costumes are encouraged; if you show up in one, the center will refund you \$1. Registration is required and can be done by visiting the office. Space is limited.
Apple Pie Veterans Day Social: Thursday, Nov. 10, 11 a.m. Veterans and their spouses will get a free slice of homemade pie a la mode after a brief Veterans Day ceremony. Registration is required. Tickets go on sale Nov. 1.

Colchester Federated Church News

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

Worship services are Sundays at 9 a.m.; masks are optional. 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.colchesterfederated-church.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.

Holly Fair: Saturday, Nov. 12, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Boy Scout Troop 72: Meetings are held in the Stage Room every Monday at 7 p.m.

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.

October Programs at Cragin

Cragin Memorial Library, 8 Linwood Ave., has announced the following programs, which are free and open to the public. For more information, call the library at 860-537-5752 during normal hours: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; and Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Sensory Table: Fridays, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Fall Storytime Sessions: All held at the library. Registration required. Siblings welcome. Sessions run Oct. 24-Dec. 15, and the schedule is: Walkers and Talkers (12-24 months), Mondays, 10:30 a.m.; Toddlers (24-48 months), Mondays, 11:15 a.m.; Preschool Storytime (4- and 5-year-olds), Tuesdays, 11:30 a.m.; Mother Goose (2- to 5-year-olds), Wednesdays, 10:30 and 11:15 a.m.; Baby Storytime and Stay and Play (1-12 months), Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.
Halloween Take & Make Crafts for Children: Oct. 15, 22, 27 and 29.
Halloween Garland Kit: Wednesday, Oct. 19. While supplies last. For teens and adults.
Buffy the Vampire Slayer Sing-Along: Thursday, Oct. 20, 6:30 p.m. All are invited. Props provided; costumes encouraged.

Diwali Take & Make Craft for Children: Monday, Oct. 24. Learn about Diwali and take home a lantern craft.

Teen Eat if You Dare: Monday, Oct. 24, 3 p.m., for grades 6-12. Try some treats without knowing what they will be. Inform library staff of any allergies.

Cragin Book Club: Monday, Oct. 24, 6 p.m., at the library. *Dancing with the Octopus: The Telling of a True Crime* by Deborah Harding will be discussed.

Paint Night: Tuesday, Oct. 25, 6:30 p.m., via Zoom, for teens and adults. Participants will receive an email when supplies are ready to be picked up from the library. Registration is required: tinyurl.com/mv7zu2jv.

Foodie Fun Take & Makes: Saturday, Oct. 29, for teens and adults. Check out the library's Facebook page for a how-to video. While supplies last.

Special Halloween Storytime and Parade: Monday, Oct. 31, 10:30 and 11:30 a.m. There will be spooky reads, songs, and trick-or-treat around the library in a parade. Costumes encouraged.

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New Principal Hired for Bacon

By Michael Sinkewicz

The Board of Education unanimously voted last month to make Amy Begué the new principal at Bacon Academy.

Begué has been as assistant principal at the high school for the last seven years. With the new apportionment, interim principal Charles Hewes will continue serving in his role as assistant superintendent.

Colchester Superintendent of Schools T.Y. McDowell posted a statement announcing the decision.

“Amy has served as an assistant principal at Bacon Academy for the past seven years. We are very pleased that a person of Amy’s caliber is willing to serve as the new educational leader at Bacon Academy,” he wrote. “When you have the opportunity, please welcome and congratulate Amy on her appointment.”

Alex Oliphant, chairman of the school board, also posted a statement this week congratulating Begué on her new position.

“Amy has our full support and we believe that she will do an outstanding job for all of our Bacon Academy students,” he wrote.

Oliphant thanked Hewes for filling the role while simultaneously handling his normal responsibilities.

The district is now searching for a new assistant principal, which is vacant following Begué’s promotion.

The new hire concludes a difficult chapter for Colchester schools. The Board of Education parted ways with former Superintendent Jeff Burt last spring. Then in July, the board approved a separation agreement with Bacon Academy Principal Matthew Peel, who had been on administrative leave since the end of May.

Peel and the district mutually agreed to part ways, according to a copy of the separation agreement obtained by the *Rivereast*.

No official reason has been provided for the separation – something that parents expressed frustration over, especially with his leave coming weeks before graduation.

“This has been a very difficult decision for me as I have cherished my time in Colchester. It has been my true honor to be the proud principal of Bacon Academy,” Peel wrote in statement fol-

lowing his departure.

Krista Kardys, a parent who started a petition to reinstate Peel as Bacon Academy principal following his administrative leave, said that Peel’s exit was a “great loss for the district” and that he was a “great leader.”

This week, Kardys, who said her children have now graduated, told the *Rivereast* that Begué was a perfect decision by the district to help move on from the past.

“I had a really good relationship with her,” she said. “She’s just amazing.”

Kardys expressed that as a parent, sometimes it’s difficult to let go of previous decisions or choices made by the district, but that this hire is an encouraging step.

“Things didn’t go exactly as we’d all hoped, but you move forward,” she said.

Kardys added that she’s “happy to see the school is under new leadership.”

School Safety

Earlier this month, the superintendent sent out a survey to parents and families to gauge interest on whether the district should add armed security guards to the schools. Currently, Colchester employees a School Resource Officer who splits time between its four schools.

The survey asked two questions: what school your child attends and if you’d be in support of having concealed armed security present while school was in session.

“As you know, several surrounding communities have recently added concealed armed security personnel in schools when school is in session,” McDowell wrote in the survey. “While none of us like this, it is unfortunately, the world we currently live in.”

McDowell stated that the cost of providing armed security in all four schools would be \$150,000. The guards would be either retired state troopers or retired local law enforcement officers.

McDowell told the *Rivereast* that the survey is open until the beginning of next week and that he did not have any results to share. He said that information will be provided by the middle of next week.

During an interview in August, McDowell said that discussions surrounding school security would be a top priority for the district. He stated that receiving community input through a survey would be the first step before making any official proposals.

“It’s staring us in the face,” he said, regarding potential armed guards.

McDowell also expressed that his expectation was that the majority of parents would be in favor of additional armed officers.

Alex Oliphant did not return a request for comment on whether the education board would be discussing school security or adding armed guards to the 2023-24 budget proposal.

Political Campaigns to Send Absentee Ballot Applications

Some campaigns are sending absentee ballot applications for the Nov. 8 election to many registered voters in Colchester. If you don’t wish to use this application or have already received one from the town clerk’s office, simply discard the application.

State law lets people vote via absentee ballot if they cannot appear at their assigned polling place on Election Day because of any of these reasons: Active service in the U.S. Armed Forces; absence from town of residence; sickness; religious tenets forbid secular activity that day; duties as a primary, election or referendum official at a polling place other than their own during all hours of voting; or physical disability.

Applications must be signed by the voter re-

questing the ballot. Anyone assisting a voter in filling out the application must also sign and include their name, address and telephone number in Section VII.

Applications may be submitted directly to the town clerk’s office via mail – the address is Town Hall, 127 Norwich Ave., Colchester, CT 06415 – or dropped in the Election Drop Box located at the entrance of Town Hall.

Applications should be submitted as soon as possible to avoid receiving a late ballot.

Ballots will be mailed starting today, Oct. 7. Completed ballots must be received by 8 p.m. on Election Day. For more information, call the town clerk’s office at 860-537-7215 or visit www.colchesterct.gov/town-departments/town-clerk.

Youth Basketball Registration

Registration for Colchester Youth Basketball is open, and can be done online at www.colchesterbasketball.org.

Colchester Youth Basketball offers a Travel program for grades 4-8 and a Recreation program for grade one through high school. Both programs are separated into boys’ and girls’ leagues.

The Recreation program offers a clinic for grades 1 and 2 and a practice and a game each

week for grades 3 through high school. The Recreation program is separated into divisions for grades 3/4/5, grades 6/7/8, and high school.

The Travel program will run from approximately mid-November through early March. The Recreation program for grades 3 through high school will run from approximately mid-December through the second week in March, and the clinics for the eight weeks in January and February.



