



RIVEREAST

News Bulletin

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

Volume 46, Number 48

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December 16, 2022



The Magic of Christmas... Happy Holidays from the Rivereast Family to yours.

Clean Energy Chair Calls for Solar at EHMS

By Jack Lakowsky

This week Rus Kaplan, chair of the town's Clean Energy Task Force, implored the East Hampton Town Council to include, in talks about the upcoming multimillion dollar middle school roof replacement, plans for solar panels.

A small group of locals voted to approve the project in a town meeting Tuesday.

Kaplan said the task force unanimously "views this as important" in making the town more sustainable. The task force also asked for electric vehicle charging stations at the school.

The task force penned a letter saying solar panels will save East Hampton money and increase its energy autonomy, and that solar equipment lasts decades, saving maintenance costs.

Kaplan estimated a savings of between \$40,000 and \$50,000 per year.

Speaking broadly, Kaplan said given recent world events-Russia's invasion of Ukraine, inflation, shipping woes- energy autonomy is especially important for East Hampton's future stability.

Kaplan also said the state has incentives for towns wanting to move to cleaner energy resources.

"This is an opportunity," he said, saying towns like West Hartford and Branford have put multiple arrays on school buildings.

Nearby, Portland is pursuing a few solar energy projects, including putting in an array at an old landfill and on top of a town school.

"This means hundreds of thousands of dollars in savings and better control of our costs for years to come," Kaplan entreated.

Kaplan said the task force wants to take part in the roof project planning committee's deliberations.

The roof will cost about \$2.3 million.

District superintendent Paul Smith has said the roof is over 30 years old and moribund. The school's a little over catching leaks with buckets, he told the school board on Monday.

An anticipated state grant will go towards about 50% of the cost, said town manager Dave Cox in a report from the council.

Now set aside, the reserved money opens the district up for state grants and possible reimbursement. The town side of government will fund a little over \$1 million.

The \$2 million figure makes for a cost of about \$25 per square foot for the 76,000 square foot roof. The town will foot the \$2.3 million at first, expecting a \$115 million reimbursement from the district.

On whether the schools get the grant, the town expects to hear back early next year.

Last month in a meeting of the Portland Board of Selectmen, a solar panel installation consultant said the proverbial iron is hot, that the state has ramped up incentives and rewards for using clean energy.

Also, according to CT Insider, a solar farm that was recently built in North Stonington is expected to provide more than \$9 million in energy savings for five Connecticut State Colleges and Universities campuses-which, in turn, results in savings for taxpayers across the state.

The roof project was the subject of a bit of controversy earlier this year.

At that time the state recently told East Hampton if it uses American Rescue Plan (ARPA) stimulus money to fund a new middle school roof, it can't get an added state grant.

"As far as we understand there's [no such] See Solar at EHMS, page 29

New Food Bank Launched to Help Farmers

By Michael Sinkewicz

A new initiative launched by a Colchester farmer is helping reduce food waste throughout the community while simultaneously benefiting farmers who continue to weather high inflation rates.

Donna Rosenblatt, chairperson of the Agriculture Commission and a member of the Colchester Garden Club, created the "Food Bank for Farm Animals" last month in hopes of helping local farmers.

Rosenblatt, who owns the Rose' N' Petal farm in Colchester, explained that many residents normally donate items to the food bank at Town Hall, but sometimes a product has gone past its "sell-by date," disqualifying it for human consumption.

However, while those items cannot be accepted at Town Hall, many can still be safely

fed to a variety of farm animals and poultry.

With the new animal food bank, farmers will receive free supplies for their livestock and the broader community can benefit by cutting down its food waste.

"It's a win-win," Rosenblatt told the Rivereast. "It minimizes how much goes in the garbage that shouldn't."

To donate, residents can simply stop by her farm at 348 Westchester Rd. in Colchester where there is an easily identifiable donation table to leave items.

Rosenblatt, who has operated the farm since 2000, expressed that the donations will help ease the financial pressure facing the farming community. Seed costs, for example, have gone up exponentially and many farmers are forced to pass that cost onto the customer.

This initiative, she stated, could help "maintain prices as before."

"My goal is that we should all work together to make sure we all prosper," she said. "We all have these expenses and that reflects in the cost of the product. A lot of us have bitten the bullet and raised prices because we can't afford not to."

Rosenblatt pointed to chicken feed prices, which she said have gone up as much as 60% in the last year, impacting the cost of eggs and other meat products.

Anything that farmers can acquire through the program for free will likely make even a difference for their prices moving forward.

"We all do better," she conveyed. "There's no harm to it. Everything is positive."

See New Food Bank, page 31

Inside...

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RHAM Six Raptors Honored .....pg 28
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Advertisement for SYMMETRY PHYSICAL THERAPY featuring a Christmas tree graphic, contact information (www.symmetryusa.net, 860-788-7976), and a photo of staff with a Christmas tree.



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<p><b>ENTRÉES</b></p> <p><b>VEGETARIAN RAVIOLI</b> Fresh made pasta stuffed with assorted grilled artichokes hearts, spinach, with a gorgonzola cream sauce</p> <p><b>VEAL PARMIGIANA</b> Breaded cutlet of milk-fed veal, pan-fried, topped with fresh tomato sauce, and a layer of whole milk mozzarella cheese. Served with linguini</p> <p><b>BAKED CHILEAN SEA BASS</b> Fresh Chilean sea bass baked with EVOO, sherry wine, lemon, and topped with Caribbean style relish(mango, pineapple, sweet corn, onions, red and green peppers, jalapeno peppers, and cilantro)</p> <p><b>PRIME RIB DINNER</b> 12 oz. Black Angus prime rib of beef cooked to perfection, with a side of au jus and horseradish sauce</p> <p><b>BLACKENED SEAFOOD RISOTTO</b> Fresh sea scallops, salmon, sea bass and shrimp blackened to perfection with our own cajun spices served over Italian rice with fresh spinach, asparagus, olive oil, shallots, rosemary, light cream and parmesan cheese</p> <p><b>FORNARELLI'S LEMON CHICKEN</b> Fresh chicken breast, lightly dipped in an egg batter sautéed with white wine, lemon juice and butter sauce</p> <p><b>POLLO PARMIGIANA</b> Fresh breaded chicken cutlet, pan-fried and topped with a fresh plum tomato sauce and a layer of melted whole milk mozzarella cheese. Served with linguini</p>	<p><b>DESSERT</b></p> <p>CANNOLI CHEESE CAKE LEMONCELLO CAKE CHOCOLATE CAKE</p>	

All entrees include choice of appetizer, salad, soup of the day, chef's accompaniments of the evening – tax and gratuity not included

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## HOLIDAY HOURS

Tuesday, Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> 7:00-3:30

Wednesday, Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> 7:00-3:30

Thursday, Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup> 7:00-3:30

Friday, Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> 7:00-4:00

Saturday, Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> 7:00-3:00

Happy Holidays!

CLOSED:  
Christmas Day  
Monday, Dec. 26<sup>th</sup>  
Tuesday, Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>

### National Audubon Society's Christmas Bird Count

Mattabesec Audubon Society (MAS) will hold its 48th annual Salmon River Christmas Bird Count on Sunday, Dec. 18. This is part of National Audubon Society's Christmas Bird Count, which is entering its 123rd count season and is the longest-running community science bird project in the country. The data obtained provides information about bird populations over time and ultimately helps to inform environmental policies on a national and international level.

The 11 captains will lead teams into the field to count all individual birds and bird species they see. MAS is always looking for new

people to join in this annual tradition. Birders of all experience levels are welcome.

For those who are unable to get out, and whose homes lie within the 15-mile diameter centered around the Comstock Covered Bridge in Colchester, the society said it hopes you will keep an eye on your backyards throughout the day and night of Dec. 18 so your data can be included in the final tally.

If interested, go to [www.audubon-mas.org](http://www.audubon-mas.org) or send an email to co-compilers Sharon Dellinger at [rsdell@comcast.net](mailto:rsdell@comcast.net) or Doreen Jezek at [dajeze@gmail.com](mailto:dajeze@gmail.com).

### Tax-Aide Foundation Seeks Volunteers

For many years, the senior centers in Colchester, Hebron, Marlborough, Columbia, East Hampton and East Haddam have hosted the AARP Tax-Aide Program, which provides free income tax preparation services for residents of these towns and surrounding communities.

Tax-Aide is the nation's largest free volunteer tax program, offered in conjunction with the IRS.

The Tax-Aide program is looking for people

to join its volunteer team. You don't need to be an accountant or tax professional; volunteers come from a variety of backgrounds. Training and support are provided.

To volunteer, go to [aarpfoundation.org/taxaidevolunteer](http://aarpfoundation.org/taxaidevolunteer) or call 1-888-AARP-NOW (888-227-7669).

For additional information before signing up, contact your local senior center and they will connect you with a local Tax-Aide volunteer.

### "Pet of the Week"



Hi! I am **George**, 3-4 yrs old. I am the most endearing, curious, and happiest-go-luckiest of doggos. My favorite hobbies include sniffing on walkies, getting pets, chasing my favorite red ball at full speed, and smiling for the camera.

Meet **Mr. Toad!** He is a 1 year old Pitbull Terrier who weighs 35lbs – the perfect pocket Pittie! He loves other dogs and would be so happy to "Pittie Pile" or "Doggy Pile" with others in his forever home. He is crate trained, but is much more happy to be home with his humans as much as possible. Dog savvy cats are totally okay. Kids 6 years of age and older are fine in his book!



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Abigail Chrin (left) and Amarylla Ingala, both of East Hampton, performed in Connecticut Concert Ballet's 2022 Nutcracker production this month.

### Area Residents Perform in The Nutcracker

Local students from area towns, held at Manchester High School's Bailey Auditorium this past weekend, December 10 and 11, appeared in a staging of the *Nutcracker*.

Professionally staged with full costumes, sets, and lighting, this production highlighted 160 of Connecticut Concert Ballet's local students alongside professional guest artists.

Dancing several lead roles was Abigail Chrin, a senior at East Hampton High School. She performed the lead roles of Ballerina Doll, Lead Snowflake, Spanish Dance Soloist, Chinese Dance Soloist, and Rosebud, as well as the roles of Rat and Flower.

Amarylla Ingala, a junior at East Hampton High School, performed the lead roles of Lead Snowflake, Chinese Dance Soloist, Arabian

Dance Demi-Soloist, as well as the roles of Rat and Flower.

Both girls are members of CCB's Youth Company, a part of the school's pre-professional program.

Other local dancers that performed include: Amston's Isabelle Kreamer in the lead role of Military Doll, as well as Lieutenant, Snowflake, Spanish Corps, and Flower.

Colchester's Oakley Adams in the roles of Maid and Ribbon Candy; Lauren Emmons in the roles of Lieutenant, Snowflake, Angel, Spanish Corps, and Lamb Helper.

Hebron's Layla Espinoza in the role of Little Mouse; Leah Petronin the lead role of Military Doll, as well as Lieutenant, Snowflake, Spanish Corps, and Lamb Helper.



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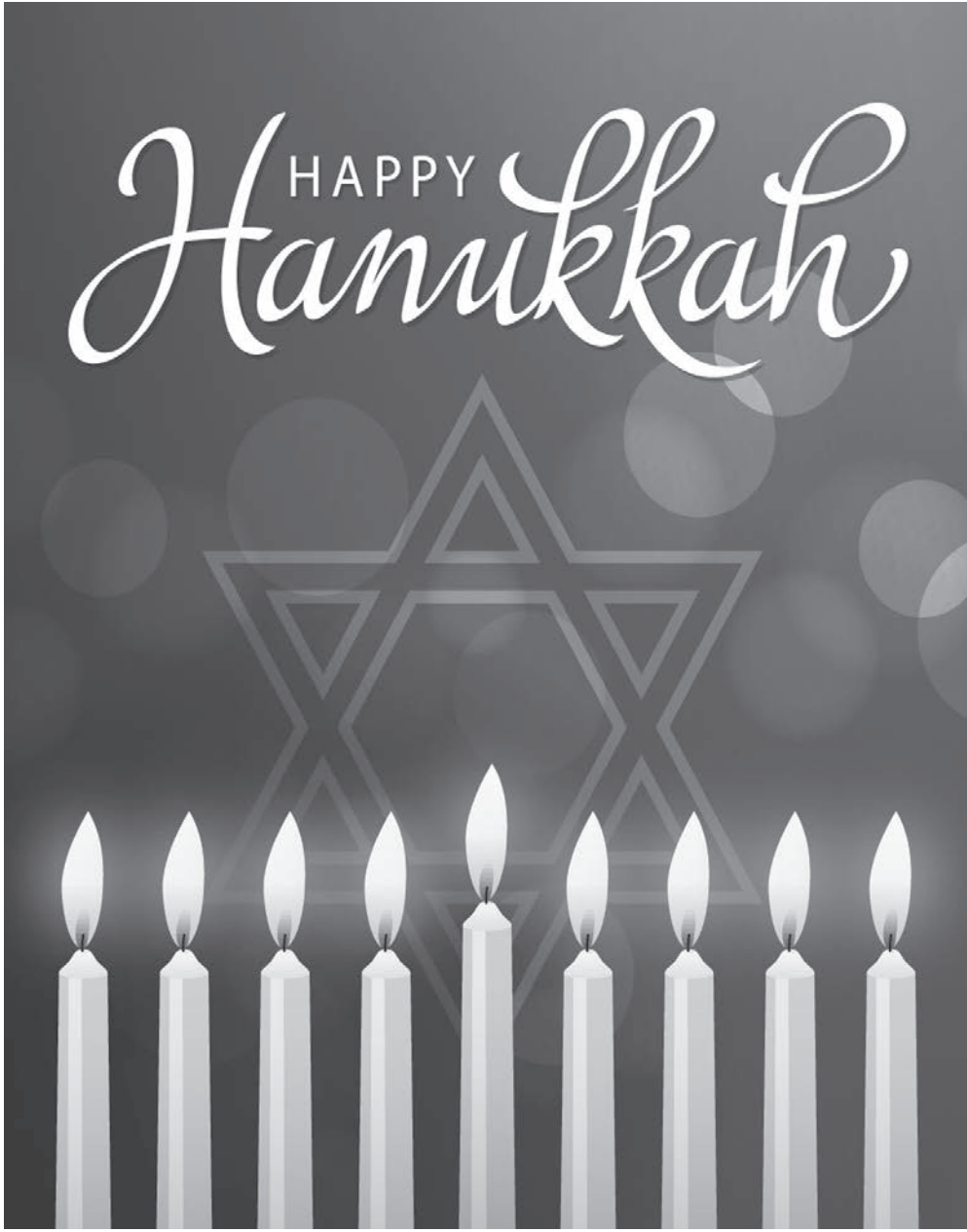
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1			3	4			
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6	1					7	9
		3	4				6



**Nursery School Thanks... Colchester Cooperative Nursery School thanks the Colchester Lions Club for coming to our classroom for early eye screenings.**

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**Impeach Biden!**

To the Editor:

Our President Joe Biden is incompetent and should be removed from office! Who in their right mind would ever swap a convicted Russian arms dealer that could have been traded for an imprisoned U.S. Marine in Russia! Only an idiot!

Is that the way our Veteran's that defend our country should be treated? Ask yourself, "Would I have made a trade like that?"

A U.S. Marine remains locked up in prison and soon we'll have someone that refuses to stand for our National Anthem and makes other disrespectful remarks back on American soil. A swap of Joe Biden for Brittney Griner would have more merit!

Come on, Blumenthal. Come on Murphy. Do something good for a change!  
Impeach Biden!

**Frank Blume – Colchester**

\$20) to support community events (ex. signage, candy, mums).

The Commission is seeking applicants who are open minded, can engage and share diverse opinions in a respectful manner, and are willing and able to work with everyone.

If interested, please go to the Town Hall website, search on Boards and Commissions, Colchester's Openness to Respecting Equity (CORE) Commission Accepting Applications and submit to the First Selectman's Office. Thank you for your interest.

**Regards,  
Shawn Pelletier  
CORE Chair**

**A Place Worth Saving**

To the Editor:

Many Portlanders do not realize how much land they thought was Meshomasic State Forest is private and developable property. The Meshomasic Trail subdivision at the corner of Great Hill and Stuart Hill Roads is one example.

When developers that own the remaining 147-acres surrounding Rattlesnake Brook decided to sell, the Middlesex Land Trust jumped at the opportunity. The owners had already shown how many houses could be placed on this parcel years earlier.

The State, The Nature Conservancy and the Town of Portland had all tried to negotiate the purchase of this property many years ago but were unable to agree on a price. So valuable is this property that the State DEEP has already granted \$364,000 toward its purchase; this is only a little more than half of the funds needed to secure the land.

The value of this property to the Town of Portland is obvious: as the watershed for Great

**Seeking Diversity on Commission**

To the Editor:

Colchester's Openness to Respecting Equity (CORE) Commission is looking for new members to join the commission. Specifically, we encourage males to apply to balance out the gender membership.

Ideally, the Commission should represent a mix of races and ethnicities of all ages. It's important the CORE Commission represent the diversity that is in Colchester, as well as priorities and perspectives of all residents.

The time commitment consists of one monthly meeting (1-2 hrs.), planning and participating in community events, fundraising 1x/year, and making small monetary investments (\$10-

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

Letter Writers: Due to space constraints, letter writers must limit their letters to **300 words or less. Letters must be submitted by Monday at noon.** No exceptions will be made. Email 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.

**(860) 633-4691 — bulletin@glcitizen.com**

**Bulletin Board**

"You know," I said to my wife the other day, "it occurs to me that I have not received many Christmas cards this year."

"I don't know why you care," she replied. "You don't even like Christmas. I can't even take you to the mall because you make up vulgar lyrics to the Christmas theme music and pick fights with the mall Santa."

"Mall Santas are creepy," I returned. "Anybody who can spend hours pretending to enjoy conversing with an endless procession of greedy little children cannot be normal."

"That's no reason to threaten to drop kick the mall elf."

"He told me Santa was going to put coal in my stocking."

"You were making fun of his shoes."

"They had bells on the toes, for crying out loud."

"He's an elf, for god's sake."

"Oh sure. And reindeer can really fly."

"You're hopeless."

"Nevertheless," I continued, "none of that explains why I didn't get hardly any cards this year. Just because I don't like Christmas doesn't mean people wouldn't send me a card."

"Whatever."

"Maybe it's a subtle reflection of the economy and the general pessimism about the future."

"Maybe people just don't like you."

I pondered this possibility briefly. "Naw. That can't be it."

"It seems a likely explanation to me."

"Naw. What's not to like? Besides, there's too much jolly hypocrisy around this time of year—people feel guilty about their own petty vindictiveness. They'll send you a card even if they don't like you."

"You are seriously warped."

"I just think it's odd that I got cards from my insurance agent and my bank and from some guy who wants me to invest in a stock plan, but only a couple of cards from plain old people."

"Boy, a card from your insurance agent. That must make you feel warm all over."

"Hey, if there's anybody out there who truly wants to see me enjoy a healthy holiday, it's my insurance agent. His best wishes are beyond question."

"Maybe you're not getting cards, because people have finally realized that you never bother to send anyone a card yourself," she suggested. "Perhaps your own thoughtlessness is finally catching up with you."

"The reason I don't send any cards out is because you won't let me. Let's not forget about that incident way back when."

"Sending out a picture of yourself standing over a dead deer wearing a Santa hat is not in keeping with the spirit of the season. Neither was the inscription 'Season's greetings from the late Blitzen.'"

"I thought it was quite festive."

"Yeah, if you're a serial killer."

"Well, just don't buy me anything stupid like a tie for Christmas this year. I want something I can really use."

"How about a coal stove?"

"Very funny."

**Jim Hallas**

**Rivereast Hours of Operation**

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

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Hill Pond, if the land is unprotected, a subdivision would likely compromise the health of the pond.

The property has been shaped by man's activity in the form of an old abandoned granite quarry and the animal activity in the form of a beaver pond. Both add to the special character of this place.

Anyone who wishes to learn more about this project or to help the Trust preserve this land in perpetuity can access the website at [www.middlesexlandtrust.org/rattlesnake-brook/](http://www.middlesexlandtrust.org/rattlesnake-brook/) or send a donation to Middlesex Land Trust, 27 Washington Street, Middletown, CT 06457.

**John LeShane**  
Middlesex Land Trust

### Support Colchester Small Business

To the Editor:

The holiday shopping season is in full swing, and Colchester residents are lucky to have great local options that we can support. In the last few weeks, we've had three new small business storefronts open in town -- Enchanted Vines, a Christmas shop and florist in Westchester; Cabinet of Curiosities, an artsy head shop next to Hope Ace Hardware; and Wagging Tails, a pet shop on Linwood Ave.

It's great to see the small business community continuing to grow in town in the post-COVID era, but they need our support to succeed. I've made two stops to Enchanted Vines so far for Christmas decorations and ornaments. I plan to check out Wagging Tails this weekend to get some gifts for my four-legged family members.

There are also a number of other long-standing local businesses in town that deserve our continued support. There's too many to name here, but I'll give a shout out to Mackey's and Quality Consignment which are part of my own personal holiday shopping ritual. Whether you stop at one of these or somewhere else in town, consider making local businesses part of your holiday tradition. We are fortunate in Colchester to still have a growing selection of small businesses throughout the community.

By supporting them, we help preserve part of what makes Colchester special.

