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RIVEREAST

# News Bulletin

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

Volume 46, Number 06

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February 18, 2022



**Nifty Ninja...** Portland resident Sebastian Robotin, 9, qualified for the World Finals, set for April, in the National Ninja League. Robotin is pictured in his trophy room with the various awards, trophies and medals he's received. Ninja athletes travel around the nation and compete on obstacle courses, similar to the NBC television show *American Ninja Warrior*. The World Finals will take place in Greensboro, N.C., in early April. See story on page 25.

## Area Schools to Decide Fate of Mask Mandate

by Jack Lakowsky and Sloan Brewster

With the news that Gov. Ned Lamont will lift the statewide school mask mandate at the end of the month, the focus now shifts to what each of Connecticut's town and regional school systems will do.

In the *Rivereast* area, only the East Hampton and RHAM school boards have decided what will happen once Lamont's executive order expires Feb. 28. But the other school boards are to vote on this topic in coming weeks.

Masks have been a hot-button topic for close to two years, with advocates and opponents of mandates speaking at numerous meetings of school boards throughout the state. And though the statewide mask mandate will expire at the end of the month, the state and the governor still have the power to enact a mask mandate if conditions with the pandemic worsen. This executive power is set to expire June 30.

On Monday, the East Hampton Board of Education unanimously voted to make masks optional starting Feb. 28 – though in certain cases, masks will be required.

According to information from East Hampton Superintendent of Schools Paul Smith, masks may be required at games or on field trips. Schools will notify students and parents of this information as it arises.

The district will continue to publish weekly COVID numbers. On Monday, Smith told the *Rivereast* COVID cases in the district are on the decline.

Smith said the weekly testing mandate for unvaccinated staff has also lapsed, though job applicants need to be vaccinated to get hired in schools.

Students who test positive for the virus will still need to isolate for five days from the onset of symptoms or five days after testing positive without symptoms. The state Department of Public Health (DPH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommend students wear a masks 6-10 days after a positive result.

"We're going to create a culture where masks are welcome for people who want them," said Smith, adding harassment or taunting of individuals for wearing masks or not will be forbidden.

Multiple members of the Belltown school community addressed the East Hampton board on Monday night. More opponents than supporters of universal masking spoke in the meeting.

One speaker, Kyle Chmielecki of Blue Heron Drive, said requiring masks is a decision based on fear. He said at the pandemic's start such prevention measures were logical.

"We know a lot more now; we have solutions," said Chmielecki.

Chmielecki said the more than 900 kids that COVID has killed nationwide was a "small amount for the price of choosing fear and teaching them to respond irrationally." He said the loss was horrible to the dead children's parents and posited that many had preexisting conditions.

Resident Rebecca Harvey said her kid learns *See Fate of Mask Mandate, page 12*

## Officials Say No Racial Slurs at Game

by Sloan Brewster

Unless evidence is unearthed proving a racial slur was uttered at a high school girls' basketball game earlier this month, Ledyard schools superintendent Jason Hartling should immediately resign, Colchester First Selectman Andreas Bisbikos said Tuesday night.

Bisbikos, in a statement posted to his Facebook page, wrote that he had spoken with parents who were at the Feb. 5 game between Bacon Academy and Ledyard, which was played at Ledyard High School. He said the parents "denied knowledge of any racial incident occurring." Also, he wrote, "every minute of the game was mined to find a racist incident, and nothing was found." He added no evidence had been presented to the Colchester Police Department either.

If Hartling cannot produce evidence that the slur was spoken, Bisbikos said, the superintendent "should resign effective immediately."

Hartling did not return calls for comment for this story.

As the alleged incident happened in Ledyard, Ledyard police are heading up the investigation.

In a phone call with the *Rivereast* Monday, Ledyard Police Chief John Rich said on Feb. 5, officers from the department were called to Ledyard High School in response to a disturbance between spectators after a Bacon-Ledyard girls' basketball.

The officers were able to quell the argument and get folks moving out of the gym and property, Rich said. In the process, they were advised by Ledyard parents that a racial slur had been used and was part of the disturbance.

Rich said officers initiated an additional investigation to determine what had taken place and whether or not those acts were in violation of Connecticut law.

He said the investigation was active investigation and no charges had been filed.

Rich said the investigation was "well underway" and that he did not have an estimate on how long it will take to complete, adding that timeframes will depend "on officers' ability to get in touch with people."

News that Colchester parents had used a racial slur at the game was rampant last week,

with stories in the *Hartford Courant*, *The Day* and on several news stations. As a result of all the media coverage, Bisbikos wrote Tuesday, the school system has been "disparaged nationwide, and some have even labeled our town as racist."

Bisbikos concluded his statement by writing, "Racism has no place in our or any community. However, making a declaration without all the facts has caused our community irreparable damage," Bisbikos said. "If in fact it is determined that there is no evidence, one must wonder what the underlying motivations could have been."

### No Evidence of Slur

The first selectman said that on Feb. 8, Burt released statement in which he said the administration believed the allegations and that "racial taunts" aimed at players were made by some adults at the game.

"When I spoke to [Colchester Superintendent of Schools Jeff Burt] in front of our resident

*See Slurs at Game page 2*

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★ *Slurs at Game cont. from page 1*  
[state] trooper, he claimed that the evidence gathered from the Ledyard superintendent was sufficient," Bisbikos said.

Later, on Thursday, Feb. 10, Bisbikos said Burt admitted there was no evidence of the slur and said he had based his statement on the word of Hartling. Bisbikos said he was disappointed in Burt for "jumping to a conclusion" before an investigation was completed.

"Since the alleged incident has spread, our Bacon Academy girls' basketball team have suf-

fered at the hands of bullying and harassment online," Bisbikos said. "Colchester parents have seen their reputations damaged."

Bisbikos said he had spoken to the Ledyard chief of police, who informed him an investigation into the incident was ongoing.

In a statement issued Tuesday, Burt said Colchester Public Schools recognizes that racism exists and does not condone or tolerate it "in any form."

Burt said the administration had investigated the complaints and found "no evidence that any

member of the Bacon Academy girls' basketball team, nor any member of its coaching staff, made any racist comments before, during, or after the game."

He said there was also "no evidence that any person made any racist comments during the basketball game."

He said a comment heard in the video of the game "may sound like a racial slur, but the lack of any response at that moment by anyone in the gymnasium leads us to believe that is not what was actually said in real time."

Burt added that there was no evidence fans in the Bacon Academy section of a Dec. 21 game against Ledyard "made monkey noises." Some articles about the Feb. 5 game have included this accusation.

Burt said the alleged incident on Feb. 5 "has caused a great deal of harm to the students,

families and members of both communities" and that such incidents "can trigger members of our community, specifically our Black students and families who may experience these events as a continual source of trauma."

He went on to say that players and their families have experienced harm caused by social media attacks and threats to their livelihoods.

"Our community has experienced harm caused by accusations of widespread racism and a growing public perception that Colchester is inherently a racist community," Burt stated.

He said when the district receives hears of such incidents or allegations of discrimination it takes the reports "very seriously" and conducts a full investigation.

"We are hopeful that Ledyard will do the same in this situation, and we await the results of their formal investigation," Burt said.

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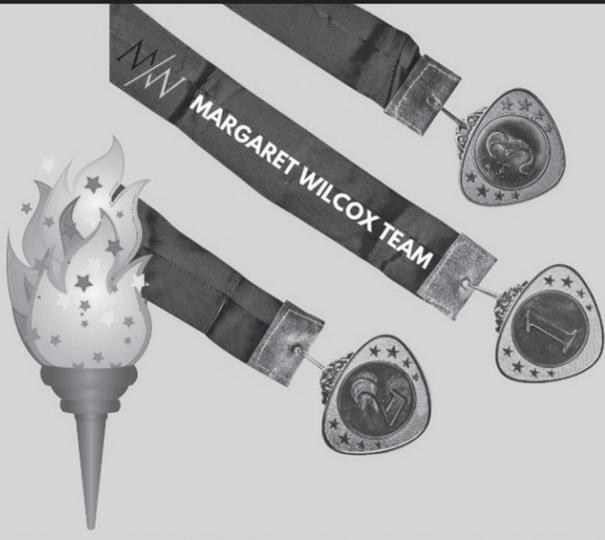


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## From the Editor's Desk

# Observations & Ruminations

by Mike Thompson

The alleged incident of racism at the recent Bacon Academy-Ledyard basketball is bad enough – and Colchester First Selectman Andreas Bisbikos is only making things worse in his desperate quest to prove it didn't happen.

He's trying to defend the town, which I understand, but what he's actually accomplishing here is just keeping the story in the headlines.

His latest misstep in this mess came late Tuesday, when he posted a statement to his Facebook – a statement quickly reported on by the local TV news – saying that he spoke to parents who were at the game, and that they denied knowledge of any racial incident occurring. Bisbikos further claimed “every minute of the game was mined” and that nothing was found. Really? Every minute? Including every sound and from every angle?

This clashes with a statement Ledyard Superintendent of Schools Jason Hartling issued late Tuesday, in which he wrote, according to *The Day* of New London, that at the conclusion of the Feb. 5 game, “an adult spectator from Bacon Academy referred to our players using a racially inflammatory term, (n-words). This statement was heard by a member of our team and was immediately reported. Multiple interviews were conducted, and we have no reason to call into question what our student experienced.”

Police investigations are ongoing, as they should be, but it still didn't stop Bisbikos from jumping the gun Tuesday night and not just casting doubt on whether the incident even happened – he also called for Hartling's head. In his Facebook post, he wrote that he expects Hartling to “provide evidence of the

alleged racial claims that he has no problem speaking to the media about. If he cannot produce that evidence, he should resign effective immediately.”

Bisbikos is the first selectman of Colchester; who is to demand the resignation of the superintendent of schools in another town?

In his statement, Bisbikos wrote that he was “extremely disappointed” that Colchester Superintendent of Schools Jeff Burt “jumped to a conclusion before a serious investigative process was conducted” – but isn't that what Bisbikos himself is doing? He said Ledyard police are investigating; let them do so.

Bisbikos' underlying motive seems is clear. He's hell-bent on there not being any racism in Colchester, no matter the cost – whether that's publicly doubting the word of the students who were at the actual game, throwing his own superintendent under the bus, and calling for another town's superintendent to lose his job. It's embarrassing.

And it all goes back to the “racism is a public health crisis in Colchester” proclamation former first selectman Mary Bylone issued in 2020. Bisbikos lashed in on that declaration during his campaign last year, stressed again and again that it unfairly maligned the town and its residents, and on his very first day in office in November, he repealed it – making Colchester the first town in the state to change its mind after making such a proclamation.

To be honest, I've long felt the hypersensitive reaction to the “racism is a public health crisis” proclamation to be absurd. What was the harm in declaring it? Despite what Bisbikos and some others maintained, it didn't

Editor's Desk continued on page 5



**Praise for Po's...** A collaborative effort between the Senior Center, Commission on Aging and Town Council was made to recognize Po Fong, owner of Po's Rice and Spice, and staff for their efforts donating and delivering meals and accommodating senior gatherings during the difficult times caused by the pandemic. From left are Bob Atherton, chairman of Commission on Aging; Jo Ann Ewing, director of East Hampton Senior Center; Po Fong, owner of Po's Rice and Spice Restaurant; and Alison Walck, member of East Hampton Town Council.

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## Correction

In last week's cover story on the proposed Hebron Public Works project, it was reported resident Kevin Tulimieri said protected turtles breed in the wetlands at 17 Kinney Rd. This is not accurate; Tulimieri actually said the property was “surrounded by” a breeding area for protected turtles.

## Our Big, Fuzzy Bee

To the Editor:

Bumblebees are our only truly social native bee, living in colonies of up to 500 individuals with a queen. Bumblebees do sting, but only in self-defense and when you're near their hive. Queens hibernate during the winter months underground and start new colonies in a new nest in the spring. They usually build nests under piles of wood, dead leaves and compost piles or burrow in bare ground; this is why near-surface disturbance of the ground by digging and mowing can be disastrous for bumblebees.

Bumblebee nests are a collection of constructed waxen pots where the queen will fill them with nectar and pollen, and then lay her eggs on top. Wax cells are where the larvae develop. All females emerge first and forage to provide food for the brood. In late summer the queen will start producing new queens and males, drones. The new queens mate with the

males and leave the nest, hibernate for the winter and the cycle will continue. The old queen and her nest will die in late fall.

Bumblebees are the only bees that use “buzz pollination,” where the bee grabs the flower and vibrates its wings very quickly which shakes out the pollen onto the bee's hairy body. Bumblebees are crop pollinators for tomatoes, beans, peppers, eggplant, peas and blueberries, raspberries and wildflowers. They are one of the few insects that are able to generate body heat (shiver) and fly when it's cold; hence they can come out earlier in spring. Flowers like dandelions and clover are important early-blooming resources for these early risers.

Recently, scientists have noticed a decline in populations of bumble bees and suspect the reasons are loss of habitat, use of pesticides and the introduction of non-native pathogens.

Michelle Sinkez

Hebron Pollinator Conservation Project

## Transparent Government

To the Editor:

In the Feb. 11 edition of the *Rivereast News Bulletin*, Betty O'Brien, a candidate for Marlborough Board of Selectmen, raised the important issue of transparency of the activities of our current Board. As new members of the Marlborough community, we attended a few Board of Selectmen meetings and are disturbed by the lack of communication and willingness to work

## Bulletin Board

My wife and I were watching the Olympics on TV over the weekend. “Those people are crazy,” I said as some Swede with more guts than brains flew down the luge track at like 1,000 miles an hour.

“They're highly trained athletes,” my wife replied. “They know what they're doing.”

“They're nuts,” I said. “Anybody who lies on his or her back on a sled and goes 1,000 miles an hour crotch-first down an ice chute is insane.”

“They go feet-first,” she said. “Not crotch-first.”

“Yeah, and what's just behind your feet?”

“Your ankles?”

“And then?”

“Your knees.”

“And?”

“Oh, brother.”

“I rest my case.”

“I suppose you think it would make more sense to go down the track head-first?”

“I don't think it makes sense to go down the track at all. But, yes, given the choice, I'd prefer to bash my brains out as opposed to risking the future of the family line.”

“Oh, I see. You'd prefer to be a slobbering vegetable instead of being...being...”

“Painfully damaged in a personal way. Yes.”

“Typical male.”

“Hey, I'd rather be a live unicorn than a dead tiger.”

“I think you mean a live jackass.”

“Whatever. If I get culled out of the gene pool it's not going to be doing the luge, or performing flips on skis or soaring off jumps to see if I can land half a mile down some mountain without driving my pelvic bone through my cranium.”

“No, you're more apt to fracture your skull when you fall off the couch reaching for the TV remote.”

“This may come as a shock to you, but I was an athlete in high school.”

“No you weren't.”

“Sure I was.”

“You ran track.”

She emphasized the word “track” like it was a particularly virulent form of venereal disease.

“Track is a sport,” I retorted, injured.

“Football is a sport,” she said. “Baseball is a sport. Heck, compared to track, chess is a sport.”

“Track is a sport,” I insisted. “They even have track at the Olympics.”

“They also have curling.”

“That's the one where they slide weights across the ice while people race around frantically sweeping the surface with brooms?”

“Yes.”

“I like that event. It's amusing. Also you get to keep both feet on the ground.”

“Right.”

“Of course there's always the danger of a groin pull or something.”

“Oh for crying out loud.”

“I think I should probably just stick to my normal exercise routine.”

“Burping and scratching yourself?”

“You've got to admit, I'd be a shoo-in for the gold.”

“No doubt.”

Jim Hallas

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## RIVEREAST

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with fellow members of the Board demonstrated by Greg Lowrey, current first selectman.

In addition to the issues outlined by Betty in her letter, we were concerned with the undemocratic approach taken by the first selectman to the use of American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds. In an era where budget changes of a few percentage points and specific costs of a few tens of thousands of dollars garner print space in our newspapers and voter concern, the decisions around spending close to two million in taxpayer dollars on Marlborough's behalf have been undertaken without town input. At the Dec. 21, 2021 Board of Selectmen meeting, Greg Lowrey discussed a proposal to spend \$1,874,846.96 on possible projects. Much discussion ensued between Board members and it was clear that communication between them had broken down. Further, where is the voice of the community? At that meeting, we asked the board to solicit input from the community regarding use of those funds but so far there has been no solicitation of ideas, nor has a proposal been offered for wider discussion.

We would like to endorse the two Democratic candidates, Betty O'Brien and Debbie Bourbeau, running for the Board of Selectmen who have clearly spoken out for transparency and open government.

**Drew and Peggy Golfin – Marlborough**

### Closed Loop

To the Editor:

"Watch your salt. No, we didn't talk to your doctor, but she would likely agree that we all need to watch our salt. It's important to not over-salt sidewalks, driveways and parking areas during winter. That excess salt washes away with snow melt or rainfall, but can end up in tributaries or groundwater. We have been observing increases in chloride (think salt) levels in our local streams, especially during summer

months." Salmon River Watershed Partnership, 2020

Hebron purchased 88+ acres of infamously wet farmland hoping to build a municipal complex with a salt shed large enough to accommodate over a thousand tons of road salts. Regardless of the size or technology, the location itself is not a good idea because this land sits directly above the town's fresh water marsh.

For months, the town has been chasing its tail, spinning sound, liberally based ideas and angles, and changing the price tag regularly in hopes of gaining public support. But a bad idea is still a bad idea, and a salt shed situated above our water supply, although well intended, is, simply put, not a good idea.

Over the summer it was suggested to drill a well in Amston and pump the water up to Hebron center. The town then welcomed two restaurants to set up shop in Amston near the marsh. So...if we plan to use the water in Amston, and invite others to join us, shouldn't that water be clean and safe? What do we gain by contaminating the water we need for our future by being short sighted about a salt shed/development now?

After all, one direct hit from a storm or the inevitable deterioration of the shed, could easily change The Raymond Brook Marsh into The Raymond Brook Salt Marsh.

**Jean Tulimieri – Amston**

### Hypocritical Frauds

To the Editor:

Reading letters from our progressives makes it difficult not believing they're all out of their minds. With no connection to reality, they live in a fantasy world of their own making. None of them seem to know a single thing that is actually true.

The only guns on Jan. 6 were in the hands of police officers. The two people killed were

both unarmed Trump-supporting white women, one shot by a Black male police officer, and the other beaten to death by a Black female officer with a steel baton and a wooden pole while she lay unconscious on the ground. Video exists displaying both incidences.

Both of these killings by Black officers of unarmed white women have been justified by the DOJ. Progressives and Democrats such as Kamala Harris cheered on the BLM and Antifa rioters as they burned and looted their way across America, with Harris posting bail for criminals who never faced prison time. These hypocrites ignored the siege on the White House where Trump and his family had to hide in a bunker while 60+ Secret Service agents were seriously injured and the church across the street was set on fire.

But these fools decry Jan. 6th as an insurrection and attempt to overthrow our "democracy" despite it actually being little more than a disruption at Golden Corral. Not one person has been charged with insurrection, with most getting illegal trespassing or unlawful parading charges lodged against them. Some have been imprisoned for many months without even a hearing or any due process, and you hypocrites cry about destroying our democracy!

I see you all as hypocritical frauds and am amazed at how clueless you are. I can't fathom how you got like this or whether any hope exists.

**Sam Prentice – Andover**

### Liberal Hypocrisy

To the Editor:

Scott Sauyet is a superlative example of how a progressive liberal thinks and communicates. Obfuscating the issues with adolescent CNN website rhetoric, and passing it off as a deep understanding of the human condition. Throw in a title or two of an esoteric book you allegedly read, and you can expose yourself as a blowhard narcissist that hovers above the rest of us in the food chain. Similar to the maskless celebrity elites at the Super Bowl, while the average folks wear masks to flatten the curve. As Mr. Sauyet said himself, even morons spouting drivel must be tolerated.

Scott must be a Neil Young fan. I know Scott is not an Ed Kozlowski fan. I apparently hit a nerve with a previous letter regarding Young's history of less-than-desirable behavior (all true by the way). But progressives have an obsession with ascribing conspiracy theories to anything outside their intellectual purview. Specifically, anything they don't agree with or don't understand. The conspiracy theory accusations are usually followed by obscure literature references to suggest a well-conditioned intellect (although we know that intellect is marginal at best). Deep down, Mr. Sauyet knows that if Neil Young were an avowed conservative Republican, his homophobic statements, Blackstone involvement, Blackstone's employment of a former Pfizer executive (which I never mentioned), Elvis, and space aliens would be covered 24-7 on CNN as gospel truth. And that, ladies and gentlemen, is all she wrote. Hurts, huh Scott?

Despite his "Reaganite" past, Neil Young is hardly a Republican and hardly a conservative. So why the pushback from Mr. Sauyet? I merely pointed out Young's hypocritical transgressions against gays and individuals of color. In return, Mr. Sauyet pointed out his own progressive liberal hypocrisy. So, thank you, Scott. Your letter was not a monstrous waste.

**Regards,**

**Ed Kozlowski – Colchester**

### Kinney Road Fiasco

To the Editor:

Your article, Hebron Pushing 'Facts' on Road Project, presented the town's side of this fiasco, and showed what kind of "facts" we can expect in the coming months. In fact, it is not a "road" project. It is the first phase of a massive and expensive (\$50M?) public works project that will fundamentally change the character of Hebron.

In fact, the town's intention is to finance and build at least three new buildings in a new Municipal Complex: the DPW, a new firehouse and a new Town Hall, all of which are unneeded. This Complex is mentioned in an email from the town planner to the Public Works Committee (PBC; see minutes (5/10/2016) that "the

*See Letters, page 6*

### Editor's Desk continued from page 4

mean everyone in town was racist. That's such a myopic, juvenile way to look at it. Manchester has also declared racism to be a public health crisis; do I take it to mean that I'm a racist? No – and to be honest I don't know anyone in Manchester who feels it does.

Such proclamations – and there's also one in Glastonbury, which townspeople have likewise managed to not take offense at – acknowledge incidents of racism have occurred in a town. And even one incident of racism is too many. The proclamations are meant to help open people's eyes, and to kickstart changes that make communities more inclusive and more friendly for people of all races and ethnicities.

Racism is terrible, but it also likely occurs in every municipality in this country, and the sooner that can be accepted, the sooner it can be dealt with. Bisbikos' repeated attempts to deny it exists only delays progress, and does a disservice to those who themselves have been victims of racism.

The next time something like this occurs – and in this hotly-charged environment in which we live, it may happen sooner than later – Bisbikos is a little more reflective, and thinks about the people he's offending in his quest to prove nothing offensive happened.

\*\*\*

See you next week.

# I love this town.



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★ *Letters cont. from page 5*

Town is currently evaluated (sic) the possibility of using a rear portion of the Horton property not only for the DPW but also for a 'municipal complex.' Earlier (3/29/2016), the Town PW Director's email said "...the intent would be that the DPW would be the first to go to location (sic) followed by other Town facilities...".

In fact, it was only then that the PBC rejected keeping the facility at Old Colchester, because at \$8.1M, it was "too expensive." The actual building was only \$4.1M. Had they allowed for a two-story building, and other prudent measures, the costs would have been much less. The current Horton estimate is \$10M and climbing. This new building includes 500- and 280- sq. ft. offices for the Director and Assistant Director, bunk houses for the workers, an 850-sq. foot training area, and other bells and whistles. In fact, a more reasonable facility would fit at the Old Colchester site easily.

In fact, no one, except possibly Hebron, locates a Public Works Facility in the middle of their town, for obvious reasons.

**John Collins – Amston**

**Setting the Record Straight**

To Hebron Residents:

Although I do not want to get into the "letter wars," I think that, after reading the *Riverast* article last week, I would set the record straight. When the property was purchased, it was stated that all of the things mentioned could be considered. At this time, and in the foreseeable future, the only things being considered are: the public works building, the "great lawn," and the access road.

Due to concerns raised, we are systematically investigating and putting to rest concerns raised by a few voters. We have had the wetlands re-flagged. We are verifying that no threatened or endangered wildlife species are being impacted. An archeological study has been requested by us to verify that no historical foundations or structures are being affected. (This will be done when the weather allows.)

We are proceeding in a slow, methodical manner so that when we address the voters, we are presenting facts, not assumptions. Based on those facts, we will then lay out next steps and, with assistance from the town building committee, present our vision to you, the voters, for the project.

Thank you,  
**Daniel Larson – Amston**

*Note: Though Larson is chairman of the Hebron Board of Selectmen, he said he is writing as an individual.*

**Rudko for the 48th**

To the Editor:

Well, it's official! This Valentine's Day I showed my love of community by registering as a Republican candidate for the 48th District. For well over a decade, I have supported other Republican candidates that have attempted to secure the seat unsuccessfully. This year I am asking for the community's support to help Colchester lead the way in making Connecticut the Constitution State once again.

My fiscal conservatism, unwavering support of the Second Amendment, belief in our law enforcement, opposition to the abuse of executive powers and the support of our founding fathers' principles that made this country the greatest nation on this planet, should be enough to get you as excited as I am.

Sincerely,  
**Taras W. Rudko – Colchester**

*Note: The 48th District currently includes most of Colchester and portions of Lebanon, Mansfield and Windham. Due to recent redistricting, after the November elections the district will cover Colchester, Franklin, Bozrah and a portion of Lebanon.*

**Ambulance Association**

To the Editor:

Once again, Mr. Lakowsky has unjustly reported.

In his front-page piece regarding the ambulance association last Friday, he writes "...Philhower did not respond to request for comment..." He never called me as he has done often in the past. He emailed me. I don't work at a desk and he knows that!

These would have been my comments had he bothered to call:

No one thinks a roof on the middle school or a pickle ball court for seniors is more important than the valuable emergency services our ambulance association provides.