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CHFD Open House

The Colchester Hayward Fire Department will hold an Open House and Recruitment event Sunday, Oct. 16, from 11 a.m.-3 p.m., at the firehouse, 52 Old Hartford Rd.

Kids and adults are invited to come meet local firefighters and EMS providers, check out equipment, learn fire prevention and safety information, and tour the museum headquarters station.

Events that will take place include: vehicle extrication demonstration, fire extinguisher training and demonstration, fire safety and prevention information available, firefighter gear try on with photo op, antique fire truck rides, blood pressure screenings and ambulance tour, Touch-a-Truck, Smokey Bear visit, smoke trailer, Gator UTV and marine units on display, and a CPR/Lucas device demonstration.

Also, there will be hot dogs for lunch, while supplies last.



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Investigation Launched into Threat Allegations

By Michael Sinkewicz

The Board of Selectmen voted in favor of launching an investigation into allegations made by a town employee against selectman Jason LaChapelle.

During its Oct. 6 meeting, the board voted 3-0 to have labor attorneys Kainen, Escalera, & McHale begin the investigation; LaChapelle and First Selectman Andreas Bisbikos abstained.

The investigation comes after Tim Crowell, a town employee whose exact position is unknown, filed a formal complaint last month alleging that LaChapelle had made threatening comments to him while at a local business.

According to the complaint, LaChapelle told Crowell that he could potentially lose his job if he continued posting on Facebook.

"I did take this as a threat and he was going to do something and ruin my life by getting me fired," Crowell wrote in an email to the first selectman. "I have not ever said anything to him for this unprovoked attack on me and I just want him to know this is unacceptable behavior from a board member."

LaChapelle has stated that the allegations are entirely false and that he cannot recall ever meeting Crowell.

The name of the business where the incident occurred or the date were not included in the complaint. Last month, Bisbikos sent an email to the other selectmen stating that he was calling for a full investigation into the allegations – something LaChapelle also requested.

The motion approved by the board includes several conditions.

Democrat Denise Turner will be the board's sole contact person with the labor attorneys.

DTC Pasta Dinner Oct. 16

The Colchester Democratic Town Committee will host its annual pasta dinner Sunday, Oct. 16, from 5-7 p.m., at the St. Joseph's Polish Society, 395 S. Main St. Guests include Congressman Joe Courtney, state senators Norm Needleman and Cathy Osten, as well as other state and federal officials.

Tickets are \$20 each and can be purchased either at the door or online at secure.anedot.com/colchesterdemocrats/donate, or go to colchesterdemocrats.org and click on Donate.

Youth Football Recap

The Colchester Cougars youth football squads were in action last weekend. The Pee-Wee squad played Groton, winning 32-13. All older squads played Montville.

The Seniors won, 60-0. The Micros lost, 50-19. The Juniors won, 34-0. The Cougars scored when Niko Ibrahim connected with Vinny Arrigoni on touchdown pass. Ibrahim connected with Gavin King for another score later in the first half. The Cougars scored again on big runs by Mason Howard and Ibrahim. On defense, the Cougars scored when Adam Bigelow returned an interception all the way for a touchdown. The Cougars defense held the Indians scoreless with quarterback sacks by Alan Marshall, Brady Bigelow and the strong play of Lucas "Pete" Jodin, Dylan Simon and Jack Wissler.

The information gathered during the investigation will be presented to the whole board during a special meeting called by Turner, where the board will "address the issue."

Bisbikos and LaChapelle – who over the last several months have repeatedly verbally attacked each other both at meetings and on social media – each agreed to voluntarily recuse themselves from the process, including any decision-making that may occur, according to the motion. LaChapelle had previously told selectmen he felt Bisbikos "has proven himself to be impartial and thus should not be part of the investigation."

The selectmen also agreed that the investigation will take as long as necessary to determine a final resolution.

Prior to the meeting, LaChapelle wrote his own letter to selectmen stating that he was requesting the specific date and location where the allegations took place so he could obtain surveillance footage. He was also seeking clarity on which Facebook posts were being referred to in the complaint.

This week, LaChapelle told the *Rivereast* that he hasn't seen any of that information. He is also unaware if the investigation has begun or what it will entail.

"I've asked to be kept out of the process because it's the right thing to do and I want to make sure my hands are as clean as possible," he said.

LaChapelle previously expressed that he intended on recusing himself from any discussion involving the allegations.

In statement sent to the *Rivereast*, Turner provided the latest update with the investigation.

"Currently, there is no further information than what was discussed at last Thursday's meeting," she wrote, adding that she's "not sure right now how long the investigation will take. Hopefully we will all have some answers when it has concluded," she wrote.

Turner did not elaborate on what possible action the board would consider taking following the investigation. She did not provide any details on Crowell's position or standing in town.

Last month, a Municipal Employees Union Independent representative sent a letter to Bisbikos outlining the complaint.

"The member felt as if his personal opinions were being silenced and if he did not comply, his job was in jeopardy," the representative wrote. "This is highly inappropriate and needs to be addressed immediately."

The union response also did not include Crowell's position in town or provide any further details regarding the circumstances of the incident.

Joint Meeting

The selectmen also agreed to participate in a joint meeting with the Board of Finance on Oct. 12 to discuss budget transfers for the 2021-22 fiscal year and go over the next town budget proposal.

The meeting – which was held after press time – comes after the 2022-23 town budget proposal failed at referendum last month for the third time.

Voters shot down the \$15.63 million town budget by a 856-742 vote. The proposed spending package was a \$231,516 cut from the one

that failed at referendum for a second time and nearly \$70,000 below the 2021-22 budget. The proposed mill rate was 26.83.

Passing a municipal spending plan has been a challenge for the town. While the education board has had an approved budget since May, the town budget failed at referendum in May and then again in June. Then in August, the town entered a budget freeze.

The joint meeting will be held on Zoom, which the board hopes will attract a large audience. There will be multiple opportunities for attendees to voice their comments.

"It's important for everyone in the public to feel their voice is heard," Democratic selectman Rosemary Coyle said during the meeting.

She told the *Rivereast* that she cannot recall a budget season extending this long.

"We need to formulate a budget and move forward," she said. "My goal is to make it transparent so people understand it."

Bisbikos expressed that the joint-meeting is an important opportunity for the town to move forward.

"We all need to work collaboratively, the meeting is a step in the right direction," he said.

Ham Radio Presentation

All are invited to come learn more about ham radio and Colchester Senior Center's idea to set up a broadcasting site at the senior center on Monday, Oct. 17, at 10 a.m., at the senior center, 95 Norwich Ave.

Amateur radio (ham radio) is a hobby and service that brings people, electronics, and communication together. Registration is required for this free presentation and can be done by calling the senior center at 860-537-3911.

Ground-Breaking for Senior Center

The Colchester Senior Center Building Committee will hold a groundbreaking ceremony for the new senior center on Friday, Oct. 21, at 11 a.m., at Town Hall, 127 Norwich Ave.

Local and state dignitaries have been invited to participate in the program. The event is open to the public. A small reception and program will follow the groundbreaking at Town Hall.

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New Salon Joins Town's Burgeoning Downtown

By Jack Lakowsky

Michelle Scacca DiPasquale, owner of the newly-opened Tousled Salon location on Independence Drive, said she was overjoyed to join Marlborough's up-and-coming business scene.

"It's been awesome," Scacca DiPasquale said last week, a few days after her Marlborough store opened, in the former home of another salon, The Violet Lily Hair Studio.

Scacca DiPasquale also owns Tousled Salon in Glastonbury, running the show for over 10 years. She's worked in the industry for almost two decades. "There's this whole new exciting feeling for it."

"Now we're fully grown, with a family of employees all working together and learning together," she said.

"Marlborough is such an up-and-coming town," Scacca DiPasquale said, saying she thinks its business area will soon be a bustling spot much like Glastonbury's downtown, albeit a quieter one. "Getting Big Y out there made the area explode a little bit."

"Everyone is super excited for us to head out there," she added. Scacca DiPasquale said of her many clients in Glastonbury, more than a few drive from Marlborough, and are excited for their shortened commute.

"We got bombarded when people found out we were opening," she said, "there's just so

much excitement."

Energy and excitement are getting customers in the door, and once inside, the salon's cool and calm atmosphere relaxes and eases.