**Bernie Dennler – Colchester**

### Buck Eversource

To the Editor:

I was talking to someone Friday who didn't know how easy it is to avoid the Eversource increased electricity costs starting January 1st. If you don't know about the electric rates going up for Eversource users Google it. The rates are increasing more than 100%, more than doubling.

You can save \$700+ per year in electricity costs in 2023.

First step is to go to the CT Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, PURA, website, <https://portal.ct.gov/pura>, and click on the section named "Compare Generation Rates."

This takes you to Energize CT/Connecticut, <https://energizect.com/rate-board/compare-en>

ergy-supplier-rates?

Then choose on the left side of the screen Utility, Eversource here; Account Type; and Supplier, if it is Eversource. Have your electric bill to finalize this and switch suppliers.

The cheapest option is Constellation at this time. These options change with the market. If you choose a 36-month fixed rate option, you get the least expensive. You can cancel this agreement anytime with no cancellation fee.

The bottom line is that instead of having the bill go up by about \$85/month, which is what Eversource estimated as the average increase, it can go up by about \$25/month or so. You have to choose the filter on the left "Type of Offer-Fixed" and "Term of Offer--At least 36 billing cycles."

Every town hall should have links and descriptions of this option available. It should be publicized. You can save about \$720+ per year. That's real money!

Since I have been switching electricity suppliers for years to find ones that provide 100%, or close to that, renewable sources, I have experience doing this.

Happy Holidays!

**Dave Porteous – Marlborough**

### Liberal Beacon

To the Editor:

Andover's liberal beacon, Edmund "Mr. Science" Smith, extols the virtue of global progressive movements. His view, ironically, is a "movement" of its own, the kind that is typically flushed.

Mr. Science believes the world is strife with "conservative" injustice, and the solution is progressive liberal intervention. This coming from someone who voted for a President that shakes imaginary hands and has been babysat by the Easter Bunny.

As we have witnessed since 2008, progressive liberal intervention has not worked out so well. Edmund should set aside his obsessive machinations about conservative tyranny and consider the detriments of his own sophomoric philosophies. I guess old habits are hard to break.

Liberals pump up the "insurrection" angle of Jan 6, while they said and did nothing about the months-long murders, lootings, fires, and riots during 2020. Liberals miraculously call the Capital Police heroes after years of abandoning and vilifying police officers under duress in every major city. Liberals resort to decapitating statues and fomenting bogus white supremacy memes as a way of acquiescing to mob mentality. Iran, Saudi Arabia, and China have been practicing ethnic, religious, and gender oppression for centuries, and yet in the face of Ed-

mund's new "conservative" world threat theory, we have President Easter Bunny coddling these countries for nuclear, petroleum, and economic reasons.

And liberals love the war in Ukraine. It gives them another Don Quixote windmill to fight. Curiously, Don Quixote had a paranoid personality disorder...he blamed others and never accepted responsibility. Hmm...that sounds familiar.

And Edmund...my name is spelled Kozlowski, not Koslowski. My father is dead. No need to insult him. Apparently spending a teaching career around 12-year-olds has rubbed off on you. And it's "Unabomber", not "Unibomber". Some teacher.

**Regards,**  
**Ed Kozlowski – Colchester**

### Learn; Take Action

To the Editor

I am writing this letter because of something that recently surprised and shocked me greatly. While watching the morning news last Saturday morning, December 10th, I learned that CoDE, the Coalition on Diversity and Equity in Hebron was having a rally on the four corners of Route 85 in Hebron at 10 a.m. together with the NAACP to protest against any form of "hate" in the world.

I currently work in a school district that devotes a lot of time and effort in providing their staff with fulfilling discussions on race and equity.

I've always been a kind, welcoming person to all. Luckily, I've learned many things that I might not have even thought about from the various workshops, open forum talks, and most importantly from the speakers and firsthand experiences of individuals themselves from every culture and race.

Until you hear their stories and the racism that they have faced, it is hard to truly understand the world from their point of view. So, I jumped up from my couch, quickly put together a hand-made sign, and jumped into my car to join the rally going on in a Town close to where I live.

I kept thinking that I would not find any parking since I was a little bit late, but trust me, that was not an issue at all! I thought I would drive up to hundreds and hundreds of RHAM school students, teachers, and hopefully a few Admin-



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★ *Letters cont. from page 5*

A heartfelt thank you goes to all the “worker bees” who make this weekend possible.

The profits from this fundraiser will help the Society preserve Portland’s history at the Ruth Callender House Museum of Portland History and provide educational programs for the public.

On behalf of the Society, I wish you a special holiday season.

**Deborah Ellsworth**  
The Portland Historical Society, Inc.

**Dismaying Eyesore**

To the Editor:

I moved into Middle Haddam in the 1960’s, just prior to the establishment of the Middle Haddam Historic District. Over the years there have been many conversations about either preserving or updating buildings within the district. Both sides have valid opinions how we should proceed ahead.

There are two very charming buildings in the heart of the village that provide representation of our history. Built in different centuries, for sure, but each representing our history, are the Middle Haddam Public Library and the Middle Haddam Post Office.

The thing that has always dismayed me over the years, is the small parcel of land between these two buildings. It is terribly overgrown and distracts from both of these Middle Haddam treasures.

If this community could come together to enhance this piece of property it would greatly improve both of these sites. If this parcel could be cleared, filled and made into a park-like setting

with plantings, flowers and seating benches, it could be turned into a delightful gathering place for patrons of both buildings and residents of Middle Haddam.

With a little creativity, there might even be a plan to establish accessibility to both buildings.

I urge my friends and neighbors to work together to improve these treasures we have rather than be divided among ourselves.

Pray for Ukraine.

**Respectfully submitted,**  
**Ellen Little – Middle Haddam**

**Democratic Propaganda?**

To the Editor:

As a life-long Hebron resident, whose family has diligently paid taxes for over a century, I STRONGLY OBJECT to using tax money for a PR-Campaign to sell taxpayers an ever-increasing multimillion dollar Public Works Complex, approved by only .0066% of the electorate. Hebron’s government already has unlimited media access, denied to citizens.

Sadly, Hebron’s PWC postings do not educate citizens, they dictate a one-sided agenda. Leaders must explain why they’re attempting to destroy both financially and environmentally a rural neighborhood where they don’t reside but preserve where they live!

Hebron’s government isn’t connected to 2022 realities. Hebron has changed since the Masterplan was drafted. It needs revision before Hebron’s “rural historic character” is lost.

Hebron has had a paid town manager and planner since 1990. Yet now there’s no plan B! Why?

No Plan B means no future.

Horton Boulevard testifies to catastrophic

town mistakes. Repeatedly, Hebron Selectmen promote expensive projects, then move away because of high taxes after destroying Hebron’s rural historic integrity which they swore to preserve! Burnt Hill Park, Horton Boulevard and acres of invasive species thriving on town-property testify to government mismanagement.

Town leadership’s unwillingness to compromise or meaningfully converse with its citizens is destroying Hebron. Hard questions need to be answered.

1- What guarantees are there that Hebron’s salt garages can withstand a 100–500-year hurricane?

2- What are the plans for the PWC 50 years from now?

3-How high will taxes soar?

I’m allowed 300 words.

The town has no limit! Free speech in town meetings turned colonies into a nation. Through political machinations, Hebron is now as unresponsive and autocratic as my ancestor’s old country. Truly democratic government values compromise and respects, as well as educates its electorate without bias - dictators don’t!

**John Baron – Hebron**

**Keep Your Well Water Safe**

To the Editor:

Hebron’s Planning and Development Director Matt Bordeaux and Conservation and Inland Wetlands Agent Jim Cordier co-authored an excellent and timely article about the health of our water sources in the Fall 2022 issue of Hebron Views. Specifically, the article talks about how most homes in Hebron rely upon groundwater and private wells for water and ways to protect well water.

In addition to proper construction and inspection, *Keeping Potential Contaminants Far Away* from your well is of utmost importance to prevent contamination. Siting examples such as do not allow runoff from the road, driveway, or rooftop to pond around the well and certainly do not allow pesticides, oils, gasoline pet, or livestock waste to get into the soil are key practices to prevent contamination.

The authors did a fine job communicating this is very important, helpful, and savvy advice for the benefit of residents.

Conversely, it is difficult to understand why the Town of Hebron continues to dismiss legitimate concerns relating to the placement of a 2,000-ton salt shed, and Public Works facility at 17 Kinney Road.

Likewise, the attempts to discredit the informed opinion of Mr. William Warzecha, a hydrogeologist with 36 years of experience dealing with road salt contamination of groundwater and potential violation of the Best Management Practices established by CT DEEP and the Bureau of Water Protection. “A salt storage facility should not be located in any of the following:

“In areas where the groundwater has been classified as GAA or GA unless it is not feasible to locate the facility in a less sensitive area.” The groundwater at 17 Kinney Road is rated as GA, suitable for drinking without treatment.

The potential for contamination is unavoidable. Perhaps the Town of Hebron should take its own good advice!

**Andrea Lattanzi – Amston**

**Shut it Down**

To the Editor:

I enjoin Andy Tierney, Don Larson, and all town officials, to read the article that is page 15 in *Hebron Views*, Volume 6, Issue 4, by Jim Cordier. The article is titled “Farmland Preservation and Open Space Conservation.”

The salient point comes in the next to last paragraph. “Given its woodlands and wetlands, Hebron’s topography and undisturbed vegetation are among the state’s maximal contributors to carbon storage, the mitigation of global warming and the protection of ground water.”

And finally, “Hebron sets an example for other communities to emulate.”

What example will other communities emulate when Hebron destroys the Pristine Area off of Kinney Road to build a public garage, out buildings, parking areas and roads.

Shame on you Andy. Save face, and admit you made a mistake and shut down that project. Save that area for what it is now. The residents of Hebron will thank you for a valuable contribution to the town’s ecosystem. Otherwise, they may not use so nice words.

**Larry Zimmerman – Amston**

**Hate Defined**

To the Editor:

The December 9, 2022, *Rivereast News Bulletin* included another article about the recent incident at RHAM and a rally organized by the Hebron Coalition on Diversity and Equity (“CoDE”) to address “hate in the Community.” The event was reportedly organized as a direct result of the RHAM incident because the CoDE was “appalled by the incident.”

The Oxford American Dictionary defines the term “hate” as: “to dislike intensely; detest; be hostile to” and “the feeling of intense dislike or hostility.”

Applying this definition, do the rally organizers and attendees have any evidence of the reason, motive or intent behind the incident? Is there any credible evidence that the alleged conduct of the RHAM student was directed at anyone in particular? Do the organizations that continue to seek to label the incident as a “hate incident” or a “hate crime” possess all the facts surrounding the incident? From what I saw about the rally, there was a small group of attendees. Were all the attendees from the RHAM community or were there members from outside organizations? Regardless, what appeared through media sources to be a low turnout a sign that, perhaps, members of our community may not accept the hate charges of these organizations?

The continued statements of various organizations following the RHAM incident caused me to reflect on an excerpt from a reading at mass I attended the week before last that I find appropriate: “Not by appearance shall he judge nor by hearsay shall he decide.” Isaiah 11:3.

In a season generally described as a season of joy, perhaps we should focus on the good in our community.

Rather than continued unsubstantiated cries of “hate” and “hate crime”, perhaps our community is better served through a message



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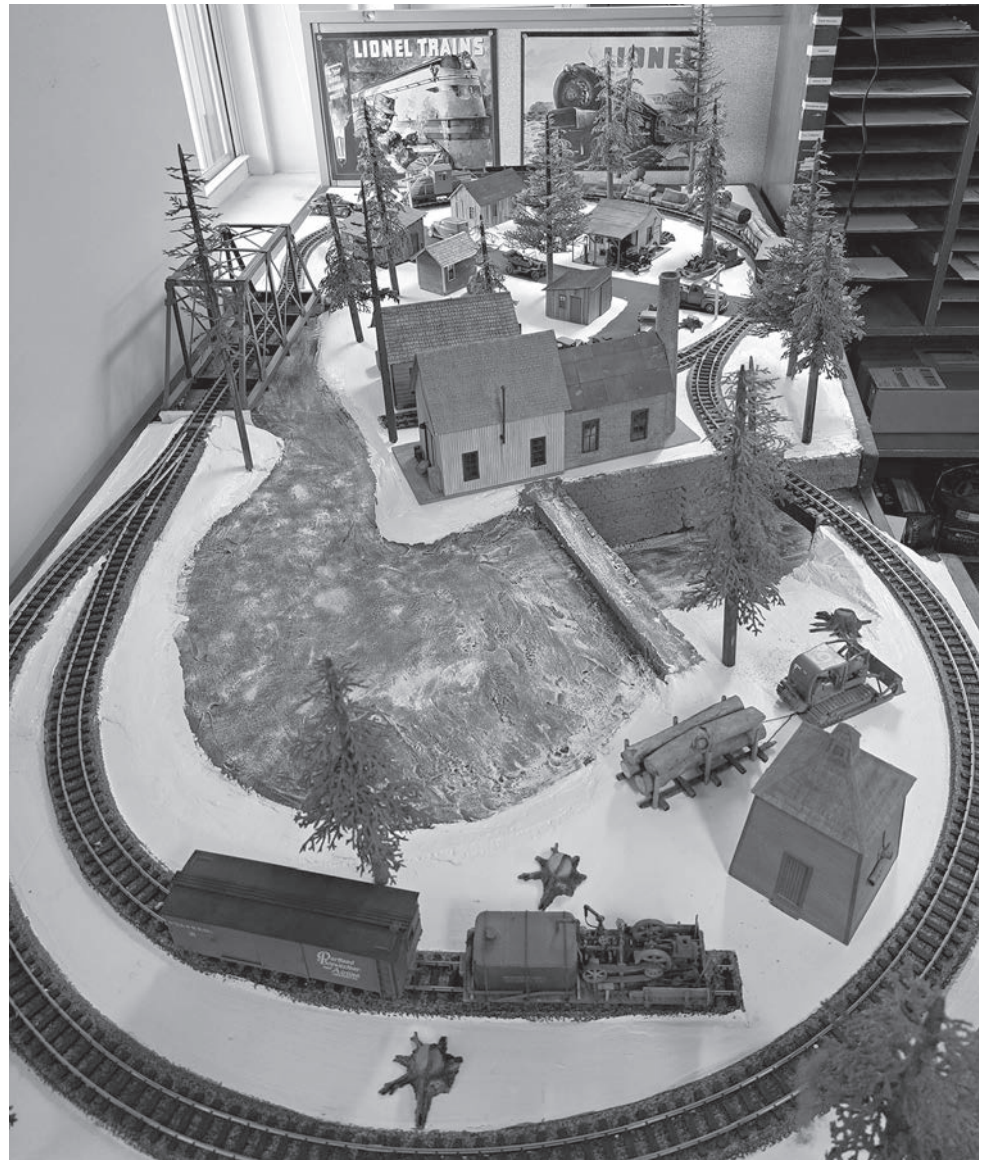
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**The Polar Express Has Competition...** in town clerk Michael Tierney's hand-built Christmas trainset, now up and nearly completed in the clerk's office at town hall. Tierney built an exquisite set, highly detailed, one of those artworks that only gets better the closer you look, the more intricate details you notice, the longer you watch the mini-train chug along a sinuous train track, passing a lake that actually looks like, if you dove in, it'd chill you to the bone. You can practically hear the rumble of the classic pickups idling, waiting for the train to inch by. So detailed is it, the wood one of Tierney's figure splits is real, shaved down to miniature axe-split firewood. It was captivating without even being finished. Tierney has a few touches to put in, like lights and more townsfolk. He hopes to put the set up every year. Tierney said he's a lifelong train enthusiast and hobbyist and brings his pieces to conventions.

## Needleman Reappointed

State Senator Norm Needleman (D-Essex), preparing for his third term in the State Senate, today was reappointed as Senate Chair of the Energy & Technology Committee in the General Assembly. Sen. Needleman was also named Vice Chair of the Planning and Development Committee. He has served as Senate Chair of the Energy & Technology Committee since his election to the Senate in 2018.

"In the last four years, Connecticut has seen progress due to my colleagues' hard work on the Energy and Technology Committee, and I'm excited to get more good work done," said Sen. Needleman. "With the momentum provided us by the Take Back Our Grid Act, bills support-

ing data center development and stronger access to broadband internet and continued focus on energy costs and technology advancements in our state, I'm encouraged by the prospects of another two years chairing this committee. I am also looking forward to working with my colleagues on the Planning and Development Committee regarding the future of our towns."

"Senator Needleman's extensive work in support of clean energy, ratepayers' interests and pushing technology forward in our state makes him the perfect choice to continue chairing this committee," said Senate President Martin M. Looney (D-New Haven). "We're excited to see the further advances he can provide our state."

## 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 building is accessible. 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.

People are invited to contribute to several seasonal mission projects that benefit area families, and patients at the Connecticut Children's Medical Center.

People are invited to contribute to several seasonal mission projects and offerings that benefit area families, and patients at the Connecticut Children's Medical Center.

First Church Nursery School offers a pro-

gram 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.

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](http://www.firstchurchportlandct.org). Those who wish to follow the church on Facebook may do so at The First Congregational Church of Portland, CT.

## Holiday Book Store

The Friends of the Portland Library Holiday Book Store is open for the month of December in the Second Hand Prose Book sale area at the Portland Library during regular library hours.

The sale features a variety of quality used books and a large assortment of puzzles, children's books, Holiday books, games and DVD sets. Many items are like new and would make great holiday gifts.

All proceeds benefit programs funded by the Friends, including the Library's DVD collection, Museum Pass Program and a wide variety of children's, family and adult programs held throughout the year.

Visit our website at [www.friendsofportlandlibrary.org](http://www.friendsofportlandlibrary.org) for more information or email questions to [friendsofportlandlibrary@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofportlandlibrary@gmail.com)

## St. Mary Church News

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

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

website for more information.

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

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

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

## Zion Lutheran Church News

Zion Lutheran Church, located at 183 William St., offers in-person worship Sundays at 9 a.m. Masks are optional.

A recording of the service is posted to YouTube on Mondays by 9 a.m. Bulletins for the service are posted each week at [zionlutheranportland.org](http://zionlutheranportland.org).

Sunday School meets the first and third Sunday of the month at 10:15 a.m., following worship. Ages 3 to 16 are welcome.

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.

During Advent, Zion will be offering Wednesday evening Compline services at 8 p.m. These services will be preceded by a screening of an episode from "The Chosen", starting at approximately 7 p.m. The Compline service, or evening prayer, is also live-streamed on Zion's Facebook

page.

The Children's Christmas Pageant is being presented during worship on Sunday, Dec. 18. Zion will also be participating in the interfaith service of Lessons and Carols at Trinity Episcopal Church at 2 p.m. that same afternoon.

On Wednesday, Dec. 21, The Chosen's special episode, "The Messengers", a 39-minute show of Mary describing Jesus' birth, will be shown before the Compline service.

Christmas Eve service will begin at 5 p.m. on Dec. 24, and Christmas Day worship will begin at 9 a.m. on December 25th.

The community is welcome to participate in any or 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 at [zion.lutheran@snet.net](mailto:zion.lutheran@snet.net), or visit [zionlutheranportland.org](http://zionlutheranportland.org). Sara Stall-Ryan is Pastor.

## 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 are welcome to attend Church School.

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

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. 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](http://www.trinitychurchportlandct.org). If you have any other prayer requests to lift up,

email the church office at [trinitychurchportlandct@gmail.com](mailto:trinitychurchportlandct@gmail.com).

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

Please join us for our Advent and Christmas services.

Sunday, Dec, 18: Holy Eucharist Advent 4 at 9:30 am, Greening the Church after the service, Interfaith Advent Lessons and Carols at 2:00 pm

Saturday, Dec. 24 - Christmas Family Service & Paper Bag Pageant at 5:00 pm

Sunday, Dec. 25 - Christmas Morning Service at 10:00 am

Saturday, Dec. 31 - New Year's Eve Zoom Service at 11:45 pm (See our website for details)

## Kids' Night Out

First Congregational Church is sponsoring a Kids' Night Out, for all children ages 3-12, Saturday, Dec. 17, from 6-9 p.m., at the church, 554 Main St. Drop-off is at 6 p.m. at the Nursery School.

There will be Christmas movies with juice and popcorn, holiday ornament crafts and reindeer games. Kids can come dressed in their favorite pajamas.

Suggested donation is \$25 per family. Spaces are limited; save a spot by contacting the church office at 860-342-3244 or [office@firstchurchportlandct.org](mailto:office@firstchurchportlandct.org).

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U.S. Coast Guard Station South Portland and Sector staff recently dropped off one of their 47-foot motor lifeboats (MLB) at the new Birdon facility on the Connecticut River in Portland.

## Coast Guard Gives Nod to Local Company

By Jack Lakowsky

Forty-seven-foot MLBs from across the Coast Guard will undergo a service life extension program (SLEP). The boat engines will be upgraded along with some configuration changes and other improvements to ensure continued performance and reliability.

For you gearheads, old salts and Coast Guard enthusiasts, the engines are going from

Twin Detroit Diesel 6V92TA DDEC-IV engines, producing 435 hp @ 2,100 rpm, to

Twin Cummins QSC8.3 diesel engines, producing 530 hp at 2,800 rpm

The new engines are also reportedly a bit more compact, allowing for better crew movement within the engine compartment, but they're probably too big for Birdon's stockings.

