



RIVEREAST

News Bulletin

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

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April 22, 2022



The family of local 37-year-old Ryan Donohue, is getting the word out: he needs a liver transplant. He has a rare disease causing his liver to fail. Stefanie Donohue, Ryan's wife, is sharing their story as much as possible, hoping to find a viable donor. Pictured a few years ago are Ryan, Stefanie, and their kids: twin boys Cassius (right) and Sullivan (left), 7-year-old daughter Billie, and baby Lennon.

Portland Man Seeks New Liver

By Jack Lakowsky

Ryan Donohue has fought illness for most of his adult life.

In high school he had emergency surgery to remove both his colon and large intestine. The organs were damaged by ulcerative colitis (UC), when inflammation and ulcers develop on the inner lining of the large intestine.

Years later, doctors diagnosed Ryan with a rare chronic disease called Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis (PSC).

According to the nonprofit PSC Partners Seeking a Cure, PSC causes the bile ducts inside and out of the liver to scar, narrow, and eventually, become blocked. The liver is gradually damaged and can ultimately lead to cirrhosis.

PSC mostly affects people assigned male at birth and occurs in about 1 in every 10,000 births. It's often joined by inflammatory bowel disease and, like Ryan, UC.

Right now, there are no treatments to slow PSC's progress. Its causes are unknown. It is not caused by alcohol consumption.

When Ryan was diagnosed with PSC, doctors at Yale said he'd need a new liver in 10-15 years. They were correct.

Ryan's wife, Stefanie Donohue, is spreading the word about the challenge Ryan and the family must overcome, hoping to find a valid donor.

Ryan's blood type is O, and he needs a matching type. Also, Ryan is tall, about 6'4. Stefanie told the *Rivereast* his height adds to the complexity. To be suitable, a liver donation would need to come from someone 5'10 or taller.

Stefanie said a few years ago, Ryan's condition began deteriorating rapidly.

"It really started with his coloring," she said.

Ryan's liver problems caused his skin and eyes to turn jaundiced.

The discoloration caused Ryan a good deal of anxiety about going in public. Stefanie said the illness has affected her husband's mental health greatly, saying he's more irritable and finds it harder to spend time with the kids.

"Even loading the dishwasher can seem like a monumental task," the family wrote on their online DONOR App story.

Ryan also deals with constant itchiness, which Stefanie described as torturous, and sleep disruption.

According to the DONOR post, Ryan has lost about 15 pounds in the last two years, affecting his strength. His energy level has decreased significantly, and he now struggles to "keep up with the kids, and life, in general."

All this adds up to a "drastic" mood change. A liver transplant would bring back the "husband and father" Stefanie and the couple's four kids have come to love.

"It's not like he's miserable to live with or anything," said Stefanie. "This just comes with a lot of mental strain."

There is at least some hope; Stefanie said transplant doctors at Yale have many applications from people looking to share a piece of their liver with Ryan.

Ryan is listed on the national lists for livers from both living and deceased donors. Stefanie said a living donor would be best.

Stefanie found support in the community, interacting with people facing, or who've already faced, a chronic illness, whether their own or a loved one's.

See *New Liver* page 31

Hebron Plans Bevy of Earth Day Activities

By Sloan Brewster

Earth Day is today, April 22, but Hebron's Green Committee is celebrating all weekend, with a cleanup of local roads on Saturday and the launch of a new "swap shack" at the town transfer station on Old Colchester Road on Sunday.

The swap shack – a shed where folks can leave old reusable items for the taking – will formally open Sunday at 10 a.m., with a small ribbon-cutting, but Kaitlin Hershey, chairman of the Green Committee, said the lack of parking at the transfer station has reduced the ceremony to a small gathering only.

Hershey said the swap shack has been a plan in the making for several years. The committee took a while to get funding to pay for the small building and purchased and put it up just before COVID-19 hit.

"We were supposed to launch it then," Hershey said. "But it was like mayhem."

Last year, the committee considered opening the shack, but, due to the pandemic, delayed the plan.

The shack – which was purchased at Kloter Farms in Ellington a grant from Eversource – is in back of the property, beside the bins near a strip of sidewalk where attendant Gordy Rathbun puts "little treasures that can be used again," Hershey said. "For years he's been putting them on this little sidewalk."

Rathbun said he only puts out items that are clean and workable. He said the same rule goes for what can be left in the swap shack.

He reiterated repeatedly that it is important the items be clean. Washing stuff is a big part toward making it desirable, according to Rath-

bun. He said even when folks find an item they are looking for, if it's stained or dirty, they leave it behind.

"I think I would have to say the best way to describe this is it has to be in good shape because you do find a lot of people who want to get rid of something [and say] 'uh, it just needs to be fixed a little bit,'" he said. "It has to be in decent shape."

Over the years, Rathbun said he has put bicycles, tricycles and wagons. While these types of items may be too large for the swap shack, he'll still be putting them on the sidewalk. Occasionally, he said he has found old pieces of furniture that still had some life too.

Smaller items, such as children's toys can be left in the shack.

See *Earth Day Activities* page 31

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APRIL IS PARKINSON'S AWARENESS MONTH.



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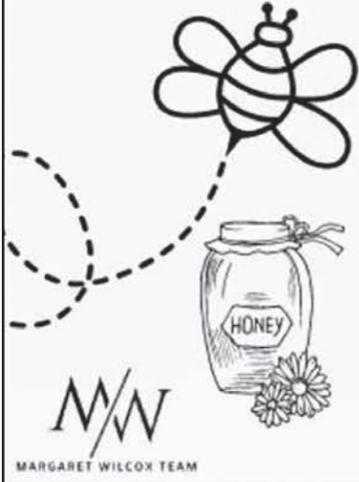
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From the Editor's Desk

Observations & Ruminations

By Mike Thompson

It may seem hard to believe, but April is starting to draw to a close. Which means there's some election-related news to keep in mind.

On Tuesday, May 3, Marlborough voters will elect two new selectmen, as its Board of Selectmen makes a long-overdue expansion from three members to five. Those five will then be tasked with selecting Marlborough's first-ever town manager. It's a heavy responsibility, for sure – making next month's election of great import to the town.

It's no surprise, then, that folks feel strongly about the candidates running, and have particular people they want to see on the board – and particular people they most definitely do not want to see on there.

The last couple of months have featured many letters to the editor about these candidates – and while most have been positive in nature, others have been negative.

And it's those negative ones that, well, you won't see next week.

Anyone writing letters about the candidates for next week's issue must keep the letters positive; endorsements only. This is because next week's issue will be the last before May 3, and anyone criticized next week won't have time to respond before Election Day.

I recently came across a *New York Daily News* item from 100 years ago – April 16, 1922, to be exact. It was all about words and expressions used by “flappers.” Flappers were all the rage in the 1920s, and Wikipedia describes them, quite amusingly, as “a subculture of young Western women in the 1920s who wore short skirts (knee height was considered short during that period), bobbed their hair, listened to jazz, and flaunted their disdain for what was then considered acceptable behavior.”

Flappers were considered brash, Wikipedia adds, for such behavior as wearing excessive makeup, drinking alcohol, smoking cigarettes in public, and – gasp! – driving automobiles. As amusing as that seems today, 100 years ago was, well, 100 years ago, and there was a

different set of cultural norms and standards.

That said, in reading the *Daily News's* list of flapper vocab words, I was struck by how a few of them are still in use today. And, as a child of the '80s who grew up on the old *Louney Tunes* cartoons, there were other expressions I was familiar with as well. How many words of the flapper are you familiar with? Let's find out. Below are the words and then the *Daily News's* 1922 definition of them:

Apple Sauce – no good, awful, rotten.

Ankle Excursion – when you have to walk home.

Bun-Duster – another name for a cake-eater. (“Cake-eater” was apparently a common enough expression in 1922 that it needed no further explanation. I looked it up, and apparently it was the equivalent of a ladies' man, or playboy.)

