



RIVEREAST

News Bulletin

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

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After enjoy some activities in the library during the Hebron Maple Fest, Rachel McGuire, 9, stopped for a quick visit and photo-op with Miss Mermaid, who was new to the fest this year.

Maple Fest Returns, Draws Thousands

by Sloan Brewster

The Maple Fest in Hebron went live last weekend, after missing the last two years due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and folks were happy to be out and about while enjoying all things maple.

In the Douglas Library parking lot, food vendors, along with other eats, offered various maple confections. There was maple kettle corn, maple cotton candy, maple baked beans, maple milk, maple this and maple that.

For the fest, Jalen Berlinguet of The Fudge Lady, of Uxbridge Mass., had whipped up some maple bourbon fudge and maple fudge – with and without nuts – made with real Vermont organic maple syrup and real bullet bourbon.

Berlinguet said this year was her first time at Maple Fest, though she said she has tried to make it in past years but conflicts have arisen and she couldn't get there.

"We've always wanted to do (Maple Fest)," she said. "We love Connecticut; we love the spirit here and the people."

Foods were not the only things infused with maple.

Terrell Lavoie, of Blue Hill Too in Franklin, had goat's milk soaps, including a maple pecan version in boxes with cut-out holes shaped like maple leaves.

Lavoie said the benefits of goat's milk, which is the milk most similar to human breast milk, include its moisturizing effect and it's closely relationship to human skin, which allows it to be absorbed.

"It breaks that skin barrier," she said.

Terrell said she opened her business two years ago and has been making her way to

farmers markets where she promotes the benefits of goat's milk. This year was her first time at Maple Fest.

The Library meeting room was abuzz with arts and crafts and other activities.

Rachel McGuire, 9, stopped for a quick visit and photo-op with Miss Mermaid, who was new to the fest this year.

Hailing from Hamden, the McGuires have attended the Maple Fest in prior years and were glad to return to an in-person event, said Rachel's mom Lisa McGuire.

Rachel agreed that it was "really good" to be outside amongst people again.

Inside Old Town Hall, the Historical Society held a quilt show and teacup auction.

Mary-Ellen Gonci, Historical Society president, handed out slips of paper to folks as they entered, advising them to use it to vote for their favorite quilt from those displayed throughout the one-room building.

In a phone call Wednesday, Gonci was close-lipped about the winning quilt as she said she was having a problem with her phone, where the photo of the winning quilt was stored, and was therefore delayed in notifying the winner.

She did say it was not the adorable and bright quilt depicting pumpkins, sunflowers and puppies spilling out of the bed of a truck for which this reporter voted.

In back of the room, Jeanne LaPorte of Glastonbury offered demonstrations on how to piece fragments of a quilt together.

Beside LaPorte, Cindy Guendert, from Quilts of Valor Foundation, awaited the opportunity to

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Colchester OKs Funds for Hybrid Meetings

by Michael Sinkewicz

The Colchester Board of Selectmen unanimously voted on March 17 to approve the utilization of up to \$75,000 of American Rescue Plan funds to construct a Hybrid Meeting Room at Town Hall.

Earlier this month, First Selectman Andreas Bisbikos announced that the project would have his full support. Following the vote last week, Bisbikos stated that the new technology upgrades will advance the town into the future.

"With a state-of-the-art Hybrid Meeting Room, the community will have unparalleled access to town meetings while simultaneously meeting all [Freedom of Information] standards," Bisbikos wrote in a report to the town.

A presentation by Red Thread, the group tasked with establishing the new technology, highlighted numerous features that would be built in the new room, including new cameras,

televisions, and speakers.

The hope is that the new technology would allow citizens to observe meetings both in person and virtually, as well as allowing town officials to also be in multiple locations.

The board did not decide during the meeting about which, if any, maintenance package to purchase. Depending on the deal, the town would have to pay potentially thousands of dollars a year to upgrade and maintain the technology.

Maggie Cosgrove, the town's chief financial officer, advised the board that a multi-year maintenance plan would likely go beyond the ARP funding, and that an additional budgeting plan would have to be developed. The board does not need to officially commit to a maintenance contract until a year after the installation of the new technology, since the first year

would be free.

The vote comes after heavy discussion about the future of town meetings. Many citizens prefer meetings to be held via Zoom and other virtual means. While the construction of the hybrid room will most likely take at least three months, meetings will continue to be both in person and online.

"I'm open to having meetings in-person and some on Zoom," Bisbikos said, "We have to start getting back to normal."

To some, the vote represented a fair compromise and a beneficial step for town cooperation. "A hybrid meeting will allow transparency," said resident Michael Dubrevil during the meeting,

In Other News

The Finance Department is also undergoing
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Vince Schmiel gives 12-year-old Tyler a boost so he can see what's happening in the maple syrup evaporator at the Wenzel Farm during the 2022 Maple Fest in Hebron. Behind the duo and obscured by steam, Kim Schmiel holds 6-year-old Danny Schmiel so he too can see the syrup making machine in action.

★ *Maple Fest Returns cont. from page 1*

bestow a quilt upon a local veteran.

The nonprofit gives quilts to service members who have been wounded in the course of duty. In January, according to its website, the organization had given out 295,000 quilts and expected to hit the 300,000 mark early this year.

Shortly after the *Rivereast* left, Guendert texted to say that Lisa Richards, of Hebron, a master sergeant of the U.S. Army, who served in the Gulf War, had been given the quilt.

Guendert said Richards had been informed she would be given the quilt and that "a Quilt of Valor should never be a surprise" because sometimes the veterans don't want the recognition.

"Because surprises aren't always taken well," she said. "I think it's people who have been through a lot."

Guendert said someone from out of state had nominated Richards to receive a quilt through the national nominating system and that she thought it was Richard's aunt.

Meanwhile at the sugarhouses in town, folks were getting the chance to see how maple syrup is made.

Ron Wenzel, of The Wenzel Sugarhouse, said he wasn't keeping count but was getting a decent amount of visitors and was pleased to see people.

Russ Schaller, of Woodyacres, said it was a bit slower than he had anticipated and wondered if the lower than usual turnout was due to the overlapping St. Patrick's Day parade in Hartford.

Schaller said he had a great maple syrup yield this year.

"It was the best yield I've had in a long time," he said.

Schaller's sister-in-law, June Schaller, was on hand selling maple treats, including maple-coated walnuts – a tradition started by Schaller's late wife Denise, who passed away four years ago.

June Schaller said she had made 111 bags of the confection, a project she worked on for about a month, making two double batches at a time, using two pounds of nuts. The process lasts about an hour and a half, she said.

She said she had run through 14 pounds of walnuts by the end.

Without giving away any trade secrets, June Schaller offered some details of the process. It starts with making a thick syrup and dumping the nuts in, making sure they are all coated. Then she bakes them to dry out the sugar and, voilà, deliciousness.

Siblings Evan, Olivia and Ronin Gibson, who were visiting from Tallahassee, Fla., with their parents, who are Connecticut natives, said they were enjoying all the various maple concoctions.

Olivia said her favorite of the day was the cotton candy.

Ronin said he seen the quilts and that he too voted for the one with the truck full of pumpkins.

In a phone call Wednesday, Diane Nadeau, president and CEO of the Windham Region Chamber of Commerce, which organizes the festival, estimated that there were about 7,000 attendees in the weekend affair. While about 1,000 short of pre-COVID numbers, Nadeau blamed the meteorologists, who, she said, kept saying it was pouring Saturday despite not a drop of rain in Hebron. Still, she said, about 1,800 people came on Saturday.

Sunday, on the other hand was packed, she said.

"It was a mob on Sunday; it was great," she said.

Main Street was the setting for a parade of tractors, which was so big that Nadeau said she thinks it regained the fest its unofficial title of the largest tractor parade in New England.

"I think we beat the record," she said.

On Tuesday, Town Manager Andrew Tierney, who joined the caravan as he always does for the fest, said there were 92 tractors in all.

"It was crazy, I've never seen so many tractors in the center of town," he said.

Nadeau said there were a lot more activities for children this year, including a bounce-house, music, dancing, Ukrainian paper cutting, button making, the appearance of Miss Mermaid and visits to the Donkey and Eeyore Museum on 162 Cannon Drive. "People got to go out and play with the donkeys."

"We tried to get more activities for kids to do," she said. "People raved about it."

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CYSS News and Notes

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

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

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

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

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

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

Memorial Day Parade to Return; Participants Sought

On Sunday, May 29, starting at 12:30 p.m., Colchester will hold its annual Memorial Day Parade – and local organizations and members of the community are invited to make a float or march at the event.

The parade committee is expecting to have several military units represented, including the Connecticut Army National Guard, 1109th TASM-G, U S Navy, US Marine Reserve, and the US Air Force Reserve and perhaps the U.S. Coast Guard. There might even be a military flyover. The American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Colchester Veterans Hon-

or Guard will also participate.

There is room for community organizations to participate. Community organizations wishing to participate should contact the first selectman's office at 860-537-7220 to get a parade application.

The Parade Committee will award prizes in three categories: 1. Best volunteer marching unit; 2. Most patriotic float; and 3. Most creative float.

Applications to join this year's Memorial Day Parade will be available online, at www.colchesterct.gov/first-selectmans-office.

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.

Vendors Sought for '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.



Wordle Comes to Senior Center... The Making Memories Class at the Colchester Senior Center, led by coordinator Missy Bauman, has jumped on the Wordle trend. Each day, the class works together to solve this digital five-letter word puzzle. The puzzle is projected onto the TV so everyone can see and play along. Pictured from left are Teresa Torres, Anna Karrenberg, Ginny Grabowski, Missy Bauman, Leona Caron and Robert Mader.

Scholarship Available

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

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

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

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.

Glass Painting 101

All are invited to Colchester Senior Center, 95 Norwich Ave., on Mondays, April 11, 18 and 25, at 1 p.m., to learn glass painting.

An instructor will guide participants through three different paintings. Fee for each class is \$20, which include materials. Sign up for one, two or all three. Pre-register in the office.

For more information, call 860-537-3911.

Colchester News continued on page 13

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.

Cover Story • Cover

★ Hybrid Meetingss cont. from page 1

a transition. In June, Cosgrove is scheduled to retire after serving 17 years in the department. To replace her, the town is now looking for a finance director to help cover her responsibilities.

"I'm worried about what's falling through the cracks," Cosgrove said.

The Board of Selectmen also took additional action regarding ARPA funds during the meeting.

It unanimously approved the Attestation Agreement that local businesses will sign for

their ARPA money. The agreement states that all money given to businesses must be used for the primary purpose requested in the application. The deadline for applications is April 30, and the board stated that it will start approving them soon.

In addition, the Board also unanimously expressed support for the Planning and Zoning Commission to consider adopting regulations for the potential establishment of recreational cannabis businesses.

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From the Editor's Desk

Observations & Ruminations

by Mike Thompson

The pandemic might not be over just quite yet, but many places, groups and organizations are returning to normal – or at least, more of a semblance of normal than they've seen since March 2020.

Among those returning to a version of normal are Jehovah's Witnesses. After two years of virtual meetings, all congregations around the world will return to in-person meetings on April 1.

In the *Rivereast* circulation area, there is a Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses at 297 Westchester Rd. in Colchester. There are also meeting halls nearby in Middletown, Meriden, Columbia and Willimantic.

"There is a collective shout of joy among Jehovah's Witnesses around the world right now," said Robert Hendriks, U.S. spokesman for Jehovah's Witnesses, in a press release sent to me this week. "While we have prospered in many ways as individuals and congregations using technology to bring us together, nothing can adequately replace being together in person. We have longed for this moment for the better part of two years."

And if you don't feel comfortable yet participating in person, you don't have to. Over the past six months, many Kingdom Halls have been equipped with the required technology to hold a productive meeting that allows for in-person and remote attendees, all of whom can participate in the discussions.

However, while the meeting halls are opening back up, you won't be seeing Jehovah's Witnesses going door to door. The organization said it currently has no plans to resume its public ministry – though, it stressed, "alternative" ministry continues. From the start of the pandemic through November 2021, just in the U.S., Jehovah's Witnesses spent more than 400 million hours in virtual Bible studies, writing letters to their neighbors and making phone calls. The group has also held two

global virtual conventions.

"No time was wasted in the past two years," said Hendriks. "Our congregants have been busy and productive helping each other and their neighbors through this most challenging time. That's what love and unity are all about."

It's nice to see normal activities resume – even if it's a little bit at a time.

Also making its return is the Xavier/Mercy College Fair. For the first time in over two years, there will be a special night at Xavier next month that is open all area high school and middle school students and their parents. There will be representatives from more than 100 colleges in attendance.

The college fair will be Wednesday, April 6, from 6-7:30 p.m. Xavier is located at 181 Randolph Rd. in Middletown.

I knew it was too good to be true.

Reports Tuesday were that Major League Baseball is going back to its insipid "runner on second base to start extra innings" rule. While COVID was the reasoning for it in 2020 and 2021, this time around the excuse is that, due to the lockout, spring training was short and pitchers won't be fully stretched out by the time the season starts in a couple weeks.

Supposedly this is just for this season – but, at this point, I'll believe it when I see it.

I really hate the rule. It's not baseball. At least give fans a few innings of "real" baseball before resorting to this Little League-style bunk. Maybe do the extra runner gimmick to start the 12th?

At least doubleheader games will remain nine-inning affairs. For now, anyway.

See you next week.

Bulletin Board

I noticed a newspaper article the other day that made a passing (and disparaging) reference to CT Senator Richard Blumenthal and his "Vietnam Service Controversy" that created something of a stir a number of years ago when he first ran for national office.

At issue, as you may remember, were various occasions where the then-aspiring senator mentioned having served "in" Vietnam. In fact, he served in the Marine Corps Reserve during, not in, Vietnam. As might be expected, his detractors went wild, tarring him as a liar and a poseur—and if the recent news article is any indication, it seems that this taint continues to linger all these years later.

Now this "misunderstanding" may seem like a minor issue to some of you, but veterans who have actually been shot at tend (quite rightly in my opinion) to view that experience as the price of admission to a very exclusive club—a club where poseurs and would-be gate crashers are viewed with infinite contempt.

Nevertheless, I can sympathize with Senator Blumenthal and his unintentional or misunderstood (he maintained) misstatements, at least to a degree.

You see, I was a Boy Scout in Vietnam.

Yes, I wore the uniform.

Well, not exactly "in" Vietnam, but "during" Vietnam.

I guess that makes me a Vietnam Era Boy Scout, which is practically the same thing as being a Boy Scout in Vietnam except we did all our camping and hiking here in Connecticut instead of in the Mekong Delta. Also, nobody was trying to shoot us or blow us up—our greatest peril was being stung by a bee, twisting an ankle or getting a raging case of diarrhea because some idiot didn't rinse the soap out of the cooking pot. Not quite the same thing as getting your legs blown off in the service of your country, but (if Senator Blumenthal's more impassioned defenders are to be believed) it's got to be damn close.

Being a Boy Scout during those unsettled times—a scant few thousand miles from the battlefield—was a lot like being in the Marines. Except that the Scouts don't let you shoot people (even if they deserve it) and in the Marines they don't (so far as I know) make you eat pancakes cooked up by some kid with dirt-encrusted hands and snot running down his face.

In fact, boys being boys, I would venture (based on my late 1960s hitch in the organization) that your average scout is much more interested in the idea of blowing things up or burning things down than the popular conception of freshly scrubbed youths helping doddering old ladies across interstate highways. Like many Marines of my acquaintance, your typical scout also lies a lot about his purported encounters with the opposite sex. But perhaps my particular scout patrol was unusually dysfunctional. It was, after all, a difficult time for those of us in uniform.

Senator Blumenthal has also indicated, in at least one of his speeches dug up by the media, that he had suffered verbal and even physical abuse at the hands of Vietnam War critics while in the Reserves and I have no reason to doubt the truth of that claim.

Like many scouts of my day, I too suffered abuse for wearing the uniform—particularly the summer uniform with the shorts, knee socks and garters with little red tags. I thought I was the pride of America until the girl up the street spotted me and collapsed in hysterics, gurgling some slander about "knobby knees."

I do not consider myself a vindictive person, but if you told me today that my tormentor now weighs 400 pounds and has diabetes, I would be greatly tempted to demonstrate my maturity and depth of empathy by asking her address so I could mail her a donut. This may seem harsh to the uninitiated, but I think that my fellow veterans of the Boy Scouts of America will understand. It's our damn club and unless you've ever mistaken the flies in your scrambled eggs for raisins, you'll never in this lifetime have the vaguest idea of what we endured.

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.



Happy Holi!... The kids at Ms. Shelly's Country Kids Daycare in Colchester participated in a Holi celebration Friday, March 18. Children learned Holi is an ancient Hindi festival, also known as the festival of spring or colors. The kids enjoyed throwing colored chalk into the air. Pictured from left are Neil Morse, Abigail Crossway and Audrey Durand.

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

Voice Your Concerns

To the Editor:

After being denied twice via the Planning and Zoning Commission, Atlantis Marketing is now appealing to the Zoning Board of Appeals for variances that would allow it to go ahead with the expansion that was denied by the PZC. East Hampton ZBA members need to stand firm against this large corporation and follow the lead set by the PZC in protecting the residential neighborhood at the Main Street/Route 16 intersection. Any requests for variances that could lead to enlarging the non-conforming commercial use on R2 residentially zoned property should be denied.

According to the preliminary plans, non-conformance of a commercial operation on residentially zoned properties would be increasing from one lot to three lots! This is unacceptable, and not the directions that East Hampton zoning decisions should be headed. Residential neighborhoods, and homeowners' property values and quality of life at their homes need be protected by the town's zoning regulations. Just because a large corporation took a gamble – and a gamble is not a hardship – and bought residential properties to expand their commercial business does not mean that the neighbors and residents in this area should have to suffer the economic fallout of falling property values, added pollution, and risk of even more

commercial creep that this huge, inappropriate, irresponsible, unreasonable, and unwanted commercial development in this residential neighborhood would cause.

The ZBA public hearing is set for Monday, April 11, at 7 p.m. East Hampton residents need to oppose this attempt by Atlantis Marketing to cram this unwanted development down East Hampton's throat. Please write letters of opposition to the editor of the *Rivereast* and to the ZBA care of the town zoning official, Jeremy DeCarli. Please attend the ZBA meeting in person or via Zoom to voice your concerns and opposition.

Respectfully,

Irene Kuck – East Hampton

Marijuana

To the Editor:

Our RHAM community is a great place to bring up a family. Our residents want the best for their children and want to give them experiences to make them well-rounded young adults. Along with educational, dance, music, sports and theatre experiences our young adults may also have the opportunity to experience marijuana; not all our young adults...but some may.

The Youth Voices Count Survey conducted at RHAM Middle School and High School in the fall of 2020 shows an increase of marijuana use from the start of middle school to the start

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

Letter Writers: Due to space constraints, letter writers must limit their letters to **300 words or less**. 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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News Bulletin

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Corrections

In last week's cover story about a Ukrainian woman in Marlborough collecting donations for her homeland, Olga Borsh was misquoted as saying Ukraine has been developing businesses and letting democracy bloom for the past three years. She actually said the past 30 years.

Also, in a story last week about a Portland girl, Anna Vicino, participating in the 2022 World Irish Dancing Championships in Belfast in April, it was reported Anna was the only championship contender from Connecticut in her age group. That is not correct. She is one of two competitors from her dance school heading to Belfast. She was one of only two in her age group to qualify during the New England Oireachtas. Connecticut dancers from other dance schools and age groups have also qualified.

The article also misstated that Anna's dance school, Mulcahy Academy, is located in West Hartford. It actually has locations in Glastonbury, Middletown and Bloomfield.

Also, the article stated that in Belfast Anna will perform a heavy jig, but she will also perform a slip jig as well.

Lastly, in a Feb. 18 article cover story on school masks, East Hampton resident Rebecca Harvey was paraphrased as saying her son "hates" wearing masks. This was an inaccurate interpretation of what Harvey said. She said her son didn't want to wear a mask all day, but the emotion of hatred was never conveyed.

The *Rivereast* regrets the errors.

fish bait, and by building and landscaping vehicles, tools, and tire boot treads." (CAES) One wouldn't notice the jumping worms until mid-to late-summer when the lively adult worms are already multiplying rapidly.

Jumping worms are sold for fishing bait/composting (especially on internet).

Prevention: The CAES Fact Sheets at portal.ct.gov/ list prevention tips. Making one's own compost; planting seeds and making new plants from shrub cuttings; carefully "solarizing" any needed mulch, are listed/explained. Clean boot/tire treads before entering forest. Not discarding bait worms or using jumping worms as fishing bait.

Thank you for reading!

Ann Zitkus – Hebron

Hebron Public Works Facility

To the Editor:

Getting people riled up about wetland destruction is a lot easier than getting them invested in construction of a public works facility.

But shame on us if we tune in just long enough to vote 'no' and think we've done our civic duty.

Don't wake up just long enough to blow up a process 12 years and 25 properties in the making.