## YFS News & Notes

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

Prevention & Wellness Council – Wednesday, Dec. 21 from 6:30-7:30pm in the Buck-Foreman Community Center, 265 Main St. Help us work as a community on youth substance use prevention, positive mental health, and becoming a recovery friendly community! Contact Jesse or just show up if you're interested in joining in.

Drop-In & Draw – Tuesday, Jan. 10 from 1:30-4:30pm in the Buck-Foreman Community Center, 265 Main St. Come when you want, stay as long as you want.

Youth Listening Circle – Postponed until January. We're looking for students in Middle and High School that are interested in having a discussion on race, culture, diversity, equity, and more. Join students from East Hampton, Durham, and Middlefield and have your voice heard! Facilitated by the great team at SERC. Call or email Jesse to sign up.

LGBTQ+ Support Groups & Meet-ups – We're hoping that these are going to be starting in January! Stay tuned for more information.

## Portland Library News & Notes

Portland Library, 20 Freestone Ave., has announced the following events. Registration required for all programs unless noted. For more info, to register, and for full program descriptions, visit [www.portlandlibraryct.org](http://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. Masks are optional.

The Library will be closed Saturday December 24th through Monday December 26th.

The Library will also be closed Saturday December 31st through Monday January 2nd.

Mobile Library App: Dashing about during the holiday season? Want to avoid interaction when colds and flu are in the air? The Library Connection Mobile Library app will allow you to find materials and may reserve them for future pickup when you are notified. And at the library, you can check out books and many items, except DVDs, two ways: use the Meescan station located in the adult area near the entrance or use the mobile app. There are some items

that will need staff intervention, such as items on hold for another reader.

The library has another 24/7 service as well: people may send remote printing requests for later pick-up at the library. For information and access, visit the library webpage or use the Library Connection Mobile Library app.

Youth Programs: Drop-In Playdates: Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m., Dec. 20 and 21, for ages birth through 5 and their caregivers. This will be an hour of socialization and open play with story room toys. No registration is required.

Meet and Greet with the Snow Sisters (Tuesday, Dec. 27 at 11:00 a.m.): Calling all fans of Elsa and Anna! The Snow Sisters will be visiting the Portland Library for a morning of songs, games, crafts and plenty of photo opportunities. Registration is required and space is limited.

Save the Date – Read & Recycle: Saturday, Jan. 14, from 10 a.m.-noon. All are welcome to bring in gently used books, DVDs, CDs and puzzles.

## Senior Center News & Notes

The Waverly Senior Center, 7 Waverly Avenue is open Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Fridays 9:00 a.m. to 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.

Weekly Programs:

Monday: Light Aerobics: 9:30-10:3, Massage with Joanie on the Spot: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. \$50.00 hr. appointments necessary, Please call Joanie @ 860-301-6507

Tuesday: Bears on a Journey: 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. Making fleece teddy bears for cancer patients. Bears on a journey are seeking donations of light fleece, one yard or more, for mak-

ing teddy bears for cancer patients throughout CT. If you would like to donate, please contact 860-342-0809; Watercolor Lessons returns 1/17/2023: 9:30-12:00 To register, please e-mail [bivenne@yahoo.com](mailto:bivenne@yahoo.com); Stretch & Flex: 11:30-12:30. Coupons for Troops 1:00-4:00; Set Back: 1:00 p.m.

Wednesday: Light Aerobics: 9:30-10:30, SyncoCize Exercise: 10:30-11:30, Social Duplicate Bridge: 12:30 -4:00 on the 2nd & 4th Wed.- Multipurpose Room, Tai Chi Qigong 1:00 p.m.

Thursday: 9:00 SyncoSize Balance and Core 9:00 a.m., Knit & Stich 11:30 a.m., Stretch & Flex 11:30 a.m., Mah Jongg 12:30, Scrabble 1:00 p.m.

Friday: Senior Center Closed for the holiday.

Health & Wellness: Blood Pressure Clinic: 10:30am – 11:30 am: 1st Monday of ea. month (unless it falls on a holiday; then it occurs the following week); Medical Rides: The Center provides seniors and disabled with rides to the doctor. The fee is \$5.00 p/p round trip. Please try to give a 2-week notice. Masks are required; Foot Care: Postponed until further notice; Free Hearing Screening: The 2nd Tuesday of each month at 11:00 a.m. with Virginia Duclos of "All Ears" in Portland. No registration is necessary.

Cans-4-A-Cause: Please continue to save your washed cans and bottles for this worthy project. The drop off bin is in the rear parking lot of the Center. Contact Jeff Myjak for details or if you are looking to volunteer. [myjakjeff@gmail.com](mailto:myjakjeff@gmail.com)

Special Events: Wednesday, Dec. 21 Movie Matinee & Popcorn, 2:00 pm. Register by calling Lynn or Alexis at 860-342-6760.

Volunteer Drivers for Meals on Wheels: The Waverly Senior Center is recruiting volunteer drivers once again for the Meals on Wheels program in Portland. CRT (Community Renewal Team) will deliver the hot meals to the Center, Monday - Thursday. Meals are packed in thermal containers for the volunteers to pick up and deliver to the homebound. The delivery usually only takes about an hour. If you have ever thought of giving back to the community, this is a very rewarding program. For full details, please contact Alexis 860-342-6761.

## United Methodist Church News

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

A Fourth Sunday weekly Communion service at 1 p.m. replaces the regular 9 a.m. service on those Sundays.

## Winter Soccer Registration

Portland Soccer Club's winter soccer registration is open through Thursday, Jan. 5. Sign up at [clubs.bluesombrero.com/portlandsoccerclub](http://clubs.bluesombrero.com/portlandsoccerclub). The season will run Jan. 7-March 11.

The club is offering two indoor soccer experiences this winter. They are:

U6-U8: Birth year 2015-17. Cost is \$40. Players will participate in one-hour Futsal sessions on Saturdays (at 1 or 2 p.m.) at Gildersleeve School.

U9-U14 Indoor Soccer and Futsal: Birth

year 2008-2014. Cost is \$50. Players will participate in one-hour sessions of either futsal on Saturday (Gildersleeve School), or indoor soccer on Sunday (Oakwood indoor soccer facility in Glastonbury, field number 3), or both in some weeks. Times for futsal on Saturdays are 2 p.m., 3 p.m. or 4 p.m. Times for Sunday indoor soccer are 4 or 5 p.m.

Futsal is a fast-paced, passing- and foot-skill-oriented game. Dedicated futsal Goals and a heavier ball are used.

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MHC President Tony Razel with MHC Founding member and MxLT Board member John LeShane at the appreciation event held last November.

### Hiking Club Donates \$25,000 to Save Land

The Meshomasic Hiking Club's (MHC) Executive Board voted unanimously to donate \$25,000 to the Middlesex Land Trust's (MxLT) effort to purchase a 147-acre piece of property near Great Hill Pond in Portland. The donation was made in advance and in hopeful anticipation of the CT DEEP's Open Space and Watershed (OSWA) grant of \$364,000 which was awarded to MxLT in June. The hiking club raises money through membership dona-

tions and through John LeShane's considerable efforts in bottle/can returns which add up over time, hence John being known as "The Can Man". MxLT is grateful to the Hiking Club for their significant donation to this very special project. If you are interested in learning more about the project or donating, please visit the MxLT website at: [www.middlesex-landtrust.org/rattlesnake-brook/](http://www.middlesex-landtrust.org/rattlesnake-brook/)



Paintings, photographs, jewelry, pottery, scarves, and table runners are among the works by members of Brownstone Arts that can be seen in Owen's Emporium at 283 Main Street in Portland through December 24th.

### Brownstone Arts Show and Sale

A holiday show and sale sponsored by Brownstone Arts is being held in Owen's Emporium at 283 Main St. through Dec. 24. Among the items displayed and offered as holiday gifts are paintings, drawings, photographs, felt-worked scarves and table runners, jewelry, and pottery. The event marks the 15th anniversary of Brownstone Arts, a group founded in 2007 to support, promote and encourage the arts in Portland and surrounding towns. The public is

invited to join the artists and their friends as they celebrate this anniversary year. There will be wine and munchies, musical entertainment by singer-songwriter Cathy Kreger, and a cake to be shared. Owen's Emporium's hours for the duration of the show will be: Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; and Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. (hours are 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Dec. 24). The Emporium will be closed Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday.

### Food Bank, Foodshare Truck

The Portland Food Bank is located in the lower level of the Portland Waverly Senior Center, 7 Waverly Ave., and is open Monday and Thursday, 9 a.m.-noon, except for holidays. To access the food bank's services, people are required to register with Portland Food Bank (copy of an ID and recent piece of mail or utility bill) and be a Portland resident. Donations are taken during Food Bank hours. Sign-ups for Christmas food and gift baskets are due as soon as possible. Call 860-342-6795 for more

information or for volunteer and donation opportunities. The Connecticut Foodshare truck comes to the Waverly Center every other Monday, from 1-2 p.m., except for holidays. The next Foodshare visit is Dec. 19. People using the Foodshare are required to form a line and everyone will have an opportunity to 'shop' at the truck once it is set up. You do not have to be a Portland resident to attend the Foodshare, and please bring bags.

### Parks and Rec. News & Notes

Parks and Recreation is offering the following. To register or for full program descriptions, visit [portland.recdesk.com](http://portland.recdesk.com). For more information, call 860-342-6757 or email [adionne@portlandct.org](mailto:adionne@portlandct.org).

The program is open to students in Grades K-6, and the cost to attend Kids' Blast is \$18 a day. We currently have openings at Kids' Blast starting in January. If you would like your child to attend Kids' Blast, then please purchase a Kids' Blast Membership on our website, or contact the Parks and Rec. Department by emailing [adionne@portlandct.org](mailto:adionne@portlandct.org) or calling 860-342-6757.

- Adult Drop-In Programs:** Tai Chi at the Buck-Foreman Community Center: Saturdays, 9:30-10:15 a.m., through Dec. 10. Fee to drop in each session is \$7. Meeting location is either Portland Riverfront Park or Buck-Foreman Community Center; call Parks and Rec. for exact location information.
- Volleyball:** Wednesdays at Gildersleeve School. Non-competitive play is 5-6:30 p.m., and competitive play is 6:30-8 p.m.
- Men's Drop-In Basketball:** Tuesdays, 7:30-9 p.m., at Portland Middle School. Non-competitive play: 7:30-9 p.m. Watch for details on Women's Drop-In Basketball, coming soon.
- Beginners' Yoga:** Wednesdays through Jan. 4, 5-6 p.m., at Buck Foreman Community Center. Fee: \$65 for residents, \$75 for non-residents.
- Kids' Blast After School Program:** Program takes place at Brownstone Intermediate School from 3:00pm - 6:00pm, Monday through Friday.

### Mercy Honor Roll

The following Portland residents made the Mercy High School Honor Roll for the first quarter of the 2022-23 school year:

- Highest Honors**  
**Seniors:** Julia Nadolski, Milana Koji, Sarah McNickle; **Juniors:** Tiana Harley; **Sophomores:** Ava Roy, Emily Bernard, Kayla Johnson.
- High Honors**  
**Seniors:** Gianna Low, Lauren Kohs, Leah VanDeventer, Michaela Miano, Raya Morin; **Juniors:** Emily Murphy; **Sophomores:** Catalina Koji, Isabella Levesque, Logan Binnington, Megan Kasperowski.
- Honors**  
**Seniors:** Lillian Clark; **Juniors:** Clare Banksoski; **Sophomores:** Sophie Favale.

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# Town Just as Busy as Anyone During the Holidays

By Jack Lakowsky

As the year comes to a close, the Town of East Hampton has a lot to do before it can settle in with some cocoa.

When Santa passes over Belltown he'll hopefully notice all the improvements all the local high school.

After several years, final completion of the High School Athletic Fields Project has been achieved.

The town's contractor, Mountain View, completed the final items at the end of November.

In addition to the punch list items being completed, Mountain View also patched the areas of the track that were damaged by falling debris during a windstorm in midfall, according to East Hampton Town Manager Dave Cox's written report to the Town Council.

Parks and recreation also met with staff from DEEP to review options for the unfinished portion of the Air Line Trail on the western side of town.

DEEP seems to be taking responsibility for making sure funding is secured and for moving the plan forward, Cox said. DEEP will be con-

necting with DOT to review the plans and work toward a funding goal and will be working to address runoff on the trail that is causing this area to be identified as wetlands.

Also, parks and rec is looking for high school and college students to help referee games this year, and anyone interested is encouraged to reach out to the department for information.

## Town Finance Department Honored for Excellence

For the tenth year in a row, the town finance department has been awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the Town's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021.

The recognition is presented by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) based on judging of the report by an impartial panel that determined the report met the high standards of the GFOA program, which includes demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate the town's financial story

and motivate potential users and user groups to read the report.

The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment acknowledges the effort made by the town to clearly present the financial picture.

## In with the Old and the New

The Village Center Businesses are hosting their first Gingerbread House Contest at the Library. Vote on the houses at the library between now and Saturday, December 17. Santa will announce the winners at 3 p.m. on December 17.

The Belltown Garden Club hosted its 12th Annual Winter Wonderland Silent Auction at the library, which ended today.

The Garden Club will contact the winners and have pickup times in the Library Rotunda on December 17 and 19.

## Public Works Reminders

With threats of winter weather and the imminent closure of asphalt plants, crews from public have suspended pavement shimming operations on Wopowog Rd. The department has shifted to getting some smaller projects completed before hard winter sets in.

Some of these projects include continued pothole patching, limited street sweeping, and gravel road maintenance. Crews have also been assisting parks and rec with some projects associated with the Lake Pocotopaug watershed including Sears Park sand reclamation and the Hawthorne dredging project.

During the winter months, as weather allows, the department is planning fence replacements

at Hog Hill Cemetery and Young Street Cemetery, as well as vegetation clearing and clean up at the 13 Summit Street and 1 Watrous Street properties.

As winter weather comes in, the department reminds residents to avoid placing refuse and recycling bins in the street for collection and to be sure to bring bins in as soon as possible after they have been collected.

Residents are also encouraged to refrain from parking on the street during winter weather if possible. These practices will facilitate snow removal operations and help the Department clear streets efficiently.

The department is excited to have several newly hired staff this year but notes that this is the first winter season for these employees. While they have spent significant time learning their plow routes and the Town's equipment, staff asks the community for patience during this inaugural season for them.

## Police

The local police department is moving forward with the recruitment process to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Sergeant Jerry Boynton. The selection process has narrowed the search down to one candidate and that candidate is currently going through the background review process. The Department hopes to have a candidate in place to start the Police Academy on December 30.

Finally, some good news: during the month of November, the Department did not use Narcan, nor did it respond to any medical call in which a family member had to use it.

## Haddam Neck Covenant Church News

Haddam Neck Covenant Church, located at 17 Haddam Neck Rd. in East Hampton, invites all to Sunday Worship at 9 a.m. Pastor is the Rev. Tom Cowger. Refreshments are served after the service.

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

**Kids Church:** Kids learn about God's love through hands-on interactive activities and fun music, is held in Fellowship Hall during our worship service. All are welcome.

**Adult Bible Study** is held each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. in the Chapel. The study traces

God's covenant with His people.

**Zoom Bible Study:** The weekly Zoom Bible Study is held every Thursday night from 7 to 8 p.m. The Study looks at various ways to approach Bible reading to enhance our ability to hear what God says and how it intersects with our lives.

**Christmas Eve Service:** Please come to the family Christmas Eve Candlelight service at 5 p.m. on Dec. 24, as we celebrate the birth of Jesus. There will be no Church service on Dec. 25.

**Office Info:** The office can be reached at 860-267-2336; hours are Monday – Friday, 12:30 -4:30. The church website is at [www.hncovenantchurch.org](http://www.hncovenantchurch.org).

# Belltown Motors

## Tire & Service Center



Stop in today to ensure your Car, Truck or SUV is READY FOR WINTER!

**Get Prepared Early** While many people truly start to prepare for the rigors of winter in December, it is ideal to make sure your car(s) are prepared for the winter in the early fall. By doing so, you give yourself time to make sure everything is ready – before it's too late.

**Consider Getting Snow Tires** Snow tires are made of a softer rubber than all-season tires which allows them to retain flexibility, even in the coldest of cold. Tread patterns on these tires also allow for exceptional grip in the snow and ice.

**Check Your Fluid Levels** Working windshield wipers and a solid supply of wiper fluid will ensure that you and your customers have visibility in the worst of snowstorms. Wiper fluid will get used up quickly if a car is being driven during a snowstorm, for obvious reasons.

**Change Your Oil and Find the Proper Viscosity** Again, this winter car care tip seems rather simple, however it's another tip that is easy to miss. The cold weather negatively affects oil's effectiveness. The cold climates will make your oil thicker, reducing engine circulation.



**Have Your Battery Checked** It's typically more difficult for a battery to operate in colder weather, therefore it's important to make sure your battery is strong enough to last the winter.

Monday-Friday 8am-5pm

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## 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 us at [easthamptonpubliclibrary.org](http://easthamptonpubliclibrary.org), or on Facebook at [facebook.com/EastHamptonLibrary](http://facebook.com/EastHamptonLibrary)

**Library Hours:** The library is open Monday-Wednesday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Thursday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

**NOTE:** The Library will be open from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm on Saturday, Dec. 24th and CLOSED on Monday, Dec. 26th

**Children Programs:** Toddler Time: Wednesdays at 10:15 a.m. for children ages 18 months to 3 years, Stories & Songs: Wednesdays at 11:15 a.m. for ages 3-5 years, Mindful Movements: Mondays at 10:30 a.m. Held in the library community room. For ages 18 months and up; siblings welcome, Baby Rhyme Time: Thursdays at 10:15 a.m. For children ages 0-18 months and their caregivers. Held in the library community room, Nintendo Switch Tournament: Saturday, Dec. 17, 2:00-3:30 p.m. For grades 1-5. All skill levels welcome, Cozy Yoga: Monday, Dec. 19, 4:30-5:30 p.m. For grades 1-5. Wear your comfiest clothes (or pajamas!) and join us for some fun, relaxing yoga with Amie Meacham, a Yoga200 Certified in-

structor. All skill levels welcome.

**Teen Programs:** Pre-Teen Advisory Board: Tuesday, Dec. 20, 5:00 p.m. For grades 6-8. Share your knowledge, creativity, and interests to make the East Hampton Public Library a place that 6-8 graders feel welcome and a place you want to be. Earn community service hours; Winter Break Breakfast: Grades 6-12: Thursday, Dec. 29, 11:00 a.m. Enjoy breakfast treats and a chill space to wrap up your winter break. Play switch games, craft with Teen Librarian Keri, or just visit with friends.

**Adult Programs:** Book Club Open House: Tuesday, Dec. 20, 6:30 p.m. Come together to reminisce about the books we've read this year, talk about our recent favorites, pick out upcoming titles and more! There will be light refreshments and giveaways. If you are curious about our Book Club, please join us to see what we are all about.

**Family Programs:** New Year's at Noon – All Ages: Friday, Dec. 30, 10:30 a.m. Celebrate the new year at the library with an exciting all-ages show by magician Ed Popielarczyk. Stick around to make a confetti popper craft and for the big balloon drop at noon. Registration encouraged but not required.

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### Lions Food Share

The East Hampton Lions would like to remind all our residents that the mobile food pantry will be at St. Patrick's Church's parking lot this Thursday, Dec. 22 between the hours of 9:00am-10:00 am. The truck leaves promptly at 10:00, so please don't come at the last minute.

The food pantry is open to all- no proof of residency and no income requirements. We are hoping with this program it will enable our residents to save some money on their grocery bill. We do need a minimum of 50 residents to attend each time. We are averaging over 140 people, so

there is a need in East Hampton.

The last time Food Share was here at 9 a.m. we had a line of over 70 people. If the line is long when you arrive, stay in your car until the line goes down some. Please be certain however that you are in line by 9:45. The other option is to come early so you will be one of the first in line. Last time the line started forming about 8:30. We have made the arrangement with Saint Patrick's Church to have a few chairs to sit on for anyone that has difficulties standing in line.

### 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. To connect electronically, go to [www.christchurch-middlehaddam.com](http://www.christchurch-middlehaddam.com) for directions.

**Sunday School:** Will meet in the parish hall.  
**Christmas Flowers:** All are asked to use the envelopes in the pews to make a donation for flowers for the holiday season.

**Covenant to Care Christmas Drive:** Parish members have signed up to buy gifts for all eight children. If interested in contributing, the

church said it plans to buy gift cards for the parents, so donations are still welcome.

**Bible Study:** Wednesday evenings via Zoom. For more information, email [bobette@khan.com](mailto:bobette@khan.com).

**Coffee Hour:** Hosts are needed. See the sign-up sheet in the parish kitchen.

**Welcome:** Service music will be provided by Anna Brom, the church's new organist.

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.

### 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](http://cc-eh.org). There are Advent readings and a candle-lighting every Sunday celebrating the Advent season.

Church school classes meet every Sunday. The Yarners meet every Thursday from 10:30 a.m.-noon in the Fellowship Hall. All knitters

and crocheters are welcome.

Christmas Eve Candle-Lighting Service: Saturday, Dec. 24, at 7 p.m., in the sanctuary.

Christmas Day: There is no in-church Sunday service, but one is available on the church website.

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

### Upcoming Activities at Epoch Arts

Epoch Arts is offering a variety of youth programming this season. All activities are held at 27 Skinner St. For more information, visit [www.epocharts.org](http://www.epocharts.org).