Boffos – dollars, otherwise known as rocks, chips, seeds, berries and jack.

Cellar-Smeller – a young man who always turns up where liquor is to be had without cost.

Crashing Party – party where several young men in a group go uninvited.

Duck's Quack – the best thing ever.

Dumb Dora – stupid girl.

Dew Dropper – young man who doesn't work, sleeps all day, and gets up at 1 p.m.

Finagler – a young man who stalls until someone pays the check.

Flat Shoe – a fight between a flapper and her goof. (This also sent me to do some re-searching, and apparently “goof” was another term for boyfriend.)

Given the air – When a girl or fellow is thrown down on a date. (Yipes.)

Gummy – In the dumps.

Gobby – One who has no style, no brains, no nothing.

Gerryflapper – A girl who thinks she looks like Geraldine Farrar and adores her. (Farrar was a popular soprano and actress at the time.)

Houdini – To be on time for a date.

Heavy Necker – A girl fond of petting.

Editor's Desk continued on page 5



On the Boardwalk... Where in the world is the Rivereast News Bulletin? Well, Bob and Laura Gray of East Hampton recently took a copy with them to Myrtle Beach. Here they are on the boardwalk. Taking a vacation soon? Bring along a copy of the Rivereast, snap a picture with it and email it to bulletin@glcitizen.com. You might win a prize!

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

Thanks from the Grange

To the Editor:

Hemlock Grange would like to thank everyone who came and supported our 110th Anniversary Celebration. The 'For Fun Band' was great, and the audience joined in for many songs. We also want to thank local businesses that supported the event:

Liberty Bank, Owen's Emporium, Kenyon Cook-tops, Mirabito Oil Co., Chris Cote's Golf Shop, Hemlock Members.

Special thanks to the *Rivereast* for publishing the event.

We collected many items for the Portland Food Pantry.

Thank you again,
Betty Jane Harrington

hunt has always been a constant since man has existed. Second, a person has a natural right to be able to defend themselves. (Some would call this a God-given right) Third, and the very reason we have the 2nd Amendment, is the right to be able to defend ourselves from a tyrannical government. The Founding Fathers had just experienced what a tyrannical government can do to its people and wanted this new government to be restrained and limited by the people it represented.

Mr. Sauyet concludes his submission with a comment about defining what a “well-regulated” militia means under the 2nd Amendment. Well Mr. Sauyet, those words have been defined for centuries now. A well-regulated militia means a well-trained militia. The militia of any state in the late 18th century was made up of its own citizens. In other words, we wanted our citizens to be armed and able to counter a tyrannical government.

Scott McGowan – Colchester

Reasons to Own Guns

To the Editor:

Joe Biden once again is using a tragedy to push for more gun control after the most recent attack in New York on April 12th. In the April 8th edition of the *Rivereast*, Scott Sauyet reminded us of the typical progressive hysteria surrounding their views of firearms. I don't have the space here to properly admonish Mr. Sauyet, but I wanted to remind everyone of some important ideas.

The 2nd Amendment protects our right – yes, right; not privilege – to own and use firearms. It is the 2nd right enumerated in the Bill of Rights for a reason. It is that important; just behind the freedom of speech.

IMHO there are three reasons we should have the ability to own a firearm. First, the ability for man to

Bulletin Board

Those of you from the soul-searching '60s may remember Thomas Anthony Harris's book “I'm Okay, You're Okay.” The best seller, which is still in print today, is a practical self-help guide to transactional analysis as a method for solving problems in life.

Transactional analysis, or TA (not to be confused with T&A, a wholly different pursuit which has recently brought about the downfall of certain oversexed Hollywood deviants) is “a psycho-analytic theory and method of therapy wherein social transactions are analyzed to determine the ego state of the patient (whether parent-like, child-like, or adult-like) as a basis for understanding behavior.”

Yes, I had to look that up and, no, I have no idea what it means. Had I opted for a degree in psychology I might be more helpful, but I chose to pursue a course of study that would lead to a real job and somehow ended up here. Perhaps psychology (or better yet, trade school) was actually the way to go, but it's too late now.

Anyway, “I'm Okay, You're Okay” sold something like 15 million copies in two dozen languages, which is marginally more than the circulation of this newspaper. The book's success indicates to me that there were a lot of suburban homeowners back in the '70s who were trying to control their rage toward neighbors who were lax about mowing their lawn. Or maybe it was a hippy/love thing. Who knows?

That sort of reaching out in mutual understanding is obviously not the norm today. Instead, our culture appears to be infected with a sort of hyper self-infatuation—to the point that many people seem to interpret the First Amendment to mean they are entitled to shout down or even physically attack folks who dare to express contrary opinions. This approach to community discourse is apparently supposed to encourage social evolution.

I recently saw a lecture where a noted presidential scholar remarked (and I paraphrase a bit), “Everyone says they revere the Constitution, but no one has ever read it.” I believe he was being overly generous. It seems to me, judging from today's widespread efforts to shut down contrary opinions in everything from college guest speakers to letters to the editor, that all too many folks not only haven't bothered to read the Constitution, they apparently don't even know what it is. Or maybe they just don't care.

I would suggest that this is what happens when an excess of self-esteem morphs into an excess of self-righteousness. I would also suggest that a healthy amount of self-esteem should give us the personal confidence to allow those who disagree with us to express their views without feeling compelled to assault them with an ax.

I believe this trend toward intellectual intolerance started a generation or two or three ago with teachers and doting parents assuring children that behavior ranging from eating wallpaper paste to peeing on the janitor's dust mop actually proved that they were special and unique and would not affect their standing on the Effort Honor Roll or their potential to become the highly compensated CEO of their very own ineffectual government grant-funded nonprofit. The end result was a whole lot of self-absorbed people who can't possibly be wrong about anything.

And so here we are, having evolved (or devolved) from “I'm Okay, You're Okay” to “I'm Always Right and You Should Shut Up or Better Yet Die.” I realize not everyone out there will agree with me on this. And I'm okay with that. Feel free to drop dead.

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.

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Reader Forum • Reader Forum

member of the BOS regarding an interaction she had with Ken on Oct. 9, 2020. He took a picture of her license plate and later contacted her on her cell phone. She questioned if he used information as a BOF member or from another person at Town Hall to obtain her name and phone number.

Greg Lowrey spoke with public safety and Ken. Based on those discussions, Greg stated there were no indications that Ken used his public office or any town resources. Greg reported that according to Ms. Pace's letter, the state police spoke to Ken who stated he obtained the personal information using an app on his phone. (I searched the internet and could not find any app that would provide you with one's personal information solely based on a license plate number).

NOTE: Listen to the recording of the 10-20-20 BOS meeting. When the BOS start to discuss Ms. Pace's letter, a major, audio disruption starts and you could barely understand the discussion. Miraculously, when the BOS finished discussing Ms. Pace's concern, the audio disruption ended(?)

3-11-2022: Liz Gorgoglione, Chairperson, MRTC to RiverEast: "You will not find a more dedicated and honorable person than Ken." (Really?)

Next: Marlborough Selectman Candidates
Cliff Denniss – Marlborough

Supports Concodello

To the Editor:

I am writing this letter in support of Louise Concodello for a new Board of Selectmen position. I have known Louise for over 25 years; I met her when she was the vice president of the Marlborough Youth Athletic League (MYAL) from 1990 to 1995. She organized all the fundraising activities for the baseball and basketball programs. Louise also started up the Park Road shed as a concession stand that helped offset the league's cost for new uniforms for the teams.

In 1995, she was asked to run for the Marlborough Board of Education and she continued with her volunteering. In 1997, she also joined the Parks and Recreation Commission. If there was anything that anyone needed Louise was there, the Bicentennial Celebration, the brick walk at the Town Green, the Playscape re-build; I know, because I have been a member of the Parks and Recreation Commission with her for the last 20 years.