I've perused the 326-page report and it's nothing if not thorough. Construction of the public works facility will respect all local, state, and federal regulations. Let's admire the time, effort and tenacity of our town officials through this long process. Don't sabotage their efforts with a semi-informed, feel-good vote to "save the wetlands."

Carrie Coy – Hebron

Pollinator Pathway Pow Wow

To the Editor:

On Saturday, April 2, at 1:30 p.m., at the Douglas Library community room, your questions and concerns about the Hebron Pollinator Pathway will be answered. Why the pathway? Who benefits? How easy is it to participate? Will it make a difference? Why are native plants so important? How do I get started? All these questions and more will be answered!

Come prepared to be inspired, educated and excited to be the source of change for our ecological sustainability.

**Candace O'Shea
Hebron Pollinator Pathway**

Thanks, Ted's!

To the Editor:

I'd like to send a shout-out and thank you to Ted's IGA grocery store in Hebron. The owners, Todge and Dave Armata always welcome town people who request to fundraise either in or outside their store.

Most recently they allowed me to collect food items for the people of Ukraine.

Thank you so much.

Susan L. Heise – Amston

Time for New Water System

To the Editor:

It is time to replace the water system at Gil-ead Hill School (GHS). The most recent water sampling showed nondetect (nondetect does not mean "not present") levels of lead in the drinking water fountains, but there were again significant lead concentrations found in the sinks in Room 14 (6.3 ppb), Room 27 (13.3 ppb) and the Music Room (5.6 ppb). These concentrations are below the Lead-Copper Rule (LCR) regulatory level. However, managing the water system according to the LCR is not sufficient. The LCR criterion was not designed to protect human health, especially the health of small children. According to EPA, "the science of lead is settled – there is no safe level of exposure." According to CDC, "even low levels of lead in blood have been shown to negatively affect a child's intelligence, ability to pay attention, and academic achievement."

The TRC Report (Jan. 23, 2020) showed there are clear sources of lead at GHS. 52 out of 75 of the first draw samples contained lead. In addition, the report erred in not identifying sinks as sources of exposure to children. The identification of interior sinks as "non-consumption" is contrary to EPA guidance as found in the 3Ts for Reducing Lead in Drinking Water in Schools and Child Care Facilities cited by the report.

The TRC report should have alarmed everyone. I had some comfort that the schools were flushing the system every day as a protective measure. I found out recently that, at some point, the school stopped flushing every day. Flushing should begin again until the system is

replaced.

Children have a right to clean water. The water system at GHS has significant amounts of lead in it and presents a potential risk to children's health. It is time to replace it.

John Collins – Amston

Trumper Tries Deflection

To the Editor:

Eddie K. again does not reply to Trump's actions spelled out in my recent letter. Instead, he does a broad-brush smear using his copy of Roge's Thesaurus to string together a word salad of personal insults to those he disagrees with.

Eddie is a user of deflection, who cares not about the truth of Trump's attempts to destroy NATO and our democratic republic. Questions for cult-like followers of Trump:

Who won the 2020 election?

Who abetted the Jan. 6th insurrection?

What elections were negated in court?

Is Tucker Carlson your source for news?

Eddie K. is not the only writer who engages in broad brush smearing and defection. Perhaps civil discourse can be restored and briefer but more salient letters published in the future.

Ed Gyllenhammer – Portland

Cutting Off Our Nose

To the Editor:

President Biden has gotten tough on Putin. He has been a both a promoter and supporter of a broad swath of economic sanctions against Russia. He makes bold moves and positions the U.S. to block Russia economically for its invasion into Ukraine. Some other NATO countries have followed suit, but not all of them...showing us that the countries of NATO truly aren't united in this plan. While western media applauds the withdrawal of Russia from the SWIFT banking platform and heaps praise upon multinational corporations that are exiting out of Russia, it's the average Russian citizen that pays the price. It follows along beautifully with the Environmental Social Governance agenda that is being pushed out of the World Economic Forum and its promotion of The Great Reset. Corporations are moving in lockstep with government demands and turning their backs on huge markets in order to tow the globalist Build Back Better line.

Our media tells us we are devastating the Russian economy and eroding Putin's control while displaying images of everyday Russians in long lines at banks an ATM's trying to with-

draw their money. We are winning...at our race to the bottom. What this is doing is showing the rest of the world that you can no longer trust a global financial system that uses the U.S. dollar as a reserve currency because you can be shut off at anytime. Economically this was the last straw for other competing nations like Russia, China, India, Brazil, and Iran.

What we thought as a sanction is an invitation for our competitors to ditch the petrodollar and trade oil in alternate currencies. In doing so we just hammered in one of the final nails in the American coffin, and forced the hand of our competitors to seek alternatives. What's next, we sink half our Navy to reduce our carbon footprint? Stay tuned....

Colin McNamara – Marlborough

Innuendos and Conspiracies

To the Editor:

Despite more than 50 governors, election officials, state and federal judges from both parties having dismissed over 60 lawsuits alleging election fraud, and other irregularities in the 2020 elections, conspiracists continue to peddle the big lie. Just last week, Frank Blume flexed his conspiratorial muscles with a few ambiguous anecdotes of election fraud. For good measure, he managed to cite an insignificant incident regarding ballot tampering in the small precinct of Antrim, Mich. However, Frank's flawed line of questioning left out a few crucial details.

For instance, he ignored the fact that Sheryl Guy, the county clerk and lifelong Republican, made a small calculation error when counting the ballots. Once she recognized the mistake, she attempted to correct her error. Unfortunately, she failed to zero out the initial numbers and as a result, submitted a stack of both right and wrong totals. Of course, Frank also neglected to mention that during the canvassing process, the boards which are composed of both Democrats and Republicans, compared the reported results with the numbers recorded on the tabulators and caught the errors. Frank also failed to mention that following the election, Republican state Sen. Ed McBroom, released an eight-month-long investigation scrutinizing witnesses, thousands of documents, and the procedural mechanics of Michigan's elections system. His report concluded that allegations of election fraud "were nothing but a bunch of nonsense."

The consequence of peddling absurd innu-

See Letters, page 6

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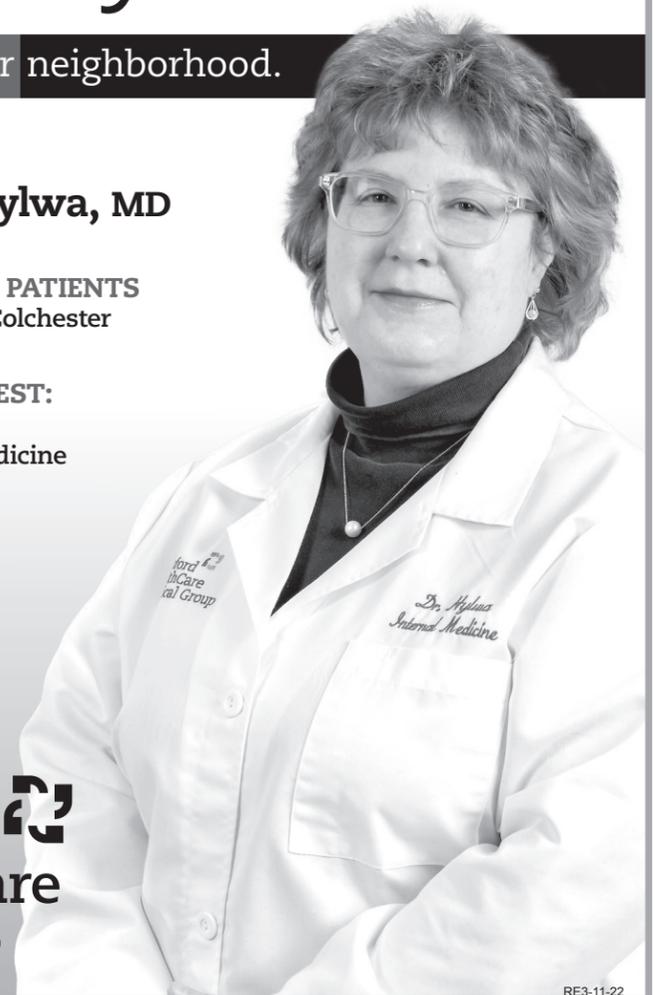
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★ Letters cont. from page 5

endos and wild conspiracies of election fraud only encourages misguided dupes to incite an insurrection and overthrow the results of a legitimate election. The interesting thing is, if a massive election fraud did take place in 2020, wouldn't all the down ballots be called into question, thus, casting doubt not just on Democrats elected to office, but Republicans as well?

Funny how guys like Frank Blume never even consider that question.

Joe Stevens – Hebron

Big Bug Hugs...

To the Editor:
.....go out to our essential supporters: the spirited helpful hands from St. Peter's Church for supplying needed tables, posters, aisles and

heavy-lifting clean-up services. Our AHM team deserves an official Bumble Bee fly by for their undisputed generosity of exhibition space, their availability for any needed assistance and their overall coordination and organization of this big event and of course it's all done with their gracious hospitality

We are grateful also to Paul and Sandy's Too Garden Center for beautifying our display with

their loaned pollinator selected Native flowering plants and exhibiting their awesome Bee Hotel to inspire hobbyists and wildlife lovers.

In addition, we were especially inspired by the amount of public inquiry about the seriousness of our declining pollinators, the degradation of our ecosystem by the addition of yet, a new menace, 'Asian jumping worms' and how they can be part of a nationwide effort at preserving plants and wildlife by taking simple steps right at home and by making responsible choices when planting seeds, shrubs or trees.

We were delighted to see parents engaging with their children to paint butterflies and bees across a sunny field to get up close and personal with nature and wildlife. We saw fun happening.

We left feeling fulfilled and enthused about how people will respond to these local and global threats to our ecosystems and web of life. We left smiling.

Michele Sinkez
Hebron Pollinator Conservation Project

Commitment to Marlborough

To the Editor:
Ken Hjulstrom has lived in the town of Marlborough since 1986. Ken's tireless involvement in the community, through the Lions Club, Board of Education, PTO, Board of Finance and his involvement with CERT, to name just a few, shows that he is a man of service and integrity, who truly wants the best for Marlborough. Ken has had to make tough decisions on many of the boards he serves on. That's why I believe Ken is the best person for the job as one of the selectmen for Marlborough. I know he will continue to serve the Town of Marlborough with the same passion he exhibits in all of his endeavors.

Ken will commit to helping move Marlborough forward in a fiscally responsible way, and will support smart economic growth, while maintaining our town's character and identity.

Please join me on Tuesday, May 3, in voting to elect Ken as one of our new selectman. He will listen to you, and hear you, and then make wise, compassionate decisions on behalf of Marlborough's residents.

State Rep. Robin Green
R-55th District

Note: The 55th Assembly District covers Andover, Bolton, Hebron and Marlborough.

Marlborough Survey Results

To the Editor:
According to the new town charter, the town manager, not the Board of Selectmen, will produce the town's budget. In turn, the BOS will review, revise and submit the budget to the Board of Finance. The town survey that was completed in 2019 indicated that the number one concern of our citizens was taxes!

I am and always have been a fiscal conservative. I worked in business for 10 years and was responsible for a \$6 million budget. I understand finances and I believe that the Board of Selectmen has an obligation to assure that town monies are spent responsibly by scrutinizing every line item that is presented to them. I know we can meet the needs of our citizens, while ensuring that our money is being spent wisely. I hope you will vote for me on May 3!

Betty O'Brien – Marlborough
Note: O'Brien is a candidate for the Marlborough Board of Selectmen.

Living in Marlborough

To the Editor:
In early 1975, after living in apartments in Vernon and Hebron, my husband and I knew it was time to buy a home. Bolton, Hebron, Marlborough and East Hampton were where we decided to look.

My colleagues and friends gave me one piece of advice: do not live in the same town you teach in. Why was that advice given? Those same people said that I would never have a moment of peace or privacy, always being on "display" when I was around town: the grocery, the Post Office, the library, the dump, the park.

After looking at several places everywhere but Marlborough, we never found what suited us. Standing in Carsan Realty's office one day we spotted a house we liked. It was in Marlborough! We decided to at least look. The rest is history!

Have I ever regretted moving to Marlborough, the town where I taught for 35 years? Never! I found the people here friendly, helpful, fun, dedicated to their children and their education. Never did I feel like my privacy was threatened. How nice it was to walk in the park or go to the library and hear, "Hi, Mrs. B!" Speaking with parents, their children, being able to follow my

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students beyond my classroom, was a delight then and to this day. I was fortunate to have had hundreds of children whose lives I have influenced.

Marlborough is the town you and I decided to make our home. That's because we care. I am here to tell you that I care after 47 years here. I care about my neighbors, my friends, young families, senior citizens, everyone who calls Marlborough home.

I would appreciate your support and your vote on May 3 as I seek a seat on the Board of Selectmen.

Thank you!

Debbie Bourbeau – Marlborough

Note: Bourbeau is a candidate for the Marlborough Board of Selectmen.

Atlantis Returns

To the Editor:

Atlantis will be before the East Hampton Zoning Board of Appeals for their April meeting. Their justification this time for circumventing the towns zoning is hardship.

The location of their current gas station at Route 16 and Main was zoned residential in 1990 to prevent expansion of commercial properties into residential neighborhoods. Atlantis is claiming that this is zone change from 30 years ago is preventing them from constructing an expanded facility onto adjacent residential properties.

The entire purpose of that zone change was to prevent exactly what Atlantis is trying to do. The town's plan of conservation and development specifically has no expansion of commercial development on Main Street. Their claim that implementation of this regulation causes a hardship is absurd. Can I tear down my home and build a gas station by claiming that when the town made it a residential zone it caused me a hardship? Of course I can't, so why can Atlantis?

Atlantis purchased Food Bag knowing it was zoned residential. Then on speculation they purchased the adjacent properties knowing they were zoned residential. They thought they could get an easy zone change but were twice defeated, so now they concoct a hardship story to try to get in the back door and construct their mega station on residential property.

The residents must stop this. Please write to the East Hampton Zoning Board of Appeals and voice your opposition.

Kenneth Dodson – East Hampton

Ken for Selectman

To the Editor:

I have known Ken Hjulstrom for over 20 years and I am now asking that you join me by voting for him on May 3 as candidate for the Marlborough Board of Selectmen.

Ken has served his community tirelessly over the course of the last three decades. Ken volunteered to help with the Marlborough PTO when his kids were in school, is a member of the Marlborough Lions Club and the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and has also served on several town Boards. From 1998 to 2003, Ken served on the Marlborough Board of Education during a very hectic time when the school was being renovated. Later on, Ken was elected to the Board of Assessment Appeals in 2009 and for the last 10 years he has served on the Marlborough Board of Finance.

Ken is tireless when it comes to serving our community and he has done so with integrity and devotion.

So, on May 3, I would ask you to cast your vote for Ken as your candidate for the Marlborough Board of Selectmen. And if you want to read more about Ken and his past service to our town, please visit www.MarlGOP.com.

Thank you for supporting Ken in the past and as he goes forward, and I promise you that he will continue to be a great public servant.

Carl Carlson – Marlborough

Atlantis Marketing, Round 3

To the Editor:

Atlantis Marketing was defeated twice by the Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC), and is now trying to claim a hardship from the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA). Atlantis has not made any changes to their plan (new gas station, eatery, drive-thru, convenience store) and is on the agenda for the April 11 ZBA meeting "for a variance to increase lot coverage from 30.4% to 36.9% and reconstruction and expansion of legal non-conforming uses in the R-2 Zone." Therefore, they are trying to get exactly what they proposed twice before. This proposal is in direct opposition to the Plan of Conservation and Development which the PZC developed to preserve the small town character of East Hampton. The PZC denied this plan for the second time in January. Let's make sure the ZBA denies it as well.

Please join me in voicing your opposition to this proposal by:

Writing letters to the ZBA, sent via email to Jeremy DeCarli at jdecarli@easthamptonct.gov;

Attending the April 11th, 7:00 pm ZBA meeting either in person at the Town Hall or via Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89967175132>

**Thank you for protecting our town,
Heidi Bothamley – East Hampton**

The Big Bear

To the Editor:

As a youth in the '60s, I remember watching Russian President Nikita Khrushchev on TV banging his fist on the podium screaming "We will bury you" directed at America. He began building a missile base in Cuba but he was thwarted in those efforts by President Kennedy. It was a tense couple of days. I could see the concern on my dad's face, and he was a WWII combat Marine veteran. The U.S. and JFK prevailed that day and there was peace – between the Soviet Union and the United States.

Now the Big Bear is back – or maybe it's the New Hitler? – but Vladimir Putin is all in and is intent on annexing Ukraine no matter what the world thinks or the cost. Putin did not make this move during the Trump Administration because Trump was an unknown – a "wild card" if you will – and Putin chose not to take the risk. He waited and hoped that softer Democrats would win control and then America got the Biden/Harris Team – a marshmallow and a field mouse. Now Putin has gone so far as to say he wants Alaska back!!! This is not just about oil and supply chain – it's about world domination.

We, the U.S., are at a marginal military level – we are more concerned about transgenders than about military strength, and that is worrisome. The Ukrainians are brave people but they are overmatched. Edmund Smith, Ed "the Ham-

mer," et al., have referred to President Trump and conservatives as Hitler and Nazis. Well now the Evil Empire has reappeared – China will have Russia's flank and our frail puppet president and his incompetent VP are way over their heads.

Liar and convicted felon (five felonies) Jussie Smollet has been released after serving only six days of a 150-day sentence – on appeal. Biden's and Harris's supporting tweets are still up and active and never called out by "fake news" CNN and the rest of the mainstream media.

It sure is the right time to be Black in America.

Don Denley – Andover

Trumpublicans

To the Editor:

Ukraine reduces to rubble and hiding in the fog of war lurks WWII, but Don Denley keeps talking about Jussie Smollett. Three weeks in a row now. It's his latest fetish – a gay Black man caught with his pants down. Don can't always spell Smollett's name correctly, but still presents his newest 'poster child' as evidence of progressive immorality. "Everyone! – Here! – Look over here! – I got me one – name's Jussie Smollett." In one fell swoop he imagines neutering the LGBTQ community and humbling the BLM community ("colored people" as Don calls them sometimes). Only Don Denley could out-do Rip Van Winkle, sleeping a whopping 50 years and missing the entire civil rights movement, Martin Luther King and President Barack Obama. Classic Trumpublican!

Then there's Peter Kushkowsky, accusing me of having a "superiority-inferiority complex". He dedicated his letter to edifying Rivereast readers on the condition's clinical definition. My advice? Pay no attention to the 'wounded bear.' Peter is lashing out for the embarrassment he committed upon himself by telling *Rivereast* readers he was born of Ukrainian parents but couldn't figure out why Kyiv is no longer pronounced Kiev. Peter: I'm glad I could help you find Google – welcome aboard! Many thanks for validating satirical humor as an effective tool against pontificators who put 'their own feet into their own mouths.'

Readers ought to forgive me for using various idioms. Last week Ed Kozlowski twice used 'can't walk and chew gum at the same time'. At

least he made Don Denley proud, bringing up O.J. Simpson as his personal Woo-Woo. "Look – over here Don! I got me one too!"

For Denley, Kushkowsky and other Trumpublicans I say, "Hey boys! Look a here! – gun nut Timothy McVeigh! Oklahoma City bomber! 168 dead (19 children), 684 wounded. He white!"

Edmund Smith – Andover

How is it Care?

To the Editor:

In response to the article in the March 18, 2022 issue of the *Rivereast* titled "Local Author Weighs in on Texas Abortion Bill," the caption below her photograph refers to the bill and that "Republican-controlled legislatures are looking to restrict abortion care." Abortion care is an oxymoronic statement because the effect of an abortion is killing an unborn child. How is that care?

Why would you glorify that book or author?

Michael Hazel – Amston

Wants vs. Needs

To the Editor:

I assume you have been to the gas station lately and have also been grocery shopping. We are all feeling the pain. We may not have control over the gas prices or the cost of food, but we do have control over our town's budget.

As a member of the Marlborough Board of Finance, we have been spending the last several weeks scrutinizing the budgets presented by Marlborough Town Hall, RHAM and the local Board of Education. The Board of Finance has little control over the RHAM budget, other than to make suggestions. That is in your hands when you vote on the budgets on May 3rd. But the Board of Finance does have a say about the town and Board of Education budgets as well as Capital items.

All in all, the town and local Board of Education operating budgets are pretty straightforward, what with contractual obligations for salaries, fuel and other daily expenses. But where further scrutiny is warranted lies primarily with the capital items. There are certain items I consider "needs," such as road and culvert repair and equipment for the fire department and po-

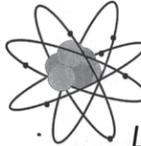
See Letters, page 34

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Please join us on Thursday, April 7th

The meeting will be live streamed via: Microsoft Teams Live Event and YouTube Live

Formal Presentation will begin at 6:30 PM p.m.
Question and Answer (Q&A) session will immediately follow the presentation.