**The Ugly Sweater Party:** Friday, Dec. 16, 7-9 p.m., for grades 6 and up. Come wearing your best, ugliest Christmas sweater. Dance all night to a live DJ, take your photo in the photo booth, and eat some festive snacks in the café.

Cost is \$7; no registration required.

**Winter Classes:** A variety of artistic classes will be offered for preschool through 12th grade. Sign up for classes like improv theater, ceramics, polymer clay and art, and sign up to perform in an original two-act play! Classes begin Jan. 9 and run for eight weeks. Register online.

### EHVFD Santa Runs

Members of the East Hampton Volunteer Fire Department are holding their annual "Santa Run" visits to various neighborhoods in town. Firefighters will escort Santa Claus around town atop Engine 3-12. Firefighters will also collect non-perishable food items for East Hampton Food Bank as Santa winds his way through town.

Each evening, Santa will begin his tour at approximately 5 p.m. in accordance with the scheduled dates shown below and in the approximate order in which the streets are listed.

Note: For safety reasons, Santa will not be able to stop and greet people along the state-controlled roads in town. People who live along routes 16, 66 or 196 should consult the schedule below and arrange to meet Santa at a convenient nearby location.

Note also that inclement weather or emergency calls could potentially result in curtailment or cancellation of a particular evening's activities and cannot be rescheduled. Any changes or updates to the established schedule will be

posted on the EHVFD Facebook page as soon as possible.

The remaining schedule is:

Dec. 16: Edgerton, Chatham Fields, Huckleberry, Sunset, Cedar Ridge, Holly, Smith, Dogwood, Royal Oaks area, Arch, Viola, Flanders, Daly, Pecauset, Portage, Bear Swamp, Peach Farm, Whispering Woods, Town Line Drive, Orchard View.

Dec. 17: North Main, Christopher, West Drive, Bellwood Court, Edgemere Condos, Clark Hill, Waterview, Mountainview, Hilltop, Sunrise, Skyline, Highland Terrace, Starview, Midwood Farm, Tiffany, Grayson, Stonegate, North Cone.

Dec. 18: Start at Company 3: White Birch Road (upper), Country Lane, Tammie Ann Drive, Berskshire, Chapman, Elmwood, Birchwood, Crestwood, Fernwood, Mott Hill, Brack Farm, Mott Hill to Lake Drive, Candlewood, Raymond, Pocotopaug Drive, Auburn Knoll, Island View, Blue Heron, Eastham Bridge, Seven Hills Crossing.

## Local Teens Accused of Damaging HS Property

By Jack Lakowsky

Last week two 17-year-old juveniles from East Hampton were arrested for Criminal Mischief in the 2nd Degree for causing damage to the high school grass, according to local police.

This is the second time the grass has been damaged at the school in recent months, police said.

On December 3<sup>rd</sup>, a group of youths were observed on surveillance cameras moving a set of bleachers from the grass and placing the bleachers in the middle of the parking lot.

Youths in vehicles then jumped the curb in the parking lot and drove over the grass causing damage.

One youth was also observed urinating

in the middle of the parking lot and another youth

was observed attempting to remove a handicapped parking sign from its post.

Based upon the surveillance cameras, only two of the youths could be identified as being responsible for driving over the grass, causing the damage.

The damage was estimated at \$1,125 dollars.

Schools superintendent Paul Smith told the *Rivereast* the damage was not done to the brand-new baseball field.

The two juveniles that received the Juvenile Summons appeared in Middletown Juvenile Court this week.

### 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](mailto:middlehaddamlibrary@gmail.com), visit [middlehaddamlibrary.com](http://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:** Mondays at 9 a.m., Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

and Saturdays at 9 a.m., with Erin Day of Ten Summit Yoga. Cost is a \$10 drop-in fee. Register at [tensummitst@gmail.com](mailto:tensummitst@gmail.com).

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

**Nimble Knitters:** Thursdays at 1 p.m.

**Historic Photos on Display:** The pictures are of Cobalt, East Hampton and Middle Haddam.



**Chief Wins Award...** East Hampton Police Chief Dennis Woessner recently won CAPP's (Connecticut Association of Prevention Professionals) Coalition Sector All-Star Award for law enforcement. Coalitions can nominate a sector member whose contributions have made a significant impact on their community. Woessner was awarded for helping coordinate the harm reduction services and the handle with care form that is now part of the East Hampton school district. Russell Melmed, the director of Health for Chatham Health District, wrote that "To commit to this type of supportive prevention work on top of all your critical public safety responsibilities is a testament to your character and deep appreciation for the broad role of police in our community." Woessner, right, was presented the award by Anna Gasinski, left, at Back Nine Tavern at Stanley Golf Course in New Britain.

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**“What am I getting?” How ‘bout, “What can I give?”... Last Saturday, the East Hampton Police Department participated in their annual Stuff A’ Cruiser event at the Lutheran Church on East High Street. The department collected new, unwrapped toys to help spread some extra cheer to local East Hampton families this holiday season. As always, the department was overwhelmed by the generosity of the citizens of East Hampton the department posted on Facebook. Santa himself cleared his schedule to stop by to say hi and check in! The toys will be handed out by East Hampton Social Services in the upcoming weeks to families in need. If you, or a family you know is in need this holiday season, feel free to reach out to East Hampton’s Social Services & Youth and Family Services. Rivereast ownership and staff were proud to once again donate a truckload of toys for this fantastic cause. (And its employees are very happy to have space in their back room again!)**

### Wreaths Across America

East Hampton’s Wreath Across America ceremony will take place at the Book of Names Memorial, located across the street from East Hampton VFW Post 5095 at 20 North Maple St., on Saturday, Dec. 19, at noon.

Nine wreaths will also be laid to honor the eight divisions: Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, Merchant Marines, Coast Guard and the MIA/POW. A wreath will also be laid in memory and honor of the late Governor William A. O’Neill.

The VFW Auxiliary is also asking the public to sponsor additional wreaths to be placed

at various soldiers’ gravesites at all 12 cemeteries in town. Sponsors are asked to donate \$15 per wreath. People can send a sponsorship form and check to VFW Post 5095, North Maple St., East Hampton, CT 06424, c/o Linda Wallace, WAA East Hampton Leader. Checks should be made out to “VFW Auxiliary” with “WAA” on the memo line. Forms can be found at the Post, East Hampton Public Library, and at Town Hall.

In lieu of a form, people can mail their name, address, phone, email, the number of sponsored wreaths at \$15 each, along with a check, to VFW Post 5095.

### Police News

12/1/22: Jenna DeMartino, 23, of 58 Child Rd., East Hampton was issued a summons for Failure to Obey a Stop Sign, Operating a Motor Vehicle Under Suspension and Operating Without a License and is scheduled to appear at the Middletown Superior Court on Wednesday, December 21, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. to answer to the aforementioned charges.

12/6/22: Michael Bartolotta, 45, of 83 Midwood Farms Rd., East Hampton was taken into custody pursuant to an active warrant for his arrest and charged with Assault in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree. Bartolotta was scheduled to appear on the same day at the Middletown Superior Court to answer to the aforementioned charge.

12/6/22: Jason Pinney, 42, of 133 Diane Dr.,

Lebanon was taken into custody pursuant to two active warrants for his arrest and charged with five counts of Larceny in the 6<sup>th</sup> Degree and Violation of Probation. Pinney was unable to post the \$10,000.00 cash or surety court-set bond and was held in police custody until his arraignment on December 7, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. at the Middletown Superior Court.

12/8/22: Bonnie Sweet-Reilly, 60, of 41 Lake Blvd., East Hampton was issued a ticket for Creating a Public Disturbance.

\*\*\*Between Monday, November 28, 2022 and Sunday, December 4, 2022, Officers responded to 15 medical calls, 7 motor vehicle accidents, 4 alarms, and made 29 traffic stops\*\*\*

### Senior Center News & Notes

The East Hampton Senior Center, 105 Main St. East Hampton is open. All participants are asked to pre-register for programs prior to the event at the Senior Center. Please register on-line thru myactivecenter.com. or call (860-267-4426) and/or e-mail (seniorcenter@easthamptonct.gov). Normal business hours: Monday- Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. www.easthamptonct.gov/east-hampton-senior-center

Please note: MASKS are encouraged, but not required for participants.

#### Weekly Events:

**The Community Renewal Team** offers meals at the East Hampton Senior Community café. Meals are offered five days a week, M-F. Please call the Center to reserve your meal or sign up on line through MyActiveCenter.com. The Eligibility requirement is one must be age 60+. Reservations for the next day’s meal must be made before 11:00am the day before.

**Meals:** Meals are funded through the Federal Title III grant, Elderly Nutrition Program. The meals are free, but a \$3.00 donation is requested to help cover costs the grant does not. No one registered will be denied a meal due to lack of a donation.

**Quilting Group:** Mondays at 9:00 a.m. Quilter’s bring their own projects and use each other’s talents to use as a guide, as needed. New members are welcome! Pre-registration required.

**Mexican Train Dominoes:** Mondays at 9:30 a.m. New members welcome but you must pre-register. Pre-registration required.

**Bible Study:** Tuesday’s at 1:00 p.m. This non-denominational group shares and studies scripture Pre-registration required.

**BINGO:** Tuesdays from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. In person and Zoom Pre-registration required.

**Wii Bowling:** Thursday, Dec. 22nd at 10 a.m. A friendly competition between friends. Pre-registration is required.

**Writing Our Lives to Open Our Hearts:** Two groups, Thursdays, 10-11a.m., or every other Thursday 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m., we will meet in person, outside, weather permitting, otherwise we will come indoors or via Zoom. Lead by our very own, Elizabeth Thomas! If you would like to sharpen your pencil and your brain with creative writing, this is the opportunity for you. Pre-registration required.

**Setback:** Mondays at 1-3 p.m. & Thursdays at 1:15-3:15 p.m., in person. Pre-registration is required. Please call in advance.

**Tap Dance:** Thursdays, 11:15-11:45 a.m. In-

structor is Alicia. Call for more info.

**Textile Group:** Fridays at 1:00 p.m. This group brings in their own knitting or crochet projects. Pre-registration required.

**Game Day:** Fridays, 10-12 noon. Space will be available and open to Mahjongg, Cribbage, Mexican Train, and Setback players. Pre-registration required.

#### Monthly and Special Events:

**Pop-Up Holiday Market:** Dec. 11th through the 23rd, during our regular hours. Come finish your holiday shopping. We have local home-made items for everyone on your list.

**Art w/Karen:** Sunday, Dec. 18 from 2-4 p.m. Karen Williams takes us through beginner steps of creating an Acrylic Painting. The class cost is \$5.00 for supplies. Pay Karen the day of the event. Pre-registration is necessary.

**New:** Join the Wonderfully Wicked Women’s Group (WWW)- Meeting two times a month, Monday, Dec. 19th at 10 a.m. Current events, holistic medicine, entertainment, support systems, etc. Snacks and a good time will be had monthly. Please sign up in advance.

**Pizza and a Movie:** Friday, Dec. 23, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., we will be watching the comedy, Last Holiday, with Queen Latifah! Laugh and cry at this great movie! Please pre-register.

**New Year’s Celebration:** Friday, Dec. 30 @ 12:30 p.m. Join us for a bite to eat, camaraderie, and to celebrate the New Year with friends. Sign up by 12/20 please.

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

Please pre-register for all programs, including ones without fees. This allows staff to anticipate how many tables and chairs to set up and allows us to start the programs on time.

You can register on-line on myactivecenter.com. You need to make your own account the first time, then you can sign-up for the activities.

If you do not have computer access please call us, we will register you.

### VFW Holiday Party

VFW Post 5095 is hosting its Annual Holiday Party on Saturday, Dec. 17 starting at 5:30 p.m. This event is open for Members, Veterans, Auxiliary and guests of the Post. We will be having our dinner which will be catered by Littleman’s BBQ LLC. followed by a Comedy Show starting at 7:30 p.m.

### Bethlehem Lutheran Church News

Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church holds live in-person services Sundays at 10:45 a.m. All are welcome. Enter via the front door and ushers will assist you. The church is located at 1 East High St.

There is also a livestream link at the church’s Facebook page, www.facebook.com/BethlehemEH.

### Middle School Volleyball

Student/athletes in grades 7th or 8th who are interested in playing for the boys or girls volleyball teams can register on the web site FamilyID.com. Athletes must have a physical within a 13 month period in order to participate. The deadline for registration is on Monday, Jan. 30, 2023. For further information please contact EHMS athletic director Michael Mercaldi at 860-463-6837.

### ABC Women’s Center Drive

East Hampton Middle School’s EarlyAct Club partnered with the Interact Club at the high school participated in the ABC Women’s Center Holiday Drive. The club selected a large family, raised funds from students and the community, and then purchased gifts for all of the children. Finally, these selfless and joyful volunteers gathered together for a “wrapping party” where they brought in colorful paper and bows and wrapped each present for the family. As always, East Hampton Middle School is so very proud of the good work our students are doing within our community.

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### Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

Haddam Neck Congregational Church will hold a traditional Candlelight Christmas Eve Service Saturday, Dec. 24, at 5 p.m., in the church sanctuary, 401 Quarry Hill Rd., Haddam Neck.

The service will feature traditional Christmas Bible readings and carols. All are welcome. The church will not hold services on Sunday, Dec. 25, Christmas Day.

### 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.

Girls Volleyball Clinic: Wednesdays, Jan. 4-25, 6:45-8 p.m., at the East Hampton Middle School gym, for grades 6-8. Cost is \$125.

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

Wolf Pack Game: Friday, Jan. 20, 7 p.m. Lower-level seats are \$20 per ticket.

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# Town's Vying With Inflation

By Michael Sinkewicz

Andover Town Administrator Eric Anderson previewed the upcoming budget season and provided updates regarding the town's ongoing projects during a Board of Selectmen meeting this week.

As communities across the state continue to grapple with high inflation, some initiatives and items are costing more for municipalities, forcing towns to reevaluate and adjust their plans.

One major item Andover is considering purchasing is a new full-sized plow truck. During Monday's meeting, Public Works Supervisor Jay Tuttle provided the board with an updated quote for the truck, coming in at nearly \$260,000.

When asked by the board if the town has enough funding in the budget, Anderson indicated that it would be difficult to afford the truck unless the town explored possible lease options.

"We don't have enough money and we won't in next year's budget to outright purchase this," he told the board. "The reality is, even if we agree to a contract now, we're not going to have it until the next budget cycle."

However, Anderson added, if the board locked in a contract soon, the town would "stand a good chance of having it for next fall season's plow season."

If the town agreed to either a 4- or 5-year lease option, the yearly payments would likely be in the range of \$60,000-\$70,000, not including additional interest, according to Tuttle.

The quote obtained by Tuttle will expire on Jan. 5, he said, and he emphasized the underlying need for the new truck, agreeing with Anderson that ideally, it would enter the fleet by the next season.

"If we were able to act on this soon, we could see a truck before winter," he stated.

Ultimately, the board pushed back a final de-

cision until its next meeting.

Anderson told the *Rivereast* that the hike in equipment prices has been challenging to maneuver, but other facets of spending in town haven't experienced the same dramatic increase.

"The town has to deal with significant inflationary pressure, but it's not as bad as it was looking before," he said.

Anderson explained that the town has a 15-year plan for equipment needs in order to help split up the costs over a long period of time.

The most expensive items cannot be bought at once, and some reoccurring items are on set purchasing cycles. The trucks, for example, have an effective lifespan of around 15 years, Anderson said. Every five years, the town aims at replacing one of the trucks and rotates an older one out of service.

Around four years ago, the town purchased a new truck outright for \$195,000. Anderson revealed how that truck was actually a better model than the one the town is currently looking to acquire, but due to inflationary costs, a different model was sought.

While the town's long-term plan is intended to help modernize the fleet, it doesn't make sense to outright buy an even more expensive model truck, Anderson said. However, the lease payments along with any additional interest would still potentially fall into the town's budget.

During his update to the board, Anderson also included potential personnel and administrative costs. He shared that healthcare expenses are expected to increase by about 8% and that the town's tax collector would most likely be retiring in the fall of 2023.

Diesel and oil have been expensive, but Anderson indicated that those prices were previously locked-in at a lower rate. Next year, depending on how the prices fluctuate, the costs

will likely be higher.

In November, Connecticut voted in favor of amending the state Constitution to allow potential early voting in future elections, which may lead to additional costs for towns.

If there is some form of early voting, Andover may have to amend its own voting system, which is outdated.

Anderson expressed that the town's voting machines aren't capable of keeping running tallies over a period of several weeks or even a few days.

"We may actually be ending up looking at having to purchase new election counting machines depending on what the state decides," he said during the meeting.

While the cost of staffing a new community center will be a necessary expense, first the town must finalize a contract to begin construction.

Anderson sent a letter on behalf of the select-

men to the Planning and Zoning Commission expressing the town's desire to build a new community center on School Rd.

"The Plan of Conservation and Development from 2015 does not directly address a Community/Senior Center as a need," he wrote, adding that "in this case the role of the PZC is to determine if the proposed community/senior center is consistent with the objectives."

Anderson said that pending approval by the commission, the next step in the project is for a previously established advisory committee consisting of six members to present a contract to the selectmen, which could potentially happen in January.

The group has narrowed down the search to three companies, who are making their final presentations.

The advisory group was "put together to provide professional advice," Anderson stated, expressing that he has confidence in the process.

## Andover Public Library Basketpalooza

The Friends of the Andover Public Library invites you to participate in their second-ever Basketpalooza event. This year, there are twenty-nine baskets with themes as varied as Andover's 175th birthday, *Star Wars*, wine, homemade jams & jellies, Barbie, tea time, movies, coloring, hand-crafted jewelry, ginger, Christmas, yoga, dogs, cats, a multi-panel art installation, gift certificates, and more. Ticket prices are \$1 for one, \$5 for 6 tickets,

and \$10 for 13 tickets. All proceeds benefit the Andover Friends of the Library. The baskets are all on display at the library, and tickets may be purchased during the library's open hours through Monday, December 19th at 5PM. Drawing will be held on December 19th at 5:30PM, and the winner need not be present to win. A full listing of baskets and their contents can be found at [andoverconnecticut.org/library](http://andoverconnecticut.org/library).

## 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](mailto:andoverctchurch@gmail.com) or visit [www.andoverctchurch.org](http://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 Dec. 21. The senior food pantry is open the opposite Wednesdays, also from 9-9:30 a.m.; next date is Dec. 14.

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

**Sunshine Stammers:** Thursday, 9:30 a.m.

**Faith Sharing with the Movies:** Tuesdays at 11:30 a.m.

**Christmas Eve Service:** December 24th @ 7:00 p.m. Glow stick candle lighting service

There will be no morning worship service on December 25, Christmas Day

## Senior Citizen News & Notes

The following new items have been updated for Andover seniors, veterans, and disabled. If you want to attend any events, call senior coordinator Cathy Palazzi 860-916-6122 to register. Transportation available for all events. Shopping on Tuesdays, Food share/food pantry rides on Wednesdays, lunches on Fridays. For all YAH events including movies please contact Sue Schmidt 860-604-1057, for all trip information contact Georgia O'Brien, 860-742-9947.

**Shopping Dates:** Willimantic: 12/20. Manchester Tuesday: 12/27. Masks available on all vehicles.

**Senior Luncheon:** Friday, Dec. 16, noon. We will enjoy our Christmas luncheon and entertainment. Reservations required by 12/13/2022.

**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 pan-

try - all of which take place at Andover Congregational Church.

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.

## Stuff a Truck

The Andover Volunteer Fire Department will be collecting new unwrapped toys and gift cards on Saturday, Dec. 17 from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. to provide for Andover families this holiday season. If you need more information, are in need of gifts or know a family in need please call Mindy at 860-706-3074.

## 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](mailto:AndoverCTEDC@gmail.com) for more information.

## Christmas Toy Drive

The Andover town employees are collecting toys for Andover children. New, unwrapped toys and gift cards can be dropped at the Town Office Building, 17 School Rd.

## Vendors Sought for Fundraiser

Andover seniors will hold their annual fundraiser to support the luncheon program Sunday, Feb. 5, at the Andover Elementary School (AES), 35 School Rd. If you would like to be a vendor, cost is \$20 for one table or \$30 for two tables. Bakers and other helpers are also welcome.

If interested, call Cathy Palazzi at 860-916-6122.

## Andover Senior Fundraiser

The annual Andover Senior fundraiser will be held Sunday, Feb. 5th at the Andover Elementary Gym, 35 School Road, Andover, CT 06232 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Vendors needed and the cost for a table is \$20 or \$30 for two tables. Vendors supply tables, fundraiser supplies chairs. Money raised supports the senior luncheon program held bi-monthly. Please contact Cathy Palazzi, Senior Coordinator for all questions at 860-916-6122 or [nanasworld@comcast.net](mailto:nanasworld@comcast.net).

## Mercy Honor Roll

Andover resident Caitlyn Russo made the Mercy High School Honor Roll for the first quarter of the 2022-23 school year.

A sophomore at the school, Russo received Highest Honors.