The new Tousled is on Independence Drive, near Marlborough Bakery. She said her platemates have been incredibly welcoming.

Opening in Marlborough has several advantages; it's near her Glastonbury spot, she has a customer base in town and it stands on a major road.

Still ambitious, Scacca DiPasquale floated the idea of more expansion, possibly spending the next few years expanding her Glastonbury store while she fosters her Marlborough location.

She said, when she first became an owner in 2010, she "had no idea what I was doing," and that now, she's seasoned and ready to hit the ground running.

Scacca DiPasquale said she has many people to thank—her employees, her husband, her young kids—but above all, she wants to thank Tousled's clients.

"Thank you to all my clients for supporting us, for supporting this business," she said, "this was a dream and it's so cool to have my clients support. Thank you for making this come together after almost 20 years."

To celebrate her new salon, Scacca Di-



Tousled Salon, sister to its owner's other salon in Glastonbury, came to Marlborough alongside cool weather and colorful leaves. The salon's owner said she's thrilled to join Marlborough's small-but-mighty business area.

Pasquale has a special going on—an \$85 single process root retouch, haircut and blow-dry.

For more information, call 860-467-3270 or

email tousledsalonct@gmail.com. Visit the new salon at 8 Independence Dr., Unit D.

Senior Center News and 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 offers the following activities:

Transportation: Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; Assistance, Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Bingo: Monday, 1-3:30 p.m.; Setback: Wednesday and Friday, 9 a.m.-noon; 8-Ball Pool: Monday through Friday, 9:30 a.m.-noon; Grocery Shopping: Wednesday, 8:30 a.m.-noon;

Meals-on-Wheels: Monday through Friday,

noon; Congregate Meals: Monday, Wednesday and Friday, noon; Medical Appointments: Monday through Friday, by appointment; Exercise with Anne: Thursday, 3-4 p.m.; Tai Chi: Thursday, 10:30 a.m.; Not Just Quilting: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.; Cornhole and Bocce Ball will be played Monday through Friday, weather permitting; Food Bank: Tuesday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sophisticated Ladies (Tap Dancing): Wednesday, 5:30 p.m. Foodshare is on the second Wednesday of every month.

There will also be a flu shot and Moderna booster shot clinic Thursday, Oct. 27, from 9-11 a.m.

Calling all Artists and Creatives

Marlborough Arts Center invites all artists and creatives to participate in The Artisan Gift and Art Sale, running Nov. 12-Dec. 18, at the center, 231 North Main St.

Each artist can submit up to five art items priced at under \$100. There is no submission fee.

Full details and submission forms can be found at www.marlbrougharts.org. Drop-off dates are Nov. 6 and 7.

The Marlborough Arts Center is a nonprofit regional center for the arts that is housed in the historic Charles W. Hall Gallery. The center is handicapped-accessible and has on-site parking. For more information about events offered at the center, go to www.marlbrougharts.org.

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 not required. For the unvaccinated, masks continue to be encouraged. Call the office for more information.

Weekend Masses: 4 p.m. Saturday and 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday. All are welcome.

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

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

Family Faith Formation: This is a new program to focus on active faith formation within the family is underway for families of kindergarten through middle school students; registration is required on the church's Faith Formation website and will close at the end of September.

Confirmation Community: The church's active 9th- and 10th-grade confirmation pro-

gram continues. Registration is required as well.

Adult Worship Choir: Meets Wednesdays from 5:30-7 p.m. All are welcome to join. More information can be found on the church website.

Community Outreach and Service: Food drives are held the second full weekend of each month for Marlborough Food Bank; you may also bring non-perishable 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. The Community Garden to benefit Marlborough Food Bank continues to supply fresh produce each week and volunteers are always welcome. Other scheduled service opportunities can be found on the church website and are scheduled monthly.

Other Programs and Offerings: For more information on such programs as adult faith formation, youth group, RCIA, Knights of Columbus or other ministries, call the office, visit the church website at www.stjfcchurch.org, or look for the church on Facebook (Saint John Fisher Roman Catholic Church).

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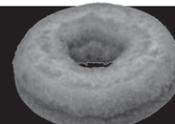
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Artisan and Crafts Sale

Marlborough Arts Center announces an Artisan and Crafts Sale to take place in time for the gift-giving season.

Featured will be local creations, all under \$100, from artists in the surrounding communities. These will include gifts such as pottery, paintings, sculptures and other forms of art, as well as small items.

The Arts Center will be open every Friday, Saturday and Sunday, 1-4 p.m., from Nov. 12-Dec. 18. On Saturday, Dec. 3, refreshments will be served, and live artist demonstrations will be featured.

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Marlborough Lions Club members Tom Reiser, Jean Paul Bolduc and John Glynn (with Lion Ken Hjulstrom, not pictured) recently performed vision screening at Marlborough Elementary School.

Lions Hold Vision Screening for Kids

The Marlborough Lions Club provided a free vision screening Oct. 4 at Elmer Thienes Mary Hall School. Over 325 children were screened. The screening was non-invasive and did not require any eye drops. The procedure used a photographic process from a distance of three feet to detect any anomalies.

The screenings detect early indications of far- and near-sightedness, astigmatism, anisometropia, strabismus, amblyopia and anisoc-

ria. If issues are detected, the school nurse is informed so that the parents can be advised to seek further evaluation.

The Marlborough Lions obtained a vision screening camera and printer at a cost of approximately \$8,000 and have frequently coordinated vision screening with other area communities.

For more information on the vision screening, call Lion Tom Reiser at 860-295-8374.

Parks and Rec Programs

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

Youth Programs: Pumpkin Decorating Contest: Kids ages 4-13 are invited to design their pumpkin at home and bring them to the recreation department to be displayed and judged for prizes. Pumpkins can be dropped off to the recreation department from Oct. 24-26. Prizes will be awarded in the following categories: scariest pumpkin, funniest pumpkin and most original pumpkin. The age groups for this contest are 4-8 and 9-13.

Parents Night Out: Friday, Oct. 14, 6-9 p.m., at Marlborough Senior Center, for grades 1-8. Parents can drop off the kids and go see a movie, have dinner or shop for a few hours. Kids will have the option of participating in arts and crafts activities, games, sports or watching a movie. Pizza and beverages will be provided. Fee is \$15 per child for residents, \$18 per child for non-residents.

Artventures – Where the Wild Things Art!: Thursdays, Oct. 20-Dec. 8, 5:30-6:30 p.m., at MES, for grades K-5. Kids will explore many original art forms and techniques, and also hear stories such as *Where the Wild Things Are* or *Nova the Robot*, that go hand-in-hand with each project. Kids will take home works of art each week. Fee is \$110/residents, \$115/non-residents. No class on Nov. 17 and 24.

Safe Sitter: Saturday, Oct. 15, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., at Marlborough Senior Center, for grades 6-8. This class is designed to prepare students to be safe when they're home alone, watching younger siblings, or babysitting. Fee: \$110/residents,

\$115/non-residents.

Horseback Riding Lessons: For ages 5 and up; English- or Western-style instruction. Lessons are private and are an hour in length. Days and times are flexible. Fee is four lessons for \$175 residents/\$180 non-residents.

Adult Program: Adult Volleyball: Thursdays, 8-10 p.m., at MES. Fee is \$5 per week to drop-in.

Barlates: Wednesdays, 5-5:45 p.m., through Oct. 26. This is a complete exercise class with concentrated exercises for hips, legs and core. Drop-in fee is \$18/week. Class instruction is virtual or in person.

Yoga: Mondays through Oct. 31, 6:30-7:30 p.m., or Tuesdays, 9:30- 10:30 a.m., through Nov. 1. Drop-in fee is \$18/week. Class instruction is virtual or in person.

Yogalates: Thursdays through Oct. 27, 9:30-10:30 a.m. All levels welcome; bring a mat. Drop-in fee is \$18/week.

Adult Sewing 101: Know Your Machine: Monday, Oct. 24, 5:30 p.m., at Marlborough Senior Center. Learn the basics of machine operating while creating a scrunchie. All participants must bring sewing machine. Fee: \$43/residents, \$48/non-residents.

