



# RIVEREAST

# News Bulletin

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

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**Olga Borsh, a Marlborough resident from Ukraine, is supporting her home country by taking donations at her home on Denler Drive. She's also asking people to donate to different Ukrainian support groups.**

## Local Ukrainian Collecting for Homeland

by Jack Lakowsky

"Like everyone with Ukrainian blood, I'm not counting calendar days," Marlborough resident and Ukraine native Olga Borsh said this week. "Now I count 'Days of War.' This is Day 20."

Borsh's whole family, excepting her kids, lives in Ukraine.

"I have my little nephews there," Borsh told the *Rivereast* Tuesday. "They're okay, thank God."

Borsh's family lived in Odesa, a Ukrainian city on the Black Sea. The Russian army has for weeks waged a brutal, indiscriminate war against Ukraine. Odesa has been the site of heavy fighting, according to media reports.

Most of Borsh's family has gone to the country's relatively quiet Western region. She said she still has some family in the besieged city. Fortunately, Borsh's family is still safe.

First thing each morning, Borsh calls family members, saying she never knows what happened while she was sleeping.

"They want to stay in the country as long as possible," said Borsh. "It depends on how things go."

She said she and her family are like many Ukrainians – optimistic, stubborn and resolute.

"It's how we're made," she said.

Borsh said footage of the war and its carnage are hard to watch and disquieting, to say the least, but that the world must know what's going on. She said hearing the Ukrainian National Anthem, sang by stalwart choirs against the backdrop of rubble and fire, invigorates her spirit.

"I'm a singer myself," said Borsh, adding the

anthem "is hard to sing now – you start and you cry. It really goes through the bones now. Every word has meaning to us. I'm very proud of our anthem; it's in our DNA."

Borsh commended the Ukrainian military. She said troops are defending the country bravely and nobly, keeping the "monster" at bay. She added that, though countries are doing a lot to help Ukraine, they must establish a no-fly zone.

The U.S., along with its NATO allies, has not named a no-fly zone as a possibility. Officials have said this could bring the alliance into direct warfare with Russia, possibly pushing the globe into a third world war.

She added Russian citizens must also step up, saying if most of Russia's 135 million people decry the war, their leaders will be forced to listen.

Russia's president, Vladimir Putin, has cracked down on independent media and any dissent. It's illegal to refer to the war as a "war." According to the BBC many thousands of Russian protestors have been detained.

Borsh isn't sitting idle while her country faces a crisis of staggering enormity. For weeks she's been collecting donations at her home, 41 Denler Drive.

Right now, she's especially looking for clothes and winterwear for babies and adults, as well as blankets, medical supplies and other immediate needs.

Borsh also advised donating to Maidan United Inc., a Connecticut-based nonprofit based in Hartford. Its mission is providing essential medical supplies to the people of Ukraine, according to the website.

*See Collecting for Homeland, page 30*

## RHAM Students Raising Money for Ukraine

by Sloan Brewster

Several seniors at RHAM High School are raising money to send to Ukraine via Save the Children.

As of Tuesday, the group had collected about \$1,600 toward their \$5,000 goal, said senior Matthew Fago of Amston.

The students, who sat down with the *Rivereast* last Thursday, said that when they heard about Ukrainian hospitals being bombed by invading Russians, they started wearing blue and yellow – the colors of the Ukrainian flag.

They voiced the helplessness they felt in the face of the war.

Ukrainian sisters Maria and Mariana Toronchuk, Andover residents who came to the U.S. with their parents seven years ago, said watching the situation from afar was very difficult.

"It's crazy. I think right now it's getting worse and worse by day. Hearing the news back, it just kind of overwhelms you," Maria said. "The first

few days it just felt like, I was, it kind of felt like my home was on fire and I couldn't do anything about it."

Mariana said not being able to do anything about it left "a big hole in my heart."

She posted a story on Snapchat asking people to show support for Ukraine by wearing blue and yellow to school.

Marta Garstka, who emigrated from Poland three years ago, said staff member Ray Perez noticed the repeating color scheme. He told Garstka that 25 years ago, folks organized a fundraiser for his homeland of Puerto Rico – and suggested doing the same for Ukraine.

Garstka recalled when she was a child in Poland and first heard about the Vietnam and Korean wars. The wars were terrible, she said, but being so far removed from them, it was difficult to connect with the pain and sorrow.

She likened Americans watching and hearing

about the unfolding war in Ukraine to that.

"Maybe you don't feel the pressure so much when you are so far from Ukraine and Poland," she said.

She said she was proud that despite their distance from the war, the students are able to help.

The students started organizing their fundraiser the week before last and made posters and business cards featuring a URL that goes to their page on Save the Children's website. Then, last Thursday during lunch, they started manning a table for collections in the school cafeteria.

That first day in the cafeteria, they hauled in \$200, the students said. Online donations at that time were \$160.

The students heard that many individuals and organizations were raising money for the cause and sending clothing and other items and want-

*See RHAM Students page 2*

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## From the Editor's Desk

## Observations &amp; Ruminations

by Mike Thompson

Baseball is back!

A deal between the owners and players was thankfully reached last week, and the baseball season will open in April – albeit just a few days after its originally scheduled starting date.

As I've written here before, baseball was really playing with fire the longer this lockout continued, and they risked alienating an entire generation of fans. With everything going on in the world – heck, with everything that's been going on for the past two years – nobody had patience for what's, rightly or wrongly, been widely perceived as a battle of billionaires vs. millionaires.

I'm glad baseball got its act together.

\*\*\*

Speaking of baseball, this is pretty fun: once again this spring, area colleges and universities will play some games at Dunkin' Donuts Park in Hartford – home of the Yard Goats.

There are five games set for this spring – starting with a game between the University of Hartford Hawks and the Stony Brook Seawolves on Saturday, April 2, at 1 p.m. Since the Yard Goats don't actually open their season until April 8, this Hawks-Seawolves game will actually serve as a full ballpark reopening, and will include the popular Yard Goats on-field promotions, games, and open conces-

sion stands for fans.

It will also be the first of three games for UHart at Dunkin' Donuts Park. The Hawks will play Army West Point on Wednesday, April 13, at 3:30 p.m., and Merrimack College Tuesday, May 17, at 10:30 a.m.

Also on the schedule is a game between Sacred Heart University and Central Connecticut State University on Saturday, April 16, at 1 p.m.

But the highlight for me will be on Tuesday, April 12, at 6:05 p.m., as the UConn Huskies take on my alma mater, Marist College of Poughkeepsie, N.Y. I realize I'm a lifelong Connecticut resident – but I gotta root for the Red Foxes in this one.

This is the fifth season the Yard Goats have let college baseball teams play select games at Dunkin' Donuts Park. It's a great treat for the players, as the still-new ballpark is really quite beautiful and offers a fantastic setting for baseball. It's also smart for the Yard Goats, as it keeps the park open and hopping while the team is on the road.

Tickets are now available to purchase on the Yard Goats website ([yardgoatsbaseball.com](http://yardgoatsbaseball.com)), or over the phone (860-246-4628). All tickets will be delivered digitally. Take note: Dunkin' Donuts Park is now a cashless/contactless venue. Gift and credit/debit cards will

Editor's Desk continued on page 5



**Welcome, Aurora...** Members of Hebron's Scouts BSA Troop 1028 participated in Cub Scout Pack 57 of East Hampton's Blue and Gold Ceremony on March 12, by welcoming their newest member into the troop. Aurora McMahon of East Hampton was awarded the Arrow of Light, Cub Scouting's highest award during the event at East Hampton Middle School. Aurora then participated in a crossing over ceremony where she was officially welcomed into Scouts BSA by Troop 1028's first Eagle Scout, Brynn Maleryn. Troop 1028 is an all-girl troop for girls ages 11-17. Girls interested in the Scouts BSA program can find more information at [www.hebrontroop1028.org](http://www.hebrontroop1028.org). Pictured from left are Troop 1028 Assistant Scoutmaster Sam Izzarelli, Scouts Kiera Braunwart, Brynn Maleryn, Aurora McMahon and Jazlyn Pendleton, and Scoutmaster Jess Maleryn.

## Bulletin Board

Sunday morning we turned our clocks ahead an hour as we entered Daylight Saving Time. So if you've been an hour late for all your appointments over the past few days, you might want to stop watching cats do back flips on TikTok for a moment or two and fix your clock.

As for those of you who are dragging and grouchy because of all this Spring Forward and Fall Back nonsense, I'm with you a hundred percent. My aging biorhythms aren't too well adjusted to begin with. You start messing around with my sleep patterns and things start getting a little ugly. I just about adjust to Falling Back, when it's time to Spring Forward. Enough already. Make up your mind.

One good thing about moving the clocks up an hour last weekend is that now the clock in my car once again tells proper time. That's right, I never changed it during Fall Back. My public excuse is that this is my personal protest against a stupid tradition (it also hones my limited math skills as I have to mentally subtract one hour every time I check the clock, which keeps me mentally agile).

I would like to think this stubbornness sets me up as a populist leader against bureaucratic idiocy. My wife, who knows a phony when she sees one, says I don't change the car clock because I'm just too lazy.

I am pretty lazy, but if you want to know the truth, I've just never been able to figure out how to set the clock in my car. Apparently, you've got to press the radio channel change button for five seconds while blinking your high beams on and off and whistling Dixie, or some such procedure.

Anyway, I've never been able to master it. It is my considered opinion that car manufacturers intentionally make setting the car clock unnecessarily complicated so you have to bring it in to the dealer (or to somebody's seven-year-old grandchild), but perhaps I'm just jaded. Whatever the case, I'd prefer to go with the populist thing, if you don't mind.

Since you're asking, my personal preference as to time changes is that we Spring Forward and stay there. That gives us more light at the end of the day when I'm actually awake. Spring Forward is particularly popular among golfers, though I understand it's widely opposed by thieves who steal catalytic converters from cars in the dead of night.

In fact, it's my understanding that the idea for Daylight Saving Time was first suggested in 1905 by an Englishman by the name of William Willett, who was an avid golfer and objected to cutting his fun short at dusk. I'm not a golfer myself, but I know enough of them to be surprised that Mr. Willett didn't advocate turning the clocks forward by four or five hours instead of just one.

If this sounds ridiculous to you, allow me to point out that in 2007 Daylight Saving Time was extended beyond late October—up into early November—because candy lobbyists wanted kids to have more daylight to go trick or treating on Halloween. This not only enhances child safety, it also allows kids more time to go door to door and collect even more candy, which is good for the economy (at least the economy as it applies to candy manufacturers, and presumably dentists).

I would add that the extended daylight also reduces the opportunity for disgruntled trick or treaters to vandalize your car under cover of darkness when they discover you're only giving out little baggies of homemade popcorn or Chex Mix because you already ate all the good stuff yourself. All good reasons to turn clocks forward and keep them there.

As for turning clocks back: The only benefit I can see is that because it happens at 2 a.m. you get to sit around your local saloon for an extra hour once a year. I am not persuaded by contrarian farmers who argue that standard time (Fall Back) allows them more light in the morning to work in their fields. And, of course, school officials and some parents don't want to implement a permanent Daylight Saving Time (Spring Forward) because they say the kids will have to wait for the bus in the dark and the Bogey Man might get them.

Regarding the farmers: Why do you think tractors have headlights, guys? Right. So use 'em. As for forcing your little darlings to wait for the bus in the dark, suck it up buttercup. I remember when kids used to work in coal mines (well, I don't actually remember that, but I've seen pictures). There's already plenty of darkness in public education these days and I would venture to say that the worst of it is not located at the bus stop.

Well, that's all for now. Sorry, if I'm sounding a little grouchy, but I really haven't been sleeping well this week.

Jim Hallas

## Rivereast Hours of Operation

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

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## Thanks for 10 Years

To the Editor:

This month, Portland Collision LLC will celebrate its 10-year anniversary, thanks to our customers and their loyalty and referrals. Each passing year has brought a sense of accomplishment as Portland Collision, LLC continues to attain year-over-year growth, and without your confidence in Portland Collision, LLC, this would not be possible.

Thank you,  
Grayson Mountain, Owner  
Portland Collision, LLC

## A Familiar Frustration

To the Editor:

Russ Kaplan recently commented on the "carping" contained within *Rivereast* letters. This is a familiar frustration that is occasionally shared, and often misunderstood by those who perceive the differences as political bickering between Democrats and Republicans. It's not always easy to discern the truth about immigration, race, gender, and religion versus the tirades about secret world orders, government tyranny, and patriotism. However, these disputes are merely byproducts of political affilia-

tion. The actual debates taking place are about: empathy, compassion, cooperation, and equality. The weekly clutter of socialism, guns and freedom from the *Rivereast* wrecking crew are merely smokescreens obscuring their debilitating beliefs of scarcity, fear and anger.

Mr. Kaplan acknowledged the absurdity regarding masking and vaccines infringing on our freedoms and the false equivalencies between "fake news" and government tyranny. I suspect he also recognizes the moral obligation to take better care of the most vulnerable among us, and would number the environment, the climate, and protecting democracy among these. Russ also mentioned that we are blessed with abundance. That as Americans, we are born into the most developed era in human history and have a level of comfort and convenience unmatched throughout the history of mankind. We live in the most prosperous and safest time on record, and are among the wealthiest people in the world. Most of us have endless choice, abundance and privilege. This generation lives longer than any other in history, and as Americans, are blessed with advanced healthcare, education, and opportunity.

Despite these many blessings, too many Americans have become a pantheon of para-

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

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noia; either too intellectually or morally bankrupt to grasp the idea that compassion is not weakness, and concern for the unfortunate is not socialism. Unfortunately for those people, who treat politics and morality separately, they will never understand either of them.

**Joe Stevens – Hebron**

**Charter Changes and Your Vote**

To the Editor:  
In November 2020, the town charter in Marlborough was changed. It had been several years since the charter was reviewed, and changes were needed. One important change concerns the leadership of town government.

Currently we are governed by a three-member Board of Selectmen. The first selectman heads this group. The revision to the charter calls for the hiring of a town manager who will be assisted by a five-member Board of Selectmen. Therefore, on May 3, along with voting on the Town Operations, Town Capital, Marlborough Elementary School and RHAM budgets, two new members of the Board of Selectmen will be chosen.

I am an unaffiliated voter. To run for a seat on the BOS I needed to be endorsed by a political party. The Democratic Town Committee chose to endorse me with a unanimous vote. I'm honored by their confidence in me.

Electing me to a position on the BOS would provide you with someone to represent you in decisions that affect all residents. If you want representation by someone who is honest, fair, open minded, respectful of others, conducts themselves with integrity, and has the best interest of the town at heart, then I am your choice. You, the voter, hold the future of Marlborough in your hands! Remember, the town manager serves at the pleasure of the Board of Selectmen and the voters. Your vote counts!

I respectfully ask for your support and vote on May 3.

Thank you!

**Deb Bourbeau – Marlborough**

*Note: Bourbeau is running for a seat on the Board of Selectmen in Marlborough in the May 3 election.*

**Left-Wing Failures**

To the Editor:  
Many topics today.  
First of all, welcome and congratulations to Linda Ursin for one of the best letters I've ever read in this venue – including my own LOL!!

Well done.  
Nice to see Jussie Smollett get jail time and a very appropriate lecture from a thoughtful judge. Have a nice workout, Jussie!!  
I've noticed that ever since the invasion of Ukraine, our mainstream "Fake News" media has stopped covering COVID. Does this mean it's finally over?

Speaking of COVID, China – who caused the pandemic to begin with and could very well have done it on purpose as a prelude to an all-out germ warfare attack on the "free world" and others – now the Biden Administration in their ultimate wisdom has purchased millions of "self-COVID tests" and guess who manufactured and sold them to us: yup, the Communist Chinese – once again.

It's only taken 14 months but the Joe Biden has imploded our economy – starting in September-6% every month, since peaking at 7.9% in February. Of course, the Biden mouthpiece and forked tongue Jen Psaki blames Vladimir Putin and the invasion. Really!!

Do you think the Ukrainians could have used some of the \$75 billion in military equipment we left in Afghanistan – along with various American citizens and green card holders. JB said it would have cost us more \$\$ to transport it home – so why didn't we send it to Poland or

Ukraine instead of arming the Taliban with such an arsenal?

Kamala Harris – still interning for her role as vice president, cackling once again on the main stage in Poland recently – when asked by a reporter on what the Biden Administration would do to help the Ukrainian refugee children, she gave her signature laugh and failed to answer the question – as usual.

President Trump had our country energy independent. We were exporting oil, not importing and being forced to reach out to adversaries like Iran and Venezuela for help. Way to go, Joe.

Next week: the Green New Deal fiasco.

**Sincerely,  
Don Denley – Andover**

**Bizarre Logic**

To the Editor:  
Last week, I attended the meeting of the Colchester Board of Finance. During the meeting, there was some minor discussion about the proposed education budget. Now, this proposed budget is a first draft by the superintendent of schools, has not been reviewed by the Board of Education, has had no hearings before the public, and is less than a one percent increase. Nevertheless, two members of the Board of Finance claimed that they had no intention of supporting an increase.

Not having heard the needs, let alone how they are to be addressed is bad planning and bad management. Budgets should be tailored to needs – not the other way around. When needs are not addressed, they fester and become more expensive to address down the road.

Even more ridiculous was the remark of Jason LaChapelle, a member of the Board of Selectmen, an official who had nothing to do with the education budget, claimed that he couldn't support the education budget, "students have lost ground over the last 2 years" or words to that effect. "Therefore, why should the budget be increased?" That's right, needs aren't being met so we will starve them of resources. Maybe we could improve our local roads by not sealing cracks or repairing potholes. The logic is bizarre.

Hopefully, all of this will be worked out and a budget will be presented which meets both our needs and the town's ability to pay. I'm not holding my breath though.

**John F. Malsbenden – Colchester**

**Ballot-Counting by Hand**

To the Editor:  
Suspicion of our voting tabulations has prompted at least six states to question our vote counting methods and want to make all vote counting to be done by hand.

The state of New Hampshire has questioned why a Republican governor and other Republican state legislators won majorities in their state but the Democratic nominees won the federal positions. A county in northern Michigan that had always elected Republicans by wide margins questioned why, in their last election, Joe Biden had won by a wide margin. They refused to believe that any Democrat could win in their county. They did a recount of the votes by hand. The recount confirmed their beliefs that a Democrat did not win in their county. Donald Trump had won by a large majority.

Other people stated while watching their tabulation monitors, they had seen the vote count for Donald Trump suddenly drop by 5,000 or so votes and the vote tally for Joe Biden suddenly increase by the same number of votes. Our media reports these as lies but how can we know if our voting tabulations are not being hacked? We have seen and heard of our computers being hacked before, on personal and federal levels. I firmly believe that our voting tabulators can and

may be hacked.

We need a different, reliable, method to count our votes. Whether it's counting by hand or having many different drop boxes. We must know that we have a safe, reliable vote-counting method!

**Frank Blume – Colchester**

**Tone-Deaf Narcissists**

To the Editor:  
Ed "The Hammer" Gyllenhammer and Edmund "Mr. Science" Smith are prototypes of the typical tone-deaf, senseless, rabid and misleading narcissists that have co-opted the progressive liberal corps. Even in the midst of the embarrassing failure that defines the Biden Administration, these two acolytes manifest clinical signs of Trump Derangement Syndrome like Mad Cow disease. Maybe Mr. Science can lecture us on prions before he claims Trump sank the Titanic or ignited the Hindenburg. Not likely, I know...

Last week, The Hammer proved that walking while chewing gum is, for him, a work in progress; he simultaneously accused me of ignoring Trump's "outrageous" acts while ignoring Brandon's litany of impeachable offenses. The difference is that Trump's "acts" are largely a product of progressive propaganda (like Russian collusion), while Brandon's are visible and documentable (like...everything). The Hammer probably also believes O.J. was innocent...

But Mr. Science is my favorite. Tone-deafness is part of his charm. As is his lack of empathy. Does he realize that by eschewing the relevance of gas, lumber, and food prices, it normalizes the domestic disaster that our plagiarizer-in-chief has forced upon America? It also brings one's intellect into question when they accuse a one term President of perpetrating the downfall of civilization in lieu of a 50-year political grifter with financial ties to Russia, Ukraine, and China. Walking and chewing gum may be a non-starter for Mr. Science...

Truth is, The Hammer and Mr. Science are disingenuous, untruthful, and phony. They both know that if Trump had Brandon's record in year one of his term, Trump would have been impeached a dozen times. And CNN and MS-

NBC would still have ratings. But Trump didn't have Brandon's year one record, did he?

I'm still waiting for Trump's nuclear war with North Korea...and Iran...and Russia...

**Regards,  
Ed Kozlowski – Colchester**

**Thanks from Youth Basketball**

To the Editor:  
The Colchester Youth Basketball Board of Directors would like to express its sincere thanks to all those involved in making this a fun and successful season. This season, more than any other, was the most challenging due to the measures that had to be taken in response to the threat of COVID-19.

Thanks to the kids for playing basketball with us and to their parents who trusted us to keep them safe. Thanks to our sponsors (City Fish Market, Colchester Curry House, Hope Ace Hardware, Jane Ryan Insurance Group, Kimberly C. Radachy CPA, Mancuso Carey, LLC, McDonald's of Colchester, Noel's Market and Smarter Appliance) for their support of the kids, our youth basketball program and the Colchester community at large. Thanks to Colchester Public Schools and especially its wonderful custodial staff for always having the gyms in tip-top shape for us. Thanks to our coaches who used their precious time to teach the kids the game of basketball along with valuable life lessons like winning and losing and overcoming adversity.

Thanks to all our teams for playing with special congratulations to our winners: Girls High School Recreation who won their multi-town league tournament, Boys Grades 3/4/5 – Eliminators, Girls Grades 3/4/5 – Green Narwhals, Boys Grades 6/7/8 - Wolves and Boys High School – Sosa. Finally, congratulations to all the participants in our travel basketball program. Seven of our eight teams qualified for the upper division playoff bracket. Of those seven teams, two teams that made the semi-finals in their bracket, three teams came in second place and one (7th Grade Girls) two took home the title. Our eighth team (5th Grade Boys) that qualified for the lower division playoff bracket

*See Letters, page 6*

**Editor's Desk continued from page 4**  
be accepted at the Box Office, Yard Goats Team Store, and food and beverage locations.  
\*\*\*  
Who knows if it'll happen, but I'm a fan of the idea of making daylight saving time permanent.  
The U.S. Senate, in a rare show of bipartisanship, agreed Tuesday to a bill that would mean no more "springing ahead" and "falling back," starting in November 2023. The bill still has to go through the House and then signed into law by the president, but I hope it passes.  
It's for purely selfish reasons, I admit. But I looove not driving home from work in the dark. And I also love being able to take post-work walks. Yes, I know I can take those walks at night, but it's so much more pleasant

(not to mention safer) when it's still daylight out.