I will be voting for Louise on May 3rd; hope you will be too.

Dave Lejeune – Marlborough

Note: Lejeune is a member of the Parks and Recreation Commission, but said he is speaking as an individual.

Two Mommies

To the Editor:

I just finished watching Ken Burns' biography on Benjamin Franklin. It reminded me that the nation's founding fathers left us a framework to continue the argument of who we are as a society. Franklin realized society would always have arguments. He just prayed we would evolve and learn to compromise.

Since then, we have argued a lot. We argued about abolition, women voting, integration, and gay marriages. Progressives wanted quick change. Conservatives dug in their heels against change. Yet, society's empathy eventually grew. Social attitudes towards

others changed for most people.

Our growing diversity is constantly pushing boundaries. A case in point is addressing increased numbers of children of gay parents in the classroom. These children must be afforded equal opportunities for education. These children must be made to feel safe like all other children.

Anyone around a group of young children knows they love to share in class. Being so innocent, young children don't have a filter. They can say almost anything. "We got a new puppy." "My daddy no longer lives with my mommy." So, educators must be prepared if a child shares, they have two mommies.

I don't know exactly how each school district handles the subject. I know the teacher's answer will not make the child feel ashamed. I know teachers will explain to other children in a way not to confuse them.

So, concerns about classroom discussions about sex, harmful indoctrination, grooming and pedophilia are way off the mark. The only indoctrination is trying to instill empathy and tolerance for others. The only indoctrination is trying to instill kindness and not to bully. It seems maybe some parents need to learn from their children.

Respectfully submitted,
James D. McNair III – Colchester

Car Wash Thank You

To the Editor:

Brandon Reas of Boy Scout Troop 72 of Colchester would like to thank all the people who participated in the Car Washing fund raiser on Saturday, April 16. The Scouts met a number of generous supporters and wish to thank them for turning out in support of this project. We hope that we made your car cleaner through our efforts.

Donations that were collected will be used to improve the Bulkeley Hill Road Preserve by adding benches throughout the walking trails. Look for improvements to start in the near future.

Thank you again for your supporting Boy Scouting in Colchester.

Alphonse Letendre – Colchester

Marlborough's Future

To the Editor:

Marlborough will be entering new territory with a five-member Board of Selectmen and a town manager. Over the course of the next year and a half the new board will be conducting a search for that town manager, who will be hired in late 2023.

As the sole endorsed Republican candidate and as a past member of both the Board of Education (five years) and Board of Finance (10 years), I am uniquely qualified to play an active and knowledgeable role in this process.

In addition to changes to the configuration of our town's leadership, we will be facing many challenges in the years ahead. We need to prepare ourselves to address issues such as funding new vehicles for our fire department and maintenance items such as future roof and boiler replacements at the school.

There will also be ongoing road, bridge and drainage projects. At the same time, we need to oversee future commercial development to ensure that it is done in a manner which enhances our town center, while maintaining Marlborough's "country" feel.

body's home.

His Tempo's Bad – A phrase used about anyone off-color in any way.

Wind Sucker – Any person given to boasting.

Wrinkle – The mother of a flapper; for example, "Was the wrinkle with her?"

So, there you have it. Next time you get invited to a Roaring Twenties-themed party, you're all set with the lingo. Personally, I've already adopted "duck's quack" to my vocabulary. Beats the heck out of "bee's knees."

See you next week.

And then there is the matter of the town-owned business park land and the desolate Marlborough Commons property across Route 2. Either we work to bring sewers to these properties to encourage development or we decide to sell it as-is. Either way, after two decades it is time to bring closure.

Yes, there is a lot to do, and I am prepared to represent you, my fellow Marlborough taxpayers.

For further information on my campaign for the Marlborough Board of Selectmen, please visit www.MarlGOP.com or visit my Facebook page at "Ken Hjulstrom for Marlborough Selectman."

See you at the polls on May 3.

**Ken Hjulstrom
Candidate for Board of Selectmen**

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

State Employee Pay Raises

To the Editor:

Our governor is proposing that we, the Connecticut taxpayers, should give our state employees pay raises and bonuses that far exceed normal pay increases. He recently stated that our state had a large surplus. The only way our state would have a surplus of money would be because either we reduced our spending or we were overtaxed! When was the last time we reduced spending? Never? Then our surplus was because we were overtaxed. The governor is just trying to "buy" union votes with our overtaxed dollars.

Contact your state representatives and let them know how you feel about this. I just did!

Frank Blume – Colchester

Marlborough's Election

To the Editor:

Marlborough voters will be electing two new members to the Board of Selectmen on May 3. Having attended the BOS meetings for the last three months, I've been writing letters to the RiverEast as part of my campaign for Board of Selectmen. My letters have described my beliefs, my values, and my commitments to action when elected.

Here is what I bring to the table. I listen and learn, before offering an opinion or making a decision. I am committed to treating fellow Board members as well as the public with respect. I will assure that fellow Board members have all relevant information for decision making, and that information is shared with the public. My background as well as my 16 years on the BOE and my participation in other boards and commissions has prepared me for this position.

This is an extremely critical election for Marlborough. Two new seats on the Board of Selectmen, and a first-ever town manager, bring a new system of administration to our town. I am endorsed, along with Debbie Bourbeau, by the Democratic Town Committee. I am a moderate Democrat; Debbie is registered Unaffiliated. Together we represent a balanced ticket. We put our town before party. We will collaborate to meet the needs of our town. We each believe in

treating everyone fairly and respectfully. We are each committed to open communication with fellow board members and with the public. We are individuals with our own skills and abilities who will work well together and with the other board members.

Please go to my Facebook page, Betty O'Brien for Selectman, and read the letters that I have published in RiverEast. Debbie's is Debbie Bourbeau for Selectman.

There are two open seats. Vote for each of us!

**Betty O'Brien - Marlborough
Candidate for Board of Selectmen**

Historical Society Thanks

To the Editor:

Thank you to all who participated in Hebron Historical Society's recent clothing collection. Proceeds will be used to cover annual expenses including building maintenance, utilities and public programming costs.

Hebron has a rich and varied history which we enjoy sharing with you. Please consider joining us at these upcoming programs: Grayville Mill site tour, April 23, and the story of Gay City, May 25.

We invite you to view the video of last year's mill tour and other past projects at hebronhistoricalsociety.org.

**Look forward to seeing you at future events,
The Hebron Historical Society**

Vote 'No' on Zoning Change

To the Editor:

I sincerely hope that every East Hampton resident that truly cares about maintaining the integrity of our town will attend the next Zoning Board of Appeals meeting in May. I naively thought that after the zoning change request to expand the gas station at Main Street and Route 16 was rejected twice, that would be the end of it. In spite of an outpouring of opposition from the residents in that area, the board chose to continue the review.

It seems that Atlantis Marketing is not willing to back down on their gratuitous move to make money at the expense of the residents who would be forced to live around this unneeded mega-store.

In my opinion after listening to all the discussion, the facts are clear: Belltown doesn't need a bigger gas station at this location; the adjacent properties involved should more appropriately be developed as affordable housing; the individuals who purchased the adjacent lots did so with the knowledge that it was zoned as residential but now claim they are being "disadvantaged" by not being allowed to develop this property as commercial for their financial gain.