Pilates/Barre: Wednesdays through Oct. 27, 6-6:45 p.m. All levels welcome. Fee is \$10 to drop in each week. Class instruction is virtual.

ZUMBA Class Fall Session: Tuesdays, Oct. 18, 7-8 p.m., at MES. Fee is \$10 to drop in. Register on the Parks and Rec. website.

Driveway Reflective Number Signs: Cost of the sign is \$35. Vertical sign is double-sided 8" x 24" with 4" numbers on blue highway reflective metal. Order forms are online and at Town Hall.

Fall Watercolor Exhibition

The Watercolor Society of Connecticut, under the direction of John Atwater, is holding its Fall Watercolor Exhibition through Oct. 30 at Marlborough Arts Center, 231 North Main St.

The exhibition features 57 paintings. Artists from across Connecticut submitted over 150 paintings to be judged into this exhibition by Bill Thomson, a professor of illustration at the University of Hartford's Hartford Art School, where he received the Outstanding Teachers Award in 2004 and the Innovations

in Teaching Award in 2011. His recent work has focused on illustrating children's books. Thomson's artwork has received more than 75 awards in the country's most prestigious juried illustration competitions and it is an honor to have him judge the paintings included in this Exhibition.

The exhibit is open every Friday, Saturday and Sunday during October, from 1-4 p.m. each day. Admission is free. There is on-site parking and the arts center is ADA compatible.

Richmond Library News & Notes

Richmond Memorial Library, located at 15 School Drive, has announced the following. Registration required unless noted; to do so, call the library at 860-295-6210 or email richmondprograms@gmail.com.

Silent Auction Donations Needed: The Friends of the Library group is currently accepting donations for its 25 Days of Cheer annual silent auction, to be held from Thursday, Nov. 3, through Monday, Dec. 5. This auction is the library's single largest fundraiser and all proceeds directly benefit the library, going towards library materials, programming for all age groups, and even new collections. Donations must be received by Thursday, Oct. 27.

Babytime: Mondays through Oct. 31 (no class Oct. 10), 10:30 a.m., for children ages 0-18 months and their caregivers. Drop-ins are welcome if space allows. The program will be outdoors unless weather requires it to move inside.

TWOsdays: For children 18-36 months and their caregivers on Tuesdays through Dec. 20. There will be songs, stories and hands-on-learning.

Fall Storytime: Wednesdays at 10 a.m., indoors in the Storytime Room, for children ages 3-5. Session 1 is underway, but Session 2 runs Oct. 26-Dec. 7 (no storytime Nov. 23).

Lego Club: For children age 5 and up. The library will offer STEM-based challenges involving Legos for children ages 5 and up on the

following Tuesdays at 4 p.m.: Oct. 18, Nov. 1, Nov. 15, Nov. 29 and Dec. 13.

Kids Crafting Club: Creative kids will learn new techniques and project ideas. The club started this week and will meet the following Tuesdays at 4 p.m.: Oct. 25, Nov. 8 and 22, and Dec. 6 and 20.

Storytime at the Lake: Friday, Oct. 28, 10:30 a.m. All are invited for stories, songs and a hands-on activity, all on the pavilion at Blish Park. Registration is not required but appreciated.

Kids Take-and-Make Kits: Kids are invited to stop by and pick up a Worry Monster Take-and-Make Kit. Once they create their monster, kids can write down their worries on a piece of paper, fold them up, and feed them to their Worry Monster. Available while supplies last.

Cooking 101: Teens and young adults are welcome to join a dietician from Big Y on Monday, Nov. 7, from 3:30-4:15 p.m., in this virtual two-part program series. Participants will learn basic cooking skills and create snacks and meals from their own kitchens.

Old-School Gamers Club: Once a month, the library will break out the Super Nintendo, PSOne, Xbox360 and more for some old-school gaming for ages 12-18. The program will meet Fridays at 4 p.m. on the following dates: Oct. 14, Nov. 4 and Dec. 2. Registration is recommended.

Boards Issue Statement on School Safety

Board of Selectmen Chair Deb Bourbeau and Board of Education Chair Wes Skorski have issued the following joint statement:

"Representatives from the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Education have begun to work cooperatively to draft a memorandum of understanding that will address the needs of the school and the town as we move forward on the issue of school safety. Once we have determined how best to proceed, we will share the details with the respective boards for their consideration and possible action."

Dean's List

Marlborough resident Maeve O'Neil made the summer 2022 Dean's List at Columbus State Community College in Columbus, Ohio.

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Flashlight Cemetery Tour

The Marlborough Historical Society will have its annual Flashlight Cemetery Tour at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 27, and Sunday, Oct. 30. The tour will walk through Century Cemetery and Marlboro Cemetery, where 200-year-old history of many of the interments will be given.

Participants will meet at the Richmond Memorial Library parking lot. Bring a flashlight, and have proper footwear for walking.

To register, call Romano Ghirlanda at 860-916-4031 or email mhs@marlboroughhistory.org.

Republican Campaign Signs Available

The Marlborough Republican Town Committee has various campaign signs available for Republican candidates. The signs are free.

The lawn signs include those for Steve Weir for state representative, Rocky Camardella for state Senate, Leora Levy for U.S. Senate, Mike France for U.S. Congress and Bob Stefanowski for governor.

Call or text RTC Secretary Ken Hjulstrom at 860-490-9116 to order any of these signs. Free delivery can be provided.

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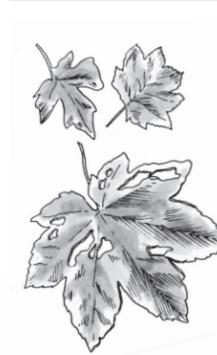
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The folk duo Crowes Pasture – featuring Andy Rogovin and Monique Byrne – will perform at the 4th Friday @ the Arts Café on Friday, Oct. 28, at Marlborough Arts Center.

Folk Duo at Arts Center

Marlborough Arts Center is hosting the folk duo Crowes Pasture for the 4th Friday @ the Arts Café on Friday, Oct. 28, at 7:30 p.m., at the center, 231 N. Main St.

A roots-infused, internationally touring folk duo, Crowes Pasture performs songs that reflect a mutual passion, sense of discovery and celebration of the human connection. The band has been a supporting act for The Kennedys and The Small Glories, and has performed at such nationally known folk venues such as Club Passim, Shalin Liu Performance Center, Rockwood Music Hall, Rose Garden Coffeehouse and The Bull Run.

Crowes Pasture was nominated for Ameri-

cana Artist of the Year (Boston Music Awards) and Roots Act of the Year (New England Music Awards) in 2019 and named Finalist for Best Group/Duo in the International Acoustic Music Awards in 2020 and 2021. Fresh from touring in Southern Ontario and Quebec (summer 2022), the duo is currently recording its fourth album, with award-winning producer Eric Lichter of Connecticut's Dirt Floor Recording Studios.

Admission is \$10/person at the door. Doors open at 7 p.m. The Connecticut Watercolor Society's fall exhibition paintings are still on display. There is on-site parking and the center is handicapped-accessible. Masks are recommended.

Residents Sought to Serve

The Marlborough Board of Selectmen is seeking residents who are interested in serving on the town's various boards and commissions.

While applications are accepted at any time for all boards and commissions, the selectmen are providing notice and encouraging residents to apply to fill current vacancies on the following boards and commissions:

Economic Development Commission (two alternates); Conservation Commission (alternate); Water Pollution Control Authority (two alternates); and Nature Trails and Sidewalks Commission (alternate).

Those interested in applying can complete the application form at tinyurl.com/ycx4x7n4.

In accordance with the town charter, and based on the current composition of the various boards and commissions, party affiliation or other qualifications may or may not be considered when appointments are made. People who are unaffiliated and those who belong to minor parties, as well as Democrats and Republicans, to apply.

Residents are welcome to attend any of the public board and commission meetings to learn more.

Lions 'Masquerade 5K Road Race'

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

Entry fee is \$30. Those registering by Oct. 15 are guaranteed a T-shirt. There is also a \$60 package price for families participating in the race. Anyone wishing to register on the day of the race must arrive prior to 10 a.m. Runners will start near the entrance to Blish Park on Park Road and will proceed on a course that circles

Lake Terramuggus.