However, they are asking for \$600,000 from the federal COVID-19 money granted to cities and towns. That money is a one-time gift – and

*See Letters, page 29*

East Hampton • East Hampton

## EHMS Honor Roll

East Hampton Middle School Honor Roll students for the second quarter of the 2021-22 school year are:

### High Honors

**Grade 8:** Tristan Adams, Gabriel Allis, Sofia Aresco, Beckett Asklar, Lila Babcock, Alivia Baier, Frances Barry, Addison Beer, Michael Bellemare, Carli Blakey, Addison Bolton, Nicolas Borrelli, Ella Briggs, Aubrey Butler, Lilah Butson, Alexis Cardenas, Richard Carl, Dylan Carlson, Ava Carpenter, Natalia Clark, Anastacia Cooke, Tyler Crumb, Klara Cygan, Madelyn Daniels, Hannah DePino, Ethan Dewhurst, Monica Dickenson, Isabella Dickinson, Matthew Drlik, William Faber, Andrew Fenton, Brielle Gay, Hailey Geoffrey, Aiden Gora, Jocelyn Gustavson, John Haley, Jaxon Hanson, James Haslam, Andrew Hawk, Alyson Henderson, Ava Jedziniak, Ashley Johnson, Sofia Johnson, Logan Johnston, Dean Jump, Kendall Jump, Ollie Kennedy, Abigail Kiernan, Bella Knouse, Julianna Korczak, Adriana Kromish, Talor Lambo, Jillian Leonardo, Mikah Levenduski, Bethany Limmer, James Limmer, Sophia Long, Cael Lumbra, Christopher Machnik, Jacob Marchinkoski, Jaykob Mazuronis, Liam McGarty, Eryk Mitkiewicz, Noah Mokrzycki, Jake Morrone, Mackenzie Mortimer, Calista Nephew, Aiden Niderno, Leah Norton, Chase Palmer, Grace Pekar, Sophie Perron, William Potter, Samantha Pugo, Jaelynn Ray, Angel Rodriguez, Cheyenne Rodriguez, Benjamin Romero, Colin Roy, Logan Ruel, Jackson Rurka, Declan Russell, Brooke Ryan, Landon Seales, Lucy Shogren, Sophia Snyder, Aubrey Stevens, Roxanne Stewart, Carl Swanson, Emma Sweet, Victoria Twiss, Sydney Vicino, Helena Victor, Caleb Wagner, Evan Wagner, Breanna White, Amelia Wiesner, Madelyn Wilk, Chloe Wisniewski, Logan Zabroski.

**Grade 7:** Hailey Adams, Lucy Alford, Marlee Alston, Rohnan Burke, Charlotte Burr, Alexis Castellani, Andrew Christensen, Arielle Clark, London Clark, Chloe Cloutier, Macie Coleman, Olivia Correia, Madeline D'Elia, Sayla DeStasio, Abbie Dipace, Lilly Engel, Michael Farrell, Owen Fielding, Daniel Fields, William Finn, Bryce Gagne, Luke Garcia, Kellen Garvey, Pearl Gaston, Shea Gaughran, Isla Gerrie, Kaelyn Gould, Kailyn Granatowski, Madison Grgas-Tucilo, Savannah Groeper, Sydney Henry, Nora HYTE, Aurora Judkins, Maja Kieda, Benjamin Kohler, Alexander Kowalczyk, Julian Kramer, Dolan Krasnitski, Mineth Kulatunga, Jonathan Lee, Avery Leitch, Ryan Lopes, Kelsey Lynch, Madison McGlynn, Helena McMillan, Bryson Milton, Madeleine Mohr, Eva Moren, Colin Neary, Kenji Nichols, Liam O'Connor, Cormac Ordonez, Paige Ottone, Braelyn Paddock, Bryn Parmelee, Devin-Patrick Preble, Gabriela Proxee, Robert Rodriguez, Axl Rostosky, Dempsey Russell, John Salafia, Zephra Sanderson, Darren Schwedler, Daniel Sullivan, Kaylan Sullivan, Teagan Sullivan, Logan Supinski, Adelle Sylvester, Nathan Tiano, Jaylynn Turney, Ethan Vai, Empress Valencia, Taylor VanBlaricom, Aubrey Varni, Mya Viveiros, Samantha Werme, Jaxon Wilson, Josie Wilson, Helena Wisniewski, Sebastian Woodson, Ethan Worrall, Maria Zabroski, Caitlynn Zory.

**High Honors:** Ethan Arcari, Carmelo Ares-

co, Alexis Bailey, Maddison Barnum, Julia Barry, Elizabeth Beer, Thomas Bertelsen Jr., Kylie Bigelow, Anna Bothamley, Brody Buckley, Mathias Bueno Olascuaga, Aubrey Butler, Noah Cahoon, Savannah Carrington, Scarlett Cassell, Amelia Chrin, Julia Clark, Samantha Coleman, Brandon Coppolelli, James Cote, Kailyn Crowley, Olivia Currier, Noah Cyr, Anja Czaja, Charlotte Daniels, Elijah Dickson-Cotto, Giuliana DonAroma, Taylor Dudek, Dakota Duplin, Cole Eighmy, Lauren English, Jordan Evans, Hadley Fazekas, Zoe Ferrigno, Gabriel Finn, Owen Flannery, Cassandra Franklim, Adriana Garcia, Essio Giovanelli, Brett Gustavson, Brianna Gustavson, Cailan Hall, Abigail Hambidge, Sean Hargreaves, Aden Hilton, Holden Hines, Alexis Hopkins-Frank, Jason Hurt, Kaitlynn Johnston, Addison Jump, Shonali Karkun, Aiden Kelly, Addison Kentzler, Eliana Kiernan, Gavin King, Brendan Kissane, Eli Kloepfer, Gavin Kloepfer, Grace Krug, Kaden LaFave, Emily Le Moine, Caden Lee, Kenzie Lee, Ella Lessard, Alyssa Levenduski, Owen LoPresti, Alexander Maalouf, Trent Mackie, Brenna Mai, Jasmine Martin, Addison Marzi, Preston McGrath, Elizabeth McNaughton, Hudson Milardo, Noah Miro, Jack Morrell, Peyton Moulthroppe, Leah Murphy, Nethum Nakandala, Mackenzie Napiello, Vincenzo Niosi, Kaya O'Brien, Kaeden Owen, Cassandra Owocki, Addison Perkins, Alivia Peterson, Bryce Pierson, Sadie Pinaud, Brayden Pisani, Ava Ploszay, Faythe Pugo, Travis Raines, Mason Rall, Kayla Rau, Emily Rawlinson, Ryan Reola, Elisabeth Romero, Elise Roy, Raelyn Saucier, Reid Saucier, Cayden Schoonerman, Taylor Schoonerman, Hunter Steiner, Jakob Stevens, Katelyn Stiles, Mackenzie Strickland, Brooklyn Thorpe, Logan Thorpe, Avery Trombino, Annabel Tucker, Nevaeh Van Cott, Kaelah Van Wey, Samuel Vitiello, Juliana Ware, Peyton Wentworth, Elizabeth White, Zoey Wilks, Gabriella Zisk.

### Honors

**Grade 8:** Ava Archer, Parker Bear, Madison Benigni, Jackson Benson, Jack Cote, Chase Dinunzio, Mia Flynn, Nadia France, Stephanie Franklim, Javier Garcia-Villa, Lindsey Joy, Jonathan Le Moine, Hannah Malinka-Morgan, Domenic Mangino, Colin Marshall, Lauren Palma, Nevaeh Ranney, Sasha Ribeiro, Shane Ruggiero, Chelsea Ryan, Samantha Traino, Griffin Valley, Jacob Woods.

**Grade 7:** Brooklyn Carta, Hunter Cashin, Leah Ciardullo, Kayleigh Engle, Grace Flannery, Connor Flood, Mason Gagnon, William Haslam, Justin Hotchkiss, Joseph Jarzabek, Cameron Kirkland, Hudson Lombardi, Bryce Lumbra, Madison McMillian, Brett Paresi, Danielle Riley, Alexandre Rodrigues, Maryan Salad, Garrett Sharpe, Aiden Theriault, Robert Tinney, Zachary Zgorski.

**Grade 6:** Louis Bouffard, Luke Davidson, Julian Faden, Joseph Fazzino, Thomas Haslam, Connor Hill, Jaxon Kentzler, Hunter LaRose, Elexia Markham, Dylan Moyer, Aidan Poston, Ava Strickland, Riley-Jewel Wong.

## EHACC Accepting Grant Applications

The East Hampton Arts & Culture Commission is accepting grant applications from East Hampton organizations and individuals with programs and/or projects designed to enrich the lives of town residents through the arts. Deadline to apply is April 1, to arts@easthamptonct.org

There are two \$500 grants available to be awarded to individuals or organizations residing in East Hampton. The commission reserves the right to award a grant to an individual or organization it determines will have the most potential impact of arts and/or culture on the town. Incomplete forms will be denied; applicants can resubmit.

Criteria for awarding grants: The artistic

and organizational quality of the organization and/or project and its likelihood of continuing viability or success; and the organization's or project's accessibility and service to the East Hampton community. Grant recipients must credit the East Hampton Arts and Culture Commission on all press releases, posters, print advertising and programs.

An interview may be requested of the candidate prior to awarding the grant. An update of your progress will be required six months post-award date and a final report will be required one year post award date.

Applications are available at [www.artsforeasthamptonct.org](http://www.artsforeasthamptonct.org).

## Sponsors Sought for Music Series

The Joseph N. Goff House seeks individuals, local businesses and organizations to help sponsor the 2022 Joseph N. Goff House Gazebo Music Series, which takes place six Thursdays during the summer at the Center School Gazebo in the East Hampton Village Center.

Donations helps to pay for the bands and promotional materials such as the Gazebo Banner naming top sponsors and posters featuring the concert lineup. Sponsors will be listed by donations level, Baritone, \$250; Soprano, \$150;

Alto, \$75; Tenor, \$50; and Bass, \$25 in promotional materials and posters displayed around town and on the banner at the gazebo throughout the concert season.

The Joseph N. Goff House is a nonprofit organization and donations are tax-deductible. New members to the board are welcome. Call 860-918-4400 for information. Donations can be mailed to The Joseph N. Goff House, P.O. Box 337, East Hampton, CT 06424.

## Old Home Days to Return in July

The East Hampton Old Home Days Association has announced that the Old Home Days will return this summer, and will take place the third week in July this year – Thursday, July 14; Friday, July 15; and Saturday, July 16.

Vendors and those interested in selling food at the festival should contact Linda Wallace, Vendors and Booths Chair, to register, at VendorsOHD.PO213@aol.com or 860-267-9952. A packet of information will be sent to all interested parties by email. It will contain a contract and a statement of the rules and regulations along with the fee schedule for a space and electricity, if that is applicable.

Contracts will be signed and spots will be designated on a "first-come-first-served" basis.

Provide Wallace with the following information: name, email address, street address, business name, profit or non-profit, telephone number, and type of item(s) you will be selling. Most communication will be done via email.

## Resident Accepted to Law School

Signe Lee, a member of East Hampton High School Class of 2017, has been admitted to Columbia Law School class of 2025.

Lee skipped her senior year at EHHS to attend University of Southern California (USC) in 2016. She graduated from USC in 2020 and works as a legal practice assistant at a law firm currently. She plans to travel globally before she starts law school in fall.

Lee said she wishes to express her gratitude to the organizations that awarded her college scholarships, including East Hampton Rotary Club and Big Y Corporation. Lee is daughter of Grace Jiang.

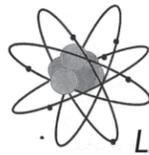
## Bethlehem Lutheran Church News

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



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## Scholarship Available

Carl Guild and Associates is offering scholarships for local high school seniors entering college in the fall.

There are six \$1,000 scholarships given – one each in East Hampton, Portland, Colchester, East Haddam, Glastonbury and the RHAM school district. There are no restrictions or qualifications; all local seniors can apply.

Application deadline is April 1. For an application, visit [www.carlguild.com/scholarship](http://www.carlguild.com/scholarship) or ask your school's guidance counselor.

## UHart Honors List

The following East Hampton residents made both the President's Honors List and the Dean's List for the fall 2021 semester at the University of Hartford:

Ryan Arndt, Noah Gibson, Reilly Keegan, Jason Marshall, Cole Olson and Joshua Rudder.

## Motion of the Ocean

Arlene Cavalieri, a local artist, will representing the East Hampton Art Association with several paintings in the Chatham Gallery of the East Hampton Town Hall during February and March.

February's theme is "Motion of the Ocean," and March's theme is "A Tiger among Us."

The public is invited to stop by during East Hampton's town hall hours to view her paintings.

FEH18-20

East Hampton • East Hampton

# Bellringers Bounced by Rival, Set Sights on Tourneys

by Josh Howard

East Hampton girls' basketball had an 11-game winning streak snapped with a 47-30 loss to Cromwell on Tue, Feb. 8.

Prior to the loss, it had been 49 days since the Bellringers suffered defeat and the win streak started with a come-from-behind win over Cromwell on Dec. 28.

For Shaun Russell and his young Bellringers, the loss was merely a bump in the road.

"It's a Tuesday night, They don't hand any trophies out tonight," Russell said after the loss, "I think anytime you play a game like tonight – that is, a mental game, a physical challenge – even if you win, these types of games help. This environment was raucous tonight and for a team with our level of experience it is something that we have to learn to play with and play through. Overall I have no problem with tonight, tonight is a good thing in the long run."

The Shoreline Conference rivals traded blows for the first 16 minutes, exchanging the lead eight times. Jackie Russell, who scored 10 of her team-high 13 points in the first half, put East Hampton up 15-13 when she cut backdoor and received a perfect bounce pass from Liana Salamone with 6:30 to play in the first half. Salamone then gave the Bellringers their final lead of the game when she drained a pair of free throws to make it 20-19 with less than a minute to play in the half.

Salamone, a freshman, finished with 10 points in defeat.

Cromwell held a 21-20 lead at the half and then scored 25 of the next 33 points, including a 12-0 run spanning the third and fourth quarters, to break the game open and hold on for the win.

Nevaeh Clark scored 13 and Jessica Grodzicki added 12 as the Panthers improved to 12-2.

"Tonight we got beat by a very good team, who played well. They deserved to win. They did a good job at doing the things they are good at and we have to adjust," added Russell. "We have to stay focused on getting better and we have to learn something from tonight. There are lessons in this game tonight. It's a reminder of the ways we need to grow and keep working on."

During the 11-game win streak, East Hampton was efficient offensively, scoring over 40 points in each game and scoring over 50 four times, including a 70-point outburst against Portland on Jan. 21.

The 30 points the Bellringers scored at Cromwell was their lowest scoring output since the 28 they produced at Valley Regional in the game prior to the winning streak.

"Any time that we share the ball I think we are pretty good on that end of the floor," said Russell, who added that the team made great improvements on the defensive end during the winning streak. "Defensively they have impressed me and their work ethic has impressed me. I like the group we have and love getting into the gym with them. They work hard and tonight was a hurdle that we didn't get over. There were some challenges and we didn't meet them."

Following the Cromwell loss, East Hampton rebounded with three straight resounding wins.

On Feb. 9, the girls dominated Parish Hill by 49 points (69-20), holding an opponent to 20 or fewer points for the sixth time this season. Two days later, they downed Haddam-Killingworth 49-29 behind a dozen points from freshman Katie Ireland and eight points from Jordan Murphy. On Monday, they won a thriller over North Branford, 47-45, coming back from an eight-point halftime deficit to bring their overall record to 17-2.



East Hampton head coach Shaun Russell addresses his team during a timeout in a loss at Cromwell. The Bellringers have won all but two games this winter.

Next up is the Shoreline Conference (SLC) Tournament followed by the Class M tournament, which is slated to begin on March 1.

Currently the Bellringers have the best winning percentage in the SLC and are tied for the second-best winning percentage in Class M.

Russell hopes to see a confident team on the court once the postseason tourney starts, adding, "Our maturity is building; every day they get a little better. For the most part our defense has been a security blanket, so I would like to see our group feel good offensively."

## Police I.D. Suspect in Fire Dept. Break-In

by Jack Lakowsky

East Hampton Police Chief Dennis Woessner said after investigating an audacious break-in at a local fire station, a suspect was identified.

The person used a plow truck to break into the Company 3 fire station in late January, allegedly stealing tools, according to police.

Woessner told the *Rivereast* the investigation is now in the hands of the state's attorney, who must approve the arrest warrant. Woessner said this process usually takes a few weeks.

The person is believed to be connected to a theft at the Citgo gas station on Route 66, according to the *New Haven Register*.

"Someone used a plow truck to push in the overhead doors [to] gain access to the firehouse," East Hampton Fire Chief Greg Voelker said in a Facebook post.

Voelker said the thief stole tools and toolboxes, adding the town's firefighters would've been more than happy to loan the items to anyone who needed them.



Though the person's name will not be released until charges are filed, East Hampton police have a suspect in the break-in and burglary of the East Hampton Volunteer Fire Department's Company 3 building.

Voelker said the incident caused thousands of dollars in damage and trapped the station's truck. Fortunately, he said, there were no calls that needed Station 3 to respond that night. The station was back in service quickly.

## Paintstik Program in East Hampton

The next meeting of the East Hampton Art Association will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 23, at 7 p.m., at the East Hampton Community Center, 105 Main St. The guest artist for the evening is Diana Coté, who will teach people how to use Paintstiks.

Using an oil paint medium very much like oversized crayons called Paintstiks, Coté has perfected a unique application known as the "Coté Squiggle." This eventually leads to a visual weaving of these individual lines into a textural tapestry.

Coté has been showing her work for three decades, with a following of both corporate and private collectors. She has also been teaching her painting method for over 20 years as a visiting artist in schools, teaching private lessons to adults, and to many artists groups throughout the region.

The public is invited to attend all East Hamp-



Diana Coté in 2014 at Zen Mountain Monastery in Mount Tremper, N.Y. Coté has been showing her work for three decades, with a following of both corporate and private collectors. She has also been teaching her painting method for over 20 years as a visiting artist in schools, teaching private lessons to adults, and to many artists groups throughout the region.

### Hunting & Fishing Club Membership Vacancies

The Westchester Sportmen's Club, located in Colchester, Connecticut, has open membership vacancies. Membership is currently limited to 100 members. This is an excellent opportunity for you and your friends to join a Club as a group, and enjoy the private benefits of hunting, fishing & shooting. The Club is now accepting applications until Friday, March 25, 2022.

For additional information and to obtain an application, please contact the club President, Harold Gannon, at [hgnnon@gmail.com](mailto:hgnnon@gmail.com).

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East Hampton • East Hampton

### Home Heat Safety

As the temperature outside drops, East Hampton families take to the indoors to keep safe and warm – and the local fire department is offering up tips on how folks can turn up the heat without increasing the risk of housefires.

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), half of all home-heating fires occur during the winter months. On average, NFPA research shows that heating equipment is involved in more than 56,000 reported U.S. home structure fires per year, with associated loss of more than 470 civilian deaths, more than 1,490 civilian injuries and roughly \$1 billion in direct property damage per year.

“While these numbers are frightening, nearly all of these fires are preventable,” said East Hampton Fire Marshal Richard Klotzbier. “We can reduce the number of home heating fires in our community by taking some simple precautions and using heating equipment properly.”

NFPA and East Hampton’s fire marshal office recommend some simple home heating safety tips, so residents can help keep our community safe and warm this winter.

- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area and on every level of the home. Test smoke alarms at least once a month.
- Practice your home fire escape drill.

- Always have a qualified professional do any installation and follow any town regulations/codes for inspections.

- Have your chimney inspected each year by a qualified professional and cleaned if necessary.

- Fireplaces should be screened properly to prevent sparks from flying

- Allow ashes to cool before disposing. Dispose of ashes in a metal container.

- Space heaters need space. Keep all things that can burn, such as paper, bedding or furniture, at least three feet away from heating equipment.

- Turn portable heaters off when you go to bed or leave the room.

- Plug power cords only into outlets with sufficient capacity and never into an extension cord.

- Inspect for cracked or broken plugs or loose connections. Replace before using.

- Install and maintain a carbon monoxide alarm outside each separate sleeping area, on every level of the home, and other locations as required by laws, codes or standards.

- Never use an oven to heat your home.

For more information, contact Klotzbier at 860-267-0088 or firemarshal@easthamptonct.gov. For fuel assistance, contact East Hampton Youth & Family Services at 860-267-9982.



**Lions Bring the Goats...** The East Hampton Lions love to do things for Valentine’s Day. It was too cold to have Cupid make an appearance like he did last year, and with special diets chocolates were not an option, so instead the Lions brought some “love” to Cobalt Lodge – in the form of goats the residents got to visit and pet.

### Quilt Show to Return – Quilts Needed

Haddam Neck Congregational Church will host a Quilt Show and Plant Sale in May – and quilts are needed.

The show will run Saturday, May 7, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, May 8, from noon-5 p.m., at the church, 408 Quarry Hill Rd., Haddam Neck. Along with a display of dozens of handmade quilts, plants and a Bits and Pieces Sale of fabric, yarn and quilting supplies will be featured under tents outdoors, along with “to go” baked items. Picnic tables will be available for visitors to rest. Monetary donations to the show will be collected.

Attendees should wear a mask and adhere to COVID-19 social distancing guidelines. The church and restroom are handicapped-accessible.

Handmade quilts of any size will be accepted for inclusion in the show. Quilts will be accepted at the church Thursday, May 5, from 5-7 p.m., and Friday, May 6, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. For more information, contact Dianne Mchutchison at 860-930-8520 or rdmcchutchison@yahoo.com, Melissa Pionzio at 860-993-5311 or mapionzio@comcast.net, or Elizabeth Malloy at elizabethhartmalloy@gmail.com.

### Local Schools Offer Preschool Programs

The East Hampton Public School System is seeking 3- and 4-year-old residents interested in preschool programs for the 2022-23 school year. Two programs will be offered – the Integrated preschool half day program and the full-day Smart Start program.

Memorial Elementary School’s preschool Integration Program will be held three times a week for 3-year-old students and four times a week for 4-year-old students. Due to limited spaces, selection for peer models will be determined through a lottery process. If selected, peer models demonstrating age-appropriate skills will be assigned by age to either a three day or four day a week schedule (2.5 hours per day).

Memorial’s Smart Start Program will be held five full days per week (8:50 a.m.-2:50 p.m.), following the East Hampton Public Schools

calendar. Priority will be given to 4-year-old children that meet income guidelines or have other factors for consideration. Other applicants, regardless of economic or risk factors, will then be selected.

Parents interested in proceeding through the selection process must pick up an application/information packet at either Memorial Elementary School or East Hampton Public Library. The completed Parent Interview Form, Immunization Form and a Proof of Residency must be returned to Kelly Caruso at Memorial School office no later than March 18. Once all three forms are returned, parents will be contacted, no later than March 25, to schedule a time to bring their child for the screening and lottery/selection process.

Forms received after March 18 will not be accepted.

### Congregational Church News & Notes

The Congregational Church of East Hampton, UCC, located at 59 Main St., is again open for in-person services every Sunday at 10 a.m. Pastor is Amie McCarthy.

For those who are fully vaccinated, mask wearing is not mandatory. Those not fully vaccinated must continue to wear masks and practice social distancing. The church encourages everyone to wear a mask when indoors at our church. All services can also be accessed via

Zoom by going to cc-eh.org.

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

The Youth Group, for grades 6-12, will next meet Friday, Feb. 25, from 6:30-7:30 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall.

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

For more information about CCEH and its activities, visit cc-eh.org or call the church office at 860-267-4959 during office hours: Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-noon. McCarthy can be reached for emergencies at 508-272-6437.

**Parks and Rec.  
Selling Hockey Tix**

Parks and Recreation is selling tickets to the Saturday, Feb. 26, Hartford Wolfpack game at the XL Center. Face-off is at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$18 each. To purchase, call 860-267-7300 or visit easthamptonrec.com.

**Artwork on Display**

Local craftsman, hiker and naturalist – and also watercolor artist – Bill McDonald has his work on display this month at Middle Haddam Public Library, located at 2 Knowles Rd. Viewing hours are Mondays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Tuesdays, 3-6 p.m.; Thursdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; and Fridays, 3-6 p.m.

### Dean’s List

Elyse Arcidiacono of East Hampton made the fall 2021 Dean’s List at the University of Saint Joseph in West Hartford.

Arcidiacono is majoring in accounting.

### Fabric Donations Wanted

Haddam Neck Congregational Church Ladies Aid is accepting donations of fabric, yarn and quilting supplies for the Bits and Pieces sale to be featured at the annual Haddam Neck Congregational Church Quilt Show on May 7 and 8.

Donations can be dropped off at the church, 408 Quarry Hill Rd., Haddam Neck, Sundays from 11 a.m.-noon, or call Darcey Yuille at 860-301-4991 or Melissa Pionzio at 860-993-5311 to make arrangements.

### Church Meeting Sunday

The members of the Second Congregational Church of Middle Haddam are hereby notified of the annual meeting and budget meeting to be held after worship Sunday, Feb. 27.



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**Senior Boys Honored...** East Hampton honored one of the largest senior classes of East Hampton High School boys basketball players Thursday, Feb. 10, beating the neighboring rival Hale-Ray of Moodus in the final seconds of the game-59-57. Pictured from left are, top row, Miller Koziel, Captain Jye Lynch, Jack Blakey, Brady Battit, Captain Drew DiStefano; bottom row, Connor Michalowski, Jack Watkins, Ethan Palma.

### Christ Episcopal Church News

Christ Episcopal Church, 66 Middle Haddam Rd., Middle Haddam, holds Sunday services at 10 a.m. each week via Zoom. In-person both in person and via Zoom. Church school meets during the service time, in the parish hall.

In-person worship will resume March 6. An Ash Wednesday service with distribution of ashes will be at 6 p.m. on March 2. During Lent, a brief service with Eucharist will be held Wednesdays at 6 p.m. at the church (March 9-April 13).

Church school is currently meeting on an abbreviated schedule via Zoom for the time being. Parents are kept advised by the church school leaders.

The Rev. Ann Perrott is priest-in-charge, the Rev. Joanne Neel-Richard oversees the children's ministry, and Stuart Duncan is the music director. For more information or if in need of pastoral assistance, call 860-267-0287 or visit [www.christchurchmiddlehaddam.com](http://www.christchurchmiddlehaddam.com).

### Church Selling Chocolate Cakes

The Second Congregational Church of Middle Haddam at 52 Middle Haddam Rd. is selling chocolate cherry Valentine cakes. Pick-up time is after church Sunday, Feb. 20, from 10:15-11:15 a.m.