To the one individual who felt that changing the configuration of the driveways would make the corner "safer," please let me advise her that nothing will slow down the excessive speed that drivers currently exercise as their right. On Smith Street, no speed limit signs, painted walkways, or pedestrian warning signs have had any effect on the 60% of drivers who

See Letters, page 6

Editor's Desk continued from page 4

- Lalapazaza – All-around good sport.
- Mad Money – Flapper's carfare home in case of a fight with her goof.
- Out on Parole – A person who has been divorced.
- Princess Mary – Any girl soon to be married.
- Pipe Down – Hush up.
- Rug Hopper – A young man who never takes a girl out.
- Streeter – Boyfriend who gets thrown out on the street for taking a punch at his rival.
- Tomato – A good-looking girl who can dance a blue streak but, outside of that, no-

- body's home.
- His Tempo's Bad – A phrase used about anyone off-color in any way.
- Wind Sucker – Any person given to boasting.
- Wrinkle – The mother of a flapper; for example, "Was the wrinkle with her?"
- So, there you have it. Next time you get invited to a Roaring Twenties-themed party, you're all set with the lingo. Personally, I've already adopted "duck's quack" to my vocabulary. Beats the heck out of "bee's knees."

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Reader Forum • Reader Forum

★ *Letters cont. from page 5*

race down the street, exceeding the speed limit by 20 to 30 mph.

Please citizens, attend the next meeting and ask the ZBA to vote 'no' on the zoning change.

Sandra Marshall – East Hampton

Politicians and Taxes

To the Editor:

Taxes! If it were a four-letter word, it would be one of the worst! One of my favorite tax memes from politicians goes something like this: 'We will lower your taxes. Don't worry, we will still provide services ... we'll get state/federal grants for that.' Duh. Where does this state or federal largess come from? Taxes!

If your state receives more than it contributes (CT does, and Colchester is about one-third funded by state and federal dollars), you might examine the role the federal government plays in the day-to-day life of your state. Educate yourself, decide how you feel about how every level of government budgets and spends money and show your approval or disapproval at the polls when you vote. No matter how divided the nation feels politically, we remain interconnected economically, bound to each other through tax contributions and receipts. Participating in the process and voting ensures that your voice is heard at the state and national level.

But, don't think that your local or state politician is doing you any favors with tax ploys. They're only shifting your tax burden! Note: This is an anti-politician message, not an anti-tax message.

John Barnowski – Colchester

Let Us Represent You

Dear Friends:

Although I am not affiliated with either party, the Democrats voted to ask me to run for the Board of Selectmen. They put their trust in me to serve each of you to the best of my ability.

The platform we developed consists of four pillars that we believe in. Both Betty O'Brien and I believe strongly in this platform.

1. Accountability: to serve you, the taxpayer, we expect to be fully informed with details and data to make informed decisions.

2. Representation: listening to the residents, hearing their thoughts and concerns, and voicing our support to our colleagues.

3. Communication: expressing ideas, concerns, and suggestions to fellow board members as well as keeping the public informed.

4. Collaboration: working together for the betterment of our town.

We, on the Board of Selectmen, will be responsible

for hiring a town manager in the upcoming months. That is an awesome responsibility! If everyone on the Board of Selectmen adheres to the above four pillars, we will make the best choice for Marlborough.

Yes, you can vote for both Betty O'Brien and me. With enough voter support, she and I can help make a difference for Marlborough. Vote Bourbeau and O'Brien on May 3. Let us represent you!

Thank you!

Deb Bourbeau – Marlborough Candidate for Board of Selectmen

Note: Bourbeau is a member of the Marlborough Board of Finance, but is speaking as an individual.

More Atlantis

To the Editor:

Atlantis Marketing went before the East Hampton Zoning Board of Appeals on Monday, April 11. The meeting should have been concluded that night but Atlantis managed to get it continued for another month. Despite 78 letters of opposition, a room full of angry residents and no legal grounds for granting Atlantis a hardship variance, there was no conclusion. The board wants to see a revised plan.

Atlantis is setting a trap that developers use all the time. Get the focus off the real question and turn the meeting into a review of the proposed plan. The Zoning Board of Appeals is not the place to be reviewing site plans and deciding if plantings are sufficient. The board is there to first determine if they have legal grounds to grant Atlantis a hardship exception to zoning regulations and secondly if a hardship truly exists.

Members of the community have another month to stop this, so let's use this to our advantage. Please write or email the East Hampton Zoning Board of Appeals and voice your opposition. The next meeting is May 9 and can be attended in person or via Zoom. Voice your opposition and stop this outside corporation. East Hampton residents should control our town, not Atlantis.

Kenneth Dodson – East Hampton

Cabaret Thank You

To the Editor:

Thank you to all who attended and supported the East Hampton High School Music Boosters Cabaret "Starry Night" fundraiser at EHHS on March 31. The Boosters help support the EHHS Music Department, and the annual Cabaret is the group's largest fundraiser. Attendees enjoyed a wonderful homemade pasta dinner and vocal and musical performances by talented student musicians. The event gives students the chance to shine individually or in small groups that is not always possible at the concerts held dur-

ing the year. Raffle prizes donated by many local businesses and families were given out throughout the evening. The EHHS Music Boosters would like to thank the following for their generous donations which helped make the evening such a success:

Air Line Cycles, AMC CPA, LLC Accounting and Tax Services, Black Walnut Bakery, Boomer's Boards, Cantina Ristorante, Cara Mia, Creative Nails, Dairy Queen, DaVinci Pizza, D'eliana, Designing Kids, Dexter's, Dublin, Fresca, The Hamp-toners Pet Supplies, Kickback n Bowl, Little Fish Gallery, Locco Perro, Main Street Pizza, Marlborough Bakery, Marlborough Pizza, Middlesex Music Academy, Old Bank Flowers and Greenery, Po's Rice and Spice, Rossini's, Sweet Jeans, Soho Nails, Tang, Walt Jedziniak Photography, Willow, YPCCA, The Decker Family, and The Dailey Family.

On behalf of the EHHS Music Department, thank you to everyone who performed, attended, volunteered, made food, and donated time and prizes!

**Sincerely,
Nancy Nafis
EHHS Music Boosters**

Rivereast Broken Records

To the Editor:

Likely Don Denley imagines I and *Rivereast* editor Mike Thompson are in cahoots. How else could I have accurately predicted two weeks in a row that 'racist' Don would write about Jussie Smollett and 'Blacks having too good of a time in America'? – unless I was given a sneak preview of his letter submissions before writing my own? Truth is, Don and several other *Rivereast* writers are broken records endlessly skipping back and repeating their 300-word talking points. It's not rocket science to name the writers who are going to rail on about 'progressives' or 'Democrats' – and in fairness, even for myself, 'Trumppublicans.'

Lacking cable TV, I catch Fox News on several Planet Fitness big screens; previewing what Don, Ed Kozlowski, Sam Prentice and others will write about. Like an endless cycle of conservative moral outrage at Hunter Biden's \$3.5 million Ukrainian transaction. Fox talking heads can't do math, unable to multiply \$3.5 million by 571 to arrive at the \$2 billion Saudi Arabian transaction given directly to Jared Kushner's joke of an investment firm only a few months after Trump left office. Fox News – the most predictable media outlet and to date not one Pulitzer Prize, Peabody Award or Edward R. Murrow Award. That's because it's an opinion/commentary entertainment conservative propaganda outlet. Not 'News' but a façade.

Trumppublicans mock me, calling me 'Mr. Science.' I'm not a scientist and only teach it. My students read *Science World* and I subscribe to the publications *Science*, *Scientific American*, *Smithsonian*, *Astronomy*, *Skeptical Inquirer*, *CT Wildlife* and more. I assist with National Science Bowl, CT BioBlitz's, CT Envirothon and a free-for-students Biodiversity Camp. Will Denley, Kozlowski, Prentice, Giles et. al name their sources next time they write about global warming or other science related issues? Curious where pseudo-science clubbers get their 'facts' from.

Edmund Smith – Andover

Renegotiating the Terms

To the Editor:

You go to work, you raise your family, you pay your taxes. You feel like you're a good person, and a productive member of society. You are upholding your end of the "social contract."

The idea, that you have a responsibility to your fellow citizens and the state to obey authority and do what's best for all, has been around for over 300 years. Our country's founders believed in natural rights – that our rights are inalienable and are given

to us by our Creator – but lately the idea of the "social contract" has been used as a political bludgeon by collectivist to coerce people into unwanted medical procedures and generally shame them into following the herd.