## 175th Committee Selling Items

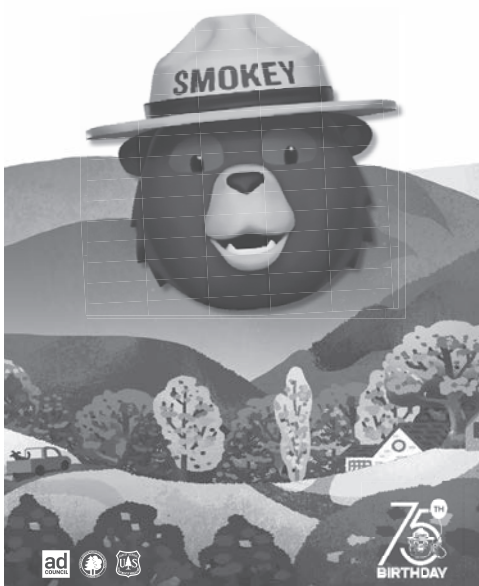
All are invited to purchase T-shirts, cookbooks, ornaments or calendars from the town's 175th Committee. All money raised will support the events planned for May and June 2023.

Contact Cathy Palazzi at 860-916-6122 for more information. Items may also be purchased at Town Hall and at the senior luncheon on Dec. 16.

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# Outgoing Superintendent Reflects on District

By Michael Sinkewicz

When Daniel Sullivan III takes over as Colchester's new superintendent of schools in January, he will inherit a district that has experienced numerous challenges during the last year.

Sullivan, who was unanimously appointed as head of schools by the Board of Education last month, stated that "job number one" will be "restoring respect and trust."

"I believe I have a good understanding of the challenges that have arisen," Sullivan said last week. "I'll work with the board and school leaders to improve community trust."

Outgoing Interim Superintendent T.Y. McDowell endorsed Sullivan – who was chosen from a pool of 10 candidates – in-part because he was "open and honest" during the interview process and because "he thinks well on his feet."

As he reflected on his time leading the district, McDowell told the *Rivereast* that his tenure as superintendent has been successful, mainly due to filling several prominent positions.

He pointed to the district's hiring of a new director of pupil services and special education and business director, as well as promoting a new high school principal and assistant superintendent as actions that benefited the school system.

"The schools are in a much better shape than when I arrived," said McDowell, who took over in May. "There's more stability."

Colchester was the latest stop in a long career for McDowell, who has served as a superintendent for over 25 years. His resume also includes numerous stints as an interim superintendent, which can provide additional obstacles.

With limited time, what issues should an interim tackle himself and what broader decisions, which may have a lasting impact on the district, should be left for the permanent replacement?

"I told the [education board] that I would not be interim superintendent; I would be the superintendent 'interimly,'" McDowell stated, indicating that he would not hesitate to make influential choices and would act as a full-time

superintendent.

McDowell emphasized that this approach was necessary because "things weren't getting done."

One issue he brought attention to in the last few months is whether the district should add armed guards to each of its schools – a major budget initiative and divisive topic in many communities across the state.

McDowell sent out a survey to the community to gauge general interest, and the results revealed that over 65% of respondents were in favor of adding concealed armed security at the schools while they're in session.

"It's staring us in the face," McDowell said during an interview in August, referring to increasing school security. "It's the world we're living in."

Ultimately, that decision will be determined after McDowell exits the district, but he decided to begin the community conversation.

"I wanted to get a baseline from parents and the community members," he said. "Have all the questions been answered? Absolutely not."

The administrative team, McDowell added, has its own questions and there will be an "ongoing discussion before going back to the board" with any recommendation or idea.

"My hope is Mr. Sullivan will entertain all the possibilities and options," he said, suggesting that more research into the subject is necessary. "I would have another survey."

Last week, Sullivan expressed that "any decision that's going to be made [in Colchester] won't be made in isolation" and that the process would include a "great deal of input from the stakeholders of Colchester."

In general, he's "not opposed to armed guards or safety officers."

McDowell also shared his belief that the culture of the district is better than it was in May.

Last month, a noose was discovered in neighboring RHAM High School, igniting debate and outrage in the community and calls for hate crime charges.

As a superintendent, McDowell said those type of incidents are impossible to completely prevent in a district.

"You cannot eliminate what someone will do but the culture needs to be strong enough to react," he said, adding that when people do buy into the culture, hateful actions are "dismissed" by the community.

Sullivan, while discussing his ideas to help restore confidence in Colchester's culture, stated that a superintendent needs to be "present and accessible" to the community.

McDowell described his own approach, which similarly involves being "visible" for the community and that part of his job is "cutting red tape" for those are trying to something done.

Sullivan will be the newest face in a string of leaders for the town in the last year.

In July, the education 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.

The board also moved past former Superintendent Jeff Burt last spring.

Burt described his departure as an "amicable separation" with the Board of Education.

"The board and I disagreed on the way the district was to be run," Burt said during a previ-

ous interview.

Burt expressed that there were "different visions of the what the superintendent should be doing" and that it "became evident that we weren't on the same page."

The *Rivereast* previously reported that Peel filed a formal complaint against Burt, alleging "workplace bullying" that created a hostile work environment.

Burt said those claims had nothing to do with his departure and that the allegations were never fully investigated.

Sullivan empathized that his relationship with the education board will be a top priority as superintendent.

"There needs to be a clear understanding of their role and my role and there's a lot of overlap."

He added that it's "important to establish a shared vision" with the board.

McDowell expressed that Sullivan will help improve communication throughout the district and was unanimously supported by the education board.

He believes his own relationship with the board was effective, and he'll depart next year with "no regrets."

"Colchester is a great community with unbelievable potential," he said. "I've enjoyed it immensely."

## New Superintendent Hired

At a Nov. 17 meeting of the Board of Education, the board unanimously appointed

Daniel P. Sullivan III as Colchester's new superintendent of schools.

Sullivan has served as superintendent of schools in Putnam since 2019. He was principal of South Windsor High School from 2009-19, and was a high school principal in New London from 2006-09. Sullivan was an as-

sistant principal at Middletown High School from 2001-06.

Sullivan began his teaching career in 1993 and has taught English and social studies, in addition to coaching varsity basketball, baseball and track.

He will begin his responsibilities as Colchester's superintendent of schools on Jan. 3, 2023.

## 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](http://www.colchesterfederated-church.org) under the Worship & Sermons tab. Updated information is also on the church's Facebook page.

**Christmas Eve Services:** Dec. 24: 5 p.m., Family Service; 9 p.m., Lessons & Carols.

**Christmas Day:** There will be no in-person

worship service on Christmas Day, Sunday, Dec. 25. A virtual message will be shared on the church's Facebook page.

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

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

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

## Parks and Rec Holiday Activities

Colchester Parks and Recreation, located at 127 Norwich Ave. (Town Hall), has announced several holiday-related items of interest. For more information, call 860-537-7297 or visit [www.colchesterct.gov/recreation-department](http://www.colchesterct.gov/recreation-department).

**Home and Business Holiday Display:** Folks can print their free map and view all of the Colchester holiday decorations. Maps are available at [www.colchesterct.gov/recreation-department](http://www.colchesterct.gov/recreation-department) or online at [www.facebook.com/colchesterparksandrec](http://www.facebook.com/colchesterparksandrec). Vote for your favorite home and business decorations online. Voting

runs through Dec. 31.

**Colchester Holiday Ornament:** Ornaments will be available in the Parks and Rec. office throughout December. Cost is \$6 per ornament.

**Gingerbread House Contest:** Gingerbread houses will be displayed throughout Town Hall through Dec. 22. All visitors to Town Hall are encouraged to vote for their favorite one. Each gingerbread house will be awarded a superlative award ribbon. The "Community Favorite" will be awarded to the gingerbread house with the most votes. There is no cost to enter the contest.



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### New Year's Day 5K

The Youth First Coalition and Colchester Youth and Social Services announce the 18th annual New Year's Day 5K Resolution Run. The 2023 5K Resolution Run takes place at Colchester Town Hall at 10 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 1, 2023. Registration and bib pick-up begins at 8:30 a.m.

Pre-registration is \$25 and same-day Registration is \$30. The first 150 people registered

will receive a race T-shirt. Register at [tinyurl.com/38a8rver](http://tinyurl.com/38a8rver).

Proceeds benefit youth scholarships and youth center upgrades.

For more information, contact Charity Benedict at Colchester Youth and Social Services at 860-537-7255 or [cbenedict@colchesterct.gov](mailto:cbenedict@colchesterct.gov).

### Upcoming Senior Center Trip

The Colchester Senior Center is planning the following trip. Reservations should be made in person at the senior center, 95 Norwich Ave. Trips are available to senior center members and adult guests over the age of 18, and are on a first-come, first-served basis; space is limited. Call the senior center at 860-537-3911 for more information.

**Portuguese Riviera:** Oct. 14-25, 2023. Taste some of the delicacies of this southern Spanish region. Includes 10 breakfasts, two lunches and four dinners. Cost is \$5,029 per person for double, if booked before March 15, 2023. You can come into the senior center to register in person or register online at [gateway.gocollette.com/link/1102385](http://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1102385).

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### Senior Center Tours

Join the Colchester senior center and Friendship Tours May 12 -20, 2023 for one of their most popular cruises aboard Norwegian Cruise Lines Zaandam and sail the St. Lawrence River and Northern Atlantic while visiting some of the most beautiful ports in Canada and New England. You will arrive in Montreal by deluxe motor coach. You will set sail with stops in Quebec City, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Sydney and Halifax Nova Scotia, Bar Harbor, and Boston. This 9-day, 8-night cruise includes overnight accommodation in Montre-

al, a 3-hour tour of Montreal, dinner, all meals on board, daily activities, nightly entertainment, casino, and deluxe motor coach back to CT from Boston.

Prices start at \$1899 per person for twin. Final payment is due January 28, 2023. You must have a valid passport. Call or visit Colchester senior center for more information or call Friendship Tours directly at 860-243-1630 or 800-243-1630 \*Trips are available to Colchester Senior Center members and their adult guests over the age of 18.

### Senior Center News & Notes

**Latkes Cooking Group:** Monday, Dec. 19, 1:30 p.m. Help Jodi make traditional latkes for the next day's Hanukkah Party.

**Hanukkah Celebration:** Tuesday, Dec. 20, 10 a.m. Learn about the history and tradition of the Festival of Lights with Rabbi Ken Alter from Ahavath Achim Synagogue, sing songs, play dreidel and enjoy traditional potato latkes. Open to people of all faiths. Pre-register by Monday, Dec. 12.

**Holly Daze Luncheon:** Wednesday, Dec. 21, 11 a.m. Patty Carver will perform a mix of cabaret and holiday classics. Lunch will then be served, featuring herb-roasted prime rib, garlic

roasted potatoes, vegetable medley, dinner roll, assorted holiday cookies, and apple juice. Tickets are \$9 each and will be available until Dec. 14 or sold out.

**New Year's Brunch 'N Bash:** Friday, Dec. 30, 10 a.m. Enjoy breakfast fare and musical entertainment by Paul Shlien. Menu will include broccoli, bacon & cheese quiche, turkey sausage patties, home fries, fruit salad, orange juice, pastries and a mock-champagne toast, right as the clock strikes 12 (noon). Tickets will be on sale until Dec. 23 or sold out, at the cost of \$9 per ticket.

### Wreaths Across America Planned for Dec. 17

Local Wreaths Across America volunteers are working hard to ensure that all veterans laid to rest Westchester Cemetery are honored this December as part of National Wreaths Across America Day – Saturday, Dec. 17.

Westchester Cemetery Association, in collaboration with Troop 109, is helping to coordinate this year's event.

For more information, to donate or to sign up to volunteer, visit [wreathscrossamerica.org/pages/14786/Overview](http://wreathscrossamerica.org/pages/14786/Overview), or contact Roberta Avery at 78 Northern Blvd., Colchester, CT 06415, or by calling 860-537-1889.

### 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.

### Ahavath Achim News

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

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

A Chanukah latke party and community candle-lighting will take place at 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 18.

There are daily Facebook Live classes on Ken Alter's Facebook page.

For more information, call 860-537-2809. Office hours are: Wednesday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; and Friday, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

### FD Not Selling Christmas Trees

The Colchester Hayward Volunteer Fire Department (CHVFD) is not selling Christmas trees this year.

Due to the high demand for live trees during COVID-19, there is a limited supply of wholesale trees available, CHFD said. This year's drought has also affected the quality of the supply, the department said.

CHVFD said it hopes to be back next year.

### Christian Life Chapel News

Christian Life Chapel, located at 392 S. Main St., holds worship in person at 10 a.m. Sundays. Follow the church on Facebook for the livestream.

For more information, call Pastor Don Rivers – the church's bi-vocational pastor, who also serves as president for "Racing with Jesus, Inc." – at 860-398-9119 or visit [christianlifechapel.org](http://christianlifechapel.org).



From the left; Isabella Falkowski, Riley Anderson, Avery Anderson, and Sophia Falkowski earned All-State after their performance at the Class S championship in November. The four are pictured at the Connecticut High School Coaches Association (CHSCA) Swimming & Diving All-State banquet on Dec. 6 at The Aqua Turf in Plainville.

## Bacon Swimmers Make Waves at States

By Josh Howard

Despite having only four swimmers, the girls' swimming team at Bacon Academy High School had a top-ten finish at the Class S championships, placing ninth overall at the state competition on Nov. 15.

Freshman Riley Anderson led the charge, winning a pair of events at the state meet. She was later named the Class S Swimmer of the Year.

The first-year high school swimmer broke the class record in the 50 yard freestyle, finishing first with a time of 23.20 and shattering the previous mark of 23.74 held by Weston's Charlotte Proceller since 2015. She also won the 100 butterfly with a time of 56.41.

Anderson also teamed with senior Sophia

Falkowski and sophomores Avery Anderson and Isabella Falkowski for a second place finish in the 200 freestyle relay. The foursome also placed third in the 400 freestyle relay.

Avery Anderson also placed fifth overall individually in the 200 freestyle at the class meet. The performances by the four at the state competition earned them All-State recognition.

Riley Anderson's phenomenal freshman year in the pool ended with a State Open championship triumph in the 50 freestyle, besting her previous mark by swimming a 23.07 to cement the first-place finish ahead of runner-up Riley Kudlac, a senior from Glastonbury who will be swimming collegiately at George Washington University next year.

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Zach Mancuso playing defense.

### William Johnston Chalks Up Victory

The William J. Johnston boys' basketball team won their first basketball game, defeating McGee Middle School (Berlin) 62-56 in an overtime thriller. The team overcame 16 missed free throws to gain their first victory on the season. Zach Mancuso scored 13, while

Evan Vernali and Chance Markovitz scored 11 each, Tavion Brown put in 10, and Robby Corrado scored 8 to lead the WJMS Pumas. The JV team had a tough loss, and Liam Beeler led the team with 4 points.

### Mercy Honor Roll

The following local students made the Mercy High School Honor Roll for the first quarter of the 2022-23 school year:

**Highest Honors:** Tallulah Malz, a junior; Ileana Koonankeil and Reese Henderson, freshmen.

**High Honors:** Katherine Grelotti, a junior; Aubrey Nosal, a freshman.

**Honors:** Sarah Lynch, a senior.

### December Programs at Cragin

Cragin Memorial Library, 8 Linwood Ave., has announced the following free programs. For more information, call the library at 860-537-5752. Library hours are: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. **Sensory Table:** Fridays, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

### A Bear's Adventure at StoryWalk

Families can enjoy a new picture book, *The Bear Ate Your Sandwich* by Julia Sarcone-Roach, at the Colchester StoryWalk.

Follow the tale of a bear, lost in the city, who happens upon an unattended sandwich in the park. The bear's journey from forest to city and back home again is full of happy accidents, funny encounters and sensory delights.

Children and families can follow the short hiking trail of weatherproof stations. Each

station features suggested questions or simple activities to enrich the story and hike.

Colchester's StoryWalk features books with nature, wildlife, and gardening themes that appeal to young children. New books are posted four times a year as weather permits. Copies of each story can be checked out at Cragin Memorial Library.

Colchester's StoryWalk is located at 96 McDonald Rd.

### Westchester Church News

Westchester Congregational Church, 98 Cemetery Rd., holds worship Sundays at 10 a.m. The services are also available on Zoom; visit westchestercongregation.org for login information.

Sunday School meets during the worship service.

**Christmas events at Westchester Church**  
Sunday, Dec 18. at 10:00 a.m.: Our Sunday School will present their Christmas pageant and the choir will perform their annual Christmas cantata with narration and songs. This year's cantata is titled "Joseph the Carpenter".

**Saturday, Dec. 24 at 4:00 p.m.:** Our candlelight Christmas Eve service.

**Sunday, Dec 25. at 10:00 a.m.:** Christmas Carol service.

**Meetings:** The church hosts several groups meeting weekly: Al-Anon, Wednesdays at 7 p.m.; AA, Fridays at 7:30 p.m.; Scout BSA Troop 109, Tuesdays at 7 p.m.; and Cub Scout Pack 109, one Thursday per month at 6 p.m.

**Outreach:** The church has a white wooden Blessings Box in the lower parking lot with non-perishable food items and other useful items. Anyone in need or who wishes to donate may stop by and take or leave a few items.

For more information, email westcongregation@gmail.com or call 860-267-6711.

### Abundant Life Church News & Notes

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

Sunday Services: Sunday School is at 9:30 a.m. and the main service is at 10:30 a.m. There is also Children's Church available for ages 4-11. All are welcome. The main service is also

broadcast live each week on Facebook. Visit [www.facebook.com/groups/abundantlifeCT](http://www.facebook.com/groups/abundantlifeCT) or look for the church on Facebook. For more information, call the church.

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

### Military Honor Squads for Veterans

Members are sought to join the area's volunteer service organizations (VSOs), which render military honors for our departed veterans.

Military honor squads have been a tradition in the United States military since its earliest days. In most instances, a serviceperson's fellow soldiers will accompany the casket that is draped with the national flag; they will then fire a rifle salute, play Taps, and fold and present the United States flag to the family.

In Connecticut, VSOs step in for military honor squads. Honor guard services are coordinated through the funeral provider and the Connecticut Army National Guard Military Honors Unit. A family need only provide proof of honorable service to the funeral home, in order for their deceased veteran to get the honor squad services they have already earned. The National

Guard will contact one of the VSOs to provide the rifle salute and play Taps. Military honors are rendered at no cost to the family.

To join in this mission, veterans in New London County can contact Alphonse Letendre, deputy commander of the Colchester Volunteer Honor Guard, at 860-537-6516 or [letendrej@sbcglobal.net](mailto:letendrej@sbcglobal.net), for more information and for referral to one of the two area VSOs.

### The Festival of Lights Coming

The Giant Menorah Lighting on the Colchester Town Green will take place on Thursday, December 22.



CT Lyme Riders is presenting the following great article for anyone who has a loved one, friend or family member that suffers from chronic Lyme disease, or just wants to understand more about this disease and the stress of holidays.

### Facing the Holidays with Chronic Lyme

Author: Paula Jackson Jones • Orig Pub: 11/25/2017

Nothing reminds you of your illness more than when you're limited by the things that you can no longer do and the places that you can no longer go. And nothing highlights those limitations more than the holidays. Grieving the loss of holiday traditions, or feeling like you're letting your friends and family down by staying home or cutting outings short, can elicit so many difficult emotions that no one should have to deal with around the holidays.

No one ever thinks that something as tiny as a tick bite can change their life in so many ways, until it happens to them. I sit with people in person and on the phone who are struggling to understand this disease, struggling to make sense of their new normal, struggling to keep it together for their families. Struggling. It's something that chronically ill people do constantly. Everything is a struggle. Getting up in the morning, even getting through the day. Trying to plan events. Even something like going to the grocery store is taken for granted. I remember getting out and going to the store and running into people who would say things like "Oh, you look so good. You must be doing better" without realize just how much effort it took for me to pass for "good". How much energy it took just to get dressed and put on a good face and be seen in public.

While chronically ill people want to be a part of the holiday celebrations, they realize just how impacted they are by it all ~ sights, sounds, smells and overall exertion, that often exasperates their symptoms, that they feel the only choice they have is to stay home. I recall attending church services to sing carols and being overstimulated by the sounds, smells and lighting that I had to leave and go back home before a seizure was triggered. Holding a conversation was physically and mentally exhausting. Trying to focus on who was speaking to me, what they were asking and by the time I figured out my response, they were on to another topic. I often wondered what they thought, standing there in front of me ~ did I look as disconnected as I was feeling on the inside?

The holiday season is, and always has been, my favorite time of year and as I regained my health, I tried to re-engage with all my favorite holiday activities, but found that foods and over-stimulation were, and continued to be, a sensory trigger.

Something that I would ask of you all this holiday season ~ be kind and give grace to those suffering from chronic illness. Whether you understand their illness or not, understand this ~ they are doing their very best and that is all that can be asked of them. If they come, don't over quiz about what's been going on. Instead, welcome them into the group and make them feel as comfortable as you can. For one night, let them feel normal. Let them forget that they are ill. Understand that as the group chatter volume rises, that they may need to find a quiet reprieve to tamper down any rising symptoms. Don't be offended if they can't eat what you're serving. As much as we all love holiday goodies, chronic illness sometimes demands a change in diet to reduce symptoms during treatment. Maybe ask in advance what they can eat. Sugars and gluten are a no-no when putting together treats to give to them. Along with sounds, lighting can be a sensory issue for those suffering from neurological Lyme. Don't stare if your guest appears wearing sunglasses. I had someone approach me saying "What are you stoned? You must be to wear sunglasses at night" and I was so taken back and offended. Never judge what you don't understand.