They are gift-wrapped for \$4 each. Reserve cakes by calling 860-510-8102.

### Kindergarten Registration to Start

Kindergarten registration packets for the 2022-23 school year will be available at the Memorial School foyer and at East Hampton Public Library starting Tuesday, March 1.

To secure a screening appointment for your child, return all completed registration paperwork to the Memorial School Office or drop box in the foyer by Thursday, March 31.

Screenings will be held from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. on May 9, 10 and 11.

### Dean's List

East Hampton residents Alyssa Marchi, Kelley Williams and Emma Wolfram made the fall 2021 Dean's List at Endicott College in Beverly, Mass.

Marchi is a nursing major and daughter of Nancy Marchi and Drew Marchi; Williams is a nursing major and daughter of Patricia Williams and Thomas Williams; and Wolfram is an interior architecture major and daughter of Deborah Wolfram and Daniel Wolfram.

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**Paint Night Coming...** Epoch Arts will have a paint night for two age groups on Feb. 25. At the Teen Manga Paint Night, for students in grades 6-12, teens will learn how to paint their own manga character. This event will run from 7-9 p.m., and cost is \$15. Meanwhile, from 6-7:30 p.m., students in grades 3-5 can participate in a Spring-Themed Paint Night. Space is limited for the Spring-Themed Paint Night, so register at [www.epocharts.org](http://www.epocharts.org). The Teen Manga Paint Night is open to walk-ins. Both events will be held at Epoch, 27 Skinner St. Pictured here is a scene from Epoch's fall Paint Night.

### EHVFD Elects Officers for 2022

The East Hampton Volunteer Fire Department recently elected department and company officers for 2022.

In command at the department level, Fire Chief Gregory Voelker and Deputy Fire Chief Marty Swan will complete the second of their two-year terms in 2022, while Robb Rainville was elected to fulfill a two-year slot as assistant deputy chief. Marty Swan will also serve as department secretary/treasurer.

Reelected to the department's executive board for 2022 were Dan Burdick (chairman), Jim Burke (vice chairman) and Shawn Webster from Company One; they will serve with Bill Field (secretary), Greg Stanhope and John Kovach representing Company Two.

At the Company level, Line Officers elected to lead Company 1 (Barton Hill Road) are Captain Ken Royce and Lieutenants Matt McKinney, Paul Owen and Brian Owen. Reelected as company secretary/treasurer was Jim Burke, as were Ken Royce and Scott Howell to their positions as assistant engineers. Line officers from Company One also have command responsibility for the Company Three firehouse on White Birch Road.

Line officers elected for Company Two (Cobalt) are Captain Marty Voelker and Lieutenants Kevin and Donald Scranton. Bill Field will serve again as secretary/treasurer for Company 2 and John Kovach and Greg Stanhope continue as assistant engineers.

Voelker also re-appointed the following members to department administrative positions:

Department Engineer: Dan Burdick; Safety Officer: Marty Swan; Training Officer: Greg Voelker; Public Information Officer: Jim Burke; Quartermaster: Ken Royce; EMS Coordinator: Jim Burke; Junior Div. Advisors: Jim Burke, Scott Howell, Jerry Cloutier; Fire Prevention Chair: Rich Klotzbier; Scholarship Chair: Marty Swan.

The East Hampton Volunteer Fire Department, founded in 1923, remains an all-volunteer organization providing emergency services to the Town of East Hampton and its surrounding communities. The fire department continually seeks new members for its active service, as well as for its Junior Firefighter program. Equipment and training is provided by the department for both programs. For more information on opportunities to serve, call 860-267-2198 and leave a message.

### Police News

1/28: Theodore Reinholtz, 50, of 64 Johnson Rd., Marlborough, was arrested and charged with failure to drive right, having a tail light out, and driving under the influence, East Hampton Police said.

2/2: John Witherly, 79, of 16 Riverside St., Portland, was charged with criminal violation of a restraining order, police said.

1/31: After an investigation into a truck vs utility pole motor vehicle crash with injuries that occurred on Middletown Avenue, John Didato, 29, of Oakdale was issued a summons for traveling unreasonably fast, failure to drive right and operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license.

2/5: After an investigation into a two-car motor vehicle crash on Hills Avenue in which one of the operators left the scene, Barbara Simmons, 68, of 31 N. Main St., was issued a summons for failure to drive right, evading responsibility and failure to renew registration, police said.

2/12: Paolo Ciurcina, 49, of 229 Lake Drive, was arrested and charged with third-degree assault, second-degree threatening, and disorderly conduct, police said.

Also, from Jan. 31-Feb. 13, officers responded to 12 motor vehicle crashes, 17 medical calls and 23 alarms, and made 61 traffic stops, police said.

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# Crews Battle Fire for Six Hours

by Jack Lakowsky

Crews from multiple towns battled a blaze on Champion Hill Road last Thursday, a large fire that took six hours to get under control, according to East Hampton Fire Chief Greg Voelker.

Voelker said the fire displaced a family of two adults. The Red Cross is helping the family find housing.

"We got in there and it was going pretty good," Voelker said.

The house is a loss, he said. It remains standing, but there's extensive smoke and water damage.

The state fire marshal's office is investigat-

ing, Voelker said.

"Everyone got out safe; there were no injuries," said Voelker.

Voelker said crews got to the house a bit before 5 p.m. Thursday evening.

Weather and terrain complicated things a bit. Voelker said the house is at the end of an old cart path, and the going was muddy.

The chief said the home had functioning smoke alarms.

Crews from Marlborough, East Haddam, Portland, Middletown and Glastonbury joined in the firefight, Voelker said.

## East Hampton Library News & Notes

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

**Library Hours:** The library is open Monday-Wednesday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Thursday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Masks are required for ages 3 and up.

**Kindness EHxtravaganza:** As part of its month-long Kindness EHxtravaganza in April, the library will host a silent auction to benefit Our Companions Animal Rescue and Sanctuary and the Connecticut Draft Horse Rescue. The library is seeking artists to donate art for the auction. Donations will be accepted until April 1. Visit the library website or call for more details.

Also, as another part of the Kindness EHxtravaganza, the library will send out care packages to libraries worldwide – so it's looking for love letters to East Hampton: What you love about this town, why you're here, and what makes the town a great community. Letters will be accepted until March 11.

**Children's Programs: Mindful Movements:** Mondays, 10:15 and 11:15 a.m., in the community room and also streamed live on Facebook. Registration required.

**Stories & Songs:** Wednesdays, 10:15 a.m., in the community room, for children ages 18 months to 5 years, and their caregivers. Registration required.

**Baby Rhyme Time:** Thursdays, 10:15 a.m., in the community room, for children ages birth-18 months and their caregivers. Registration required.

## Middle School Spring Athletics

East Hampton Middle School students who are interested in trying out for either the baseball or softball teams can register online through FamilyID.com. Athletes must have a physical conducted within the last 15 months before trying out.

Deadline for online registrations is Monday, March 14. For more information, contact EHMS Athletic Director Michael Mercaldi at 860-463-6837.

## TANGO2 Fundraiser at Po's

There will be a fundraiser for the TANGO2 Research Foundation at Po's Rice and Spice Restaurant, 97 Main St., on Tuesday, March 1. Restaurant owner Po Fong has offered to donate 15% of all sales from 11 a.m.-9 p.m. to support children with this rare disease.

TANGO2 is a very rare life-threatening disease that affects children and young adults. There are only about 150 people worldwide who have it. One of these is a 2020 graduate of EHHS, whose parents started the Foundation. Little is known about the disease, and participation will help fund research.

For more information on the TANGO2 Research Foundation is [www.tango2research.org](http://www.tango2research.org).

**DIY Days: Lip Palm and Bath Foam:** Saturday, Feb. 19, 2 p.m., for children and families in grades 2-8. Registration required.

**STEMtastic -- Cardboard Castle Construction:** Wednesday, Feb. 23, 4:30 p.m., in-person at the library, for grades 2-5. Registration required; space is limited. Masks are required.

**Teen Programs: Teen Advisory Board:** Wednesday, Feb. 23, 6 p.m., for grades 9-12. Requires a monthly commitment and participation.

**Nintendo Switch Game Tournament:** Saturday, Feb. 26, 2 p.m., at the library, for grades 6-12. All skill levels welcome.

**Dungeons & Dragons:** Wednesday, March 5, 5:30 p.m., at the library, for grades 8-12.

Register online or call. No previous playing experience required, and all supplies will be provided.

**Adult Programs: Author Event:** Tuesday, Feb. 22, 6:30 p.m., at the library. Author, historian and local resident Marty Podskoch will give a presentation on his latest book, *Rhode Island 39 Club: Your Passport & Guide to Exploring Rhode Island*.

**Victorian Tea Etiquette Virtual Workshop:** Tuesday, March 1, 6:30 p.m., via Zoom. Register online or call. This presentation from the Osborne Homestead Museum in Derby will take people to the late Victorian era (1837-1901), when Frances Osborne Kellogg would've been in her 20s, hosting and going to tea parties. Participants will receive a tea-tasting kit from the library prior to the online event.

**Book Club:** Tuesday, March 15, 6:30 p.m. *The Light We Lost* by Jill Santopolo will be discussed. Register online or call.

## Drive-Up Takeout Dinner

The Congregational Church of East Hampton, located at 59 Main St., will hold a Takeout Dinner on Saturday, Feb. 19, from 4:30-6:30 p.m.

The menu will include stuffed chicken breast, mashed potatoes, honey glazed carrots, Caesar salad and red velvet cupcakes with cream cheese frosting. Cost will be \$14, cash or check made out to CCEH.

Pre-order by calling the church office Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-12 p.m. at 860-267-4959 or Lisa at 860-918-1170. Orders must be in by Saturday, Feb. 19, at noon.



**Free Throw Finalists...** The Knights of Columbus Belltown Council 6190 of East Hampton held its annual Youth Basketball Free Throw contest Sunday, Feb. 6, at East Hampton Middle School, 19 Childs Rd. The two winners – 11-year-old girls winner Dalila Malz (left) and 12-year-old boys winner Chance Markovitz (right) – qualified to move onto the state finals this Saturday, Feb. 19, at St. Paul High School in Bristol.

## Haddam Neck Covenant Church News

Haddam Neck Covenant Church, located at 17 Haddam Neck Rd., invites all to Sunday worship at 9 a.m., online at [www.facebook.com/Haddam-Neck-Covenant-Church](http://www.facebook.com/Haddam-Neck-Covenant-Church) or in person. Pastor is the Rev. Tom Cowger. Refreshments are served after the service.

**Sunday School:** Sunday school programs are offered for children ages 3-11 during Worship.

**Puppet Ministry:** Each Sunday, the church's Puppet Ministry features Digger the Dog and friends from Farmer M's Red Barn to help

Cowger explain the message topic.

**Bible Study:** The Zoom Bible Study meets every other Thursday from 7-8:15 p.m. The next study is March 3. This is an interactive study of compassion as seen in Jesus.

**Office Info:** The office can be reached at 860-267-2336; hours are Monday-Friday, 12:30-4:30 p.m. The church website is at [www.hncovenantchurch.org](http://www.hncovenantchurch.org). Check WFSB-TV Channel 3 for information on church closings due to weather.

## Dean's List

East Hampton residents Jillian Collingwood and Joshua Kearney each made the fall 2021 Dean's List at Bryant University in Smithfield, R.I. They are members of the Class of 2022.

TANGO2 is a very rare life-threatening disease that affects children and young adults. There are only about 150 people worldwide who have it. One of these is a 2020 graduate of EHHS, whose parents started the Foundation. Little is known about the disease, and participation will help fund research.

For more information on the TANGO2 Research Foundation is [www.tango2research.org](http://www.tango2research.org).

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# Standout Athletes of the Week

by Josh Howard

Here are the *Rivereast* Standout Athletes of the Week for the week of Feb. 7-13:

**Ben Fournier - RHAM High School (Wrestling):** Fournier took home a Central Connecticut Conference crown in his weight division (106 lbs.), pinning Mason Arborio of Berlin in the championship match. The sophomore was one of three Raptors to take home wins, joining senior Zackary Kanaitis (145 lbs.), who pinned London Vieira of Berlin, and junior Jeremy Devine (160 lbs.), who pinned Gabriel Hernandez of Plainville. RHAM finished third overall as a team at the conference championships held at Simsbury High School on Feb. 12.

**Sam Lasky - Portland High School (Basketball):** Lasky had 15 points, eight rebounds, and blocked two shots as Portland defeated Old Saybrook 51-32 on Feb. 8. The senior, along with Hannah Brunk, dominated the middle for the Highlanders, who earned their third win in five games. Brunk, also a senior, finished the game with 15 points, eight rebounds, and four assists.

**Kaylee Gravel - East Hampton High School (Indoor Track):** Gravel captured the

title in the 1000m meters and finished third in the 1600 meters at the Class S Indoor Track & Field Championships on Feb. 12. The senior ran a 3:11.78 to easily win the 1000m championship, besting runner-up Madelein Morjado of Old Lyme by nearly eight seconds. East Hampton's Brylee Montanari (55 meter hurdles) also took home an individual championship and the Bellringers finished in second place overall at the competition, which was held at Floyd Athletic Center in New Haven.

**Katelyn Novak - Bacon Academy High School (Basketball):** Novak, a freshman, scored a career-high 14 points as the Bobcats chopped down Woodstock Academy 66-26 on Feb. 12. The game was Senior Night for the Bobcats, who honored the team's three seniors: Valerie Luizzi, Emma Mancuso, and Ashley Lizotte. Luizzi tied for a team-high with 14 points and had nine rebounds. Mancuso chipped in six points, eight rebounds, and five blocks as the Bobcats improved to 17-2.

To nominate someone for an Athlete of the Week or with questions or comments about sports-related topics, email Josh Howard at [joshhowardsports@gmail.com](mailto:joshhowardsports@gmail.com)



RHAM sophomore Ben Fournier won the 106 pound division at the Central Connecticut Conference championships at Simsbury High School on Feb. 12. Fournier (center) is pictured with Southington's Joseph Garofolo and Simsbury's Coleman Finn to his left and Enfield's Robert Moeller to his right.

## ECSU Newly-Enrolled Students

The following Colchester residents are newly enrolled at Eastern Connecticut State University for the spring 2022 semester:

Jamie Violette, a full-time graduate who is majoring in accounting; Patrick Mawhiney, a full-time first-year student majoring in business administration; Kaylea McCourt, a full-time first-year student majoring in psychology; and Terranova, a full-time first-year student majoring in exploratory - undecided.

## UHart Honors List

The following Colchester residents made both the President's Honors List and the Dean's List for the fall 2021 semester at the University of Hartford:

Edward Baxter, Joyce Bylek, Jenna Kiernan, Elizabeth Ladegard, Colin Larkin, Kayden Sargent, Lucas Slomski and Emily Tellar.

## Dean's List

Colchester residents Rachel Dona, Hailey Groene and Rachel Wells made the fall 2021 Dean's List at Endicott College in Beverly, Mass.

Dona is a nursing major and daughter of Judith Dona and Paul Dona; Groene is a liberal studies/education major and daughter of Julie Groene and Bradley Groene; and Wells is an accounting major and daughter of Ilyse Wells and Stephen Wells.

\*\*\*

Savannah Dames of Colchester made the fall 2021 Dean's List at Ithaca College in Ithaca, N.Y.

\*\*\*

Tessa Lee Komoroski of Colchester made the fall 2021 Dean's List at Wofford College in Spartanburg, S.C.

\*\*\*

Colchester residents Giovanna Balderachi, Abigail Burke, Torrie Fitzpatrick, Meagan Gallacher, Brandon Kauffman and Alexis Petrowsky made the fall 2021 Dean's List at Quinnipiac University.

\*\*\*

Sydney Rochette of Colchester made the fall 2021 Dean's List at Wilkes University in Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

\*\*\*

Colchester resident Logan Thomas Hubbard made the fall 2021 Dean's List at Husson University in Bangor, Maine.

During the fall semester, Hubbard was enrolled in Husson's Bachelor of Science in Extended Reality program.

\*\*\*

Nicholas Tartsinis of Colchester made the fall 2021 President's List at Western New England University in Springfield, Mass.

Tartsinis is working toward a Bachelor of Arts degree in law and society.

\*\*\*

Danielle York of Colchester made the fall 2021 Dean's List at the University of Saint Joseph in West Hartford.

York is majoring in nursing.

## Scholarship Available

Carl Guild and Associates is offering a scholarship to a local high school senior entering college in the fall.

There are six \$1,000 scholarships given - one each in East Hampton, Portland, Colchester, East Haddam, Glastonbury and the RHAM school district. There are no restrictions or qualifications; all local seniors can apply.

Application deadline is April 1. For an application, visit [www.carlguild.com/scholarship](http://www.carlguild.com/scholarship) or ask your school's guidance counselor.

## 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).

## Resident Graduates

Luke Sanford of Colchester recently graduated from Bryant University in Smithfield, R.I.

Sanford graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree in accounting.

## Rotary to Award Scholarships

The Colchester Rotary Foundation will award two scholarships this year to two deserving Colchester graduates.

The scholarship is \$1,000 for a graduate moving onto a traditional two- or four-year college program and \$1,000 for a graduate moving onto a trade school.

For more information, contact Marlene Blumberger at the Bacon Academy counseling office, at [mblumberger@colchesterct.org](mailto:mblumberger@colchesterct.org).

## Dean's List

Clare Gillerlane of Colchester made the fall 2021 Dean's List at Emmanuel College in Boston.

\*\*\*

Chelsea Kranc of Colchester made the fall 2021 Dean's List at Simmons University in Boston. Kranc is a junior majoring in social work.

\*\*\*

The following Colchester residents made the fall 2021 Dean's List at Bryant University in Smithfield, R.I.:

Jason Consiglio, Zachary Henkin and Cayden Bertrand, all Class of 2025, and Luke Sanford, Class of 2022.

## CYSS News and Notes

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

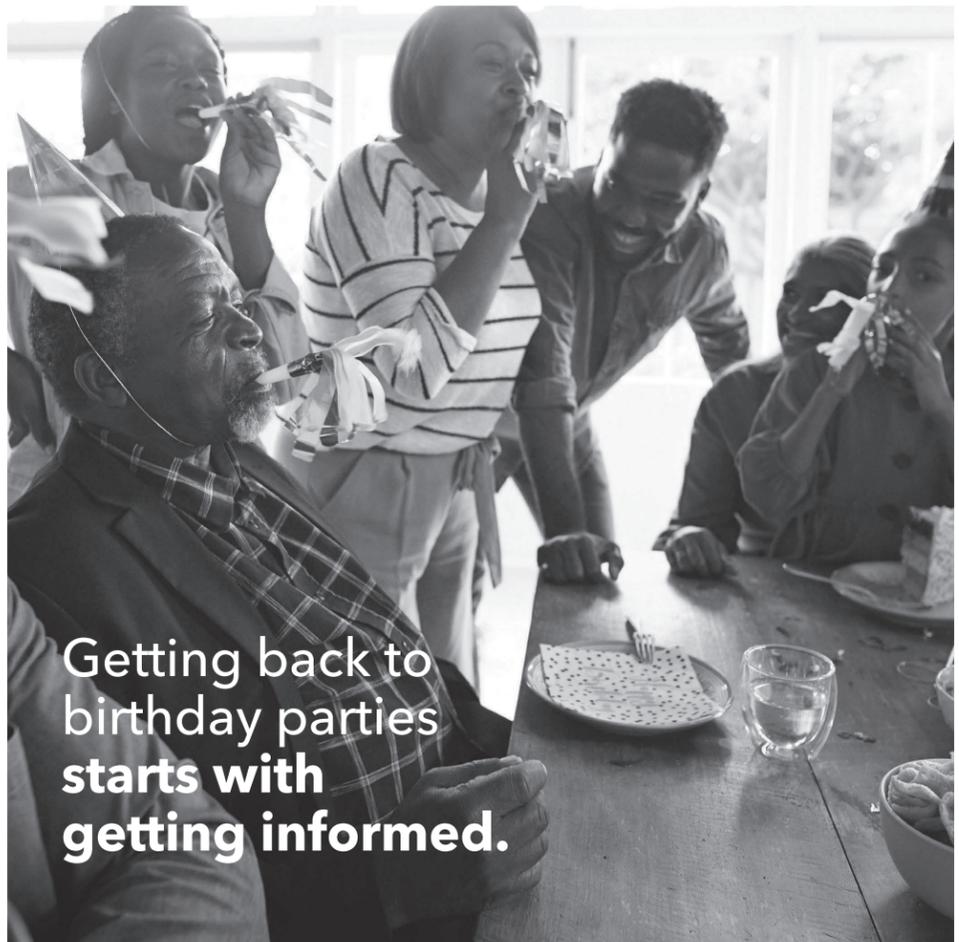
**Youth Action Council:** Thursdays, 2:15-4 p.m., for grades 7-12. As a member of the council, students will have the opportunity to engage with town leaders, travel to regional conferences, create activities for teens, and more. Register online.

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

performances, hands-on activities, take-home crafts and more. Each session is \$10. Register online. Schedule is: Feb. 18: Funky February; March 24: March Madness; May 27: Last Blast.

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

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



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**New Cadet Officers...** On Feb. 8, the Colchester Hayward Fire Department appointed the cadet officers for 2022 – Captain Gina Didato, left, and Fire Lieutenant Matt Larosa.

**WJJMS Honor Roll**

William J. Johnston Middle School has announced its honor roll for the second quarter of the 2021-22 school year.

**High Honors**

**Grade 6:** Benjamin Adams, Victoria Adamski, Alex Badrick, Adam Bigelow, Aidan Bisi, Kira Brault, Madelynn Brownell, Brayden Buyniski, Carmen Champagne, Grace Clarkin, Ashley Cleary, Cameron Cruz, Addison Daniels, Jordan Darvas, Wesley Engleman, Isabel Faber, Allison Field, Abigail Floyd, Emily Fougereuse, Aubrella Fowler, Jacob Gardiner, Noah Garvie, Dante Gonzalez, Charlie Gott, Claire Gould, Jack Grimm, Yunyang Gu, Quinn Guntulis, Carter Hebert, Brody Hochholzer, Damiana Hunt, Sufyan Kasli, Ashtyn King, Charlotte Kukich, Connie Lin, Dalila Malz, Claire Martin, Owen McLoughlin, Aidalyn Pacheco, Kiersten Page, Krish Patel, Emma Pensa, Gabriella Rauccio, Charles Ringuette, Isabella Rivera Kloss, Benjamin Romasanta, Nayelis Ruiz, Gabrielle Russo, Adriana Russo, Adrina Ruzsala, Audrey Siborg, Colleen Talbot, Bridget Walsh, Chelsea Williams, Lila Wilson, James Wissler, Ty Wissler.

**Grade 7:** Raphael Antonacci, Gehrig Bartiss, Katherine Belding, Tyler Bergquist, Cole Boutin, Judas Butler, Azalea Cartier, Nicolas Chiaverini, Aidan Claffey, Kellen Conley, Timothy Crowell, Sarah Deane, Jacoby Eisenberg, Hannah Ferrigno, Elizabeth Floyd, Matthew Galante, Bray Geleney, Savanna Healy, Reina Hill, Averi Johnson, Paraskevi Koutsofavas, Rae Lenda, Zachary Mancuso, Aidan McAlpine, Pyper McIver, Keegan McKenzie, Michael Migliaccio, Peyton Mikalonis, Kaylee Opalenik, Boden Paul, Cora Rago, Talia Ramos, Kagan Ruzsala, Ian Sanders, Katelyn Siena, Alexa Smith, Mason Steele, Paolo Uccello, Toheed Usman, Ashleen Walsh, Michael Wisniewski.

**Grade 8:** Riley Anderson, Olivia Barnett, Connor Blanchette, Sabrina Boutin, Benjamin Buyniski, Emma Cote, Ethan Creutz, Bela Dec, Jordan Donnelly, Bailey Elliott, Charlotte Galarneau, Joseph Gignac, Brynn Herboldt, Anna Ibey, Troy Johnson, Lucas Jones, Ileana Koonankeil, Lily Koziol, Lanie McIluff, Madeline Meyer, Olivia Meyer, Madison Mikolajczak, Alyssa Nelson, Sokhano Nguon, Wesley Piella, Allen Quinones Jr, Lorelei Romasanta, Rachel Rumph, Skyelyn Schoen-Rene, Jillian Snow, George Stula, Corinne Toennes, Matthew Vilardo.

**Honors**

**Grade 6:** Zakariyya Ali, Abigail Bantle, Temperance Berard, Jacob Blanda, Chelsee Boothroyd, Trevor Bruneau, Grace Busby, Megan Buscetto, Camden Capone, Cameron Chabot, Evan Coakley, Hailey Crossway, Jesse Czepiel, Kaden Davis, Madison Delaney, Seriaa Farrell, Kailyn Formanek, Teresa Formica,

Benjamin Fuhrmann, Liam Gorreck, Benjamin Graham, Jameson Grant, Reid Gross, Jonas Healey, Jack Hiegl, Cadence Hlasyszyn, Mason Howard, Lucas Jodoin, Brendan Kastrop, Jackson Lavertue, Miley Lindo, Joshua Lund, Chance Markovitz, Jillian Marshall, Shaun Marvin, James Mattison, Shane Meyer, Mark Miano-Talbot, Mickayla Moroch, Caitlyn Opoku, Aphrodite Panteloukas, Arianna Przechodzki, Lily Pulse, David Rancourt, David Rumph, Jeneva Santiago, Logan Sheridan, Dylan Simon, Christian Stabach, Maeve Sweeney, Jacob Teal, Layla Turkington, Cameron Velazquez, Brandon Verruso, Samantha Vivero, Zachary Weisensee, Alayna Welch.