FDR brought us "The New Deal," with promises of social security and a social safety net that won't let you slip through the cracks. But what happens when the government doesn't uphold its end of the bargain? What's our recourse when the government saddles us with insurmountable debt or engages in unsanctioned wars or violates our constitutional rights on a daily basis? Who are we to turn to when our children are being propagandized in schools, our livelihoods are threatened, or our money continually devalued? What happens when our leaders can't tell men from women, use executive mandates to control us, or get caught perjuring themselves under oath? Who are we to turn too?

Now the government wants to renegotiate the terms, and create a "Green New Deal". This agreement will come with a host of freedom-crushing measures and digitally enabled surveillance.... not to mention deep austerity measures across all of our current social programs. While many citizens are rightfully questioning the merits of this proposal, that won't stop the government from acting in their own best interests. And that sounds like a "social contract" that most politicians can get behind!

Colin McNamara – Marlborough

Ken and MES

To the Editor:

From 1998 to 2003, Ken Hjulstrom served as a member of the Marlborough Board of Education. Those were very busy times, what with the \$16 million renovation and expansion project at Marlborough Elementary School, addressing outdated curriculum and installing a new administration.

When Ken first joined the Board of Education, he and his fellow board members realized that the school building had been neglected for decades. Roofs were leaking, systems were failing, classrooms had poor ventilation and we did not have a lunch program. An ambitious project was proposed to address all of these concerns and to give our community a school that would serve our kids and our community well for decades to come.

Over the course of those five years Ken spent hundreds of hours overseeing the renovation of the school with his fellow Board members to ensure that the project was completed within budget.

You can see the results today, and if you check the plaque inside the main entrance, you will see Ken's name along with those who worked so hard to give us this wonderful school.

In addition to Ken's years on the Board of Education, Ken has spent the last ten years on the Board of Finance. Now, Ken is asking for your vote to elect him to the Board of Selectmen. I ask that you join me on May 3 by voting for Ken Hjulstrom. For more information on Ken, please visit www.MarlGOP.com.

Please join me at the polls on May 3rd.

Kerri Barella – Marlborough

Note: Barella is a member of the Marlborough Board of Education, but said she is speaking as an individual.

No Drama, No Agenda

To the Editor:

Having been reading as well as writing campaign letters in the *Rivereast*, I have been thinking a lot about promises and commitments. It is sometimes frustrating to see how many large promises are made by candidates for elective office, often to be excused or forgotten once the realities of office are in place. You will see that I have focused on issues



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Reader Forum • Reader Forum

each week. They are issues that I believe need addressing in Marlborough. What I promise has to do with character. I promise to address every issue with honesty, with integrity and with forethought. I understand that no one selectman works alone. I promise as well to collaborate with each of the other selectmen, and boards where appropriate, so that a non-partisan approach can address the needs of our town, not the preferences of political parties.

Please bring your family and join us at "Meet the Candidates" Saturday, April 23, from 3-5 p.m., at Marlborough Arts Center. There will be refreshments, activities for children, and time to talk. We want your vote on the May 3 special election for two new seats on the Board of Selectmen.

Sincerely,
Betty O'Brien – Marlborough
Candidate for Board of Selectmen

Ken Serves Marlborough

To the Editor:

I am writing to ask you to support Ken Hjulstrom for election as a Marlborough selectman.

I have known Ken for over 20 years and throughout that time I have always been impressed by Ken's dedication to our community. Ken has served since 1998 on several town boards including the Board of Education, Board of Assessment Appeals and for the last decade, on the Board of Finance.

Ken also serves our community as a member of the Marlborough Lions, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and as president of the executive board of the Florence Lord Senior Housing facility here in town. Back in the '90s, Ken was also on the Marlborough PTO serving as co-vice president and running the PTO Science Fair. Ken is always ready to lend a hand.

I am sure that Ken will be a great addition to the Board of Selectmen. He insists on having the information necessary to make an informed decision. Ken is fiscally conservative and will not waste your taxpayer dollars. In fact, he goes the extra mile to minimize taxes and provide our residents with the best services possible. Ken is our "fiscal watchdog."

So, on May 3, I would ask you to vote for Ken. I know I will.

For more information on Ken Hjulstrom and his campaign, please visit www.MarlGOP.com or visit Ken's Facebook page at "Ken Hjulstrom for Marlborough Selectman."

Thank you and see you at the polls on May 3.

Bob Gaudinski – Marlborough

Guns

To the Editor:

"Leftists blame guns for shootings," says Sam Prentice. This is what I meant by, "The usual idiots will surely be back tomorrow telling us that gun control is immoral, stupid, and unconstitutional." No, guns don't shoot. Guns don't commit murder. Guns don't invade our schools, businesses, places of worship, and public squares in order to massacre the innocent. People with easy access to guns do so.

Dupes of the gun lobby constantly compare guns to knives or automobiles used as weapons. Well, access to knives and to automobiles are even more widespread than access to firearms, and yet firearms are used in more 76% of the murders in this country, and in almost all of the mass killings. (Source: <https://link.sauyet.com/48>)

As to "well-regulated militia," it's simple enough. Clear in the Declaration of Independence is that the British army's interaction with the colonists was a great concern to the founders. They worried standing armies would lead to tyranny and thought that the United States should raise them only during wartime.

See Letters, page 16

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Finance Board Debates School Budget Cuts

By Michael Sinkewicz

The Board of Finance was unable to agree to a bottom-line amount to the education budget after two workshops of review.

Last month, the Board of Education passed a spending plan of \$42.22 million- a \$398,646 or .95% increase- from the current year.

Unlike the town budget proposal, which the finance board was largely in agreement over, the board was split on whether to support the education budget at its current increase, or cut it.

Although the second workshop, held on April 19 at Town Hall, contained deep discussion of the budget, the board ultimately didn't decide on a final number. A vote on the bottom-line number is expected to take place during a public hearing on April 20.

During the meeting, the Republican majority on the board was in favor of trimming the budget while the two Democrats wanted to keep the proposed increase.

"Although we're fiscally responsible, we want to support the people working for us," Mike Egan, a Democrat on the board said, adding that a cut would be harmful to the district.

"Our schools will see this as not supporting them," he said.

Egan urged the board to allow the public the opportunity to vote on this budget.

"Give the voters the chance," Egan said, "They want a school system that does the best it possibly can to educate their kids."

Andrea Migliaccio, finance board chair and a Republican, argued that if the budget was cut by around \$400,000- resulting in a flat-budget increase- the school system would be able to function adequately.

"The schools can run on a flat budget for the next 12 months," she said.

Migliaccio was also concerned with approving a budget that the public would support.

"My fear is a failure at the polls, not the specific dollar amount," she said, "If we go to the referendum flat- that passing has the best odds."

Migliaccio stated that she wants the education board to be successful, and that if the budget failed at referendum it would ultimately be cut regardless. She emphasized that nobody was losing the opportunity to vote on the budget.

Egan disagreed and expressed that a cut would not be in the town's best interest.

"You're looking at devastating the school system," he said.

Timothy Vaillancourt, a Republican on the board, stated that the bottom-line number was not acceptable to him.

"There's just no way I can support it," he said.

Vaillancourt also shot back at Egan, arguing that the public would be in favor of trimming the budget since it elected a conservative majority to the finance board.

Art Shilosky, a Republican on the board and former first selectman of Colchester, was in favor of substantially cutting the budget by up to \$650,000.

"I think the taxpayer needs a break."

The Democrats on the board believed that was too large of an ask. Mike Hayes, a Democrat, couldn't find any areas that could "realistically" be cut from the proposal.

Egan added that if that level of cut took place, he would want to directly hear from the education board on what impact it would have on the school system.

The board attempted to find areas in the budget that could potentially be cut, but found that challenging.