One of the chief things opponents of permanent daylight saving time point to is the fact that the sun would rise after 8 a.m. in the winter, and thus you'd have kids waiting for the bus in the dark. Well, an easy solution to that would be to push back the start times of school. Over the years, several studies have maintained that the minds of kids – particularly teenage minds – would benefit from a later start to the school day.

Like I said, who knows what'll happen. But I hope it comes to pass. I'm ready to stop "falling back." I'm ready for post-work daylight all year long.

\*\*\*

See you next week.



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★ Letters cont. from page 5

won it all. Thanks again for everyone's participation and support. We look forward to seeing everyone next season.

**Jeff Koonankeil, on behalf of the Colchester Youth Basketball Board of Directors**

**Atlantis Returns**

To the Editor:

Like a bad dream Atlantis is back at it trying to construct a new gas station, eatery, convenience store on property zoned for residential use on Main Street. They have been defeated twice before by the Planning and Zoning Commission so now they are going before the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Atlantis is claiming that due to hardships they should be allowed to construct commercial development on property zoned residential. The plan they have presented with this is the exact same plan that was rejected in January by the Planning and Zoning Commission.

In all likelihood this will be before the Zoning Board of Appeals for their April 11 meeting when residents will have their chance for public comment. In the meantime, letters need to be written and sent to the Zoning Board of Appeals voicing opposition to this back-door approach by Atlantis.

In the next few weeks, you will see more letters to the editor on this subject. Residents rallied against Atlantis twice before and we need to do it again. Large corporations such as Atlantis should not be allowed to circumvent the will of the people and the East Hampton Plan of Conservation and Development. Voice your opposition to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

**Kenneth Dodson - East Hampton**

**Budget Season Parameters**

To the Editor:

As East Hampton heads into budget season, we want voters to be aware of our parameters as we consider all requests:

- 1) During the campaign we pledged to keep your taxes affordable...and we will.
  - 2) We understand the burden crippling inflation is placing on every homeowner and business in East Hampton. We will not allow unnecessary spending to add to that burden.
  - 3) Town operations and our education system will be looked at closely for efficiencies while maintaining quality.
- Is it an easy job? No. But we will do it.  
Thank you for your support.
- Mark Philhower, Chairman**  
East Hampton Town Council  
and  
**Alannah Coshow, Chairman**  
East Hampton Board of Finance

**Why We Chose Marlborough!**

To the Editor:

When my husband, our daughter and I moved to Marlborough in 1976, I knew we had found our home. The town was filled with wonderful, friendly and interesting people. I loved going to the town hall meetings where people expressed their opinions, debated with each other and voted for our budget by raising their hands.

I felt fortunate when our daughter and her husband made Marlborough their home near us. Two of our grandchildren attended MES and graduated from RHAM. They received an excellent education. The youngest grandson is a sophomore at RHAM.

From the start I became involved in the town by playing on the softball and volleyball teams. I always attended the town meetings and always voted. I served on the BOE for 16 years, was a member of the Trails Commission and a member of the original Florence Lord Senior Housing Board. With my husband we facilitated the renovation of the Charlie Hall building to become the Marlborough Arts Center. This was a four-year project.

Times have changed dramatically over the years but the people haven't. I am running because I love this town for all it has given me and my family. We are entering a critical time in our history by hiring a town manager and changing our three-member Board of Selectmen to a five-member board. The new board will be responsible for the hiring of the town manager. For years to come, this Board of Selectmen will have set the course for Marlborough's schools, commissions, regulations and community services.

I have always been a fiscally conservative Democrat. And I have always put my town before politics. I believe in honesty, openness and working together to make our town an even better place to live. Please visit my Facebook page Betty OBrien for Selectman. And I hope you

Reader Forum • Reader Forum

will vote for me on May 3.

**Betty O'Brien – Marlborough**

*Note: O'Brien is running for a seat on the Board of Selectmen in Marlborough in the May 3 election.*

## Delusions of Superiority

To the Editor:

Justin Hjulstrom's "My Dad for Selectman" letter last week was more than a political endorsement. It was a beautiful tribute to his father.

However, once Edmund Smith sniffs out the fact that candidate Ken Hjulstrom is a Republican, Smith will cut loose with the kind of fantasy-laden vitriol like his "Clueless..." letter last week.

In an attempt to understand Smith's delusions of superiority I took his hint, went to Google, and found this scholarly piece by Dr. Bill Crawford, Ph.D., titled "Superiority has an Inferiority Complex." Crawford opens with this sentence:

"I have always believed that people who have a need to make themselves superior to others (put others down in order to feel good, constantly reinforce how much "better" they are than others, etc.) are driven by a sense of inferiority, or a fear that they are not (good) enough, or that something is wrong with them."

For the complete commentary, Google "Superiority Has An Inferiority Complex, Bill Crawford Ph.D." Crawford's credentials are on that same website. Click on "About" in the header at the top, then "Profile."

**Peter Kushkowski  
"Almost Heaven"  
Portland**

## Senior Center Design Teams

To the Editor:

The Colchester Senior Center Building Committee is getting into the project details with the help of our Architect/Engineer Silver/Petrucelli and Associates. The committee has formed into five design teams to develop the many details to build a new senior center. The five teams are addressing the following work activities: 1) Structural Building Design, 2) Mechanical/Electrical/Plumbing, 3) Outside Details (e.g., parking, landscaping, etc.), 4) Kitchen Layout, and 5) Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment.

Examples of the detail being discussed with these teams include ceiling designs; designing a flexible heating and ventilating system for the large multi-purpose rooms; site lighting to ensure limited spillage to impact our neighbors; locating areas for generator and dumpster and plans on EV charging stations in the parking lot.

The design teams have completed initial meetings. Teams will reconvene for secondary meetings, where more details will be developed and built into the final design.

The Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment effort is the next item to be scheduled for discussion and selection.

**Kevin Hastings – Colchester**

*Note: Hastings is a member of the Senior Center Building Committee.*

## It's Time to Engage

To the Editor:

Isolationist Americans avoided entering World War I for almost three years, though individual Americans joined the French Foreign Legion to support our future allies. Eventually President Wilson petitioned Congress to declare war saying, "The world must be made safe for democracy."

Prior to World War II, Hitler annexed Austria and destroyed Czechoslovakia. The free world sat out until Hitler invaded Poland, whereupon England and France declared war. WWII was on, but hesitant America did not enter for over two years, until Japan attacked Pearl Harbor.

Today, Putin is destroying Ukraine in front of our eyes. Brave fighting Ukrainians are begging us for a no-fly zone, but we tell them it can't be done. Every day, Russian missiles and bombs turn more of Ukraine's cities to rubble, killing countless helpless, innocent civilians.

Putin and Xi formed a partnership with each country seeking to expand their borders and domination over their neighbors. Both have substantially modernized their militaries and Putin already threatened using nuclear weapons if we interfere.

By my reading of history, it is time for America to fully engage. Launch our entire fleet of nuclear fast attack and Trident submarines as soon as possible. Have at least one fast attack following every Russian 'boomer.' Position our aircraft carrier fleets strategically. Give Ukraine its no-fly zone. This will do more to avoid World War III and potential nuclear war than if we let Ukraine be destroyed and subjugated. If Ukraine is lost, the free world will have con-

vinced the dictators they can take more of what they want. And they will do so, until such time we will have no choice but to enter the fray. Give Ukraine what it needs now. Russian must lose this crime against humanity. Putin will be removed via a putsch and Xi will take note.

**Edmund Smith – Andover**

## No 'Rubber Stamp'

To the Editor:

I am supporting the single endorsed Republican candidate for selectman, Ken Hjulstrom, on May 3.

Over the years Ken has continuously demonstrated that he is no one's "rubber stamp" when it comes to making decisions as a member of the boards of education and finance and I am confident that he will continue to do so as a selectman. Regardless of which party is in the majority, Ken asks the questions and demands the information necessary to make informed decisions.

There are a lot of significant issues, which will come before the Board of Selectmen in coming years, and I want to be sure that there will be someone in place who will represent our interests. We need someone who will use our tax dollars wisely and work to keep Marlborough affordable. Ken is that person.

Ken also has the experience and historical knowledge needed to be a great Selectman. Ken served on the Board of Education from 1998 to 2003, during which time our school underwent a full renovation after years of neglect. Ken then served on the Board of Assessment Appeals and has been a member of the Board of Finance for the last 10 years. For more information on Ken and his campaign please visit [www.MarlGOP.com](http://www.MarlGOP.com) or check out Ken's Facebook page at "Ken Hjulstrom for Marlborough Selectman."

So, on May 3, please join me by supporting Ken Hjulstrom for selectman. I can say with confidence that you will not regret giving him your vote.

**Sue Stolfi – Marlborough**

*Note: Stolfi is a member of the Marlborough and RHAM boards of education, but said she is speaking as an individual.*

## I Know a Guy...

To the Editor:

It has been bothering me for a while: How does a thirty-something teacher know a lawyer with shady credentials? Why does a Colchester official select lawyers in the western part of the state to defend his positions and actions? Are there not good lawyers in town or nearby? Support your local businesses, we're told.

What aspect of being a social studies teacher brings association with a disbarred lawyer? Perhaps it is only a pecuniary matter: cost. You get what you pay for: perhaps a weak defense, perhaps a Writ of Mandamus. I don't know the answers, but I have suspicions. I do know that the optics of this new administration are not good. The election promises of transparency were only that – election promises, not to be taken seriously, unless they serve blatantly political purposes.

As a citizen, I am concerned with the direction local politics has taken: that small town governance has become a microcosm of national partisanship and acrimony: that lawsuits are the reaction to not getting your way. It does not look good when politics take precedence over governance and civility. Our public servants should serve all Colchester citizens, instead of pursuing partisan political agendas.

**John Barnowski – Colchester**

## Delicate Balance

To the Editor:

In 1986 my wife Dee and I moved to Marlborough with our young children, Justin and Jessica. We moved here for several reasons, which included the quality school system, homes that were more affordable than some other suburban communities and the quiet country feeling of this town. This small-town feel was something that particularly appealed to me since it reminded me of the small town I grew up in, Boylston, Mass.

Over the course of the last 36 years, I have witnessed many changes. We saw some retail development in the late '80s, which withered over time. Recent development, including the new Big Y, has replaced those shops and we now see familiar buildings, such as Ofshey's, being targeted for demolition.

Keeping Marlborough "country," while managing an appropriate level of commercial development, is a delicate balancing act. It is nice to have local conveniences for our residents, but we need to do so in a manner that avoids losing what longtime residents cherish and what brought others to Marlborough in the first place.

When you vote for me on May 3 you will be voting for a person who appreciates Marlborough's past while considering the future and how best to balance the two. I will always reach out to you, my fellow townspeople, to hear what you want for Marlborough's future because Marlborough is not just a cluster of buildings and houses. Marlborough is its people.

For more information about my campaign and my positions on the matters that impact you, please visit [www.MarlGOP.com](http://www.MarlGOP.com) and my Facebook page "Ken Hjulstrom for Marlborough Selectman".

Thank you and I look forward to seeing you at the polls on May 3.

**Ken Hjulstrom – Marlborough**

*Note: Hjulstrom is running for a seat on the Board of Selectmen in Marlborough in the May 3 election. He is also a member of the Marlborough Board of Finance, but said he is speaking as an individual.*

## Hebron Taxpayers

To the Editor:

The taxpayers in Hebron are knowledgeable and well-educated.

Our town manager, Andy Tierney, and his team do an excellent job providing services to our community. The Board of Selectman work hard to research and provide factual information to the people who live in Hebron.

Our community needs to review, research and then make intelligent decisions on issues that will be presented to us. In these uncertain economic times, it is absolutely critical that the taxpayers stay well-informed and vote.

**Dave O'Brien – Amston**

## Use Less – Part 3

To the Editor:

Recently whilst picking up trash in front by the highway, I happened upon a blast-from-the-past. There was the assortment of strewn-out napkins from McDonald's and Dunkin'. A cup or two with the same logos as previously mentioned as well as the empty nips that dot the roadside. Ah. But one little item really stood out. A humble decrepit packing peanut. Once a brilliant pink, now shriveled and worn, filthy and forgotten. That discovery actually inspired me to write Part 3 – the final installment.

Remember getting a boxful of those holy horrors and having to dig through them to find the item you ordered? They stuck to your hand and arms and freely tumbled out of the box. They had a life of their own. They adroitly evaded the broom. They were picked up and transported elsewhere in the slightest of air currents.

Then it came time to dispose of them. Dumping them in the waste bin was a challenge. Oft times, they gaily spilt out of the box and instantly filled and overflowed the receptacle. The little devils were on the run. Grabbing them and crushing the poor innocent piece of plastic that had a function and now was a fiend was challenging. Out to the street this bag went and into the landfill where they occupy space for the ages.

Gone but not forgotten.

Packaging has slimmed down considerably. The effort to make most recyclable is extraordinary. It is up to us to make sure we place it in the correct bin either blue or green. Of course, the real answer to the waste/recycling problem is to consume less. That is un-American. It is a dream. Not a reality.

When you find one of those little humble packing peanuts, think how far we have come in packaging and be grateful for the advances. There's no going back to the item that prompted a better way – the little packing peanut.

**Alison Walck – East Hampton**

## Ukraine Invasion

To the Editor:

Much has been written about the invasion of Ukraine. Looking through the eyes of Sun Tzu's *The Art of War* gives a different perspective. Putin invaded Ukraine, as he did not want a NATO country on his border. If he wins this war, several more NATO countries are on his border – he entered his war on a false premise.

The art of war is governed by five factors: First- Moral Law causes the people to be in complete accord with their ruler - not by intimidation or putting them in jail. The last factor, The Commander, stands for virtue of wisdom, sincerity, benevolence, courage and strictness-he may have gotten strictness right. From captured territory you must offer your soldiers rewards from the land – by bombing hospitals and kindergartens, what reward is offered a box of crayons? The art of war says to take the enemies country whole, to lay siege is wasteful – which Putin has done. Do not negotiate while in battle – Putin offered an untenable cease fire; Ukraine

will not simply turn over major territory to him.

He did one thing correct, Sun Tzu says; he will win who prepares himself and waits to take the enemy unprepared Ukraine was unprepared (as well as its allies), But the art of war also says if you know the enemy and you know yourself you need not fear the results of a hundred battles. Putin may know himself (we know him as a bully) but he did not know his enemy, as unprepared as Ukraine was, the peoples' spirit, abilities and continued full support from its allies will overthrow Putin.

It is too late for Putin's ceasefire. Only a full defeat of Putin and removal from power will be acceptable by the free world.

**Ralph Bianco – Colchester**

## Draining Resources

To the Editor:

While local, state and federal funding can replenish the town's checkbook and feed hearty appetites for spending, who will be replenishing all the water they are so hungry to share?

This desperate need to use Horton land drains resources. Ironically, we have spent well over \$2 million on unnecessary projects and find our town no closer to a new DPW than we were ten years ago.

Instead of investing the \$2 million necessary to refurbish the Eversource land in Hebron, the Town focused their efforts to rebuild the DPW elsewhere. Dutifully, taxpayers bought ten acres at Burnt Hill, for the DPW, eight of which vanished; spent nearly a million dollars to build The Road to Nowhere, a public road, built on private land, with public funds; then handed, the same private land owners, a check for \$600k for 89 acres of unsuitable farmland, also deemed for the DPW.

Now we are now faced with spending \$3.7 million (and counting?) of public money, for a new well in Amston. This water will be pumped up to the center of town to cover the large amounts of water suddenly being consumed. In addition, the water from this untapped well has already been generously offered to new restaurants, the church's affordable housing units and other projects (*Rivereast*, March 11).

Approximately how many gallons of water will be used?

How will this new well effect the water table at Amston Lake? (During a drought?)

Do Lake residents have a say?

What feeds this desperate need to develop Hebron and where does it end?

**Jean Tulimieri – Amston**

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# ZBA Sets Public Hearing for Citgo Variance

by Jack Lakowsky

The East Hampton Zoning Board of Appeals set for its April 11 meeting a public hearing on a variance for the Citgo convenience store at the intersection of Route 16 and Main Street.

The store is owned by the company Atlantis Marketing.

Throughout the past year or so the company has been attempting to expand the store, add a drive-thru and additional gas pumps, by way of a residential to commercial zone change.

Along with the store the company owns three residential properties nearby, including a historic building.

Originally, plans were to raze the historic building. After this first application failed, the company filed a second proposing to preserve the so-called Strong House. There were no plans to improve it, but to let it sit until a party came along to buy it.

Instead, Atlantis will raze a neighboring vacant residential house.

This second application for a zone change, from residential to commercial, failed in January. The site, zoned residential, is non-conforming. However, it existed as commercial for years before changes at the state level rendered it residential.

Now Atlantis, along with its attorney Scott Jezek, seek a variance instead of a zone change, Jezek said in Monday's meeting.

According to town zoning official Jeremy DeCarli, Atlantis's application is effectively the same. The company's requested variances are for lot coverage limits (it's looking to expand its parking lot) and for a regulation

dealing with enlarging nonconforming lots.

A variance, as opposed to a zone change, is essentially looking for exceptions to existing regulations, whereas a zone change is more lasting. Variances are a bit more restrictive, DeCarli said.

For example, if a variance request is approved by ZBA, it can't be changed in any substantial way thereafter.

"Strict application of the regulations would produce undue hardship by impeding [Atlantis's] ability to remain competitive in its market and preventing an otherwise permitted expansion," Jezek wrote in a letter to ZBA.

Jezek said the Strong House also burdens the property, writing that in a different situation, it would be razed. The state and the town deemed the structure historic; it must be preserved.

DeCarli said if the application passes ZBA, it must still clear planning and zoning, where the company has failed twice.

Resistance to Atlantis has been strong and organized. With the number of signatures against the application, PZC would've had to approve the request with a supermajority.

In multiple zoning meetings opponents have said any expansion would disrupt the neighborhood, make more noise, air, light and ground pollution, chip away at the make-up of the Belltown Historic District and add strain to East Hampton's already troubled water system.

In the ZBA meeting, DeCarli said the application – a variance for a residential zone to help along a commercial project – is unusual, calling it "non-standard."



**Travel Champs...** East Hampton's sixth grade girls' basketball travel team won the championship on March 6. Head coach Chris Schoonerman and assistant coach Joe Ploszay led a talented group of local rising basketball stars: Kailyn Crowley, Brianna Gustavson, Addison Jump, Addison Marzi, Addison Perkins, Sadie Pinaud, Ava Ploszay, Elizabeth Romero, Elise Roy and Taylor Schoonerman. Coach Schoonerman said of the team, "The girls worked hard all season long. They showed up to every practice and game with a great attitude to get better and work as a team."

## Habitat for Humanity Meeting

Middlesex Habitat for Humanity invites all interested individuals/families to attend an application information meeting for a Habitat for Humanity Home in East Hampton, on Monday, March 21, at 6 p.m., at the Cromwell ReStore, 34 Shunpike Rd.

The purpose of this meeting is to provide information about the Habitat for Humanity application process for homeownership. At this time, Middlesex Habitat will begin distributing applications for the program. Homeowners will be chosen without respect to age, sex, sexual preference, disability, race, religion, or national origin. All homes can be built to accommodate people with disabilities according to ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act).

The basic requirements to obtaining a Habitat for Humanity home are the following: In need of better housing; meet the income requirements for a house; willing to partner with Middlesex Habitat; able to pay an affordable mortgage.

A three-bedroom home will be built at 240 Lake Drive, East Hampton. It will be built to meet Energy Star standards. Middlesex Habitat anticipates construction will begin in the summer of 2022 and is now starting the selection process. Anyone interested is encouraged to attend should they wish to be considered for this home in East Hampton.

RSVP if you plan on attending; everyone who attends must sign in.

Middlesex Habitat for Humanity is taking on-site precautions to help reduce the spread of COVID-19. All staff and volunteers will wear a mask, and all attendees must wear a mask. Attendees will be spaced for adequate social distancing.

For more information or to indicate who will attend, individuals/families should call the Middlesex Habitat office at 860-398-6485 or email Sarah Bird at sbird@habitatmiddlesex.org.

## Irish Soda Bread for Sale

The Missions' committee of the Second Congregational Church of Middle Haddam, at 52 Middle Haddam Rd., is selling Irish soda bread all of March.

Breads will be available in the lower hall after each Sunday service from 10:15-11:15 a.m. through March 27.

Cost is \$5/loaf. Call 860-510-8102 to reserve. All proceeds will be donated to Church World Services for the assembling of hygiene kits used to assist victims of emergencies or natural disasters.

## Antique Appraisal Day

The Chatham Historical Society will host its 26th annual Antique Appraisal Day Saturday, March 26, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., at the new Town Hall, 1 Community Drive.

There will be three appraisers, some in person and some virtual. Verbal appraisals will be given on furniture, artwork, glassware, china, musical instruments, military pieces, dolls, jewelry, quilts as well as European, Asian, and island items, and more.

There is a suggested donation of \$6 per item for this event. This is a fundraiser for the continual upkeep of the society's two museum buildings and 1840 one-room schoolhouse on Bevin Boulevard. Tax-exempt donations to the Chatham Historical Society can also be made at this event.

Masks are required and seating will be set up, with sufficient spacing between each person. For more information, call 860-267-8953. Visit chathamhistoricalct.org or the Chatham Historical Society's Facebook page before the event, for any possible cancellation.

## KofC Scholarship, Grant Available

The Belltown Knights of Columbus Council 6190 announces the availability of two \$1,000 scholarships to students continuing their education at an accredited college/university. Applicants must be members of St. Patrick Church, East Hampton.

The council will also award two \$500 Helping Hands grants to members of St. Patrick Church who are Mercy, Xavier or East Catholic high schools.

Applications are available at guidance offices and the parish center office, or by emailing stpatrick47@sbcglobal.net.