**Grade 7:** Ali Ali, Lilliana Anderson, Madalynn Anderson, Jake Ashley, Cody Blanda, Miller Brown, Brooke Burchfield, Leah Butterfield, Leah Chen, Zachary Chiarella, Jacob Clark, Robert Corrado, Skyy Courtemanche, Ava Czepiel, Anthony DePaola, Lauren Emons, Oliver England, Leah Eveleigh, Cody Friberg, Edward Gignac, Zephyn Harrington, Asha Hormuzdiar, Madeline Ives, Ella Jeffries, Mason Koji, David Landa, Jaxon Lewis, Hayden Liddy, Charles Mauldin, Johnathan McAllister, Hailey McGlynn, Nathan Metcalfe, Joshua Millington, Cole Mitchell, Carter Nosal, Sai Parekh, Karah Pensa, Maddyn Reinholtz, Abigail Richards, Landon Roderick, Garrett Rodgers, Kai Ruitto, Zachary Russo, Kolby Simonds, Autumn Sneed, Jason Trusz, Eleni Tsakiris, Zoey Vernali, Miles Viggiani, Delaney Walsh, Evan Walter, Shauna Wells.

**Grade 8:** Oakley Adams, Emma Aivaliotis, Alannah Baehr, Alyssa Blanchette, Kylie Boerenco, Maily Bravo, Caroline Brown, Hailey Brown, Ashton Capone, Dillan Coats, Clarence Coogan, Ryan Curry, Julian Dean, Lucian Dean, Jack Dennis, Brody Derr, Michael Dickey, Aivree Durnik, Arianna Elliott, Corbin Engleman, Kiley Filloramo, Nicholas Gilman, Liam Goodine, Taryn Gray, Mia Hageman, Reese Henderson, Myles Jackson, Jacob Jenkins, Jordan Julian, Caden King, Sasha Koopman, Michael Krol, Devon Kudrak, Madison Levasseur, Evan Lovegrove, Owen McCarvill, Ian McClain, Oliver Melmed, Andrew Mertz, Scarlett Morsch, Sawyer Nauss, Aubrey Nosal, Joseph Papale, Ashlyn Perra, Gianna Riley, Ahviel Rodriguez, Deyaneira Ruiz, Sara Sands, Mia Santini, Benjamin Simonds, Delaney Smith, Abigail Stillwell, Liam Sweeney, Cameron Tasky, Carleigh Todd, Natalie Uhrig, Chase Williams.

**Dean's List**

Dominic Prignano of Colchester made the fall 2021 Dean's List at Champlain College in Burlington, Vt.

Prignano is a game design major.

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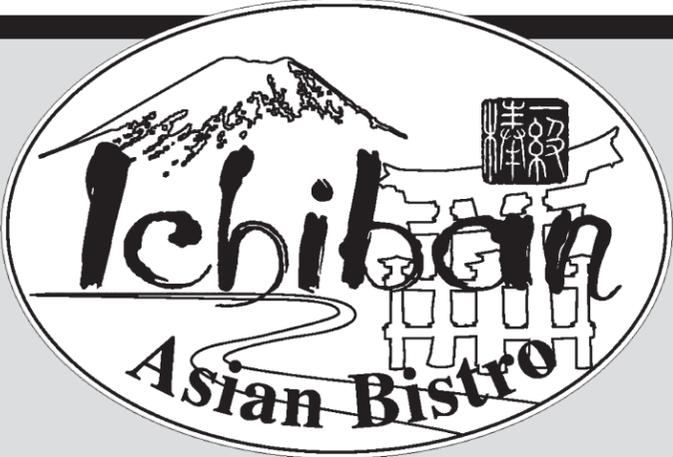
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### Military Honor Guard Seeks Members

The Colchester Veterans Honor Guard is looking for new members.

When a veteran dies the family can request military honors by providing evidence of military service to the funeral home. The Connecticut National Guard will coordinate to ensure the participation of its members and local volunteer organizations at the funeral honors ceremony.

A volunteer service organization that aids in providing "military honors" is the Colchester Veterans Honor Guard. It was established in 2004 in association with the state National Guard to provide military funeral honors for veterans' families and friends. Since its formation, the Colchester unit has performed at more

than 2,700 honor ceremonies. In 2021, they participated in over 236 military honors ceremonies.

The 20-plus member unit is actively looking for veterans to become members, so that it can continue to provide funeral honors to all deceased veterans. The Honor Guard meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month from 7-8 p.m., in the Veterans Room of Colchester Senior Center, 95 Norwich Ave. Interested veterans are welcome.

Most funeral honors are performed between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. Monday to Saturday.

For more information, call Al Letendre at 860-537-6516.

### Lions Offering Scholarships

The Colchester Lions would like to invite all Colchester residents that are in their senior year of high school to apply for one of several scholarships they award.

The Lions consider applications from all graduating students planning to attend any accredited college, university or trade school, regardless of which public, private, charter or magnet high school they attend as well as home-schooled students.

Applications are available through the Bacon Academy guidance office in February or on the

Colchester Lions website, colchesterlions.org. For more information, contact Elizabeth Bessette at elizabeth.a.bessette@gmail.com.

Bacon Academy students should submit their application to the Bacon Academy Guidance office. All other students should email their application to elizabeth.a.bessette@gmail.com or mail to Colchester Lions Club, Attn: Scholarship Committee, P.O. Box 423, Colchester, CT 06415.

Applications must be received by Monday, March 14.

### Ahavath Achim News

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

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

There are daily Facebook Live classes on Ken Alter Facebook on the meaning of mitzvot (commandments) and daily Conversational Hebrew classes. There is a Jewish literacy book discussion and Hebrew conversation Fridays at 1 p.m.

For more information, call 860-537-2809. Office hours are 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Monday; 1:30-5:30 p.m. Tuesday; 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Wednesday; and 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Friday.

### Dean's List

Colchester residents Bethany Leitkowsky and Lillian Wonderly made the fall 2021 Dean's List at the University of Hartford.

### Land Trust Scholarship Available

Applications for the 2022 Colchester Land Trust (CLT) scholarship for \$1,000 are available.

The scholarship will be presented to a Bacon Academy graduating senior who has expressed an interest in pursuing a bachelor's degree or higher level of education in a field of science related to preservation of undeveloped land, natural resources or biological species, and has demonstrated that interest through excellent academic performance and service to the community while attending Bacon Academy.

The application can be obtained through the Bacon Academy Guidance Department. Submit it no later than Friday, March 11.

### #Colchester4Kids

The Collaborative for Colchester's Children recently launched a hashtag campaign, #Colchester4Kids, to bring awareness to the Search Institute's developmental assets which are the support and strengths kids need in order to succeed.

The campaign was kicked off with a Relationship Challenge, where all Colchester families are invited to participate in activities from the Challenge checklist and post photos to social media with the hashtag. Families are encouraged to do more together and let their children choose as much as possible. Prizes will be awarded every week in February for pick up at Cragin Library during open hours.

To obtain the checklist and learn more about what's behind #Colchester4kids, visit www.colchester3.org/colchester4kids.

### Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration for the upcoming 2022-23 school year is now open. Children who reside in Colchester and will be age 5 by Jan. 1, 2023, are eligible to register for the full-day program.

New registrations must be completed online, at www.colchesterct.org. Select the "for families" tab and on the drop-down menu, click on the tab for "Registration and Residency." Complete and submit the pre-enrollment form and then follow the necessary steps outlined on the website.

Parents and guardians will need to make an appointment with the Board of Education office once all required online enrollment forms are completed.

Call 860-537-7267 to make an appointment. Registration appointment hours are Monday through Thursday from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. A list of required documents can be found on the website.

### Butter Braid Fundraiser

The St. Andrew Ladies Guild is sponsoring a fundraiser selling Butter Braid Pastry and Joyful Tradition Cake Rolls.

The fundraiser ends Sunday, March 21. Delivery date will be Tuesday, April 5, from 5:30-7:30 p.m., at St. Andrew parish hall, located at 128 Norwich Ave. Order forms are at all church entrances, and online ordering is available at tinyurl.com/2p87r3rm. There is also the opportunity to donate item(s) to the Colchester Food Bank.

Profits will benefit the Guild's annual High School and College Scholarship Fund.

For more information, call Kathleen Hastings at 860-917-7616.

### 'Community Night of Giving' is Coming

The Colchester Lions Club will hold its traditional Community Night of Giving Wednesday, April 13. Community organizations wishing to apply for grant funding can do so at colchesterlions.org.

All applications must be received by Tuesday, March 15.

### CBSL Spring Registration

Registration for the Colchester Baseball and Softball League's spring 2022 season is now open. Youth age 4-16 are welcome to join.

Go to www.CBSL.org to register or learn more.

### Cragin Book Club to Meet

The Cragin Book Club will meet Monday, Feb. 28, at 6 p.m., at the library, 8 Linwood Ave.

*Yellow Wife* by Sadeqa Johnson will be discussed. Copies are available for checkout at the Adult Circulation Desk. For updates on the program, sign up at tinyurl.com/cmlbookclub.

This program is free and open to the public. For more information, call the library at 860-537-5752.

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**Joining the Ranks...** In February, the Colchester Hayward Fire Department had two new probationary members join – Josh Braga, left, and Auron Lorenzana. The two started off as Cadets and have continued to progress within the fire department. Braga joined and decided to go to the Fire Division and immediately signed up for Firefighter 1, which is a state course to become a certified firefighter. He was also a prior cadet captain and is a certified emergency medical responder. Lorenzana came on board and decided to join the EMS division. He is currently certified as an emergency medical responder and looking to go for his emergency medical technician certification soon.



**Ladies Guild 2022 Trips**

Saint Andrew's Ladies Guild is offering the following trips to the community:

**May 11-13:** See Sight and Sounds Theatre's new show, *David*. Trip includes transportation, two nights' hotel, two breakfasts, two dinners, sightseeing and admissions per itinerary, including a ride on the Strasburg Railroad and visiting an actual Amish home. Cost is \$585/person double.

**Aug. 14-15:** See and hear the Boston Pops on Old Cape Cod, cruise Hyannis Harbor and visit the JFK Museum. Cost is \$409/person double, and includes transportation, hotel, one breakfast, one dinner, sightseeing and admissions.

**Sept. 3-18:** Trans-Atlantic Cruise, visiting Copenhagen, Norway, Iceland, Greenland. Price starts at \$2,999, and includes air transportation to Copenhagen. Travelers must follow the protocols set-in-place by the travel company.

For more information, call Barbara Gozzo at 860-537-0179 or Cathy Russi at 860-887-9621.

**Colchester Federated Church News**

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

Worship services are Sundays at 9 a.m.; masks required. For those wishing to worship from home, the service will be broadcast via Facebook Live each Sunday at 9 a.m. Worship videos are at [www.colchesterfederatedchurch.org](http://www.colchesterfederatedchurch.org) under the Worship & Sermons tab. Updated information is also on the church's Facebook page.

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

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

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

**Westchester Church News**

Westchester Congregational Church, 98 Cemetery Rd., holds worship Sundays at 10 a.m. Masks are not required for those who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19. The services are also available on Zoom; visit [westchesterconchurch.org](http://westchesterconchurch.org) for login information.

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

For more information, email [westcongchurch@gmail.com](mailto:westcongchurch@gmail.com), visit the church website, or look for the church on Facebook.

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**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](http://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.

**Ukrainian Catholic 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.

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**Funds for Fuel Bank...** Colchester Lions Club members Pat Donovan, President Nicole Reardon and Julie Shilosky were pleased to present Colchester Youth and Social Services coordinator Stephanie Turbes with a \$1,000 check for the Colchester Fuel Bank in honor of Freezin' for a Reason, which took place on the Colchester town green this past weekend.

### Upcoming Senior Center Trips

The Colchester Senior Center is planning the following trips for 2022. 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.

**Chicken Restaurant, Casino:** Thursday, March 24, departing at 10:15 a.m. This is a trip to Wright's Chicken Farm in Rhode Island for lunch, followed by a stop at Twin River Casino. Cost is \$92/person.

**Trip to See Jesus Christ Superstar:** Sunday, April 3, at the Thomaston Opera House. There will be a pre-show lunch at the Black Rock Tavern and a reserved orchestra seat for the show. Cost is \$107/person, payable by cash or check.

**New York Botanical Gardens:** Wednesday, April 20. The day will start in Little Italy, featuring lunch at Ann & Tony's Restaurant, then a trip to the gardens, to explore over 50 collections that are located throughout the 250 acres. Bus will depart at 7 a.m. and return at 8:30 p.m. Cost is \$129/person.

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**Senior Center News & Notes**

Colchester Senior Center, 95 Norwich Ave., has announced the following. For full descriptions, call 860-537-3911, email [csc@colchesterct.gov](mailto:csc@colchesterct.gov), or visit [www.colchesterct.gov/senior-center](http://www.colchesterct.gov/senior-center). Items marked with a (CC) are held via conference call.

**Upcoming Programs: Harriet Tubman: A Woman with a Railroad** Wednesday, Feb. 23, 1:30 p.m. Adwoa Bandele-Asante brings to life the story of Harriet Tubman and her struggle for freedom from slavery and inclusion as an American citizen. This performance will be followed by

a Q&A and light refreshments. Tickets for this event are \$8, on sale until Feb. 18.

**Lunch Bunch:** Friday, Feb. 25, 11:30 a.m. This month, head to Papa Z's in Colchester. Space is limited, so be sure to sign up early. The suggested donation is \$4 for bus transportation.

**How to Attract Birds to Your Property:** Friday, March 11, 10:30 a.m. Interested in learning how to attract birds to your yard? The Connecticut Audubon Society will share tips. Cost for this program is \$5.

**Parks & Rec News**

Colchester Parks and Recreation has announced the following. For full program descriptions and more information, call 860-537-7297 or email [parksandrec@colchesterct.gov](mailto:parksandrec@colchesterct.gov). More information, including weather-related cancellations, is also at [www.colchesterct.gov/recreation-department](http://www.colchesterct.gov/recreation-department). The Parks and Rec. office is located at Town Hall, 127 Norwich Ave.

**Teen Leaders:** Teen Leaders work alongside Summer Day Camp staff. Training will be provided. Teens must be 14 by the start of camp on June 27. Deadline to apply is March 31; applicants will be contacted shortly after the deadline for an interview with camp staff. Selected teens will get to choose which weeks they volunteer at camp, and must attend camp every day as agreed upon. Teen Leader fee is \$50 per week. For more information, call Parks and Rec. Applications are also available online.

**Summer Day Camp:** Day camp registration will begin March 1. Summer camp will be held Monday- Friday, 8 a.m.-3 p.m., from June 27-Aug. 19. Extended Care will be available from 3-5 p.m. Camp is available to children entering grades K-7 in the fall of 2022. Camp dates are June 27-Aug. 19. The weekly themes and activity schedule are online, as are the cost, registra-

tion process and more. For more information, call Parks and Rec.

**Summer Concerts in the Park – Sponsors Wanted:** Parks and Rec. is looking for sponsors for its Summer Concerts in the Park. It has already booked two bands, and hopes to book the other two soon. The concerts will be held Thursdays, Aug. 4, 11, 18 and 28, from 6-8 p.m. If interested in sponsoring, call Parks and Rec.

**New York On Your Own Bus Trip:** Sunday, May 1. The deluxe motor coach will depart from the Colchester Town Hall at 7 a.m. and transport passengers to New York City. The motor coach will pick up passengers at 7 p.m. and bring them back to Colchester. Fee: \$60/resident, \$65/non-resident. Registration deadline: April 18. Minimum number of passengers needed is 45, maximum is 54.

**Card-Making Class:** March 9 and April 6. All materials needed for each card are included in the cost and will be given out at the beginning of each class. A minimum of two and a maximum of six are needed to hold the class. Meets at 1 p.m. at Town Hall or 6 p.m. at the senior center. Cost: \$15 per person.

**BOE Budget Meetings**

Budget season is here – and the Colchester Board of Education has several related meetings coming up.

On Tuesday, March 8, the superintendent's 2022-23 proposed budget will be presented to the Board of Education at 6 p.m. The school board will then hold budget workshops Tuesdays, March 15, 22 and (if needed) 29, at 6 p.m. each night. A budget public hearing to present the proposed spending plan will be held Tuesday, April 5. On April 20, a budget public hearing special meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m.

The budget referendum is currently scheduled for Tuesday, May 17.

**School Readiness Grant Proposals**

C3 invites center-based child care programs to submit a Request for Proposal application to the Colchester School Readiness Council. If you are a center-based program caring for young children in Colchester, then you may be eligible to apply for School Readiness funds.

RFP documents will be shared and instructions on how to complete and submit an application will be provided upon request. For more information, email [cpraisner@colchesterct.org](mailto:cpraisner@colchesterct.org) or call 860-537-0717. Applications are due by March 9.

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### Congregational Church News & Notes

In-person Sunday worship has resumed at Marlborough Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, located at 35 S. Main St. Service begins at 10 a.m. Masks are requested. The Sunday worship service also broadcasts live every Sunday through [mcc.marlconchurch.org](http://mcc.marlconchurch.org). The Feb. 20 service will be led by the Rev. Bob Faulhaber Jr., and will feature an anthem by the Chancel Choir.

**Sunday School**, for children ages 3 to grade 8, is led by Christian Education Director Gwen Lawson at 10 a.m.

**Faith Formation:** This study group, led by Faulhaber, meets Thursdays, upstairs in the lounge, at 10:30 a.m. All are welcome.

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

an offering box on a Sunday.

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

**Second Blessings Thrift Shop:** The shop is fully stocked with new merchandise every week. Second Blessings is located on the ground floor and is open Fridays from noon to 3 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon. Masks required. Second Blessings accepts donations during shopping hours. Items are also sold year-round through eBay at <https://bit.ly/MCCebay>

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

### Parks and Rec Programs

Marlborough Parks and Recreation has announced the following. For full descriptions or to register, visit [marlboroughct.recdesk.com](http://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: Acrylic Landscape Painting:** For grades 3-6. Wednesdays, March 2-23, 3:30-5 p.m., at Marlborough Elementary School. Students will be guided through the techniques of landscape painting. All materials are provided. Students should bring a snack. Fee is \$90/residents, \$95/non-residents.

**American Red Cross Babysitting Course:** For ages 11 and up. Saturday, March 12, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., at the senior center. Each participant will receive a Red Cross babysitting certificate upon completion of the course. Registration fee is \$125/residents, \$130/non-residents.

**Adult Programs: Barre/Pilates:** Mondays through Feb. 28, 5-5:45 p.m., or Wednesdays through Feb. 23, also 5-5:45 p.m. Fee is \$15 per day to drop in. Class instruction is virtual or in person.

**Yoga Mondays:** Through Feb. 28, 6-7 p.m. Fee is \$15 per week to drop in. Class instruction is virtual or in person.

**Yoga Tuesdays:** Through Feb. 22, 9:30-10:30 a.m. Fee is \$15 per week to drop in. Class instruction is virtual or in person.

**Yoga Thursdays:** Through March 24 (started Feb. 17), 6-7 p.m., at the senior center. Yoga class with accent on therapeutic and alignment yoga. Fee is \$75/resident, \$80/non-resident, or a \$15 drop-in fee. All levels welcome.

**Adult Drop-In Volleyball:** Thursdays until June, 8-10 p.m., at the Marlborough Elementary School gym. Fee is \$5 per week.

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Should Marlborough buy land to develop Affordable Housing?

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- Higher density housing opportunities?
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- Change the Zoning from 2 acres to 1 acre or less?
- Duplexes?
- Accessory apartments without property owner living on site?



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### Marlborough Lions Pancake Breakfast

The Marlborough Lions Club will hold its annual Pancake Breakfast Sunday, April 3. At this time the event is being planned for takeout orders only, but this will be reevaluated as the event gets closer to see if indoor seating will be provided.

The event will be held at the East Glastonbury Fish and Game Club on Planeta Road in Marlborough, which is located off of West Road just east of Exit 12 from Route 2. The Lions will be open for takeout orders from 7:45-11:45 a.m. The Lions will serve various varieties of pancakes along with sausage, ham, coffee and juice.

Tickets will be available for sale in advance of the event and drive-ups on the morning of the breakfast are welcome. Tickets are only \$9

for adults, \$8 for seniors and \$6 for children 12 and under.

The success of this event is also dependent upon local businesses, which support the Lions in the form of \$25 sponsorships. Lions Club members will be contacting local businesses in advance of the breakfast and any business interested in providing a sponsorship is encouraged to contact the Lions.

For further information, to provide a sponsorship or to purchase tickets, call Megan Lloyd at 413-687-5537, Tom Reiser at 860-295-8374 or Lions secretary Ken Hjulstrom at 860-490-9116. Also visit the Marlborough Lions Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/marlboroughlionsclubct](http://www.facebook.com/marlboroughlionsclubct) for more information on the event or to message the Lions.

### Historical Society Seeking Photos

The Marlborough Historical Society is looking for any photograph(s) that captures, directly or indirectly, the following locations and time periods:

First, any photo of Town Foods and/or any pictures of West Road in the 1980s. Second, any photos of the intersection of West Road and North Main Street in the 1950s depicting the houses that were there prior to the Route 2/Exit 12 construction.

If you have either of these locations in a photograph, you're asked to email [mhs@marlboroughhistory.org](mailto:mhs@marlboroughhistory.org) or call Romano Ghirlanda directly at 860-916-4031.

### ECSU Newly-Enrolled Student

Cory Hunt of Marlborough is newly enrolled at Eastern Connecticut State University for the spring 2022 semester.

Hunt is a full-time junior majoring in physical education.

### UHart Honors List

Marlborough residents Kyle Dickinson and Nathan Green made both the President's Honors List and the Dean's List for the fall 2021 semester at the University of Hartford.

### Dean's List

Marlborough residents Garrett Kleinhen and Marisa Lee made the fall 2021 Dean's List at the University of Hartford.



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Marlborough • Marlborough

# Longtime BOE Member Running for Board of Selectmen

by Jack Lakowsky

Louise Concodello, a 30-year member of the Marlborough Board of Education and 40-year town resident, will have her name on the ballot for the election of select board members in May.

Last year, the Board of Selectmen and local voters chose to expand the select board from three members to five.

Due to the current makeup of the board and minority representation laws, only one Republican can win office. The Marlborough Republican Town Committee selected one person, Ken Hjulstrom, to run on their ticket.

But Concodello put together a petition, received the required number of signatures, and was able to get herself on the ballot as a second Republican candidate.

Local Democrats have two candidates running. In theory the balance of power on the select board, currently leaning to Republicans, could shift to the left if both Democrats win seats.

Otherwise, one Republican and one Democrat can be elected to the board in May.

The format of Marlborough's executive board will change after the election, going from a first selectman (the town's elected chief executive) and a select board to a town manager (a chief administrator hired by the board) and a larger Board of Selectmen.

Concodello said town managers must have qualifications in public administration, whereas a first selectperson does not necessarily.

Concodello supports the change in government. She said town managers tend to be less partisan in their approach to their work, not being directly beholden to an election.

Concodello's fondness of the change isn't unexpected; she sat on the committee that revised the charter and sent it to voters for approval.

Concodello has an extensive history of public service in Marlborough, first elected to the school board in 1995 and serving multiple consecutive four-year terms since.

"I'm in my 27th year," she told the *Rivereast* this week. "I enjoy doing it a lot. I do it for the kids. They're our future."

If she prevails, Concodello will serve on the board until at least 2025. She will still serve on the school board either way.

A major accomplishment of her many years on the school board was a relatively recent one. Concodello said since September 2020, Marlborough Elementary School has had students learning in the building, which many have said is the best way to educate kids.

Concodello said she wanted to run to give voters a more varied ballot. There are also several key projects and discussions going on, she said.

"We're still talking about the [American Res-

cue Plan] money, figuring out how to spend that \$1.9 million," she said. "There are lots of good things on the table, and we have to make to some choices."

Concodello named as priorities reinvigorating a local sewer project that's "not quite done," attracting more businesses to town, and fixing town roads.

She said though it's the purview of bodies like the economic development and zoning commissions, Marlborough also needs to improve its stock of affordable housing.

The state requires towns to have 10% of their housing stock as affordable. Concodello said Marlborough's is around 3% and 4%. She said affordable housing is important for seniors looking to downsize.

Concodello's service in MES started in 1985, when she volunteered to help in a classroom.

Concodello's volunteerism extends beyond

the school district. She served on the town's bi-centennial committee from 1993 to 2003, planning a multi-day celebration of the town's 200th birthday in 2003.

She also served on the Blish Park Playscape Committee, helping to plan the park's playground.

In 2012, she joined Marlborough Adult Senior Housing as an executive member.

Second only to the duration of her school board membership is her Parks and Recreation seat. She's served on parks and rec. for 26 years.

Concodello has served on several different bodies for more than a decade, including the Lake Advisory Commission.

Many in Marlborough also may know Concodello from attending her home daycare, which she ran for almost 40 years, serving 150 children from 70 families. She retired from this in 2020.

## 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 stjohfisher30@yahoo.com.

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

**Weekend Masses:** 4 p.m. Saturday and 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday. All are welcome.

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

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

**Community Outreach and Service:** Food drives are held the second full weekend of each month for Marlborough Food Bank; you may

also bring food or household donations directly to the Marlborough Food Bank Monday and Tuesday mornings. Sandwich-making and collection continues on the last Thursday of the month for St. Vincent de Paul in Middletown. Seasonal outreach to include the Community Garden to benefit the Marlborough Food Bank and various giving programs to support area organizations continue. Other scheduled service opportunities can be found on the church website, www.stjfisher.org.

**Other Programs and Offerings:** For more information on such programs as faith formation for children, youth and adults, youth group, RCIA or Knights of Columbus, call the office, visit the church website, or look for the church on Facebook (Saint John Fisher Roman Catholic Church).

## Local Man Killed in Route 2 Crash

by Jack Lakowsky

Scudder Evans, 28, of 17 Farview Run, died Monday in a one-car crash on Route 2 in Glastonbury, according to state police.

The crash occurred shortly after 9:30 p.m., police said. Police reported Evans was traveling west on Route 2, east of Exit 9, when, for reasons unknown, he lost control of the vehicle, an Audi.

The car entered the grassy median, went down an embankment and collided with a group of trees, police said. The car then came

to final rest upright among the trees.

Evans sustained fatal injuries, police said. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

The case remains under investigation, police said. Witnesses are asked to contact state trooper Michael Dean at 860-534-6039 or michael.dean@ct.gov.

Owners of any vehicles with dashcams that might have been in the area at the time of the crash are also asked to contact Dean.

## Red Cross Blood Drive

The Marlborough Lions Club will sponsor a Red Cross Blood Drive Tuesday, April 19, from 1-5:30 p.m., at Marlborough Senior Center. The Red Cross is hoping to fill around 45 slots for appointments. To schedule an appointment in advance, go to [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) or visit [www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/donation-time](http://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/donation-time).