One strategy that emerged included continuing to fund certain items using American Rescue Plan (ARPA) money that were scheduled to return to the operating budget this year.

In the budget proposal, certain items that use ARPA funds are transferred back to education budget. Maggie Cosgrove, chief financial officer, argued that this wouldn't be an effective way of trimming the budget total.

"It simply postpones the increase to future budgets," she said.

Another idea, suggested by Egan, included using unassigned fund balance to address certain capital items in the budget - a strategy the board used with the town budget to trim the total.

However, the board didn't immediately identify any one-time capital items that would result in a significant cut. Board members were also cautious to use fund balance for items such as teachers, which would require multiple years of funding.

Cosgrove, who usually only offers financial advisement, urged the board to find a compromise with cutting the budget.

"We spend too much time on things we disagree about," she said.

Migliaccio expressed an openness to cut the bottom-line by \$200,000, which would be the halfway point between keeping the current proposal and a zero percent increase.

The board agreed that a final decision wouldn't be reached during the workshop, but committed to approving a final number at its

next meeting.

Jessica Morozowich, an education board member and a Democrat, told the finance board that the decision to hold the workshops in-person "intentionally created bars" for public feedback.

"You're not hearing their voices," she said. Migliaccio, who made the final decision to hold the meetings in-person, disagreed, arguing that the meetings have been accessible.

"It's not meant to intentionally block anyone from the budget process," she said, adding, "We're all excited about the hybrid option."

The Board of Selectmen recently approved funding for the installation of hybrid technology at Town Hall that would allow meetings to be both in-person and virtual simultaneously.

Morozowich also made a comment about budget savings that the education board might have at the end of the year. During the first budget workshop, Migliaccio expressed some concern with the amount of budget transfers that take place.

"We shouldn't be penalized for having savings," Morozowich said, "You should always have a little wiggle room."

Another notable moment from the first workshop involved Egan presenting a handout with the proposed education budgets of neighboring towns. After reviewing the numbers, Egan concluded that Colchester is proposing a smaller increase than many places.

"Our budget meets the needs of the students at a lower cost than other towns," he said.

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.

Local AARP Chapter to Meet

Colchester AARP No. 4019 will meet at Colchester Senior Center, 95 Norwich Ave., on Tuesday, May 3, at 1:30 p.m., for nominations and elections of new officers and directors for 2022 through 2023.

On Tuesday, May 24, at 10 a.m., the chapter will gather again for a "Meet and Greet" with the town's new fire chief, Steve Hoffman. This program is co-sponsored with the Colchester Senior Center. The meeting is opened to all citizens of Colchester.

Also, on Tuesday, June 7, chapter members will meet for a luncheon at 12:30 p.m. at Papa Z's in Westchester. All new officers and directors will be sworn in. All ages 50 and older are welcome. More information on the luncheon will be presented at the May 24 meeting.

Dean's List

Samantha Shea Gauthier of Colchester made the fall 2021 Dean's List at Hartwick College in Oneonta, N.Y.

Gauthier is a member of the Class of 2025.

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. Register online at colchesterctrec.recdesk.com/Community/Home. The Parks and Rec. office is located at Town Hall, 127 Norwich Ave.

Annual Spring Clean-Up: Saturday, April 30, 8 a.m.-noon. People (groups, families, organizations) can register online to clean up a specific area in town. Parks and Rec. will provide garbage bags which can be left onsite for the public works crew to pick up. If interested in cleaning a neighborhood, Parks and Rec. can help arrange this as well. Clean-up areas in town include the schools, the RecPlex, the Town Green, Town Hall, and the Ruby Cohen Woodlands. All registered participants will meet at noon at the Town Green baseball field for a group picture, then will head over to Mel's Downtown Creamery for a free ice cream cone. When you register you will be able to specify a location and then you will receive an email with all of the details on Monday, April 25. For more information, call Parks and Rec. Registration is online.

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 25. Minimum number of passengers needed is 45, maximum is 54. Register online. Call Parks and Rec. for more information.

DEEP Safe Boating Class: Monday, May 2, and Wednesday, May 4, 5-9 p.m. both nights, at Town Hall, for ages 16 and up. Participants must attend both nights. Successful completion qualifies a person to purchase for \$50 a Certificate of Personal Watercraft Operation (CPWO), which is required to operate a boat. The class requires a minimum of 15 participants, with a maximum of 25. Cost of the class is \$25/person. Register online. Call Parks and Rec. for more information.

Start Smart: Thursdays, May 5-June 16 (no class June 2), from 5:30-6:30 p.m., on the Town Green, for ages 3-5. There is a June 23 makeup date if needed. An adult partner is required to stay. Cost is \$50 per child. Register online. Call Parks and Rec. for more information.

Adult Golf Lessons: Mondays in June from 6-7 p.m., at Chantclair, for ages 16 and up. June 4 and 11 are at the golf course and June 18 and 25 are at the driving range. Cost is \$95/resident, \$100/non-resident. Register online. Call Parks and Rec. for more information.

Summer Day Camp: 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. Camp dates are June 27-Aug. 19. Camp schedule is available online. Payment plans and limited scholarship funding available. For more information, call Parks and Rec.

SPT Summer Soccer Camp: Monday-Friday, July 25-29, 5-8 p.m., at the RecPlex, for kids entering grades 1-12 in the fall. Cost is \$125/resident, \$130/non-resident. Register online. Call Parks and Rec. for more information.

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Finance Board OKs Budget for Final Presentation

By Michael Sinkewicz

The Colchester Board of Finance unanimously passed a motion during its meeting April 18 to send the town budget to a public meeting for final presentation.

At the end of the board's second budget workshop, it approved the bottom line of \$16.03 million- a 2.12% or \$333,482 increase over the current town budget.

During both of the workshops, the board largely embraced the proposed budget, presented by First Selectman Andreas Bisbikos, earlier this month.

The board unanimously passed two motions that made edits slightly reducing the total amount.

The first motion, passed six to zero, reduced the budget by \$79,500 by taking certain capital items out of the operational budget by using unassigned fund balance.

These items included bath house repairs at \$7,500, library repairs at \$25,000, windows at the fire house at \$35,000 and an off-utility vehicle for the fire department at \$12,000.

In addition, because some of the items have multi-year spending plans, the board is planning on funding them as they go, meaning that the total amount saved from the budget over the next three years will amount to \$111,000.

"It's going to reduce the ask to the public," said Andrea Migliaccio, chair of the finance

board and a Republican.

The second motion unanimously passed by the board increased the Memorial Day Parade budget by \$1,000- putting it at \$3,000.

Art Schilosky, a Republican member of the board and former first selectman, approved of the proposed budget, but emphasized that he'd like more trimmed.

"We're getting a lot done but I want more cut," he said, "People are hurting- I have a problem with that."

In response, the other board members and chief financial officer, Maggie Cosgrove, countered that the budget wouldn't necessarily cause taxes to go up.

"There might not be a tax increase to the average person in town," Cosgrove said.

Mike Egan, a Democrat on the board, agreed. "It's going to really come down to each individual taxpayer," Egan said, "We're seeing the ability to tackle the problems Andreas outlined."

Migliaccio informed the board that after reviewing their information online, some of its members had slight tax increases coming themselves, but that overall it wouldn't be significant.

Egan, echoing that point, argued that Colchester was in a good position.

"We're in a lot better situation than some

other neighboring towns."

While all of the board members agreed with Schilosky that cutting the budget would be ideal, ultimately none of them could present any areas to be adjusted.

"We have an opportunity to address things that haven't for years," Mike Hayes, a Democrat on the board, said, "We'd have to cut things that we've cut year after year."

Migliaccio agreed, stating that the board shouldn't change anything else.

"The initiatives are needed," she said, "They cannot be cut."

Migliaccio also praised the work Bisbikos did with preparing the budget, trusting his judgment.