## EHHS Music Cabaret

The East Hampton High School Music Cabaret will take place Thursday, March 31, from 6-8 p.m., in the high school cafeteria, 15 N. Maple St.

The night will include a pasta dinner, student musical performances and raffle prizes. Tickets are \$10 for students and senior citizens and \$15 for adults. To purchase, go to [www.easthamptonps.org](http://www.easthamptonps.org), click on "Optional Online Payments," then click on "Pay for HS-Music-Cabaret." You can check out as a guest, login to your account, or create an account. Please be sure to clearly specify your name and number of tickets to ensure a smooth check-in at the event. You will receive an email confirmation of your purchase to present at the door.

All proceeds benefit the EHHS music department.

## 'Fish Frydays' Are Back

The Knights of Columbus Belltown Council 6190 is again offering its multi-decade tradition of serving fish dinners on Fridays during Lent.

This year's offerings include breaded cod, clams and shrimp, which will be served with French fries or coleslaw. Prices start at \$12. Coffee, tea, water and soda are also offered.

Meals are served from 4:30-7:15 p.m. at St. Patrick's Parish Center, 47 West High St. Take-out service will be available. Advance orders must be received by noon on Friday by calling 860-267-6644. Do not leave orders on the answering machine.



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## Maple Sugaring Open House

**March 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>**  
10:00AM-3:00PM

Tours to see the **Maple Sugaring Process**  
Visit our **Maple Sweets Shop** for Maple Syrup, Maple Baked Goods, Maple Mustard, Maple Nuts, Candies, Vinegar and more



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East Hampton • East Hampton



**The Friends of Lake Pocotopaug (FLP) will co-host the annual Lake Clean-Up Day Saturday, April 23. From left are FLP Vice Chair Joe Carbonell, member Joe Feest, and Chair Kevin Kuhr.**

**Lake Clean-Up Day**

The Friends of Lake Pocotopaug, with the help of the East Hampton Parks & Recreation and the Conservation Lake Commission, will hold the annual Lake Clean-Up Day Saturday, April 23, starting at 9 a.m. at Sears Park. Rain date is Sunday, April 24, also at 9 a.m.

All volunteers are invited – including kids, organizations and groups – to help clean up the perimeter around the lake.

Volunteers receive a Lake Pocotopaug T-shirt, garbage bags, gloves and area assignments along with lunch at Sears Park.

Dumpsters will be placed at Sears Park for metals, tires (no rims), wood and plastics.

Full details are available at [www.flpeh.org](http://www.flpeh.org). For more information, call Joe Carbonell at 860-917-7366.

**YPCCA to Present *Legally Blonde* This Summer**

The Young People's Center for Creative Arts is accepting registrations for its summer theater camp. YPCCA will run daily Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m.-2:45 p.m., and meets at East Hampton High School. Teens entering grades 6-12, as well as newly-graduated high school seniors, are eligible.

Mornings at the camp are devoted to workshops in skills that include Acting, Show Choir, Dance, Stage Make-Up, Voice, and Stage Combat. Afternoons at camp are spent in rehearsals for our summer mainstage production. This year's show is the Broadway hit *Legally Blonde*. The musical is based on the movie of the same name, and follows the journey of perky Elle Woods, a fashion-savvy UCLA sorority girl who finds her life turned upside down when she is dumped by her boyfriend Warner. In an effort to prove to Warner that she is more than just some blonde sorority girl, she follows him to Harvard Law, where she struggles to fit in and do well. Ultimately,

she defies expectations and manages to stay true to her delightfully pink personality.

All students at YPCCA perform onstage by participating in the show and "The Event," a cabaret evening of performances rehearsed in the morning workshops and presented free of charge to the public during the third week of camp. For those teens interested in a leading role in the show, auditions are held a few weeks before camp. Auditions, however, are not mandatory and those students who do not audition will be featured in the ensemble. There are also ample opportunities to learn behind-the-scenes skills involved in theater work and many campers work as stage and set crew.

Registration and more information on the camp is available by visiting [www.yppcca.org](http://www.yppcca.org). Register by May 1 and tuition is \$600 for the four weeks. Scholarships are also available for students with financial need. Email [info@ypcca.org](mailto:info@ypcca.org) for more information.

**Local Knights Selling Raffle Tickets**

The Knights of Columbus Belltown Council 6190 is again offering Connecticut State Council raffle tickets.

There are 10 prizes to be awarded. First prize is \$5,000; second is \$3,500; third is \$2,000; fourth is \$1,500; fifth is \$1,000; sixth is \$600; seventh is \$500; eighth is \$400; ninth is \$300; and 10th is \$200.

The drawing will be held Friday, April 29, at 9 p.m., at the Hartford Marriott Downtown, 200 Columbus Blvd., Hartford. Ticketholders need not be present to win.

Tickets are \$10 each and may be purchased through any of the Knights of Columbus members or by calling Bob DeMarchi at 860-267-5978.

**Sports Boosters Golf Outing**

The East Hampton Sports Boosters is holding its 30th annual Golf Outing Monday, June 20, at the Fox Hopyard Country Club. There will also be a separate yoga session available.

For information, registration and sponsorship opportunities, visit [ehhsboosters.com](http://ehhsboosters.com).

**Dean's List**

The following East Hampton residents made the fall 2021 Dean's List at Goodwin University:

Garrett Baier, Alexis Ballard, Raymond Begin, Damien Dumond, Jennifer Harris, Kimberly Kiernan, Ginneane Kirk, Morgan Krajewski, Veronica Mathews, Kellie Owen and Chelsea Pike.

**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](http://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 now optional in the library. The library will continue to offer masks for those who request them.

**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.

**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.

**Food Explorers – Food Riddle Bingo and Strawberry Shortcake Parfaits:** Friday, March 25, 4 p.m., in the library community

room, for ages 7-12. Create your own strawberry shortcake parfait for a snack and play a game of food riddle bingo: decipher the riddle to get bingo. The recipe is nut-free but does contain dairy and/or eggs.

**Therapy Dog Storytime:** Saturday, April 2, 11 and 11:30 a.m. For ages 3-8. Siblings welcome. Held indoors in the library community room. Registration required.

**DIY Days: Chia Head:** Saturday, April 2, 2 p.m., for grades 2-8. This month, make a chia head planter.

**Teen Programs: Switch Game Tournament:** Saturday, March 19, 2 p.m., in person at the library, for grades 6-12. Teens may play *MarioKart*, *Super Smash* or something else. All skill levels welcome.

**Middle School Advisory Board:** Tuesday, March 29, 5:30 p.m. Students in grades 6-8 are invited to come provide input to expand the YA/Teen collection and plan programs.

**Dungeons & Dragons:** Wednesday, March 30, 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:** The Front Door Project: Tuesday, March 22, 6:30 p.m. The library welcomes Deb Cohen, creator of the Instagram account The Front Door Project, as featured in *Yankee Magazine* and *Town & Country*. All are invited to learn about the account. Register now to reserve a seat.

**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 appli-

cants, 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 today, March 18, will not be accepted.

**Kindergarten Registration Begins**

Kindergarten registration packets for the 2022-23 school year are available at the Memorial School foyer and at East Hampton Public Library.

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.

**Touch-a-Truck**

Touch-a-Truck will be presented at Memorial Elementary School, 20 Smith St., on Sunday, March 27, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. A donation of \$5 per family is suggested to support pre-kindergarten activities.

There will be a variety of vehicles parked in the school's parking lot: police, fire, flatbeds, tractors and more.

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**Officer Pays Visit...** Pack 57 was visited by Officer Matthew Hanlon from East Hampton Police Department at the February Pack meeting. Hanlon talked about what kids should do in an emergency and how the police help others. He also answered many questions from the young Scouts. Pack 57 presented Hanlon with "Law Enforcement Survival Kits" for the entire police department, as a token of appreciation for all they do for the community.

## Police News

2/19: After an investigation into a one-car motor vehicle accident in the area on Lake Drive, Jennisha Hosam-Wilson 34, of 71 Auburn Knoll Rd., was issued a summons for traveling too fast for conditions and operating under suspension, East Hampton Police said.

3/2: After an investigation into a one-car motor vehicle accident in the area of Colchester Avenue (Route 16) and Cedar Ridge Road, James Paholsky, 42, of 38 Lakewood Rd., was issued a summons for operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license, police said.

3/3: Richard Collins, 51, of 52 Ridgeview Drive, was arrested and charged with first-degree unlawful restraint, third-degree assault, third-degree strangulation/suffocation, and disorderly conduct, police said.

3/5: After an investigation into a one-car motor vehicle accident in the area of Old Middletown Avenue and Depot Hill Road, Ashley Hanna, 30, of 27 David Drive, Colchester, was arrested and charged with driving under the influence and failure to drive right, police said.

3/6: Frederick Everett, 35, of 27 Walnut Ave., was arrested and charged with third-degree criminal mischief, third-degree assault, interfering with a 911 call, and disorderly conduct, police said.

3/7: Adam Doran, 25, of 59 Freestone Ave., Portland, turned himself in and was charged with interfering with an emergency call, third-degree criminal mischief, third-degree assault and disorderly conduct, police said.

3/13: Kimberly Crumb, 46, of Branford, was taken into custody pursuant to an active warrant for her arrest and charged with criminal violation of a restraining order and first-degree criminal trespass, police said.

3/14: Richy Montanez, 46, of Windham, was arrested and charged with sixth-degree larceny, third-degree identity theft, illegal use of credit card and credit card theft, police said.

From Feb. 22-March 13, officers responded to 16 motor vehicle crashes, 38 medical calls and 20 alarms, and made 33 traffic stops.

## Garden Club to Meet

The Belltown Garden Club of East Hampton will hold its monthly meeting Monday, March 21, at 6:30 p.m., in the Community Room of East Hampton Public Library, 105 Main St.

Featured speaker for the evening will be Leah O'Hearn, co-owner of It's So Ranunculus Flower Shoppe in Marlborough. She will give a demonstration of creating a floral design based on her inspirations derived from a piece of artwork.

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

## Joe Barber Memorial Scholarship

The Joe Barber Memorial Scholarship was established to let Barber continue giving as he did in life. A \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded by the Barber family to an applicant, chosen by a selection committee, who has demonstrated exceptional leadership and who has performed selfless service within their school and the community.

Applicants must be an East Hampton resident graduating with the Class of 2022 (whether from East Hampton High School or another high school) who have been accepted to attend an institute of higher learning after graduation.

Applications are available at the East Hampton High School guidance office or by written request to kbarber03@snet.net. Applications must be received no later than April 8.

## 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.

## Free Digital Fingerprinting

2-1-1 Child Care will offer free digital fingerprinting for child care provider staff, volunteers, and household members who are required to complete a comprehensive background check at least every five years. 2-1-1 Child Care collects fingerprints digitally and sends them straight to the State Police.

The session will be held in the community room at East Hampton Public Library, 105 Main St., on Wednesday, March 30, from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Individuals must schedule an appointment in advance at resources.211childcare.org/backgroundcheck. Fingerprints will not be collected without confirmation of prior approval.

Approved applicants must bring a current government-issued photo ID to the appointment. Each appointment is scheduled for 15 minutes.

For more information, contact Veronica Phelps, director of My School Learning Center in East Hampton, at 860-267-1397.

## Chicken Cordon Bleu Dinner

The Ladies Society of the Second Congregational Church, 52 Middle Haddam Rd., Middle Haddam will have a takeout Chicken Cordon Bleu Dinner on Saturday, April 9. Pick-up will be 4:30-5:30 p.m., at the lower level of the church.

Featured will be chicken cordon bleu, baked potato with butter, coleslaw, roll and dessert. Cost is \$13/each. Reserve by April 3. Proceeds benefit ongoing projects.

## 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.

## Photography Program in East Hampton

The next meeting of the East Hampton Art Association will be held Wednesday, March 23, at 7 p.m., at the East Hampton Community Center, 105 Main St. The featured speaker for the evening will be R.J. Phil of East Hampton. He will present an informative program for anyone that takes photos for sharing with family or an artist that uses their photos as a basis for a painting.

Phil is a native of East Hampton, having begun his photographic journey in an East Hampton photography class. Since then he has been on staff at a summer school for professional photographers, was a printer in a color lab, and worked in image research. Since 1980 he has owned a custom color lab and studio, providing photographic services to commercial advertising, fine art photographers and the arts community at large. He is a former member of the New England Large Format Photography Collective, exhibiting in several group shows. His topic will be "Looking Beyond the Big Picture", the use of previsualization and composition tips to enhance the final image.

The public is invited to attend all East Hampton Art Association meetings. There is a suggested donation of \$4 for nonmembers. Students can attend at no charge.



**R.J. Phil of East Hampton will be the guest speaker at the Wednesday, March 23, meeting of the East Hampton Art Association.**

## Senior Center News & Notes

East Hampton Senior Center, 105 Main St., is open. All participants should register for programs prior to the event, online at [myactivecenter.com](http://myactivecenter.com) or by calling 860-267-4426 or emailing [seniorcenter@easthamptonct.gov](mailto:seniorcenter@easthamptonct.gov). Senior center hours are Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Masks are required for all, regardless of vaccination status. Visit the senior center online at [www.easthamptonct.gov/east-hampton-senior-center](http://www.easthamptonct.gov/east-hampton-senior-center).

**Lunches:** Served at the center to ages 60 and up on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Call the center to reserve a meal or sign up online. Reservations for the next day's meal are due by 11 a.m. the day before. Masks are required; however, once you have your meal and are seated you can take off your mask. Meals are free, though a \$3 donation is requested.

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

**Writing Our Lives to Open Our Hearts:** Thursdays, 10:30-11:30 a.m., or every other Wednesday (next date March 30), at 9:30 a.m., indoors with masks, or via Zoom. Register online.

**East Hampton Speaks is Back:** Friday, March 25, 10:30 a.m. Take a walk down Memory Lane and learn facts about East Hampton. Lunch served after the event. Register online.

## 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 April 7. This is an interactive study of compassion as seen in Jesus.

**Easter Egg Hunt:** Saturday, April 9, 1-3 p.m. Hundreds of colorful candy-filled eggs will be

## Easter Morning Sunrise Service

Haddam Neck Congregational Church will hold a 7 a.m. sunrise service on Easter morning, April 17, in the field just past the Quarry Hill Road/Schoolhouse Hill Road intersection in Haddam Neck, followed by a potluck breakfast at the church parish house at 408 Quarry Hill Rd.

Easter Sunday service will be held at the church at 11 a.m.

For more information, visit [www.haddam-neckcongregationalchurch.org](http://www.haddam-neckcongregationalchurch.org).

Space is limited.

**Wii Bowling:** Thursday, March 31, 10 a.m. Pre-registration is required.

**Trips:** Payments for trips will be accepted on Tuesdays and Thursdays, or by pre-arranged appointment time. Trips are: **Martha's Vineyard Daytrip:** Thursday, July 21. There will be a round trip ferry, island bus tour, and time to shop and dine on your own. Cost: \$124/person. **Cathedral of the Pines:** Wednesday, Aug. 17, to Rindge, N.H. Explore the sanctuary, sacred spaces, monuments and burial grounds, built as a memorial to those fallen in service. Cost: \$104/person, includes lunch at Woodbound Inn. **Cranberry Bog Tour:** Thursday, Sept. 22, to Wareham, Mass. This is a narrated bus tour of the world's largest cranberry grower, A.D. Makepeace Company. Have lunch at Lindsey's Family Restaurant, and a stop at Wright's Dairy Farm & Bakery on the way home. Cost: \$116/person. **Washington D.C.:** Oct. 21-24. Includes deluxe motorcoach, three nights' hotel, three breakfasts and two dinners, all sightseeing and admissions as per itinerary, a Friendship Tours escort, and driver and tour gratuity. Cost: \$745/person for a double or triple, or \$989/person for a single.

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

**BBQ Chicken Dinner:** Drive-thru takeout will be held Saturday, April 23, from noon to 6 p.m. Cost is \$10. Reservation with pick-up time is required by calling the church office.

**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.

## VFW 5095 Hosts the Coconuts

The Coconuts, known as "The Boomer Humor Comedy Rock Party Band," are coming to VFW Post 5095 East Hampton on Saturday, March 26, at the post, 20 N. Maple St. The band specializes in parodies, sing-alongs, and rock 'n roll.

Tickets are \$30 each (includes dinner and the show), with proceeds to benefit local veterans.

Dinner includes chicken leg quarter, baked potato, vegetable, pasta with meatless sauce, meatballs on the side, tossed salad and a roll. There will also be raffles and a cash bar.

Doors open at 4:30 p.m., with dinner served at 5 p.m. Entertainment begins at 7 p.m.

Tickets are limited and must be bought in advance. Call 860-267-8837 or stop by the post to purchase tickets.

East Hampton • East Hampton



**Pinewood Derby...** The 2022 Pack 57 Pinewood Derby, sponsored by Adrenaline Powersports, DaVinci's Pizza and Classic Auto, was held in January. Scout families were able to attend in person for the first time since 2019, or watch the races virtually. All first- and second-place winners are eligible to participate in the District Pinewood Derby, which has yet to be announced. The Pinewood Derby cars are on display at East Hampton Public Library for the month of March, for all to see. In the photo at left are, back row, Jim VanCott, Jeff Mortimer, Kitty Roman, Chris Meacham, AJ LaPlant, Sara Perez and Ryan Scanlon; front row, Mikael Russo and Rebecca Armstrong. In the photo at right is the Scout Pit Crew: Brennan VanCott, Tyler Roman, Alexander Scanlon, Ethan Mortimer, Cameron Meacham and Jack Perez.



### Live Well with Chronic Conditions

The Chatham Health District will present Live Well with Chronic Conditions, a free six-week workshop series. Workshops are being scheduled now.

This is an in-home version of the workshops; all you need to participate is a telephone.

Participants will learn more about: exercise and healthy eating; dealing with difficult emotions; decision-making and communications skills; working with healthcare providers; and more.

All participants will also receive a free *Living*

*a Healthy Life* book and a free exercise and relaxation CD.

This series is sponsored by the Chatham Health District, the Connecticut Department of Public Health, the Department of Aging & Disability Services, and the Senior Resources Agency on Aging.

Call Nancy at 860-416-7558 to sign up or for more information.

### Congregational Church News & Notes

The Congregational Church of East Hampton, UCC, located at 59 Main St., is open for in-person services every Sunday at 10 a.m. Pastor is Amie McCarthy. 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. Sunday school classes meet every Sunday for preschool through ninth grade.

The Youth Group, grades 6-12, will next meet Friday, March 25, from 6:30-8 p.m., in 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.

### 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).

### Dean's List

Meagan McLaughlin of East Hampton made the fall 2021 Dean's List at Salve Regina University in Newport, R.I. She was also an honoree of the Commonwealth Coast Conference (CCC) fall 2021 Academic All-Conference Team.

McLaughlin is a third-year member of the women's soccer team, pursuing a degree in health care administration.

### 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 [rdmchutchison@yahoo.com](mailto:rdmchutchison@yahoo.com), Melissa Pionzio at 860-993-5311 or [mapionzio@comcast.net](mailto:mapionzio@comcast.net), or Elizabeth Malloy at [elizabethhartmalloy@gmail.com](mailto:elizabethhartmalloy@gmail.com).

### 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](mailto:arts@easthamptonct.org)

There are two \$500 grants available to be awarded to individuals or organizations residing in East Hampton. 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.

An interview may be requested of the candi-

date 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).

### Local Artist at Town Hall

Arlene Cavalieri, a local artist, will represent the East Hampton Art Association with several paintings in the Chatham Gallery of the East Hampton Town Hall during March. The theme is "A Tiger Among Us."

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

### Lions Club Scholarships Available

The East Hampton Lions Club is offering scholarships to graduating seniors who are residents of East Hampton.

Four \$1,000 awards are available. Eligible students include not only East Hampton High School students but also individuals who attend charter and various other school programs as well as home schooling.

Applications are available at the East Hampton High School guidance office.

### Christ Episcopal Church News

Christ Episcopal Church, 66 Middle Haddam Rd., Middle Haddam, holds in-person worship Sundays at 10 a.m.

During Lent, a brief service with Eucharist will also be held Wednesdays at 6 p.m. at the church (through April 13).

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).

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### From the Superintendent's Desk...

March is Board of Education Appreciation Month! I would like to take this opportunity to thank Colchester's BOE members Alexander Oliphant, Mary Tomasi, Jessica Morozowich, Donna Antonacci, Margo Gignac, Rosemary Gignac, and Christopher Rivers for their conscientious dedication in volunteering their time to support the best possible educational outcomes for our students. Colchester Public Schools is celebrating their efforts all month to express thanks for all that they do and the numerous hours they devote towards fulfilling our mission of "We create innovative thinkers for a dynamic world." BOE appreciation videos were created by the BA Choir, WJMS Chamber Choir, JJIS Bands, and CES students to be shared with the Board at BOE meetings. In addition, the BOE members will be presented with snacks made by the Bake Shop at Bacon Academy, keychains from the WJ Innovations class, and student artwork from throughout the district.

On Tuesday, March 8, I presented my recommended budget for the 2022-23 school year with a 0.87 percent increase. The budget continues the work of the district and reflects our commitment to meeting the needs of all of our students. The approach to this budget is to continue to address the impact of the pandemic on students and to return to our instructional improvement work. As such, this budget maintains the current level of staffing while looking to grant opportunities to increase support services.

As the 2022-23 budget season progresses, community members are encouraged to participate in the process. Presentations and budget documents will be posted to Colchester Public Schools website at [www.colchesterct.org](http://www.colchesterct.org). The full schedule of budget meetings is on both the town and school websites. The public may submit questions at [budget@colchesterct.gov](mailto:budget@colchesterct.gov) and each one will be answered. There is also a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section in the appendix of the proposed budget.

**Respectfully,**  
**Jeffrey E. Burt, Superintendent**  
**Colchester Public Schools**

### 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. Only a few seats are left.

**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.

**Note:** The Aug. 14-15 trip to see the Boston Pops on Old Cape Cod has been canceled.

For more information, call Barbara Gozzo at 860-537-0179 or 860-208-4121.

### Lions Club to Host Breakfast

The Colchester Lions Club is hosting a breakfast Saturday, March 26, from 7:30-11:30 a.m., at the St. Joseph Polish Society, 395 S. Main St. Grab and go, or eat in. Limited seating will be available.