Holidays are meant to be celebrated by families and friends, so I would ask that you please don't forget those who are chronically ill. They want to be a part of the celebration, but they know and understand all too well their limitations and they don't want to be a burden to their families, so they think staying home is the answer. Isolation is never the answer and causes more harm and damage mentally. Reach out in love, send cards, call before you visit but do visit. And if you bring a gift, leave out the sweets and gluten. Limit your use of perfume and keep the setting quiet. Limited the over-stimulation, keep the conversation light. Share what's going on with you and make them feel included. This will ensure a heartfelt and thankful visit and it will serve the one who is ill in ways that you may never understand.

This holiday season, remember those who are ill and not able to attend functions. Do your part, however small or grand, to make them feel remembered, missed and loved. This feeds their spirit and spirit is something that no disease can ever touch.

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**HOLIDAY SEASON HOURS**

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New Years Week: Tues 27<sup>th</sup> 9am-5pm; Wed 28<sup>th</sup> 9am-6pm; Thurs 29<sup>th</sup> 8am-6pm; Fri 30<sup>th</sup> 9am-6pm; Sat 31<sup>st</sup> 7am-5pm; Closed New Years Day

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<p><b>APPETIZERS</b></p> <p>Stuffed Mushrooms mushroom caps stuffed with seafood stuffing</p> <p>Zuppa D' Mussels Sauteed in fresh tomato sauce or white wine sauce</p> <p>Fried Mozzarella Topped with marinara sauce</p>	<p><b>PASTA COURSE</b></p> <p>Peena Aglio Olio Penna with garlic and oil Penna Marinara Penna Alla Vodka</p> <p>Asparagus, sun dried tomatoes in a vodka blush sauce</p>
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**SOUP OR SALAD**  
Cup of soup of the day or Garden Salad

**DINNER CHOICES**

**Chicken Parmigiana**  
**Eggplant Rollatini**  
Rolled eggplant stuffed with ricotta, prosciutto and roasted peppers

**Chicken Marsala**  
Sauteed with mushrooms, shallots in a marsala wine sauce

**Stuffed Pork Chop**  
Stuffed with broccoli, gorgonzola cheese and ritz crackers in a brown cognac sauce

**Stuffed Sole**  
Crab meat stuffing served over spinach

**Balkan Meatballs**  
Beef meatballs sauteed with scallions, roasted red peppers, grape tomatoes in a marsala cream sauce

**DESERTS** - Ask your server for our selections

**Wednesday is a pasta night, Serving Prime Rib every Friday**

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- Jamie Bell



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**Begins November 16th - December 31st, 2022**

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Call 860.398.6484  
habitatmiddlesex.org/volunteer

**To Donate**  
Truck Pick-Up  
Call 860.398.6488  
Donation items can be dropped off during business hours: Wed. - Sat. 11am - 2pm

**To Shop**  
ReStore open Wed - Sat, 10am - 4pm  
Holiday Hours: Nov. 23rd closing at 2pm.  
Closed Nov. 24th, Dec. 24th, & Dec. 31st  
Products/items change daily so don't wait.

Shop at ReStore this holiday season and save while giving. Find items from home furnishings & supplies to artificial trees, wreaths, ornaments, and other festive holiday decorations to make the season bright.

Consider Donating A Vehicle this Holiday Season or Anytime  
Running or Not, Tax Deductible, 3 Easy Steps  
Use link to learn how: <https://tinyurl.com/55zp7wa8>

All proceeds from Holiday Village supports the work Middlesex Habitat for Humanity is doing in the community.

Visit our website at [www.habitatmiddlesex.org](http://www.habitatmiddlesex.org) and learn more about our mission and ways to support RE11-11-22

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### Christ Lutheran News & Notes

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

**Sunday Worship:** Sundays at 9 a.m. Masks are optional. People can also watch worship live at [www.facebook.com/clchebron/live](http://www.facebook.com/clchebron/live).

**Sunday Coffee Hour:** 10 a.m., after the morning service.

**Sunday Adult Bible Study:** 10:15 a.m., following Coffee Hour.

**Caring Shepherds:** Holds bi-monthly Open

Pantry hours at Christ Lutheran. The next Open Pantry will be announced shortly. Caring Shepherds distributes household and hygiene items, as well as food pantry staples, Bibles, and prayers. For more information, call Caring Shepherds Ministry at 860-494-0431.

**Early Childhood Center:** Open to all faiths, the center offers childcare, preschool and before/after school educational opportunities in a Christian environment. Ande Shutler is director. Call 860-228-5134 for availability.



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## HERE'S THE SCOOP ON SANTA

**Salem Valley Farms Ice Cream and The Red House have teamed up to bring you Christmas Joy this year.**

Salem Valley Farms will be open serving cones, quarts, special Holiday flavors and stocking stuffers, while Santa will be seated in his overstuffed magical chair at the Red House, right next door. **Bring your camera or phone for free pics with Ol' Saint Nick** and check out the great selection of handmade artisan quality gifts and ornaments.



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*Looks Chilly, but Beautiful!...* Rebecca and Earl Weller from Marlborough recently took a trip to Iceland – with the *Rivereast* in tow, of course!

## 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](mailto:bulletin@glcitizen.com).



*Hello from the Very Top...* Michael Chotkowski of Marlborough recently visited the 154th Floor of the Burj Khalifa, the tallest building in the world located in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (U.A.E.).



*Happiest Place on Earth...* Samm Winebrenner of East Hampton brought along the *Rivereast News Bulletin* on a family trip to Disney, and took a photo in front of Cinderella's Castle – which is all decorated for Disney's 50th Anniversary!



*Bulletin at the Biltmore...* John Hoban and wife Barbara, of Colchester, went to Biltmore Estate in Asheville, NC with the East Haddam Seniors.

# 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](mailto:bulletin@glcitizen.com)**

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### Christmas Brunch Fundraiser and Food Drive

The American Legion Post 197 of Marlborough will be hosting a Christmas Brunch on Saturday, Dec. 17 between 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. The brunch will help fund Veteran programs along with helping to support the local food bank.

The menu will consist of pancakes, eggs, sausage, maple glazed ham, home fries along with coffee and juice. Bloody Mary and Mi-

mosa drink specials will also be available for purchase. There will be a raffle and the winner will not need to be present to win.

Brunch \$12 adults / \$8 children. Please bring a non-perishable food item or donation for our food drive.

Tickets are limited. RSVP to 860-295-7810. The post is located at 128 East Hampton Road (Rt 66), Marlborough, CT

### 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: Sixth Grade Dance: Friday, Dec. 16, 6:30-8:30 p.m., at Marlborough Elementary School. Registration fee is \$10.

Netto Indoor Soccer: Indoor soccer for fifth- and sixth-graders. Games will begin week of Jan. 9, and will be played afterschool on Mondays and Wednesdays at MES. Games will conclude at 4:30pm. Fee for this program is \$75 and participants will receive a T-shirt.

Adult Programs: Pickleball: Wednesdays,

9-11 a.m., at Blish Park tennis courts. The program is free.

Adult Volleyball: Thursdays, 8-10 p.m., at MES. Fee is \$5 per week to drop-in.

Adult Pick-Up Basketball: Sundays, 8-10 a.m., at MES, for ages 18 and up. Fee: \$5.

New York Rangers vs. New Jersey Devils: Saturday, Jan. 7, 1 p.m., at the Prudential Center. Trip includes charter bus, tickets to the game (lower bowl seating). Registration fee is \$235. Bus leaves from Glastonbury Park and Ride.

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.

### 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.

**Congregate Meals:** All meals are served with milk, bread and margarine. Suggested donation: \$3 or what you can afford.

**Transportation:** Available Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Transportation available to the senior center, shopping, and medical and non-medical appointments. A 36-hour advance registration is required. Masks are also required,

as well as appropriate distancing.

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

**Weather-Related Closings/Late Openings:** In instances of inclement weather, tune to WFSB-TV 3 or NBC Connecticut for the latest.

### 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.

**Faith Formation (Bible Study)** is led by Pastor Bob Faulhaber and meets Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. upstairs in the lounge. All are welcome.

**Outreach:** The Church supports a variety of mission projects. Fourth quarter mission giving will go to both York Correctional Resettlement Program and the church's Seminarian Fund. The Church collects non-perishable food items year-round for Marlborough Food Bank with a basket located in the narthex for Sunday worshippers to bring their donations.

**AA** meets downstairs in the Great Hall Wednesdays with two meetings, one at noon and another at 7:30 p.m.

**Second Blessings Thrift Shop** is open Fridays from noon to 3 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon through December 17. Winter hol-

idays are featured in December, along with jewelry, vintage, cookware, gift giving, and much more, all priced to sell. Second Blessings will be accepting donations during shopping hours. The shop also sells through eBay at <https://bit.ly/MCCebay>

**Sunday, Dec. 18** is the annual Christmas pageant in the sanctuary at 10 a.m. The pageant will include a live nativity, angels, and shepherds and familiar Christmas carols. All children attending will be invited to participate as an angel or a shepherd. After the pageant Santa will be in the lounge enjoying cookies with the children, posing for pictures, and reading The Christmas Story to the children.

**Christmas Eve Candlelight service**, with the Chancel Choir and Holy Communion, will be held in the sanctuary at 9 p.m. The anthem, "O Holy Night" will be sung by soloist Reverend Bob Faulhaber.

**Sunday, Dec. 25** Christmas Day worship service is at 10 a.m. The service will be led by Reverend Faulhaber and will be his last Sunday serving as the church's settled pastor.

**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.

### Artisan and Crafts Sale

Marlborough Arts Center will hold an Artisan and Crafts Sale through Dec. 18 at the center, located at 231 N. Main St.

Featured will be local creations, all under \$100, made by artists in the surrounding communities. These will include handmade gifts such as pottery, paintings, sculptures and other forms of art.

The Arts Center will be open every Friday, Saturday and Sunday, from 1-4 p.m.

### New Year's Eve Celebration at MAC.

Join us for the New Year's Eve Open House at the Marlborough Arts Center, 231 North Main Street in Marlborough, from 6-9 p.m., weather permitting. Feel free to bring a snack and a drink to this gathering of old and new friends. Enjoy the night in our cozy space while socializing and admiring the Art Gallery. All are welcome.

### Paintings by Carole Jeffries

Enjoy my paintings in the Marlborough Town Hall?

Like one for yourself?



Until December 29<sup>th</sup> (when they are removed), prices are reduced by 10%!

Purchase at the Town Hall or call 860-295-9175 and say "art".

RE12-16-22



### Emmy-Winning Pianist to Play in Town

Internationally-known and four-time Emmy award-winning composer and pianist Charles David Denler will present a Benefit Concert at Marlborough Arts Center, 231 N. Main St., on Friday, Dec. 16.

Doors open at 7 p.m., and the concert begins at 7:30.

Tickets are \$25 each at the door but can also be bought in advance at the Arts Center, which is open weekends in December from 1-4 p.m.

There is on-site parking and the building is fully accessible.

### 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](mailto:richmondprograms@gmail.com).

**TWOsdays:** For children 18-36 months and their caregivers on Tuesdays through Dec. 20. There will be songs, stories and hands-on-learning.

**Kids Crafting Club:** Tuesday, Dec. 20, 4 p.m. Kids will learn new techniques and project ideas.

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*It's Christmas time in the small town...* Little Marlborough's big Christmas spirit is on display smack dab in the town center, with a large Christmas tree on the town green, right at the town's main junction. As the town center grows- with Big Y and the Three Fellas expansion- holiday traditions, like the grand fireworks show held a little while ago, stay consistent. Every year Leah Ohearn, who owns the award-winning It's So Ranunculus Flower Shoppe on North Main, decorates the tree. She tries to go for a theme each year, and has been doing it for about 14 years. "It started as just a group of moms putting it on," she told the *Rivereast*. She's been decking the tree out since it was a wee sapling. Ohearn said the town green "needed a pop" of color during the drab winter days. Ohearn thinks, in the future, she wants to have local businesses and nonprofits put up decorations promoting themselves. "I always thought that would be fun," she said. Also, she's always partial to handmade ornaments, and would love to see more of them up on Marlborough's charming tree.

**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. Week-day Mass: Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.

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

**Advent and December Programs:** Knights of Columbus Poster Contest: "Keep Christ in Christmas" registration forms and entry deadline information available at church or on the church website for grades K-8 with prizes awarded for each division; K-2, Grades 3-5 and Grades 6-8; Christmas Giving Program: All unwrapped gifts due back by Dec. 11 for distribution to various organizations. More information is available on the church website.

**Family Faith Formation:** This is a new program to focus on active faith formation within the family is underway for families of kinder-

garten 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 program 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).

**Marlborough Historical Society Calendars**

2023 Calendars are now available. This year's theme is 'Historic Newspaper Articles'. The cost is \$20 and can be purchased online at www.marlboroughhistory.org/store

**Town Office Holiday Closing**

The offices of Marlborough Town Hall, Senior Center and Public Works Department will be closed Monday, Dec. 26 for the Christmas Holiday.

**Marlborough Lions to Raffle Generator**

Get ready for those winter storms! The Marlborough Lions Club are raffling off an 8,000 Watt Generac portable generator with a retail value of \$1,150. The generator has features such as an easy pushbutton electric start with trickle charger, hours counter and 120V/240V outlets. The winner of the raffle will also receive the services of an electrician to install a circuit breaker panel interlock and the cabling needed to hook up the generator with a value not to exceed \$1,000. Raffle tickets are only \$20 each. The drawing will take place on Dec. 17. Ticket sales will continue until that event.

By supporting the Marlborough Lions you also support our community and the Lions

ability to in turn support local services such as the Marlborough Food and Fuel Banks and to provide services such as vision screening of our children at Marlborough's Elementary School, when over 350 children recently had vision screenings.

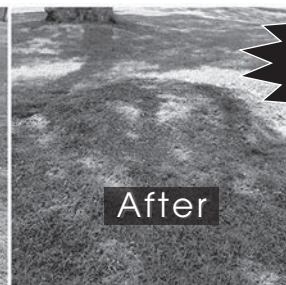
For tickets, please call Lions Club Chairman Megan Lloyd at 413-687-5537, Lions Club Secretary Ken Hjulstrom at 860-490-9116 or Lions Club Treasurer Jean-Paul Bolduc at 860-798-2054. Tickets are also available at Marino Realty and The Sanctuary Hair Salon.

This is a great opportunity to win a quality generator with hookup while supporting your local Lions Club.



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**Pictured (Left to Right): Liz DeRosa, Director of Institutional Development for the American School for the Deaf, Molly Cooper, ASD Assistant Director of Institutional Advancement, Megan Lloyd, Marlborough Lions Club President and the Lions Club mascot.**

### Marlborough Lions Donate to School for the Deaf

The American School for the Deaf, which is situated in West Hartford, held a dinner recently in appreciation for support from the many Lions Clubs around Greater Hartford. The Marlborough Lions Club donated \$500 this year and was among those recognized for donations to the school. The American School for the Deaf, which was founded in 1817, provides on-campus and off-campus opportunities for students from pre-school through high school as well as services for adults.

The Marlborough Lions hold numerous events during the year to raise funds for various organizations such as Fidelco Guide Dogs, international services addressing those with vision issues and local services such as the Marlborough Fuel and Food Banks. Recently the Lions also provided free vision screening for

children at Marlborough's Elmer Thienes Mary Hall School to identify early signs of problems with their vision. Several children were identified and their parents were notified that additional evaluation was warranted.

The Marlborough Lions Club is also currently selling raffle tickets for an 8,000 Watt Generac portable generator, which also includes installation worth an additional \$1,000. Call Megan Lloyd or Ken Hjulstrom for tickets.

The Marlborough Lions meet the second Tuesday of each month and on the fourth Tuesday at Saddlers. Meetings start at 7PM. New members are always welcome. For additional information on the Marlborough Lions Club, or to order raffle tickets, please call Club President Megan Lloyd at 413-687-5537 or Club Secretary Ken Hjulstrom at 860-490-9116.

### 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 [marlboroughct.net](http://marlboroughct.net); the link for the form is at the bottom of the page on the left-hand side.

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.



**The Marlborough Congregational 1st Annual Nativity Festival had 36 nativities displayed by members of the church and community. The church said it had a great turnout and raised \$600 for Casting for Recovery. There will be a 2nd annual next year.**

### Announcing Independent Party Slate Committee

A third-Party option for the November 2023 municipal elections is being formed, namely the Independent Party Slate Committee (IPSC). Our first meeting was held on Monday, December 12th in hybrid format. The agenda of this meeting was to disseminate information and answer any questions that the community.

The IPSC has been established to provide Marlborough residents an alternative political organization dedicated to ensuring open, honest government, with realistic and non-partisan objectives. It is open to all electors without discrimination and welcome the participation by all of our town residents who desire to join the Independent Party and participate in its goals and objectives.

We invite all residents of Marlborough

to become active members and participate in a movement to bring honest, open, non-partisan problem-solving to government; to promote responsible and sustainable governmental policies; to fight corruption; and to promote ballot access for citizens who want to be public servants.

All regular meetings and conferences will be conducted openly, and we invite members and nonmembers alike to attend these meetings. Regular meetings will be held on the first Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. in the Marlborough Elementary School Media Center.

To learn more about Marlborough's new party, visit their Facebook Page "Independent Party Slate Committee of Marlborough, CT"

### Marlborough Elementary School Recognized as a School of Distinction

On December 8, 2022 the Connecticut State Department of Education released the 2021-22 Accountability Results for all school districts and schools in the state. The report provides a multifactor perspective of school performance and incorporates student growth over time. MES is pleased to share the excellent news that our overall score was higher than the last time (pre-pandemic) the score was reported, and MES was recognized as a School of Distinction for growth in math. There is no doubt that this is directly due to the exceptional and dedicated work of our students, teachers, staff, and ad-

ministration with the support of our wonderful families and the Marlborough community. For our students to have achieved improved results compared to pre-pandemic performance and growth is remarkable and provides us all with a confident sense that we are on a great path.

Along with our district Strategic Continuous Improvement Plan (SCIP), the state's Next Generation Accountability system provides useful information for our educational team to guide and track our continuous improvement efforts. This report is affirming and a great source of encouragement to us all.

### Pair of Marlborough Residents Achieve Eagle Scout

Marlborough residents Patrick Lynch and Jonathan Steinbrecher will receive their Eagle Scout Court of Honor at Marlborough Congregational Church on Saturday, Dec. 17, at 1:30 p.m. Former Troop 39 Scouts and leaders are welcome to attend.

Lynch joined Cub Scout Pack 39 as a Tiger in first grade. Throughout his years as a Cub he loved going on outings with his den, racing his cars in the Pinewood Derby each year, and earning beltloops to add to his belt.

Lynch earned his Arrow of Light in February 2015 and soon crossed over to Boy Scout Troop 39. He progressed through the ranks, earning Tenderfoot in May 2016, Second Class in May 2017, First Class in June 2018, Star in September 2019, Life in March 2021, and passing his Eagle Board of Review in January 2022. Along the way, Patrick earned 30 merit badges.

For leadership roles, Lynch served as Troop Guide and Assistant Patrol Leader before he discovered a way to put his public speaking skills to use in his role as Chaplain Aide. He enjoyed holding Sunday services during campouts and writing and delivering the invocation and benediction during courts of honor. As Chaplain Aide Patrick felt it was important to earn his religious emblem, God and Life, which he accomplished in November 2021. He was also inducted into the Order of the Arrow in October 2020.

For his Eagle Scout project, Lynch chose to restore a rundown trail connecting two cul-de-sacs in his neighborhood. The trail is heavily used by area residents and was in poor repair: tree roots formed tripping hazards, the split rail fence was rotted and collapsing, and there were prickles and other branches intruding on the pathway. Patrick and his team raked and smoothed over the trail, tore down and replaced the entire fence, cut back branches, and spread mulch at each entrance.

Lynch is now an Eastern Connecticut State University Warrior, studying towards a Bachelor of Science degree in Data Science.

Steinbrecher began his trail to eagle when his older brother Zach joined Cub Scouts. Steinbrecher was three years old at the time, but that didn't stop Jon. He would go on Cub Scout outings wearing his "Scout Buddy" t-shirt and cap. When he turned 6, he joined the Pack as a Tiger Cub. Jon progressed through the ranks of the Cub Scouts and earned his arrow of light in the Spring of 2015.

Steinbrecher joined Boy Scout Troop 39 in 2015, earning: Tenderfoot in September 2015, Second Class in March 2016, First Class in October 2016, Star Scout in October 2017, Life Scout in April 2019, and in August 2022, he passed his Eagle Board of Review.

During his time with the troop, Steinbrecher held many leadership positions, including Den Chief, Troop Guide, Assistant Patrol Leader,



**Patrick Lynch of Marlborough will receive his Eagle Scout Honor this Saturday.**

Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Senior Patrol Leader, and Junior Assistant Scoutmaster. He earned a total of 22 merit badges.

Steinbrecher went through his induction into the Order of the Arrow (OA) in May of 2018. While in the OA, Jon committed to developing his leadership skills and took on several Leadership positions, including Vice Chief of Communication. He was elected the Lodge Chief in 2021 and re-elected in November 2022. Jon also ran for and was elected as the Vice Section Chief in January 2022 in a special election and again in June 2022. While lodge Chief, Jon headed up the Council's contingent that attended the 2022 National Order of the Arrow Conference.

Steinbrecher's Eagle Scout project was to plan and construct a deck and extend the Memorial Garden at the Marlborough Congregational Church. This deck was designed to provide an outdoor Class/meeting area and has already acted as a stage for the Church's yearly Rallyday. Today, you can see that the church using the deck to stage some outdoor Christmas decorations. The Church wanted the ability to have a larger Memorial Garden. Through Jon's project, they were able to have a garden that extends to fill the available area.