Instructions on how to access the meeting and on how to provide comments or ask questions, can be found at the project webpage: <http://portal.ct.gov/DOT172-0477>

The public informational meeting is being held to provide the public and local community the opportunity to offer comments or ask questions regarding the proposed project. Persons with limited internet access may request that project information be mailed to them by contacting Natasha Fatu by email at TrafficSafety.DOT@ct.gov or by phone at 860-594-2731. (Allow one week for processing and delivery.)

Individuals with limited internet access can listen to the meeting by calling 1-888-566-5916 and entering the Participant Code when prompted: 9977843. Persons with hearing and/or speech disabilities may dial 711 for Telecommunications Relay Services (TRS). The MS Teams Live Event offers closed-captioning for the hearing impaired and non-English translation options. A recording of the formal presentation will be posted to YouTube following the event and closed-captioning (including non-English translation options) will be available at that time. The recording will also be available in the list of DOT virtual public meetings here: <https://portal.ct.gov/dot/general/CTDOT-VPIM-Library>

Visit the project webpage for options for Apple users. During the Q&A session and the 14-day comment period that follows the meeting, individuals may leave a question or comment via email (preferred) at DOTProject172-477@ct.gov. Individuals may also leave a voicemail question or comment by calling (860) 944-1111. Please reference the project in your voicemail.

Language assistance may be requested by contacting the Department's Language Assistance Call Line (860) 594-2109. Requests should be made at least 5 business days prior to the meeting. Language assistance is provided at no cost to the public and efforts will be made to respond to timely requests for assistance.

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East Hampton • East Hampton

Bellringers Bested by Bacon, Turn Towards 2023

by Josh Howard

East Hampton girls' basketball was eliminated by Bacon Academy in the semifinals of the Class M state tournament at Plainville High School on March 14.

The 30-26 loss ended a remarkable year for the Bellringers, who finished the regular season 18-2 and won a third consecutive Shoreline Conference (SLC) championship with a victory over Valley Regional on Feb. 26.

A triumph in the semifinals would have sent East Hampton to their first state championship game since 1985.

For head coach Shaun Russell, the elimination loss wasn't because of a lack of effort.

"The kids played their hearts out like they did all season long, but the bottom line is you are not going to win a state semifinals by scoring 26 points," said Russell. "Congrats to Bacon, they are a solid team with veteran players,"

East Hampton controlled the tempo for a majority of the first half, using precision ball movement to counter Bacon's trapping zone. Often the ball would be passed between two or three players without a single dribble.

The result was a 16-11 halftime lead. Freshman Liana Salamone was brilliant in the first half, scoring 11 points and helping defend Bacon's senior point guard Valerie Luizzi.

Luizzi, who was held scoreless in the first quarter, heated up as the game aged and scored 12 of her game-high 17 points in the second half. She went on a personal seven-point run in the third quarter, allowing the Bobcats to claw back into the game and they took their first lead on an Emma Mancuso jumper late in the quarter.

Salamone countered by hitting a pull-up jumper on the baseline and making one or two free throws to regain the lead for the Bellringers.

Early in the fourth quarter, Jordan Murphy

scored in translation with an assist from Jackie Russell, giving East Hampton a 25-21 advantage.

It would prove to be the last bucket or the night for the Bellringers as the team's offense stalled the rest of the game, managing only one point over the final six minutes.

With less than ten seconds left, Salamone's contested layup attempt—which would have tied the game—rattled out. Luizzi grabbed the rebound and hit two free throws to seal the win.

It was a tough pill to swallow for Russell and his team, who matched the Bobcats physically for the entire 32-minute slugfest.

"We got some better angels early and later we didn't play through the contact and what seemed like a whistle early wasn't late. We have to adjust to the game when it's being played," said Russell.

Poor free throw shooting also hurt the Bellringers, who made only four of 11 attempts from the charity stripe.

It was only the third defeat – including the postseason – suffered by the Bellringers all winter.

Overall, the team won 23 of 26 games and posted winning streaks of 11 games and 9 games. They also won all 15 games played at East Hampton High School.

Following the loss, Russell's message to the team was one of support and encouragement.

"I think right now you want to be there for your seniors. Their careers just ended," said Russell, who will return four of five starters. "The younger girls will have to take this experience and learn from it and move forward. The reality of the situation is there are no guarantees that you'll be back in this game. You still have to win and earn it, but I think we are capable of doing it and I think we've shown that."

Russell will lose two seniors to graduation in starting center Madison Yorker and reserve



East Hampton senior Madison Yorker boxes out Bacon Academy senior Emma Mancuso during the Class M semifinals at Plainville High School. The Bellringers fell to the Bobcats 30-26.

Elizabeth MacDonald. Both played critical roles on and off the court.

Yorker said the team became a family, adding, "I looked forward to playing with these girls and going to practice every day. These girls became some of my best friends. I truly think that this was one of the things that got us this far in our season."

"I will miss being a Bellringer basketball player in general because of how much support and love the school, coaches, and girls give to the program [and] sport," added Yorker.

Russell said the departing seniors will be missed next season, crediting them for the team's chemistry this winter.

"They have meant everything and their leadership is unrivaled. They are two of the greatest

teammates you will ever see," added Russell. "They have been the foundation and anything that has occurred this year is because of what they have instilled, the way that they have led the younger kids, and the way that they guided them."

Salamone, who plays point guard and earned first team All-SLC, will head a terrific group coming back next year. [Jackie] Russell, a sophomore, and [Jordan] Murphy, a junior, also made all-conference. Starter Delany Russell will also be returning for her senior year. Key reserves Amber Murphy and Olivia DeMartino will also assume larger roles next winter.

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, 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.

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 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 31. This is an interactive

study of compassion.

Easter Egg Hunt: Saturday, April 9, 1-3 p.m. Hundreds of colorful candy-filled eggs will be hidden outside the church, with activities and refreshments in Fellowship Hall.

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. Check WFSB-TV Channel 3 for information on church closings due to weather.

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Debt Driving Town's Proposed Budget Hike

by Jack Lakowsky

On Monday officials from the East Hampton school board and town government pitched their budget requests to the Board of Finance.

School board chair Christina Tammaro-Dzagan and district curriculum director Mary Clark made the case for the district's proposed 3.75% increase. The BOE approved this budget in January.

Among other accomplishments, Tammaro-Dzagan cited the district's switching to remote learning in just two days, while other districts took weeks. She said the board's budget focuses on student mental health, a big concern during the pandemic.

Another notable feature of the board's budget was that each school principal requested an additional psychologist for their respective building.

It was Town Manager David Cox's 2022-23 proposal's first unveiling, a spending plan compiled after consultation with town employees.

Cox proposes a town operations total of \$12.6 million, up \$532,000, or about 4% from the current spending plan.

Cox said the town's debt payments peak this year. The town is paying its dues for the high school's renovations and for the new town hall, built in 2020.

Debt payments are up \$528,000, almost 15% over this fiscal year, ringing out at \$4.2 million. Cox said after next fiscal year the town's payments will decline.

Debt and operations total a proposal of \$17.6 million, a bump of about \$1.1 million, or 6.4%.

With the \$34.3 million school board proposal, East Hampton is looking for a total budget of about \$52 million, an increase of \$2.3 million over the 2021-22 budget.

The town is looking to increase its tax money intake by about \$1.5 million, or 3.6%. The town's Grand List grew by \$42 million to about \$1.2 billion.

The mill rate, how property taxes are calculated, is up 2.26%.

Overall, the mill rate is 35.31 mills, up from 34.53.

Cox devised his proposal assuming Gov. Ned Lamont's proposed motor vehicle mill rate cap of 29 becomes law this year. Due to increases in car values, Cox said motor vehicle tax revenue will still be up nearly 7%, or about \$4 million.

The town's fuel costs, as they are for everyone, are rising sharply. Cox proposes a 62% increase in the town's fuel budget, owing to inflation and the unpredictability of price changes.

Cox said the town's fuel costs rose 60% this year. Finance director Jeff Jylkka told the finance board that, in one instance, the town-having exhausted its bulk bought gas and switched to market rates- paid 115% more for a fuel delivery over the one immediately before it.

Natural gas costs also went up by more than \$13,000. The town managed to offset this spike with about \$8,900 in solar energy purchasing.

Labor costs at the police department are proposed to rise significantly. The department wants to promote one of its four sergeants to lieutenant, an officer that would help the department navigate the new requirements of the Police Accountability Bill.

To prevent a reduction in street patrol officers, the town's asking to fill a new officer position. Police staff changes will cost \$74,500, if Cox's proposal goes through as-is.

This is the only requested staff addition. Contractually obligated salary increases are about \$112,000. Since 2015, the town has added seven full time staff, according to the town manager.

For capital projects, such as infrastructure and roads, the town proposes a price tag close to \$2 million.

"A big chunk of that is for watershed improvements," Cox told the finance board, adding public works projects are also expected to cost about \$855,000.

The public works budget request is higher than the average of the past few years, which was about \$850,000.

"We must invest in capital," said Cox.

The town will use chunks of its approximately \$3.7 million in American Rescue Plan funds, of which the town has already received about

half, to offset capital expenses.

Though costs are on the rise, the town does have some tailwinds.

According to Cox, non-tax revenues are up a bit more than \$822,000 over the current year. The state will reimburse towns for any losses caused by the new motor vehicle mill rate cap, and East Hampton would net \$700,000.

Licenses, permits and fees are also up by \$123,000.

Cox said these bumps are exceptional, as non-tax revenue tends to be stagnant.

The Board of Finance will hold budget workshops March 26 and 30, as well as April 6 and 12. A referendum will be held in May or June. The finance board will also finalize the mill rate in June.

Questions, comments can be emailed to bud-

get@easthamptonct.gov.

As to how the finance board plans to proceed through the process, chair Alannah Coshow pointed to the disparity between household income increases and town spending increases.

"I worry about the ability of people to pay [higher] taxes," she said, also saying people are struggling with inflation on groceries and gas prices.

Coshow said median household income has only gone up \$5,500 in the past decade, while in the same period, the town's spending has gone up \$12 million.

"We're going to keep that in mind," she said. "We're all feeling the same bite and we understand what's going on inside homes."



Haines Reads to Kids... State Rep. Irene Haines (R-34) celebrated Read Across America by reading to students at Center Elementary School in East Hampton. She read *The One and Only Ivan* by Katherine Applegate in Kyle McCarthy and Carriann Benigni's both teachers, fifth-grade classes. The annual tradition, promoted by the National Education Association (NEA), began in 1998 as a way to promote early childhood literacy and commemorate Dr. Seuss' birthday. "I enjoyed reading to students," Haines said. "Read Across America is a great opportunity to celebrate the importance of literacy."

EHHS Music Cabaret

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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, click on "Optional Online Payments," click on "Pay for HS-Music-Cabaret." You can check out as a guest, login to your account, or create an account. Be sure to clearly specify your name and number of tickets. You will receive an email confirmation of your purchase to present at the door.

A limited number of tickets will also be available at the door. All proceeds benefit the EHHS Music Department.

Takeout Mexican Dinner

The Congregational Church of East Hampton, located at 59 Main St., will hold a takeout dinner Saturday, April 9, from 4:30-6:30 p.m.

The menu will include slow-cooked pulled pork and shredded cheese burrito, rice with seasoned black beans, pico de gallo, taco chips and Mexican sugar cookies. Cost is \$14, either by cash or by check made out to CCEH.

Pre-order by calling the church office at 860-267-4959 Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-noon, or by calling Lisa at 860-918-1170. Orders must be in by Saturday, April 9, at noon.

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Library to Celebrate Kindness ‘EHxtravaganza’

by Jack Lakowsky

Last year, the East Hampton Public Library received acclaim- and huge recognition- for putting on a town-wide, life-size game of Candyland.

This year, said East Hampton librarian Stephanie Smith, the library again wants to bring fun to the whole town – and beyond.

Candyland will be a tough act to follow, she said, but with a multi-event campaign spreading kindness, she hopes to match the achievement of Candyland.

The library’s funding the project with a \$2,500 grant from the Peach Pit Foundation, which partnered with the Community Foundation of Middlesex County.

The objective they gave East Hampton and other area libraries: spread kindness.

Starting April 1, the library will begin a monthlong “Kindness EHxtravaganza.” There are four main components.

Kindness to the Self

The library will install-permanently- an art exchange box outside the building. Think of a Little Free Library, but with arts and crafts.

Drop-off something handmade, and take home a fun, crafty trinket.

For example Smith, a crocheter, will be leaving some of her creations in the box. All are invited to add their art, “regardless of what form their artistic expression takes.” Not an artsy type? No problem-all are welcome to enjoy the

creations of local artists.

Kindness to Community

The library is putting together “Kindness Kits” for Belltown residents aiming to brighten their neighbors’ days.

Each kit contains a “Kindness Bingo” challenge card for families to complete and return for a chance to win a self-care gift basket. Kits are limited to register at the library’s website. Pick-up starts April 1.

Smith said one staff member, who’s been at the library almost 30 years, “wrote a kindness poem special for these kits.”

Among other activities, “[they also have] a post card to write a note to a neighbor and wild-flower seeds for Earth Day,” Smith continued.

Kindness to Animals

The library will host, from April 4-16, a silent art auction to raise funds for East Hampton’s Connecticut Draft Horse Rescue and Our Companions Animal Rescue in Ashford. All funds will go to these nonprofits with the goal of spreading kindness to animals.

The library seeks artists of all ages to donate their art to the event. All art forms accepted. Visit the library’s Facebook page to see photos and bios of the animals the auction will support.

Entries need to be submitted to library by April 1. Questions can go to sbolton@east-hampton.gov. A local quilter has donated some quilts, and the Beardsley Zoo in Bridgeport

donated a painting of tiger’s paws-impresions made by the tiger itself.

“Animals helping animals,” Smith called it.

Smith said a library staffer came up with the idea. In their former career, they were a veterinarian technician, said Smith, and wanted to keep helping animals.

Kindness Beyond Belltown

To spread the word about the community the library serves, the library set its sights both nationally and internationally.

“In an effort to the world about our unique little town, the library will send out packages far and wide that feature East Hampton resident testimonies, local history, a Bevin bell, and beautiful pictures of our lake by local artist Kate Avery,” the library’s description reads.

The initiative is to help broaden horizons and promote understanding across different cultures.

The library is exchanging East Hampton mementos for ones from other states-and other

countries.

Smith said already, the library received back kits from Scottsdale, Ariz. and a town in Missouri. Domestically, they sent 20 packages.

Smith is expecting packages from Ireland, Japan, Germany, Australia, Morocco and Iceland.

The library will display the multinational memorabilia in an exhibit starting April 18, running till April 30.

To help promote understanding between cultures, the library’s also crafting backpacks themed off different countries, similar to its STEM-themed backpacks. The packs will have books, recipes, toys and games from other cultures.

“We wanted to see how else we could bring in learning and early literacy,” Smith said.

“Hopefully, people leave thinking about how they can keep spreading kindness in their community,” Smith said. “Maybe it’ll cause a long-term ripple effect of kindness.”

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 or by calling 860-267-4426 or emailing 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.

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.

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 roundtrip 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. 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.



Cubs Advance... East Hampton’s Cub Scout Pack 57 has announced seven Scouts earned the highest Cub Scout Rank, Arrow of Light, and advanced to Scouts BSA (formerly Boy Scouts of America) at the annual Blue and Gold Ceremony. Among the Scouts to crossover is Rory McMahon, the pack’s first female scout to reach this achievement. The scouts were received by (pictured in rear) senior patrol leaders from Troops 57 and 8 of East Hampton and Troop 1028 of Hebron. Scouts are (pictured in front): Brennen VanCott, Damien Magnum, Rory McMahon, Alexander Scanlon, Ethan Mortimer, Tommy McMahon and Jack Perez.

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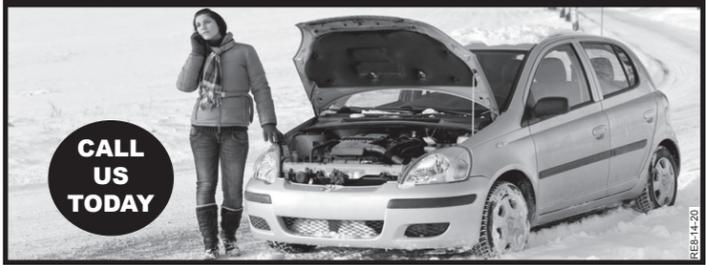
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Red Cross Blood Drive

There will be a blood drive at Congregational Church of East Hampton, 59 Main St., on Saturday, April 16, from 8 a.m.-1 p.m.
Visit RedCrossBlood.org to schedule an appointment.

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.haddamneckcongregationalchurch.org.

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East Hampton • East Hampton

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.ypcca.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 for more information.

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/background-check. 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.

EHACC Accepting Grant Applications

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

There are two \$500 grants available to be awarded to individuals or organizations residing in East Hampton. 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 candidate prior to awarding the grant. An update of your progress will be required six months post-award date and a final report will be required one year post award date.

Applications are available at www.artsforeasthamptonct.org.

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. For more information, call Joe Carbonell at 860-917-7366.

Red Cross Blood Drive

There will be a Red Cross Blood Drive Saturday, April 16, from 8 a.m.-1 p.m., at East Hampton Congregational Church, 59 Main St.

Donors can make an appointment by downloading the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

As a thank-you, all who donate will receive an exclusive Red Cross T-shirt, while supplies last.

Social Media Film to Be Screened

The Indieflix social media film *LIKE* will be screened for students in grades 6 and up at Epoch Arts, 27 Skinner St., on Wednesday, March 30, from 6-8 p.m.

LIKE is a film-based education program exploring the impact of social media on people's lives and the effects of technology on the brain. The goal of the film is to inspire people to self-regulate. Find out why the co-inventor of the "Like" button wants you to stop worrying about likes.

There will be a discussion after the film, as well as access to further resources and materials. Learn more at www.thelikemovie.com.

This film is being presented in partnership with East Hampton Prevention Partnership.

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.

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.

'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.

Sinkhole Reported Near Main Street

by Jack Lakowsky

East Hampton Director of Public Works Matt Walsh said a sinkhole opened up near the Congregational Church on Main Street last week. It was about four feet deep, six feet long and four feet wide.

"We rushed out that night to put steel over it, and we repaired it the next day," Walsh said Monday.

Walsh said drainage pipes under the surface rotted out. When that happens, materials gradually erode.

No one was injured, he said.

Walsh said the town is now investigating

the whole pipe system from the Congregational Church to the Village Center.

Walsh said a sinkhole indicates the whole system needs fixing and analysis, saying much of the metal pipe in town is nearing the end of its service life.

In a written report to the East Hampton Town Council, Town Manager Cox said the integrity of the rest of the system is now in question, and that paving scheduled for the fall might need to be rescheduled should the pipe network need replacing.

Parks and Rec. News

Parks and Recreation has announced the following. For full program descriptions or to register, call 860-267-7300 or visit easthamptonrec.com.

April Vacation Camp: For grades 1-5. April 18-22, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. each day, at the Sears Park Pavilion. Fee is \$185.

Flag Football: April 24-June 5, for ages 7-13. Fee: \$120.

Golf Tournament: May 19 at Blackledge Country Club. There is a 10 a.m. shotgun start. Fee is \$110 through March 31, and \$125 there-

after.

Hartford Yard Goats Game: May 7, 6:05 p.m. See Hartford take on the Binghamton Rumble Ponies, the AA affiliate of the New York Mets. Field box level tickets are available for \$20 each.

Middle School Sun and Fun Camp: June 20-Aug. 12, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. each day. Fee is \$195/week; Center School field trips included.

Sears Park Summer Camp: June 20-Aug. 12, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. each day. Cost is \$195/week; field trips included.

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.

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.

Budget Workshops

The Board of Finance will hold budget workshops today, March 25, at 4 p.m., and Saturday, March 26, at 8:30 a.m. Both will be held in Town Hall Conference Room No. 201, and via Zoom.

Today's workshop will deal with the Board of Education budget, and Saturday's will deal with departments including town operations.

Ham Shoots

The Belltown Sportsman's Club will have ham shoots Sundays, March 27 and April 10, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at the club grounds, located off Tartia Road.

Bring your own shotgun or one will be provided. Shells supplied; 20 and 12 gauge. Cost is \$3 per shot. Refreshments available.

For more information, call Curly at 860-638-7221.

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.

Prescription Drug Take-Back Day

East Hampton Police and the East Hampton Prevention Partnership will hold a Prescription Drug Take-Back Day Saturday, April 30, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at Town Hall, 1 Community Drive.

Accepted items include: prescription medications, prescription patches, over-the-counter (OTC) medications, vitamins, samples, and medications for pets. Items not accepted include: thermometers, hydrogen peroxide, inhalers, aerosol cans, needles (sharps), medications from businesses or clinics, and ointments, lotions or liquids.

For more information, call 860-267-4468 ext 3227, or email cwidrick@easthamptonct.gov.

Police News

3/15: Steven Lowe, 60, of 226 Waterhole Rd., Colchester, was issued a summons for reckless driving, East Hampton Police said.

3/16: Christopher Scaplen, 37, of no certain address, was issued a summons for sixth-degree larceny, police said.