Sold will be a breakfast sandwich with hash brown, for \$3.50. Add cheese, sausage or bacon for 50 cents each. Coffee will also be available, for 50 cents.

### Online Certified Vital Records

Town Clerk Gayle Furman has implemented an online system to purchase certified vital certificates.

This system offers the citizens of Colchester the ability to manage the processing, payment and issuance of birth, death and marriage certificates. To order online, go to the town clerk's page at [colchesterct.gov](http://colchesterct.gov).

### Colchester Community Survey

The Colchester Youth First Coalition is administering the 2022 Colchester Community Survey to collect feedback from parents and community members related to issues affecting Colchester youth.

The data that is collected is used to design programs and initiatives to benefit the health and wellness of Colchester youth.

The survey can be accessed at [www.surveymonkey.com/r/ColComm2022](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ColComm2022).

### Book Club to Meet

The Cragin Book Club will meet Monday, March 28, at 6 p.m., at Cragin Memorial Library, 8 Linwood Ave.

This month, *The Kindest Lie* by Nancy Johnson will be read. Copies are available for checkout at the Adult Circulation Desk. For updates, visit [tinyurl.com/cmlbookclub](http://tinyurl.com/cmlbookclub).

All are invited. For more information, call the library at 860-537-5752.

### 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](mailto:cfc06415@gmail.com).

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

**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.

### St. Andrew Passion Play Presentation

All are invited to experience the St. Andrew Passion Play Saturday, April 9, at St. Andrew Church, 128 Norwich Ave.

The evening will start at 7 p.m. with sing-along Passion Play songs. Then, at 7:20 p.m., there will be a video presentation of St. Andrew's 2019 Passion Play, on a large screen in the center aisle of the church.

Attendees should bring a cushion to sit upon, as the pews can get hard after a while, the church said.

There is no cost to attend, but donations will be received. This will help to reimburse the church for some of the cost of the Passion Plays canceled due to the pandemic.

### Pollinator Pathways

All are invited to Cragin Memorial Library, 8 Linwood Ave., on Wednesday, April 13, at 6:30 p.m., to learn about creating, restoring and conserving native habitats for pollinators.

From planting trees or shrubs, to window boxes or porch planters, individuals can support pollinators on their own property. This program is presented by Michele Sinkez, founder of the Hebron Pollinator Conservation Project, and is co-sponsored by the Colchester Garden Club and the Cragin Memorial Library.

For more information about current library services, visit [www.craginlibrary.org](http://www.craginlibrary.org) or call 860-537-5752.

### Spring Fling Tag Sale Saturday

The annual Spring Fling tag sale will be Saturday, March 19, from 8 a.m.-noon, at the parsonage of Westchester Congregational Church, 95 Cemetery Rd.

There will be new inventory with new light fixtures in the box, artwork, toys, costume jewelry, decorating items and more.

No early birds, please.

### Polka Dance, Polish Dinner

The St. Joseph's Polish Society at 395 South Main St. will host a polka dance with a Polish dinner Sunday, March 20, in honor of St. Joseph's Day.

A Polish dinner will be served at 1 p.m. The Maestro's Men will perform from 2-6 p.m.

Tickets are \$20 per person and can be purchased at the Polish Club Monday-Friday after 4 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday after noon. Advanced ticket sales only.

Call 860-537-2550 for more information.

### CES Incoming Kindergarten Story Time

Colchester Elementary School will host a "Kindergarten Story Time" program for 4- and 5 year-old Colchester children who will be entering kindergarten during the 2022-23 school year.

The schedule is Tuesdays, April 12, April 26 and May 10, from 11:25-11:55 a.m. each week, in the CES Media Center. The school is located at 315 Halls Hill Rd.

During each of the three sessions, children will listen to books read by kindergarten teachers while parents learn about the registration process, the kindergarten curriculum, readiness expectations, the school day, school policies and transportation. A question-and-answer period will be available at each session.

Parents and children are invited to attend multiple story times. Topics for parent information change each month. No pre-registration is required.

### JJIS Fundraising Shoe Drive

Jack Jackter Intermediate School is conducting a shoe collection drive through April 30 to raise funds for Jesse Lewis Choose Love Movement, while benefiting microenterprise ventures in developing nations and keeping old shoes out of local landfills.

All donated shoes will be redistributed to microenterprise partners through Funds2Orgs and used in developing nations for impoverished people to start, maintain, and grow a unique business opportunity to feed, clothe, and house their families.

The goal is to collect 2,500 pairs of shoes. The public is invited to participate by dropping shoes in the entrance of JJIS, 215 Halls Hill Rd.

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### History Museum to Open for Season

The Colchester History Museum, located at 24 Linwood Ave., will open for the season beginning Sunday, April 3, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., and continue to be open to the public on Sundays through Dec. 4. The museum, adjacent to the Cragin Memorial Library, is free and offers both permanent and special exhibits all highlighting the people and events in Colchester's history.

Current exhibits include the History of the Bulkeley Family, including the story of the Discovery and Excavation of the Gershom Bulkeley Tomb. A special exhibit, "Emerging from the Shadows: Colchester's School for Colored Children, 1803-1840," explores the history of education of African and Native American students in the early 19th century. "Colchester's Roots in Agriculture: Then and Now" highlights centuries of farming through original documents, imagery and objects. Additional exhibits tell the story of the Champion Family, distinguished military leaders, and the history of the Hayward Rubber Company, the industry that brought both boom and bust to Colchester.

The Colchester History Museum welcomes all and encourages anyone interested in Col-



**The Colchester History Museum will open for the season Sunday, April 3.**

chester history to become one of the museum's greeters/docents. Docents/greeters are given the opportunity to learn more about Colchester's history and to share their enthusiasm with museum visitors. The museum also offers self-guided tour information.

For more information, contact the Colchester Historical Society at mail@colchesterhistory.org or 860-537-3240.

### Colchester Giving Garden

Planning is underway for the Colchester Giving Garden, a fully volunteer-run vegetable garden where everything that is grown is donated to the town food bank, the Meals-on-Wheels program and local soup kitchens. No gardening experience is needed and all are welcome to join in.

There will be a planning meeting, open to the public, on Monday, April 11, at 6:30 p.m., in Norton Room B at Cragin Memorial Library, 8 Linwood Ave. All are welcome.

For more information, email colchester-givinggarden@gmail.com.

### Men in Retirement

All are invited to Colchester Senior Center, 95 Norwich Ave., on Tuesday, March 22, at 10 a.m., for guest speaker Henry Quinlan's presentation on how men can make the most of their retirement experience.

This program is open to all - wives, sisters, daughters, and partners should hear this presentation as well. Registration is \$5.

Stop by the senior center to register in person. Call 860-537-3911 for additional information.

### 'On the Green' Tag Sale

The 42nd annual "Colchester on the Green" Tag Sale and Expo is back - and organizers are looking for vendors.

The Colchester Business Association (CBA) will host this event on the Colchester Green Sunday, June 12, (rain date Sunday, June 26).

The CBA is taking applications now for tag sale tables, craft fair and business booths, food vendors, non-profits, and entertainment.

Those looking to sell tag sale items can bring tables, a tent, or both. For the event's craft fair, the CBA is seeking local artisans and craftspeople to participate. The association is also seeking local brick-and-mortar or home-based businesses to participate in the Business Expo. The CBA will also have booths for non-profits.

The association is also seeking entertainment and other demonstrations for the event.

If interested in participating in any way, email Nichole Howell, CBA services coordinator, at info@colchesterctbusiness.com.

### 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.

**New York City Day Trip:** Monday, May 9. Bus departs at 7 a.m. Start your day at the 9/11 Museum, which serves as the country's principal institution concerned with the events of Sept. 11, 2001. You will have time to view both the museum and the twin reflecting pools. Spend some time in the afternoon at Chelsea Market for lunch on your own. Ascend to the

top of the World Trade Center. Return in Colchester will be approximately 9:15 p.m. Cost is \$130/person, payable by cash or check.

**Foster's Downeast Clambake:** Wednesday, May 25. Bus departs at 8 a.m. for Foster's, located in York, Maine. The menu features clam chowder, steamed clams and mussels, Maine lobster, sweet corn on the cob, red bliss potatoes, rolls and butter, and blueberry crumb cake. Barbecue chicken and a vegetarian option also available. There will be a stop at Portsmouth, N.H., on the way home for some shopping. Return to Colchester at 7 p.m. Cost is \$119/person, payable by cash or check.

**Cabaret at Goodspeed Opera House:** Wednesday, June 8, 11 a.m. This Tony Award-winning musical will play the Goodspeed for the very first time. Trip also includes lunch at the Gelston House before the matinee performance and transportation on the senior bus. Registration is required by May 25.

**Sights and Sounds Theatre - David:** Aug. 3-5. Tour the Amish country and see the brand-new production of *David* at the Sights and Sounds Theatre in Lancaster County, Pa. Other points of interest include Amish Artisans shopping, dinner at Miller's Smorgasbord, a farmers market and a trip aboard the Strasburg Railroad. Cost includes a deluxe motor coach, two-night hotel stay, two breakfasts, two dinners, and all admissions, taxes, fees, and gratuities. The cost of the trip is \$585/person double occupancy. Stop by the senior center to register in person.

### Senior Center News & Notes

Colchester Senior Center, 95 Norwich Ave., has announced the following. For full descriptions, call 860-537-3911, email csc@colchesterct.gov, or visit www.colchesterct.gov.senior-center. Items marked with a (Z) are held via Zoom.

**Monday, March 21:** 9 a.m., Making Memories Program, Exercise with Anne; 10 a.m., Sittercize; 11 a.m., Learn to Sign; noon-9 p.m., fundraiser at Mel's Downtown Creamery; 12:30 p.m., Mahjongg; 1 p.m., Bridge, Painting Workshop.

**Tuesday, March 22:** 9 a.m., Making Memories; 9:45 a.m., Tai Chi; 10 a.m., Men in Retirement; 12:30 p.m., Pinochle; 1:30 p.m., Bingo; 7 p.m., Senior Center Building Committee meeting (Z).

**Wednesday, March 23:** 9 a.m., Making Memories Program; 10 a.m., Walking Group - meet at the Air Line Trail in Amston; 10 a.m., Adult Coloring, Sit & Be Fit; 11:30 a.m., Nutrition for Eye Health; 1:30 p.m., Line Dancing; 7 p.m., Camp HOPE America: Safe Futures (Z).

**Thursday, March 24:** 9 a.m., Exercise w/ Anne; 10 a.m., Sittercize, Wii Bowling; 10:15 a.m., Wright's Chicken Farm trip departs; 11 a.m., Yoga; noon, Chair Massage; 12:30 p.m., Dominoes; 1 p.m., Knit & Crochet.

**Friday, March 25:** 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m., AARP

Tax Aide by appointment only; 10 a.m., Sit & Be Fit; 10:30 a.m., Choral Group; 11 a.m., Yoga; 11:30 a.m., Lunch Bunch departs to Fresca Tequila Bar & Grill; 1:30 p.m., Bingo.

**Upcoming Programs:** Camp HOPE America: Safe Futures: Wednesday, March 23, 7 p.m., via Zoom. Director of Camp HOPE, Christine Foster, will share the mission of the camp's nationwide initiative of Safe Futures, helping women and children escape from domestic violence. Pre-register.

**Nutrition for Life Lunch & Learn:** Wednesday, March 30, 11:30 a.m. Paul Romano, R.D., of National Health Care/Marlborough Health & Rehab, will discuss general nutrition for your lifespan and brainstorm ideas for versatile meals when cooking for one or two, and easy meal alternatives. A complimentary brown bagged lunch will be served with your choice of tuna or turkey sandwich. Space is limited; register by March 23.

**Painting Workshop:** Monday, March 28, 1 p.m. In this three-week acrylic painting workshop, you will be shown the fundamentals of painting. No experience is necessary. Cost for each class is \$20, which includes materials. Pre-register in the office ASAP.

### Fish Fry Fridays

The Colchester Fish and Game Club is holding its annual Fish Fry dinners every Friday during Lent, through and including Good Friday, April 15.

Meal choices include traditional fish and chips, baked fish with baked potato, the club's breaded clam strip dinner, as well as chicken nuggets for the kids. All meals include coleslaw, coffee and dessert. Cost is \$15 for adults and \$8 for kids.

Meals will be served from 6-8 p.m. Take-out is available. The club is located on Old Town Road.

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# Seniors Defend Home Court, Returning to Mohegan

by Josh Howard

Bacon Academy girls' basketball is heading back to the Mohegan Sun Arena for the second time in a month after winning a pair of memorable state tournament games.

The Bobcats defeated Cromwell 45-29 on March 8 and then eliminated East Hampton 30-26 on March 14, earning a spot in the Class M championship game, slated for this weekend against Holy Cross.

Last Tuesday night's win over Cromwell was bittersweet for seniors Valerie Luizzi and Emma Mancuso.

The bitter part was they were playing their final game at Dave Shea Gymnasium inside Bacon Academy High School and the sweet part was the 16-point triumph over the Panthers in the Class M quarterfinals.

"It was crazy to run out here the last time. It's crazy because the last four years have gone by wicked fast," said Mancuso.

Luizzi added, "I definitely wanted to leave it out there and give it my all. I knew it could be our last game, so I wanted to go out with a bang."

After falling behind in the early stages of the game, the Bobcats roared back with a 15-2 run to end the first quarter.

Luizzi had a nifty baseline layup to give the home team a 19-6 advantage early in the second quarter and then later canned a three pointer, sparking a 9-3 run.

Junior Marissa Nudd banked in a shot to beat the first-half buzzer, giving the home team a 27-14 advantage at the break.

Ashley Lizotte, the team's third senior, has been sidelined with an injury. During her recovery, she has become another coach on the sidelines, showing support for her fellow seniors and mentoring her younger teammates.

"We have been playing together forever and we have great team chemistry," Luizzi said, "We can all count on each other when we are out here. It's great knowing we are a team and even though Ashley is hurt, she is just as much a part of the team than we are. We are also playing for her as well."

In Lizotte's absence, a group of young players have emerged. Sophomore Emily Ferrigno, along with freshmen Katelyn Novak and Elizabeth Glover are all logging big minutes and contributing on the court.

Starting sophomore Cara Shea has also shouldered more of a load.

"They are great under fire. We've had to put them in because we've had a lot of injuries all year," Bacon Academy head coach John Shea said. "We have been through a lot of tough stuff so we just have to play who we've got and they've played a lot older than they are."

Mancuso said that the younger girls have fit right in. "They have stepped up and we couldn't

do it without them," she said.

Luizzi opened the third quarter by knocking down her second from beyond the arc thanks to a beautiful crosscourt inbounds pass from Ferrigno. The Bobcats eventually opened up a 36-16 lead in the third before cruising to the comfortable victory.

Nudd scored a game-high 18 points and Luizzi finished with 14 to supply a bulk of the offense, but it was the team's defensive effort that made the difference.

Bacon used a trapping zone defense, doubling and sometimes tripling the ball, particularly in the corners. Cromwell, who came in averaging 52 points per game, was held to a season-low in points and limited to 18% shooting from the field, hitting only 11 of 62 shots.

"[Defense] was a big key tonight," said Coach Shea, who added that he put in the trapping defense recently. "It worked pretty well. We just have to keep working at it and get better at it."

Mancuso said that the Bobcats knew they had to be more aggressive than the Panthers, adding "They are obviously a physical team so we knew to win the game we had to get on the ground, get loose balls, and grab rebounds."

The victorious home finale propelled the Bobcats into the next round where they would edge the Bellringers of East Hampton at Plainville High School – the neutral site for the semi-final showdown.

Again the Bobcats fell behind early on, tallying only three points in the first quarter.

Luizzi, who was held scoreless in the opening quarter, hit a straight away triple on Bacon's first possession of the second quarter to start the rally.

At halftime, Luizzi went into a phone booth and put on her cape before scoring seven straight points early in the third quarter to bring the Bobcats within one.

"We knew they were going to come out strong," Luizzi said. "This is one of the closest games we've had and we knew we couldn't rush or make bad passes. We just needed to take control of the game and make it at our speed."

With two minutes left in the third quarter, Mancuso hit a mid-range jumper to give the Bobcats their first lead of the game at 20-19.

The team's battled back and forth down the stretch before Nudd put the Bobcats up for good when she made a spinning layup with 5:58 to play in regulation.

Leading 28-26, Luizzi was fouled with 4.6 seconds remaining and calmly sank both free throws to finish off the Bellringers.

"I was nervous but we've been practicing them every day. Marissa told me 'just like in practice'," Luizzi said of the free throws. "I decided to clear my head of every thought and just go for it."

Luizzi scored a game-high 17 points, a dozen



Bacon Academy's girls' basketball team after defeating Cromwell in the Class M quarterfinals. It was the last home game of the season for the Bobcats and the final game at Dave Shea Gymnasium for seniors Valerie Luizzi and Emma Mancuso.

coming in the second half. She outscored the Bellringers (12-10) by herself over the final 16 minutes.

Next up is the championship game against the undefeated Crusaders of Holy Cross, who enter the title tilt 23-0.

It will mark the first time the Bobcats have been in the state title game since 2017 and they are seeking their first state championship since 2012.

Following a loss to New London in the Eastern Connecticut Conference (ECC) finals at Mohegan Sun on Feb. 22, Bacon Academy's road back to the casino was straight forward, needing to win three state tournament games.

They did just that, leaning on a stout defense and limiting the trio of tourney opponents be-

low 30 points per game.

In order for Bacon's second time around the sun to yield championship results they will need a similar defensive performance against the Crusaders, who are averaging 71 points per game.

Win or lose, coach Shea will have his three seniors beside him for the final time.

"They've been a joy to coach," said Shea. "They are great leaders and they do everything academically and they are really good ballplayers and captains. I've enjoyed it and I'm lucky to have them."

For an exact date and time of the Bobcats' championship game, visit [content.ciacsports.com/brackets/gbb2022M.html](http://content.ciacsports.com/brackets/gbb2022M.html).

## CLT 'Discover Colchester' Hike

The next Colchester Land Trust (CLT) "Discover Colchester" hike will take place Sunday, April 24, at 1 p.m., at the Babcock Pond Wildlife Management Area.

As a wildlife management area, Babcock provides 1,500 acres of forest, swamps and ponds. It contains miles of unmarked hiking trails. History has it that Boston Red Sox legend Ted Williams hunted in this area. This hike is approximately four miles long, mostly on a logging road and open paths, but hikers should wear appropriate footwear and be prepared for various trail conditions. Adults, children and leashed dogs are all welcome.

Directions: From Route 2 eastbound, take Exit 16 and turn right onto Route 149 South. Go approximately one mile and take left onto

Cato Corner Road. Follow Cato Corner to intersection of Cato Corner and Route 16. Go straight across onto Standish Road, off Route 16. Bear right at first stop sign. Turn right onto Red School House Road. Park in the cul-de-sac at the end of Red School House Road. Route 2 westbound travelers, take Exit 16, turn left onto Route 149 South and follow directions above.

Email [DKA@gmail.com](mailto:DKA@gmail.com) for additional information. This event will be held rain or shine. The Colchester Land Trust is an all-volunteer nonprofit organization that works to permanently protect open space in Colchester; visit [www.colchesterlandtrust.org](http://www.colchesterlandtrust.org) to join or donate.

## Bible Study at Christian Life Chapel

All are invited to Christian Life Chapel, 392 S. Main St., on Wednesdays at 7 p.m., to study the gospels with the Chosen series.

## Senior Golf League Planning Meeting

Are you interested in joining the Colchester Senior Golf League? If so, come to the center, 95 Norwich Ave., on Tuesday, April 12, at 2 p.m., for an informational meeting to discuss the 2022 golf league season at the Chantclair Golf Course in Colchester.

The 16-week season begins in mid-May, runs for 16 weeks, and features a season-ending banquet on the last day. Fee is a one-time payment of \$220 or four monthly installments of \$55 in May, June, July and August. This is a co-ed league and new members are welcome. For more information, call 860-537-3911.

## Grand Opening of Urgent Care

The Colchester Business Association will celebrate the Grand Opening of the new Colchester Urgent Care, located at 100 Linwood Ave., on Saturday, March 19, at 2 p.m.

Dr. Srinivasulu Conjeevaram (Dr. Sri) and his staff will be joined by the CBA and local town officials to celebrate this new business in town, and refreshments will be served.

Richard Shonk

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### Soccer Club Annual Meeting

Colchester Soccer Club (CSC) will hold its annual meeting Wednesday, March 23, at 7 p.m., in the William J. Johnston Middle School cafeteria. All members are invited to attend.

Elections will be held for president, vice president of travel, and secretary, and nominations will take place for multiple board positions. Volunteers are still needed for several positions. The Board of Directors openings are: 5th/6th grade divisional coordinator; contact Bill Beeler at vp.recreation@colchester-soccer.org, and field coordinator; contact Tim Daniels at president@colchestersoccer.org.

More referees will be needed for the upcoming season. Visit [ctreferee.net](http://ctreferee.net) to register and begin online training.

CSC is also seeking volunteer coaches for the fall season U9 Boys' and U9 Girls' Travel Teams.

All coaches are required to obtain an age appropriate Grassroots license (or equivalent), complete concussion training, and complete a background check before the start of the season beginning in early August 2022 (CSC will pay for and help coordinate the required training). Interested candidates should contact director of coaching, Lee Elliott, at [Lee.Elliott@colchestersoccer.org](mailto:Lee.Elliott@colchestersoccer.org) by March 31, and copy vice president of travel, Anton Smith, at [VP.Travel@colchestersoccer.org](mailto:VP.Travel@colchestersoccer.org). Use "CSC Travel Coaching Opportunity" along with the respective team you are inquiring about as the subject of your email (example: "U9 Boys CSC Travel Coaching Opportunity").

Visit [www.colchestersoccer.org](http://www.colchestersoccer.org) for more information and watch for open registration in April.

### Project Graduation Trivia Night Fundraiser

Bacon Academy Project Graduation will hold a Trivia Night Fundraiser Saturday, April 30, at 6 p.m., at the Polish Club, 395 South Main St. Tickets cost \$20 and the evening event will include cash and raffle prizes.

All proceeds benefit the Class of 2022 and its graduation night festivities. For more information or to purchase tickets online, go to [www.baconacademyprojectgrad.org](http://www.baconacademyprojectgrad.org) and click on current fundraisers. The chairperson, Shannon Cuadro, can also be contacted at [ba.projectgrad@gmail.com](mailto:ba.projectgrad@gmail.com).