Currently Steinbrecher is attending Central Connecticut State University and is enrolled in the Exploratory Program. He expects to choose his major within the next year.



RHAM • RHAM • RHAM • RHAM • RHAM • RHAM • RHAM • RHAM • RHAM • RHAM • RHAM • RHAM • RHAM • RHAM • RHAM

# RHAM Honors Six Athletes

By Josh Howard

The athletic department at RHAM High School named six Athletes of the Week for the fall season. The department said that supply chain issues interrupted the arrival of new #RollRaptors sweatshirts — given to the school's Athletes of the Week — and once the shirts arrived they recognized a half-dozen athletes from this past season.

Student-Athletes that are chosen for the award are selected for not only performance achievements, but also feats of leadership, consistent effort, citizenship, and academics. The athletes and the details of their accomplishments are detailed by the athletic department below:

**Anna Lavenburg** - Lavenburg recently wrapped up her senior season as a four-year member of the girls' soccer program. Lavenburg consistently modeled to her teammates and coaches how to stick with something and battle adversity. During a late season conference tilt at league rival South Windsor, Lavenburg got her highlight reel moment by heading the ball in the back of the net off of a corner kick rebound. The late goal allowed the Raptors to escape Bobcat territory with a 1-1 tie, setting up the opportunity to lessen their rival's chances of making the postseason when they defeated South Windsor 2-1 at RHAM High School just five days later. Lavenburg has one of the top academic resumes at the school and she is a great role model for all student-athletes to look up to.

**Erik Buden** - Buden was a senior goalie for the boys' soccer program, protecting the net as a vocal, emotional, and defensive leader for the Raptors over the last two years. Buden's play in goal has earned him respect as one of the best goalies in the state, leading RHAM to the state playoffs each of the last two seasons. In this year's state tourney, he stood on his head in a second round match-up at heavily-favorite and No. 2 seed Xavier where he blanked the Falcons through regulation and overtime. Buden epitomizes the term "Student-Athlete" as a truly hard worker on the field and in his school

community.

**Ally Deckman** - Deckman is known as the CEO — Chief Energy Officer. Deckman brought the spirit and waved the flag all season long, leading the support for all of the teams this fall. By playoff time, the referees knew who she was and made up their own rules about her and the school's student-section. Deckman will now take that energy to the court where she is a senior guard on the basketball team.

**Gianni Wursthorn** - Wursthorn shined as a freshman cross-country runner, competing for the Raptors for the first time this fall. Wursthorn embodies the effort, discipline, and dedication to personal improvement it takes to be a distance runner. He consistently improved his times throughout the season to continue to set new bars for him individually and help his teammates in races, culminating in a season-best personal performance at the Central Connecticut Conference (CCC) Freshman Championships race at Hall High School in October. As a first-year high school student, he's already established himself as one of our many Scholar-Athletes.

**Alana Calhoun** - Calhoun was a junior on the girls' volleyball team that recent won a second straight state championship. Calhoun is a walking definition of resilience. After some early season adversity, Calhoun remained a great teammate and kept working hard to help the program win another title. She made a huge splash in the state semifinals against top-seed Seymour when she provided the Raptors a spark off the bench. Calhoun had her best performance to date, posting career-highs in all relevant categories and helping to propel her team to the state finals.

**Luke Auteri** - Every good team needs an unexpected player to step up in big moments during the season and that's exactly what Auteri did for the Raptors football squad late in a game on Oct 7. Playing the road at Plainville, it looked like the Blue Devils were taking a kickoff return to the house — which would have given



Six RHAM High School student athletes were honored in early December for their performances this fall. Top row from left: Anna Lavenburg, Erik Buden, and Ally Deckman; bottom row: Gianni Wursthorn, Alana Calhoun, and Luke Auteri were the half dozen Student Athletes of the Week that were recognized.

them the lead with under two minutes to play — but Auteri shed his blocker at the last minute and was able to pull down the ball carrier for a game-saving tackle in the opposing red zone. RHAM's defense held up and won the game, which ultimately was a key moment in the Raptors' playoff push. Auteri's continued hard work

and commitment as a sophomore allowed him to become a regular in the defensive secondary for the Raptors at the end of the season. His hard work carried over to the classroom this fall as he was 1 of 22 RHAM football players that earned All-Academic Honors.



Students Participate in United Nations Simulation... RHAM High School students traveled to the University of Hartford on December 2nd and 3rd to participate in the 2022 World Affairs Council Model United Nations simulation. Students joined their peers from across Connecticut to debate and build consensus for solutions to pressing world issues including genocides, security in space, deforestation, and the global food crisis. Seniors Iolanda Iavarone, Emma Maguire, Grace Neumuth, and Natalia Huapaya won a "Best Delegation" award for their efforts representing Singapore in the World Food Program committee. Additionally, junior Amelia Oatman was selected to chair the UNICEF committee, working on the issue of access to life-saving support for children. Congratulations to all students involved!



Staff Spreads Positivity... RHAM staff members pose with their new "Respect" shirts at a staff lunch on Friday, Dec. 9. Staff members hope by wearing these shirts it will send a positive message of respect for self, for others, and for the school and larger community.

The early stages of communication disorders are easier to spot when you know the signs.

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used by a young Hebron entrepreneur for his business: "Find the Good." See <https://www.findthegoodbrand.com>.

**Michael McCormack – Hebron**

**We Need a Resolution**

To the Editor:  
"I am not asking for you to like me but, I am asking for your respect."

Plain and simple. Honest and sincere.  
As the year progresses and events unfold, I shall provide you, the reader with my honest and sincere assessment and or opinion. I value your eyes, thoughts, and reactions even when we disagree.

Disagreement with respect is good for both of us. Disagreement with anger and detestable words and actions is inexcusable.

Again, I am an individual who cares about the town and the town's evolution. Please, I ask you not to like me but to respect me

Plain and simple, honest, and sincere. Merry Christmas, and a very happy, healthy New Year.

**Sincerely,  
Alison Walck**

*Note: Walck is a member of the East Hampton Town Council writing as an individual.*

**Collective Amnesia**

To the Editor:  
The revelations of last few months have deflated the Covid narrative. What had been deemed a "global pandemic"/"public health crisis" really just turned out to be the largest wealth transfer in history and probably the biggest scam ever perpetrated on a global scale. Masks, which offer close to zero protection (just read the disclaimer on the box) are again being pushed by the "experts" as our "best protection" against an insidious "triple-demic" of Flu, RSV, and Covid. I'm happy that influenza has finally made a comeback after a two year hiatus...RSV is a listed side effect of CV vaccination among juvenile populations....strange.

Because EVERYTHING was deemed CV over the last two years (\$\$\$) we have no recent/reliable data to extrapolate from. The public health experts continue to parrot big pharma talking points, hoping to boost 4th quarter profits.

The talking heads get PAID to push the juice and increase pharma profits, at least they have a good excuse (\$\$\$) for being so forgetful, but how many people do you know personally who have recently had to deal with cardiac issues, strokes, neurological problems, autoimmune issues, rapid cancers, blood clots, and a whole host of unforeseen health problems? Do you have a profitable excuse for forgetting about your injured friends and family or are you suffering from collective amnesia?

**Colin McNamara – Marlborough**

**Good Money After Bad in Hebron**

To the Editor,  
The Hebron Board of Selectmen and Town Manager continue to bury their heads in the sand and avoid reality. As reported in the Rivereast last week, their response to concerns over the proposed Public Works facility at 17 Kinney Road is to deflect and dismiss.

Chairman Daniel Larson has attempted character assassination, questioned personal motivation and now challenged the accuracy of documented information. I urge Mr. Larson, the Selectmen, and the public to visit the Town website and read through the December 1st Board of Selectmen Agenda. All sources are provided and the copious amounts of information stating the current plan is dangerous to the environment and destructive to our history are clearly presented.

In the face of overwhelming factual information, I am dismayed that the Selectmen response is to spend good money after bad.

How can accurate design plans, at a cost of \$200,000 in taxpayer money, be created if the location is not known? It is clearly feasible to move the transfer station and expand Public Works at the current site.

This design would be site specific and different than other locations. And how much will a town wide survey cost?

How accurate will a survey be if it is created by the Town Manager, one of the main proponents of the project, and includes an explanatory background sheet?

The Town continues to have full-length articles with endless space to comment and push their perspective. Meanwhile, the opposition is relegated to 300 words at a time and 3 minutes per meeting. Is there really a need to hire a Pub-

lic Relations firm? And how much will that cost the taxpayers of Hebron? Perhaps the Town has lost control of the because they are pushing a deeply flawed concept.

Please visit Kinney Road Matters on Facebook and #Save17.

**Sincerely,  
Kevin J. Tulimieri – Amston**

**Say it Ain't So**

To the Editor:  
In the most Lopsided Trade deals since The Red Sox sold Babe Ruth to the Yankees, Joe Biden was DUPED by the Russians again!!

Vladimir Putin used Biden. He caved in to rescue Griner and left Paul Whelan in a Russian prison where he has been since 2018 on suspicion of being a spy?

Now Brittany Griner is "Home" much to the delight of Black Lives Matter & the LGBT community and all her pals in the WNBA. She does not exactly love and embrace "her" country, the one that got her released. She has been a frequent Critic of the U.S. has repeatedly refused to stand for the National Anthem and has used the "race card" on numerous occasions. To me this is clearly a case of reverse racism.

The VILLIAN who was traded back to Russia = THE MERCHANT OF DEATH" VIKTOR BOUT was serving 25 years in a High security U.S. Prison for selling Weapons of Mass Destruction to our Enemies and for conspiring to Kill Americans.

He goes back to Russia and Paul Whelan is left to rot in his 8x10 solitary cell.

Griner traveled to Russian to play basketball and made big money was either arrogant, clueless or just plain stupid to think that she could enter a Communist country with vape cartridges? I wonder if Joe and Dr. Jill will be sending the Whelan Family a Christmas Card.

**Don Denley – Andover**

**We Find the Defendant...**

To the Editor  
The verdict is in. The Trump Organization found guilty of tax fraud, 17 felony counts.

1. Scheme to defraud in the first degree - Guilty
2. Conspiracy in the fourth degree - Guilty
3. Criminal tax fraud in the third degree - Guilty
4. Criminal tax fraud in the third degree - Guilty
5. Criminal tax fraud in the fourth degree - Guilty
6. Falsifying business records in the first degree - Guilty
7. Falsifying business records in the first degree - Guilty
8. Falsifying business records in the first degree - Guilty
9. Falsifying business records in the first degree - Guilty
10. Scheme to defraud in the first degree - Guilty
11. Conspiracy in the fourth degree - Guilty
12. Criminal tax fraud in the third degree - Guilty
13. Criminal tax fraud in the third degree - Guilty
14. Criminal tax fraud in the fourth degree - Guilty
15. Falsifying business records in the first degree - Guilty
16. Falsifying business records in the first degree - Guilty
17. Falsifying business records in the first degree - Guilty

The Trump organization payroll and expense records spanning 13 years showed how executives received perks like luxury apartments and

expensive cars while purposely excluding those items in their tax returns. The Trump Organization benefited, not paying payroll taxes.

The prosecution submitted that Trump knew and approved the tax fraud. During the trial, the prosecution showed Trump personally wrote a check for a tuition payment and he approved a memo that reduced the pay of one of the executives to offset the amount of a perk the executive was receiving.

This likely spells the end of the Trump Organization and this increases the odds of a NY prosecution of Trump himself.

**Annie Steinbrecher – Marlborough**

**Donations for Andover 175th Anniversary Celebration**

To the Editor:  
In May 2023, Andover will be 175! The Andover CT 175th Anniversary Committee has been hard at work creating events to celebrate this occasion. There will be a dedication at the Town Hall Gazebo, a festival at the elementary school featuring inflatable games and rides, tours of the Olde Andover Burial Ground and Townsend Cemetery, Garden Tours, and more.

We will continue to bring you detailed information which can also be found on our Facebook page, Andover CT 175th Anniversary.

To make this celebration possible our committee is relying on donations. You may have seen the t-shirts, ornaments, calendars, and cookbooks we have been selling to help us raise money.

But we still need donations. You can donate online or by check. Our Facebook page provides an online link to the Givebutter Fundraising platform (<https://givebutter.com/2UCJqO>). If you

prefer to write a check, please make it out to Andover CT 175 th Anniversary Committee and mail it to Carol Lee at the Andover Town Hall, 17 School Road. We can provide a donation form

should you need one, just include your email address.

This is your celebration, Andover residents! We need your help to make it a success!

**Catherine Magaldi-Lewis  
Chair – Andover 175th  
Anniversary Committee**

**Hebron's Water Woes**

To the Editor:  
The February 4, 2003, Hebron STEAP funding report, section 2. Impact on public water....

b) *Groundwater*- "According to DEP, groundwater at the project site is class GA in Connecticut's Water Quality Standards, denoting an area with existing private water supply wells or an area with the potential to provide water to public or private water supply wells where DEP presumes that groundwater is suitable for drinking uses without treatment. Only effluents containing substances of natural origin or materials, which easily biodegrade in the soil system and pose no threat to untreated drinking water supplies may be permitted." ([portal.ct.gov](http://portal.ct.gov))

"Our results indicate that modern stormwater management practices are not protecting surface waters from road salt contamination and suggest they create contaminated plumes of groundwater that deliver Cl- and Na+ to streams throughout the year." (ACSPublications, 2022.)

"...that routing runoff contaminated with road salts to stormwater ponds results in plumes of highly contaminated groundwater moving from ponds to streams." ([stormwater.wef.org](http://stormwater.wef.org))

(This body of work has been cited in 52 articles and by over 150 authors.)

Treated storm drain wastewater, from the proposed Public Works treatment pond, will be flushed into the wetlands per Hebron Town Manager, (BOS meeting, 11/17/22) The problem is, sodium chloride cannot be fully removed from the water.

Connecticut General Statute 22a-471 basically states the party responsible for contaminating potable water, replaces potable water, plus the next ten years of water bills for all effected households. However, Hebron Town Leaders, informed residents that there is no plan to bring water to the surrounding neighborhoods based on the flawed assumption that no contamination will occur. (BOS meeting 11/17/22.). This is a big assumption.

6. Question: Why are residents doing the BOS' homework? #save17

**Jean Tulimieri – Amston**

Cover Story • Cover Story • Cover Story • Cover Story • Cover Story • Cover St

★ *Solar at EHMS cont. from page 1*

exclusion in rescue plan funds," Cox told the council.

Cox said he reached out to the state's construction grant agency, as well as local and federal legislators. He hasn't heard back from the grant agency or the D.C. delegation but had heard from State Sen. Norm Needleman (D-33), who said he's unaware of such restrictions.

Cox said if the state stands its ground, it's "back to the drawing board."

Cox told the *Rivereast* regardless if the state relents and gives the town grants to cover the cost of replacing the roof, the town's going to move forward with the project.

This path complicates things. Without state funding the town, and by extension taxpayers,

would foot the rest of the project's bill.

Replacing the roof is a longstanding need, Cox said.

Cox said he knows of other towns experiencing similar issues.

When the council approved this work in early February, it stoked some controversy.

Multiple members of the volunteer East Hampton Ambulance Association (EHAA) decried the decision.

The EHAA, which is struggling to stay afloat, has throughout the last year requested an injection of ARPA funds, to no avail.

Members were frustrated and felt a roof was being prioritized over the community's health and safety.

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# Obituaries

## Manchester

### Sherry Louise (Lord) Thompson

Sherry Louise Thompson, 73, beloved wife, mother, neighbor and friend, passed from this life to be with her Lord on Monday, Dec. 5, 2022, due to complications resulting from a broken hip and a long, hard-fought battle with congestive heart failure.



Born June 30, 1949, in Centreville, Ala., she was the cherished only child of M.E. and Dorothy (Davis) Lord. After graduating Auburn University in 1972 – WAR EAGLE!! – she moved to Columbus, Ga., where she worked at Columbus Ledger-Enquirer.

It was in Columbus that she would meet the man who would become her husband, Jonathan Thompson, on a blind date. The two fell in love, married in 1974, and moved to New York City. From there they moved to East Grand Rapids, Mich., and then to Manchester, Conn., where they would live for 30 years.

While in Connecticut, she reentered the workforce, with jobs at Manchester Public Library and Gerber Coburn. In 2015, after several years of being snowbirds, Jon and Sherry returned permanently to Centreville.

Along the way, Sherry gave birth to three children – Dorothy, Michael and Christopher. They were the lights of her life. She wanted nothing more than to see them happy.

Sherry was one of the sweetest, most wonderful people to ever walk this Earth. Anyone who was fortunate enough to have her in their life is better for having known her. She will be deeply, deeply missed.

She leaves to forever mourn her passing her husband of 48 years, Jon, of Centreville, Ala.; her three children, Dorothy and Michael of Manchester, Conn., and Christopher of North Hollywood, Calif.; her brother-in-law, Timothy Thompson of Malden, Mass.; several cousins, especially Talice Mullen and Rulene Manuel of Dothan, Ala.; and legions of friends in both Connecticut and Alabama – including her beloved “blood sister,” Leigh Dembowski.

She was predeceased by her parents and all the pets she’d owned and loved over the years – particularly her precious beagle Polly.

The family would like to thank Druid City Hospital (DCH) of Tuscaloosa, especially its cardiac ICU; Stacy Jones and the DCH cardiac rehab center; Optum Infusion; Amedysis Home Health; and especially Dr. George Hemstreet and CRNP Jeremy Kelley of Alabama Vascular and Heart.

The family would also like to thank the Rev. Ken Fuller of Centreville Baptist Church.

Visitation will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 10, at Centreville Baptist Church, followed by a funeral at 11 a.m. Burial will follow at a later date, at Alabama National Cemetery in Montevallo.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Centreville Baptist Church, 138 Ct. Square East, Centreville, AL 35042; North United Methodist Church, 300 Parker St., Manchester, CT 06042; Brent-Centreville Public Library, 20 Library St., Centreville, AL 35042; or Atlanta Beagle Rescue, the organization that provided her with her sweet Polly, at atlantabeaglerescue.org.

We’ll love you forever, Mom.

## East Hampton

### Richard Paul Meduski

Richard (“Dick”) Paul Meduski, 77, of Stuart, Florida (and East Hampton, Connecticut), passed away at his home on Thursday, December 1, 2022.



Richard was born in Worcester, Massachusetts on March 3, 1945. He was the son of Frank J. Meduski and Mary T. (Jocz) Meduski of Worcester, Massachusetts. Graduating from North High School in Worcester (1963), Richard went on to receive a Business Degree from The College of Holy Cross in Worcester (1967), where he played fullback on the Crusaders football team. Richard married the love of his life Jean M. Kelley. The couple raised two daughters (Cathy and Meredith) in Manchester, Connecticut and had been married 55 years prior to Richard’s passing.

Richard enjoyed a long and illustrious career in banking, having started as a trainee at Hartford National Bank. After working there for 19 years in various managerial positions, he became the Executive Vice President at the Savings Bank of Manchester (“SBM”) in 1983 and ultimately served as SBM’s President and CEO from 1988 until his retirement in 2004.

As a result of Richard’s keen business sense and banking acumen, SBM enjoyed a very successful initial public offering in 2000. After retirement Richard served as the President of the SBM Foundation, which over the years has donated significant funds toward scholarships, youth sports organizations and numerous other charitable causes.

Richard also served on the Manchester Community College Foundation Board of Directors. He was instrumental in establishing the annual MCC Evening of Fine Wines wine auction, which raised money that went towards athletics and scholarships.

Richard was well known for his compassion and generosity, and he relished in sharing his successes with his friends and family. Carpe diem was his favorite motto and whether it was vacationing around the world with his wife Jean or simply relaxing with friends and family, Richard always lived life to the fullest.

Richard was an avid golfer and an outdoor enthusiast, participating in many recreational activities such as riding his Harley Davidson, boating, deep sea fishing and trap shooting. For many years, Richard was entrenched in the sport of competitive water skiing, supporting his daughters as they competed, announcing at regional and national tournaments, and traveling to spectate the top professional athletes in the sport.

Under his directive, SBM served as the local sponsor and brought the professional water ski tour to Connecticut multiple times in the 1990s. Also well cultured, Richard enjoyed taking in shows on Broadway, fine dining, and as an amateur wine aficionado he maintained a vast collection of sophisticated wines. Richard was a huge UConn Husky supporter, especially women’s basketball. He and his wife Jean traveled to watch the team play in many national championship tournaments over the years.

Richard was predeceased by his sister Judy A. (Meduski) Falvey and his brother Russell D. Meduski. Richard is survived by his wife Jean Meduski, his daughters Cathy Barry and Meredith Swanson, sons-in-law Todd Barry and John Swanson, granddaughters Caitlin Barry and Skylar Swanson, grandsons Jack Barry, Dylan Swanson and Brody Swanson, sister Jeannie Meduski and husband Tom Williams, brother Robert Meduski, and nieces Andrea Falvey and

Patrice Falvey, and several grand nieces and nephews.

Richard’s family will receive family and friends Saturday, December 10th from 4-7pm and Sunday, December 11th from 11-12 with a service to follow at John F. Tierney Funeral Home, 219 West Center Street, Manchester, CT 06040. For online condolences, please visit [www.tierneyfuneralhome.com](http://www.tierneyfuneralhome.com).

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be given to Manchester Community College (MCC) Foundation, Great Path MS6, P.O. Box 1046, Manchester, CT 06045, for/memo the Richard and Jean Meduski Scholarship.