The Lions are also seeking local businesses to sponsor the event in amounts of \$100, \$250 and \$500. All sponsors will be displayed on the race t-shirts.

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

To register or for additional information contact Lion Ken Hjulstrom at 860-490-9116 or tigerladee@snet.net. Registration can also be done at marlboroughlionsclubfall5k.itsyourrace.com.

Congregational Church News & Notes

Sunday worship services at Marlborough Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, located at 35 S. Main St., are at 10 a.m. Child care for infants and toddlers is provided downstairs in the nursery; however, children are always welcome at the worship service.

All children in the community in preschool to grade eight are welcome and invited to attend Sunday School. All students are also welcome at youth group, one for grades 5 to 7 and another for grades 8 to 12. Contact Gwen Lawson at the church office for more information.

Oct. 16: Worship will be led by Senior Pastor Bob Faulhaber and will include the baptism of two infants.

Youth Groups: Senior and Junior Youth Group members will again this year be making and selling apple fritters at the Glastonbury Apple Fest this weekend.

Women's Circle: Led by Associate Pastor Val Seaver, the circle will be held upstairs in the Thienes Lounge Wednesday, Oct. 19, at 6:30 p.m. All women in the community are

welcome.

Family Night: Friday, Oct. 21, 5:30-7:30 p.m. There will be pumpkin-painting and pizza. Families in the community are invited. If attending or for more information, contact Larson at office@marlcongregation.org.

Faith Formation (Bible Study) is led by Faulhaber and meets Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. upstairs in the lounge. All are welcome.

AA meets downstairs in the Great Hall Wednesdays with two meetings, noon-1 p.m. and 7:30-8:30 p.m.

Second Blessings Thrift Shop is open Fridays from noon to 3 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon. The shop accepts donations during shopping hours. The shop also sells through eBay at bit.ly/MCCEbay.

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



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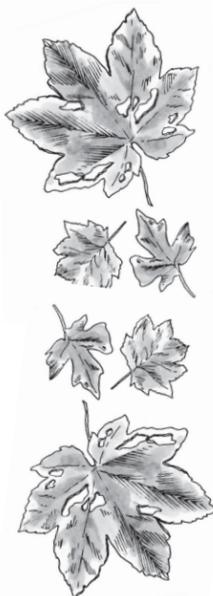
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Lions Eyeglass Collection Boxes

The Marlborough Lions collect used eyeglasses and hearing aids, which are then provided to people in impoverished countries all around the world.

The drop boxes are located at Town Hall, Liberty Bank, the Marlborough Senior Center and at the office of Dr. Steven Rafalowsky on Saner Road. The Lions collect the eyeglasses

and hearing aids all year long and once a year Lions Clubs from all over Connecticut meet to turn in the collected items. Eyeglass cases are also appreciated.

For more information or to learn more about the Lions, call Hjulstrom at 860-490-9116 or Lions President Megan Lloyd at 413-687-5537.

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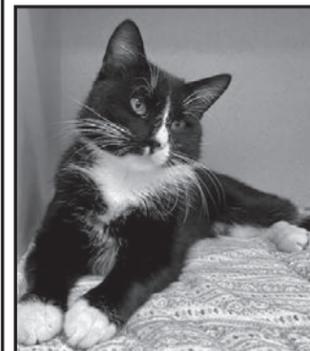
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REG-11-21

"Pet of the Week"



Two-year-old **Charles** loves playtime. Tackling a stuffed toy is Charles' idea of a grand old time. Wand toys and laser lights also rank high on his list of favorite playthings. He's interested in everything that's going on around him, but once he's worked off some energy, this adorable boy is happy simply to be fussed over and adored.

Kaya, 1, is a very beautiful young calico with a great personality. She is affectionate and playful and enjoys human interaction.



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Obituaries

Hebron

Thomas Allen Cyr

Thomas Allen Cyr, 66, of Hebron, passed away peacefully Saturday, Oct. 8, at home, surrounded by his loving family. Born Sept. 30, 1956, in Hartford, he was the son of the late Claude and Juliette (Fontaine) Cyr and brother of Ann Dutremble (Cyr) and Brian Cyr.



Tom was a gentle spirit who loved his family dearly, selflessly devoted to providing an excellent life for them despite battling a degenerative neuromuscular disease for over two decades. He was a determined man who persevered through almost anything when most would have quit. Honest, loyal, steadfast. Tom was a successful engineer, entrepreneur and teacher.

Tom graduated from A.I. Prince Technical High School in Hartford and received a degree from Hartford State Technical College in manufacturing. Tom prided himself in perfect attendance and never missed a day of school. It was during high school that Tom met his wife and best friend, Liz, at age 16 during a church youth group activity. Despite the distance, Tom and Liz were committed to traveling between Hartford and Bozrah for the remainder of their high school years until they married in 1976.

Tom had an inquisitive mind and was solution-oriented. If something was not working or there was a way to make it work better, he would figure it out. For as long as his body let him, Tom loved to work on his classic truck, a project that spanned over 40 years. With an ear for a good tune, Tom had a love for a wide array of music and shared that love with his family. Above all, Tom took joy in seeing his family happy and the simple pleasures life afforded him.

Tom worked first as a draftsman in Farmington, and then spent several years working as a design engineer in Glastonbury. Following his entrepreneurial spirit, Tom was co-owner in a successful design and manufacturing company for a decade before switching gears to share his knowledge as a teacher. Tom obtained his teaching certification and taught at several Connecticut Technical High Schools throughout Connecticut for another decade before retiring in 2011. Although Tom's opportunity to continue working was cut short, he accomplished so much and tirelessly gave of himself.

Tom leaves his devoted wife of 45 years, Elizabeth Cyr (Hawke); daughter, Amy Cyr and her husband Gregory Gagnon; son, Joseph Cyr; granddaughter, Emily Messier; brother-in-law, Michael Hawke; and nephews, Thomas Hawke and Benjamin Hawke.

The family would like to thank Dr. Whitaker and the team at Hospital for Special Care as well as ECHN visiting nurses and staff for their warm and compassionate care for Tom and the family over the last several months.

The family held a memorial service Thursday, Oct. 13, at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 30 Church St., Hebron. Reception followed. Donations can be made to St. Peter's Episcopal Church.

Aurora McCarthy Funeral Home in Colchester has been entrusted with arrangements. To share a memory or express condolences, please visit www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

East Hampton

Lynda Lea Tinney

Lynda Lea (Lord) Tinney, 70, of East Hampton, passed away peacefully at home after a brief battle with cancer. Born Sept. 23, 1952, in Middletown, she was the daughter of the late Harold Lord Jr. and Muriel (Jones) Lord.



Lynda was predeceased in death by her husband of almost 34 years, James Tinney.

Lynda worked various jobs while raising her two daughters. One at First Federal Savings Bank for 15 years, then several years at Hospitality Harbour until her early retirement. She loved to travel, crochet, cook, sing and keep holiday traditions. Lynda was a dedicated member to her church, East Hampton Congregational Church, where she remained an active member for 56 years. Her family, faith and friends kept her going. She would do anything for anyone.

Lynda leaves her daughters, Jennifer (Paul) Ulm of East Hampton, Lisa (Scott) Bettencourt of Norfolk, Va.; as well as their children, Abigail Ulm, Tye, James and Olivia Bettencourt. She leaves her sister, Mishele Lord of Willow Springs, N.C., and nephew Allen McCormack of Lake City, Fla.; the entire Mott family; a brother and sister-in-law Leland Jr. (Shirley) Tinney of Hebron; many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by one niece.

A funeral service was held Wednesday, Oct. 12, at East Hampton Congregational Church. Burial followed in Lake View Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers memorial donation may be made to East Hampton Congregational Church, P.O. Box 237, East Hampton, CT 06424 or Ronald McDonald Charity at www.rmhcphilly.org/donate.

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

Colchester

Robert A. Williams Sr.

Robert A. Williams Sr., 63, of Colchester, passed away suddenly at his home Monday, Oct. 10. Bob was a beloved husband, father, and friend to many. He was born April 21, 1959, in New London, the son of the late William and Catherine (Borys) Williams.