The Lions will also collect donations of non-perishable food items during the Blood Drive, on behalf of Marlborough Food Bank.

For more information on this event or to learn more about joining the Marlborough Lions Club, call Secretary Ken Hjulstrom at 860-490-9116.



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# First Selectman Pitches 2.6% Budget Boost

by Jack Lakowsky

Marlborough First Selectman Greg Lowrey on Tuesday proposed to the board of selectman an increase of 2.56% for the 2022-23 spending year.

The proposal totals at about \$6.1 million, up about \$300,000 from the current spending plan.

Marlborough's Grand List grew, according to Lowrey's budget documentation, up about \$14 million to more than \$600,000,000, a 2.31% increase.

Lowrey proposed a new mill rate of 35.51 mills, down .32 mill from 2021-'22.

The increase in the Grand List will result in a "modest" savings for most taxpayers, Lowrey said.

A major component of Lowrey's proposal is an ambitious capital spending plan of about \$2.4 million, up 41% over the current \$1.7 million spending plan. Lowrey said money from the American Rescue Plan (ARP) made this plan possible, with about \$1.2 million from the stimulus going to capital projects. The rest will come from various outside and town resources.

Lowrey listed some of the proposed capital projects.

If approved, one of the more prominent projects is a telecom tower near the intersection of Jones Hollow and West roads.

According to Lowrey's budget documents

he'd first hire a consultant at a price of \$30,000.

In a Wednesday follow-up Lowrey said it would be an 80-foot wooden tower, shorter and less intrusive than taller metal towers with blinking lights.

"There's not much cell coverage in that area," said Lowrey, listing several roads including Standish, Walnut, Carriage, Surrey and Stoneybrook that have little to no cell coverage.

Lowrey said the dearth of cell coverage became a serious issue in 2020 while the town was working on a bridge.

A storm knocked down a cable, disrupting landline service and closing the bridge. Without phones or a neighborhood egress, Lowrey said the situation became "tense."

Lowrey said the town has an informal agreement with a major carrier. He said at some point the town will raise a balloon to portray the tower's height.

"It's not going to be very dramatic," said Lowrey. "It won't be a visual imposition. People welcome better cell coverage."

Carriers and other businesses using the tower would pay rent to the town.

Funded by a grant, the Richmond Memorial Library wants to work on its second floor. Lowrey said an elevator would be installed.

The library also asked for an increase in

funds for its kids/teen librarian position. Library Director Aubrey Muscaro told the board this position was vacated some time ago and has been a struggle to refill.

Muscaro said the part-time job is not drawing prospects. She said she had an interview with a qualified candidate soon, but that they applicant has made clear they're actively seeking full-time employment.

Muscaro said a full-time position would draw and retain talent. The role would cost about \$54,000.

Not everything the various town departments requested made the cut. Lowrey pushed off the senior center's request for repair of the parking lot.

Lowrey's budget proposes a step in a multi-year project for a new boat launch at Lake Terramuggus.

The town needs to bring Blish Park into compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. Blish Park will also get a pollinator garden and nursery, to be funded by an urban forestry grant the town has applied for.

The library is not the only department with a

proposed increase in staff costs.

Nonunion, unelected staff are proposed to have a raise of 5%, and part time and elected employees are looking at a hike of about 2%.

"This is intended to help recruit and retain talent," Lowrey told the selectmen.

Lowrey suggested new staff as well, the most expensive of which would be a facilities manager to oversee town buildings. The job's salary is slated at \$63,000.

The town has several positives going into the coming fiscal year, including a "plump" unassigned fund balance of about \$1 million.

About \$1.3 million of the ARP money is unassigned, Lowrey said. The town's debt is also decreasing by about \$115,000. In 2024, Lowrey said debt will decrease further by another \$500,000.

Lowrey said he's heard from several real estate developers looking at projects in Marlborough, and that the town's assessor has said the grand list is projected to grow.

The town's share of funding RHAM is down by \$157,500, according to Lowrey's document.

## 'Round the Lake 5K

The Marlborough Lions will hold their 38th annual 'Round the Lake 5K Road Race Sunday, May 29. The race will utilize electronic timing with computerized race results. The race starts promptly at 10:30 a.m. The race is a registered 5K.

The entry fee is \$30 and runners must be registered by the day prior to the race. Shirts will be guaranteed for those who pre-register by May 15 with additional shirts provided to runners as available. There is also a \$60 package price for groups of immediate family members participating in the race. Due to COVID-19, there will not be any same-day registrations. Runners will start near the entrance to Blish

Park on Park Road and will proceed on a course, which circles Lake Terramuggas.

The Lions have available race sponsorships of \$100, \$250 and \$500. The business sponsor's information will be printed on the shirts handed out to runners.

To register, to sponsor, or for more information, contact Lion Tom Reiser at 860-295-8374 TGREiser@comcast.net, or Jean Paul Bolduc at 860-295-9150. More info is also on the Marlborough Lions' Facebook page. Applications are also at various locations in town, including Liberty Bank, and people can register online at [www.hitekracing.com](http://www.hitekracing.com); click on "calendar" and then scroll down to the May 29 races.

## School Board OKs 3% Budget Climb

by Jack Lakowsky

The Marlborough Board of Education last week unanimously approved superintendent Holly Hageman's proposed budget increase of about 3%.

The board approved the spending plan in its meeting Thursday, Feb. 10. The budget went to the town's finance board on Feb 16, for further discussion, after deadline for this report.

Now the school board's adopted budget, the plan totals about \$8.1 million, up from the 2021-22 budget of about \$7.8 million by \$234,000.

The increase is above the average hike of the last five years, which is 1.86%. It's a lower increase than last year's 3.08%.

Last month, Hageman learned the district would save about \$32,000 with a reduction in health insurance costs. The change came after Hageman initially developed the budget.

At that meeting Hageman said the budget could be lower as a result, a prediction that did not come true.

After some debate, the board opted to keep this money available, using \$7,500 for a software upgrade and reserving the rest for potential staffing needs, which can be unpredictable.

The savings surprised the board and the school's leaders. At a meeting in January, several board members remarked on the rarity of such a savings. Chair Wes Skorski said it was "unheard of."

Last Thursday, Hageman presented a capital improvement plan naming significant needs. The plan rings out at around \$406,000 and addresses some of the school's aging infrastructure.

Biggest among the plan's goals is the school's roof replacement which, when completed, will have cost \$3.6 million.

The roof hasn't had major work done since the early 2000's, according to Hageman's capital plan document.

Schools have just \$70,000 saved for this project. The plan calls for \$150,000 to be put away each year, reducing the amount needed to bond. Hageman's document says schools will be eligible for 50% state reimbursement in 2028-29, making for a "real" cost of \$1.8 million.

The plan also includes security upgrades at a cost of about \$81,000.

The project's goal is to "provide effective identification of individuals seeking access to the building."

The camera system is 15 years old, according to Hageman, and has no capacity for expansion.

Current cameras would be replaced and integrated with an updated fob entry system. The plan's document reads it would "allow for future expansion of surveillance."

Hageman said as of now the plan just replaces current cameras without adding more.

The Marlborough Elementary School community room floor also needs some work. The plan includes \$20,000 to commission a firm to study the floor and determine needs.

The school and the community use the space frequently, according to Hageman. The floor's surface isn't holding up under its usage.

Another major need is an upgrade of the MES fire alarm panel, determined after consulting with the local fire marshal.

In late January the schools requested an appropriation for the town Board of Selectmen, who made no action and decided to review the request further.

## 4th Friday @ the Arts Café

Marlborough Arts Center, located at 231 N. Main St., will host the Academy Project trio on Friday, Feb. 25, at 7:30 p.m., for the monthly 4th Friday @ the Arts Café.

The Academy Project is made up of professional musicians who have graduated from Bacon Academy's music program, and have received degrees in music performance at the university level. Leading the trio is Erin Vivero, an award-winning flutist, recording artist, and flute teacher. She is joined by Harry Kliewe, a multiple woodwind player chamber musician and teacher based in Hartford; and Sean McCormick on alto saxophone, who was involved in the UConn Wind Ensemble, Saxophone Quartet and Marching Band.

Admission is \$10 at the door. Doors open at 7 p.m. Masks are required and seating is set up for social distancing. The Arts Center is handicapped-accessible and there is on-site parking.

## Book Discussion to Raise Refugee Awareness

Marlborough Outreach, a volunteer, non-partisan civic group, is hosting a book discussion via Zoom Tuesday, March 15, at 7 p.m., to raise awareness for refugees. The organization Integrated Refugee and Immigration Services (irisct.org), headquartered in New Haven, is now welcoming evacuated Afghan families to nearby towns in Connecticut.

The selected book, *We Are Displaced* by Malala Yousafzai, is a memoir of her journey out of Pakistan after being shot in the face by the Taliban in retaliation for advocating education for girls, and other stories from refugee girls around the world.

Copies of the book can also be found at Richmond Memorial Library, 15 School Drive; ask for the book at the counter under the name "Outreach Book Club."

To join the meeting, or for more information, email Andrea at [marlboroughoutreach@gmail.com](mailto:marlboroughoutreach@gmail.com).

## Police News

2/10: Christopher Tyler, 39, of 17 Saner Rd. Marlborough, was charged with disorderly conduct and interfering with an emergency call, stemming from an incident that took place that day on Saner Road, police said.

2/10: Robin Nolan, 55, of Middletown, was charged with conspiracy to commit sixth-degree larceny stemming from an incident that took place at the Big Y in Marlborough, police said. In the same incident, police are looking for Marzena Wyszynska, 38, who they said also walked out of Big Y with a shopping cart full of unpaid-for groceries.

## Second Blessings Thrift Shop

Second Blessings Thrift Shop, located on the ground floor at the Marlborough Congregational Church, 35 South Main St. The shop is fully stocked for late winter and spring. New merchandise is brought in every week.

The Holiday Room is set up year-round for Christmas and other winter holidays. Second Blessings is open Fridays from noon to 3 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon, and accepts donations during these hours. Shoppers should wear a mask.

Items are also sold year-round through eBay at <https://bit.ly/MCCebay>.



Watercolor classes will return to Marlborough Arts Center this spring. Pictured is a scene from a previous flower-painting class in action.

## Watercolor Classes Coming to Arts Center

Local artist Mary Horrigan will offer watercolor classes at Marlborough Arts Center this spring.

Classes will run Saturdays, March 19-April 30 (no class April 16), from 10 a.m.-noon each week. This set of lessons is designed for "All Levels of Beginner." Material lists will be sent once the class is confirmed with enough students registered.

Cost for the class is \$120. Download registration forms from [www.marlborougharts.org](http://www.marlborougharts.org), and mail with a check to The Marlborough Arts Center, 231 North Main Street, Marlborough, CT 06447.

For more information, contact Mary Horrigan at [mehorrigan@comcast.net](mailto:mehorrigan@comcast.net) or leave her a voicemail at 860-467-6353.

Marlborough • Marlborough

## Richmond Library News & Notes

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

**Building and Curbside-Pickup Hours:** Due to staff shortages, the library is now closing an hour earlier in the evenings on Mondays through Thursdays. Until April 4, hours are: Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; and Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

**Meet Polly the Penguin:** Polly the Penguin is new to Marlborough and she's been visiting the library. She gets a little curious at night when staff go home and goes exploring, often-times getting lost. Each Monday, she will move to a new location. She wants to meet all of the kids who love the library as much as she does and, if you find her, you'll earn a prize.

**Now Accepting Puzzle and Board Game Donations:** The Friends of the Richmond Memorial Library are now collecting new and gently used puzzle and board game donations for an upcoming sale to benefit the library. The library asks that all pieces be included in any donation.

**Las Vegas and the Mob:** Thursday, March 17, at 6:30 p.m., via Zoom. The Mob Museum (also known as the National Museum of Organized Crime and Law Enforcement) will discuss why the Mob came to Las Vegas and how they controlled its major casinos for decades.

**Happy Birthday, Dr. Seuss:** Stop by the li-

brary between Wednesday, March 2, and Saturday, March 5, for some birthday fun. There will be a photo screen with photo props, a fishing game, a guessing jar, a book display, a Cat in the Hat STEAM Take & Make kit, goodie bags, and more. Giveaways are available while supplies last. Registration is not required.

**Medicare Updates, Changes, and Benefits for 2022:** On Tuesday, Feb. 22, at 6 p.m., Mark Macrina will lead a virtual program on the difference between original Medicare and Medicare Advantage. The program will cover changes specific for 2022. The enrollment periods will be discussed as it is currently open enrollment through March as well as any FEMA opportunities. This event is being facilitated by Senior Health and Retirement Service in Clinton. Email richmondprograms@gmail.com to register.

**Friends of the Library:** New members are always sought for the Friends of the Library group. Some of the fundraising projects the Friends group are involved in include: the spring and fall book sales, board game and puzzle sales, a spring plant sale, and the holiday auction. Members of the Friends also help the library through projects like weeding and gardening as well as acting as advocates of the library to promote library services. Meetings are held the second Wednesday at the month at 6:30 p.m. If interested in attending the virtual meeting, email Library Director Aubrey Muscaro at amuscaro@richmondlibrary.info.



Celia and John Bagdonis

## The Love Ballad of Celia and John Bagdonis

by Stephanie Bagdonis (Granddaughter-in-law)

Seventy-nine years of matrimony and love – that is what Celia and John Bagdonis are celebrating.

This anniversary is an auspicious occasion that has given us all something to aspire to along with elation and pride. As beloved parents, grandparents and great-grandparents, our resplendent Nana and Papa have shown us all what it means to have an everlasting unity that rivals those written about by the great bards and troubadours of times past.

On Feb. 6, 1943, our Nana and Papa wed on what was a very blustery and cold, but magical, winter's day at St. James Church in Manchester. After their nuptials, they built their hearth, home and legacy in Marlborough, where they have had their residency ever since.

Generations of our family and cherished friends gather around these two beacons of love and light, spending treasured time with them while always being awed by their bond,

generosity, wisdom and tenderness. They most adore spending time with their grandchildren and great-grandchildren, always sharing love, laughter, treats and all things wonderful.

Papa, who is approaching his 101st birthday, and Nana, who will be 99 in the early summer, have bestowed their reflections and guidance on what it is to have such a long and contented marriage. May their words inspire all you readers just as they inspire their Kith and Kin.

"How do you feel about being married for 79 Years?"

Celia Bagdonis: "Beautiful and Lovely."

"To what do you attribute your long marriage?"

John Bagdonis: "Anyone can have a good marriage. It's not going to be sunny every day, but the sun will come out tomorrow!"

"When the going gets tough, the tough get going."

## Kindergarten Registration

Marlborough Elementary School will accept registration packets for kindergarten students for the 2022-23 school year on Wednesday, March 2 (9-11:00 a.m., 1-2 p.m. and 5-6:30 p.m.) and Thursday, March 3 (9-11 a.m. and 1-2 p.m.). Due to current COVID-19 protocol, all completed kindergarten packets should be dropped off at the school's main office, located at 25 School Drive.

Children are eligible for kindergarten if they will be 5 years old by Jan. 1, 2023. Registration packets have been sent home to prospective kindergarteners. If you have an eligible child and have not received a registration packet, call the school office at 860-295-6220.

Also, if you receive a registration packet and do not plan to enroll your child, you are asked to notify the school as soon as possible.

## Pre-Kindergarten Lottery Info

All public school systems in Connecticut are responsible for the identification of children who may be eligible to receive special education services. The Early Childhood team at Marlborough Elementary School is accepting applications for current resident children interested in our peer model lottery for the 2022-23 school year.

If you are interested in your child participating in this process, eligible children must be at least 3 years old by Sept. 1, and parents/guardians must complete and return a questionnaire no later than Thursday, March 24. Note that children identified as kindergarten eligible (those turning 5 by Dec. 31, 2022) are not eligible to be peer models for the coming school year.

Contact Marcy Spellman at 860-295-6236 or mspellman@marlborough.k12.ct.us to receive a screening questionnaire or for more information on the program.

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## Senior Center News and Notes

Marlborough Senior Center, 17 School Dr., is open for activities. Call 860-295-6209 for the center's hours and more information. The senior center has announced the following:

**Transportation:** Transportation to the senior center, shopping, medical and non-medical appointments will be offered each day from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m., with a 36-hour advance reservation. Masks are required as well as appropriate distancing. Assistance is offered each day from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

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

## Holiday Closing

The offices of Marlborough Town Hall, the Public Works Department and the Senior Center will be closed Presidents Day, Monday, Feb. 21.

Portland • Portland

## Senior Center News & Notes

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

**Holiday Closing:** The center will be closed Monday, Feb. 21, for Presidents Day.

**Weekly Schedule: Mondays:** Light Aerobics, 9:30-10:30 a.m.; Corn Hole (seated or standing), 2:15 p.m., dates vary. **Tuesdays:** Bears on a Journey, 9:30-11 a.m. – making fleece teddy bears for cancer patients; Watercolor Lessons: 9:30 a.m.-noon – email bivenne@yahoo.com to register; Tai Chi with Tom, 10:30 a.m. via Zoom; Coupons for Troops, 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m.; Stretch & Flex: 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; Tap Exercise, 1:30 p.m. – fee is \$5; Senior Evening Jam Sessions, 7 p.m. (check the senior center calendar for exact dates). **Wednesdays:** Light Aerobics, 9:30-10:30 a.m.; SyncoCize Exercise, 10:15-11 a.m.; Social Duplicate Bridge, 12:30-4 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month; Qi Gong with Lida, 1 p.m. (four weeks at a time for \$40); setback, 1-3 p.m.; seated yoga, 1:30 p.m. **Thursdays:** Knit & Stich, Dancercize, 10 a.m.; Stretch & Flex, 11:30 a.m.; Mahjongg, 12:30-4 p.m.; Scrabble, 1-4 p.m.; **Fridays:** Light Aerobics, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

**Wii Bowling:** Check the monthly calendar for specific days and time.

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

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

at myjakjeff@gmail.com.

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

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

**Trips:** If you need to be picked up at your home for a van trip, let the center know in advance. **Garden Show:** The van will travel to Hartford for the Garden Show on Friday, Feb. 25, departing the center at 9:15 a.m.

**Special Events: Crafting with Tracy:** Monday, Feb. 28, at 10 a.m. Make "Flowers in February." Please pre-register for this class.

**Chris Graham's Photography and Birding Reception:** Monday, March 1, 7 p.m. Cost is \$2. Call the center to register.

## Parking Ban Reminder

A parking ban is in effect for all storms this winter season to allow highway crews to properly clear and treat our roads to make travel safe. Due to ever-changing forecasts, the ban will be in effect for any amount of accumulating ice or snow.

Vehicles should be moved off the roadway at least two hours before a storm has been forecasted and is expected to start. Vehicles are to remain off the roadway for at least four hours after the storm has ended or until crews have completed their final plowing. Vehicles not moved may be towed at the owner's expense.

## Zion Lutheran Church News

The safety team at Zion Lutheran Church, located at 183 William St., is making weekly decisions as to whether worship will be in person or online. Worship in recent weeks has been offered through YouTube videos posted on Sunday mornings at 9 a.m.

Zion recommends that anyone interested in joining the weekly worship services check the status on Zion's website, zionlutheranportland.org. If online, the service is posted by 9 a.m. on Sundays. If in person, all are welcome to attend, or view a recording that is posted to

YouTube on Monday mornings by 9 a.m.

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

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

## Middle School Honor Roll

Portland Middle School has announced the honor roll for the second marking period of the 2021-22 school year.

### High Honors

**Grade 8:** Cristina Austin, Elizabeth Barr, Aiden Burrus, Aaron Ciarleglio, Laila Coleman, Brady Daggett, Madelene Davis, Ryan Farley, Lillian Gaetani, Gerry Hall, Rita Lin, Cade Modon, Ryan Modon, Delaney Poach, Nathan Quesnel, Emelia Rowland, Andrew Sobieski, Grace Thrasher, Allison Tine, Mara Tuttle, Madeleine Vardon.

**Grade 7:** Giselle Castellano, Penelope Christensen, Kelsey Desmarais, Nathaniel Dietrichsen, Ava France, Ellery Keoppen, Lucas Kirsche, Evan May, Anna Piascik.

### Honors

**Grade 8:** Conor Adanti, Joseph Amendola, Joseph Angersola, Peyton Black, Breckin Burke, Hayden Burke, Hailey Bustamante, Alexandria Carter, Dylan Cohen, Maksim Con-

nolly, Cole Coppolino, Lucas DeMatteo, Gracie DeRing, Jayden Dorsey, Tyler Dumais, Audrey Farmer, Evelyn Hair, Elizabeth Hanna, Natalya Holley, Theresa Hunter, Logan Kehoe, Daniel King, Leah Lamson, Jonah Lavallee, Cameron Lopez, Spencer Masterson, Eunice Ngunjiri, Natalie Orlich, Patrick O'Rourke, Romeo Overton, Evan Piacente, Logan Prince, Brody Quinn, Skyla Rascati, Kiley Scott, Shiloh Smith, Cate Stone, Jack Sundell, Chase VanDeventer, Ethan Wells.

**Grade 7:** Max Bernard, Darci Black, Costandinos Caratasios, Aliyah Cherry, Connor Doyle, Anthony Ezzo, Abigail France, George Germaine, Daniel Glezen, Isabel Grzegorek, Lila Hair, Julia Hall, Abygail Hayward, Cassi Hodge, Avery Johnson, Nicholas Johnson, Drew Kelly, Tyler Kowaleski, Nicholas Kozyra, Connor Libby, Sierra Markham, Audrey Morico, Emma Murphy, Blake Pandolfo, Evan Piascik, Kyla Porter, Molly Reilly, Piper Rettich, Jeremiah Rowe, Bryce Walsh, Remy Wilson.

Portland • Portland

# ‘View Them as Neighbors, Not Refugees’

by Jack Lakowsky

Sulahai Kuresha, a family and marriage therapist based out of Wethersfield, said to the Portland Refugee Resettlement Group (PRRG) to treat incoming people from Afghanistan as “neighbors, not refugees.”

Kuresha was one of two speakers to address PRRG in a virtual forum hosted by the Portland Public Library last week.

Last year, the PRRG was formed to help welcome a displaced family from Afghanistan. Though the group has yet to be assigned a family, members have been educating themselves about how to best welcome them, how to give them a foundation to build a new life in a new land.

The PRRG has formed multiple committees to help the family with finances, education and find local resources. The group has picked out a place in Middletown, a city with more robust services, like public transportation.

The PRRG’s goal is to help the family achieve independence in a year or less.

In August 2021 the U.S. retreated from Afghanistan and the Taliban reclaimed the country in a sweeping conquest of the nation, displacing countless people. The country is now in economic and humanitarian crises.

A Wednesday morning BBC broadcast described the situation in Afghanistan as “apocalyptic.”

The PRRG, along with the nonprofit Integrated Refugee & Immigrant Services, will soon help one of these families find a home.

“Migration is not easy, and it has many challenges,” Kuresha, originally from northwestern India, not far from Afghanistan, told attendees.

“These difficulties must be addressed in the

process of resettlement,” said Kuresha.

One struggle many migrants face is dealing with the indignities of working a job below their skill level, Kuresha said. People may need to wait to take an exam or work on their English before they can resume practice in, for example, the medical field, meanwhile working a menial job to pay the bills.

Trauma is a major factor in resettling a family, especially from a nation that’s been embroiled in war for decades.

Kuresha said to be aware of possible cultural differences. For example, she said, doctors charging fees for missed appointments or tardiness is not the practice in Afghanistan.

“These are people with goals,” said Kuresha. “They want to work hard and become good citizens. We can help them attain these goals and offer suggestions in a year.

“Be culturally sensitive,” Kuresha advised. “Be humble and open and respectfully inquisitive. Learn about their culture and admit when you’re wrong.”

Kuresha presented a slideshow of how the PRRG can best accommodate a family.

She wrote that despite the hardships and trauma of Afghanistan, evacuees are resilient, eager to learn and willing to work hard, that they want to make the best lives for their children.

Kuresha said to avoid stereotyping the family. She said stereotypes of Afghan people and of many people from largely Muslim parts of the world include domineering husbands, religious extremism, rudeness, and that they’re terrorists.

Kuresha said though these problems exist as they do anywhere – including in the U.S. – they in no way represent a majority of the Afghan

people.

Kuresha also advised “containing one’s privilege.” She said the family may not have the luxuries Americans take for granted.

“They may become victims of anti-immigrant, anti-Muslim or racist behaviors that become even more traumatic if their plea for help [with things Americans think of as givens] is minimized, dismissed or addressed in a confrontational, instead of a supportive, manner,” Kuresha wrote.

Another concept Kuresha described was the “dignity of risk,” basically recommending not babying the new neighbors, but to allow them to make mistakes. For example, she said migrants sometimes send too much to family overseas.

Allowing them to realize the impediments this overspending can cause results in better financial behavior, she said.

Kuresha also said that a minimal grasp of English in no way reflects a person’s intellectual ability.

In fact, Afghanistan has a rich array of languages, with two dominant ones, Dari and Pashto. According to asianstudies.org, many Afghans speak more than one language to some degree.

The forum’s second speaker, IRIS representative Arzoo Rohbar, who moved to the U.S. from Afghanistan in 2002, speaks Urdu (the main language of Pakistan), Pashto and English. Af-

ter migrating she earned a political science degree from Central Connecticut State University.

Rohbar said when she and her family first arrived, “one of the most difficult things we faced was having a community of people supporting you, who speak to you in your own language.

“Not always being able to relate to someone, that was hardest for me,” she said, adding language barriers can be a huge obstacle.

“There’s a part of you that wants to relate to people,” Rohbar said, adding when someone feels different, adjusting can be even more difficult.

“Now, some of those things have changed,” Rohbar said.

She said the Afghan community in Connecticut and across the nation is larger and more connected than when she first arrived.

Rohbar said far more resources are available to help Afghan migrants find resources important to their identity and culture, like where to find halal meat or where to buy hijabs

“The relationships with the community are better,” Rohbar said. “Now, if say your case manager isn’t available, there are friends and family who can help.”