"We're putting forward to the town what we think will pass, which is our job," she said, "I'm confident in (Bisbikos') number because I'm confident his ability to craft the budget."

John Thomas, another Republican on the board, expressed how he also wanted substantial cuts, but that he couldn't find any spot for them either.

"Every number has a plan," he said, "It sets

us up for the next year so we're not heading into it with a blindfold."

Bisbikos agreed, stating that during his term there's been "responsible, fiscal spending."

He added that the use of American rescue plan funding (ARPA) will also help map out spending.

"ARPA is being utilized and that sets us up for the year, too," Bisbikos said.

Timothy Vaillancourt, who was searching for cuts, was also convinced that the budget total was an acceptable amount.

"I'm comfortable with where we're at," he said

The board did have prepared questions for Bisbikos and Cosgrove to elaborate on certain items.

One topic brought up by Hayes was the proposal to keep road improvements flat from the current year at \$620,000. Cosgrove was confident that item would be acceptable without making a "giant leap."

The approved budget is scheduled to be presented to the public again on April 20, along with the education budget.

Theme Chosen for Memorial Day Parade

The theme has been chosen for this year's Memorial Day parade: "Colchester Remembers Their Citizens Who Gave Their Tomorrows for Our Today's."

All marching units and floats should try and use the theme in preparing for the parade, which will be on Sunday, May 29. Applications are now available at Town Hall, 127 Norwich Ave., and through www.colchesterct.gov. Applications are required for those who are interested in participating in the parade; contact the Town

Hall and file your application before May 1.

Colchester will celebrate Memorial Day on Sunday, May 29, starting the parade at 12:30 p.m. Parade participants should assemble by 11 a.m. The general public is encouraged to view the parade on Norwich Avenue and Main Street. The memorial ceremony will take place on the Veterans' Green starting at about 1:15 p.m. Any local veterans are encouraged to join in the line of march. A trailer will be provided for those veterans that are not able to march.

Let the Fish Swim Free

The 'Let the Fish Swim Free' painting fundraiser, to benefit the development of the new Norton Park, will take place Saturday, April 30, at 1 p.m. and 2 p.m., and Saturday, May 7, at 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. All sessions will be at the Colchester RecPlex Pavilion, 215 Old Hebron Rd.

Local fine artist and Norton family member Julianna W. Cameron will lead the design and painting events, where participants will be encouraged to creatively their paint fish cut from authentic C.H. Norton paper mill board. The participants may choose to have their painted fish be part of an art exhibit to be held at Cragin

Memorial Library May 21-June 30.

There are three different fish to paint: Salmon (28"x9") for \$30, Trout (23"x6") for \$20 and Alewife (12"x6") for \$10. To register for the fundraiser, visit colchesterctrec.recdesk.com/Community/Program.

There is also another painting session planned for Thursday, April 28, at 1:30 p.m., at Colchester Senior Center, 95 Norwich Ave.; register for this one through the center, at 860-537-3911.

For more information about the development of Norton Park, go to www.colchesterct.gov/norton-park-committee.

Mother's Day Flower Sale

Boy Scout Troop 72 will hold its 21st Mother's Day flower sale adjacent to the Colchester Hayward Volunteer Fire Department Headquarters on Old Hartford Road on Friday, May 6, from 5-8 p.m., and on Saturday, May 7, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. or when sold out.

The Scouts will have a variety of hanging baskets and individual potted plants available on site. All plants are supplied by a local grower.

All proceeds will go to support scout camping and youth training activities. Troop 72 has more than 20 Scouts and has been serving Colchester's youth since 1939.

Project Graduation Trivia Night Fundraiser

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

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

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

Local Author at Glastonbury Bookstore

Colchester resident Elaine Alexander will participate in the Indie Bookstore event on Saturday, April 30, at River Bend Bookstore, 2217 Main St. Alexander will be signing at 11:30 a.m.

Alexander has spent a number of years in children's services at the public library before getting an offer of publication for her STEM picture book, *Anglerfish: The Seadevil of the Deep*. A narrative nonfiction format, the book follows the life cycle of these unusual fish. The manuscript, which was crafted in 2005 as a college assignment, has won a Barbara Karlin Grant and a Katherine Paterson prize before being published with Candlewick Press. A second book featuring the giant cuttlefish is slated for publication in 2024.

Find out more about Alexander at www.elainemalexander.com.

CHFD Surveying Community

The Colchester Hayward Fire Department is conducting a survey of its external stakeholders - a.k.a., community members - in order to see how the department is doing and where it can improve.

All residents and business owners are asked to complete the survey, which is located at www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZNCBJ5S.

The survey will close Saturday, April 30.

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Senior Center News & Notes

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

Monday, April 25: 9 a.m., Making Memories Program, Exercise with Anne; 10 a.m., Sittercize, Stitch & Fix; 11 a.m., Learn to Sign; 12:30 p.m., Mahjongg; 12:45 p.m., Setback; 1 p.m., Glass Painting, Bridge.

Tuesday, April 26: 9 a.m., Making Memories; 9:45 a.m., Tai Chi; 12:30 p.m., Pinochle, In the Know; 1:30 p.m., Bingo; 7 p.m., SCBC Meeting, held via Zoom.

Wednesday, April 27: 9 a.m., Making Memories Program, Walking Group – meet at the Air Line Trail in Amston; 10 a.m., Adult Coloring, Sit & Be Fit, Make Your Own Seasonings; 1:30 p.m., Line Dancing.

Thursday, April 28: 9 a.m., Exercise w/Anne; 10 a.m., Sittercize; Wii Bowling; 11 a.m., Yoga; noon, Chair Massage; 12:30 p.m., Dominoes; 1 p.m., Knit & Crochet; 1:30 p.m., Norton Park Painting Fundraiser.

Friday, April 29: The senior center is closed for operations, with no transportation or lunch. However, at 10 a.m., doors will open for a Volun-

teer Appreciation Event, by invitation only.

Upcoming Programs: The Real History of Cinco de Mayo: Wednesday, May 4, 1:30 p.m. Learn about the traditions, history and myths of this Mexican holiday. The presentation will be followed by a make-your-own guacamole served with tortilla chips. Fee is \$5/person; register by April 29.

Mother's Day Brunch: Wednesday, May 11, 10 a.m. All are welcome to this brunch, which will include an egg and cheese omelet, home fries, sausage patty, tomato and cucumber salad, peach pie, orange juice and coffee. Ron Murray will perform rock and roll, swing, Latin, and country songs. Advanced registration is required; tickets are \$9.

Community Health & Wellness Fair: Sunday, May 15, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sponsored by Youth & Social Services in collaboration with the Colchester Commission on Aging, the Colchester Senior Center, Parks & Rec., and Cragin Memorial Library, this event will feature booths and breakout sessions throughout William J. Johnston Middle School, located at 360 Norwich Ave. There will be take-home items and giveaways as well.

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.colchesterfederated-church.org under the Worship & Sermons tab. Updated information is also on the church's Facebook page.

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

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

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



Cub Scout Graduation... On March 26 Cub Scout Pack 109 held their Blue and Gold ceremony where 3 scouts were awarded their Arrow of Light awards, the highest rank earned in Cub Scouts. The scouts then crossed over to Scout BSA Troops, where more adventure awaits. Pictured, from left to right, Pack 109 Cubmaster Aaron Berta, Bryce Berta who crossed over to Troop 72, William Morsch who crossed over to Troop 109, and Zack Ginand who crossed over to Troop 13. The ceremony was attended by family and friends and BSA troop leaders and scouts. Colchester is home to 2 Cub Scout Packs and 3 Scout BSA Troops. Pack and Troop 13 are sponsored by St. Andrew Church, Troop 72 is sponsored by the Federated Church, and Pack and Troop 109 are sponsored by the Westchester Congregational Church. For more information about these scout units and who may join, email afcscere@gmail.com.