Project Graduation is a nonprofit organization with a mission to enhance drug and alcohol-free awareness by providing safe graduation events for all graduating seniors of Bacon Academy.

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

### BOE Budget Meetings

The school board will hold budget workshops Tuesdays, March 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.

### Parks & Recreation 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.

**Card-Making Class:** Wednesday, April 6. All materials needed for each card are included in the cost and will be given out at the beginning of the 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.

**Summer Day Camp:** Registration is underway. 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, registration 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.

### Butter Braid Fundraiser

The St. Andrew Ladies Guild is in the final days of its 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](http://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.

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### Zion Lutheran Church News

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

For those unable or still reluctant to worship in person, a recording of the service is posted to YouTube on Monday mornings by 9 a.m.

Adult Bible Study continues at 10:15 a.m. on the second and fourth Sundays of each month. The focus of this study is season one of the series *The Chosen*, using the book *What Does It Mean to Be Chosen?*

Zion is offering special services during Lent.

In-person prayer and meditation is offered at noon Wednesdays through April 6. Compline services, or evening prayers, are offered Wednesday evenings at 8 p.m. during Lent, in person and broadcast live on Facebook.

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](mailto:zion.lutheran@snet.net) or visit [zionlutheranportland.org](http://zionlutheranportland.org). Sara Stall-Ryan is pastor.

### Registration Open for Spring Soccer

Registration is open for Portland Soccer Club's spring Travel and Recreational seasons. 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:** For players with birth-years 2008-2013. Registration deadline is today, Friday, March 18. Cost is \$170. Practices are twice per week with up to two weekend games against other towns. Season starts early April, ends mid-June.

**Recreation Details:** Players with birth years 2013 to 2017 are eligible. 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. Late registrations are not guaranteed to be accepted.

### Shade Gardening Program

The garden clubs of Portland will present the program "Shade Gardening" by Betty Sanders Wednesday, March 30, at 7 p.m., at the Waverly Center, located on 7 Waverly Ave.

Sanders' program will cover the uses of shade, the limitations of shade, and how to increase the former and minimize the latter. She will also include information on how shade can reduce the garden's water needs. Handouts summarizing the key points of her

program will be available.

Neal Sanders, her husband and author of 15 mysteries, will also be present at the program. His books, many with horticultural themes or garden club settings, will be available for sale. A contribution will be made to the garden clubs based on the number of books sold.

The program is open to the public and light refreshments will be served. For more information, call Sue at 860-685-0593.

### Trinity Episcopal Church News

Trinity Episcopal Church, located at 345 Main St., invites the community to celebrate each week. Worship is at 9:30 a.m. Sunday School is held during the service. Children ages 4-12, baptized and unbaptized, are welcome to attend Church School.

The Lenten Book Study, featuring Howard Thurman's *Jesus and the Disinherited*, will be held Mondays at 7 p.m. Books are available in the church office. You can join the study in per-

son or via Zoom. See details at [trinitychurch-portlandct.org](http://trinitychurch-portlandct.org).

Masks are required for all, vaccinated and unvaccinated, while inside the church. More information is at [trinitychurchportlandct.org](http://trinitychurchportlandct.org).

The church is open for prayer and meditation on Fridays from 2-4 p.m.

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

### 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.

### Portland Exchange Offering Scholarship

Again this year, the Portland Exchange Club will offer the \$1,000 John W. Goodrich Scholarship to any Portland resident senior going on to a higher education institution after graduation.

For the scholarship, the Exchange Club is looking for the student with the most outstanding record of community service and good academic achievement as well as participation in extracurricular activities.

The application for the scholarship is available at the Portland High School Counseling Center and online at [www.PortlandExchange.org/John W. Goodrich Scholarship](http://www.PortlandExchange.org/John W. Goodrich Scholarship). Deadline for applications is April 16.

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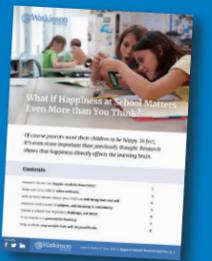
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### Town-Wide Tag Sale Plans Begin

The Portland Historical Society's 26th annual Town-Wide Tag Sale will be Saturday, May 7. Online registration and payment for tag sales is now open. Visit the society's website ([www.portlandhistsoc.org](http://www.portlandhistsoc.org)) and click on the link to register. Registration sheets will be included in the Society's March newsletter and will also be available in the barrel on the front steps of the Ruth Callander House Museum of Portland History, located at 492 Main St., later this month. Completed paper registration sheets along with payment should be mailed to the society at P.O. Box 98, Portland CT 06480. The donation to the society for a spot on the Tag Sale Map is \$20-\$25. Portland residents who sign up will be assigned a spot on the society's official Tag Sale

Map issued for that day listing the sale locations and types of items featured at each one. Local businesses and organizations can support the Society by purchasing an advertising spot on the tag sale map. Past advertisers will receive an email with information about this year's map in the next two weeks. New businesses can email the society for information at [portlandcthistory@gmail.com](mailto:portlandcthistory@gmail.com). Tag Sale ad spots are approximately the size of a business card and cost \$25. The annual Town-Wide Tag Sale is the main fundraiser for the Society. Proceeds help to maintain the museum and to further the mission to collect, preserve and share Portland's history.

### March Book Sale, Read & Recycle

The Friends of the Portland Library group has cookbooks, CDs, and DVDs as well as fiction, romance, teen and children's used books in the Second-Hand Prose Bookshop at the Portland Library during regular library hours. The library is located at 20 Freestone Ave. 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 on sale for 50 cents each.

Also, the Friends' Read & Recycle program will accept donations Saturday, March 26, from 10 a.m.-noon, in the Mary Flood Room of the library. The Friends welcome donations of gently-used books, puzzles, CDs, DVDs and games. No textbooks, business books, computer books, self-help books, VHS videos or magazines. All donated items must be in "sellable" condition. The library cannot accept items that are dirty,

### Vendors, Crafters Wanted

Attention all crafters and vendors: Portland United Methodist Church, located at 381 Main St., will hold a Spring Craft/Vendor Fair Saturday, April 30, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Cost for a space is \$25, or \$20 if you supply your own table. Contact Pam Galvin at [pamgalvin69@yahoo.com](mailto:pamgalvin69@yahoo.com) or 860-301-7393 to reserve a spot.

moldy or in poor condition. Donations must be dropped off at the library's side door, and volunteers will be available to receive the donations. Donations are tax-deductible and acknowledgement forms will be available. Donated items are sold at various Friends' book sales held throughout the year, and all proceeds are used to support programs of the library. Visit [www.friendsofportlandlibraryct.org](http://www.friendsofportlandlibraryct.org) for more information or email questions to [friendsoftheportlandlibrary@gmail.com](mailto:friendsoftheportlandlibrary@gmail.com).

### Senior Center News & Notes

The Waverly Senior Center, 7 Waverly Ave., is open Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., and Friday, 9 a.m.-noon. For more information or to register, call 860-342-6760. **Food Bank Donations:** People donating for Portland Food Bank are asked to drop off donations only during food bank hours, downstairs in the senior center, on Mondays and Thursdays, 9 a.m.-noon. **Volunteer Info Session:** UR Community Cares volunteers and seniors on need info session will be Tuesday, March 22, 6 p.m. **Lunch by Sarah's at the Senior Center:** Thursday, March 24, noon. Cost is \$5. Register by March 22. **Medicare with Mark Lee:** Friday, March 25, 10:30 a.m. **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](mailto: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 Lisa, 1 p.m. (four weeks at a time for \$40); setback, 1-3 p.m.; chair yoga, 1:30 p.m. March 23 and 30, and every week in April. **Thursdays:** Knit & Stitch, 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](mailto:JeffMyjak@myjakjeff@gmail.com) at [myjakjeff@gmail.com](mailto: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. **Trip:** If you need to be picked up at your home for a van trip, let the center know in advance. The van will travel to BOSCOV's at Meriden Mall on Thursday, March 31, departing the center at 1 p.m. There is a \$5 trip fee. Pre-register.

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# Curley Unveils New, 3% Higher Spending Plan

by Jack Lakowsky

Portland First Selectman Ryan Curley on Tuesday proposed a total town budget of about \$37.2 million for fiscal year 2022-23, up 2.82% from the current operating budget.

The town's general government is proposed at \$14.4 million, about a 3% bump over the current plan. As is usually the case, the school district's budget makes up most of the town's plan, at about a 2.75% increase of \$22.8 million.

The Portland Board of Education lowered slightly, and then approved, superintendent Charles Britton's budget in January.

Both pots are proposed to increase more than the average hike of the past few years.

Curley proposes a mill rate bump of about 1.9%, to about 32.54 mills. A town's mill rate is the formula used to determine residents' prop-

erty taxes. The town's asking to increase tax revenue by about \$1,000,000.

A favorable Grand List revaluation allowed the town to lower the mill rate increase, Curley said.

Curley said essentially, the "pie gets bigger," and because of this the value of one mill is larger. Therefore, it takes fewer mills to receive the same amount of money.

Portland's Grand List value was reassessed to be about \$944 million, up more than 11% over the last revaluation, or about \$96 million.

All categories of the list – personal and real property, motor vehicles – jumped significantly, all seeing hikes in the millions.

The mill rate doesn't reflect a possible change in how town's assess motor vehicles. Gov. Ned

Lamont has proposed a cap in the mill rate on cars, at about 29 mills. Curley said it's too early to include that figure in the spending plan.

A major driver of the budget is Curley's ambitious capital improvement plan. He said improving the town's infrastructure and other capital needs is this proposal's main priority.

Curley's plan calls for \$334,000 in capital work.

"The town has a great need for improvements," said Curley, adding it was difficult to filter the list down to absolute needs.

Curley's action item list is extensive. Major ticket items include more than \$100,000 for fire department equipment, about \$47.5 thousand to install a computer in a police SUV and \$55,000 for work on fuel pumps.

Another major hike is about a 26% increase in the town's planning department, which has multiple vacant positions. The town wants to

add a development coordinator and increase the town planner's hours from 35 per week to 40.

Money from the state is up, Curley said, by about \$64,000, totally \$4.6 million. Most of the money is going to the school district.

Curley broke down how every \$100 of the town's money gets spent. About \$60 goes to the school and the rest goes to the town.

Curley included info on plans to improve the town's aging, troubled water and sewer system. He wants to allocate close to \$2 million to the water system, an increase of about \$56,000.

For sewer, he named a figure of \$1.2 million, up \$36,000.

Curley also broke down how the town has spent its \$1.4 million allotment of American Rescue Plan money. The town will get another installment of a similar amount later this year.

So far, the town's spent \$184,000 on police cameras-mandated by the state's police accountability bill – and \$1 million for water/sewer work.

Two letters from residents supported more money for the library. Curley's proposal includes a 4% increase for the Portland Public Library.

Britton went over his budget, at one point hitting on the repair of the high school track. The track is unusable and has been a major conversation topic for the school board, the select board and residents.

Repairing the track is estimated to cost about \$500,000, according to Britton. This figure was determined in March 2020, before the current inflationary environment.

Schools recently received a \$250,000 grant to fund the track. Though no decisions have been made, Britton has asked the town to help match the cost of repair. He said he'll use any savings realized at the end of the school year towards the track, a figure he doesn't yet have.

The track, for its urgency, is the only major capital improvement plan in Britton's budget.

The town's schools, according to a study the school board commissioned, are looking at between \$25 and \$30 million in infrastructure work over the next 5-10 years. The work is comprehensive, encompassing the whole district, and could include closing one, or more, of the town's five schools.

Britton said the two elementary schools, Valley View and Gildersleeve, along with Brownstone Intermediate School, need substantial work.

To tackle this daunting work, Britton formed a facilities study committee last year. He said he doesn't want to get ahead of the committee, and so is awaiting their determinations before including more capital work in district budgets.

In a follow-up call Wednesday, Curley said the town's budget is under strain from multiple factors, including inflation and rising fuel costs.

Curley said he and Britton tried to be as conservative as possible while meeting the town's needs.

The public has several chances to hear about, and offer input on, the budget proposal. There was a select board workshop Wednesday, after deadline for this report.

More workshops are set for March 22 and 23 as well, with further discussions on the 29th and 30th. Selectmen must approve the budget by April 6. A town meeting will be held May 2, and finally, the public will accept or reject the budget at a May 9 vote.

## Scholarship Available

Carl Guild and Associates has a scholarship available for 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.

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# Local Preteen Jigs Her Way to Global Competition

by Jack Lakowsky

Local preteen Anna Vicino is going to try her luck at the 2022 World Irish Dancing Championships in Belfast, one of just two competitors from Connecticut to get there, according to Anna's mom, Allison Vicino.

Anna's crazy schedule is about to get crazier – the competition is in early April. From now until then it's practice, practice, practice.

"We're both excited and nervous," Allison said. "We're a little extra nervous with COVID, so we're doing the best we can to stay healthy."

Anna's both a competitor and a performer. Along with preparing for Belfast, she's rehearsing for a performance in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Hartford. The competition's official name is "Oireachtas Rince na Cruinne 2022".

"She loves performing, it helps build stamina," said Allison. "She has no fear of getting on stage. It's become part of who she is. Even in school she's the kid who's excited to give a speech, any sort of sharing or presentation. Showing her stuff is part of who she is."

Anna practices at Mulcahy Dance Academy in West Hartford between four and six days per week. Allison, along with other family members, will accompany Anna.

To qualify for Belfast, Anna placed sixth at

the New England regional competition. This she accomplished after not quite qualifying at a previous competition in Phoenix.

Anna wasn't discouraged, but emboldened. She came close enough to qualifying in Phoenix that she knew she could redouble her efforts and do better.

Anna's the only championship contender from Connecticut in her age group. One other dancer qualified, also a student at Mulcahy.

"She thought it was possible, she worked hard dancing all the time, then she achieved her dream," said Allison.

Allison said Anna dances at all times-waiting in the lunch line at school or out with the family, Anna's art possesses her.

"She balances everything with dance because she loves it," Allison said. "She dances everywhere – her feet don't walk. She sleeps to dance music. The hardest part is she always wants to dance. And conditioning, which is no fun."

Anna has spent her life dancing-she started competing at age five. Her passion was stoked by an episode of *Sesame Street* that featured an Irish dancer.

Her mom said she's already at the highest level of skill-called an "open champion", a title she'll hold the rest of her life.

"When she started dancing, her teachers saw her natural talent," Allison said. "She really skyrocketed through the levels. Girls work a long time [to earn Anna's rank], and she got to it at age 9."

Even through the pandemic Anna kept up with practice and conditioning. When things eased a bit and competition resumed, Allison said it was like "getting tickets to a Dave Matthews concert."

"The pandemic changed the way we dance, but not the dancing itself," Allison said, adding her basement has become Anna's private studio.

"Irish dancing" is a broad term, encompassing many styles. Its history is murky, with possible origins in Celtic culture which had little to no written records. The earlier written reference, according to celticsteps.ie, is from the 15th century.

Anna dances all Irish dance styles. In Belfast she'll perform a heavy jig. If she gets a recall-after judges eliminate half of competitors – she'll perform a contemporary set.

Allison said her daughter has "big aspirations."

"She wants to teach or do something with music or choreograph," Allison said. "She designs her own performance steps already."

Allison praised Anna's teachers, saying they not only support students, but parents too.

Allison said Anna is inspired by the older dancers at the academy, looking to them for their work ethic and emotional support and knowledge- in other words, a family.

"As parents, we'd be lost without our fellow dance families, who've definitely helped support [us] immensely," said Allison.

More than anything, Anna's family and her teachers are "so proud she put in the hard work to achieve her goals."

"Whether or not she places, she's doing what



Portland's Anna Vicino is headed to Ireland to compete in this year's World Irish Dancing Championship, or the Oireachtas Rince na Cruinne 2022. In April, Vicino will compete against dancers from around the world. Her mom, Allison, said she's accomplished way more than most dancers her age.

she loves and that's all anyone can ask," said Allison. "We all feel so lucky she found something she's so passionate about, and naturally talented in, at such a young age."

## YFS News & Notes

Portland Youth & Family Services has announced the following. For more information, visit [www.portlandct.org/youth-services](http://www.portlandct.org/youth-services) or contact Jesse at [jrevicki@portlandct.org](mailto:jrevicki@portlandct.org) or 860-342-6758.

**New Facebook Page, Logo:** YFS invites everyone to "like" its new Facebook page "Portland Youth & Family Services." YFS will share information on its events and offerings, as well as promoting other local groups, programs, and resources that align with its mission. Along with the launching of the Facebook page, YFS has revealed its new logo, which was designed by Portland native Elizabeth Hibino (Sequenzia) and digitized by Jon Grzybowski of Newington.

**Wednesday Board Games:** YFS and Parks & Recreation started this event – what it intends to be a monthly group – this week, for seventh- and eighth-graders. The group meet in the middle school library media center. Interested students need a signed permission slip, which can be found in the Portland Middle School

office and at [www.portlandct.org/yfs-develop](http://www.portlandct.org/yfs-develop). Signing up at the middle school office is preferred, but not required.

**Parenting Through the Opioid Crisis and Beyond:** The "This is Us, Portland" prevention council will present this workshop for parents, professionals and teachers on Wednesday, April 20, at 7 p.m., at the Portland High School library. Ginger and Larry Katz are the founders of the Courage to Speak Foundation and Ginger Katz is the author of *Sunny's Story, a Drug Prevention Book*. To register, visit [tinyurl.com/CourageToSpeak](http://tinyurl.com/CourageToSpeak); the first 25 to register, get a free signed copy of *Sunny's Story*. More info to come.

**Youth Vaping Program:** Wednesday, May 18, at 7 p.m., at the Portland High School library. "This is Us, Portland" will host Victoria Adams, the tobacco program coordinator at Southern Connecticut State University, to present on youth vaping.

## President's List

Portland residents Nicole Augeri and Amber Ryan made the fall 2021 President's List at Goodwin University.

## Dean's List

Portland residents Nicole Augeri, Emily Culbert, Rose Koffman, Jennifer Owens, Mark Powell and Amber Ryan all made the fall 2021 Dean's List at Goodwin University.



## Hearty Highlander Breakfast

The Portland Secondary Schools Music Boosters are sponsoring the 10th annual Hearty Highlander Breakfast on Saturday, March 26, at St. Mary Church Hall, Freestone Avenue, Portland, from 8-10:30 a.m. Snow date is Sunday, March 27.

The menu is: French toast, scrambled eggs, sausage, home fries, and coffee/tea/juice/milk. Tickets are limited, and are \$10 per person. To order, email Alison Dillon at [geegables@gmail.com](mailto:geegables@gmail.com) or Michelle Wright at [wright5596@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wright5596@sbcglobal.net).

Proceeds from the breakfast will help to provide music enrichment programs for the high school and middle school students.

## Police News

3/9: Aminah Anderson, 38, of 8 Wildwood Rd., was arrested and charged with violation of protective order and disorderly conduct, Portland Police said.

3/10: Timothy Groeper, 30, of 91 East Main St., was arrested and charged with second-degree harassment, police said.

3/10: Julio Luna-Acosta, 45, of 99 High St., was arrested and charged with voyeurism with malice, second-degree threatening, first-degree unlawful restraint and third-degree assault, police said.

3/11: Kevin Sanford, 49, of 19 Cross St., was arrested and charged with second-degree threatening and disorderly conduct, police said.

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### First Congregational Church News

First Congregational Church of Portland, located at 554 Main St., has announced the following pieces of news:

Sunday morning worship takes place in person at 10 a.m. in the sanctuary. Services are livestreamed on the church's YouTube channel, and also available there for later viewing. The channel is "First Church of Portland CT."

March 20 is the Third Sunday in Lent. At the 10 a.m. service, the church will hold its annual Celtic Sunday featuring the music of the Wild Notes comprised of musicians Kasha Breaux, John Kalinowski, and Mickey Koth. The choir will sing the anthem "Lord of the Dance" by Sydney Carter. The Rev. Jane Hawken's sermon is titled, "Dance, Then, Wherever You May Be!" A time of fellowship and refreshments follows the service.

Children ages 5 and older are invited to in-person church school in Fellowship Hall at 10 a.m. The lessons are also available on the

church's YouTube channel by clicking on the specific link in *The Weekly Word* e-newsletter that is emailed on Friday.

First Church Nursery School has openings in its preschool program. The 3-year-old program runs Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9-11:30 a.m. and the 4-year-old program runs Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9-11:30 a.m. Contact Amy Jahnke at 860-342-1111 or 1stchurchnurseryschool@gmail.com for more information.

First Congregational Church of Portland is a member of the United Church of Christ, and is an open and affirming congregation, welcoming everyone.

To join church mailing lists (both email and regular mail), email first.church.pct@sbcglobal.net or call 860-342-3244. For more info, look for the church on Facebook at The First Congregational Church of Portland, or visit www.firstchurchportlandct.org.

### KoC Scholarships Available

The Knights of Columbus, Freestone Council 7, will award three \$1,000 scholarships this spring to any high school senior from Portland who is furthering their education at a college, university, or technical school.

The application is available at the area high schools or by requesting an application at scholarship@rsitg.com. All Portland residents graduating this year are eligible.

The deadline for submitting applications is April 18, and the awards will be announced in May.

### Hemlock Grange Celebrates Anniversary

Hemlock Grange 182 in Portland is celebrating its 110th Anniversary, and there will be a Music Night at the Grange Hall, 17 Sage Hollow Rd., on Friday, April 8, at 7:30 p.m.

The public is invited to come and enjoy the For Fun Band, which plays classic rock, doo wop and country. The local band has been playing together since 2000.

There will also be a collection box for those who want to donate canned goods and other items for the Portland Food Bank.

### Parks and Rec. News & Notes

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

**Tai Chi:** At the Buck-Foreman Community Center. Dates are Wednesdays through April 6, 9:30-10:15 a.m., or Saturdays through April 9, 10:30-11:15 a.m. Fee \$7 per day to drop in.

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

**Boat America – Online Boating Safety Course:** Tuesday and Wednesday, April 19 and 20, 6:30-9 p.m., and Tuesday, April 26, via Zoom. Cost is \$65. Course is taught by qualified members of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.