Though the situation is not entirely predictable, the PRGG expects to welcome a family in March. The group was told to prepare for an earlier arrival, but hold-ups at U.S. bases have slowed the effort.

## Romance Book Sale

The Friends of the Portland Library group is sponsoring a used book sale featuring romance books and mysteries for the month of February in the Second-Hand Prose Bookshop at the Portland Library, 20 Freestone Ave., during regular library hours. There is also an assortment of cookbooks, CDs, and DVDs, as well as fiction, teen and children’s used books.

Books are 50 cents for paperbacks and children’s books, \$1 for trade paperbacks, and \$2 for hardcover. DVDs and CDs are 50 cents each disc unless marked otherwise. There are also mystery and general fiction books that

have been removed from the library collection, all for 50 cents each.

FPL also has “I Love CT Libraries” reusable bags on sale for \$1.00 each. See a sample at the front desk and purchase them from the library staff.

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

Visit [www.friendsofportlandlibraryct.org](http://www.friendsofportlandlibraryct.org) for more information or email questions to [friendsoftheportlandlibrary@gmail.com](mailto:friendsoftheportlandlibrary@gmail.com).

## Little League Registration Open

Registration ends March 1 for Portland Little League’s spring 2022 season. PLL offers baseball and softball programs for players ages 5-14.

Visit [www.portlandctlittleleague.com](http://www.portlandctlittleleague.com) to register.

## Kindergarten Registration

Valley View School kindergarten registration for the 2022-23 school year is underway.

Parents/guardians whose children will be 5 years old on or before Jan. 1, 2023, should email Valley View at [pgross@portlandct.us](mailto:pgross@portlandct.us) to indicate they will be registering their child for kindergarten. Provide the child’s full name, phone number and address.

Further information regarding kindergarten registration will then be provided.

## Dean’s List

Cody Daggett of Portland made the fall 2021 Dean’s List at High Point University in High Point, N.C.

## President’s List

Hannah Sroka of Portland made the fall 2021 President’s List at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio.

Sroka is earning a Bachelor of Arts certificate degree in English: creative writing, professional writing, global readiness.

## Dean’s List

Portland residents Haley Sroka and Lucas Varano made the fall 2021 Dean’s List at Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Worcester, Mass.

Sroka, a member of the Class of 2025, is majoring in biomedical engineering (BS), and Varano, a member of the Class of 2025, is majoring in mechanical engineering (BS).

## Police News

1/25: Sue Ann Mitscherlich, 59, of 208 Main St., was arrested and charged with second-degree failure to appear, Portland Police said.

## Dean’s List

Portland residents James Cohun and Tatum Hair made the fall 2021 Dean’s List at Endicott College in Beverly, Mass.

Cohun is a criminal justice major and son of Kathleen Cohun and Stephen Cohun, and Hair is a criminal justice major and daughter of Michelle Hair and Kyle Hair.

## President’s List

Megan Kelley of Portland made the fall 2021 President’s List at Western New England University in Springfield, Mass.

Kelley is working toward a Bachelor of Arts degree in communication with a public relations concentration.

## Dean’s List

Portland residents Bethany Dillon, Stephanie DiMauro and Jayden Schoeps made the fall 2021 Dean’s List at Roger Williams University in Bristol, R.I.

## Dean’s List

Portland resident Emily Gouin made the fall 2021 Dean’s List at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

Gouin is a freshman in the College of Natural Sciences, majoring in psychology. She is the daughter of Brian and Anne Gouin of Portland.

## Dean’s List

Portland resident Nicholas Hasselman made the fall 2021 Dean’s List at Bryant University in Smithfield, R.I.

Hasselman is a member of the Class of 2023.

## Dean’s List

Stephanie DiMauro of Portland made the fall 2021 Dean’s List at Roger Williams University in Bristol, R.I.

DiMauro is an elementary education major and a member of the Class of 2024.

## Grace and Mercy Church News

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

The safety of our patients and staff members is extremely important for us. All recommended COVID-19 safety measures are in place.



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CITR-10-20



Portland High School wrestling won a conference title on Feb. 12. Photo by Annabelle Maruschock.

### PHS Wrestling Wins Conference Championship

Portland High School wrestling won a conference title for the third time in program history and for the first time since 2003, winning the North Central Connecticut Conference (NCCC) on Feb. 12.

The Highlanders, who also captured a conference crown in 1989, earned the right to hang their third conference championship banner in the high school gym after their first-place finish at the NCCC tournament in Rockville.

“It was a total team effort,” says Coach Mark Favale, who was part of the coaching staff that won the conference in 2003. “The kids, the coaches, their families, everyone needs to be pulling in the same direction to achieve something like this.”

### Dean’s List

Kelly Lynn Boutin of Portland, a junior majoring in mechanical engineering, made the fall 2021 Dean’s List at Clarkson University in Potsdam, N.Y.

\*\*\*

Liam Coleman of Portland made the fall 2021 Dean’s List at Springfield College in Springfield, Mass. Coleman is majoring in marketing.

\*\*\*

Katie Dougherty of Portland made the fall 2021 Dean’s List at the University of Rhode Island.

\*\*\*

Dylan McCarthy of Portland made the fall 2021 Dean’s List at Western Connecticut State University.

McCarthy is majoring in music education

\*\*\*

Nathan Lavoy of Portland, a member of the Portland High School Class of 2020, made the fall 2021 Dean’s List at the University of Maine.

\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*

Portland residents Patrick Dandeneau and Brooke Ryan made the fall 2021 Dean’s List at Quinnipiac University.

### Snow Removal Reminder

Town ordinance requires that all snow and ice be removed from sidewalks within 12 hours after a snowfall.

Property and business owners with property bordering public sidewalks must clear the full width of the sidewalk and use sand and/or salt to clear icy spots to provide a safe space to walk. Failure to comply will result in a charge for snow removal services if done by the town or a contractor.

Free sand and salt are available to Portland residents at the following locations: Company 3 Firehouse, 169 Great Hill Rd.; and Middlesex Avenue in the parking lot at the end of the road.

For more information, call Public Works at 860-342-6733.

The tournament was a back-and-forth battle between Portland and its growing rival Stafford. In total, eight PHS wrestlers placed in the tournament with first place finishes from Griffin Shafer, Spencer Rosado, Tyler Quinn, Ethan Dean, Owen Brunk and Ashton Oakliff. Pins in the final matches by Brunk and Oakliff, both seniors, sealed the win as the Highlanders held off the runner-up Gaels from Shelton (171-151) and the other half dozen competing teams (Canton, Somers, Suffield/Windsor Locks, Granby, Rockville, and Coventry).

The Highlanders return to the mat for the Class S State Championship on Friday, Feb. 18, for the Class S championship, which takes place at Killingly High School.

### Dean’s List

Portland resident Autumn Tewksbury made the fall 2021 President’s List at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Va. Tewksbury is an intelligence analysis major.

\*\*\*

Portland resident Madeleine Thompson made the fall 2021 Dean’s List at Gonzaga University in Spokane, Wash.

\*\*\*

Kaitlyn Tran of Portland made the fall 2021 Dean’s List at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta.

\*\*\*

Cody Daggett of Portland made the fall 2021 Dean’s List at High Point University in High Point, N.C.

\*\*\*

Iseabal Turner of Portland made the fall 2021 Dean’s List at the University of Saint Joseph in West Hartford.

Turner is majoring in nursing.

\*\*\*

Christopher Adamsons of Portland made the fall 2021 Dean’s List at Connecticut College in New London.

Adamsons, a member of the Class of 2022, achieved Dean’s Honors. Adamsons is a neuroscience major.

\*\*\*

Jenna Lagana of Portland made the fall 2021 Dean’s List at Springfield College in Springfield, Mass. Lagana is majoring in health science and pre-physical therapy.

## Local Ninja Set to Take on World

by Josh Howard

Sebastian Robotin, a 9-year-old who attends Gildersleeve Elementary, is a fast rising Ninja Warrior who recently qualified for the World Finals in the National Ninja League (NNL).

The young ninja competed at the Regional Championships at Centercourt in Lawrence, New Jersey on Feb. 13. His performance qualified him for the World Finals in North Carolina this spring. He is currently the number 13 ranked ninja in the New England region and number 15 ranked in the world in the nine to 10 year old age group.

Last year, while competing in the six to eight year old division, he was number 1 Ninja in the World, according to the points standing. He also competed in the Federation of International Ninja Athletics (FINA) World Finals in October 2021 in Buffalo, N.Y., coming in second in the world for speed and third for endurance in his age group.

Robotin is also a climber and competed in the USA Climbing Region 91 regionals in New York City, finishing eighth overall in a deep field, featuring kids six to 11 years old.

Climbing is a major aspect of competing in the NNL, which combines strength, flexibility,

agility, and speed as participants navigate through a series of obstacles. The sport was made famous by the *American Ninja Warrior*, which has been broadcast on NBC television since 2012.

Robotin became immediately attracted to the exhilarating sport while watching the show and began to train in Windsor. Once he started competing, he quickly moved up the ranks thanks to his background in rock climbing and additional training in gymnastics and parkour, which combines running, climbing, and jumping while using obstacles to get from one point to the next as fluidly as possible.

He now trains at a state-of-the-art gym in Danbury and constantly works on his craft at home. The family home in Portland has a training gym inside and an outside training course, equipped with many of the challenges he faces on professional courses.

His mom, Monica Robotin, said that he son would practice all day if he could, adding, “the ninja life is his life.”

The World Games are slated to take place at the Greensboro Coliseum Complex in Greensboro, N.C., from April 1-3.

### Registration Open for Spring Soccer

Registration is open for Portland Soccer Club’s spring seasons for Travel and Rec players. Visit [clubs.bluesombrero.com/portlandsoccerclub](http://clubs.bluesombrero.com/portlandsoccerclub) to register, or contact PSC President Chad Wilson at [nosliw.dahc@gmail.com](mailto:nosliw.dahc@gmail.com).

Travel Details: Players with birth years 2008 to 2013. Registration deadline is Friday, March 4. Cost is \$170. Practices are twice per week with up to two weekend games against other towns. Season starts early April and ends mid-June.

Rec Details: Players with birth years 2013 to 2017. Registration deadline is Monday, April 18. Birth year determines division. Pre-K cost is \$60, Dribblers and Kickers cost is \$75. Pre-K and Dribblers on Saturday mornings only. Kickers play Saturday morning games at the Portland Rec Complex and practice Wednesday evenings. The season runs from April 23-June 11.

Note: Late Travel and Rec registrations are not guaranteed.

### 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.

### UHart Honors List

Desmond Cleary of Portland made both the President’s Honors List and the Dean’s List for the fall 2021 semester at the University of Hartford.



### 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.

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## Obituaries

### East Hampton

#### Janet Nichols

Janet (Crawford) Nichols, 84, of East Hampton, beloved wife of Eugene Nichols, passed away peacefully Thursday, Feb. 10, at Marlborough Health and Rehab. Born July 1, 1937, in Bennington, Vt., she was the daughter of the late Peter and Pearl (Smith) Crawford.



Janet was raised in Marlborough and moved to East Hampton. She was a graduate of East Hampton High School and UConn with a master's degree in education. She furthered her studies at UConn in the area of literacy. She served as a gifted reading specialist in the East Hampton school system for over 20 years and with her husband served as president of the Literacy Volunteers of Central Connecticut.

Janet is survived by her husband, Eugene Nichols; her sons, Scott Nichols of Lebanon, Eugene G. Nichols III and his wife Jennifer of Marlborough; her three daughters, Kimberly McCarthy and husband Patrick of Conway, Mass., Karen Nichols and James Bendzinski of Middletown, Kathleen Bradley and her husband William of Marlborough; sister, Gail Lester of Bloomfield; and her beloved grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

She was predeceased by her infant son, Caleb Nichols.

Funeral services will be private at the convenience of the family. Burial will be in the family plot in Lake View Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to [www.literacycentral.org](http://www.literacycentral.org).

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

### Portland

#### Arthur A. Tomm

Arthur A. Tomm, 72, died unexpectedly Wednesday, Feb. 9, at his home in Portland. Art was born in Germany Aug. 15, 1949, and was predeceased by his parents, Alex and Augusta (Kutz) Tomm.

Art grew up in Portland with his sister Hildeward (Tomm) Adinolfo. In 1967, Art graduated from Vinal Technical High School in Middletown. He married Kathy Bolles, formerly of East Hampton, and they had two children, Mathew Tomm and Mary (Tomm) Knowlton. After his separation from Kathy, he married Alison (Stiles) Tomm and had his third child, Amanda (Tomm) Vaughan.

Art moved to Brookneal, Va., and lived there until he returned to Portland to live with and care for his mother until her death in 2019.

Art is survived by his sister; his son, Mathew Tomm of New Market, Tenn.; and his daughters, Mary Knowlton of Mansfield and Amanda Vaughan of Brookneal, Va. His six grandchildren, Dylan and Alex Tomm, DeLaney and Damian Vaughan, and Jeffrey and Julie Knowlton, will miss their "Opa" terribly.

Art was a Marine veteran and was honorably discharged after serving his time. Since his retirement, he spent his free time with his many close friends, who were like family, at the Portland VFW Post 6121.

There will be a private memorial at a later time.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW).

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

### Colchester

#### Douglas George Bareiss

Douglas George Bareiss, 90, of Colchester, formerly of Lebanon, passed away Wednesday, Feb. 9, at Harrington Court in Colchester. Born April 2, 1931, in Reading, Pa., he was the son of the late Julius and Erika Bareiss.

Douglas worked for AT&T as a communications technician for 30 years until his retirement in 1986. In his younger years, Douglas enjoyed camping throughout New England with his family, and during his retirement explored the country in his motorhome seeing numerous national parks.

He is survived by his four children, Dawn (Wayne) Despres of Unionville, Drew (Doris) Bareiss of Cashion, Okla., Dan (Clare) Bareiss of Clinton, N.Y., Dave (Michelle) Bareiss of Lebanon; grandchildren: Denny, Dustin, Damon, Daniel, Erika, Julianne, Emily and Michael; great-grandchildren, Devon, Daniel, Christian, Easton, Madison, Jack, Hannah, Bentley, Thomas, Benjamin and Matthew; and numerous other extended family and friends.

In addition to his parents, he is predeceased by his sister, Inga Martindale; and his former wife, Bernice T. Bauchiero.

Care of private arrangements has been entrusted to the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home of Colchester. For online condolences, please visit [www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com](http://www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com).

### Portland

#### Roman Brown Addazio

Roman Brown Addazio, 34, of Portland, previously of Glastonbury, passed away Sunday, Feb. 6, at his home, very unexpectedly and far too soon. He was born in Hartford March 10, 1987, the son of Anthony Addazio and Nancy Brown.

Roman grew up in Glastonbury and graduated from Glastonbury High School, Class of 2005. He went on to Franklin Pierce College in New Hampshire. Sports were his greatest passion. He was an avid New England Patriots fan as well as the Boston Red Sox. He could tell you the stats from any player in any year. He was also a big fan of the NHL and grew up attending the Wolf Pack games with his family. He loved everything that had to do with Halloween and horror movies. He had posters of his favorite films covering the walls to his room for his entire life. Roman played a huge role in taking care of his parents in recent years.

Besides his parents, Roman leaves his sister, Lindsay Addazio; they were only 20 months apart in age. He also leaves his two beloved nieces, Kylie and Lyla, who he enjoyed playing toss with whenever he came for a visit. He loved his cat Moxy and visited her often at his mother's home. He will be forever loved and missed so dearly.

Family and friends are invited to call at the Asylum Hill Congregational Church, 814 Asylum Ave., Hartford, today, Friday, Feb. 18, from 4-6:30 p.m. A brief service will immediately follow. Burial will be private and at the convenience of the family.

Please share online expressions of sympathy, memories, or photo tributes at [www.rosehillfuneralhomes.com](http://www.rosehillfuneralhomes.com).



### East Hampton

#### Doris Crouch

Doris (Cook) Crouch, "Dot," 96, of East Hampton, passed away peacefully Friday, Feb. 11, at Middlesex Hospital, after a short illness with her loving family by her side. She was the beloved wife of George W. Crouch Sr., who she was predeceased by in 1994 after 52 years of marriage.

Doris was born in Hattiesburg, Miss., on Aug. 24, 1925, to Homer and Faith (Evans) Cook. She was the third child and last surviving of their 10 children.

Doris is survived by her five children: Bill Crouch, Patti Tarallo, Jackie Lagana (Richard), Stephen Crouch (Chris), and Lance Crouch (Nancy); her 12 grandchildren, whom she adored and who loved her so much: Debbie Shurberg (Karl), Pamela Zagami, Jason Crouch (Tara), Sean Tarallo (Annabelle), Megan Staples (Chris), Corey Stabach (Jason), Ryan Crouch, Joel Crouch (Malori), Wes Crouch (Kayla), Jillian Demers (Andrew), and Claire Hebert (Kyle). She is also survived by her 17 great-grandchildren, whom she adored: Sam and Rachael Shurberg, Sofia and Ava Zagami, Cameron and Joshua Crouch, Jake and Alexa Tarallo, Tyler and Gabby Staples, Will, Nathan and Lily Stabach, Drew and Elle Demers, and Blake and Miles Crouch. She is survived by many nieces and nephews who she loved as her own.

In addition to her husband, she was predeceased by her granddaughter, Dana Marie Lagana, and her son-in-law, Joseph Tarallo.

Doris grew up in a large and loving extended family. While working in a local bakery in her hometown, she was spotted by a young man in uniform who was stationed at Camp Shelby in Hattiesburg. Captivated by her, he declared to his Army companions that he was going to marry that pretty girl behind the counter, at which they laughed, but he did just that and they were married in 1942. After some moving back and forth, they eventually settled in Portland, where they continued to raise their family.

Doris was employed for over 25 years at Connecticut Valley Hospital where she worked in both Battell Hall and then in nursing education. She was a lover of the written word and would read several books a week. She could talk on any topic and never lost her cognitive skills. In good weather, you could most always find her tending her flower gardens, at which she was a master.

Her grandchildren were never so happy than to congregate at "Nanny and Grandad's" house for overnights on most weekends, and that sometimes included the "granddogs" as well. She was rooted in her southern hospitality and charm. There was always room for one more at the table and an extra place to sleep could always be found. She was never so happy than when she was surrounded by her family and took great pride in their every milestone and event.

The family would like to thank the doctors and nursing staff of Middlesex Hospital, especially the Comfort Care Unit and Hospice team for the compassion and kindness they extended to her and her family during her final days.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Middlesex Hospital Hospice Home Care or Comfort Care Unit, c/o Middlesex Hospital 28 Crescent St., Middletown, CT 06457. A private cemetery service is being held.

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



### East Hampton

#### Dennis D. Tanner

Dennis D. Tanner, 81, of East Hampton, formerly of Glastonbury, passed away peacefully at home Friday, Feb. 4. He was the beloved husband of Sue A. (Liveringhouse) Tanner.

Born in Minot, N.D., Dennis was the son of the late Dale and Emma (Bader) Tanner. Dennis graduated from the University of Minnesota with a degree in aeronautical engineering and a master's degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Santa Clara. He worked as an engineer for Pratt & Whitney for many years. After retirement, Dennis started a new business as The Chair Doctor. He was a longtime and active member of the Buckingham Congregational Church. Dennis's fun-loving, quirky humor made him a favorite of family, friends and acquaintances.

In addition to his wife, Dennis is survived by his son, Christopher D. Tanner and his wife Sheri of Hebron; his daughter, Karen M. Hunter and her husband Todd of Andover; his son, Gregory B. Tanner of East Hampton; five grandchildren, Jacob and Emma Tanner, Corbin, Cayden and Carah Hunter, two sisters, Claire Sys and her husband Ronald of N.D., Carol LaRue of Minn.; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held Saturday, March 5, at 10:30 a.m., at Buckingham Congregational Church, 16 Cricket Lane, Glastonbury. Burial will be at the convenience of the family. Friends may call Friday, March 4, from 5-7 p.m., at Mulryan Funeral Home, 725 Hebron Ave., Glastonbury.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Operation Smile, 3641 Faculty Blvd., Virginia Beach, VA 23453.

For online condolences, please visit [www.mulryanfh.com](http://www.mulryanfh.com).

### East Hampton

#### Joan T. Corson

Joan T. Corson, 72 of East Hampton, wife of the late Donald R. Corson, died Thursday, Feb. 10, at Hartford Hospital. Joan was born in Middletown, daughter of the late James and Angelina (Accaputo) Blancato.

Prior to her retirement Joan was employed as a home health aide. She was an avid gardener and always look forward to spending time with her family.

Joan is survived by a son, Andrew Reed Corson and his wife Cara of Farmington; two daughters, Sheila Lillpopp and her husband Jonathan of East Hampton, Dianna Corson of East Hampton; a brother, James Blancato and his wife JoAnne of Rocky Hill; two grandchildren, Angelina and Kaleb; and numerous cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

She was predeceased by two sisters, Diane Blancato and Linda Zaklukiewicz.

Funeral service was Tuesday, Feb. 15, at Biega Funeral Home, 3 Silver St., Middletown. Friends called prior to the service. Burial was held in the Swedish Cemetery in Portland, immediately following the funeral.

Online condolences may be made to the family at [biegafuneralhome.com](http://biegafuneralhome.com)

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## New Obituary Policy

Effective with the March 18 edition, the *Rivereast News Bulletin* will begin charging \$75 to place an obituary, provided the deceased lived in one of the six *Rivereast* towns – Andover, Hebron, Marlborough, Colchester, East Hampton and Portland.

Obituaries of people from outside the coverage area will be charged separately; call 860-633-4691 for rates.

Obituaries can be emailed to [bulletin@glcitizen.com](mailto:bulletin@glcitizen.com).

★ **Letters cont. from page 6**

should never be spent on ongoing salaries. What happens when that \$600,000 is gone? Answer: it will fall annually to taxpayers without them ever having approved such an expenditure.

That is not smart planning. We are aware that the ambulance association is having a hard time getting volunteers and I will take this opportunity to appeal to anyone who is interested in volunteering to give them a call. No one should be volunteering the kinds of hours we have been told some members are.

However, if a paid staff is the only way they can survive, it becomes incumbent on the Town to research all ambulance service options to determine the BEST service and care for our residents as well the most cost-effective plan for our tax payers.

Sincerely,  
**Mark Philhower, Chairman**  
**East Hampton Town Council**

**Education**

To the Editor:

As an elementary teacher in Marlborough for 35 years, I took my profession seriously. I advocated on behalf of children, started the spelling bee and ran it for many years, led the vote for a school mascot, did fundraising for sixth grade class trips, worked on curriculum, taught summer school for nine years, and had great results when looking at my students' test scores. The best thing I accomplished was developing young men and women who could think for themselves, reason, stand before others with confidence, and speak out for what they believed in. Supporting education has been my life for decades.

Educational spending accounts for the vast majority of property taxes collected in town, 72 percent, or 72 cents of every dollar. It's not inexpensive to educate children. However, we need to ensure we explore every measure to make the best use of our tax dollars to provide what our students need.

There are creative ways to accomplish what needs to be accomplished and to budget for what's necessary to provide for an excellent education. It's important to keep the taxpayers in mind as budgets are developed and be willing to make modifications and even reductions or additions as necessary.

The BOS does not control the education budgets. However, they can provide input that will bring the greatest benefit and balance to all residents.

With 44% of residents aged 65 and older and with approximately two-thirds of households without children, it's no wonder why so many question the educational spending in our town and region. Questioning is never a bad thing. It can lead to good, productive discussion and maybe even creative solutions.

I would appreciate your support in May and ask that you vote for me for Board of Selectmen. Thank you!

**Debbie Bourbeau – Marlborough**

*Note: Bourbeau is currently a member of the Marlborough Board of Finance, but is seeking a seat on the Board of Selectmen. She said she is writing this letter as an individual.*

**Racism is Everyone's Crisis**

To the Editor:

I'm distraught by the Colchester first selectman's reaction to Colchester adults using racist language to intimidate students at the Bacon Academy-Ledyard girls' basketball game earlier this month. Those parents' actions reflect on our whole community, despite our selectman's insistence to the opposite.

Inaction defines us every bit as much as action. And the first selectman's inaction now defines our town and our leadership. Saying that racism has no place in our town is pathetic lip service from someone who rescinded the standing declaration that racism is a health crisis in Colchester. In fact, rescinding the declaration normalizes racist behavior.

Our first selectman says "...no charges of a hate crime have been levied towards any citizen thus far" as if the biggest concern is those adults. Instead, he should act on his claim that "racism has no place in Colchester."

Ledyard Schools identified these adults and will block them from attending future events. Surely Colchester has this information. Our town leaders ought to at least prevent those adults from attending events connected with any of our schools.

Such actions won't absolve the past or solve the undeniable issue that racism is a global crisis. But for God's sake, let's have our leaders do something.

**Isabelle Smith – Colchester**

**Two Great Candidates**

To the Editor:

With this past year's updates to Marlborough's charter, there are a number of changes that will go into effect. One of these changes is the expansion of the Board of Selectmen from three to five members. This five-member board will have great influence over another one of the major changes to impact our town; the hiring of a town manager. Per the updated charter, the Board of Selectman will establish the Town Manager Search Committee. This search committee will generate the finalists to be interviewed and selected by the Board of Selectmen. After hiring is completed, this town manager will serve as the chief executive officer of the town. It is of the utmost importance that this town manager has Marlborough's best interests in mind.

This May, our town will vote on candidates to fill the two open Board of Selectmen seats. This election will have a great impact on the future of our town. We have two candidates running that are perfect for the position. Debbie Bourbeau and Betty O'Brien are longtime town residents that have served our town in a variety of roles. Debbie is currently serving on the Board of Finance, where she holds the position of secretary. Betty served on the Marlborough Board of Education for 16 years, including time as the chair and vice chair of the committee. Both Betty and Debbie are committed to transparency in our local government, support of our town's schools, preservation of our beautiful lake, and management of a balanced budget that provides necessary town services while keeping

taxes low.

I could not think of two better candidates for the open selectmen positions. These are two candidates that will always put town over political party, and will act in the best interest of Marlborough.

**Jack Fidler – Marlborough**

*Note: Fidler is an alternate on the Marlborough Board of Finance but said he is speaking as an individual.*

**Who Said it Best?**

To the Editor:

Let's play a game – Did Ed say it or David Duke, the Grand Wizard of the KKK?