3/22: John Young, 41, of Oakville, was arrested and charged with second-degree breach of peace and sixth-degree larceny, police said.

Also, from March 14-20, officers responded to three motor vehicle accidents, eight medical calls and six alarms, and made 10 traffic stops, police said.

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.

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.



Garden Club Meets... At the Belltown Garden Club's recent March meeting, Leah O'Hearn of It's So Ranunculus Flower Shoppe in Marlborough demonstrated how to create a floral display using the process implemented at the Wadsworth Athenaeum Festival of Fine Art and Flowers. O'Hearn donated the finished product for display at the public library. The club generally meets the fourth Monday evening of each month, and always posts meetings and events in the *Rivereast*.

Annual Trout Derby

The Belltown Sportsman's Club will hold its annual Trout Derby Saturday, April 16, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., at the club grounds on Markham Meadows Road. (Follow the signs.)

Cost is \$15 per pole, with a 5-fish limit. Prizes will be awarded for one tagged fish. Raffle prizes and food will also be available.

For more information, call Curly at 860-638-7221.

Scholarships Available

The Rotary Club of East Hampton and Marlborough invites local high school seniors from East Hampton and Marlborough, as well as adult learners, to apply for one of several scholarships.

All residents are eligible regardless of what high school they attend – public or private. Applicants can attend any college, university, trade school, vocational program, or Veteran focused program.

A new scholarship, in memory of Rotarian Jan Solomon, is available to female candidates, with financial need pursuing a degree in the sciences. This \$1,500 scholarship is sponsored by the Solomon family through the Rotary Club. Applicants should check with their guidance offices for the additional application.

Applications can also be obtained through the Rotary Club website at www.easthampton-rotary.org and can be returned electronically to scholarshipapp@yahoo.com.

All applications must be submitted no later than April 5.

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.

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.

Resident Receives Grant

Ryan Mayhan of Middle Haddam was recently awarded a grant from The Steven Daniel Smallen Memorial Fund at Hamilton College in Clinton, N.Y.

The fund is designed to encourage creativity among Hamilton students by providing funds for projects displaying originality, expressiveness, and imagination.

Mayhan is using the award to make a *Black Mirror*-inspired short-film with the themes of data collection, surveillance, and the overuse of artificial intelligence to tell a story set in the near future.

Mayhan, a senior majoring in interdisciplinary studies, is a graduate of Hillsdale High School.

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.

East Hampton Library News & Notes

East Hampton Public Library, 105 Main St., has announced the following. Registration required unless noted; to register, or for full program descriptions, call 860-267-6621 or visit easthamptonpubliclibrary.org.

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

Also, Kindness EHxtravaganza kit registration is now open. Each kit will contain a Kindness Bingo challenge card for families to complete and return to the library for the chance to win a Self-Care gift basket. The kit will also contain some fun surprise items that will assist them in finishing the tasks on their card. Use this form to register. One kit per family. Pick up will begin April 1.

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

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

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

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.

STEM Project Bags – Fun and Games: Monday, April 4, 10 a.m. Use various everyday

items to tinker and build to make your own toys (and learn a little science along the way!). Recommended for ages 6 and up. STEM Project Bags are available in the Children's Department while supplies last. No registration required.

Bedtime Storytime!: For ages 2-6. Monday, April 4, 6:30 p.m. Register online or call. Siblings welcome. Held indoors in the library community room. Masks are optional.

Switch Game Tournament: Grades 1-5: Saturday, April 9, 2-3:30 p.m. All skill levels are welcome. Masks optional.

DIY Days: Play-Dough! Saturday, April 23, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., for children and families in grades K-8. No registration required; just drop in. This month, make some fruity-scented play-dough.

Teen Programs: Pre-Teen Advisory Board: Tuesdays, March 29 and April 26, 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: Wednesdays, March 30, April 13 and April 27, 5:30 p.m., at the library, for grades 8-12. No previous playing experience required, and all supplies will be provided.

Switch Game Tournament: Grades 6-12: Saturday, April 30, 2 p.m. All skill levels are welcome. A trophy will go to the winner.

Adult Programs: No-Till Gardening: Saturday, April 2, 1 p.m. Mark Gostkiewicz from Tri Gable Lea Farm will discuss no-till gardening techniques, tips, and tricks for growing veggies, flowers, herbs, fruit and mushrooms.

Bass Fishing in Connecticut: Tuesday, April 5, 6:30 p.m. Dylan Napoleone's seminar is designed to help fishermen of all ages and experience levels effectively fish local waters. Some topics covered include: equipment, technique, baits/lures, and more.

Focus on Fitness: Tuesday, April 12, 6:30 p.m. in the library community room. Celebrate successes, sympathize with struggles, and maintain motivation in your physical fitness. Certified personal trainer and nutrition coach Amie Meacham will facilitate. Space is limited, and masks must be worn.

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, Melissa Pionzio at 860-993-5311 or mapionzio@comcast.net, or Elizabeth Malloy at elizabethhartmalloy@gmail.com.

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 860-301-4994 or Melissa Pionzio at 860-993-5311 to make arrangements.

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 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 recommended. 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.

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 ehsboosters.com.

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 or ask your school's guidance counselor.

Colchester • Colchester

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.

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.

Colchester Federated Church News

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

Worship services are Sundays at 9 a.m.; masks 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.colchesterfederatedchurch.org under the Worship & Sermons tab. Updated information is also on the church's Facebook page.

Sunday School: Sunday School is held during worship from September through June. Children in grades pre-K through 8 are wel-

come. The nursery is located just off the sanctuary. Visit the church website to register youth for Sunday School.

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

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

Ahavath Achim News

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

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

There are daily Facebook Live classes on Ken Alter Facebook on the meaning of mitzvot (commandments) and daily Conversational Hebrew classes.

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

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.

Cragin Paint Night

Cragin Memorial Library, 8 Linwood Ave., will host a Paint Night for teens and adults via Zoom Tuesday, April 12, at 6:30 pm. Participants will receive an email when supplies are ready to be picked up. Register at tinyurl.com/r8xvtd8.

For more information about current library services, visit www.craginlibrary.org or call 860-537-5752.

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.

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.

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.

Call 860-537-2593 to order or for more information.

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.



Welcome Aboard!... In March, the Colchester Hayward Fire Department (CHFD) had a new probationary member join the ranks: Jack Didato. He comes over from CHFD's Cadet Program. Didato is a senior at Norwich Technical High School enrolled in the heating and plumbing program, with specific interest in sprinkler systems. He is currently enrolled in the state Firefighter 1 course at the Middlesex County Regional Fire School. Didato is also third generation in the emergency services with his grandfather volunteering in the Suffield Volunteer Ambulance Association and his family all members of the CHFD.



Lucky Leprechaun... TVCCA's Senior Nutrition Site Server Nancy Paradis put a smile on everyone's face when she dressed up as a Kitchen Leprechaun at Colchester Senior Center's annual corned beef and cabbage luncheon in celebration of St. Patrick's Day.

'Spring in Bloom' Vendor Fair

Colchester Federated Church, located at 60 Main St., will host its Spring in Bloom Vendor Fair Saturday, April 30, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. There will be crafts, vendors, food trucks and more.

If you would like to be a vendor at the fair, there are a few more tables available. Contact Renee Misbach at rouillette01@snet.net for more information.

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RES-25-22

RES-25-21

Colchester • Colchester



Happy St. Paddy's Day... On Sunday, March 13, the New London St. Patrick's Day parade had two of Colchester's own. Finn Maloney, 10, and brother Cole Pennella, 7, escorted their grandmother, the grand marshal for the 2022 parade, Irish immigrant Eileen Maloney, who immigrated over 65 years ago.

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. More information, including weather-related cancellations, is also at 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.

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 Colchester 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.

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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.

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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 check-out at the Adult Circulation Desk. For updates, visit tinyurl.com/cmlbookclub.
 All are invited. For more information, call the library at 860-537-5752.

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'Stars, Socks & Stripes'
 Sam Blumberger will collect socks for his organization, 'Stars, Socks & Stripes.' The socks collected are donated to veterans in need through the American Legion.
 Look for his donation boxes at Bacon Academy High School, Cragin Memorial Library and the Colchester Town Hall. The boxes will be available March 28-April 18.

Police News
 3/9: Johana Verhenis, 20, of Clinton, was charged with driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs in an incident that took place on Route 2 in Colchester, police said.
 3/11: Jahmarley Shackiel, 24, of 4 Cobble Way, Apt. 4, was charged with driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, police said.
 3/18: Jocelyn M. Pappas, 56, of East Hadam, was charged with driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, police said.

Correction
 In last week's "From the Superintendent's Desk" column, an incorrect email address was provided. The public may submit budget-related questions to budget@colchesterct.org.

Colchester • Colchester

Superintendent Requests \$42.19M to Run Schools Next Year

by Michael Sinkewicz

Colchester Superintendent of Schools, Jeff Burt, is requesting a \$42.19 million spending plan – a 0.87% increase – for the next school year.

Burt proposed his new budget for the 2022-23 year to the Board of Education on March 8.

Burt stated the goals of the budget are to sustain, maintain, strengthen, and balance. He acknowledged that while the district continues to move past the pandemic, it's been a difficult time.

"We want to ensure that we're maintaining our levels of support for students to recover lost learning," Burt said.

Burt stated that the effects of the pandemic would continue to be felt for many years, but that the core mission of educating students will continue on.

"We know that because of the pandemic and because school closures and hybrid learning that we do have some students that are not up to speed where we need them to be and we want to continue that support," Burt said.

The proposal includes the continuation of federal pandemic grants but transfers multiple positions to the operational budget.

Grants being used to provide more after school and summer programming and for additional support staff will continue for their two-year duration.

Due to expected increases in enrollment, Burt is proposing adding a new classroom teacher and promoting a part-time teacher to full-time at Colchester Elementary School. In addition, a new business manager and accountant would be added to the books. Due to two positions in the town's finance department being dissolved, these new positions would add a net increase of \$62,880 to the budget.

In order to offset these additions, there would be a 5.0 fulltime equivalent reduction at Bacon Academy.

The budget proposal keeps funding for numerous programs that have been in the district for years including pre-K programming, ongoing professional development, and the Collaborative for Colchester's Children. It also sustains newer initiatives such as information technology personnel to maintain the district's technology.

"This is crucial to the success of the district," Burt said.

Burt is committed to bringing the 10-year technology plan into the operating budget, as well.

Due to "careful management," Burt proposed decreasing the Employee Related Insurance line by \$1.4 million.

Another reduction in the proposed budget is in the magnet school line at the elementary

level. Burt said in his proposal that recent trends made this cut appropriate, stating that the district's public schools are "proving to be an outstanding choice for new and current students."

Budget Breakdown

Salaries represent \$27,279,694 million of the proposed budget and represent a \$604,967 or 2.27% increase from the current budget.

Employee benefits are listed at \$5,411,216 million of the proposed budget and represent a \$1,344,606 or 19.90% decrease from the current budget.

Supplies are at \$872,296 in the proposed budget and represent a \$225,323 or 34.79% increase from the current budget.

For travel, training and dues, Burt budgeted \$3,071,185, an increase of \$258,079 or 9.17%

from the current budget.

Contractual and other services represent \$2,994,774 of the proposed budget, a \$169,176 or 5.99% increase.

Burt budgeted \$1,453,755 for utilities and taxes, up \$66,012 or 4.76% from the current budget.

Repairs and maintenance represent \$437,395 of the proposed budget, an increase of \$38,754 or 9.72% from the current budget.

Capital outlay accounts for \$168,000 in the proposed budget, an increase of \$91,500 or 119.61% from the current budget.

Transfers represent \$502,336 in the proposed budget, an increase of \$255,000 or 103.10% from the current budget.

Senior Center News & Notes

Colchester Senior Center, 95 Norwich Ave., has announced the following. For full descriptions, call 860-537-3911, email csc@colchesterct.gov, or visit www.colchesterct.gov.senior-center.

Monday, March 28: 9 a.m., Making Memories Program, Exercise with Anne; 10 a.m., Sittercize; 10 a.m., Stitch & Fix – by appointment only; 11 a.m., Learn to Sign; 12:30 p.m., Mahjongg; 1 p.m., Bridge, Painting Workshop.

Tuesday, March 29: 9 a.m., Making Memories; 9:45 a.m., Tai Chi; 12:30 p.m., Pinochle, In the Know; 1:30 p.m., Bingo.

Wednesday, March 30: 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 Life Lunch & Learn; 1:30 p.m., Line Dancing.

Thursday, March 31: 9 a.m., Exercise w/ Anne; 10 a.m., Sittercize, Wii Bowling; 10:30 a.m., Crafting with the Court; 11 a.m., Yoga; noon, Chair Massage; 12:30 p.m., Dominoes.

Friday, April 1: 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m., AARP Tax Aide by appointment only; 10 a.m., Sit & Be Fit, Hearing Screening; 10:30 a.m., Choral Group; 11 a.m., Yoga; 1:30 p.m., Bingo.

Upcoming Programs: Angelo's Stuffed Bread Lunch: Wednesday, April 13, noon. Select two different flavors of Angelo's Bakery's stuffed breads served alongside a tossed salad with your choice of dressing, a bottle of water and a cookie for dessert. Stuffed bread flavors include eggplant parmigiana, chicken parmigiana, broccoli with cheese, and spinach with cheese. Cost is \$6; register by April 8.

April Fools' Luncheon: Wednesday, April 20, 11:15 a.m. Comedian and magician Tom O'Brien will perform. The show will be followed by a lunch of baked ham, mashed potatoes, green beans, dinner roll and butter, carrot cake and grape juice courtesy of TVCCA. Tickets are \$9

each and will be on sale until April 13 or until sold out.

Learn About the Passover Seder: Thursday, April 21, 10:30 a.m. Rabbi Ken Alter will offer an informative celebration of the Jewish holiday of Passover. Partake in the symbolic Seder foods, learning about the history, and singing some songs together. This is a free program, but registration is required. Register by April 14.

Make Your Own Seasonings: Wednesday, April 27, 10 a.m. Participants will sample and create their own custom seasoning mixes to take home. Everyone gets one bottle of spices and several packets. Cost is \$8. Register by April 20.

Norton Park Painting Fundraiser: Thursday, April 28, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Design and paint a fish on an authentic C.H. Norton paper mill board as a fundraiser for Colchester's Norton Park on Route 149. Paint a salmon for \$30, a trout for \$20, or an alewife for \$10. This session will be led by Julianna Cameron, local professional artist. All funds collected will support Norton Park. Two hour-long sessions will be offered at 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. Space is limited; pre-register by April 22.

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 or call 860-537-5752.

New Story at Colchester StoryWalk

Families can enjoy a new picture book, *Carl and the Meaning of Life* by Deborah Freedman, at the Colchester StoryWalk.

Featuring watercolor artwork, the book tells the story of Carl, a simple earthworm who spends his days happily digging, tunneling, and turning dirt into soil, until one day when a field mouse asks him why. Carol does not know why he does what he does, but he wants to find out. So he stops his tunneling and goes to search for an answer. On his journey, Carl discovers that even the smallest creatures can answer life's biggest questions and that their actions can touch us all.

Follow the trail of weatherproof stations along a short hiking trail for children and their families to enjoy together. Each station features suggested questions or simple activities to enrich the story and hike.

Honor Roll

Sarah Gionfriddo of Colchester made the honor roll at Worcester Academy in Worcester, Mass., for the first semester of the 2021-22 school year.

A member of the Class of 2025, Gionfriddo earned First Honors.

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

Colchester's StoryWalk is located at 96 McDonald Rd. and is a partnership project of the Cragin Memorial Library, C3—the Collaborative for Colchester's Children, the Colchester Garden Club, the Colchester Land Trust, and the Community Wildlife Habitat of Colchester.

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.

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Bobcats Scorched by Holy Cross at The Sun

by Josh Howard

The second time at Mohegan Sun Arena was not a charm for the Bacon Academy girls' basketball team, who lost to Holy Cross 61-38 in the Class M championship game on March 20.

It was the Bobcats second trip to Mohegan, also falling to New London in the Eastern Connecticut Conference (ECC) title game on Feb 22.

Holy Cross, a private Catholic school from Waterbury, entered the championship game riding a 33-game winning streak and hadn't lost a game in over two years. They earned the top seed in the state tournament after finishing the regular season 20-0.

Early on the Bobcats struggled with the Crusaders aggressive approach, falling behind 8-0 within the first few minutes.

Cara Shea scored on an assist from Emma Mancuso, temporarily halting the Crusaders' scoring surge, before Holy Cross scored eight of the next nine and took a 19-8 lead into the second quarter.

Holy Cross deployed a defensive strategy that pressured and often doubled point guard Valerie Luizzi, forcing the ball out of the senior captain's hands.

Luizzi was Bacon's primary ball handler, especially after shooting guard Ashley Lizotte suffered an injury midway through the year and was forced to miss the second half of the season.

"We have one point guard and they knew that and they went after that and really made her work. That was a good strategy," said Bacon Academy head coach John Shea. "Our secondary ball handlers are not ready for this. Hopefully they will be next year."

Depth also played a role as the Crusaders had the luxury of rotating in ten players in the first quarter.

To start the second quarter, Marissa Nudd made a pair of free throws and then Emily Ferrigno made a layup with an assist from Luizzi to reduce the deficit to nine. It was the closest the

Bobcats would get the rest of the game.

Holy Cross junior Mya Zaccagnini scored a game-high 20 points, including her 1,000th career point on a baseline jumper in the fourth quarter.

Bacon was hurt mostly by 26 turnovers, which was a result of the relentless pressure by the Crusaders placed on the ball.

"You could tell they scouted us," Luizzi said following the game. "They have a bigger rotation and that helped them."

Coach Shea added that the Crusaders deep lineup was hard to compete with, saying, "They are fresh and they are talented. That's why they've had success; they are just really good players. Even off the bench they hurt you with rebounding and defensive intensity."

Nudd finished with a team-high 15 points and Cara Shea had 11. Nudd and Shea each added eight rebounds and Luizzi dished out a handful of assists.

Luizzi, Mancuso, and Lizotte will be graduating, leaving a sizable production void. Luizzi averaged 15 points per game this season, while Mancuso and Lizotte each averaged over six points per game.

"It was a joy coming to practice every day because of their work ethic and the way they acted on the court and the type of people they are," coach Shea said of his seniors. "We are really going to miss them. I'm just fortunate to coach them."

Luizzi, who will continue her basketball career at Keene State College in New Hampshire, said she really enjoyed mentoring the younger girls this season, adding, "I think everyone from the freshmen through the juniors came in knowing their position and they were already confident coming in."

"I love this team. It is definitely the closest team that I've played with in the last four years. We just have each other's back," added Luizzi. "Leaving the program how we left it is amazing. I really think they can definitely get back [to Mohegan] next year."



Bacon Academy senior captain Valerie Luizzi drives on Holy Cross senior Ella Atkins at the Class M championship game at Mohegan Sun Arena on March 20. The Bobcats lost 61-38.

Nudd, who led the team with 18 points per game, and returning starters Shea and Ferrigno will head the team next year. Top reserves Eliz-

abeth Glover and Katelyn Novak will also play major roles, as will Grace Saldana, Veronica Smith, Ariel Nair and Olivia Tellar.

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. 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 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 to join or donate.



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Solidarity Survey Yields 200+ Responses

by Jack Lakowsky

More teen activities, a community center and more interactions between local youth and police were among wants locals named in their responses to the Portland Committee on Solidarity's community wide survey.

"Last time we had a about 170 responses," said April Graves, committee chair, about the group's last survey. "This time, we had 209. We had lots of good feedback."

Graves said many respondents said they want more community activities, especially for teens.

The survey will inform the committee's work for a while, Graves said. She said it will be the last survey for how, at least until the committee feels it addressed needs expressed in this latest one.

Graves shared the survey's results with the Board of Selectmen, youth services, senior services, parks and recreation and the school board.

Working with youth and police, Graves said, will be a focus of the committee going forward.

Along with many events, including another Juneteenth celebration and a Pride event (part of the group's planned Solidarity Month in June), the committee is planning a "First Responders Month" for October.

Graves said the group's working with design students from Connecticut College in New London to design banners for solidarity, to be raised along Main Street. They'll be designing the banners for first responders, Graves said.

The survey asked about the committee's work, including Juneteenth, Pride and the resource pamphlet it sent out last year. Community feedback was quite positive, said Graves.

The committee regularly communicates with the Board of Selectmen in its meetings. Re-

cently First Selectman Ryan Curley expressed enthusiasm for the group's work, saying he's looking forward to Juneteenth in particular.

Graves, previously said last year, she and the group "learned there are a lot of people in town that really want this type of work."

"More and more people are coming out to take part in activities," Graves told the *Rivereast* in January. "A lot of people reach out about how they can help and get involved."

Graves said there's a robust equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) network in Portland, with groups like the Portland Social Justice Coalition and Graves' own Chatham Children's Connection, and town entities like the library and youth services.

"The goal this year is just to really have the town know what our [the committee's] role is," said Graves, "to understand that it's not just about race. It encompasses everyone."