Bob grew up in Colchester, and was a graduate of Bacon Academy. After his time, Bob spent some time at a technical school before going to work as a machinist with Electric Boat. Later on, he started his own company working as an arborist at Bob's Tree Service. Bob recently "retired" and enjoyed spending his time traveling in his beloved camper, hunting, and fishing. Bob was also an avid animal lover who enjoyed bring his dogs on his adventures with him.

Bob is survived by his wife, Ruth Williams (Dettore); his son, Robert J. Williams; stepchildren, David and his fiancé Mathieu, Holly and her boyfriend Timothy, Brian and his wife Jacqueline; his sister, Pamela Bowman and husband Todd; as well as his brother, Bruce Williams and his wife Denise; and also numerous other extended family and friends.

To share a memory or express a condolence to his family, please visit www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

East Haddam

Paul J. Magnano

Paul J. Magnano, fondly known as "Mr. Mags," beloved husband of Louise (Watson) Magnano of East Haddam, passed away peacefully Saturday, Oct. 8, surrounded by family and friends, following a long illness.



He was predeceased by his and Louise's son, Michael Magnano; his parents, Salvatore J. and Eleanor V. Magnano; and his siblings.

He is survived by his wife and his three children: his daughter, Lisa Conroy and her husband Shawn of Moodus; his son, Brian Magnano and his wife Pamela; his son, Scott Magnano and his wife Jennifer of Gilbert, Ariz.; and grandchildren, Matthew, Andrew, Ryker and Teagan. Paul is also survived by his brother, Salvatore (Joe); aunt, Arlene; and many nieces, nephews and cousins. Paul was also a friend of Bill W. In addition to his family, Mr. Mags is also survived by a community of loved ones in East Haddam.

Paul was East Haddam's number one sports fan. No matter the sport or level of play, he was cheering loudest in the stands, often to the dismay of the referees. He was the first to give you a hug after a well-earned victory or to console you after a tough defeat. He and his wife, Louise, graciously opened their home up nearly every weekend when his kids were in high school; providing copious amounts of cookies, soda, French fries, and chips to their friends. It was a safe place to gather, play cards, swim in the pool, shoot hoops, watch movies, and tease one another mercilessly, all in good fun. Everyone was welcome and he made sure you knew you were part of our family. Paul cherished the memories of these weekly social gatherings throughout his children's youth.

For 37 years, Paul dedicated his days to working with his patients at Connecticut Valley Hospital as a mental health worker. In his spare time, he enjoyed participating and volunteering in various organizations in his community. He was a member of the East Hampton Fire Department, Vice President of the Chapter 105 of the Connecticut State Employees' Association of Middletown, Little League Coach, Vice President of the Little Noises Athletic Booster Club and a member of the Knights of Columbus.

One of Paul's greatest joys was music. As a self-taught guitarist, he loved to share his gift and passion for music with others. He was a member of St. Bridget of Kildare Church in Moodus and a member of their music ministry for 25 years. Paul was also a member of various bands in the greater Middletown area which brought him much enjoyment.

Paul also was a man of immense faith. He served as an advisor to the Youth Ministry Antioch Prayer Group in Old Saybrook impacting countless young people, sharing his faith and zest for life. Another source of enjoyment was vacationing with his family, extended family and friends. His favorite vacations spots were the Cape, Florida and he never turned down an opportunity to visit Las Vegas.

Among Paul's favorite activities (while on vacation and at home) were family outings of miniature golf, playing the penny slots at the casino and watching the UConn women's and the Connecticut Sun basketball teams. Paul yearly attended the Freberg Christmas Party, a tradition that spanned his lifetime and held many special memories for him.

He will forever be grateful for all of his family and friends who visited him during his illness.

ness.

Paul made Gaylord Specialty Healthcare his final home and he was touched by the care and compassion he received from the staff at all levels while he was living there. The family is eternally grateful for the loving care he received from the staff at Gaylord Hospital.

Paul will also miss his beloved cats, Freddie and Boots (Bootsie).

Donations in Paul's memory can be made to the East Haddam Youth and Family Services and Gaylord Specialty Healthcare.

Calling hours will be from 4-7 p.m. at Biega Funeral Home, 3 Silver St., Middletown, on Monday, Oct. 17, and the funeral will be held at 9:30 a.m. at St. Bridget of Kildare Church, 75 Moodus Leesville Rd., Moodus, on Tuesday, Oct. 18, where family and friends are invited to celebrate his life.

To share memories or express condolences online, please visit www.biegafuneralhome.com.

Colchester

Michael Collins Dixon

Michael "Mike" Collins Dixon, 75, of Colchester, passed away Friday, Aug. 19.



Mike is survived by Bernie Burnham Dixon, his beloved wife of 32 years; his sons, Michael Dixon II, Travis Dixon, and Sean Dixon; his daughter, Michelle Powers; six grandchildren; his very close cousins Clyde and Sharon Collins; and his best friend since childhood, Ed Bigby.

He is predeceased by his mother Delitha Jane Collins.

Mike was born in Denver, Colo., and raised in Grand Junction before moving to Connecticut. He served as a communications specialist in Army Security during the Vietnam era. He dedicated 31 years to Pratt & Whitney as an apprenticeship instructor/mechanical engineer.

Mike is a true gentleman whose handshake was his word. He was a very personable man, friendly to all he met. He was happiest sharing a laugh. He was passionate about nature, often rescuing troubled animals.

Funeral services will be held Saturday, Oct. 15, at 10 a.m., in The Ahern Funeral Home, 111 Main St., Route 4, Unionville, followed by burial with full military honors in Riverside Cemetery, Farmington.

In lieu of flowers, a donation may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, Connecticut Chapter, 200 Executive Blvd S #4B, Southington, CT 06489.

To send online condolences to the family, please visit www.ahernfuneralhome.com.

★ Belltown Council cont. from page 1

related to the hostility that has been historically shown towards the education budget."

On asking the town this go-around, in September Smith said he felt misgivings about siphoning from this already-voter-approved current budget, potentially diverting money from hiring paraeducators or other staff.

The school board directed Smith to pursue hiring armed guards in August, after a unanimous vote.

Parents largely supported the measure. Opponents cited the lack of definitive research on armed guards' effectiveness; others said historically the council has combated school board budgets and that adding this expense will come at the cost of educational needs.

There was, however, a common thread among detractors and supporters alike. They felt an armed guard can't and won't be a catch-all; rather, they said, it has to be part of a multilayered preventative approach to school violence, including early intervention, mental health resources and structural security.

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★ **Letters cont. from page 8**

ing historic trees as well, and the star of the show is a large white oak. With thick, low hung branches and a twisted trunk, some believe this tree to be well over 200 years old. Native Americans planted and cared for these types of trees, as acorns were a large part of their diet. Recent development maps on hebronct.com show the new DPW situated directly on top of this magnificent tree, Shagbark Hickories and another Wolf tree. Healthy trees play an important role in a watershed ecosystem.

As Americans, Hebron's old trees, hedge row farm plots, stonewalls and stonewall laneways, are part of our living history and definitely irreplaceable, in fact, most of life is irreplaceable, including the water located within our landscapes. #save17

Jean Tulimieri – Amston

He Would Be Excellent

To the Editor:

Rather than tell you about all the experience Chris has accumulated while in the military, his graduation from West Point, his degree in engineering or his work for the state of Connecticut after becoming a civilian, I would like to tell you about Chris as a person.

I meet Chris when he first moved to Colchester with his wife. Chris is dedicated to his family and belongs to the Federated Church. Chris has a warm personality that instantly makes you want to become his friend. I have never heard Chris speak unfavorably about anyone or anything.

Chris is a public official on the Colchester Board of Education. While attending the BOE public meetings I have become aware that Chris is a listener and participates in a bipartisan manner with other board members. Both traits would make Chris an excellent representative for Colchester, Lebanon, Bozrah and Franklin.

I have spoken to Chris about representing Colchester, Lebanon, Bozrah and Franklin in Hartford and he indicated that he would fight equally for all of the towns in the 48th district.

I am voting for Chris Rivers and I hope you will also.