"...[he] assuages his personal guilt for being born Caucasian with pro-Black diatribes blaming Republicans for slavery, cross-burning, voter suppression, and probably sickle-cell anemia. His ilk psychologically profits from dredging up the past, fomenting discontent, and basking in a delusion of grandeur as a champion of moral cause. Even in the face of present-day massacres of Blacks in Chicago, Detroit, and Philadelphia (all under Black leadership), liberals open the same playbook and assassinate the character of their opponents with accusations of racism and white privilege while these cities burn."

"New York has become an example of everything that is wrong with America. White Americans, fearing the crime and social alienation in New York City, commute endless hours to raise their families in safe, clean neighborhoods."

"A democracy where racism is fomented with staged hate crimes? A democracy where Black homicides in Chicago soar yearly with trivial media or political attention?"

"Hate crimes against whites receive little attention, while crimes against minorities become national headlines. By focusing on crimes against minorities, the national media is fanning the flames of racial hatred against whites and leads to more anti-white attacks."

"With Democrats in race-baiting the public into vilifying Republicans. The true suppression about which Joe speaks is liberal Democratic con artists who use Black, Latino, Asian, Indian, and the LGBTQ communities as their own marionettes to win elections and stay in power."

"We are fighting for the preservation of our heritage, freedom and way of life in the United States and much of the Western World. Ulti-

mately, we are working to secure the most important civil right of all, the right to preserve our kind of life.

Can't tell? Ed and David each take a turn.  
**Jon Turban – Colchester**

**This is What Happens**

To the Editor:

Relating to the recent basketball game incident: For years it has been obvious how this can happen; many have noted it. It baffles me that everyone does not see the connection between certain aspects of conservatism and heinous public behavior. Donald Trump did not cause racism, but his ascendance and rhetoric unleashed it. Also unleashed were latent attitudes of xenophobia, misogyny, homophobia, and other sullage of small minds.

As noted by the first selectman in his response to the incident, "these behaviors of a few do not define this community or its many wonderful residents." Unfortunately, the less-than-wonderful residents feel empowered by the rhetoric of various righteous factions of the Republican Party. As bigotry has become normalized through vehement conservative rhetoric, bigots find their behavior acceptable... in their own minds and the minds of their tribe. They act with impunity because of the lack of consequences for their wretched behavior.

An "American" is not a white man of European descent. "American" is a mindset, not an ethnic trait: an attitude and set of beliefs about freedom, democracy, and equality. Many conservative attributes and policies are commendable and worthy of emulation. The far-right and its radical, racial elements are not.

**John Barnowski – Colchester**

**Communist Games**

To the Editor:

The Winter Olympics that are currently being held in Beijing are a great microcosm for what has been happening in the world over the past couple of years. Elite athletes who have trained their entire lives for a chance to compete at an international level are being subjected to the same overbearing government policies that people all over the world have had to deal with for the last two years. But this time it's different, because it's those bad Chinese Communists who are doing the bullying so we can all col-

*See Letters, page 30*

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**Better Dental HEALTH**  
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by **George M. Mantikas, DMD**

**USE OF BOTOX IN DENTISTRY**  
Botox usually brings to mind cosmetic procedures for wrinkle reduction and smoother skin. It works because the toxin in Botox blocks the nerve signals that control muscle movement, essentially paralyzing the muscles in that area. It is this property that makes the product useful in dentistry. Dentists are using Botox to treat Temporal Mandibular Joint Disorder (TMJ), often caused by teeth grinding, by preventing the muscles from engaging in the intense clenching that causes the problems. It can also be used to adjust lips before or after oral surgery or denture placement. Some dentists use Botox for cosmetic improvements, believing their extensive training in oral and facial anatomy and function make them particularly qualified to do so.

Ours is a unique, advanced facility, designed to provide patients with the most up-to-date, comfortable, convenient dental care possible. We'll keep an eye on your complete oral health when you join our ever-growing list of smiling patients. If you have recently moved to our community and are looking for state-of-the-art dentistry and a dedicated professional dental team, we welcome your call.

*P.S.* A high lip line or "gummy smile" usually requires surgery to alter, but Botox may eliminate the need for surgery but relaxing the lip muscles.

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★ *Letters cont. from page 29*

lectively condemn them without fear of being labeled a conspiracy theorist. Athletes are being put into quarantine facilities in which they are fed the same thing every day, isolated from their coaches, team mates, and family, and subjected to a litany of ridiculous “health measures” all in the name of safety ... it sorta reminds me of public school.

We all know China is a Communist country and that it has a repressive hold on its people, but most are just learning that the same holds true for Canada. Its fearless leader, Justin Trudeau, seems intent on forcing his will upon people and has mandated that all cross border truck drivers be vaccinated. The historically independently minded truckers aren't having it, and although most of them are vaxxed there is a growing sentiment that people should be able to make their own decisions when it comes to what is injected into their body. The concept is called freedom and its beginning to pick up momentum in the northland. Trudeau has gone into hiding and has labeled anyone who disagrees with him as a racist, homophobic, misogynistic, science denier that uphold “unacceptable views”. He has called for the Ottawa police to step up and remove the protesters as quickly as possible. The Ottawa Police aren't required to be vaxxed...because they wouldn't stand for their freedom to be taken away. Just more Communist games.

**Colin McNamara – Marlborough**

## Marlborough Lions Events

To the Editor:

Please mark your calendars! The Marlborough Lions have several events planned and I would encourage you to participate and support the Lions. This spring we will be:

- Holding a Kayak Raffle for \$20 per ticket. The winner receives a kayak and a one-year rack rental at Blish Park.

- Holding a Pancake Breakfast at the East Glastonbury Fish and Game Club on Sunday, April 3, from 7:45-11:45 a.m.

- Sponsoring a Red Cross Blood Drive at the Marlborough Senior Center on Tuesday, April 19, from 1-5:30 p.m. Please visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) to register.

- Annual 5K 'Round the Lake Road Race on Sunday May 29th.

- And we have an ongoing collection of durable medical equipment including walkers, crutches, wheelchairs, shower seats, etc..... Call Ken Hjulstrom at 860-490-9116 for pickup.

Your support of the Lions Club helps us to fund many causes including services right here in Marlborough like the Food and Fuel Banks and vision screening for elementary school students.

For further information on these events or to learn more about joining the Marlborough Lions Club, please call me, Lions Club Secretary Ken Hjulstrom at 860-490-9116 or Club President Megan Lloyd at 413-687-5537. You can also visit our Facebook Page at “Marlborough Lions Club – CT.”

**Ken Hjulstrom – Marlborough**

## Housing in Hebron

To the Editor:

Only 3 percent of Hebron's housing is 'affordable.' One quarter of Hebron homeowners are 'cost-burdened,' meaning they spend more than 30 percent of their income on housing. Many teachers and others who work in town, cannot afford to live here. There is a great demand for more rental properties. Many seniors, who can no longer handle the burden of owning a large home on a large lot, worry that they can no longer stay in the town they love. In addition, Hebron lacks diversity – 97 percent of its residents are white.

Creating more housing options in Hebron will:

- Enable those who work here, including teachers, health care workers, and public works employees, to live here.

- Help people stay in a community they love as their housing needs change over their lives.

- Allow our children and grandchildren, who may be currently priced-out, to live here.

- Help existing businesses. When town residents spend less on housing costs, they can spend more at local businesses.

- Attract new businesses. The new knowledge-based economy looks for a diverse workforce in affordable, walkable communities. These new businesses would provide new jobs, increase spending in our local economy, and create a more vibrant community.

- Begin to increase diversity in our community by enabling more families and individuals with less resources to live here, including those who have been unable to accumulate wealth be-

cause of decades of exclusionary policies and practices.

- Make Hebron more environmentally sustainable. Compact, village scale, multi-family homes will reduce the pressure to build houses on large lots and gobble up our valued farmland and forests.

For more information, follow Hebron CODE on facebook.

**Nicole Lotko, Member  
Hebron Coalition on Diversity and Equity  
Amston**

## Absurd, Insulting Arguments

To the Editor:

I believe no single person can be wrong about everything. Sam Prentice aspires to disprove this. His arguments about reparations are absurd, misinformed, and insulting. To debate a subject, we should actually understand what it's about.

Let's start with, “They want white Americans to engage in self-flagellation for events occurring over a century ago...” No, reparation proponents are not asking “white Americans” for anything. They are looking for apologies and recompense from institutions, not from individuals. If Mr. Prentice chooses to engage in self-flagellation, it's for personal reasons.

Reparations involve two things: apologizing for past behavior and atoning for harm.

Reparations have been made in America for slavery, for stealing land from Native Americans, for internment of Japanese Americans, for police brutality and torture, for illegal medical experiments and forced sterilizations. Churches, states, banks, colleges, and others have provided reparations for enabling slavery. Germany, Japan, Austria, and France have made reparations for WWII atrocities. (UMass maintains a wonderful reparations list: <https://guides.library.umass.edu/reparations>).

Most American reparations go to racial minorities. This makes sense. As a result of long-standing deliberately racist policies, there remains intractable racial discrimination in housing, the criminal justice system, college admissions, and elsewhere. Systemic racial biases demonstrate the enormous shadow of slavery, our country's original sin. Reparations could be one small partial fix for the problem.

Mr. Prentice's focus on the Democratic Party's history is tedious. Yes, it should apologize for connections to slavery; I don't know if it ever has. Ignore his lies about Chicago; I doubt even he believes them. But we should note the absurdity of his claiming Democrats interned the Japanese. It was the U.S. government; the president's party is irrelevant.

As usual, Mr. Prentice ignores facts and makes absurd conclusions. Perhaps he's the exception that proves my rule.

**Sincerely,  
Scott Sauyet – Andover**

## Marlborough Board of Selectmen

To the Editor:

As a candidate for the Marlborough Board of Selectmen I want to highlight one of the issues I will focus on if elected.

Currently, the Board of Selectmen, as written in the charter, are required to have an all boards and commissions meeting twice a year. The meeting schedule may have been affected by COVID as they were held only once a year on 1/21/20 and 2/16/21. The purpose of the meetings is for each Board and Commission to report on the year's activity. The commissions I will be addressing are as follows: Economic Development, Conservation, Park & Recreation, Lake Advisory, Nature Trails and Sidewalks, Commission on Aging and the Cemetery Commission. The volunteers who man these commissions should be commended! These commissions are critical to the functioning of our community.

A format that has all boards and commissions report twice a year on what they have been doing does not provide adequate opportunity for meaningful interaction with the Board of Selectmen. I believe the Board of Selectmen should be taking a more active role with the commissions. They should familiarize themselves with the goals and objectives of all the commissions so that they know what they are working on and, if necessary, they can provide support. In addition, several of the commissions have overlapping responsibilities, such as Conservation and Lake Advisory. It would be beneficial for the BOS to take the initiative to hold at least one joint meeting with these Commissions to determine if they could be working together on some of these overlapping issues and whether the BOS could be of any assistance.

**Betty O'Brien – Marlborough**

## Thrilled with Biden

To the Editor:

This is the continuing saga of the failed 14 months of the Biden/Harris Administration. Joe's supporters in this area include our editor Mike “Mask Mandate” Thompson, and the other members of the Foolish 5 – Sauyet, Stevens, Smith and Gyllenhammer – all of whom have never criticized any of Sleepy Joe's flubs, and there have been quite a few.

Are they thrilled that they are part of the 29% in the latest national survey that feel that Joe's doing a “good job with the economy” and our 7.5% inflation rate is the highest in 40 years. Joe pledged to be the “healer” president who brings together a divided nation. Well, instead he refers to anyone – especially whites – who does not agree with his massive spending and progressive programs as racists, white supremacists and white privileged. He supports spending cuts to law enforcement that have resulted in an unprecedented crime wave, especially in major cities but also to communities like Glastonbury who have experienced a huge spike in carjacking. Would you want to own a jewelry store in any major city with rogue attorneys general with their soft on crime policies?

Then there is China – the largest human rights violator in the world who gave American-born Eileen Gu \$33 million to defect and ski for them. She was bought and paid for. Greed is good for Eileen Gu. We as a nation need to rethink ‘Made in China.’ President Trump warned us but received no Democratic support to bring Manufacturing back to the U.S.

Joe sends thousands of troops to Poland and Ukraine to support their borders but allows 1.7 million illegal immigrants to cross our southern border (since he took office) with little or no recourse and transport them in the wee hours to different states.

Joe Biden: incompetent, frail, cognitively damaged, our worst president ever!!

**Don Denley – Andover**

## Preconstruction Schedule

To the Editor:

In an effort to communicate the progress of building a new Colchester Senior Center a tentative preconstruction schedule has been developed and posted on the town website. The current schedule shows construction starting in the late summer or early fall.

The Senior Center Building Committee will monitor and update progress in accordance with the tentative preconstruction schedule. Changes and updates will be issued as needed to complete this effort in a timely manner.

Please note: updates and information on the total project effort are available on the town webpage. In addition, the Senior Center Building Committee has an email address (looking for additional info: [seniorcenterbuildingcommittee@colchester.gov](mailto:seniorcenterbuildingcommittee@colchester.gov))

**Kevin Hastings, Member  
Colchester Senior Center  
Building Committee**

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## Collecting for Tag Sale

The Andover Seniors are collecting donations for the annual tag sale to raise funds for the senior lunch program. The tag sale will likely be held in mid-May. Call Carol Lee at 860-989-6988 to arrange for drop-off/pick-up of items.

## UHart Honors List

Clarice Jayawickrema of Andover made both the President's Honors List and the Dean's List for the fall 2021 semester at the University of Hartford.

## Dean's List

Austin Davis of Andover made the fall 2021 Dean's List at Bryant University in Smithfield, R.I.

Davis is a member of the Class of 2023.

## Police News

2/7: A 2010 Chevrolet Suburban driven by Anselmo Palaguachi, 28, of Brockton, Mass., was traveling westbound on Route 6 in Andover and failed to maintain its lane, resulting in a crash with a 2010 Subaru Forester driven by Carol Derico, 62, of 180 Hebron Rd. Police said Palaguachi suffered no injuries, but Derico was transported to Hartford Hospital with a possible injury.

## Integration in Hebron Schools

To the Editor:

During the 1960's desegregating America's schools became a burning political issue. Ironically a hundred years earlier, Hebron had already integrated not only integrated its schools, but also the community. The reason for this is that slavery was different than in the South. Although northern plantations, like the Rev. Samuel Peters' in Hebron, were agriculturally based, slaves were housed on individual farms. This required some measure of communication and record-keeping, thus, education. Cesar Peters, one of Rev. Peters' slaves, was literate.

Once freed, Cesar Peters made sure that his children were educated by sending them to school with Yankee children in Hebron Center. Innkeeper Erastus Fuller sent Nelson Leonard to the same school in 1846-47. Calvin Cheeseborough, also attended school here. Much of what is known about free African-Americans actually comes from School records! Charles M. Profit who lived as a youth on the John Northam (Bernstein Property) farm was sent to district 6 school, the Gull School now preserved by the Town of Hebron. Joseph and Jeannette Hyde attended school in the 4th District (Amston) during the 1850s and 60s. At the same time, it was illegal to teach slaves in the American South to read and write!

Unfortunately like for most Yankee children higher education does not seem to have been an option. In 1740s Hebron, Peter Sweetland ran an academy for Indigenous youths. Likewise, Congregational Minister Benjamin Pomeroy was a major supporter of Moor's Charity School in Columbia which later became Dartmouth College. Congregational minister Amos Bassett was second principal of the Foreign Missionary School in Cornwall, Ct.

Ironically, it was not until the 1960s that the RHAM school system hired its first African-American teacher. Yet the seeds of diversity in education in Hebron had been sown in years earlier!

**John Baron – Hebron**

## Backdoor Track?

To the Editor:

Didn't the voters of Regional School District No. 8 (RHAM) vote down a referendum to fund a turf field, “track” and lights? Now I see in the CIP budget for next year there is an item to replace the “track.” Is this a backdoor method of slowly getting what the voters clearly voted against? Are we going to see funding for lights in next year's CIP?

Board members, please hear the message the voters sent to you and reconsider the replacement of the track in the CIP budget for next year!

**Thomas Spittler – Hebron**

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## East Catholic Honor Roll

Andover residents Benjamin Carso and Melanie Plausse each made the East Catholic High School honor roll for the second quarter of the 2021-22 school year.

Carso is a member of the Class of 2022 and Plausse is a member of the Class of 2025, and they each earned Honors with Distinction.

## Dean's List

Jenna Kelly of Andover made the fall 2021 Dean's List at the University of Saint Joseph in West Hartford.

Kelly is majoring in nursing.

## ADVERTISERS

*The Glastonbury Citizen and Rivereast News Bulletin* will make every effort to see that all advertising copy is correctly printed. The publisher assumes no liability or financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertising, but will reprint, without charge, that part of an advertisement in which an error may occur, provided that a claim is made within 5 days of publication. The liability of the publisher on account of errors in or omissions from any advertisement will in no way exceed the amount of the charge for the space occupied by the item in error, and then only for the first incorrect insertion. Also, the publisher takes no responsibility for statements or claims made in any advertisement, and will upon request, reveal the name and address of the person or persons responsible for placing any display advertisement, political or otherwise, except for “blind” box ads. The Glastonbury Citizen Inc. reserves the right to reject advertisements which it deems unsuitable for its publications. Every effort will be made to verify the legitimacy and propriety of all ads for the protection of our readers. *The Citizen* will take requests for specific placement of ads and will try to accommodate everyone's requests. *The Citizen* cannot guarantee specific placement.

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# Proposed School Budget Calls for 5.65% Increase

by Sloan Brewster

Andover Superintendent of Schools Valerie Bruneau is asking for \$4.12 million to run the elementary school next year – a \$220,387 or 5.65% over current year's \$3.90 million spending plan.

Bruneau, who presented her proposed 2022-23 budget to the board last Wednesday, Feb. 9, and said it was the culmination of six other meetings in which the board hashed out numbers.

She listed increases in utilities, transportation, salaries and outplacements as drivers for the budget.

Overall contractual increases, Bruneau said, are up by \$93,528. The number includes a \$60,641 or 3.91% increase in teacher's salaries and hikes for instructional assistants and support staff.

The same line item was up by \$97,000 in the current year's budget compared to the year before, she said. She attributed the lower total to a planned teacher retirement and said the position would be filled by someone with a lower salary.

While pensions are increasing by \$11,286, the overall line item for benefits is going down by \$457 as a reflection in lowered insurance costs, Bruneau said.

"Normally our premiums go up, so this actually is the perfect storm for us in benefits," she said.

A new student outplacement is bringing outplacement and transportation up by \$101,000, Bruneau said.

Utilities are going up by \$26,290, which Bruneau said was about what she expected. She attributed the increase to rising costs in heat and electricity.

Despite enrollment numbers going down recently, Bruneau said the numbers are now "holding steady and increasing."

For the 2020-21 year, school began with 176 students and ended with 183, she said. This year, it started with 193, marking a 9% increase from the beginning of the 2020 to the start of 2021.

Currently, there are 194 students enrolled in the school, she said.

She said on the first day of school last fall "there were so many adorable new faces," calling it "fantastic."

"No one wants to see less happy faces," she said. "We want to see more."

She said that over the past six years, the district has lowered its investment in the school and that while some people say spending should be less since there are fewer children than in 2015, the number really isn't "that different."

Bruneau said the district strives to assure the school offers a safe environment for students and the budget reflects that commitment.

Bruneau said next year there will be "exciting" curriculum changes.

"We strive to make sure that there are changes every year that are innovative, that are outside the box," she said.

In an email Wednesday, Bruneau said the changes aren't necessarily in what teachers and students are doing, or about buy something new.

"Sometimes we have to take what we already have and think of how best to use it effectively," she said. "I try to think innovatively and out of the box."

For example, next year, with an influx of students in grades two and three with a variety of needs, she said she is planning to have one grade two class, one grade three class, and one class that will combine both grades.

The fourth teacher will then be able to work with individuals and small groups "to both remediate and challenge each learner meeting

them where they are academically."

Another change – incorporating American Sign Language into the curriculum – began last year with preschool and continued this year into kindergarten, Bruneau said. It will continue in the 2021-22 school year as well.

"This allowed us to share a communication technique during COVID when our littles were losing out on vital face time," she said. "It also teaches empathy for others with disabilities."

Adding sign language also puts Andover students "one step ahead," Bruneau added, as it is now a course that high schools can use to fulfill the foreign language requirements.

She said the school invests in student achievement and focuses on "differentiation and individualization" and offers "rigorous instruction" and individualized differentiated learning opportunities and experiences" in the endeavor to create critical thinkers and problem solvers.

"We need to make sure we make well-rounded decisions," Bruneau said. "We want to create critical thinkers and problem solvers and to do that we ourselves have to think critically and problem solve."

In striving to make sure Andover students grow into successful and upstanding citizens, the school makes college and career paths a part of the educational foundation, Bruneau said.

"Our foundation now is making sure college and career paths of our children are starting to

be high on our list right now," she said.

She said preparing students for college and careers was not something to put off but needs to be done now.

The school also works to maintain students' mental health and emotional well-being, she said.

Bruneau said areas with cost reductions included professional services and that there were no increases in facility or maintenance costs.

She did not list any capital expenses.

Bruneau said expenses were frozen on supplies and described scenarios in which teachers and staff have collaborated with one another to borrow items to save on spending.

"It's not often I [have seen frugality] like that," she said.

She said staff members were "very genuinely concerned" about spending and "are genuinely frugal."

After the presentation, Gerald Crème, board chair, thanked Bruneau "for all her work"

Members echoed his remarks.

"It's pretty clear that we're not looking for anything other than the things we actually need," Adrian Mandeville, board member, said.

The board will next hold a special meeting to discuss the budget and give residents a chance to weigh in. The date and time of that meeting are not yet determined.

## Andover Preschool Screening

The Andover Board of Education, through the Andover Elementary School Early Learning Center, will hold a screening for children that reside in Andover and are 3 or 4 years old by the time of the screening on Friday, March 4.

The screening will be held differently this school year due to the ongoing pandemic. School staff will send home an age-appropriate questionnaire for you to fill out about your child. The questions are in the areas of

speech, language, cognitive, and motor development. Parents will then receive information which will assist in fostering their child's growth, if needed.

If interested in having your child screened, contact the director of special education at 860-742-7339 or at [maioranoh@andoverelementaryct.org](mailto:maioranoh@andoverelementaryct.org) to request an ASQ-3 questionnaire.

There will be one more screening, on Friday, May 20.

## Senior Citizen News & Notes

The following have been announced for Andover seniors, veterans and disabled. To attend any event, call senior coordinator Cathy Palazzi 860-916-6122 to register. Transportation available for all events, as well as shopping on Tuesdays, Foodshare/food pantry rides on Wednesday, and lunches on Fridays. For all YAH events, call Judy Knox at 860-643-6824; for all movie information, call Sue Schmidt at 860-604-1057; and for all trip information, call Georgia O'Brien at 860-742-9947. Check [andoverct.org](http://andoverct.org) for all senior events and information.

**Manchester Shopping:** Tuesday, Feb. 22. Masks required on the bus and in stores.

**Equipment Available:** If anyone needs equipment such as wheelchairs, walkers or ramps, contact Palazzi.

**Rides** to all town events, town meetings, referendums or board meetings, and all medical appointments and trips to Foodshare van and food pantry at First Congregational Church, are available by calling Palazzi. All seniors, veterans and disabled are welcome. If you have a caregiver, they may come with you. Masks must be worn.

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

## Library News & Notes

Andover Public Library, located at 355 Route 6, has announced the following pieces of news. For more information, call the library at 860-742-7428.

**Holiday Closing:** The library will be closed Monday, Feb. 21, in observance of Presidents Day. It will reopen Tuesday, Feb. 22, at 10 a.m.

**Learning About Vernal Pools:** Wednesday, Feb. 23, at 6:30 p.m., at the Town Hall community room, 17 School Rd. Andover resident and herpetologist Hank Gruner will present a PowerPoint program introducing the dynamics of vernal pool life. He is the co-author of the recently published book *Conservation of Am-*

*phibians and Reptiles in Connecticut*. All are invited; RSVP isn't necessary, but is requested.

**Pollinators in Our Yards:** Wednesday, March 9, at 6:30 p.m., at the Town Hall community room. Andover resident Carrie Crompton, a Goodwin Master Naturalist, will describe ways to encourage the insects that pollinate native plants as well as the garden vegetables and flowers in your own yards. Her PowerPoint program will highlight the most common pollinators and what they need to complete their life cycles. All are invited to attend this free program. All are invited; RSVP isn't necessary, but is requested.

## Library Friends Membership Drive

The Andover Friends of the Library's 2022 Annual Appeal and Membership drive is underway.

A donation is all that is required to become a member of this 501(c)(3c) nonprofit organization. Levels are: \$3, senior/student; \$5, individual; \$10, family; \$25, business; \$150, lifetime; \$500, patron. Donations of any amount are appreciated and can be mailed or dropped off at: Andover Friends of the Library, P. O. Box 117, Andover, CT 06232.

Membership forms are emailed to current

and former members and are also available by visiting the library at 355 Route 6, or by calling 860-742-7428. The form is also online at [tinyurl.com/2p9fhrca](http://tinyurl.com/2p9fhrca).

For library news, updates and photos, visit the Andover Public Library Facebook page at [facebook.com/AndoverPublicLibrary.CT](https://facebook.com/AndoverPublicLibrary.CT) or the town website at [www.andoverconnecticut.org/](http://www.andoverconnecticut.org/) library.

Also, Friday, May 13, is the Library Friends' annual Goods and Services Auction, the largest fundraiser of the year.

## Students Invited to Write About Andover

Andover is turning 175 years old next year, and, in honor of the anniversary, all seventh- and eighth-grade students are invited to compose an essay or poem about Andover.

The committee will choose one composition from the entries. The winning student will be asked to read their composition at an event to be determined. The student will receive a certificate of appreciation and a check for \$50.

Compositions should be received by June 1. Submit compositions to [tinawilsey@gmail.com](mailto:tinawilsey@gmail.com).

com. Please include the teacher's name and email. The 175th committee will notify the teacher of the winning student by June 22, and will work with the teacher to finalize all details.