**Adult Drop-In Volleyball:** Wednesdays at Gildersleeve School, 565 Main St. Competitive Play is 5-6:30 p.m., and Non-Competitive Play is 6:30-8 p.m. Participants may enter the building through the side doors nearest to the gym; a sign should be posted. Create an account at portland.recdesk.com to receive program information via email blast. Note: All participants are required to wear masks during play.

**Adult Drop-In Basketball:** 30+ Men's Drop-In Basketball takes place from 7:30-9 p.m. Tuesdays at Portland Middle School. Women's Drop-In Basketball takes place from 7:30-9 p.m. Mondays, also at PMS. Masks must be worn indoors by all individuals at all times, regardless of vaccination status. All participants will fill out a drop-in waiver before participating.

**Skyhawks Youth Sports – MultiSport (Baseball, Basketball and Soccer):** This class uses age-appropriate games and activities. Parent participation required for ages 2-3.5 years.

Meets Saturdays, April 2-May 14 (no class April 16), at Riverfront Park. Age 2 meets 9-9:45 a.m., age 3 meets 10-10:45 a.m., and ages 4-5 meets 11-11:45 a.m. Fee: \$79. Registration for other Skyhawks Sports Programs including tennis, track and field, and sports & games camps, is open on the Parks and Rec. website.

**Easter Egg Hunt:** Saturday, April 9, at 10 a.m., at the Portland Recreational Complex at 301 Gospel Lane. The hunt is for ages 1-10. Bring your own basket or pail. Rain date is April 10. For cancellation hotline at 860-262-7234.

**Spring Quick Start Tennis:** Information about the next program will be available shortly.

**Portland Summer Concert Series:** The series will return to Riverfront Park in July. If interested in sponsoring the event, call the Parks and Rec. office for more details at 860-342-6757.

**Zumba! – Free Trial:** There is a free trial of the Zumba program at Riverfront Park from 6-7 p.m. on April 6. Save your spot by registering online. The next eight-week session of Zumba starts the following week, on April 13.

**Art Enrichment Programs with Abrakadoodle:** The next two art enrichment weekly programs with Abrakadoodle have been postponed. Check the Parks and Rec. website for more detailed information. There is a Fairy Tale Art program for ages 2-5 and a "3D or Not" program for children ages 5-14. Parks and Rec. is also accepting registrations for our Treasure Hunt Art Camp that takes place at the Buck-Foreman Community Center while Portland Public Schools is on April break.

**Summer Quest:** Registration for the programs (Kiddie Camp – age 3-5, Base Camp – entering grades 1-6, and Teen Camp – entering grades 7-9) is open now. Week 1 begins June 27. More detailed information is on the Parks and Rec. website.

**Junior Golf Workshops:** Parks and Rec. has opened registrations for three Junior Golf programs for children in grades K-2, 3-5, and 6-8. The first program takes place Tuesdays, May 31-June 21; the second, on Wednesdays from July 6-27; and the third takes place Mondays, Sept. 12-Oct. 3.



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Hebron • Hebron

# Selectmen Explore Possible Dog Park

by Sloan Brewster

Hebron Board of Selectman member Peter Kasper wants to bring dog park to town.

At the last meeting of the board – on Thursday, March 3 – Kasper brought up the idea and garnered support from the rest of the members to form a committee to, in the words of board chair Daniel Larson, “delve into all of these different pros and cons” of the idea.

Kasper shared some stats with selectmen, including that about 70% of American households have pets, about 40% of which are dogs and that people spend approximately \$110 billion on their pets.

“And I think I spend \$100 billion of it,” he quipped. “So the rest of the Americans spends like \$10 billion, I think.”

Neighboring towns, including Colchester and Glastonbury, have dog parks and based on comments and reviews he’s heard about those parks, “there’s a great deal of passion and interest in that,” Kasper said.

There’s a big difference between leash walks and letting dogs romp off leash as they do at dog parks, Kasper said – so he travels out of town to let his dog can enjoy some free playtime.

“It’s night and day in terms of the impact on the pets, and there’s a lot of benefits to the community,” he said.

As the board’s liaison to the Parks and Recreation Commission, Kasper said he mentioned the idea at a recent meeting and the commission

responded favorably.

A typical dog park is about one acre with fencing and an entryway where dogs can be untethered before opening the gate into the main play area, Kasper said.

Kasper said Town Manager Andrew Tierney had suggested a long-term idea could be putting a dog park at the public works facility.

Such a facility is under consideration for a 35-acre parcel on Kinney Road.

Tierney, on Tuesday, said he anticipates voters will have a chance to weigh-in on the proposal in the fall. While the board had discussed including a referendum question to build the facility with the budget vote in May, he said, the final numbers for the project aren’t in yet and a report on an archeological study by the State Historic Preservation Office is also outstanding.

Kasper said he had seen dog parks tied to town facilities and that it would be a benefit to have a discussion around such an idea and, potentially, to poll residents about it.

Selectman Tiffany Thiele said she supports the idea for a dog park, adding that it would be good for dogs’ overall health.

“But I think what really resonates with me is that people are going out of town to take their dogs somewhere where they can go and run and socialize,” she said. “And I think, too, dogs are pack animals and that socialization is actually really important for them.”

Thiele said the location of such a park would be a question, and that she was in favor of forming the committee.

Initially, Selectman Mark Rubera voiced a lack of support for the idea, pointing to cost.

“I just don’t see how we could fund something like that while we’re short-changing public safety [and] senior citizens because everything is a trade-off,” he said. “It’s not like we don’t have anywhere for dogs to go. It’s just how I feel at the moment.”

Shortly thereafter, however, when Kasper clarified that it was not something he was thinking about paying for in next year’s budget and pointed out, in any case, that costs would be limited to covering items including fencing, signage and benches, with the highest anticipated expense being getting water access to the park, Rubera indicated a change of heart.

“So if it doesn’t cost that much and we can make it work, I would support it,” he said.

One idea Rubera raised was replacing a pickleball court proposed for Veterans Memorial Park with a dog park. An officer at RHAM, which is across the street from the park, Rubera said he hasn’t heard “anybody even mention the word ‘pickleball.’”

Tierney recommended that Kasper work with Parks and Recreation Director Craig Bryant, who has experience with the dog park in Kingstons, R.I., where he previously worked.

The plan was for Kasper to talk to Bryant, solicit members for the committee and report back to the board for approval. The dark park proposal was included on the agenda for last night’s Board of Selectmen meeting, which occurred after press time.

## Senior Center News & Notes

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

**AARP Tax Preparation:** Tax preparation will take place Tuesdays, March 22 and 29, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. This is by appointment only, and residents of all towns are welcome. To make an appointment, call the senior center.

**Left, Center, Right Game:** Monday, March 21, 1 p.m. This is a new easy-to-learn dice game. Minimum of three players is needed but the max is unlimited. Be the first to collect all the chips and win. To sign up, call the center.

**Easter Cookie Decorating and an Easter Bunny Visit:** Tuesday, April 5, 12:30 p.m., sponsored by Marlborough Health & Rehab Center and National Health Care Associates. This is a free event but does require pre-registration. Registration deadline is Friday, April 1, by noon. To register, call the center.

**Coloring, Cookies, and Conversation:** Held

the second and fourth Mondays of the month, from 12:45-2 p.m. The center will provide the cookies and coloring supplies. Pre-register by calling the center.

**All-Levels Yoga Class:** Mondays and Wednesdays, 10:15-11:15 a.m., from March 21-April 13. Taught by Maureen O’Brien. Cost is \$24. Modifications will be demonstrated and chairs may be used to meet all abilities. Bring a yoga mat if you will not be using a chair. To register, call the center.

**Walmart Shopping Trip:** There will be a trip to Walmart and Aldi in North Windham Friday, March 25, at 10 a.m. Seating is limited and everyone is required to wear masks. To sign up, call the center.

## Christ Lutheran News & Notes

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

**Sunday Worship:** Sundays at 9 a.m., an in-person Divine Service is held. Masks required if not vaccinated. People can also watch worship live at [www.facebook.com/clchebron/live](http://www.facebook.com/clchebron/live)

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

**Early Childhood Center:** Open to all faiths, the center offers childcare, preschool and before/after school educational opportunities in a Christian environment. Laura Kraft is director. For more information, call 860-228-5134. The center is accepting new enrollments; call for availability.

**More Info:** For more information, call 860-228-1152 or visit [www.CLCHebron.org](http://www.CLCHebron.org) or [facebook.com/CLCHebron](http://facebook.com/CLCHebron).

## Historical Society Quilt Show

The Hebron Historical Society will hold its Quilt Show Saturday and Sunday, March 19 and 20, during the Hebron Maple Festival. In conjunction, a teacup auction and maple milk will be offered.

Events will take place at Old Town Hall, 26 Main St. in Hebron.

## Parking for a Purpose

The Hebron Interfaith Human Services (HIHS) community food pantry will offer parking at its 26 Pendleton Drive location during the Hebron Maple Fest, which is the weekend of March 19 and 20.

This location is convenient to the Maple Fest activities in the center of town. For a \$10 cash donation you can park for two hours and visit the Maple Fest with no wait time for shuttles. All proceeds will benefit the renovation of HIHS’ new and improved pantry, which is next door to the current location. HIHS will also have an information booth at Douglas Library that people are welcome to visit.

## The Worship Center News & Notes

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

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

**Life Group Hebron:** Next meets Monday, March 23, at 7 p.m., at the Caseys’ home for worship, prayer, bible study and fellowship.

**First Wednesday Prayer:** Wednesday, April 6, 10 a.m., in the church sanctuary.

**Journey Group:** For grades 6-12. The mission of the group is to support the youth of Hebron and surrounding towns in their spiritual development. Meets every other Sunday after the service; next group held March 20. The re-Generation Winter Retreat will be March 25-27.

**Women’s Bible Study: ‘Forgotten God’:** Meets every second and fourth Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m., in person and via Zoom. Next study: March 23.

**Fellowship Luncheon:** April 3, following the service.

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## Library Friends at Maple Fest

The Friends of Hebron’s Douglas Library will participate in the annual Maple Fest Saturday, March 19, only at the library, 22 Main St.

Located in the library on the main floor, the Friends’ Boutique will feature a variety of Easter items such as stuffed animals, gift bundles and filled baskets (priced from \$5-\$12). There will also be many children’s and recent (2020-22) adult books for sale priced from \$1 to \$4.

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# Local Author Weighs in on Texas Abortion Bill

by Jack Lakowsky

Marlborough author Kristen Tsetsi says elements from her 2017 dystopian novel, *The Age of the Child*, are beginning to come true, a topic especially relevant during March – Women’s History Month.

The novel, Tsetsi’s third, is set in America in the near future, following a repeal of Roe v. Wade. In *The Age of the Child*, the government has criminalized birth control and abortion. Women are forced to find underground clinics and must contend with vigilantes.

Tsetsi said vigilante justice is part of Texas’s restrictive abortion bill, passed last year. Women cannot get an abortion after seven weeks of pregnancy, before many women know they’re pregnant. Critics say the bill is essentially an abortion ban.

The so-called Heartbeat Act, passed in September by the Texas state legislature, also allows people to sue anyone suspected of receiving the procedure, or anyone who aids in one. It makes no exceptions for pregnancies by rape or incest.

The law has been subject to challenges and lawsuits. After Tsetsi’s interview, the Texas Supreme Court all but ended Texas clinics’ attempts to stop the bill.

This week, Idaho passed a similar law.

According to PBS *Newshour*, the monthly number of abortions in Texas fell more than 50 percent. However, the number of women in Texas getting abortion pills online or by mail has risen sharply.

This rings true in Tsetsi’s novel; banning abortions is, to say the least, ineffective. People who want abortions find ways to get them. “It’s hard not to be angry about it,” Tsetsi told the *Rivereast* last week.

Tsetsi said many societies think it’s a given that people universally want children. She said when someone – particularly a woman – says she doesn’t want kids, people tend to reply with, “Oh, you’ll change your mind,” which Tsetsi said diminishes the woman’s life’s goals.

“When we hear a woman *wants* children, no one questions it,” said Tsetsi.

American culture’s double standards for women are a theme in *Child*. The abortion bill was passed by the Republican-controlled Texas legislature, a party that usually operates under the banner of small government.

Yet when it comes to women’s bodies, it seems they’re happy to bring regulation, Tsetsi observed.

“The insistence that kids are no big deal, that nothing should dissuade you from having them, is a big oversimplification,” she said, adding anti-abortion advocates focus heavily on the child in utero, but don’t consider the life an unwanted baby must face.

“Unwanted kids have a hard time,” she said. “You’re forcing potential health problems on the mother and the baby. A child conceived in rape can make for a bad relationship [with parents].”

Tsetsi said these consequences are often ignored, as is the financial burden kids pose.

In her novel orphaned and abandoned kids live disaffected, troubled lives and, as a result, crime rates spike.

Tsetsi said the novel’s relatively contemporary setting made for light research, but one thing she came across was the drop in crime after Roe v. Wade passed through the Supreme Court.

Of course, women are the center of this discussion, but, Tsetsi said, restrictive abortion laws affect men as much as women, forcing fathers into unwanted parenthood.

In her book, “there’s no weird government, no weird clothes,” Tsetsi said. “The only difference is Roe is gone and the clinics have closed. Abortions are criminalized and they’ve taken away birth control.”

The government makes no effort to oppress or control the nation’s citizens, but only to protect the nation’s most vulnerable, first through the criminalization of birth control, abortion, and suspicious miscarriages, and later through the implementation of parent licensing, Tsetsi

wrote in a summary of the novel.

“In the many arguments we hear about reproductive rights – that each person is entitled to the right to choose, that too few kids will impact the economy, that too many kids will damage the environment – the position we rarely hear is the one that considers the outcomes for children themselves.

“The book explores that angle, and it also flips reproductive restrictions upside down by limiting who may have children versus who may (not) take measures to prevent them,” Tsetsi wrote.

She said America has a long way to go before it reaches the state she portrayed, and she hopes it never comes to realization.

Tsetsi noted the book may tackle a very serious subject, but still she tried writing in an accessible way, with a bit of levity and dark humor.

Tsetsi said there are small, but key, ways people can further the discussion about women’s bodily autonomy.

“At the very bottom, foundational level, parents can stop talking to little girls assuming they’ll be mothers,” she said. “Stop saying things like, ‘When you become a mother’ or ‘You’ll change your mind.’ Allow people with uteruses to know they have a world as open to them as anyone else, that they don’t have to follow a linear path.

“Help them see parenthood is a choice,” she added.

Increased accessibility to birth control is also essential, she said, as is teaching kids to use birth control. These are other ways to show women and girls their options outside motherhood.

“Abstinence never has been and never will be a thing,” she said.

For women already living child-free lives, Tsetsi suggested donating or getting involved with the Center for Reproductive Rights. Or, she said, one can support women going to clinics that provide terminations, whether they’re there to end a pregnancy or not.

“People just go for contraceptives, and they’ve



Marlborough novelist Kristen Tsetsi says her 2017 novel, about a post-Roe v. Wade America where contraception and abortion are illegal, rings especially true five years later, a time when states with Republican-controlled legislatures are looking to restrict abortion care.

got people screaming at them,” she said.

While some states restrict reproductive freedoms, others look to expand them. Regardless of Roe’s eventual fate, abortion will be legal under Connecticut state law.

In January, state legislators formed a Reproductive Rights Caucus. According to News 12 Connecticut, it proposes expanding which specialists can offer abortion care, guaranteeing insurance coverage and offering telehealth services.

*The Age of the Child* can be purchased on Amazon, by special order through Barnes & Noble, or wherever books are sold.

## Republicans Holding a Candidate Meet & Greet

On Saturday, April 2, from 4-6 p.m., the Marlborough Republican Town Committee will hold a “Meet & Greet” at Carter Hill on Route 66.

Candidates on hand will include Mike France, who is seeking election as congressman for the 2nd Congressional District; Steve Weir, who is seeking election as state representative for the 55th District; and Ken Hjulstrom, the endorsed Republican candidate for the Marlborough Board of Selectmen.

The event will feature light refreshments along with a cash bar. Live entertainment by Bruce Hart will be provided. Admission is free of charge, but donations are accepted.

Any questions about this event can be directed to RTC Chairman Liz Gorgoglione at 860-966-0050 or RTC Vice Chair Sue Stolfi at 860-593-4763. Additional information is available at [www.MarlGOP.com](http://www.MarlGOP.com) and on the Marlborough Republicans Facebook page.

## Bluegrass Band at Arts Café Concert

Marlborough Arts Center will feature the bluegrass band Grass Routes at the 4th Friday at the Arts Café on March 25 at 7:30 p.m., in the Charles W. Hall Gallery at the Arts Center, 231 North Main St.

Grass Routes is a Connecticut five-piece bluegrass band. Since 1980, the group has performed a repertoire ranging from traditional bluegrass standards to folk and contemporary songs. Vocals include duets to four-part harmonies. Each member sings lead.

Members of band include Joe Lemeris on banjo; Bill Reveley on mandolin and fiddle ;

Marilyn Toback-Reveley on rhythm guitar; Pete Kelly on bass and Tim St. Jean on mandolin, guitar, fiddle and concertina. Grass Routes has appeared on radio and television and performed at concerts and bluegrass festivals throughout the northeast. The band has also played at Marlborough Arts Center in the past.

Doors open at 7 p.m. Admission at the door is \$10 per individual. Masks are suggested. There will not be any refreshments. The arts center is fully accessible and there is on-site parking.

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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.

Scholarship Available

The Marlborough Volunteer Fire Department Women’s Auxiliary is accepting scholarship applications from any graduating senior who resides in Marlborough.

The applications are available through the RHAM guidance department. Applications are due Monday, May 2. Mail all completed applications to MVFD Women’s Auxiliary, P.O. Box 237, Marlborough, CT 06447.

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### Parks and Rec Programs

Marlborough Parks and Recreation has announced the following. For full descriptions or to register, visit [marlboroughct.recedesk.com](http://marlboroughct.recedesk.com) and click on "programs," stop by the office at Town Hall, 26 N. Main St., or call 860-295-6203.

**Program Note:** Don't wait until the last minute to register. Parks and Rec. said. Most classes require a minimum registration and if that requirement is not fulfilled by a certain date, the program may be canceled. Also, all in-person classes are subject to change to virtual programs based on COVID-19 developments.

**Easter Egg Hunt:** Saturday, April 16, at Blish Park. Ages 2 and under are at 11 a.m., ages 3-5 at 11:30 a.m., ages 6-8 are at 11:15 a.m., and ages 7-10 are at 11:45 a.m.

**Youth Programs: Artventureswithkids! Superheroes Saving Planet Earth:** For grades K-4. Thursdays, 4:15-5:15 p.m., March 24-May 5, at the Marlborough Senior Center. Cost is \$99/residents, \$104/non-residents.

**Music/Dance:** All classes at Dance Dynamics in Hebron. **Tiny Twirlers Dance Class:** Ages 2-3 with caregiver, Thursdays, 5:15-5:45 p.m., March 24-June 2 (no class April 14), or Saturdays, 9-9:30 a.m., March 26-June 11 (no class April 16 and May 28). Fee: \$130. **Spar-kling Spinners:** Ages 3-5, Mondays, 5:15-5:55 p.m., March 28-May 9. Fee is \$95. **Funky Tumblers:** Ages 4-7. Mondays, March 28-May 9, 6-6:45 p.m. Fee: \$95.

**Kids Sewing:** For ages 8-18. Projects are: **Tank Top Dress:** Wednesday, April 6, 5:30-7 p.m., fee: \$48/resident, \$53/non-resident; **T-Shirt Quilt Block:** Monday, April 11, 5:30-7 p.m., fee: \$38/resident, \$43/non-resident; **Donut Pillow:** Wednesday, April 13, 5:30-7 p.m., fee: \$38/resident, \$43/non-resident.

**After School Co-Ed Sports:** For grades 5 and 6 at the Marlborough Elementary School gym. **Dodgeball** is Mondays, March 28-May 9, 3:15-4:15 p.m., and **Handball** is Wednesdays, March 30-May 11, 3:15-4:30 p.m. Fee is \$30/resident.

**Soccer Shots:** Saturdays, April 9-June 11, at West Road Memorial Field. **Mini**, for age 2, is 3-3:35 p.m., and **Classic**, for age 3-5, is 3:45-4:30 p.m. Fee for Mini is \$102/resident, \$107/non-resident, and fee for Classic is \$108/resident, \$113/non-resident.

**Skyhawks:** Thursdays, April 21-May 19, at Blish Park. **Mini-Hawk** (soccer, baseball and basketball), for ages 5-7, runs 4-5 p.m., and **Multi-Sport** (also soccer, baseball and basketball), for ages 8-12, runs 5:15-6:15 p.m. Fee: \$85/residents, \$90/non-residents.

**Tennis Lessons:** Tuesdays, May 10-31, at Blish Park tennis court. Ages 5-7 are 3:45-4:30 p.m., and ages 8-12 are 4:30-5:30 p.m. Fee for ages 5-7 is \$65/resident, \$70/non-resident; fee for ages 8-12 is \$85/resident, \$90/non-resident.

**Horseback Riding Lessons:** For ages 5 and up; English or Western style instruction. Lessons are private and are an hour in length. Days

and times are flexible. Fee is four lessons for \$175.00 residents/\$180.00 non-residents.

**Adult Programs: Zumba:** Thursdays through April 15 (started March 11), 6:30-7:30 p.m., in the conference room at Fire Station No. 2 and virtually. Fee: \$50/residents, \$55/non-residents, or a \$12 drop-in fee.

**Monday Barre/Pilates:** March 21 and 18, 5-5:45 p.m., virtual or in person. Fee is \$18 to drop in each week.

**Monday Yoga:** March 21 and 28, 6-7 p.m., virtual or in-person. Fee is \$18 per week to drop in.

**Tuesday Yoga:** Tuesdays through March 29, 9:30-10:30 a.m., virtual or in-person. Fee is \$18 per week to drop in. Class instruction is virtual or in person and provided by Janice Flanagan.

**Thursday Yoga:** Thursdays through April 21 (started March 17), 6-7 p.m., at Marlborough Senior Center. Fee: \$75/resident, \$80/non-resident, or a \$15 per week drop-in fee.

**Wednesday Barre/Pilates:** Wednesdays through March 30, 5:30-6:15 p.m., virtual or in-person. Fee is \$18 per week to drop in.