## East Hampton

### Arthur Scherp

Arthur Norman Scherp Sr., 84, of Sterling and formerly of East Hampton, beloved husband of Helene (Tibbals) Scherp passed away peacefully at his home on Wednesday Dec. 7th 2022.



Born Feb. 24, 1938, in Middletown he was the son of the late Edward and Mary Scherp. Arthur graduated from East Hampton High School and was retired from the Carpenters Union. He proudly served his country in the US Air Force from 1955 until 1959.

Besides his wife Helene, he is survived by his son Arthur Scherp Jr of Marlborough, Jeffrey Scherp of Voluntown, Thomas Scherp of Sterling, eight grandchildren and many great grandchildren.

He was predeceased by his son Michael Scherp, daughter Susan Scherp, brother Edward Scherp Jr., and his sister Carol Baranello.

Friends may call at the Spencer Funeral Home 112 Main St East Hampton on Wednesday Dec. 14th from 9:30 AM until 11:00 AM. Funeral services will be at 11:00 AM followed by burial in Union Hill Cemetery in Middle Haddam.

To leave online condolences please visit [www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com](http://www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com).

## Portland

### Shirley Williams

Shirley Veronica McGetrick Williams, 92, of Huntsville Alabama, formerly of Portland Connecticut, passed away Friday November 25th. She was born in Middletown, Connecticut and graduated from Portland High School in 1947. She was preceded in death by her parents, James and Clara McGetrick and three sisters, Barbara Jane Murphy, Claire Packard, and Joan Kathleen Sherrick. She is survived by her husband of 67 years, Charles Ailon Williams; her three children, Deborah Ann Harwell, James Powell Williams, and Elizabeth Kimberly Fugitt (spouse: James M. Fugitt Jr.); two grandchildren, Lana Claire Harwell and Christian Alexander Fugitt; and her youngest sister, Nancy Ann Flood.



She was a wonderful mother, fantastic grandmother, and loving wife. She loved cooking, family gatherings, both small and large, swimming, going out and about Huntsville, taking trips to Gulf Shores-Orange Beach, flowers, and the changing fall colors. She will live in our hearts forever with love. A graveside service will be held on Friday, December 9th at 1:00 p.m. at Maple Hill Cemetery.

Flowers are welcome or donations to St. Jude.

## Portland

### Cassidy Ann Rose

Cassidy Ann Rose, 27, of Portland, beloved daughter of Kathleen Rose passed away peacefully at Hartford Hospital on Friday Dec. 2nd.



Born June 4, 1995, in Middletown she was a graduate of Portland High School and had attended Middlesex Community College. Cassidy had been employed at the Brownstone Bottleshop in Portland. Cassidy had been active in EPOCH Arts in East Hampton.

Besides her mother she is survived by her stepfather Leon Naud of East Hampton, her brothers Matthew Rose, Jordan Naud, and Erik Bergman of Portland, her sisters Alyssa Rose-Naud of Portland, Jaquelyn Bergman of Bristol, uncle Jeffrey Rose of East Hartford, aunt Robin Merritt of East Hampton, cousins Liz, Josh and Kevin and best friend Brandy Justine Gomulinski and her boyfriend Albert Marciano of Oakville.

She was predeceased by her grandparents Jean and Louis Rose and her uncle David Rose. Friends may call at the Spencer Funeral Home 112 Main St. East Hampton on Thursday Dec. 9th from 6:00PM until 8:00 PM.

A Funeral service will be held Friday Dec. 10th at 10:00AM in the funeral home followed by burial in St. Mary’s Cemetery in Portland. Cassidy’s family would like to thank Hartford Hospital and the team of doctors that tried their best to save her life.

In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to The Movement 506 Hunting Hill Ave. Middletown, CT 06457. To leave online condolences please visit [www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com](http://www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com).

## Glastonbury

### Harry Evans

Harry G. Evans Jr. “Hap” of Glastonbury and Clinton, CT, passed away peacefully on December 3rd, 2022, at the age of 89. Hap was the son of the late Harry and Alice Weldon Evans. He was born and raised in Glastonbury and attended Glastonbury Public Schools.

After High School, Hap enlisted in the United States Army and was sent to Japan to assist in the post-World War II rebuilding effort. Hap was proud of his service overseas and he enjoyed the Japanese culture. He would often entertain the family with his occasional unchecked phrases in the Japanese language.

After serving in the Army, Hap returned to Glastonbury to marry his high school sweetheart, Barbara Gondek. Hap and Barbara built a home on Coldbrook Road, where they raised their four kids. Hap was an avid sportsman and loved competition. In his younger years, He enjoyed training horses, hunting, fishing and automobiles.

Hap always had an entrepreneurial spirit and he was a talented salesman. In 1964, he co-founded Evans and Paole, Inc, a flooring, kitchen and bath company. His company helped build a significant portion of the residences in Glastonbury and his stylish pink ceramic tile and burnt orange shag carpet still adorn a few basements in the older subdivisions in town. Hap successfully ran the company for 30 years and during those years, he diversified into property development. He built one of the first shopping centers on Hebron Avenue in downtown Glastonbury. He also built and managed properties in Manchester, Colchester, and East Hampton. Hap was a member of the Glastonbury Lions club for years.

Hap had a strong work ethic; when he was not selling flooring, he put his time and energy into renovating properties. He and Barbara bought a run-down waterfront cottage in Clinton, CT and turned it into a fun and welcoming beach home. At this house, they would often entertain neighbors, family and friends.

Another of Hap’s proud accomplishments in real estate was his purchase of the Chatham Hotel in East Hampton. The Chatham Hotel was once a bustling inn and restaurant on Lake Pocotopaug. It had fallen into a state of disrepair and Hap saw an opportunity. With the help of friends and family, Hap renovated the property into lakefront apartments and a marina.

In Hap’s middle age, his passion became offshore fishing and boating. One of his prized possessions was his sport fishing boat the “Teddy Bear.” Hap spent a great deal of time and diesel traveling between Cedar Island Marina and Block Island to fish and support the island economy. Hap loved telling fishing stories and

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## Obituaries cont.

he would never let the facts get in the way of a good story. Hap was a great son, father, husband and friend. He had a big smile, a huge heart and was kind to everyone he met.

Hap is survived by Barbara, his loving wife of over 66 years, his daughter Dana and husband David of Glastonbury, his predeceased son, David who passed in 2018 and lived in Lebanon with his wife Kim, his son, Mark and his wife Angel of Lebanon, CT and son Chris and his wife Lori of Montpelier, VT. Hap was a fun and caring grandfather to his 11 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren, with whom he would always provide support, advice and a great story. He was predeceased by his sister, Betty Jo Somers of Glastonbury.

A memorial service will be announced at a later date. Memorial contributions can be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital.

### East Hampton

#### Marion Walton

Marion B. Walton, 92, beloved wife of the late Robert A. Walton, Sr., passed away peacefully Nov. 7, 2022.

Born February 15, 1930, in Hartford, she was the daughter of Rudolph and Emma Boy of Manchester, CT. Marion was predeceased by 13 siblings, 3 brothers and 10 sisters. Marion spent her adult life in East Hampton.

She is survived by daughter Cora E Clebowicz, son Robert A. Walton, Jr. and wife Tricia, nine grandchildren: Martin W. Clebowicz Jr., Nicolde D. Clebowicz, Kariann M. Walton, Robert A. Walton III, Allison T. Ludiciani, Kristopher Schonagel, Ashley Schonagel, Brien Sellier, Jennifer Faris, and 8 great-grandchildren. Sister in Alberta Hyland and many nieces and nephews.

Marion worked as a seamstress for Best Cleaners for many years. Known to family and friends as Goma or Auntie Babe, she had a smile and kind word for everyone.

She is and will be missed dearly by all who knew her. Funeral services will be private and at the convenience of the family.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to St. Judes Children Research Hospital or the Wounded Warriors Foundation.

### Marlborough

#### Rev. Dr. Howard Roy Thime

The Reverend Dr. Howard Roy Thime passed away peacefully on November 30, 2022, in Mechanicsville, Virginia.

He was born to Doris and Roy Thime in Brooklyn, New York on April 10, 1947, and he grew up on Long Island.

Howard served as the minister in Lutheran churches in Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Maryland. He earned his Master of Divinity at The Evangelical Lutheran Theological Seminary, and his Doctorate in Religious Education from Trinity Theological Seminary. Howard's undergraduate experience at Concordia College in Minnesota was especially dear to him, and he maintained contact with Concordia by serving as a member of the National Alumni Board of Directors for the college. His focus on speech courses at Concordia prepared him for both his full time career as a Lutheran pastor and his part-time work as a college professor.

Howard enjoyed a variety of interests—including fishing, model railroading, baseball, and golf—and he always enthusiastically shared these passions with family and friends. He enjoyed fishing in the Salmon River and Lake Teramuggus, playing pool at the senior center, and attending church in Marlborough.

Howard leaves behind Suzanne, his wife of 39 years. She combined her strong Christian faith and excellent nursing skills to provide the care that Howard relied on in his last years. Howard loved and took pride in his daughter, Rachael Walkins, and his grandson Kingsley, with whom he enjoyed his many interests and hobbies.

Howard and his brother Warren shared good times and fond memories growing up together in their parents' loving Christian home. In later years, Howard loved family times in Marlborough with his parents, brother and sister-in-law (Katherine). His nephews, Jason and Adam, loved their uncle and enjoyed sharing adventures with him. Howard loved his cousins and extended family and enjoyed celebrating his Norwegian-American heritage.

Throughout his entire life, Howard loved and served Jesus Christ.

A graveside service was held at the Marlboro Cemetery, and a memorial celebration of Howard's life will be held in Virginia this spring.

### Hebron

#### Grace Beatrice Smith

Grace Beatrice Smith of Hebron, passed away on December 4, 2022 at Middlesex Hospital in Middletown. She was 80 years old.

Grace was born on September 23, 1942, in Amesbury, MA, a daughter of the late Ralph and Beatrice (Lewis) Barrett. Grace married her husband David Alan Smith on October 21 1960. He predeceased her several years ago.

Grace was an active member of the Hebron community, participating with the Sunshine Singers, the Senior Friends of Hebron and the Senior Center as well. She was a woman of strong faith and attended church at the Gilead Congregational Church where she also sang in the Choir.

Grace loved all animals and was a contributor to many dog and cat rescue groups throughout her lifetime. She also loved painting and could often be found reading a good book in her free time. In her younger years, Grace loved being in the outdoors with her family, camping, hiking or fishing.

She will be sadly missed but always remembered with love by her children, Peter Smith of Rowley, MA, William Smith of Ipswich, MA, Deborah and her husband James Hunter of Amston; nine grandchildren, Remi, Shaun, Jessica, Taylor, David, Chelsea, Colby, Michael, Nathan, and Eric who she now resides with in heaven; great grandchildren, JAB, Olivia, Jodi, Grason, Magnolia, Camden; and many extended family members and friends. In addition to her husband and parent Grace was also predeceased in death by a brother, James Barrett and a sister, Shirley Nasman.

A memorial service will be held at a later date to be announced. Donations in Grace's memory may be made to the Humane Society or any animal rescue of one's choice. The Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home of Colchester has been entrusted with care of arrangements. To share a memory or express a condolence to the family, please visit: [www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com](http://www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com)

### Colchester

#### Edward Romero

Edward Niel Romero, 72, of Colchester, passed away at home on December 2, 2022. He was born in Lake Charles, LA, son of the late Lawrence and Betty Romero.

He retired after more than 28 years as the "Garden Homer" at The Home Depot. As a young man, he spent a few years working offshore in the Gulf of Mexico drilling for oil. He proudly served his country in the Marine Corps during the Vietnam War.

Edward grew up in Louisiana, the sportsman's paradise. He loved hunting, fishing, crabbing, crawfishing and camping. He was a great Cajun cook and an avid gardener. He was devoted to his family, his four yellow labs and tabby cat. He enjoyed sharing a family hobby of making and painting plaster statues with all the kids of his family and friends.

He was predeceased by his brother Lester Romero and great-granddaughter Harper Nunez. He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Karen Romero; his children Sarah Romero of Bristol, CT, Sheila White (Marvin) and Donna Nunez both of Westlake, LA; his sisters Jeanette Shotwell of Westlake, LA, Linda Romero of Louisville, KY, Rosella Hawkins (Herman) of Seguin, TX; many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends who loved him. He was a beloved grandfather to six grandchildren: Wendi, Brooke, Allison, Julie,

Nikki, Casey and six great-grandchildren: Lillian, Anna, Eliza, Hannah, Carter, Kimberlee.

A memorial mass will be held on Tuesday, December 13th at 10:30 a.m. in St. Pius X Church, Middletown.

Burial with full military honors will be in the State Veteran's Cemetery, Middletown. The family requests those who wish to express sympathy to consider making a donation to their favorite charity in Edward Romero's name.

The Coughlin Lastrina Funeral Home, 491 High St., Middletown is in charge of arrangements.



## Cover Story • Cover Story • Cover Story • Cover Story • Cover Story • Cover St

### ★ New Food Bank cont. from page 1

While the new farm food bank has started receiving donations, Rosenblatt expects that the initiative will continue to expand in the weeks ahead. Sometimes, she said, her challenge is helping get farmers adjusted to a new idea and inform them of the favorable opportunity.

"Eventually, it'll catch on like crazy," she asserted. "I'm excited."

She suggested that there's potentially over a dozen farms in town and several more in the local area that could benefit from the initiative. In order to spread the word, Rosenblatt is constantly contacting different farmers to have them check out what's available at Rose' N' Petal for them to take home.

"I call them and say, 'I have free food,'" she explained.

The entire operation is free of charge for any of the farmers involved. As donations continue to pour in, Rosenblatt emphasized that her own farm won't be stockpiling the bulk of the food.

"I only have 14 chickens, so I can't use it," she joked. "There's farmers that can actually benefit."

To help illustrate the goal of the initiative, Rosenblatt pointed to the Agriculture Commission's mission statement, which in part reads that it "is the rural nature of our town to both foster and encourage agriculture."

To do this, the statement continues, the Commission works "to promote sustainable and essential agriculture, encourage new farmers, and assist in intervention and education between

existing farmers and the community."

As a local farmer, Rosenblatt also sells product at the Colchester Farmers' Market from June through October. She describes her farm as "still young," constantly thinking of the community and the advancement of farming throughout the area.

During the seemingly endless drought last summer, Rosenblatt was reluctant to use too much water and feared that she might tap into her neighbor's supply. Those conditions, and the resulting costs, were another motivation for launching the initiative.

After reviewing the expiration dates on their products, residents should also keep in mind what types of food are acceptable and which ones should be avoided.

**Good to donate:** canned or jarred vegetables, fruits, beans, soups, fresh fruit, dried beans, oatmeal (raw), quinoa, barley, lentils, couscous, microwave popcorn, crackers, cookies, pastas, breakfast cereals, flours and cornmeal.

**Do not donate:** frozen or refrigerated foods, old and dead vegetables and fruits.

In a November newsletter, First Selectman Andreas Bisbikos urged residents to take advantage of the new food bank.

"This initiative will remove food waste from the waste stream, which charges for the disposal of such food," he wrote. "So, it is a double win—feed farm animals and reduce food waste."

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# NOBLE CARE Adult Day Center

# LEGALS

## TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS NOTICE OF ACTION

Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Board of Appeals held a Regular Meeting at 7:00 pm on November 14, 2022 at the East Hampton Town Hall - 1 Community Drive to consider the following:  
ZBA-22-014: Anthony Flannery, 1 Marshall Road, Reduce side setback from 15' to 4.7'. Map 08A/ Block 70A/ Lot 15 - Approved

1TB 12/16

## LEGAL NOTICE OF ACTIONS HEBRON CONSERVATION COMMISSION 15 GILEAD STREET, HEBRON CT

At its December 08, 2022 meeting, the Hebron Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commission took the following actions: **Petition 22-08 F. c/o Paul Towne, 26 Riched Lane, Uncasville, CT 06382 for the Quinebaug Valley Engineer's Association** - Notification of Timber Harvest at 981 Church Street (Route 85) - **approved** under a jurisdictional determination as a silvicultural use as of right with no stipulations.  
[https://transcripts.gotomeeting.com/#/s/8ff42984044436f51c30f9fa64c8580a81c894c6d56ea64abed59\\_87c74dd6070](https://transcripts.gotomeeting.com/#/s/8ff42984044436f51c30f9fa64c8580a81c894c6d56ea64abed59_87c74dd6070)

1TB 12/16

## LEGAL NOTICE MARLBOROUGH CONSERVATION COMMISSION NOTICE OF ACTION

The Marlborough Conservation Commission at its meeting on December 5, 2022, took the following action:  
**APPLICATION CONTINUED; PUBLIC HEARING EXTENDED 35 DAYS:**  
APPLICATION - #10-22 - 21 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 APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS:**  
APPLICATION #13-22-Richard Baccari II-41-45 Hebron Ave (Applicant/property owner)- Construction of 1 MW AC Solar Photovoltaic array w/gravel road and stormwater basin.  
MARLBOROUGH CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
Yvonne Bolton, Chair

1TB 12/16

## TOWN OF PORTLAND INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION LEGAL NOTICE OF DECISION

At the December 6, 2022 regular meeting, the Inland Wetlands Commission took the following actions:  
**APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS** - Application #22-02: Penfield Hill Road and Stephen Tom Road. Proposed 8 lot subdivision with wetlands on site. Application and property of Robert W. Olson. Map 61, Lot 14. Zone RR.  
**APPROVED** - IWC Application #22-03: Request for a general wetlands permit for land disturbance activities within regulated wetlands and watercourses for routine maintenance of retaining ponds within the Town of Portland. Application of the Town of Portland.  
Dated in Portland, CT, this 14th day of December 2022  
Richard Morin, Chairman  
Inland Wetlands Commission

1TB 12/16

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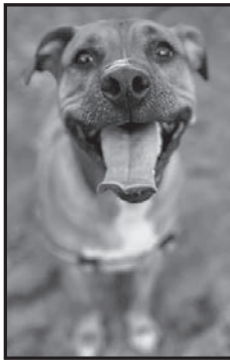
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CIT12-15-22

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**MUSIC DIRECTOR FOR SPRING MUSICAL:** Glastonbury Youth and Family Services is seeking candidates for the seasonal position of Musical Director for their spring musical. Will be responsible for teaching music from the production to the cast by playing piano and use of prerecorded tracks. Must be able to demonstrate/coach proper vocal technique as it applies to musical numbers. \$1250.00 stipend for 10 afterschool rehearsals March through beginning of May. Email [jason.stankowski@glastonbury-ct.gov](mailto:jason.stankowski@glastonbury-ct.gov) for details.

**PT COOK WANTED:** Experience preferred. Please inquire within at Eggs Up Restaurant Rt.66 Portland, CT

**WELDER/FABRICATOR:** Custom sheet metal fabrication, light structural, 45-50 hour per week with good benefits, health insurance, and 401(k) plan. Pay range \$25 - \$35/hour. Call 860-828-3762.

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RE12-16-22

RE12-9-22

CIT5-19-22



# EMPLOYMENT

**Senior Center Van Driver – P/T \$17/Hr.**

The Town of Marlborough is accepting applications for a part-time Senior Center Van Driver for Wednesday and Friday from 8am to 12noon. This position is responsible for safely driving seniors and persons with disabilities to appointments and outings on an assigned schedule. Valid Connecticut Driver's License and Class A/B Public Service License with Endorsement F is required.

The full job description and employment application are available from the Town Clerk's office at Town Hall or online at [www.marlbroughct.net](http://www.marlbroughct.net).

Please submit an application and cover letter to: Marlborough Town Clerk, 26 North Main Street, P.O. Box 29, Marlborough, CT 06447. This position will remain open until filled.

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4TB 12/9, 12/16, 12/23, 12/30

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CIT9-1-22

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*Please call Kristina Pink: 860-801-1114*

CIT9-1-22

**Recreation Coordinator**  
Town of Portland, CT (EOE)  
Salary Range: \$50,519 to \$62,129  
Deadline: 12/30/2022

Submit Town application and resume to: First Selectman's Office, P.O. Box 71, Portland, CT 06480-0071 [Email: [mceppaglia@portlandct.org](mailto:mceppaglia@portlandct.org)]

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1TB 12/16

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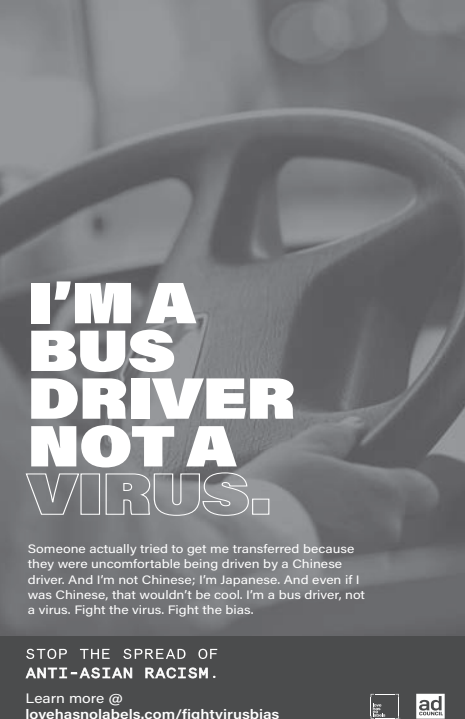


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