The Andover CT 175th Anniversary Committee is hosting a variety of events every weekend from May 18-June 24, 2023. Therefore, time limits are required to meet the event goals, organizers said.

For more information, contact Tina Wilsey at the above email address.

## Congregational Church News

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

**Food Pantry:** Mondays from 5-7 p.m. Bring your own bags. Masks not required for the fully vaccinated. The **Foodshare Van** comes to the church every other Wednesday from 9-9:30 a.m.; next date is March 2. The senior food pantry is open the opposite Wednesdays, also from 9-9:30 a.m.; next date is Feb. 23.

**Faith-Sharing:** Tuesdays at 11:15 a.m. in the sanctuary.

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

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

## ECSU Newly-Enrolled Students

Andover residents Ava Byers, Mikayla Oman and Kara Adams are newly enrolled at Eastern Connecticut State University for the spring 2022 semester.

Byers is a full-time first-year student majoring in finance, Oman is a full-time first-year student majoring in criminology, and Adams is a part-time junior majoring in environmental Earth science.

## Kindergarten Registration

Andover Elementary School is registering kindergarten students for the 2022-23 school year. Andover's kindergarten program is full-day.

Parents of children who will be age 5 on or before Dec. 31, 2022, are asked to contact the school office at 860-742-7339 to obtain a registration packet or access it at [www.andoverelementaryct.org](http://www.andoverelementaryct.org).

Parents choosing to have their child attend an alternative kindergarten, not attend school until the following year, or who will be home-schooling are asked to inform the school of this decision.

## Preschool Openings

Andover Elementary School Early Learning Center is accepting applications for preschool students for the 2022-23 school year. Andover's preschool program is full-day. Before- and after-school care is available.

Children who will be age 3 on or before Dec. 31 are eligible to attend. The Andover Elementary School Early Learning Center receives funding for reduced tuition rates from two state grants – the School Readiness Grant and the Smart Start Grant.

Parents are encouraged to apply for membership on the School Readiness Council, which oversees the preschool program. An application is available in the registration packet.

Call John Briody for more information or contact the school office at 860-742-7339 to obtain a registration packet. You may also download one from [www.andoverelementaryct.org](http://www.andoverelementaryct.org).

## Bingo & Baskets

Andover Congregational Church, 359 Route 6 in Andover, will hold a Bingo & Baskets night Friday, Feb. 18, starting with dinner at 5:30 p.m. The game starts at 6:30 p.m.

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

Snow date is Feb. 25. Leave a message with questions at the church at 860-742-7696.

## Scout Sunday

Andover Congregational Church, located at 359 Route 6, will celebrate Scout Sunday by honoring current and former Scouts on Sunday, Feb. 20, at 10 a.m. The service will be followed by a reception in the Parish Hall.

Leave a message at the church at 860-742-7696 for more information.

## Holiday Closing

The Andover Town Office Building will be closed Monday, Feb. 21, in observance of Presidents Day. Offices will reopen Tuesday, Feb. 22, at 8:15 a.m.

## Dean's List

Kiyan Pourmaleki of Andover made the fall 2021 Dean's List at Champlain College in Burlington, Vt.

Pourmaleki is a computer science and innovation major.

# LEGALS

**TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON  
LEGAL NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with §7-394 of the Connecticut State Statutes, that the audit of the financial statements of the Town of East Hampton for the year ending June 30, 2021 has been filed with the Town Clerk on February 16, 2022 and is available for public inspection in the Town Clerk's Office, 1 Community Drive, East Hampton, Connecticut.  
Attest: Kelly Bilodeau, CMC, CCTC  
Town Clerk  
Dated this 16th day of February 2022 at East Hampton, Connecticut  
1TB 2/18

Email your classified line ads to [nancy@glcitizen.com](mailto:nancy@glcitizen.com) & call 860.633.4691 to pay with credit card.

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING/PUBLIC HEARING  
CHATHAM HEALTH DISTRICT**

Towns of Colchester, East Haddam, East Hampton, Hebron, Marlborough and Portland  
The Chatham Health District Board of Health will hold a Special Meeting/Public Hearing on February 22, 2022 at 2 p.m. via Zoom, Meeting ID: 83182846439. The purpose of this Special Meeting is for the consideration of adopting the Proposed Chatham Health District 2022-2023 Budget.  
At this hearing, interested persons may appear and be heard and written communications will be received.  
The Proposed Chatham Health District 2022-2023 Budget is available for public review at <http://www.chathamhealth.org> and in any of the District Offices.  
Russell Melmed  
Director of Health  
2TB 2/11, 2/18

**TOWN OF COLCHESTER  
COLCHESTER CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
NOTICE OF DECISION**

At the regular meeting of the Colchester Conservation Commission held on Wednesday, February 9, 2022 the following action was taken:  
**W2021-3067**- Michael Poresky- Applicant/Owner, Shailor Hill Road, Assessor's Map 05-16 Lot 017-000, proposed driveway crossing, watercourse and URA impacts  
**-Approved with Condition**  
Respectfully Submitted,  
Falk von Plachecki, Chairman  
1TB 2/18

**LEGAL NOTICE OF ACTIONS  
PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION  
HEBRON, CONNECTICUT**

The Hebron Planning and Zoning Commission took the following actions at their Regular Meeting which was held on Tuesday, February 8, 2022, at 7:00 P.M., on the following:  
**Petition 2022-1** – Petition of the Hebron Planning and Zoning Commission to Amend Section 6.D of the Hebron Zoning Regulations to extend the Temporary and Limited Moratorium on Cannabis Establishments until December 30, 2022. Application filed under Section 7.E of the Hebron Zoning Regulations.  
**Public Hearing set for March 8, 2022.**  
**Approved** - letter to be sent to Town Manager and BOS regarding Cannabis Regulations  
**Legal Notice will be published in the Rivereast New Bulletin on February 18, 2022**  
**The video recording of the Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting can be seen using the following link:**  
<https://transcripts.gotomeeting.com/#/s/5f5ee7a4b0645590448e65435135e1eb460c87ea8b03d47d0b871f8112c2a7ec>  
1TB 2/18

**LEGAL NOTICE OF ACTIONS  
HEBRON CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
15 GILEAD STREET, HEBRON CT**

At its February 10, 2022 meeting, the Hebron Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commission took the following actions:  
**Petition 2022-01**, c/o 10 Jeremy Way, Hebron, Sharon Raboin on behalf of the Mill at Stonecroft Condominium Association – felling of dead trees on Condominium property within the upland review area - **approved** with the following conditions:  
1. Crop stumps close to the ground  
2. No heavy equipment to be used during the cutting process  
**Petition 2022-02**, 126 Grayville Road, Amston, Joseph and Joy Zuzel – conversion of existing horseback riding ring into a sand ring on PA 490 property – **approved** with the following conditions:  
1. Pursuant to Sections 4.1.a. and 4.1.d. of the Hebron Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations and the P.A. 490 status of the property, the foregoing application is permitted as a use as of right.  
The Commission recommends that the proposed soil berms be planted with native vegetation as a means of sediment and erosion control.  
James P. Cordier, Wetlands Agent  
For Thomas Loto, Chairman, Hebron Conservation  
<https://transcripts.gotomeeting.com/#/s/308f2cf7c9eafd4576a9e8e26d01a0ebc8f4e340d545b7e7c1fecf3a739197ea>  
1TB 2/18

**LEGAL NOTICE  
MARLBOROUGH CONSERVATION  
COMMISSION  
NOTICE OF ACTION**

The Marlborough Conservation Commission at its meeting of February 07 2022, took the following action:  
**APPLICATION APPROVED:**  
APPLICATION - #19-21 – Robert & Jacqueline Roach (Applicant / Property Owner) – Finley Hill Lot – requesting approval of building lot.  
APPLICATION #02-22 – Town of Marlborough, (Applicant / Property Owner), - Blish Park – Pollinator Gardens and Tree Nursery.  
**APPLICATION CONTINUED; SITE WALK SCHEDULED:**  
APPLICATION - #01-22 – Ed & Lori Tarka (Applicant / Property Owner) – 4 Gina Ln – maintenance on existing pond on property. A site walk is scheduled for 2/26 with a snow date of 3/5.  
APPLICATION #03 -22 – Town of Marlborough (Applicant / Property Owner), -North Main Street & Park Road, Drainage Improvements.  
Dated at Marlborough, CT this 14TH day of February 2022.  
MARLBOROUGH CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
Yvonne Bolton, Chair  
1TB 2/18

**LEGAL NOTICE  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
PUBLIC HEARING  
TOWN HALL  
TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2022  
6:30 P.M.**

The legal voters of the Town of Marlborough and those eligible to vote at Town Meetings, are hereby notified and warned that a Public Hearing will be held at the Marlborough Town Hall, 26 North Main Street, Tuesday, March 1, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. to hear comments and discuss the following:  
**Land Use / Town Services Fee Schedule**  
Proposed changes are available in the office of the Town Clerk or on the town website [www.marlbroughct.net](http://www.marlbroughct.net)  
Dated at Marlborough, Connecticut, this 16th day of February 2022.  
Gregory Lowrey, First Selectman  
Joseph Asklar, Selectman  
Amy Traversa, Selectman  
1TB 2/18

**LEGAL NOTICE  
MARLBOROUGH ZONING COMMISSION  
NOTICE OF ACTION**

The Marlborough Zoning Commission at its meeting of February 3 2022, took the following action:  
**PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED; APPLICATION APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS:**  
APPLICATION #Z-19-21 – Graphik Sign Solutions, LLC / Schwartz Real Estate (Applicant / Property Owner) – Building Signs 5 South Main Street  
**PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED; APPLICATION APPROVED:**  
APPLICATION #Z-20-21 – Marlborough Associates LLC – Zone change for lots known as tax assessors map 6, block 10, lots 18B, 16, 18A, 17B&C and 2 private roads from Design Business Industrial to Residential.  
**PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED; APPLICATION APPROVED WITH MODIFICATIONS:**  
APPLICATION #Z-22-21 Marlborough Zoning Commission – Zone change from General Industrial (GI) to residential (R) – properties located at 61/63 South Main St., 77 South Main & 81 South Main St.  
**PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED; APPLICATION CONTINUED:**  
APPLICATION #Z-15-21 Amendment to Article Two Zones Section A, Amendment to Article Four Definitions, & New Article Ten J - Lake Terramuggus Watershed & Shoreline Overlay District Overlay District.  
KEVIN ASKLAR, ZONING COMMISSION CHAIR  
Dated at Marlborough, CT this 14th day of February 2022.  
1TB 2/18

**LEGAL NOTICE  
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS  
TOWN OF HEBRON, CONNECTICUT**

The Hebron Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing at a meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 1, 2022, at 7:30 PM, to be held virtually through the GoToMeeting Platform, concerning the following:  
**Petition 2022 - 1**, Request of Richard J. Heffernan Jr., Owner, for a variance to Section 2.E.5 of the Hebron Zoning Regulations, to allow a 240 square foot shed 8 feet from the side property line where 30 feet is required by the Regulations, premise located at 19 Teichert Lane, R-1 District.  
Dated at Hebron, Connecticut, on this 8th day of February 2022.  
Martin Halloran, Chairperson  
**Interested persons may appear and all written communications will be received.**  
Legal Notice will be published on the Town of Hebron Website at <https://hebronct.com/agendas/>  
Zoning Board of Appeals  
Tue, Mar 1, 2022 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM (EST)  
**Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.**  
<https://meet.goto.com/534680701>  
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United States: +1 (408) 650-3123  
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2TB 2/18, 2/25

**MIDDLE HADDAM HISTORIC DISTRICT  
COMMISSION MEETING  
Thursday, February 24, 2022  
6:30 pm at TOWN HALL  
LEGAL NOTICE**

Public hearing will be held to consider the following:  
Application 563 for a Certificate of Appropriateness at 19 Long Hill Road-- for a partial roof replacement, removing existing shingles and replacing with architectural asphalt shingles – for applicant Daniel Roy.  
Application 564 for a Certificate of Appropriateness at 19 Long Hill Road -- to raise the roofline of the existing addition, and to replace windows to match existing windows on the main home -- for applicant Daniel Roy.  
The foregoing applications are available for public review at the East Hampton Building Department. At this hearing interested persons may be heard and written communications will be received.  
Dated: February 16, 2022  
Regina Starolis, MHDC Clerk  
1TB 2/18

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**EMPLOYMENT**

**REVENUE COLLECTION CLERK** - Town of Coventry Tax Office: 37 hrs. per week. Starting pay \$19.49/hr. plus benefits. For info & application see Jobs at www.coventryct.org. Apply online or submit Town job application form to Town of Coventry, Office of the Town Manager, 1712 Main Street, Coventry, CT 06238. Deadline: March 9, 2022. EOE M/F.

**THE KIDS CLUB CHILD CARE CENTER IN MARLBOROUGH IS LOOKING TO IMMEDIATELY HIRE 2 PART TIME EMPLOYEES.** One position is for M-F 7:00AM-12:30P.M, the other one is M-F 3:00-5:30. Those interested must be flexible, dependable, be able to lift at least 20 pounds and have experience working with children ages 3 months to 5 years. If interested in learning more about the position please call the center at 860 295-0498 or send us an email at thekidsclub98@yahoo.com with your availability, qualifications and questions that you may have.

**E2 ELECTRICIAN / APPRENTICES WANTED** with residential experience. Call John 860-214-4045 or email gardelec@frontier.com

**MINNECHAUG GOLF COURSE** is looking for FT/PT Maintenance, Pro Shop & Cart staff. Hours are flexible. Perfect for retirees. Call 860-432-3334 (leave message) or golfminnechaug@gmail.com

**ANGELO'S BAKERY - PART-TIME** dishwasher wanted. Must be able to lift 80 quart bowls in sink, 50-60 lbs. Must keep bakery clean. Apply in person at Angelo's Bakery 32 Halls Hill Road, Colchester CT

**BAKERS ASSISTANT AND KITCHEN HELP NEEDED** at Marlborough Country Bakery. Call or stop in 860 295-9251

**WANTED EXPERIENCED GUTTER INSTALLERS.** Please contact Mike Wood by text 860-205-2573. Include your name, number and gutter experience.

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**TOWN OF HEBRON BOARD CLERK**  
Board Clerk needed to record and type meeting minutes for Town of Hebron Boards and Commissions. Part time position, mostly evening hours. Meetings may be in-person or in virtual format. Starting rate \$20/hour. Send resume with Town of Hebron application or apply in person by March 4, 2022: Town Manager's Office, Hebron Town Office Building, 15 Gilead Street, Hebron, CT 06248. The Town of Hebron is an equal opportunity employer.

**CHRIST LUTHERAN EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER** in Amston, is seeking Preschool and Toddler teachers as well as assistant teachers. Part time and full time positions available. Starting at \$13-\$15 with flexible hours. Health insurance, and benefits available after 3 months. Please call 860-228-5134 or email director@clecchebron.org for more information about the positions available or with any questions.

**CAR WASH ATTENDANT WANTED.** Part time or Full Time. Call 860-531-9182

**PART-TIME LIQUOR SALES CLERK WANTED:** Colchester Wine & Spirits. Stop in person to apply at store, 99 Linwood Avenue, Colchester.

**PT DISHWASHER NEEDED** at Marlborough Country Bakery. Call or stop in 860 295-9251

**COLCHESTER WINE AND SPIRITS IS LOOKING FOR PART TIME LIQUOR STORE CLERK.** Stop in person to apply at store, 99 Linwood Avenue, Colchester.

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Columbia, CT 06237  
Please call 860-228-8590  
Visit our website: hwpporter.org

**Public Works Maintainer II**

The Town of East Hampton is accepting applications for the position of Maintainer II for the Public Works Department. This is a full-time, bargaining unit position, with benefits. \$21.78 per hour; 40 hours per week, plus OT as necessary. Snow plowing experience and CDL with class B (air brake endorsement) required. Ability to operate and use a variety of tools, trucks, and machinery. Applicant should be dependable, have a clean driving record and be in good physical condition. www.easthamptonct.gov. EOE/AA/M-F. Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, resume and an employment application by Friday, 3/4/2022. (or until filled) to the Town of East Hampton, Department of Human Resources, 1 Community Drive, East Hampton, CT 06424, or by email to lseymour@easthamptonct.gov.

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# EMPLOYMENT

## Parks Maintainer I (Full-time)

The Town of East Hampton is accepting applications for the position of Parks Maintainer I. This position performs a wide variety of manual labor tasks in the construction, installation, repair and maintenance of parks, grounds and recreational areas and facilities. Participates in snow removal operations. Applicants must have knowledge and experience in the safe operation of equipment including but not limited to manual shift trucks, towing trailers with equipment, hand and riding mowers, hand and power tools, trimmers, paint machines, snowplow and other equipment used in maintenance of municipal facilities, turf, athletic fields, recreational areas, snow removal, etc. Custodial duties include cleaning restrooms, refuse removal, and general housekeeping tasks as assigned. Applicants must be 18 years or older, possess a valid Connecticut driver's license and have a clean driving record. \$19.27 per hour. 40-hour workweek with overtime as required. This is a bargaining unit position, which includes benefits. Job description and application are available at [www.easthamptonct.gov](http://www.easthamptonct.gov). Please submit your cover letter, application and resume to the Town of East Hampton, Department of Human Resources, 1 Community Drive, East Hampton, CT 06424, by March 4, 2022, or until filled. EOE/AAM-F.

1TB 2/18

## Assistant Technology Coordinator Town of Portland, CT (EOE) Deadline: 3/4/2022

Send resume with Town application & 3 letters of reference to: **Office of the First Selectman, P.O. Box 71, Portland, CT 06480-0071** Email: [mceppaglia@portlandct.org](mailto:mceppaglia@portlandct.org)  
Assistant Technology Coordinator, 40 hours weekly (M-F), \$24.00-\$34.15 per hour DOQ; non-union position; full fringe benefits package. Required: Bachelor's degree or equivalency from an accredited college/university in Computer Science or a background in Computer Science/Information Systems, Software, Electronics or Telecommunications; at least three years of progressively responsible experience providing technical network support and network administration preferred; or an equivalent level of related experience and education. Subject to pre-employment drug/alcohol testing & criminal history background check. All qualified applicants will be considered for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.

1TB 2/18

## POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT FOR FIRE FIGHTER ELIGIBILITY LIST

**Job Title: Pay Range: Full-Time:**  
Fire Fighter II/ Emergency Medical Technician Per Union Contract-start \$22.76/hour  
Per Union Contract - 40 hours per week/FLSA 53 Hour  
**General Duties**  
Responds to both natural and man-made disasters or emergencies and provides for the protection of life and property. Inclusive of: Combating, extinguishing, and preventing fires and providing emergency medical assistance and transport; Mitigating hazardous materials incidents and provide technical rescue.  
**Experience and Education**  
High School Diploma required. State of Connecticut certified Emergency Medical Technician, Fire Fighter II Certification, and class B license or "Q" endorsement. Basic knowledge of the hydrant system, static water supplies, street system and physical layout of the town of Colchester. Knowledge of the locations of public buildings, and local hazards in the Town of Colchester. Understanding of the Fire Department rules and regulations and procedures. Loss of the Class B or restricted license is cause of discipline and or termination. Qualification of department apparatus within six months of employment. Must be at least 18 years of age.  
All applicants must submit a cover letter and resume, along with a completed Town of Colchester Employment application (available at <https://www.colchesterct.gov/human-resources/pages/employment-opportunities>) to Andreas Bisbikos, First Selectman, 127 Norwich Ave, Suite 201, Colchester, CT 06415 or via email to [HR@colchesterct.gov](mailto:HR@colchesterct.gov).

1TB 2/18

## Production Worker Wanted

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FOR SALE: Marans chickens. French chocolate colored egg layers. Hatched 5/21. \$20/pair. Old English game birds. \$5/pair. Call 860-810-0832  
**FIREWOOD:** Sold in 1 or 2 cord. Split and seasoned. Cavanna Farms 860-659-1856  
**SEASONED FIREWOOD FOR SALE:** Pick up in Colchester. 860-537-4093  
**TAG SALES**  
**MOVING SALE:** Saturday February 26th 9am-2pm. Furniture, dishes, pans, area rugs, printer, tables, cabinets, dvd player and more. 222 Deepwood Drive, Amston, CT Masks required  
**MOVING SALE:** Everything must go. We are in Seven Hills Estates, 62 Auburn Knoll East Hampton, CT. Preview Web Site - 62auburn.com  
February 26-27 10AM to 2 PM  
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**We sell 100%  
Pure Beef, Pork  
& Chicken  
No Additives**



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**Prices Effective Feb 17<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>**

**Wholesale Prices To The Public**

# TRUCKLOAD SALE



All Sale Items Are *While Supplies Last* - We Will Custom Cut And Bulk Wrap All Primals

100% Pure Beef No Additives  
**Whole Boneless  
Angus Rib Eyes**  
Consists of Rib Eye Steak & Roast  
**\$7.98** /lb.  
16 - 20 lb. Average

100% Pure Pork No Additives  
**Whole Bone-In  
Pork Loins**  
Bone In Pork Chops & Roasts  
**\$1.75** /lb.  
14-20 lb. Average

100% Pure Beef No Additives  
**Whole Beef  
Tenderloins**  
Consists of Filet Mignon Steak & Roast  
**\$9.98** /lb.  
4 - 6 lb. Average

100% Pure Beef No Additives  
**90 % Ex-Lean  
Ground Beef**  
Not Further Processed  
**\$3.98** /lb.  
Sold in 9 - 10 lb Bags

100% Pure Pork No Additives  
**Whole Boneless  
Pork Loins**  
Boneless Pork Chops & Roast  
**\$1.98** /lb.  
8 - 10 lb. Average

100% Pure Beef No Additives  
**Whole Bone-In  
Angus Prime Rib**  
Consists of Prime Rib Steak & Roast  
**\$6.98** /lb.  
18 - 22 lb. Average

100% Pure Beef No Additives  
**Whole New  
York Strips**  
New York Strip Steaks & Roasts  
**\$7.68** /lb.  
16 - 20 lb. Average

100% Pure Pork No Additives  
**Fresh Genuine  
Spareribs**  
Consists of Spareribs & Riblets  
**\$2.48** /lb.  
10 - 12 lb. Average

100% Pure Beef No Additives  
**Whole Prime  
Angus NY Strips**  
New York Strip Steaks & Roasts  
**\$13.98** /lb.   
12 - 15 lb. Average

100% Pure Beef No Additives  
**Whole Prime  
Angus Top  
Sirloins** For Spoon Roast  
Prime Angus Top Sirloin Steak & Roast  
**\$6.28** /lb.   
12 - 14 lb. Average

100% Pure Beef No Additives  
**Whole Beef  
Eye Rounds**  
Consists of Eye Round Steak & Roast  
**\$4.68** /lb.  
5 - 8 lb. Average

100% Pure Beef No Additives  
**Whole Boneless  
Top Sirloins**  
Boneless Sirloin Steak & Roast  
**\$4.68** /lb.  
14 - 19 lb. Average

100% Pure Pork No Additives  
**Whole Pork  
Tenderloins**  
Bob's Family Deals  
**\$2.98** /lb.

100% Pure Pork No Additives  
**Country Style  
Pork Spareribs**  
Bob's Family Deals  
**\$2.38** /lb.

Fresh All Natural  
**Chicken Leg  
Quarters**  
Sold In 40lb Box  
**\$22.98** /40lb.  
Also Sold in 10lb Bags 98¢ /lb

Fresh Grade A All Natural  
**Chicken Thighs**  
Bone-In Sold In 40lb Box  
Bob's Family Deals  
**\$36.98** /40 lb.  
Also Sold in 10lb Bags \$1.38 /lb

100% Pure Beef No Additives  
**Whole Beef  
Sirloin Tips**  
Consists of Sirloin Tip Steak & Roast  
**\$4.47** /lb.  
8 - 10 lb. Average

100% Pure Beef No Additives  
**Whole Top  
Round**  
Consists of Top Round Steak & Roast  
**\$4.38** /lb.  
20 - 25 lb. Average

100% Pure Beef No Additives  
**Whole Bottom  
Rounds**  
Consists of Cube Steak Round Stew  
**\$4.48** /lb.  
12 - 16 lb Average

Fresh Grade "a" All Natural  
**Chicken  
Drumsticks**  
Sold In a 40lb Box.  
**\$22.98** /40 lb.  
Also Sold in 10lb Bag \$1.28 /lb

Lessor Amounts \$3.99 /lb  
**Jamestown  
Bacon**  
**3 / \$10.97** /lb.

Natural Casing Franks  
**Deutschmacher  
2.5 lb Franks**  
**\$12.98** 2.5 lb.

Fresh Grade A All Natural  
**Boneless  
Chicken Breast**  
Sold In a 10 lb Bag.  
Not Further Processed  
**\$2.98** /lb.

Fresh Grade "a" All Natural  
**Boneless  
Chicken Thighs**  
Sold In a 40lb Box.  
Not Further Processed  
**\$79.98** /40 lb.  
Also Sold in 5lb Bag \$2.98 /lb.

**You Deserve Better  
Than Factory Cut  
Meat!**

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Fresh, Here By  
Our Butchers!**

**Help Save The  
Butchers!**

Real Meat No Additives

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**\$199.**

- 3 Lbs. Beef Chuck Pot Roast 100% Pure Beef No Additives
- 8 Lbs. 90% Ex-Lean Ground Beef 100% Pure Beef No Additives
- 8 Lbs. Beef Chuck London Broil Steak 100% Pure Beef No Additives
- 4 Lbs. Country Ribs 100% Pure Pork No Additives
- 8 Lbs. Center Cut Pork Chops 100% Pure Pork No Additives
- 4 Lbs. Beef Chuck Stew Meat 100% Pure Beef No Additives
- 10 Lbs. Boneless Skinless Chicken Breast Fresh Grade A All Natural
- 10 Lbs. Chicken Drumsticks Fresh Grade A All Natural
- 10 Lbs. Chicken Thighs Bone In Fresh Grade A All Natural
- 3 Lbs. 3 - 1 lb Packages Of Bacon

Please Order 1 Day Ahead Available After 12 Noon

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