Michael Hayes – Colchester

Note: Hayes is a member of the Colchester Board of Finance, but said he is speaking as an individual.

Support for Osten

To the Editor:

I am writing this letter in strong support of state Sen. Cathy Osten to continue her outstanding representation on behalf of the 19th District in Hartford.

Cathy is an excellent public servant who gets results. Hebron has benefited tremendously from her work as co-chair of the Appropriations Committee, ensuring we receive our fair share of education and town funding. There are numerous infrastructure projects and improvements in town that are a direct result of Cathy's tireless advocacy.

Cathy shows up. Not a major event goes by in the 19th District that she isn't there, walking around and talking to voters – some of whom may disagree with her on key issues. You always know where she stands, and takes the time to discuss these views with her constituents. That's a rarity in today's political climate.

Cathy always has our back. From ensuring our veterans and first responders receive the care they need, to her work and legislation to benefit women and children, Cathy gets the job done.

We are fortunate to have someone who understands the needs of towns like ours and is able to articulate this at the Capitol. This skill, coupled with her tireless work ethic and tremendous success in office, is yet another reason to reelect her. I'm proud to support Cathy and encourage you all to vote on Nov. 8.

Sincerely,

Tiffany V. Thiele – Hebron

Note: Thiele is a member of the Hebron Board of Selectmen, but said she is writing as an individual.

LEGALS

**LEGAL NOTICE
MARLBOROUGH ZONING COMMISSION
NOTICE OF ACTION**

The Marlborough Zoning Commission at its meeting of October 6, 2022, took the following action:
PUBLIC HEARING CONTINUED:
#Z-08-22- Austin HGB, LLC Bill Gjonbalaj (Applicant / Property Owner), Map 6 Block 28 Lots 4,5,6, 12 and #25 South Main Street. Provide apartment housing by building (2) 48-unit buildings Application. November 3, 2022.
#Z-10-22-C&B Marlborough Associates LLC (Applicant / Property Owner), 41-45 Hebron Rd -Amend the text for the DPIPZ-4 zone to allow for Public Utility installation. November 3, 2022
PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED; APPLICATION APPROVED WITH MODIFICATIONS:
#Z-06-22 - Marlborough One, LLC (Property Owner) - 37 Hebron Road, Special Permit – Self Storage Facility.
APPLICATIONS TABLED:
Amendments to Article Six A.1 Parking and Storage of Recreational Vehicles and Trailers tabled until November 3, 2022.
Amendments to Article Six tabled until November 3, 2022.
CALLING OF THE BOND-Jannat LLC-2-4 Portland Rd
Motion passed to extend the period until November 3, 2022 with 50% of the plantings to be completed by that time.
CRESTVIEW FOREST LLC, East Hampton Road Assessor's Map 8 Block 32 Lot 29S – Zoning Citation and/or Legal Action Request
Motioned passed to provide a 30-day extension.
PUBLIC HEARING SET FOR CANNABIS REGULATIONS TO JANUARY 5, 2023
APPROVED 2023 CALENDAR WITH MODIFICATION
KEVIN ASKLAR, ZONING COMMISSION CHAIR 1TB 10/14

Needleman is Always There

To the Editor:

I attended the AARP Forum at the Colchester Senior Center on Oct. 2. Almost all of our candidates, from congressman to state senator to state representative were in attendance. Our state Senator Norm Needleman was there and contributed to a lively discussion about the important issues facing seniors, Colchester, and the state of Connecticut.

But it was especially disappointing that the only candidate that didn't attend the Forum was Brandon Goff, the Republican candidate for state senator in the 33rd District, Norm Needleman's opponent. The other candidates were able to make time in their busy schedules because that's what it takes to represent us, show up, hear our concerns and share their policies for the future.

State Sen. Norm Needleman shows up for us – when it counts – with his ideas, great policies and actions in the Legislature to get laws initiated and passed. Vote for Sen. Norm Needleman on Nov. 8!

Sheila S. Horvitz – Colchester

Note: The 12-town 33rd Senatorial District includes the Rivereast towns of Colchester, East Hampton and Portland.

Carpino is Refreshing

To the Editor:

It's refreshing to see an elected official who has such a great deal of energy, a commitment to helping others and who works hard to take care of her district every day.

I'm taking about state Rep. Christie Carpino. What I like about Christie is she is very approachable and doesn't talk down to people when discussing issues or local concerns.

Importantly, Christie has a 100 percent attendance record and actively participates in crafting good legislation for her constituents.

As a small business owner, Christie has been supportive of proposals that will create jobs for Connecticut.

Let's have a good vote for state Rep. Christie Carpino on Nov. 8!

Sincerely,

Robert Petzold – Portland

Note: Carpino represents the 32nd Assembly District, which covers Portland and Cromwell.

Pirouetting Leaves

To the Editor:

The slightest breeze rips them free of their skeletal twig. Down they pirouette, always in a clockwise spin, stem first and brittle leaf to follow. On pointe, they dance downward. Or, they undulate in a "lazy eight," taking the longer way home. Yellows and brighter hues give way to ochres and browns. I watched this wonder of Nature against the deepest azure sky; a portrait of an autumn day.

The leaves, as they age during their brief lives, become noisy. Their dryness rustles in tree and underfoot. One can't walk stealth-like in fallen leaves. Animals of the forest, and the deer, know that. Steps become more deliberate as to not give away one's whereabouts. Or they take a path of trampled silent

**TOWN OF PORTLAND
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that the Portland Zoning Board or Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, October 27, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the Buck Foreman Room (2nd Floor), 265 Main Street, Portland, CT. Public access through Zoom link A at www.portlandct.org to consider the following:
Application #22-01: 54 Riverview Street. Request for a variance to Zoning Regulation Table 4.2.1 to allow for a 48 ft. tall 24,000 sq. ft. building where 35 feet is the required height. Application of PDS Engineering and Construction and property of Birdon NE, LLC. Assessor's Map 3, Lot 8. Zone R-10.
At this hearing interested persons may appear and be heard and written communications will be received. A copy of this application is available for review in the Portland Land Use Department.
Dated at Portland, CT this 12th day of October 2022.
Rose Aletta, Chairwoman 2TB 10/14, 10/21

**TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
NOTICE OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2022**

A special town meeting of the electors and citizens qualified to vote in town meetings of the Town of East Hampton, Connecticut, will be held at the East Hampton Town Hall, 1 Community Drive, East Hampton, Connecticut on Tuesday, October 25, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. for the following purpose:
1. To consider and act upon the following resolution,
Resolution of the Town Meeting to appropriate \$85,000 to the FY 2023 Board of Education General Fund Operating Budget for the purpose of employing up to three additional Armed Security Officers.
Resolved, the Town of East Hampton Town Meeting hereby appropriates \$85,000 to the FY 2023 Board of Education General Fund Operating Budget for the purpose of employing up to three additional Armed Security Officers and such appropriation shall be funded from the unassigned General Fund balance of the Town of East Hampton in the amount of \$85,000. The appropriation may be spent for the purpose of hiring, training, equipping and employing up to three Armed Security Officers and any funds not expended to this purpose shall be returned to the General Fund.
Dated at East Hampton, Connecticut, this 11th day of October 2022.
PER ORDER OF THE EAST HAMPTON TOWN COUNCIL
Mark Philhower, Chairman
Tim Feegel, Vice Chairman
Pete Brown
Brandon Goff
Eric Peterson
Kevin Reich
Alison Walck 1TB 10/14

leaves to go undetected.

The leaves that have fallen give way to the soil, become compost below which in turn returns nutrients to the mother tree. Another circle – silent, steady and constant.

At this time of year we think of the past and what lays ahead as a circle. Winter opens the year and closes it again. The trees, under a silent command, leaf out again in the spring and the circle repeats itself over and over. We are only observers and occasionally wanderers in this great event. But remember, it is hard to walk silently in the fallen leaves. Be deliberate and meaningful as to where and how you step. It's a good lesson to learn for life in general any time of year.

Alison Walck – East Hampton

Olin's the One

To the Editor:

Climate change and public health are issues that transcend Connecticut. It is critical that we elect leaders on every level of government who take these challenges seriously and enact policy that will make society healthier and preserve the planet.