**Yogalates:** Thursdays through March 31, 9:30-10:30 a.m., virtual or in person. Fee is \$18 per week to drop in.

**Living Trust Seminar:** Thursday, March 24, 1-3 p.m., at Marlborough Senior Center. This is an information session about living trusts. Register online at [marlboroughct.net](http://marlboroughct.net), click on "parks and recreation," go to "programs."

**Dance:** Held at Dance Dynamics in Hebron. **Adult Ballet/Barre**, for ages 16 and up, is Mondays, March 28-May 9, 6:45-7:15 p.m. Fee is \$100. **Adult Tap** is Thursdays, April 8-June 10 (no class April 22), 6:30-7:15 p.m. Fee is \$155.

**Adult Open Sew:** For ages 18 and up. Classes are Monday, April 4, Wednesday, April 20, and Tuesday, May 3, from 5:30-7 p.m. each week, at Marlborough Senior Center. Each week is open to four students at a time. Fee each week is \$38/residents, \$4/non-residents.

**Dog Obedience - Polite Dog Manners:** Saturdays, April 9-May 14, 12:30-1:30 p.m., at Marlborough Senior Center. Fee: \$120/resident, \$125/non-resident.

**Adult Volleyball:** Thursdays, 8-10 p.m., at the MES gym. Fee is \$5/week, drop-in. Session runs until June 2.

**Sunset Yoga:** Tuesdays, June 7-July 12, 6:30-7:30 p.m., at Blish Park. Fee: \$70/resident, \$75/non-resident.

### 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 Willhenger 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.

### Dean's List

SUNY Delhi is proud to recognize Jack McClurg of Marlborough made the fall 2021 Dean's List at SUNY (State University of New York) Delhi.

McClurg is pursuing a degree in construction management: design and building.

### 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 to be both take-out and dine-in, but this will be reevaluated as the event gets closer to make sure indoor dining is still acceptable.

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 \$9 for adults, \$8 for seniors and \$6 for children 12 and under.

Sponsorships, for \$25, are also available. 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.

### 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](http://richmondlibrary.info).

**Building and Curbside-Pickup Hours:** Due to staff shortages, the library is now closing an hour earlier 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.

**Glazed Pottery Painting and Art Studio Fundraiser:** The Friends of the Richmond Memorial Library will host a Pottery Paint Night Fundraiser at Glazed Pottery Painting and Art Studio (60 Hebron Ave, Glastonbury) on Thursday, April 7, from 6-9 pm. A percentage of the sales will go to the Richmond Memorial Library. This fundraiser is for adults 16+. Advance registration is required by calling the library or emailing [richmondprograms@gmail.com](mailto:richmondprograms@gmail.com).

**The Seward Women and Women's Rights:**

Tuesday, March 22, 6:30 p.m., via Zoom. Presented by the Seward House in Auburn, N.Y., this virtual presentation will introduce participants to Frances Seward, the matriarch of the Seward home. Throughout her life, Seward fought for the abolition and the rights of women from behind her husband's pen and the walls of her Auburn home. Email [richmondprograms@gmail.com](mailto:richmondprograms@gmail.com) to register for this program.

**Five Things You Need to Know to Retire with Confidence:** Wednesday, March 23, at 6 p.m., via Zoom. Receive information on strategies for planning for retirement and navigating the Social Security system; resources on how to get maximum Social Security retirement benefits; and information on how to coordinate Social Security with other assets or income to confidently transition into retirement. This program is led by AAA Retire. Email [richmondprograms@gmail.com](mailto:richmondprograms@gmail.com) to register.

**March StoryWalk:** This month's StoryWalk features the book *Tomorrow Most Likely* by Dave Eggers.

### 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. Mask-wearing is now optional. The Sunday worship service also broadcasts live every Sunday through [mcc.marlconchurch.org](http://mcc.marlconchurch.org).

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

**Sunday March 20** is third Sunday in Lent. The service will be led by Senior Pastor the Rev. Bob Faulhaber. After worship, a Coffee Hour is held in the lounge and all are invited.

**Soup Suppers** are held upstairs in the Thienes Lounge Wednesday evenings during Lent from, through April 6, from 6-8 p.m. After the meal, a worship service with Holy Communion is held in the sanctuary followed by a program in the lounge. Child care is available.

**Mission-giving** in the first quarter will go to the Marlborough Food Bank. In addition to its ongoing non-perishable food collection for the food bank, the church sponsors a monthly Drive-Thru Café for food bank clients, preparing and serving two meals each year at St. Vincent DePaul Soup Kitchen, Church World Service blanket appeals, youth church-sponsored mission activities, and several new mission opportunities planned.

**Ukraine:** Maidan United is a Connecticut-

based organization, founded in 2014, that provides much-needed medical supplies to the people of Ukraine. Additional details are at [MaidanUnited.org](http://MaidanUnited.org). Checks may be made payable to MCC and sent to P.O. Box 57, Marlborough, CT 06447; note: Ukraine.

**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 for spring and Easter with new merchandise arriving 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. Second Blessings accepts donations during shopping hours. Higher-quality items are 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.

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### 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.

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## Obituaries

### Marlborough

#### John Craggs

John Craggs, 81, died of Alzheimer's disease on Sunday, Feb. 27, surrounded by his family. John was born in Panama to the late Gay (Turner) Craggs and Hugh Craggs. He grew up on a coffee farm in Guatemala, leaving when he was 16 to finish high school in the United States.



John graduated from Northwood School in Lake Placid, and then from Brown University. He served five years as a submariner with the U.S. Navy. He was extremely proud of his military service. Following the Navy, John was lucky in settling into a career as a computer programmer, which he absolutely loved. When he retired, he was an active volunteer at the New England Air Museum.

John is survived by his wife of 58 years, Betty (Thomas) Craggs (the love of his life, thank goodness for a college roommate with a sister!); their two sons, Scott and Ken; brother-in-law, Lamont Thomas and his wife Jane; and many wonderful cousins, nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his sisters, Gay Craggs Walser and Barbara Craggs Hammond, and by his sweet terrier, Lily.

Contributions to the New England Air Museum or to the Connecticut Children's Medical Center Foundation (282 Washington St, Hartford, CT 06106) will be gratefully accepted and put to very good use.

"Beyond the sunset, a new tomorrow..."

### Colchester

#### John Michael Probus

Hallelujah, hallelujah, thank you Lord. Thank you Jesus. Another beautiful soul is in heaven. Where no evil think can enter. Where there is love and peace only. His name is John Michael Probus.



John's father, Charlee, predeceased him in a car accident.

John loved his family with all his tender heart. John was blessed to have two loving mothers and two loving brothers. John was a very likeable and warm, loving human being. A sincere and hard-working man, he did things to the best of his ability. John was kind, considerate and helpful to all he met.

John will surely be missed by the many people who loved him and liked him.

Again I say, Hallelujah.

### East Hampton

#### Eleanor W. Judd

July 8, 1940 - March 12, 2021

We lost our beloved Ellie early on March 12th. Our faith allows us to know that she went home to the Lord and is now at peace. She passed in her bedroom at home with her loved ones nearby.

Ellie was a treasure to her community and a deeply loved friend to many. She served as a volunteer in the Special Programs in Religious Education (SPIRE) at the US Air Force Academy and always took a great joy in serving dinners to the Prep School students and socializing with them. Earlier, she was a part of the newcomer's welcoming committee in her neighborhood and served as a volunteer and a Board member at Tri-Lakes Cares. She was very physically active until she fell ill last May and loved to take long walks and do workouts at the USAFA gym. She and Ken are long-term members of the St. Michael's Catholic Commu-

nity at USAFA.

Ellie and her husband Ken raised two granddaughters Haley and Devin Rose and they were the jewels in her crown and the loves of her life. Haley is an EN and married to a USAF pilot and currently lives in the UK, where she is based. Devin Rose is a graduate student at Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland. She was very proud of her girls and often talked of their many accomplishments. Haley called her Gramma while Devin always called her Gam-Gam. By any name, they loved her and she was devoted to them.

She was born in Connecticut and she and Ken met and married in Cheyenne, Wyoming while he was in the USAF stationed at Warren AFB. They later transferred to Vandenberg AFB in California and had many adventures traveling throughout the West. After his retirement they moved to Knoxville, TN and built a happy life there until moving to Gleneagle, Colorado soon after their first granddaughter was born in Aurora. Ellie is survived by her sister Jay Murphy in East Hampton, CT, her granddaughters, her husband Ken, her niece Lisa, and nephew Barry.

Her many friends came to visit with her throughout her illness, showing their deep love and support. Friends gave of their time to sit with her and brought gifts of food, flowers, cards, and many other comfort items. The family will be forever grateful for all the support. Ellie was cared for by a team of people from Compassus Hospice and the family is also deeply grateful for their expert sensitive care.

When we think of Ellie, we will always hear her laughter and feel her kindness. She is missed by her entire family and will never be forgotten.

### Portland

#### Robert A. Baines Sr.

With sadness, we announce the passing of Robert (Chick) Baines Sr. on Saturday, March 12, just a week after his 98th birthday. Born on March 5, 1924 to Mildred (Lawrence) and Samuel J. Baines, he was a lifelong resident of Portland.



Chick began working many odd jobs at an early age to help out his parents. He caught skunks, worms and frogs and sold them to older residents. He helped his mom make her old-fashioned doughnuts, which were sold at The Gildersleeve Store where his father worked, he peddled milk for the Bengstons, and worked in the potato fields on High Street. He and his father would cross the "old" Middletown bridge and go to the Airline Railroad freight depot (near the trolley depot in Middletown) to pick up supplies for The Gildersleeve Store. Later, he worked on the Godrich Tobacco farm picking, plowing, driving trucks and tractors, and keeping night guard in the tobacco barns.

After graduating from Portland High in 1942, Chick entered the Army, where he served in France, Italy and North Africa. He was wounded at age 19 on the front in Italy by a machine gun bullet (which was never removed from his hip) and by bomb fragments a few days later for which he received two Purple Hearts.

Upon returning from the war, Chick married Margaret Hale and in 1949 they purchased the house on Cox Road where he lived until his passing. He and Margie visited most of the 50 states. They had a lot of fun traveling. He loved mowing, plowing, and repairing his John Deere and Bolens tractors. He cherished his time playing cards with Frank, Donald, Woody, and many others. Chick loved to tinker around the house and could fix just about anything for anyone. He had a keen sense of humor and loved to talk with anyone who would listen. When asked

how old he was, he would jokingly answer 101 - He nearly made it!!

Chick was a seventy (plus) year member of the Portland Fire Department Company No. 2, serving in many of the positions, finally becoming Portland's Fire Chief from 1972 until 1974. After that, he was chairman of the Co. No. 2 firehouse building committee. Finally, he became one of the department's "old timers." He worked for Jarvis Manufacturing in Middletown for 36 years, retiring in 1988.

He is survived by his daughter, Peggy Tierney and her husband Tom; grandsons, Michael and Patrick (wife Heather) Tierney; daughter-in-law, Sandra (Strickland) Baines; and many nieces and nephews.

Besides his wife of 54 years, Chick was predeceased by his son, Robert A. Baines Jr., and brother Ed.

Graveside services will be held today, Friday, March 18, at 11 a.m., in Center Cemetery, Portland, with full military honors. Friends called at the Portland Memorial Funeral Home, 231 Main St., Portland, on Thursday, March 17.

Memorial donations can be made to The Portland Volunteer Fire Department, Company No. 2, P.O. Box 132, Portland, CT 06480 (for the restoration of the department's 1947 Mack, engine No. 3).

### Moodus

#### Hadley Carr

Hadley Carr, 29, of Moodus, died unexpectedly at her home in Middletown Monday, March 14. Born Dec. 23, 1992, in Middletown, she is the daughter of Phillip and Barbara (Flood) Carr of Moodus, and sister to Ian Carr of Amsterdam, N.L.



She also leaves her beloved Dale Funk behind, along with bereft relatives and many, many heartbroken friends.

Friends may call at the Spencer Funeral Home, 112 Main St., East Hampton, today, Friday, March 18, from 5-7 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Connecticut Humane Society at [www.cthumane.org](http://www.cthumane.org).

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

### Amston

#### Bart Nicolo

Bart Nicolo, 80, of 179 Old Colchester Rd., Amston, passed away Wednesday, March 9, at Hartford Hospital. Born Oct. 22, 1941, in White Plains, New York, he was the son of the late Bartholomew Nicolo and Tina (Pugliese) Nicolo.



Bart was predeceased by his two brothers, Frank and Joe Nicolo.

Bart is survived by his best friend and the love of his life, Maureen (LeMieux) Nicolo. They married Feb. 26, 1962, and were married for 60 years.

He attended RHAM High School, the graduating class of 1958. He then went on to working at Lipman Motors in Hartford, where he was a technician for many years. After leaving Lipman Motors, he was employed at Miner Motors in Willimantic, as a new car salesman. After leaving sales, he decided to go on to achieving the ability to teach and inspire others in the automotive field. He studied at Central Connecticut State University where he was able to move on to his long career as the Department Head Automotive Teacher at Windham Tech. He was loved and admired by staff and students and received the honor of being elected for the "Teacher of The Year" in 1990. He retired from Windham Tech. in 2004.

Bart had such a passion for music. He played the bass guitar in several rock bands. He would also perform playing music for weddings, celebrations, school dances, etc. In his spare time, he enjoyed being outdoors where he had a passion for fishing, boating and spending time at their beach house in Port Orange, Fla. If he wasn't outdoors, he enjoyed watching NASCAR, rooting for Joey Lagano, No. 22.

With all of these passions, his most sincere joy in life was his family. He will forever be loved and remembered by his wife, Maureen Nicolo of Amston; his son, Bartholomew Nicolo Jr. and his wife, Brenda of Hebron; his son, Robert Nicolo of Colchester; his sister, Annette Nicolo of Amston, his grandchildren; Bart Nicolo III, and his wife Kristine of Salem, Kristy Nicolo and her fiancé Ethan Brunhofer of Indianapolis,

Seth Nicolo and his girlfriend Rachel Woodmancy of Hebron, and Ashley Nicolo and her fiancé, Patrick Shenberger of Elizabethtown, Pa., and two great-grandchildren, Isla and Crew Shenberger of Elizabethtown, Pa.; a great-niece, Jill McAvoy of Taftville; and numerous extended family and friends.

Calling Hours will be held today, Friday, March 18, from 3-6 p.m., at the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home, 167 Old Hartford Rd., Colchester. There will be a celebration of Bart's life following the service at The Greenleaf Café on Main Street in Hebron.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to a charity that holds a special place in your heart.

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

### East Hampton

#### Sgt. Eric R. Haury

U.S. Army Sergeant (retired) Eric R. Haury, 34, of East Hampton, formerly of Jupiter, Fla., passed away suddenly due to a tragic freediving-spearfishing accident in Costa Rica on Sunday, Jan. 16.



Eric was born May 14, 1987, in West Palm Beach, Fla., the beloved son of Monica and Curtis Cowan of East Hampton, also formerly from Jupiter, Fla. He graduated from East Hampton High School in 2005 and attended classes at a local community college. Soon after, he felt a call to the U.S. Army for service to his country.

Eric also leaves to cherish his memory two siblings, Allison Cowan (fiancé, Paul Delgado) of Florida; and Lisa Clair Cowan, of East Hampton; grandmother, Marion Cowan, nee DeLozier, of Texas; biological father, Robert Haury, of Florida; and many aunts, uncles, cousins, close friends, freedivers-spearos, and those he served with in Germany and Afghanistan. Most sadly, Eric leaves his beloved service dog, Sharkbait.

Eric was preceded in death by his grandparents, John, and Lillian Dunbar, nee Pakyz; grandfather, Loyal Cowan (U.S. Navy, Seabees); grandmother, Laurie Berry, nee Haggerty; and grandfather, Charles Berry, (U.S. Army, Korean DMZ).

Retired Sgt. Eric R. Haury proudly served his country for the U.S. Army. In Eric's first tour of duty in Afghanistan, in support of the U.S. Military efforts, he was awarded the Purple Heart for frontline combat-related injuries, in addition to other honorable awards. A year later, Eric survived a life-threatening motor vehicle crash in Bayern, Germany. This event forced him to end his career with early retirement in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Sgt. Eric R. Haury  
173rd Airborne Brigade, 4th Battalion  
319th Airborne Field Artillery Regiment  
Bravo Battery  
1st Platoon, 3rd Squad

After retirement from the U.S. Army, adaptation back into civilian life was extremely difficult initially, but Eric found his way back to the ocean, in Jupiter, Fla., where he grew up in his younger years. Freediving and spearfishing became such a passion, and the ocean became his peace. He then took his passion, wrote an essay, and applied to the New York Film Academy. Eric was accepted based on his creativity, not his disabilities. He completed short documentaries and a long documentary and graduated the program at NYFA. Eric also volunteered for charities for wounded warriors and was an avid traveler.

Eric fell in love with Costa Rica and traveled there frequently. He had many close friends there, all over the United States, and abroad, and was known for his compassion, big smile, humor, and as a humanitarian. Eric will be deeply missed by so many.

A service was held in Costa Rica with spreading of ashes, followed by another service in Florida in February. Services will not be held in Connecticut per the family request for peace and privacy.

Those who wish to pay their respects may visit the Yellow Ribbon tree, in the center of East Hampton, where Eric's brick has been since 2011.

See Obits, page 30

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Andover • Andover

# Retiring 'Crazy Wig'-Wearing Principal Will Be Missed

by Sloan Brewster

Andover Elementary School Principal John Briody has announced that he will be retiring come the end of the school year.

In a phone call Wednesday, Briody, whose last day will be June 30, said he was not sure how he will spend his time but that he'd like to get in more time on the golf course. While he said he would also like to do some travelling, Briody said he also feels that "I need to work more."

He said he was not sure what shape that work will take.

Before getting into education, Briody said he worked in commercial real estate for 15 years. When he wanted to do something different, he returned to school and got his teaching certificate.

His first teaching gig was at Hopewell School in Glastonbury, where he taught third grade for eight years. After that, he taught third grade at Naubuc Elementary School, also in Glastonbury.

While at Naubuc, Briody decided it was time to go to the next level and enrolled in the University of Connecticut's Administrator Preparation Program.

In 2014, he was hired at Andover Elementary School (AES).

"I went from third grade classrooms to principal-ship," he said.

While he missed teaching in his new role, Briody said he has found ways to be in the classroom, including reading to students and filling in when there's a need for a teacher.

"I've tried to stay close to the kids," he said. "We're a small school but I take pride in knowing all the kids, all the families."

Krysta Cariboni, AES reading specialist, has been at the school for 17 years and said Briody makes a point of getting to know students and knows all their names, interests and learning styles.

"He definitely makes a point of getting to know them as individuals," she said.

She said is Briody is in a classroom and notices a student is struggling, he will offer help.

Cariboni said about once a month, Briody does Friday Coffee Carts and, as school opens, visits classrooms to offer teachers coffee, bagels and doughnuts. She said he "wants staff to be happy and ease stress."

Briody said he offers the refreshments when there's a school vacation coming or before long weekends or school events.

"It was more of an appreciation or thank you to the staff," he said.

Cariboni said Briody is known for donning costumes and "crazy wigs" for Spirit Day and on Sports Day, he will change his jersey a few times

to depict different teams or sports.

"He's got a lot of school spirit," she said. "When we have our Spirit Days he goes all out."

Briody, who said he is "a product of the '60s and '70s," especially enjoys wearing 1970s costumes, he said.

"I've dressed up in crazy outfits and crazy costumes before but what I think the kids and teachers like most is when I put on a big wig and walk around with bell bottoms," he said.

Cariboni and Superintendent of Schools Valerie Bruneau recalled Briody sitting in the dunk tank during Curriculum Night last September.

During the fun, lines of children gleefully shot balls at a target, and when they made aim, they watched as the principal splashed into the waters below.

Briody said getting soaking wet at the event was a reward promised last March to get students to pick up more books and read over the summer. Administrators wanted to really engage the students and get them excited and motivated to read, setting a Summer Reading Challenge goal of 3000 books.

"I wanted it to be something that could be somewhat outrageous," he said. "The reward was that Mr. Briody would go in the dunk tank."

He said the tank was being revived for Field Day and he would be there for one last dunk.

Briody said he will miss the daily interactions with the school, the daily routines, getting dressed up for Spirit Days and making people laugh.

Bruneau also recalled when the school had a challenge to encourage students to buy school lunch.

"To motivate students, John volunteered to let a student throw a pie in his face in front of the entire school," she said. "He sat on the school stage complete with a poncho while a student took a whipped cream pie and threw it right into his face."

Bruneau said such events and experiences show Briody's school spirit and willingness to get the student population excited.

Kirstina Frazier, technology teacher, who has been at the school for 24 years, recalled when Briody first came to AES and invited his band members to come play for the school.

"They opened with the song 'Home' by Philip Phillips and it was the start of John finding ways to incorporate music into our school," she said. "For special occasions, John will play music over the intercom for the students and staff."

Frazier said Briody has never balked at an opportunity to have fun with the kids.

"From getting a pie in the face to being duct-



Andover Elementary School Principal John Briody, wearing one of his crazy wigs and costumes during '70s Day, to his left is teacher Lisa Hopkins and teacher Emily LeBlanc is on his right

taped to the gym door after the students met a reading challenge, John was willing to be goofy for the kids," she said.

Cariboni said she will miss the small-town community feeling Briody brings to his role and the school.

"During COVID, he made everyone feel safe and supported, [saying] 'We're gonna get through this all,'" Cariboni said.

"He's very big on that community feeling," she said, "and I think I'll miss that the most."

Frazier said Briody has dedicated much time to AES "and especially during these last two years when he has had to lead us through unprecedented times."

"Certainly there was no training for how to be principal during a pandemic, and yet he was able to successfully navigate the uncharted waters that we have all been afloat in," Frazier said.

Frazier said Briody has brought programs to the school that she hopes will remain, including a yearly Spelling Bee and monthly character

traits that are studied and said he reads books to each class that exemplify the traits.

Bruneau said Briody's retirement was announced last Friday.

"This decision was made earlier this school year, and John has graciously been working with me to help plan for a smooth transition," she said. "I am grateful to him for putting the children first by allowing me plenty of time to prepare. The past two years have shown what a cohesive team John and I have been and replacing him won't be easy but I will do my best."

She said the position was posted Friday and she and the Board of Education anticipate many qualified applicants and that stakeholders, including teachers, staff, parents, and board members, will be involved in finding his replacement.