Graves said it's a misconception that solidarity work focuses on, and benefits exclusively, people of color. Hearing and working to better the experiences of all marginalized groups—whether people of color, the LGBT+ community, women or the physically disabled—is the aim of equity work.

Graves said Solidarity Month will run June 15 to July 15, incorporating Juneteenth, Pride, Black history, Hispanic heritage, first responders, veterans and women.

"We won't limit who we include," said Graves. "We're trying to get out there and embrace everyone."

The committee has started groundwork for this year's Juneteenth.

Juneteenth gave a platform to local marginalized groups and people of color.

The committee and the library also work together. Graves said they're working on an educational forum to talk topics like implicit bias and using a person's correct pronouns and correctly referring to their gender identity.

"People should know and understand how proper pronoun usage leads to solidarity," said Graves.

Graves said the group's most tangible successes were the high turnouts for its 2021 Juneteenth and Pride events.

The solidarity group's work also helped propel Portland in the rankings of Sustainable CT, going from bronze to silver status. Silver is the highest rank a town can achieve, Graves said. The statewide sustainability and equity nonprofit hasn't yet devised the criteria of gold status.

A high ranking with Sustainable CT opens the town up for grants and other outside funding opportunities.

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 27 is the Fourth Sunday in Lent. The 2022 Confirmation Class will lead the 10 a.m. worship service. The Handbell Choir will play during the prelude, and the choir will sing the anthem "Bless Us Now This Day" by Douglas Wagner. A time of fellowship 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.

Portland Library News & Notes

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

Hours: Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. (through March 31; starting April 4, hours are 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Thursday); Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Curbside delivery of requested items continues; call the library or reserve items online and you will receive a notice or call when your materials are available. The meeting room is limited through March.

Youth Programs: Tiny Art Show: Stop by the library and pick up a kit that includes a 3x3 canvas, 6 colors of acrylic paint, a color mixing guide, and a small paintbrush. Return the artwork to the library and we will display it as part of our art show. March is Youth Art Month.

Spring Storytimes: The March and April storytime sessions will be held in person at the library. There will be songs, stories and more each week. A craft will be offered for those in the preschool program. Masks are recommended but not required. Registration is required, though, as space is limited; register through the website calendar or call the library. The schedule is: **Preschool Storytime:** Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m., through April 26. **Storytime for Toddlers and Tots: Mother Goose on the Loose:** Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m., through April 27.

Arctic Animal Art: Thursdays, 3:30 p.m., through March 31, for grades K-5. Activities center around a different arctic animal each

week. Masks are required at this event until further notice. Space is limited and social distancing will be enforced.

Adult Programs: The Buzzzz on Native Bees & their Habitat: Wednesday, April 20, at 7 p.m., in the Mary Flood Room. Lynn Keller, Master Gardener, will talk about the over 300 different species of bees in Connecticut.

Passport to Connecticut Libraries Contest: Spring April 1-30. Portland Library and libraries all over Connecticut are participating in this exciting program to make people of all ages aware of the power of their library card. Take your library card and passport to at least five libraries on the list to be eligible to win a \$150 gift card for adults or a \$100 gift card for children. Pick up a passport at the library.

Book Clubs: First Thursday Night Book Club: Thursday, April 7, 6:30 p.m. *Such a Fun Age* by Kiley Reid will be discussed. **T.A.B. – Talk About Books:** Tuesday, April 5, 1 p.m. *Behold the Dreamers* by Imbolo Mbue will be discussed. **Mystery Book Lovers' Club:** Tuesday, April 19, 1 p.m. *The Postscript Murders* by Elly Griffiths.

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

Grace and Mercy Church News

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

YFS News & Notes

Portland Youth & Family Services has announced the following. For more information, visit www.portlandct.org/youth-services or contact Jesse at Jrevicki@portlandct.org or 860-342-6758.

Egg Hunts: Youth & Family Services will join Parks & Recreation for the annual Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 9, at 10 a.m. (rain date is April 10 at 1 p.m.), at the Portland Recreational Complex on Gospel Lane.

Also, Portland Care & Rehabilitation Centre has invited Youth & Family Services and Chatham Children's Connection to host an Easter Egg Hunt on Wednesday, April 13, at 10:30 a.m.; rain date is April 14, also at 10:30 a.m. This event is for kids in grades five and younger. More information and pre-registration can

be found at tinyurl.com/EggHuntPCRC and on the YFS website.

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; 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.

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 later. 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.



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 or Michelle Wright at wright5596@sbcglobal.net.

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

Crafters, Vendors Sought

Portland United Methodist Church, located at 381 Main St., will hold a Spring Craft/Vendor Fair Saturday, April 9, 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 pammgalvin69@yahoo.com or 860-301-7393 to reserve a spot.

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Portland Woman Reported Missing

by Jack Lakowsky

Portland police – along with vigilant residents – are searching for Rosemarie Dean, an elderly woman who went missing last Thursday, March 17.

On Monday she was still missing, according to Portland First Selectman Ryan Curley, also the town's Chief of Police.

Curley said several people have reported sightings of Dean within town. According to the family, she is seeking places she associates with her childhood.

Dean has dementia, Curley said. Police said Dean is 5'2, 140 pounds, last seen wearing a gray hooded sweatshirt, a green button-up shirt, and camo pajama pants. Her eyes and hair are brown.

Anyone with information is asked to call Portland police at 860-347-2541 or 860-342-6780.

Ryan said a police K-9 team is deployed. He said the town is also using a drone from Middletown. The fire department is also assisting.

"The search is progressing," said Curley. "The police are working very hard on this, using every resource. Unfortunately, right now, we still can't locate her."

Curley said anyone exposed to the elements for this long is "not a good thing."

In a Facebook update Sunday, Curley said search teams may enter private property, and asked owners to not be alarmed.

Curley originally thought Dean had no family locally, but her nephew came forward and has also been updating the community on social media.

A week ago, Dean was sighted by Sage Hol-



A Silver Alert has been issued to help find Portland's Rosemarie Dean, a 75-year-old with dementia missing since last Thursday. First Selectman Ryan Curley said the town's deploying all resources possible to find her.

low Road, near the sand pit.

Police told NBC Connecticut Dean was a new resident at Greystone Retirement Home and had only been there about four hours before she went missing.

Portland Police Captain Ron Milardo told NBC there's no exact area to search. Sightings have been reported, but none so far have led to finding Dean.

Register Now for Town-Wide Tag Sale

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) and click on the link to register. Registration sheets were 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, 492 Main St., starting today, March 25. Completed paper registrations along with payment should be mailed to the society at P.O. Box 98, Portland, CT 06480. Through March 31, fee to register is \$20; after that date, fee is \$25. All registrations must be received by Sunday, April 24.

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 soon receive an email with information about this year's map. New businesses can email the society for information at 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, 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 for more information or email questions to friendsoftheportlandlibrary@gmail.com.

Parks and Rec. News & Notes

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

Financial Assistance: Parks and Recreation accepts financial assistance request forms for its Summer Quest and Kids' Blast programs. Forms are available on the Parks and Rec. website and at the Parks and Rec. office. Deadline to submit a form for Summer Quest is June 1.

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.

Riverfront Park Pavilion and Stage Rentals: Parks and Rec. is currently accepting rental requests for the pavilion and stage at Riverfront Park. The rental season is from April through Oc-

tober.

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: Parks and Rec. is accepting registrations for multiple programs, including 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.

Registration Open for Spring Soccer

Registration is open for Portland Soccer Club's spring Recreational season. Visit clubs.bluesombrero.com/portlandsoccerclub to register, or contact PSC President Chad Wilson at nosliw.dahc@gmail.com.

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.

The deadline for the Travel season has passed.

MJM7 Concert

St. Mary Youth Group will offer a concert featuring the Catholic family band MJM7 Tuesday, April 5, at 7 p.m., at the church, 45 Freestone Ave.

The Illinois-based band is comprised of Michael James Mette and his children Charity (14), and Cecilia (13) and MJ (11).

The concert is free, but donations are accepted.

Easter Bake Sale

The First Congregational Church of Portland, U.C.C., is holding an Easter Bake Sale on Saturday, April 16, from 9 a.m.-noon, in the fellowship hall of the church located at 554 Main St.

Baked goods will include cookies, pies, cupcakes, breads, and pastries. Easter bunny and lamb lollipops will also be available. New this year will be a table filled with new and gently used Easter items.

For more information, call the church at 860-342-3244.

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.

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 or 860-301-7393 to reserve a spot.

Historical Society Seeks Tag Sale Donations

The Portland Historical Society is seeking donations for its tag sale, taking place Saturday, May 7, from 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., during the Town-Wide Tag Sale. The society's tag sale, which directly benefits the society, will occur on the grounds of the Ruth Callander House Museum of Portland History.

Volunteers from the society will receive items in good condition at the Ruth Callander House garage, 492 Main St., from 9-11 a.m. Saturdays, April 23 and 30. No textbooks, computers or printers, clothing or unwieldy items are accepted. Vintage and antique items are always welcome.

Also on Saturday, May 7, the society will have a Bake Sale of homemade goodies at the Callander House. Members and friends of the society will be baking and packaging their specialties for this sale.

For more information about donating items for the tag sale, call 860-982-1486 or email PortlandCTHistory@gmail.com.

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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.

Foodshare: Foodshare will be offered Monday, March 28, at 1 p.m., at the senior center.

Dulcimer Class: Tuesday, March 29, 6 p.m., at the senior center. Cost is \$10. Pre-registration required.

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.

AARP Tax Service: AARP is still doing taxes Wednesdays through April 13, between 9 a.m. and noon at the senior center. Call ahead to register. Masks are required.

Massage with Joanie: Will return this spring; watch for more information.

Weekly Schedule: Mondays: Light Aerobics, 9:30-10:30 a.m.; Corn Hole (seated or standing), 2:15 p.m., dates vary. **Tuesdays:** Bears on a Journey, 9:30-11 a.m. – making fleece teddy bears for cancer patients; Watercolor Lessons: 9:30 a.m.-noon – email bivenne@yahoo.com to register; Tai Chi with Tom, 10:30 a.m. via Zoom; Coupons for Troops, 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m.; Stretch & Flex: 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; Tap Exercise, 1:30 p.m. – fee is \$5; Senior Evening Jam Sessions, 7 p.m. (check the senior center calendar for exact dates). **Wednesdays:** Light Aerobics, 9:30-10:30 a.m.; SyncoCize Exercise, 10:15-11 a.m.; chair yoga, 11:30 a.m.

March 30 and every week in April; Social Duplicate Bridge, 12:30-4 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month; Qi Gong with Lisa, 1 p.m. (by session/month only); setback, 1-3 p.m. **Thursdays:** Knit & Stitch, 10 a.m.; Dancercise, 10 a.m. every other week starting in April; Stretch & Flex, 11:30 a.m.; Mahjongg, 12:30-4 p.m.; Scrabble, 1-4 p.m.; **Fridays:** Light Aerobics, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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.

Fire Chief: Mtn. Laurel Way Home a ‘Total Loss’

by Jack Lakowsky

Bob Shea, Portland fire chief, said a large fire destroyed a two-floor home over the weekend at 63 Mountain Laurel Way.

“The first officer on-scene reported a fully involved two-story home,” Shea told the *Rivereast* on Monday.

No one was injured, Shea said. The family’s two cats haven’t been found.

A family of three was in the home, two adult women and a young teenaged male.

Shea said the family survived thanks to working smoke detectors and, most importantly, a long-standing, well-practiced fire plan.

“They had their plan practiced and remembered,” said Shea.

Shea said the three occupants found their main exit blocked by fire. They then escaped through a second-story window, onto their garage roof, down to the yard and over to a

neighbor’s house.

Shea said the teenager helped the women, calling him a “frickin’ hero.”

Shea said crews brought the fire under control by about 3 a.m. He said windy conditions worsened the blaze, and even spread it to nearby woods.

Mutual aid, which Shea called key to battling any major fire, came from Middletown, Westfield, Glastonbury and East Hampton.

Shea said the Portland fire marshal is investigating. No cause was determined as of Monday.

The family is in touch with the Red Cross.

Shea said “the key to this story for everyone to learn” is: check your smoke detectors regularly, changing their batteries, replacing them at least every 10 years. Develop – and practice – a fire escape plan, the chief said.



Garden Clubs Scholarship Available

The Garden Clubs of Portland are offering a one-time \$500 award to a graduating Portland High School senior who has been accepted at an accredited college or post-secondary school who intends to major in one of the following:

Agronomy, botany, city planning, conservation, environmental studies, floriculture, forestry, horticulture, land management, landscape design, plant pathology, or allied subject. Applicants must have a grade point average of at least 3.0. Financial need could be part of the decision.

Applications which are available in the Portland High School guidance department are due before April 19.

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Who's Walking in Portland?

by John Hall

"Every day, weather permitting, I walk up and down High Street on the sidewalk across from my house," says Ben Foley. "When the weather is nice, I like to go to the Portland Reservoir or the Air Line Trail."

As many Portland residents know, when Ben was 14 years old, he survived a stroke caused by a rare arterio-venous malformation (a type of aneurism) that resulted in partial paralysis and weakness on his left side. Recovery from that was slow and difficult, but with hard work in physical therapy, he regained the ability to walk a significant distance with a cane by the time he finished high school. By the time he finished college, he walked everywhere on campus.

But there's more to Ben's medical story and why he walks. In 2010, he was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes, which requires balancing diet, insulin, and blood sugar. During walks up and down the hill by his home, his Dexcom monitor reports his blood glucose level every five minutes, so he can see on the screen how walking brings that level down. These walks last for about one hour, or even two hours. Ben is proud that walking is healthy.

Asked what is most pleasurable about walking, Ben said, "I enjoy seeing people I know. I also have a walking meditation with specific mantras." As for any unpleasantness along the way, he said, "Loud cars or trucks can startle me; I am blind to my left side."

Ben's advice for new walkers: "Start slow, get your foot in the door, or rather outside the door, and progressively expand your habit. There's a reason it's called the great outdoors."

Note: Hall is executive director of the Jonah Center for Earth and Art and a member of Portland's Complete Streets Group.



Ben Foley walks in town every day, weather permitting.

Car Show to Return

The Kenny Fletcher Car Show at Valli will return after having to cancel the last two years due to the pandemic. It will take place Saturday, April 30, at Valli Construction in Portland. The show will finally be celebrating its 10th anniversary. More info to come.

Stay Warm with CT Energy Assistance Programs

Don't let high energy costs stand in the way of heating your home.

There is financial help for your winter heating bills, whether you own or rent your home.

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 - Visit ct.gov/heatinghelp to find the CAA serving your town.
- Or text **CTWARM** to 898211.
- Or call 2-1-1.



Please don't wait. Apply today!
ct.gov/heatinghelp

RE1-2122

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.

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.

Also during Lent, Zion is practicing "Alms Giving" by collecting various non-perishable goods for the Portland Food Bank. Call the office or check Zion's webpage for specific needs.

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

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

portlandct.org.

Masks are required for all, vaccinated and unvaccinated, while inside the church. More information is at 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 trinitychurchportlandct@gmail.com or call 860-342-0458.

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. Deadline for applications is April 16.

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.

Dean's List

Cailen Fienemann of Portland made the fall 2021 Dean's List at Le Moyne College in Syracuse, N.Y.

Fienemann is a freshman English major.

Resident Heads to Fashion Show

Alexandra Stevas of Portland, a student at Lasell University in Newton, Mass., recently traveled with the university's School of Fashion to Coterie NYC, a premier trade show hosting more than 500 brands at the Jacob Javits Center.

Stevas was one of 50 Lasell School of Fashion students who attended the show to view apparel lines from vendors around the United States, and witnessed firsthand how buyers select products for their stores and e-commerce sites.

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 or ask your school's guidance counselor.

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Gilead Congregational Church News

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

Sunday Worship: Sundays in-person at 10 a.m., followed by Coffee Hour at 11 a.m. Services are still livestreamed, on YouTube at www.bit.ly/GileadChurchUCC and on Facebook at tinyurl.com/GileadChurchUCC.

Scheduled Events/Meetings: Tuesday, March 29: 7 p.m., AA Meeting; Wednesday, March 30: 10:30 a.m., Book Group, 7 p.m., Choir Practice.

Give Up and Give Back – Easter Collection for HIHS: During this season of Lent, the church Board of Missions invites everyone to collect needed items for Hebron Interfaith Hu-

man Services. The church invites people to consider putting together an entire bag containing all of the items in a category, or donate the items you can. Items can be brought to the church on Saturday, April 9, between 9 a.m. and noon or Sunday, April 10, between 11:30 a.m. and noon, when the church Board of Missions will assemble bags to deliver to HIHS to distribute to families they serve before Easter. Donations can also be picked up; call the church office to schedule a pick-up. For more information, contact Dale Bland, Alice Marien or Bob Owens.

Easter Flowers: Those in the church community interested in purchasing Easter flowers should see the order forms in the worship bulletin or call the church office. All orders needed by March 27.



Ecumenical Easter Sunrise Service... All are invited to an Ecumenical Easter Sunrise Service at 6:30 a.m. Sunday, April 17, in the field behind the Gilead Congregational Church (672 Gilead St., Hebron). Hebron clergy will participate in leading this service.

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Public Meeting

2022-27 PLAN FOR HOUSING CHOICES

The Town of Hebron is preparing an affordable housing plan as required by State law and is seeking community input on the Draft Plan.
The Draft Plan is available on the Town website at:

www.hebronct.com

Monday April 4, 2022
6:00 to 8:00 PM

Hebron Library – Community Room
22 Main Street

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SEIZE THE AWKWARD



American Foundation for Suicide Prevention



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Cassano to Run Despite Intraparty Opposition

by Shawn R. Dagle

State Sen. Steve Cassano (D-4) will run for a seventh term this November – despite opposition from leaders within his own party.

Late last week, Manchester Democratic Town Committee Chairman Mike Pohl called on Cassano, a Manchester resident, to step aside and live up to a promise Pohl said the incumbent state senator made in 2020 not to seek reelection this fall.

The 4th Senatorial District covers Andover, Bolton, Glastonbury and Manchester.

While Cassano, 80, admits he indicated at the time that he might not seek another term in office if he won in 2020, he said he never definitively ruled out running for reelection.

The senator accused Pohl of being on a “power trip” and said the committee chairman is “close” with MD Masadur Rahman – a Manchester businessman Cassano believes has support within the committee to run for his seat.

In 2020, when it was still unclear whether Cassano would seek reelection, Rahman had plans to run, but stepped aside when Cassano indicated he would indeed seek another term.

In a statement provided to the *Citizen* Sunday, Pohl thanked Cassano for his many decades of service and called on him to keep his word and not seek another term in the Senate.

“In 2016, 2018 and 2020, Cassano publicly announced that he would not seek reelection,” Pohl explained. “During the last two elections, highly qualified candidates came forward, sought support from party members, raised funds, and then graciously stepped aside when Cassano changed his mind. They didn’t have to do that but they did.”

In 2018, according to published reports, Cas-



Steve Cassano

sano said publicly that he would likely not run again for the state Senate in 2020 because of issues with his knee that required multiple surgeries.

As a result, in 2020, at least two candidates, including Rahman, indicated they were ready to run for the state Senate. But when Cassano announced he would seek reelection after all, both bowed out of the race. Once again, in 2020, Pohl claims Cassano indicated he would not seek reelection.

“Steve Cassano promised us that he would not run again, and that promise should mean something. Doing what is right has to come before friendship,” Pohl explained in his statement. “Steve has been a longtime friend, but it is time for him to do the right thing. It is time for him to live up to his word and retire at the end of this term.”

Pohl said he cannot speak on behalf of Manchester’s Democratic Town Committee in terms of who its members will endorse in June. But, he added, “I do know that the vast majority of members believe that Senator Cassano should keep his word and not run again.”

According to Pohl, Cassano has said publicly three times over the last three terms that he would not seek reelection.

“We have never had someone announce that they would not run again and then change their mind, and expect that people would step aside. In politics, you just don’t do that, especially when people have taken you for your word,” Pohl wrote.

Cassano, the former mayor of Manchester, was initially elected to represent the 4th District in 2010.

Cassano said that during his six terms in office, he has been able to forge relationships in the state capitol and locally that have helped him deliver for the voters of his district.

With the spread of COVID-19, two years of remote meetings and an inability to speak, talk and exchange ideas with his colleagues in

person on the floor of the Senate, Cassano said he feels like he still has unfinished business to complete.

“I still serve the district well, I know the issues better than anyone and I’m still good at it,” said Cassano.

Cassano, who co-chairs the Planning and Development Committee and serves as vice-chair of the Public Safety and Security Committee, said he has been able to forge good relationships in Hartford and with local leaders here in Glastonbury. It makes no sense, he said, to try and build those relationships from scratch.

Cassano said the most significant issue he and his fellow legislators representing Glastonbury will need to tackle (if he is elected to another term in November) would be dealing with uranium-contaminated well water in certain areas of town.

“We really have to do everything we can to try and clear up that issue,” explained Cassano. “I think we’re going to get this resolved.”