That's why the residents of East Hampton, East Haddam and Salem need to send John Olin to the General Assembly. John is a person of action who doesn't merely make empty statements about his priorities.

In terms of public health, few candidates are as impeccably qualified as John. He has background in practice as a physician's assistant and in research as a behavioral scientist at the prestigious Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. He understands that patients' individual rights must be respected and fully supports a woman's right to choose. As we continue to face the COVID-19 crisis, there's no one I'd rather have representing our best interests.

John is also a conservationist who understands and appreciates that climate change is already wreaking havoc on our world, with the peril only deepening

by inaction. He supports clean energy initiatives and Connecticut's transition to a zero-carbon electricity by 2040. John will lead the charge to phase in more electric vehicles and reduce the state's dependence on fossil fuels.

Perhaps most importantly, John is exceptionally kind and leads by example. He has spent a lifetime contributing to society, whether it be as a New York City schoolteacher, a young adults' author, or as a Peace Corps volunteer in Turkey. This Renaissance man has worked in neurology and neurosurgery and done clinical trials in AIDS research in India and sub-Saharan Africa.

It's inspiring to think what John Olin can do for the 34th District and Connecticut. Let's make him our state representative.

Sincerely,

Matt Engelhardt – East Hampton

You're Invited!

To the Editor:

Enjoy the beauty of Lake Pocotopaug? Concerned about the health of the lake and what is being done to restore water quality for recreational purposes? Join us Saturday, Oct. 22, from 2-4 p.m., at the Bay Point Club for a community discussion about Lake Pocotopaug and watershed restoration with John Olin, the Democratic candidate for state representative in the 34th District and a member of the East Haddam Conservation Commission.

Bring your questions and ideas. Meet your neighbors and enjoy light refreshments.

The club is located at 24 Spellman Point Rd. in East Hampton. There is no charge, but the event is limited to 100 people to comply with fire code regulations. Limited parking on site and on the street. Please car pool with friends or neighbors.

Kevin Reich – East Hampton

Note: Kevin Reich is a member of the East Hampton Town Council, but said he is speaking as an individual.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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LEGALS

TOWN OF HEBRON LEGAL NOTICE

At their meeting on October 6, 2022, the Board of Selectmen declared a vacancy of the Town Clerk's position due to the current Town Clerk's retirement. The Selectmen designate Friday, October 14, 2022, as the posting date for the vacancy notice. The 35th and final day by which nominations shall be received is Friday, November 18, 2022. In accordance with Town Charter Section 208, the Board of Selectmen are now notifying/soliciting the political parties and the general public to fill the unexpired term (January 2026) of this vacancy. Qualified residents of Hebron who are registered voters are eligible and encouraged to contact their political party or the Town Manager for more information: Andrew J. Tierney, Town Manager, Town of Hebron, 15 Gilead Street, Hebron, Connecticut 06248 or call 860-228-5971. 1TB 10/14

TOWN OF HEBRON LEGAL NOTICE

At their meeting on October 6, 2022, the Board of Selectmen declared two (2) vacancies on the Hebron Board of Education. The Selectmen designate Friday, October 14, 2022, as the posting date for the vacancy notice. The 35th and final day by which nominations shall be received is Friday, November 18, 2022. The Board of Selectmen are now notifying the political parties and the general public of these vacancies. Interested candidates should attend a meeting of the Commission and discuss with the Chairman the frequency of meetings and the time commitment involved. All residents of Hebron who are registered to vote are eligible. Letters of interest or questions may be addressed to Andrew J. Tierney, Town Manager, Town of Hebron, 15 Gilead Street, Hebron, Connecticut 06248 or call 860-228-5971. 1TB 10/14

LIQUOR PERMIT Notice of Application
This is to give notice that, I, **CHAO SHI**
4133 PARSONS BLVD APT 5C FLUSHING, NY 11355-1902
Have filed an application placarded 10/03/2022 with the Department of Consumer Protection for a RESTAURANT LIQUOR PERMIT for the sale of alcoholic liquor on the premises at:
464 S MAIN ST COLCHESTER CT 06415-1548
The business will be owned by: **LSYC INC**
Entertainment will consist of: Acoustics (not amplified)
Objections must be filed by: 11-14-2022
CHAO SHI
2TB 10/7, 10/14

TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION NOTICE OF ACTION

The East Hampton Planning and Zoning Commission held a regular meeting on October 5, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall, Eaton Smith Council Chambers Room 107 and via ZOOM Virtual Meeting to consider the following:
• Amendments to East Hampton Zoning Regulations in Accordance with Public Act 21-29, Articles 1 – 9. – Approved- Effective October 25, 2022
• Amendments to Zoning Regulations: Proposed Section 8.4.Q - Adult Use Cannabis and Medical Marijuana. – Approved – Effective October 25, 2022
Ray Zatorski, Chairman
1TB 10/14

EMPLOYMENT

EAST HAMPTON TREE CLIMBER SEEKING EXPERIENCED GROUND PERSON. Full or part-time \$20/hour. Roping and lowering skills a plus. Call Peter 203-915-7749

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Seeking a responsible and dependable worker (18+) to assist residents with trash disposal and provide information about recycling, rules and regulations. Application and job description are available at: www.marlbroughct.net (employment opportunities) or at Marlborough Town Hall. Completed applications are to be submitted to: townclerk@marlbroughct.net or, in person to Marlborough Town Hall 26 North Main Street Marlborough, CT. 06447 AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER 3TB 10/7, 10/14, 10/21

Part-Time Library Assistant Douglas Library of Hebron

The Douglas Library of Hebron is looking for a Library Assistant I to assist us as we work to provide a welcoming, safe, and diverse environment for the members of our community. Ideal candidates will be technologically-savvy, passionate about providing excellent customer service, and can work independently and in groups. This position requires the ability to answer questions in person, on the phone, and through digital means. The Library Assistant I will need to interact with all age levels, be able to perform circulation functions using an automated system, shelve library materials and maintain shelf order. Must be comfortable with MS Office, web services, consumer electronics, and have basic database knowledge. Ability to create posters and handouts using Canva is a plus. Requires a high school diploma or equivalent; relevant work experience preferred. Starting wage is \$14.16 per hour. Nights and Saturday availability a must; 14 hours a week with occasional opportunity for more. Please send a completed town application found here <http://hebronct.com/employment>, a letter of interest and resume to the Town Manager, Town of Hebron, 15 Gilead Street, Hebron, CT 06248 by November 10, 2022. EOE. 1TB 10/14

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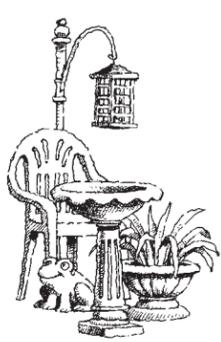
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TAG SALES

FIRST CHURCH GIANT TAG SALE: Friday October 21st, 12pm - 7pm and Saturday October 22nd, 9am - 3pm. 2183 Main Street Glastonbury. Books, Clothes, Kids Furnishings & More.

TAG SALE: Saturday, October 15th from 9-2 pm. 116 Penfield Hill Road, Portland, CT 06480. Household, tv console, desk, microwave cart, books, Christmas decor, bathroom mirror, clothes rack, plant stands, wooden dining chairs, miscellaneous electronics, gas cans, wine cooler, etc.

MOVING SALE: EACH SAT&SUN 9-3 DURING OCT. Colchester near Rt 16 & 149 at 6 Loomis Rd. Contractor/mechanic equipment, supplies, & tools; lawn/garden, camping/sporting goods, household, furniture. Incl: 4-in-1 blower/vacuum/mulcher/chipper, tiller, PVC landscape edging & garden fencing, tent, bikes, golf clubs, hockey skates, XL metal dog crate, Pack & Play, Little Tikes art easel, HEPA air purifier, lighting fixtures & door hardware, DVDS/books, furniture, and much more! Many items unused. New items added weekly.

INDOOR TAG SALE: Sunday, October 16th at Florence Lord Senior Housing 155 South Main Street Marlborough 9am - 2pm. Multiple families.

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