"I hope to fill the principal position with that special leader who is the right fit for AES," she said. "This is such a strong community – full of support."

## 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 for all senior events and information.

**Shopping Trips:** Tuesdays. Masks required on bus and in stores. Manchester on March 22, Willimantic on March 29.

**Movie:** Wednesday, March 23, 1 p.m., in the Town Hall community room, shown by Sue Schmidt. Call Palazzi for a ride.

**Senior Lunch Returns:** Friday, March 25,

### Senior Trip to See Play

Andover seniors will visit the Little Theater of Manchester Sunday, June 5, for the 2 p.m. matinee performance of *Over the River and Through the Woods*, by Joe DiPietro. Payment is due soon.

This is a story about intergenerational relationships, familial love, and the little heartbreaks that occur as time passes and children grow.

Departure from the Old Firehouse on Center Street is at 1 p.m. Return time is approximately 5 p.m.

Cost is \$5, due April 6. Call Georgia O'Brien at 860-742-9947 for reservations. The trip is open to any Andover senior.

### 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, May 20.

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 to request an ASQ-3 questionnaire.

## 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 or visit 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 30. The senior food pantry is open the opposite Wednesdays, also from 9-9:30 a.m.; next date is March 23.

**Faith Sharing:** Tuesdays at 11:15 a.m. in the sanctuary.

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

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

## Library Friends Offer Scholarship

The Andover Friends of the Library group is offering a \$1,000 scholarship to an Andover high school senior. Applications are due May 1, and are available at the guidance office at RHAM High School; at the Andover Public Library, 355 Route 6; and at tinyurl.com/yck-rxach.

Completed applications must be dropped off at the library or emailed to the Friends at andoverfol@gmail.com. The applicant must be currently enrolled as a senior in any high school, use the scholarship to further their education, and hold a valid Andover library card.

For more information, call the library at 860-742-7428 or email the Friends at andoverfol@gmail.com.

## Lake to Rise

The Andover Lake Management Association has announced that on Saturday, March 26, Andover Lake will begin to rise to the normal summer lake level.

## Senior Fundraiser

The annual Andover Senior fundraiser will be held Sunday, April 24, at the Andover Elementary School gym, 35 School Rd., from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., and vendors are sought.

Cost is \$20 for one table and \$30 for two tables. Vendors supply the tables. Money raised supports the senior luncheon program, held bi-monthly. Additionally, bakers are sought for the bake table.

For more information, contact Cathy Palazzi, senior coordinator, at 860-916-6122 or nanas-world@comcast.net.

## Easter Plant Sale

The Andover Volunteer Fire Department will hold its annual Easter Plant Sale Thursday, April 14-Saturday, April 16, from 10 a.m.-6 p.m., and on Easter Sunday from 10 a.m.-noon, at the firehouse on School Road.

There will be many plants to choose from including lilies, tulips, azaleas, mums, hyacinths, hydrangeas, daffodils, spring baskets and more.

## Bingo & Baskets Night

Andover Congregational Church, 359 Route 6, will hold a Bingo & Baskets Night Friday, March 25, starting with dinner at 5:30 p.m. Game starts at 6:30 p.m.

Admission is \$10 and includes dinner, drink, dessert and bingo. No reservations required. Leave a message at the church at 860-742-7696 for more information.

## Saturday Storytime

Andover Public Library, 355 Route 6, will be celebrating the 118th birth anniversary of Dr. Seuss with a special edition of Saturday Storytime on Saturday, March 19. Start time is 10:30 a.m.

Andover Library Friend Ellen Repay will read *The Cat in the Hat*, and show kids how to make a hat to complement the book. Pre-registration is not necessary but requested. Call 860-742-7428.

## Senior Movie

The next Andover Senior Movie will be Wednesday, March 23, at 1 p.m., at the Town Hall community room. The movie *Deck the Halls* (rated PG) will be shown.

The film runs one hour and 33 minutes. In it, two neighbors have it out after one of them decorates his house for the holidays so brightly that it can be seen from space. The movie stars Matthew Broderick and Danny DeVito.

COVID-19 protocols for socializing in groups will be followed. Masks must be worn. Bring your own snacks and drinks. If you need a ride, call Cathy Palazzi two days in advance at 860-916-6122.

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

## 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.

## Call to Apply for 2022 Grant Money

Andover's Greater Together Community Fund Advisory Committee has released its open call for 2022 project proposals. Up to \$10,000 will be awarded in grant funds to one or more proposals.

All projects must benefit the residents of Andover. For more details on project guidelines and how to apply, visit [hfpg.org/Andovercf](http://hfpg.org/Andovercf) or contact Dianne Grenier at 860-742-3033 or [deardianne@comcast.net](mailto:deardianne@comcast.net).

Project applications or grant proposals will be accepted until May 1.

## Scholarship Available

The East Hartford Garden Club has announced the availability of one \$750 scholarship to any full- or part-time student – and Andover residents are eligible.

The eligible student must be majoring in horticulture, floriculture, landscape design, conservation, forestry, environmental concerns, botany and other allied subjects. Applications with the submittal instructions are available at the guidance department of the attending school.

All completed applications must be received by April 1 to be considered.

## Obituaries cont.

### Marlborough

#### Eleanor G. Miner

Eleanor G. Miner (Green), 88, passed away peacefully Tuesday, March 8, at Chestelm Heath & Rehabilitation Center. Born Oct. 18, 1933, in New Britain, she was the daughter of Earl H. Green and Hilda A. Green (Knight).

The family moved to Marlborough, where Eleanor lived her life and raised her family.

Eleanor graduated from East Hampton High School in June 1951 and married her husband of 66 years, George A. Miner, in November 1951. Eleanor worked at East Hampton High School as a receptionist. She later went on to work her career at Glastonbury Bank and Trust, where she worked her way to vice president of commercial lending.

She served on the board of the Chamber of Commerce of Glastonbury, and she was a member of Civitan. After retirement, and inspired by her large and diverse family, Eleanor developed a passion for genealogy, tracing and documenting the family lineage.

Eleanor was predeceased by her husband, George. She is survived by her son, James E. Miner and his significant other Melanie Hipsher of Anchorage, Alaska; her daughter, Linda (Miner) Crowley and her partner Lisa Boyce of Marlborough; her daughter, Carole (Miner) Scherbyn and her husband David Scherbyn of Phelps, N.Y.; her son, Guy E. Miner and his wife Lori (Mahoney) Miner of East Hampton.

She is also survived by her granddaughter,

Carrie (Crowley) Adee and her husband Charles Louis Adee of Vermont and her great-grandchildren Irian and Koiya Adee; her grandson, Ryan Crowley and his wife Tonya (Baber) Crowley of East Hampton and her great-grandchildren Devin Crowley and Kailyn Crowley; her grandson, Clifford Mason of New York and great-grandchild Aligah Mason; her grandson, James Miner and his wife Mary (Cronen) Miner of Alaska and great-grandchildren Rhya Miner, James Miner III, and Alma Miner; her granddaughter, Jennifer (Miner) Liljedahl and her husband Casey Liljedahl of Alaska; her grandson, Kyle Mason and his significant other Jasmine Phair of New York and great-grandchild Riley Mason; her granddaughter, Lindsay Miner of East Hampton; and her granddaughter, Abby (Miner) Hanson and her husband Christopher Hanson of East Hampton. She also leaves several nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her husband, George A. Miner; daughter, Eileen Susan Miner; sister, Barbara Lamoreau; parents, Earl H Green, Hilda A Green (Knight).

The family would like to thank Chestelm Health & Rehabilitation Center for the wonderful care they gave our mother/grandmother during her final months, and her caregiver Cathie Garofalo for her care and special friendship.

A private celebration of life will be held at the family's convenience.

Donations can be made in her name to the Roy B. Pettengill Ambulance Association, Inc.

Regional • Regional • Regional • Regional • Regional • Regional • Regional

## Tri-County Baseball Registration

Registration is now open for the Tri-County Baseball spring and summer programs for players aged 13-19 (as of April 30, 2022). Tri-County Baseball includes children in the *Rivereast* towns of Marlborough, Hebron, Andover and Colchester, as well as Lebanon, Coventry, Salem and Bozrah.

Registration for the spring recreational season runs through March 15. Spring programs include a 13-14-year-old division and a 15-18-year-old division against teams from Glastonbury. Games will start late April and run through the beginning of June and will be played at West Road Field in Marlborough and Glastonbury fields.

Summer registration ends March 25. Teams

will play in the Kokinis Baseball League ([www.kokinisbaseball.com](http://www.kokinisbaseball.com)) against teams from the greater Hartford area. Divisions include 14U, 16U and 19U. This is a competitive league, with teams playing a 16-game schedule plus single elimination playoffs. Games start June 6 and run through July. The championship games will be played July 30 and 31 at New Britain Stadium.

Federal, state and local health board guidelines will be followed.

To register for both programs, go to [tricitybaberuthct.org](http://tricitybaberuthct.org) and click 'register now.'

For more information on any of the programs, contact Chris Caputo, president of Tri-County Baseball, at [c.caputo@comcast.net](mailto:c.caputo@comcast.net).

## Bearcats Holding Raffle

The CT Bearcats AAU Travel Team is running a raffle to help with capital improvements for its fields. There are several prizes. The drawing is April 5 at 5 p.m. at Legion Field, 35 Neptune Ave., East Haddam. Winner need not be present to win.

The Bearcats includes players from Colchester, Hebron, Amston, Marlborough, East Hampton and Portland.

Contact Chris Markovitz at 860-334-8442 to get Venmo information or information how to purchase tickets.

## Student Show at Marlborough Arts Center

The regional Student Art Show will be featured every Saturday and Sunday through March 20 at Marlborough Arts Center, 231 North Main St., Marlborough. Hours are 1-4 p.m. each weekend.

Student artwork from the RHAM high and middle schools, as well as from the Marlborough, Gilead Hill and Andover elementary schools, will be featured.

Marlborough Arts Center is fully accessible and has on-site parking. Masks are required in the building at all times.

Cover Story • Cover



Here, Borsh smiles in solidarity with fellow Ukrainians and supporters in Hartford. Borsh moved to the U.S. in the late 1990s, and was a child during Ukraine's last conflict when it revolted against 70 years of Soviet rule.

★ *Collecting for Homeland cont. from page 1* cording to their website.

Maidan started in 2014, when Russia annexed the Ukrainian region of Crimea. Since then, it has raised over \$500,000 in medical supplies. All donations go toward helping Ukrainian civilians.

The organization's website has a link to an Amazon wish list for much-needed medical stock.

Maidan says there's a huge need for tourniquets, blood-clotting powder and bags for blood donations. Borsh sends the supplies she receives to Maidan, who then ships it to Poland. From there it travels (or tries to) secure routes to Ukraine.

The Ukrainian National Home, also in Hartford, is accepting donations through its website as well, monetary donations only.

Borsh said the response to her Facebook post requesting items received a huge response.

"In less than one week we filled a two-car garage," said Borsh. "It was amazing and overwhelming. And just about every other Ukrainian is doing the same."

Borsh said donations should be "practical" rather than novel.

Positivity, Borsh said, is how she's pushing through the pain of seeing her homeland ravaged.

"We're already won part of the war – we showed the world how strong we are," she said. "We're one unit."

"I think, after this, it will be a new era for Ukraine. It will be rebuilt."

She said should it prevail, Ukraine will be

better than before, will revitalize its relationship with European Union and no longer be under the shadow of the old Soviet Union.

She said Ukraine "protects" Russia from the rest of Europe.

"It's a huge responsibility of Europe to provide Ukraine with the means to defend itself and the continent."

Borsh was a child when the USSR fell in the 1990s, gaining Ukraine its sovereignty. She said no one in Ukraine wants to be back under Russian rule; Ukraine is a very "European country," she said. For three years, Borsh said, Ukraine has been developing businesses and letting democracy bloom.

Borsh praised Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, whom she calls the country's pride and hero.

"People don't have heat, and children are starving," she said. "A lot of people would give up, but he didn't. I'm very proud of our president. He's making history."

Restoration, she said, "will be a lot of work."

"But it will be like one of those hard births. Hard work, but the baby's amazing. It will continue to be an amazing county, and everyone will want to visit."

She said "if anyone wants to help, please help."

"We appreciate anything, even people coming up to me to give me a few dollars," Borsh said. "Every payment goes right to the people and serves the needs of the situation. We're doing everything we can in our power. I feel their pain. We're like a big family."

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# EMPLOYMENT

**PT DISHWASHER NEEDED** at Marlborough Country Bakery. Call or stop in 860-295-9251

**LANDSCAPE HELP WANTED:** Positions available drivers, crew chiefs and laborers. Good pay for experienced employees. Please call Philip 860-978-5464.

**ENERGETIC, KIND PERSON, TECH SAVVY TO HELP WOMAN IN HER HOME** with shopping, cooking, and laundry. \$15/hr Call 860-228-0809.

**E2 ELECTRICIAN / APPRENTICES WANTED** with residential experience. Call John 860-214-4045 or email gardelec@frontier.com

**RANEY ORTHODONTICS** is seeking a part time front desk receptionist for Tuesday and Fridays 8:45-5:15. Experience is preferred but we are willing to train the right candidate. Please email your resume to rraney@gmail.com or call Sue @860-228-9800.

**FULL-TIME VAN DRIVER/HELPER:** Machine shop looking for driver to deliver parts and assist with other shop tasks when needed. Must be able to lift up to 40 lbs. and have a clean driving record. First shift position, health insurance/paid holidays, and 401K plan with company match. Send applications to Citizen/News Bulletin @ Box#373

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**LANDSCAPE & LAWN MAINTENANCE CREW MEMBERS:** Landscape company is seeking experienced individuals to join our team. Must have a valid driver's license with a clean record. Be able to pass a drug test and background check. Ability to work outside in all weather conditions. Lift 50 lbs or more. Compensation is based on experience. Full and part-time positions available Please call 860-342-0352.

**BAKERS ASSISTANT AND KITCHEN HELP NEEDED** at Marlborough Country Bakery. Call or stop in 860-295-9251

**PCA NEEDED or EQUIV. EXP. Certification not required.** Requires assistance with day to day activities; no heavy lifting. AM HOURS: SAT & SUN. Mdt Area \$16.25 CALL 860-342-2054



**FULL TIME FRONT DESK POSITION** - Available in a high quality and team oriented Family Dental Office in Portland, CT. This position offers approx. 32 hours per week (Mon, Tues, Wed (Half Day), Thurs and Fri). Applicant must have willingness to learn new skills. Prior dental experience is NOT required. On job training & support will be provided. Fax your resume to (860)-760-8080 or e-mail dentalinsight@yahoo.com or call (860)-510-3956.

**FACILITY TECHNICIAN AT HORACE W. PORTER SCHOOL** Immediate Opening - 2nd Shift 3:00p-11:00p; Summer Hours 7:00a -3:00p High school diploma or equivalent plus one year of experience in custodial or building maintenance work or an equivalent combination of education and qualifying experience substituting on a year-for-year basis. Knowledge of methods used in the cleaning of public buildings as well as the work standards and safety procedures in building custodial work. The Facility Technician must demonstrate an ability to meet the reasonable demands of the position, perform work safely with minimum of direct supervision, follow instructions, and learn procedure. Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with co-workers, conduct business in a professional manner, maintain confidentiality, and communicate in a respectful and professional manner. Please submit an application and/or resume and 2 letters of recommendation to bmorey@hwporter.org.

**HELP WANTED LANDSCAPING. FULL TIME.** Driver's license required. Grundman Landscape, Colchester. 860-267-1510

**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.

**JOB OPPORTUNITY:** looking for reliable person to drive cleaning crew and perform light cleaning duties. Must have valid drivers license. Very competitive pay. Call or text 860-997-6749 for inquires.

**HIGHLY MOTIVATED ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT NEEDED:** for multiple properties with great customer service skills & ability to multi-task needed for busy property management company. Proficient in Microsoft Word & Excel and Adobe PDF required. Immediate opening - pay dependent upon experience. Full benefit package including health, dental & life insurance. Email resume to eric@advanccco.net.

**FREE WORKER LOOKING FOR A HARD WORKER** who is flexible, honest, also must have a valid DL. This is a clean environment. Call or text 860-303-6507.



**DRIVE OUR VAN TO NYC SATURDAYS AND SELL CHEESE:** Award-winning cheese farm seeks driver & salesperson for fun, busy farmers' market. Job description at www.catocomerfarm.com/contact.

**HERBERT T. CLARK HOUSE ASSISTED LIVING AND CONGREGATE COMMUNITY** 43-45 Canione Road, Glastonbury, CT 06033 Glastonbury Housing Authority, Glastonbury, CT Holiday/Substitute/Weekend Attendant Job Announcement The Herbert T. Clark House, an Assisted Living and Senior Congregate Community within the Glastonbury Housing Authority, is seeking a compassionate and caring individual for our Holiday/Substitute/Weekend Attendant. This essential position serves as the first point of contact for residents needing assistance, ensures the safety of the building and interacts with emergency services and visitors. The position requires interpersonal skills, attention to detail and an interest in working with older adults. (Hourly Rate: \$14.57, time and 1/2 on holidays). For more information, please contact: Wendy Ehrhardt, Director, (860-652-7624) To obtain an application please visit www.glastha.org or go to our main office located at 25 Risley Road, Glastonbury, CT 06033 Deadline: Until filled AA/EOE.

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[www.saintclementscastle.com/about-us/employment/](http://www.saintclementscastle.com/about-us/employment/)

Please call 860-342-0593 if you have any additional questions or email: [info@saintclementscastle.com](mailto:info@saintclementscastle.com)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## LEGALS

TOWN OF COLCHESTER  
COLCHESTER CONSERVATION  
COMMISSION  
NOTICE OF DECISION

At the regular meeting of the Colchester Conservation Commission held on Wednesday, March 9, 2022 the following action was taken:

**W2022-3071- CMMD, LLC-** Applicant/ Owner, Old Amston Road, Assessor's Map 06-06 Lot 017-000, drainage improvements, upland review area and direct wetland impacts.

-Approved

Respectfully Submitted,  
Falk von Plachecki, Chairman

TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON  
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS  
NOTICE OF ACTION

Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Board of Appeals held a Regular Meeting at 7:00 pm on March 14, 2022 at the East Hampton Town Hall - 1 Community Drive to consider the following: Application ZBA-22-001: Twenty High, LLC, 20 East High Street for a variance to increase lot coverage from 75.5% to 85% in C Zone - Map 05A/Block 62/ Lot 5A - Approved

LEGAL NOTICE  
MARLBOROUGH ZONING  
BOARD OF APPEALS  
NOTICE OF ACTION

The Marlborough Zoning Board of Appeals at its meeting on Wednesday March 09 2022 took the following action:

**APPLICATIONS DENIED WITHOUT PREJUDICE:**

APPLICATION #ZBA-01-22 - 198 EHRD LLC (applicant/property owner) 198 East Hampton Road - is seeking variance of Article Three A.1, Minimum Requirements, Article Three A.3 Conformity of Buildings & Land, Article Three A.5 Reduction of Lot Areas or Minimum Required Yards, Article Three A.9 Minimum Required Yards, Article Seven A Fc Side Yard Setback, in order to construct an ADA compliant ramp with a setback of 1 foot where 15 feet is required.

APPLICATION #ZBA-02-22 - Todd Sanderson (applicant/property owner) 24 Lake Ridge Drive - is seeking variance of Article Three A.1, Minimum Requirements, Article Three A.3 Conformity of Buildings & Land, Article Three A.5 Reduction of Lot Areas or Minimum Required Yards, Article Three A.9 Minimum Required Yards, Article Six D. 1 c Rear Yard Setback, Article Six D.4 Maximum Building Coverage, & Article Six D.5 Maximum Lot Coverage in order to construct a shed a Rea Yard Setback of 7.7 feet where 50 feet is required, Building Coverage of 10.4% where the Maximum is 10%, and Lot Coverage of 20.2% where the Maximum is 20%.

Alan Miller/ ZBA Chair  
Dated at Marlborough, CT this 15th day of March.

LEGAL NOTICE

	ADOPTED Expenditures 2021-2022	PROPOSED Expenditures 2022-2023	Percent Change
Town Government	10,369,330	\$ 10,776,564	3.93 %
Hebron Board of Education	12,063,673	12,457,294	3.26 %
RHAM School District Levy	12,774,567	13,839,309	8.33 %
RHAM Debt Service	1,196,909	507,956	-57.56 %
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$36,404,479</b>	<b>\$37,581,123</b>	<b>3.23 %</b>

TOWN OF HEBRON  
TOWN MANAGER'S PROPOSED BUDGET  
BUDGET SUMMARY  
FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023

For detailed budget information and meeting dates please visit: <https://hebronct.com/budget-information/>

JUST LISTED

Colchester \$375,000

Beautiful front porch style farmhouse colonial located in a quite neighbored! This home offers fresh paint through out, a new kitchen, updated bathrooms, hardwood floors on first and second floors, central air, first floor laundry room, spacious living room off the kitchen, and a fireplace in the family room. Master suite with a beautifully remodeled bathroom and dual closets. The finished lower level offers another full bath and walks out to the back yard and fire pit. Situated on 3.38 acres, (.16 acres are in Marlborough those taxes are \$28 a year). This one is a Must See!

Corinne MACHOWSKI

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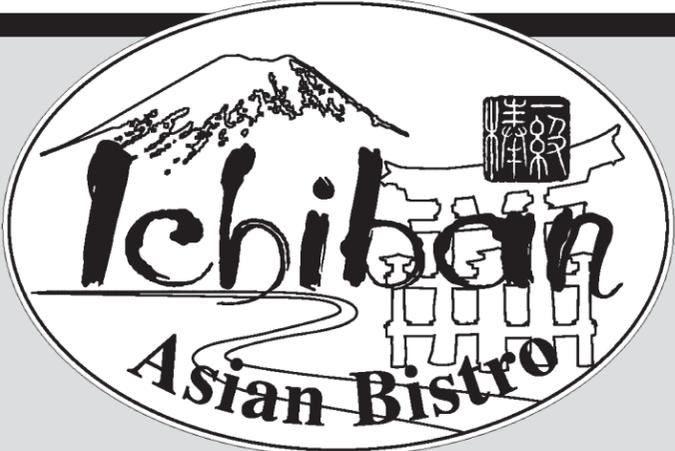
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