According to the senator, it is not true that he promised not to run again. “I did say, ‘I don’t know if I will ever run again,’” he explained.

After considering his options, Cassano said he feels like he still has work that he would like to accomplish. “I still have a desire to serve,” he explained.

Cassano called Pohl’s statements “unfortunate” and said he expects to win reelection. “If I need to primary, I will primary,” he said.

According to the senator, who has also run

with the endorsement of the Working Families Party in the past, there are other options he could pursue if he does not get the Democratic nomination, including running under the banner of another party.

The Manchester Democratic Town Committee this week was expected to choose its delegates for the nominating convention in May.

Cassano said he believes those delegates could end up being supporters of Rahman’s nomination.

Cassano also said he does not believe that Rahman has enough experience in public office to run for the state Senate. “He is not ready for this,” said Cassano.

According to Cassano, he encouraged Rahman to run for the Board of Directors – Manchester’s version of a town council – or another local office to get experience before running for the Senate.

Based on his age, Cassano said this will “probably be the last time” he seeks office – though he stressed that is not a definite.

Two years from now, he could feel great, he said, and decide to seek another term. According to Cassano, there have been state senators who served into their 90s.

As far as bowing out this go around, Cassano said, “Right now is not the time.”

Note: Shawn Dagle is a reporter for the *Rivereast’s* sister newspaper, *The Glastonbury Citizen*.

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 April 6.

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.

Maundy Thursday Service: April 14 at 7 p.m.

Students Invited to Write About Andover

Andover is turning 175 years old next year, and, in honor of the anniversary, all seventh- and eighth-grade students are invited to compose an essay or poem about Andover.

The committee will choose one composition from the entries. The winning student will be asked to read their composition at an event to be determined. The student will receive a certificate of appreciation and a check for \$50.

Compositions should be received by June 1. Submit compositions to tinawilsey@gmail.com.

com. Please include the teacher’s name and email. The 175th committee will notify the teacher of the winning student by June 22, and will work with the teacher to finalize all details.

The Andover CT 175th Anniversary Committee is hosting a variety of events every weekend from May 18-June 24, 2023. Therefore, time limits are required to meet the event goals, organizers said.

For more information, contact Tina Wilsey at the above email address.

Scholarship Available

The East Hartford Garden Club has announced the availability of one \$1,000 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.

Scholarships Available

Andover Elementary School is now taking applications for the Andover Education Association and the Andover PTA Annual Scholarship, which is being offered to any Andover student.

Applications may be obtained from the RHAM High School guidance department or by contacting Andover Elementary School at 860-742-7339.

Application deadlines are May 6.

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.

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

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.

Senior Lunch Returns: Friday, March 25, in the Town Hall community room. Menu will be chicken, broccoli, rice, rolls, dessert. Those restricted from eating meat may choose a meatless grinder. Call Palazzi for reservations and/or a ride.

Shopping Trip: Tuesday, March 29, to Willimantic. Masks required on bus and in stores.

Special Thursday Lunch: Thursday, April

7, noon, in the Community Room at Town Hall. Entertainment by the RHAM band. Reservations mandatory.

Info Meeting on Senior Center: Saturday, April 9, at 10 a.m., in the Community Room at Town Hall, an informational meeting will take place regarding the proposed new Community Building/Senior Center. This is your chance to view the drawings and ask questions. Let Palazzi know if you need a ride.

Equipment Available: If anyone needs equipment such as wheelchairs, walkers or ramps, contact Palazzi.

Rides to all town events, town meetings, referendums or board meetings, and all medical appointments and trips to Foodshare van and food pantry at First Congregational Church, are available by calling Palazzi. All seniors, veterans and disabled are welcome. If you have a caregiver, they may come with you. Masks must be worn.

Food Deliveries: If you need a food delivery, let Palazzi know.

Preschool Open House

The Andover Elementary School Early Learning Center will hold an Open House Thursday, April 7, from 5-6 p.m.

Parents are invited to come meet the preschool teachers, visit the classrooms, and hear an overview of our NAEYC accredited preschool program.

For more information and to RSVP, contact John Briody, preschool administrator, at 860-742-7339 ext. 301 or briodyj@andoverelementaryct.org.

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.

Town-Wide Tag Sale Coming

The Town-Wide Tag Sale will be held Saturday, June 4, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Rain date will be Sunday, June 5.

Residents who would like to be included and have their address listed on the tag sale map should send a check for \$10 payable to Town of Andover and mail it or bring it to: Town Clerk, 17 School Rd., Andover, CT 06232. Include a list of items that you will have for sale so it can be included on the list.

Send information and payment so that it is received by May 31. Proceeds will benefit the Andover Senior Luncheon Program.

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.

Senior Fundraiser Coming

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.

Community Fund Issues 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 or contact Dianne Grenier at 860-742-3033 or deardianne@comcast.net.

Project applications or grant proposals will be accepted until May 1.

Andover • Andover



Andover resident William Calhoun, a RHAM High School senior, has won a \$1,500 college scholarship from the West Hartford Women’s Chorale.

Student Receives Scholarship Award

Andover resident William (Liam) Calhoun, a senior at RHAM High School, has been chosen to receive the West Hartford Women’s Chorale 2022 Scholarship Award.

The scholarship is available to graduating seniors from greater Hartford area high schools who have been student musicians active in their high school music program throughout their time in high school and who plan to continue with music in some capacity in college. Calhoun received one of the chorale’s two \$1,500 scholarships; West Hartford resident David Gardner received the other.

Calhoun has been playing guitar since age 2. He is a classical guitarist who has studied a wide range of instruments, including drums, piano, alto saxophone, and studies voice as well. He plays Celtic fingerstyle guitar, bagpipes and the bodhran (a Celtic handheld percussion instrument) and more. Throughout his childhood and adolescence, Calhoun has performed

at many public performances, including Celtic performances in Connecticut and beyond.

Calhoun’s music director, Nicholas Kokus, described him as humble, polite and always willing to help others. Kokus said Calhoun’s “skills as a percussionist, guitarist, and bass player initially made it difficult for me to decide what role would serve him and the band best.” A top scholar in all areas, he is also a three-season runner and captain of all three teams. Calhoun plans to major in music performance (classical guitar) in college.

The West Hartford Women’s Chorale is a non-audition women’s community choir who supports the development of student musicians through an annual scholarship. This year marks the 12th scholarship award offered by the WHWC.

For more information about the WHWC or the annual scholarship, go to www.whwchorale.org.

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.

Preschool Openings

Andover Elementary School Early Learning Center is accepting applications for preschool students for the 2022-23 school year. Andover’s preschool program is full-day. Before- and after-school care is available.

Children who will be age 3 on or before Dec. 31 are eligible to attend. The Andover Elementary School Early Learning Center receives funding for reduced tuition rates from two state grants – the School Readiness Grant and the Smart Start Grant.

Parents are encouraged to apply for membership on the School Readiness Council, which oversees the preschool program. An application is available in the registration packet.

Call John Briody for more information or contact the school office at 860-742-7339 to obtain a registration packet. You may also download one from www.andoverelementaryct.org.

Donations Sought for Library Auction

The Andover Friends of the Library Auction Committee is in the process of collecting donations for its 21st annual Goods and Services Auction that will be held Friday, May 13.

The committee is looking for new items to create gift baskets. The following are examples of popular items: gift certificates, handmade items like jewelry, scarves, quilts, afghans, sports items, paintings and music/video games.

This auction is the Friends’ big fundraiser. Donations are tax-deductible.

Items to donate can be brought to the Town Office Building. Call Carol Lee at 860-742-0188 ext. 218 for more information.

Earth Day Celebration

The Conservation Commission, in conjunction with the Hop River Rail Trail Alliance and Lake District, is sponsoring a town-wide clean-up day including Andover’s portion of the rail trail celebrating Earth Day on Saturday, April 23.

Volunteers can meet at the church parking lot at the corner of Route 6 and Long Hill Road at 9 a.m. to pick up supplies and coordinate assignments. Following the clean-up, there will be a cookout at the Historical Society parking lot from noon-2 p.m. Call Mike at 860-558-9622 if you can help.

Coordination for volunteers that want to help clean-up on the Andover section of the rail trail will be done by Bill Penn who will explain what is needed and assign sections. Please wear gloves and sturdy boots.

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/yckrxach.

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.

Town-Wide Clean-Up Day

The Conservation Commission, in conjunction with the Hop River Rail Trail Alliance and Lake District, is sponsoring a town-wide clean-up day, including Andover’s portion of the rail trail, celebrating Earth Day on Saturday, April 23.

Volunteers are encouraged to meet at the church parking lot at the Corner of Route 6 and Long Hill Road at 9 a.m. to pick up supplies and coordinate assignments. Following the clean-up there will be a cookout at the Historical Society parking lot from noon to 2 p.m. Call Mike at 860-558-9622 if you can help.

Coordination for volunteers that want to help clean up on the Andover section of the rail trail will be done by Bill Penn who will explain what is needed and assign sections.

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Considering the number of disasters that have occurred in the past decade, chances are you’ll experience some sort of emergency. Between school, sports and other activities, chances are you won’t be with your kids when it happens.

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Marlborough • Marlborough



Lions Collecting Medical Equipment... The Marlborough Lions Club has a member who collects durable medical equipment including crutches, wheelchairs, walkers, canes, shower chairs, potty chairs and CPAP machines as well as unopened medical supplies. If you have any such equipment and materials, the Marlborough Lions Club will collect it for shipment to impoverished people in Appalachia. If anyone would like to have the equipment picked up, call Lion Ken Hjulstrom (pictured here with one of the wheelchairs) at 860-490-9116 to make arrangements.

Congregational Church News & Notes

In-person Sunday worship at Marlborough Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, located at 35 S. Main St., is at 10 a.m. Mask-wearing is now optional. The Sunday worship service also broadcasts live every Sunday through mcc.marlborgchurch.org, and is recorded to watch later. Childcare for infants and toddlers is provided every Sunday, downstairs in the nursery, during the worship service; however, children are always welcome at the worship service.

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

Sunday, March 27 is fourth Sunday in Lent. The service will be led by Pastoral Intern Val Seaver. Her sermon title is "Grace," based on the prodigal son and God's incomprehensible grace. 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 that provides medical supplies to the people of Ukraine. Additional details are at 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.



The Marlborough Historical Society will use a recent grant to restore cemetery stones using environmentally friendly products.

Community Fund Awards Over \$30,000 in Grants

The Marlborough Greater Together Community Fund has made its first grant awards totaling over \$30,000. This is an ongoing process and there will be many opportunities. To date the Marlborough Advisory Committee has made the following grants:

Marlborough Historical Society: \$750 to clean historic stones in the old cemetery using environmentally friendly products;

Marlborough Association for Seniors – DBA Florence S. Lord: \$9,211 for upgrades to the elevator door system and the installation of an automatic door opener for the community room;

Richmond Memorial Library: \$5,475 for Launchpad devices to be checked out by the community to improve youth reading and writing skills;

AHM Youth & Family Services: \$3,127 to support to help fund and broaden the CHORES

program for Marlborough seniors;

Hartford County 4-H Camp: \$5,000 to support landscape issues resolution project;

The Marlborough Food Bank, Inc.: \$7,284 to support the freezer and refrigerator replacement program.

Marlborough's community fund was established in 2019 by the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving and is overseen by the Marlborough Community Fund Advisory Committee, made up of Marlborough residents. The fund's purpose is to support residents in taking ownership of the needs in their towns, encourage broad and inclusive civic engagement, and anchor the Hartford Foundation in Marlborough.

Tax-deductible donations may be made to either the Current Use Fund or the Endowed Fund. See hfpg.org/marlboroughcf for further information.

Parks and Rec Programs

Marlborough Parks and Recreation has announced the following. For full descriptions or to register, visit marlbroughct.recdesk.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: Music/Dance: All classes at Dance Dynamics in Hebron. **Tiny Twirlers Dance Class:** Ages 2-3 with caregiver, Saturdays, 9-9:30 a.m., March 26-June 11 (no class April 16 and May 28). Fee: \$130. **Sparkling 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. Les-

sons 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, 6:30-7:30 p.m., in the conference room at Fire Station No. 2 and virtually. Fee is \$12 per week to drop in.

Monday Barre/Pilates: March 28, 5-5:45 p.m., virtual or in person. Fee is \$18.

Monday Yoga: March 28, 6-7 p.m., virtual or in-person. Fee is \$18.

Tuesday Yoga: Tuesday, March 29, 9:30-10:30 a.m., virtual or in-person. Fee is \$18.

Thursday Yoga: Thursdays through April 21, 6-7 p.m., at Marlborough Senior Center. Fee: \$15 per week to drop in.

Wednesday Barre/Pilates: Wednesday, March 30, 5:30-6:15 p.m., virtual or in-person. Fee: \$18.

Yogalates: Thursday, March 31, 9:30-10:30 a.m., virtual or in person. Fee is \$18.

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.

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Marlborough • Marlborough



The St. John Fisher confirmation community recently hosted "Soup for a Cause," a fundraiser for House of Bread's Kids' Café. The event generated more than \$2,300.

'Soup for a Cause' Yields Over \$2K

The St. John Fisher confirmation community recently raised over \$2,300 for House of Bread's Kids' Café, at the annual Soup for a Cause event.

While the event is usually a sit-down dinner featuring donated soup, the group transitioned to a drive-thru event due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This year's dinner was held on a chilly, rainy Saturday, March 12.

Emma Bernier, a member of the Confirmation program, said, "It was a such good experience to be able to help raise money for kids our age so close to us that don't have the same opportunities that we do. It was also nice to see so many people and families in the community donate to such an important cause."

The Kids' Café partners with youth organizations and schools throughout greater Hartford to provide over 200 hot dinners daily during the week for children.

Another member of the confirmation program, Robbie West, said, "Although it was cold, it felt good to give back to the Kids' Café and help out kids that are less fortunate. Overall it was a blast and a huge success."

The confirmation program thanked donors Bricco Trattoria, Sadler's Ordinary, Thomas Hooker Brewing Company, Olive Garden, Big Y, Three Fellas, as well as hometown chefs, for supporting this program.

For more information on St. John Fisher Church, visit www.stjfishurch.org.

Deadlines for Referendum, Special Election

On Tuesday, May 3, Marlborough voters will vote on the proposed 2022-23 town and RHAM budgets, as well as electing two new selectmen to add to the existing three-member Board of Selectmen based on the revised 2021 Town Charter.

Absentee ballots for the special election will be available Friday, April 1, and absentee ballots for the budget referendum will be available April 20, in the office of the town clerk.

Note: the executive order allowing COVID-19 as an excuse to obtain an absentee ballot has expired. Refer to marlboroughct.net for further information.

Voter registration deadlines for the May 3

election are:

Mail-in registration must be postmarked by May 1. Registration made through the secretary of the state's website, portal.ct.gov/sots must be completed by midnight April 30.

In-person: Noon Monday, May 2.

Also, the registrar of voters office will hold special voter registration sessions on Tuesday, April 26, from 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m., and Monday, May 2, from 9 a.m.-noon.

If these times are inconvenient for you, call 860-306-8769 to schedule an appointment with the registrar of voters or email dem-registrar@marlboroughct.net or rep-registrar@marlboroughct.net.

Scholarships Available

The Rotary Club of East Hampton and Marlborough invites local high school seniors from East Hampton and Marlborough, as well as adult learners, to apply for one of several scholarships.

All residents are eligible regardless of what high school they attend – public or private. Applicants can attend any college, university, trade school, vocational program, or Veteran focused program.

A new scholarship, in memory of Rotarian Jan Solomon, is available to female candidates, with financial need pursuing a degree in the sciences. This \$1,500 scholarship is sponsored by the Solomon family through the Rotary Club. Applicants should check with their guidance offices for the additional application.

Applications can also be obtained through the Rotary Club website at www.easthampton-rotary.org and can be returned electronically to scholarshipapp@yahoo.com.

All applications must be submitted no later than April 5.

Applications Sought for Art Show

The Marlborough Arts Center will hold a Members' Art Show in May – and is currently accepting submissions.

Artist members may enter up to three pieces of artwork, including paintings, sculpture, pottery, jewelry, fiber art, and wood turned works, which will be judged for awards. Beverley Fisher, director of the art department at RHAM High School, will judge.

The gallery at the Arts Center, 231 N. Main St., will be open weekends in May. An Opening Reception, featuring the presentation of awards, will take place on Sunday, May 1, from 2-4 p.m. Membership dues must be up to date in order to participate in the show. The entry fee is \$25 for the first two pieces, and \$5 for a third. Paintings and artwork that is to be hung must be wired for hanging (no sawtooth hangers), and must measure no more than 36 inches in either direction, including frame.

A prospectus and entry forms can be downloaded from the Arts Center website: www.marlborougharts.org. For more information, leave a voice message at 860-467-6353, or send an email to marlboroughartscenter@gmail.com.

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Richmond Library News & Notes

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

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

Seed Library: The library recently received a Constellation Community Champions grant for the purpose of creating a Seed Library. The library is now available to browse. It will be expanded in the months ahead. There is a binder alongside the storage unit with information about each seed we currently have available; help yourself to the information sheets when you take seeds. People should record which seeds they take, as well as what town they live in. There is a limit of five seed packets per person, with a maximum of one per type. The library will accept unopened and partially open and used seed packets, but is refraining from accepting seeds outside of their original packaging for the time being, to avoid issues concerning cross-pollination.

Paul Revere's Midnight Ride: Dispelling

Former Resident, Wife Compete in 'Ultra Marathon'

Christopher F. Wargo, a 2008 graduate of RHAM High School and former Marlborough resident, and his wife Amanda Walters, a 2009 graduate of Pomperaug High School and former Southbury resident, recently completed the Antelope Canyon Ultra Marathon 50-mile trail run in Page, Ariz.

They each completed the continuous Ultra Marathon 50-mile run – Wargo in 13 hours, 40 minutes, 42 seconds, finishing 162 of 335 overall; and Walters in 13 hours, 40 minutes, 40 seconds, finishing 161 of 335.

Wargo is an ICU registered nurse and EMT and Walters is a doctor of physical therapy. They currently reside in Durham, Maine.

the Myths: Monday, April 4, 6:30 p.m., via Zoom. Paul Revere is arguably best known today for his Midnight Ride of April 18, 1775, made famous by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's 1860 poem. In many cases, the actual story of the ride is far more compelling and complicated than the fictional liberties taken by Longfellow. In partnership with the Paul Revere House in Boston, this virtual talk will explore the facts of the ride versus its common misconceptions and delve into Revere as a person. Email richmondprograms@gmail.com to register.

Spring Storytime: Indoors at the library Monday, March 28, beginning at 10:30 a.m. Best suited for children ages 2-5. Registration is required; call 860-295-6210 or email richmondprograms@gmail.com.

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

Lions to Raffle Kayak

Once again, the Marlborough Lions Club will raffle off a kayak and a one-year rental of a kayak rack at Marlborough's Blish Park. The use of the rack at Blish Park is limited to Marlborough residents, but the raffle for the kayak is open to everyone. Raffle tickets are \$20 each. Tickets will be sold at various locations through April 30, or can be purchased from Marlborough Lions Club members.

The raffle drawing will take place at Blish Park at noon on Sunday May 1st. You do not need to be present to win.

For more information regarding this opportunity and to purchase raffle tickets, call Lions Club Chairman Megan Lloyd at 413-687-5537 or Lions Tom Reiser at 860-295-8374 or Ken Hjulstrom at 860-490-9116.

Senior Center News and Notes

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

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

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

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Selectmen Lower, Adopt Town Budget

by Jack Lakowsky

The Marlborough Board of Selectman at its March 15 meeting shaved about \$30,000 from, and then adopted, First Selectman Greg Lowrey's budget proposal.

The town, excluding both Marlborough Elementary School (MES) and RHAM, is asking for a bump of about 4.6%, or \$268,000 over the 2021-22 spending plan.

In all, the town's proposing a budget of about \$6.094 million to taxpayers.

This changed from Lowrey's original proposal of an increase of 5.1%, or close to \$300,000.

Combining RHAM, the MES proposal of about \$8.3 million and the town's request, Marlborough taxpayers are looking at a total \$27 million 2022-23 spending plan, up about 3.1%.

There was a major change in Marlborough's RHAM spending, as RHAM's fiscal surplus was lower than projected.

The town's Grand List rose by about \$14 million. The biggest driver of this, Lowrey said, is the new Gulf gas station on North Main Street near Exit 12.

This plan now goes to the Board of Finance for review.

The town's looking to increase the mill rate by about .11 mills, up to 35.73 from the current 35.84.

With this calculation, taxpayers would pay about \$8,900 per \$250,000 of assessed property value, according to Lowrey's budget documents.

Lowrey said arguably what's most important is that "typical" taxpayers will realize a "modest" reduction in their tax bills with this budget because Grand List growth outpaced tax levy growth.

Selectmen added funding for a major project to the budget- \$210,000 for lighting for the Blackledge soccer field near the Company 2 firehouse on West Road.

The expense, Lowrey said in a follow-up Monday, is offset by some cuts in other capital items as well as using American Rescue Plan money for work at the library.

Lowrey and his fellow Republican selectperson Joe Asklar approved the addition, while Democrat Amy Traversa opposed it, saying preliminary work wasn't finished, that "the work hasn't been done [on this item] for this year's budget."

Traversa said she wasn't totally opposed but wanted more time to look into it.

Asklar said he respectfully disagreed with Traversa, saying talks about lighting local athletic fields go back 20 years.

"I think [it'll] benefit a lot of people," Asklar said. "Mathematically, we can do this."

Lowrey told his colleagues the project has merit and, acknowledging the town hasn't yet gone to bid on the work, he does have an estimate from a "reputable" electrician.

Lowrey told the *Rivereast* it's better for a

town to have a plan in place before seeking vendors. It makes contractors feel more secure when the town already has money budgeted, he explained.

Working on estimates, Lowrey said with any fees charged for light-use, the town could recover money spent on the project.

The first selectman said the lights are "modern" with very little "spill". He said the field has just one immediate neighbor, not expected to be affected.

Lowrey said when residents need to play at night, they have to travel to Lebanon, Hebron or Glastonbury.

Selectmen shot down a proposal for another lighting project-\$470,000 for lighting at the baseball field also near the West Road station.

The board cut four capital items, three of

which were requests from MES.

First, selectpersons cut funding for a new fire alarm panel, and the consultation associated with that job. MES also wanted to upgrade its security cameras-no dice, said the select board.

The board also cut a project connecting the town hall to public water supply, saying there was no need for it.

Between, operations and personnel, the board added about \$66,500 and cut about \$96,000, making for a net cut of about \$30,000.

For a line-by-line view of the 2022-23 Marlborough spending plan, visit the town's website.

Voters will accept or reject the budget at referendum in May.

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 and on the Marlborough Republicans Facebook page.

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 or visit 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.

Bluegrass Band at Arts Café Concert

Marlborough Arts Center will feature the bluegrass band Grass Routes at the 4th Friday at the Arts Café tonight, 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.

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.

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/marlboroughlionsclub for more information on the event or to message the Lions.

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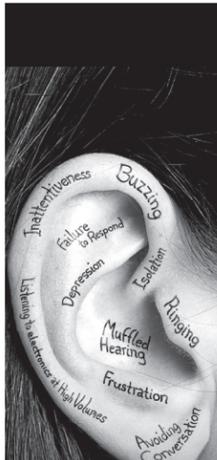
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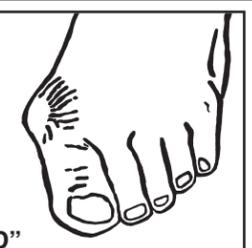
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Obituaries

Colchester

Stanley John Wood Jr.

Stanley John Wood Jr., better known as "Woody" or "Johnny," passed away at his home in Colchester Monday, March 21, surrounded by his loving family. Born June 28, 1971 in Hartford, he was a son of Stanley J. Wood Sr. and the late Joan (Joslyn) Wood.



Johnny had an incredible work ethic, and proudly worked for the Hartford Local 15 Ironworkers Union. In his spare time, he loved to be outdoors, whether it was fishing, boating, and hiking around Lake Pocotopaug in East Hampton, playing a round of golf, or enjoying a cold beer after a long day of work. He loved to spend as much time as possible with family and friends.

Johnny was the friend/father/brother/son that was there for everyone no questions asked. His smile lit up a room and could bring joy to anyone with his sense of humor. To honor his memory, the John Wood Memorial Golf League will be established in the near future.

He is survived by his true love, MaryAnne Rhodes; children, Meghan Wood, John Wood and stepson Braeden Rhodes; father, Stanley J. Wood Sr. and stepmother, Doris Wood; siblings, Kevin and his wife, Aletha Wood, Karin and her husband, Tom Cooke, Cheryl and her husband, Bill McGuire; and numerous other extended family and friends.

He has touched so many lives and his memory will live on through his loved ones.

Calling hours will be held today, Friday, March 25, from 3-7 p.m., at the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home, 167 Old Hartford Rd., Colchester, CT 06415. Burial will be private.

In lieu of flowers, Johnny's family request that memorial donations be made to his children's college fund.

To share a memory or express condolences, please visit www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

East Hampton

Barry Murphy

On Tuesday, March 15, Barry Murphy, 59, of East Hampton, passed away after a long hard battle fighting his illness.

He will be missed by his wife, Ginger Murphy; her daughters, Heather and Lauren Carey; his parents, Jay and Paul Murphy; his children, Kara Murphy (Rich), Erin Wells (Justin); their mother, Rita; and grandchildren, Aspyn and Easton Wells. Also, his sister, Lisa Cohen (Steve), and his niece, Jessica Cohen.



He was a graduate of Xavier and went on to have a long, distinguished career as a master carpenter and foreman for Partitions Inc. until his retirement in 2019.

Barry loved being outdoors, especially taking long walks in the state forest with his beloved dog Cooper. Barry, Ginger and Cooper would frequently go on picnics, do a little fishing and make a big fire to cook on or just enjoy.

He had a lifelong love of skiing, mostly mogul, which he passed on to his "favorite" niece Jessica. He also enjoyed golfing, boating and any outdoor activity. Barry grew his own tomatoes and mastered the perfect tomato sauce. He would spend hours cooking and canning his sauce. If you were lucky, you may have had a jar.

His love for music started at a young age listening to his radio after he was supposed to be sleeping as a child. He enjoyed playing his guitars and could name band members of most all rock bands. He went to many concerts in his life and this was a love he shared with his wife Ginger. He lived with his wife in Sheffield, Mass., for a few years but was happy to move back to Connecticut, right down the road from his parents and spent a lot of time with them over the past few years.

When Kara and Erin were in school he enjoyed coaching their softball and attending all other activities they had. He was so very proud of Erin and Kara for their accomplishments. He was also so proud of Lauren, who is graduating college in May.

A memorial Mass will be held Saturday, March 26, at 11:30 a.m., in St. Mary Church, Portland. Friends may call at Portland Memorial Funeral Home, 231 Main St., Portland, today, March 25, from 4-7 p.m. Burial will be at a later date in St. Mary Cemetery, Portland.

East Hampton

Arnie Davidson

Arnie Davidson, 68, of East Hampton, passed away Monday, March 14, after a brief illness. He was born in Hartford and grew up in West Hartford with his parents Morris and Sadie Davidson.

Arnie graduated from Hall High School and went on to complete his master's in biochemistry at UConn. He enjoyed 44 years of marriage to Penny Davidson and was the proud father of Max (Nomi Kornfeld), Sasha and Lara Davidson. He loved his time with his granddaughter, Evelyn Davidson.

Arnie served the community for 25 years as the owner of Ontrack Computer, providing computer repair and classes. Arnie was the worship leader of Shir HaMakom, a Jewish music community, which prominently featured music that Arnie had written. A lifelong musician, Arnie was an avid learner and known for his compassion and kindness to all.

Donations in his honor can be made to the East Hampton Music Boosters Inc., c/o East Hampton High School, 15 North Maple St., East Hampton, CT 06424, or through Paypal using ehhsmusicdept@gmail.com.



Marlborough

John Craig Williams

John Craig Williams passed away peacefully Thursday, March 17. Craig was born to the Rev. Jay and Mary Williams on Oct. 9, 1929, in Milwaukee, Wis. When his father passed away of a ruptured appendix in 1932, Craig and his brother Jay were raised by their mother in Rome, N.Y., near Mary's family.

Early memories included attendance at a one-room school through grade eight, co-management of the Rome Free Academy football team, involvement in various clubs and committees, and working on his uncle Dan's farm. Craig attended Union College using a bequest from an aunt and graduated as a civil engineer in 1951. College was good to Craig, as it was there that he met his wife-to-be on a blind date arranged by his roommate.

Craig and Pat were married in 1952 and moved to Pittsburgh following Pat's graduation from Skidmore, where Craig worked for a heavy construction contractor, including on Lock No. 2 on the Monongahela River, which gained him a draft deferment. Drafted in 1954 for service by the Army, he served in the 86th Engineers Battalion at Fort Dix and Camp Drum, earning a good conduct medal, sharpshooter award and was soldier of the month in 1956, with a prize of a trip to NYC with fancy dining and shows.

Following his discharge, Craig worked in building construction then technical sales and was a licensed professional engineer, although he claimed to never have used his PE. Various positions with Master Builders resulted in moving to Syracuse and East Aurora, N.Y., Cleveland and Chagrin Falls, Ohio.

Craig and Pat enjoyed a full life outside of work, keeping family and friends, church and community in the center wherever life took them. Travel pre-retirement involved educational opportunities for their two children, Jim and Amy, or trips to visit family, the beach or camping.

Following retirement to Marlborough in 1991, Craig became more involved with leadership roles in the church, serving as president, chair of the board of trustees, committee chair for real estate, finance and memorial and investment, ad hoc chair for a lift, a memorial garden and the organ. His organizational skills were put to good use in these roles. Craig was also active in the local chapter of Rotary International, serving in several officer roles and as scholarship co-chair for many years, and being selected four times for the club's Rotarian of the Year award. Craig truly enjoyed reviewing and selecting applicants for scholarships and writing brief descriptions of each selected stu-

New Obituary Policy

Effective with the March 18 edition, the *Riverast News Bulletin* will begin charging \$75 to place an obituary.

Obituaries can be emailed to bulletin@glcitizen.com.

dent, frequently commenting on the difficulty of making a selection with such well-qualified young people. Craig also worked at AHM and on selected town boards.

Craig was a generous soul, saw the best in folks, and took great pleasure in his life with Pat, including numerous trips (organized by Pat, travel agent extraordinaire) both domestic and abroad. He enjoyed sailing a Sunfish, golfing, watching Red Sox and UConn women's basketball on TV, good meals, and visiting with family and friends. He never failed to appreciate a kind gesture and to offer one in turn. He was a swell guy.

Craig leaves behind his brother Jay and family, daughter Amy, her husband Frank and granddaughter Jessica. His extended family includes Birgit, exchange daughter from Germany in 1976 who, along with her family, has been very close over the years.

Craig was predeceased by his wife Pat in 2010 and son Jim in 1998.

A Memorial Service will be held at the Marlborough Congregational Church at 11 a.m. Saturday, April 9. A reception will follow the service in the church. There will be no calling hours.

Memorial gifts should be addressed to the Marlborough Church, P.O. Box 59, Marlborough, CT 06447, noted for the Craig Williams Memorial Fund.

Hebron

Betty Jean Tow

Betty Jean Tow (nee Hutton), 92, passed away Monday, March 21, at Windham Hospital in Willimantic.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Emily Percy Hutton, and father, Thomas Hutton; her siblings Gerald, Audrey, Leslie, Ted and Stanley Hutton; as well as her husband of 45 years, Arlis Wayne Tow.

She is survived by son David Tow and partner Nathalie Peltier-Horton; daughter Kimberly and son-in-law Gary Blondin; grandchildren Alexander (and daughter Bella), Morgana and Leonardo Tow; and Nathalie's children Jessica Peltier (with husband Todd Helweg and children Alice and Matthew), Charlie Horton (with husband Casey DuVall) and Margaret Horton (with husband Tony Gugino and child Ava).

Betty was born April 29, 1929, in Chadwell Heath in greater London, England. She was the youngest of six children and grew up during World War I. She studied science and worked at a chemical plant from the age of 16. She did not enjoy the wet and cold English weather, so she moved to Texas when she was 27 years old. She married her husband Wayne in Dallas at 29 and their son David was born in January 1959. They moved to Rancho Cordova, Calif., a year later. Their daughter Kim was born in July, 1960 and they lived there for 13 years.

Wayne eventually lost his job and the family moved in 1973 to Hebron. Betty lived there for 48 years. She returned to London with her whole family in 1977 and with Wayne in the 1980s to visit all her siblings. She traveled extensively, enjoyed Cape Cod and the Caribbean, and took numerous vacations with Kim after her husband's death. She had her own tax preparation business for 21 years, retiring at 80. Betty had a great memory until the very end. She loved her endless cups of hot tea with milk. She was a member of Gilead Congregational Church in Hebron.

A memorial service for Betty is scheduled for Saturday, April 2, at 11 a.m., at Gilead Congregational Church, 672 Gilead St., Hebron.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Betty's memory may be made to Gilead Congregational Church.

The Aurora - McCarthy Funeral Home in Colchester, has been entrusted with arrangements. To share a memory or express a condolence, please visit www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

Colchester

Ruth Tallman



Ruth Vivian Skinner Tallman, beloved spouse of Walter Tallman (deceased September 2015), passed away Saturday, March 19, while residing at Harrington Court Nursing Home. She was born in Hartford on Aug. 23, 1931, and was the youngest of four girls born to Alexander and Beda Skinner.

Her sisters, Ethel, Alice and Marion, have all predeceased her. She graduated in 1949 from Bulkeley High School and went to work while living at home with her parents. Within two years, she met her husband while attending a local dance with her girlfriends, and they married on May 10, 1951 just before he was to leave for the army. Once he'd completed his tour of duty, they continued to reside in Hartford until she and Walt purchased their first home on Windham Avenue in Colchester in the fall of 1966 and they relocated with their six children. She and Walt would have celebrated 65 years of marriage in May 2016.

Ruth worked at part-time clerical positions at Schuster's Express and the Ahavath Achim Synagogue in Colchester while her children were younger, but eventually went to work as a full-time payroll clerk at Phoenix Mutual Insurance in Hartford, from which she retired. Once she'd retired, she worked as the evening and weekend receptionist at Harrington Court.

She leaves behind her children, Laureen Tallman, Karen Reynolds and her two daughters Charlene Reynolds and son Jonathan and Wynet Reynolds, Glenn Tallman, Kevin Tallman, Rhonda Tallman and sons, Roger Soucy Jr. and Ryan Soucy, and Matthew Tallman along with his wife, Joanne Saitta Tallman and children, Tonya, Shelby and Jordan Tallman. She also leaves her husband's one remaining sister, Ella Jewell of Charlestown, N.H., and her five daughters and their families.

Her hobbies included crocheting, crossword puzzles, playing Scrabble and Wii bowling. She also had a fond affection for hot cocoa and cookies. Ruth made so many afghans and scarves that she was always donating them to some deserving hospital or organization as well as giving them to the school children on her daughter-in-law, Joanne's bus route.

Calling hours will be held at the Aurora McCarthy Funeral Home Monday, April 4, from 3-6 p.m., with a private burial service to follow for the family members.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorial donations be made to the Colchester Senior Center.

To share a memory or express a condolence to Ruth's family please visit www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

See Obits, page 30

ADVERTISERS

The *Glastonbury Citizen* and *Riverast News Bulletin* will make every effort to see that all advertising copy is correctly printed. The publisher assumes no liability or financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertising, but will reprint, without charge, that part of an advertisement in which an error may occur, provided that a claim is made within 5 days of publication. The liability of the publisher on account of errors in or omissions from any advertisement will in no way exceed the amount of the charge for the space occupied by the item in error, and then only for the first incorrect insertion. Also, the publisher takes no responsibility for statements or claims made in any advertisement, and will upon request, reveal the name and address of the person or persons responsible for placing any display advertisement, political or otherwise, except for "blind" box ads. The *Glastonbury Citizen* Inc. reserves the right to reject advertisements which it deems unsuitable for its publications. Every effort will be made to verify the legitimacy and propriety of all ads for the protection of our readers. The *Citizen* will take requests for specific placement of ads and will try to accommodate everyone's requests. The *Citizen* cannot guarantee specific placement.

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"A monument should cost no more than a family can afford."

Obituaries cont.

East Hampton

William Schuler Jr.

William August Schuler Jr., 87, passed peacefully at his home surrounded by family on Thursday, March 17.



Bill was a resident of East Hampton, and previous owner of Tri-Town Radiator, Colchester, Best Place in Town to Take a Leak.

Bill was in a longtime love affair with his wife Sue and was father to Debbi, Carol, Beth, Bill, Brenda, Eric, Wendy, Britt, Fay, and a grandfather and great-grandfather. He was a veteran of the Korean War and was the oldest son of Marion and William Schuler.

At a young age, Bill was on his own and worked hard to provide for his family and was a friend to many. When he could, he loved to travel with his wife and they've had many adventures together. In his retirement, Bill was a bird watcher, Lotto player, donut lover, and devoted dog owner to Sheila, his best friend.

Friends and family are welcome to attend service at Spencer Funeral Home on Monday, March 28, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. with a reception at Sweet Jean's at 1:30 p.m. We are eternally grateful to the Vitas Hospice team who supported him and his family through the last month of his life and contributions can be made to your local hospice provider in his honor.

Marlborough

Robert Perry Ulrich

We sadly announce the passing of Robert Perry Ulrich of Marlborough. Robert was born March 5, 1939, and died peacefully Wednesday, March 16, of a lengthy battle with lung and heart disease. He spent his childhood in West Haven, where he thrived as an avid athlete at West Haven High School. He then joined the Marines. Oorah! Robert was born to Mildred (Perry) and Herbert Ulrich.



He is predeceased by his parents and sister Joan. Robert is survived by his life partner, Joanne Hooper, of 17 years.

He was also survived by his eldest son Dean and his wife Marianne of Bluffton, S.C.; his daughter, Pamela and her husband Mark Fois of Oxford; his youngest son, Todd and wife Vanessa of Hollis, N.H.; his stepdaughter, Meredith Wolfrom of Melrose, Mass.; his stepson, Matthew Gasper and wife Debra of Granger, Ind.

Robert is also survived by his grandchildren, Kaitlyn and her husband Kenneth Long of Reddington, Nicholas and his wife Brittany of Charlotte, S.C., Courtney Ulrich of Brooklyn, N.Y., McKenna Belury and her partner Nicholas Barrone of Seymour, Dana Ulrich of San Diego, Calif., Daniella Fois of Mamaroneck, N.Y., and Stephanie (Fois) and her husband Andrew McCallister of Washington, D.C., Sienna and Ayla Wolfrom of Melrose, Mass., Madelyn and Rose Gasper of Granger, Ind. Robert is also survived by his great-grandchildren Henry, Jacob and Max Long, Kelly Ulrich of Charlotte, S.C.

Robert worked in manufacturing for 40 years

until he retired and passionately was the family genealogist, which he leaves behind an extensive legacy of a rich history.

Robert was an active member of various organizations such as the Mayflower Society, the Scottish Rites of Newington, VKVSW Association, the Shriners organization where he volunteered to bring young children and families to the Shriners Hospital in Springfield, Mass. He was also a 32-degree Mason.

He was an active member of the Marlborough Congregational Church. He belonged to several church groups that supported giving back to the community.

Robert was an avid athlete playing softball and football. He was also an avid golfer and hiker all his life. He also crewed on sail boats in Connecticut and Florida. Robert led a highly active life.

Services for Robert will be held off until early June.

Donations can be made in honor of Robert Ulrich at Shriners Hospital Boston: Love Shriners.org.

To leave digital condolences, you can go to www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com.

East Hampton

Ellen M. Burke

Ellen M. "Trixie" (Levy) Burke, 76, of Bristol, formerly of East Hampton, passed away peacefully surrounded by her family in our home on Sunday March 20. She was born on Dec. 27, 1945, in Brooklyn, N.Y.

Ellen worked at Shapiro's in Middletown; she also worked in the East Hampton school system before her retirement. She shared a passion for the outdoors, particularly gardening, with her late husband James Burke. She enjoyed quality time with her family, celebrating holidays. She was extremely creative, had an eye for decorating and a great sense of style and she loved to shop. Ellen loved the beach and the lake in East Hampton.

Ellen was the daughter of the late Ben Levy and Alice Maree of East Hampton. She is survived by her daughter, Samantha Burke, and daughter, Alicia Butler and husband Sean of Bristol, and was a loving grandmother to her four grandchildren, Raegan, Christopher, Gabriella, and Lyla. She is also survived by her brother Nick Sigelakis and wife Linda of California, brother Peter Sigelakis and wife Anna of New York, and brother Mike Sigelakis of New York; and was predeceased by her brother Constantine Sigelakis. She is also survived by very special friend Cindy Siena and husband Tom and children Anthony and Stephanie. She will be missed by her family, friends.

Services will be private.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to St. Jude's, Protectors of Animals or a charity of your choice in her memory.

To leave online condolences, please visit <http://www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com>.

Portland

Kevin J. Gubilee

Kevin J. Gubilee, 66, of Portland, passed away Thursday, March 17, in Hartford. Born Jan. 6, 1956, in Middletown, he was the son of the late Joseph and Theresa (Thompson) Gubilee.

He had been a lifelong resident of Portland and was the owner of Business Telephone Systems of Portland for 30 years. He was an avid fisherman and enjoyed music and playing his guitar. He was also a member of St. Mary Church of Portland.

Kevin is survived by a brother, Scott and wife Kerri of Weston, Fla.; a sister, Susan Gubilee of Portland; two nieces and one nephew; as well as his girlfriend, Irene Parkola of Middlefield.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held today, Friday, March 25, at 9 a.m., in St. Mary Church, Portland. Burial will be in the family plot in Calvary Cemetery, Middletown.

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

HOW CAN I keep calm with bills adding up?

WE'RE WITH YOU
It's important to identify financial stressors and make a plan. Call 211 for more help.

COPING-19

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

★ Letters cont. from page 7

lice. But there are other items that I consider "wants," which are up for debate.

In the end, my goal is to see that the budget presented to you on May 3 contains only what we need. Your wallets are being pinched enough right now and we need to help you through these times.

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

See you at the polls on May 3.

Ken Hjulstrom – Marlborough

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

Unfortunate for America

To the Editor:

It is a shame that America has gotten to this state: our abysmal state of discourse. Millions of people believe in an alternate universe from what many other millions understand to be real-

ity. Each side thinks the other is crazy. We then disparage our antagonists and make them our enemies. Our fellow Americans! It has always been the case that people have different opinions, sometimes strongly held. But the acrimony currently afflicting America is dangerously toxic.

Given that most people very likely have basic human wants and needs that generally align, it is shameful that we've allowed ourselves to descend into opposing camps of opinion: opinions often formed with little or no substantive backing. Often the conflict is a perception of how our "rights" are being trampled. From where I sit, conservatives fear a possible diminishing of their rights (guns, speech), while liberals' rights are actually being taken away (votes, life choices). There is a mismatch, an hypocrisy, here. If they want freedom and rights, then why are conservatives hell-bent on depriving individuals of theirs? Why deny a woman's freedom to choose, or impose restrictions on the right to vote? What if we actually ban guns and confederate flags?

John Barnowski – Colchester

LEGALS

**LEGAL NOTICE
MARLBOROUGH ZONING COMMISSION
NOTICE OF ACTION**

The Marlborough Economic Development Commission at its meeting of March 16 2022, took the following action:
2022 CALENDAR CHANGE:
Motion approved to change the monthly meetings from the third Wednesdays to the third Thursdays of each month.

JIM SHEA, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION CHAIR
Dated at Marlborough, CT this 21st day of March. 1TB 3/25

**LEGAL NOTICE
GLOBAL SELF STORAGE
244 Middletown Ave.
East Hampton, CT
860.267.6639**

Will sell or otherwise dispose of such personal property on Saturday 4/3/2022 at 8:00 AM
Property previously owned by:
P Boulanger S Boulanger R Carlson M James D Smith P Brogan R Dunn C Luzi T Doran J Carlson G Ivanish 2TB 3/25, 4/1

LEGAL NOTICE

Residents in the sewer district in the Town of Marlborough, CT are notified that the Benefit Assessment bills are due to the Marlborough Water Pollution Control Authority (MWPCA), April 1, 2022. The last day to pay without interest is May 2, 2022. Delinquent bills will be charged 1.5% per month reverting to the due date of April 1 or 18% per year. Minimum interest is \$5.00. Payments may be paid at the Marlborough Town Hall, 26 No. Main Street or mailed to MWPCA, Tax Collector, PO Box 29, 26 No. Main Street, Marlborough, CT 06447. There is a Drop Box to the left of the Town Hall door for non-cash payments. Tax Office hours are Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m., Tuesdays 8:30 a.m. - 7 p.m. and Fridays 8:30 a.m. to noon.
Respectfully submitted,
Barbara C Murray 3TB 3/25, 4/8, 4/22

**LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF HEBRON**

The audit of the financial statements of the Town of Hebron for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021, as prepared by CLA LLP, Certified Public Accountants, is on file and available for public inspection in the Town Clerk's office, 15 Gilead Street, Hebron, Connecticut.
Dated at Hebron, Connecticut, this 22nd day of March 2022
Carla A. Pomprowicz, Hebron Town Clerk 1TB 3/25

**TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of Hearing**

The East Hampton Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a regular meeting on April 6, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall, Eaton Smith Council Chambers Room 107 and via ZOOM Virtual Meeting to consider the following:
PZC-22-001: Josh Pavano, 19 Day Point Road for Detached ADU pursuant to Section 8.4.M in existing accessory structure, Map 10A/Block 83/ Lot 29
Ray Zatorski, Chairman
Note* any question re: Applications and Maps are on file in the Land Use Office 860-267-7450. 2TB 3/25, 4/1

**LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF HEBRON**

CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES § 12-155 ET SEQ.
The Town of Hebron Tax Collector has levied taxes upon the following properties and has slated them for public auction to satisfy delinquent taxes and/or other charges owed by the record owner(s) for this property. Taxes as of the last day of March, 2022 set forth below. Additional taxes, interest, fees, water/sewer and utility charges authorized by law accruing after March 31, 2022, are owed. Interested bidders must attend the same in person and a FIVE THOUSAND (\$5,000.00) DOLLARS deposit in the form of a bank check is required.

Time & Place of Sale 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, June 15, 2022
Town of Hebron, Town Hall, 15 Gilead Street, Route 85, Hebron, CT

Delinquent Taxpayer Property Address Property Boundaries Total Amount Due Lienholders/Other Party	Laurence Aldrich and Jacquelyn Aldrich 158 Millstream Road, Amston, CT Map 12 Lot 8C.3 \$42,759.68 None	Delinquent Taxpayer Property Address Property Boundaries Total Amount Due Lienholders/Other Party	Robert M. Lawrence 259 Main Street, Hebron, CT Map 05 Lot 5 \$48,634.31 Gene Kasica, Kasica Enterprises, LLC c/o Kahan Kerensky & Capossela, LLP
Delinquent Taxpayer Property Address Property Boundaries Total Amount Due Lienholders/Other Party	Helen MacBryde Trustee of the Helen L. Bell Irrevocable Trust dated October 18, 2013 86 Slocum Road, Hebron, CT Map 23 Lot 23 \$48,662.73 None	Delinquent Taxpayer Property Address Property Boundaries Total Amount Due Lienholders/Other Party	Robert D. Leach and Terry Ann Scott 28 North Pond Road, Amston, CT Map 67 Lot 17 \$84,611.43 ST of CT Dept of Revenue, ST of CT Probate Administration
Delinquent Taxpayer Property Address Property Boundaries Total Amount Due Lienholders/Other Party	Judith Sargent (heir) of the Estate of Chester Darrold Sargent 282 Deepwood Drive, Amston, CT Map 64 Lot 475+476 \$82,705.34 ST of CT Office of Probate Administration, ST of CT Dept. of Revenue	Delinquent Taxpayer Property Address Property Boundaries Total Amount Due Lienholders/Other Party	Thomas Oswell 114 North Pond Road, Amston, CT Map 66 Lot 18+8PT \$52,897.69 Glenn F. Ostrager, Executor, Estate of Murray Ostrager
Delinquent Taxpayer Property Address Property Boundaries Total Amount Due Lienholders/Other Party	Scott A. Cofieil 18 Elsmere Road, Hebron, CT Map 65 Lot 218 \$28,690.20 ST of CT, Dept. of Revenue	Delinquent Taxpayer Property Address Property Boundaries Total Amount Due Lienholders/Other Party	William E. Raymond 21 Lebanon Road, Amston, CT Map 11 Lot 21 \$38,425.92 None
Delinquent Taxpayer Property Address Property Boundaries Total Amount Due Lienholders/Other Party	George Katsarakas 42 Griswold Lane, Amston, CT Map 19 Lot 10X.1 \$184,276.67 A.T. Demoulas, c/o Cornelia C. Adams, Goldman & Curtis	Delinquent Taxpayer Property Address Property Boundaries Total Amount Due Lienholders/Other Party	Robert P. Allen and/or Joan M. Allen Trustees of the Howard V. Sweeney and Shirley J. Sweeney Living Trust 29 Abby Drive, Hebron, CT Map 46 Lot 25 \$57,771.52 ST of CT Dept of Revenue, ST of CT Probate Administration

Inquiries should be directed to:
Matthew J. Willis, Esq.
willis@halloransage.com
(860) 241-4074
Halloran & Sage
225 Asylum Street
Hartford, CT 06103

TOWN OF HEBRON
Matthew J. Willis, Esq.
Municipal Counsel
March 25, 2022

**THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR AND IS AN EFFORT TO COLLECT A DEBT.
ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE**

1TB 3/25

LEGALS

TOWN OF COLCHESTER LEGAL NOTICE

The Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on April 6, 2022, at 7:00 P.M. to hear and consider the following petitions:
HOP CULTURE FARMS & BREW CO LLC – Special Permit Modification (2022-004) – Request a special permit modification to expand existing hours of operation at 144 Cato Corner Rd, Rural Use District.
At this hearing, interested persons may be heard and written communications received. A copy of this petition is in the Planning Department and Town Clerk's Office, Town Hall, 127 Norwich Avenue, and may be inspected during regular business hours (8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday).
Planning and Zoning Commission
Joseph Mathieu, Chair

2TB 3/25, 4/1

TOWN OF PORTLAND PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Portland Planning & Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, April 7, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the Portland Public Library, 20 Freestone Avenue, to consider the following:
PZC Application #21-10: 78 Marlborough Street. Request for Site Plan Review for proposed adult use cannabis retailer. Application and property of 6 West Ave, LLC. Assessor's Map 20, Lot 31. Zone B2.
At this hearing interested persons may appear and be heard and written communications will be received. A copy of this application is available for review in the Portland Land Use Department.
Dated at Portland, CT, this 22nd day of March 2022
Robert Ellsworth, Chairman
Planning & Zoning Commission

2TB 3/25, 4/1

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 8 HYBRID HEARING ANDOVER, HEBRON, MARLBOROUGH

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Join by phone
(US) +1 218-301-2164 (PIN: 829730087)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD BOTH VIRTUALLY AND IN-PERSON (RHAM HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM) ON MONDAY, APRIL 4, 2022, AT 6:30 P.M. TO DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING:
1. "TO PRESENT AND DISCUSS THE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 8 PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2022-2023."
2. "TO PRESENT AND DISCUSS THE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 8 PROPOSED CAPITAL BUDGET FOR 2022-2023."
DATED AT HEBRON, CONNECTICUT, March 21, 2022
REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 8
Michael Morris
MICHAEL MORRIS, CHAIRPERSON
REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 8 BOARD OF EDUCATION

2TB 3/25, 4/1

LEGAL NOTICE MARLBOROUGH CONSERVATION COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING Town Hall (26 No Main St.)

The Conservation Commission will hold the following Public Hearing on Monday April 04, 2022 at 7:00 PM at Town Hall (26 No Main St.)
APPLICATION #03 -22 – Town of Marlborough (Applicant / Property Owner), -North Main Street & Park Road, Drainage Improvements.
Written testimony will be received at the public hearing and written testimony can be sent to the Building /Land Use Department at Town Hall ahead of the public hearing. All testimony and application materials will be available to the public on the Town Website, www.Marboroughct.net, under Minutes/Agendas then Agenda 2022 then Conservation Commission.
Yvonne Bolton, CONSERVATION COMMISSION CHAIR

2TB 3/25, 4/1

LIQUOR PERMIT Notice of Application This is to give notice that, I, EDWARD MANNER 209 SAND HILL RD PORTLAND, CT 06480-1774

Have filed an application placarded 03/28/2022 with the Department of Consumer Protection for a MANUFACTURER CIDER-WINE-MEAD PERMIT for the sale of alcoholic liquor on the premises at:
**1287 PORTLAND COBALT RD
PORTLAND CT 06480-1748**
The business will be owned by:
ARRIGONI WINERY LLC
No Live Entertainment
Objections must be filed by: 05-09-2022
ARRIGONI WINERY LLC

2TB 3/25, 4/1

LEGAL NOTICE MARLBOROUGH ZONING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING Marlborough Town Hall (26 No Main.)

The Marlborough Zoning Commission will hold the following Public Hearing on Thursday, April 07, 2022 at 7:00 PM at 26 No Main St. (Marlborough Town Hall)
APPLICATION #Z-03-22 – Mitch Lichtz / Farm at Carter Hill (applicant / property owner) – 86 E Hampton Rd - Music events, comedy nights, dinners
Written testimony will be received at the public hearing and written testimony can be sent to the Building /Land Use Department at Town Hall ahead of the public hearing. All testimony and application materials will be available to the public on the Town Website, www.Marboroughct.net, under Minutes/Agendas then Agenda 2022 then Zoning Commission.
Kevin Asklar, ZONING COMMISSION CHAIR

2TB 3/25, 4/1

TOWN OF COLCHESTER LEGAL NOTICE

At its meeting of March 16, 2022, the Planning and Zoning Commission made the following decisions:
1. MTB Properties LLC – Regulation Amendment (2022-002) – The Commission APPROVED the proposed zone change of a portion of 108 Halls Hill Road (MBL# 18-00-056-000), formerly of 124 Halls Hill Road (MBL# 18-00-055-000), from Suburban Use District to Town Center Village District.
A copy of this notice has been filed in the Town Clerk's office.
Planning and Zoning Commission
Joseph Mathieu, Chair

1TB 3/25

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF HEBRON

The audit of the financial statements of the Town of Hebron for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021, as prepared by CLA LLP, Certified Public Accountants, is on file and available for public inspection in the Town Clerk's office, 15 Gilead Street, Hebron, Connecticut.
Dated at Hebron, Connecticut, this 22nd day of March 2022
Carla A. Pomproicz, Hebron Town Clerk

1TB 3/25

LEGAL NOTICE OF ACTIONS PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION HEBRON, CONNECTICUT

The Hebron Planning and Zoning Commission took the following actions at their Regular Meeting/Public Hearing which was held on Tuesday, March 22, 2022, at 7:00 P.M., on the following:
Petitions 2022-2 and 2022-3 – Site Plan and Special Permit Application of Margaret R. Nelson, seeking a change of use to a Live-Work unit consisting of an interior design showroom/gallery and a single-family residence, located at 7 Toomey Lane (Assessor's Map # 70-36), application is filed under the Section 3.A.3.5 of the Hebron Zoning Regulations, HG District. Approved with the following conditions:
1.) Prior to the filing of the Special Permit, verification shall be provided from the Tax Collector's office indicating that all property taxes are current. 2.) The business proprietor shall be required to live on the premises. 3.) Commercial activities shall be limited to the ground floor of the building unless prior approval is given by the Planning and Zoning Commission. 4.) There shall be no storage of home furnishing products to be sold at retail other than for display or layouts. 5.) The freestanding sign shall be placed at least 25 feet from the driveway intersection in accordance with Section 5.B.3 of the zoning regulations. 6.) Prior to opening the commercial space to the public, a floor plan shall be submitted to the Building Official and Fire Marshal and an inspection shall occur to ensure compliance with all applicable codes. 7.) A walkway shall be constructed connecting the parking area to the public entrance to the satisfaction of Town Staff. Plans shall be reviewed by the Building Official prior to construction to ensure adherence to applicable codes.
The video recording of the Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting can be seen using the following link:
<https://transcripts.gotomeeting.com/#/s/19b01881e2d3a41998f76a29c6b35a07403d420c60b9d9d7811feeabaf729dbd>

1TB 3/25

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON- WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY ATTENTION SEWER USERS

Notice is hereby given to all property owners connected to the sewers in East Hampton that the second installment of the sewer use payment is due and payable on April 1, 2022. The last day on which to pay without penalty is May 2, 2022. Payments received May 3, 2022 and later, including payments postmarked May 3, and later, are considered past due and will be subject to an interest penalty of 1.50% per month, or a fraction thereof, 18% per annum, from the due date of the tax, as required by Connecticut General State Statutes 12-130 and 146. The minimum interest charge is \$2 on each tax bill. A returned check fee is \$20. Payments legibly postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service on or before April 1, 2022 are considered on time regardless of when they are received by the Collector of Revenue.
As owners of property, taxpayers are responsible to see that taxes are paid when due. Failure to have sent or received a bill does not exempt the taxpayer from payment of all taxes, interest charges and collection costs, as per Conn. Gen. Stat. 12-130 and 12-146. Interest is charged on all late payments. There are no exceptions.
Please make checks payable to: Town of East Hampton. Payments may be mailed to Collector of Revenue, 1 Community Drive, East Hampton, CT 06424. Pay online at www.mytaxbill.net/easthampton **Note: Your sewer account number is required when making a payment online.**
Hours of collection are: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 8:00 am – 4:00 pm, Tuesday 8:00 am – 6:30 pm and Friday 8:00 am – 12:30 pm.
Respectively Submitted,
Scott Clayton
Public Utilities Administrator

3TB 3/25, 4/8, 4/22

INVITATION TO BID RFQ 2022-01

Regional School District 8 is seeking bids for RFQ 2022-01 Athletic Fields - Inspection and Design Services for Remediating Field Drainage/Track Surface at RHAM High/Middle School 85 Wall Street, Hebron, CT 06248.
Mandatory pre-bid meeting/site inspection will be held April 6, 2022 at 10:00AM with the Director of Facilities. Prospective proposers will meet at 85 Wall Street, Hebron, CT 06248 at 10:00AM on the Competition Field to walk the fields. Any prospective proposer not attending the pre-bid meeting or arriving late, will be prohibited from submitting a bid.
Delivery of Bids/Bid Opening: NO ELECTRONIC BIDS WILL BE ACCEPTED. Sealed Bids for Athletic Fields - Inspection and Design Services for Remediating Field Drainage/Track Surface must be received by the RHAM, Business Manager, 85 Wall Street Hebron, CT 06248 no later than 1:45 PM. EST on Monday April 25, 2022. Sealed bids shall be clearly marked Regional School District 8, RFQ 2022-01 Athletic Fields - Inspection and Design Services for Remediating Field Drainage/Track Surface. Bid opening shall be at the close of Bid submission. RHAM reserves the right to reject any or all Bids, or to accept any Bid, should RHAM deem it to be in its best interest. No proposer may withdraw its Bid within 60 days after the actual date of the opening.
Eva Gallupe, Business Manager
Regional School District 8
85 Wall Street
Hebron, CT 06248

1TB 3/25

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RE3-25-22

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RE3-25-22

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BUYING SPORTS CARDS: Have old baseball / football / basketball cards in your closet, basement or attic? This is not a business and I am not a professional collector. Just a hobbyist buying for my own enjoyment. Will Pay Cash. Please call or text me at 860-997-2411

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- ☐ \$18.00 per week combination rate, 20¢ for each additional word for insertion in both the *Citizen* and the *Bulletin*.

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www.saintclementscastle.com/about-us/employment/

Please call 860-342-0593 if you have any additional questions or email: info@saintclementscastle.com

RE3-18-22

EMPLOYMENT

BAKERS ASSISTANT AND KITCHEN HELP NEEDED at Marlborough Country Bakery. Call or stop in 860 295-9251

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.

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LANDSCAPE HELP WANTED: Positions available drivers, crew chiefs and laborers. Good pay for experienced employees. Please call Philip 860-978-5464.

MAIN OFFICE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT at Horace W. Porter School Position starts on July 1, 2022. 37.5 hours/week, 230 days/year Three years office/secretarial experience. Ability to work independently and meet deadlines in a busy office setting. Excellent verbal and written communication skills. Computer expertise, ability to type with speed and accuracy and proficiency with google suite. Organizational skills, recordkeeping ability, scheduling and coordinating meetings. Ability to multi-task and develop and implement administrative processes. Ability to maintain confidentiality is essential. Email full resume, three recommendation letters, letter of intent to klevenduski@hwporter.org.

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-12:30PM, 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.

TREE 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.

PT DISHWASHER NEEDED at Marlborough Country Bakery. Call or stop in 860 295-9251

PART-TIME RESIDENT AIDE NEEDED 7am - 3pm 3-4 days/wk includes every other weekend. Please call Christal at Greystone 860-342-2509

PART-TIME KITCHEN ASSISTANT NEEDED 12:30pm - 7pm 3-4 days/wk includes every other weekend. Please call Christal at Greystone 860-342-2509

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 draney@gmail.com or call Sue @860-228-9800.

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.

KINDERGARTEN READINESS TEACHER/EXPERIENCED Degree required. (Bring your child to work!) Our Children's Place Glastonbury seeks exceptional Full day educator, creative classroom planning, daily outdoor learning, CTLEDS assessments. Txt or email your resume 860-985-4534 or jneildowner@aol.com leads to Asst Director for qualified applicant.

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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 Risleys Road, Glastonbury, CT 06033 Deadline: Until filled AA/EOE.

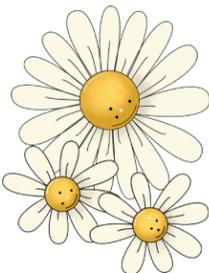
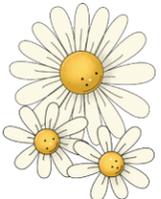
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 • Park Gate Attendant: \$14.00 per hour.
 Job descriptions and an employment application may be found at www.easthamptonct.gov. Please submit your application to the Town of East Hampton, Department of Human Resources, 1 Community Drive, East Hampton, CT 06424, or by email to lseymour@easthamptonct.gov by 4/8/2022, or until filled. EOE/AA/M-F. 1TB 3/25

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