Church Tag Sale Saturday

Westchester Congregational Church will host a Tag Sale Saturday, April 23, from 8 a.m.-noon, at the parsonage, located at 95 Cemetery Road in Colchester. There will be various items in good condition. No early birds, please.

'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.

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 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.

Cragin Book Club

The Cragin Book Club will meet Monday, April 25, at 6 p.m., at the library, 8 Linwood Ave.

This month, read *Playing Nice* by JP Delaney. Copies are available for checkout at the Adult Circulation Desk. For updates on the program, sign up at tinyurl.com/cmlbookclub.

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

Glass Painting 101

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

Fee is \$20, which include materials. Pre-register in the office. For more information, call 860-537-3911.



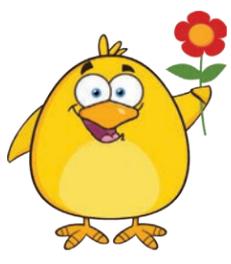
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Robocats Finish Season Strong!... Bacon Academy's Robotics Competition Team 1699 brought home the Industrial Design Award from the Hartford District Event on April 10. The award is sponsored by General Motors and celebrates the team that demonstrates industrial design principles striking a balance between form, function and aesthetics. The team finished the season as Alliance Captain 8 in the quarterfinals of the New England District Championships last weekend. Pictured from left are, back row, Emma Anderson, Evan Paquette, Kevin Reas, John Dalton, Sam Ringuette, Alex Mauldin, Abby Belding, Chase Vendrillo, Jacob Hosford, Callum Cuadro and Logan Lammey. In front, team captains Brooke Rodgers and Will Girard. Not pictured: Austin Brown and Julia Cavaliere.

WJMS Empty Bowls & Arts Night

William J. Johnston Middle School will hold its Empty Bowls & Arts Night, with a vendor fair, on Friday, May 13, from 5-8 p.m., at the middle school, 360 Norwich Ave. This event is sponsored by WJMS and the Bacon Academy Unified Arts Program.

All soup bowls purchased will benefit Colchester Food Bank and Restavec Freedom Alliance (an organization helping former Haitian child slaves). Proceeds for both causes will be split 50/50. Guests can purchase a handcrafted bowl for \$10 (\$8 for senior citizens) and experience an evening of soup, bread, desserts and the arts.

The handcrafted bowls are created by students from both WJMS and Bacon Academy, staff, Bacon Academy Unified Artists, and local artisans.

The event will also feature the WJMS Art Show, Jazz Band, Choir, Guitar Club with Dan

Ramage, and an interactive Digital Media and Innovations exhibit. Purchasing handcrafted bowls will benefit the Colchester Food Bank and Restavec Freedom Alliance. The Vendor Fair supports the WJMS Art Program.

For more information regarding Empty Bowls & Arts night, contact Christine Taylor at ctaylor@colchesterct.org, and for Vendor Fair entry or information, contact Kris Gallucci at kgallucci@colchesterct.org.

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, Aggadadah 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's Facebook page on the Sefer Chasidim and the Book of Proverbs.

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

'Meet Alexander Hamilton'

The Colchester Historical Society will present the one-man show "Meet Alexander Hamilton" Sunday, April 24, at 3 p.m., at Colchester Federated Church, 60 Main St.

Wearing period clothing, Ian Rose will play Alexander Hamilton, George Washington's aide de camp and the nation's first secretary of the treasury. Along the way, he'll share stories from Hamilton's illegitimate birth, his career, and finally his untimely death at the hands of Aaron Burr.

This is a free event, though donations are encouraged, to benefit the Colchester Historical Society. Contact the society at mail@colchesterhistory.org or 860 537-4230 for more information.

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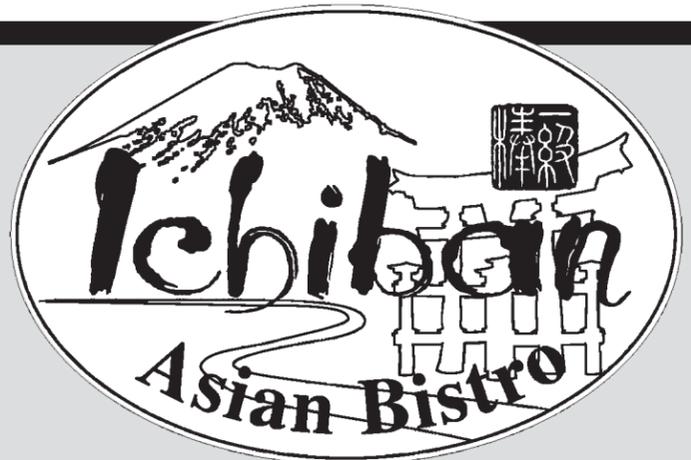
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Donate Life... April is Organ Donation Awareness month and 'Donate Life' flags are raised across America to bring a greater awareness to organ and tissue donation. The 'Donate Life' flag was raised in Colchester at the Town Hall on April 11, and remained up through today, April 22. This was the 10th year that the 'Donate Life' flag has been raised in Colchester. Pictured from left are First Selectman Andreas Bisbikos; Kathy Bruno, a donor mom from Southington whose daughter Julia gave the gift of life in 2019 following a car accident; and Peter Kupczak, a donor dad from Colchester whose daughter Jessica gave the gift of life in 2002 after suffering a severe asthma attack.



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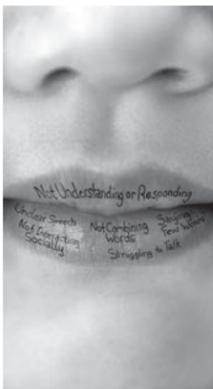
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Annual Town Budget Meeting Set for May 2

By Jack Lakowsky

The Portland Board of Selectmen in its April 6 meeting adopted First Selectman Ryan Curley's proposed 2022-23 spending plan of \$37.04 million, 2.45% higher, or about \$887,000, over the current budget.

This figure is the general government and school board budget combined. General government is at \$14.3 million while the school district's budget stands at \$22.8 million.

Most of the increase is from the schools, about \$570,000.

Earlier this month, the select board reduced the general government budget by about \$94,000, bringing general government from a 2.94% increase to 2.27%.

The board cut the schools' budget by about \$40,000, going from a 2.75% increase to 2.57%. In an April 5 school board meeting district superintendent Charles Britton said schools can absorb this cost through new revenue.

Even if this revenue doesn't pan out, Britton said the school has incoming grants. Worst case, Britton would cut the \$40,000 directly. He wasn't yet prepared to say what will be cut, preferring to wait for the other information.

In all, selectmen cut about \$134,000 from the budget.

According to Curley's budget summary, the estimated mill rate change would be from

35.01 mills to 32.39, a decrease of 2.62 mills.

"This is a budget the town of Portland will benefit from," Curley told the *Rivereast* last week. "It maintains our services and keeps us moving forward. There's no pork in this budget."

Though a lean one, Curley wishes it could be ever lower, he said last week.

Curley said he's hopeful voters show out to approve the budget in a vote on May 9.

Curley said overall the selectmen "didn't remove too much," focusing on things that can be funded through outside resources, like American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) money.

For example, selectmen cut replacement of a fuel pump the town's vehicles use. Curley said this isn't because the pump is superfluous, but that it can possibly be funded through ARPA.

This was Curley's first time devising a budget as the town's chief executive, written during the instability of the pandemic and record inflation.

Voters can voice their thoughts on the budget at a May 2 town meeting at 7 p.m. in the Portland Middle School cafeteria. The town will approve or reject the town's proposed budget at a May 9 vote in the Portland Middle School Band Room.

COVID-safe protocols will be observed, according to town information.

Memorial Day Parade Coming

Organizations are invited to participate in the Portland Memorial Day Parade, which will be hosted by American Legion Ormont Post No. 69 on Sunday, May 29, rain or shine.

The parade will assemble at Victoria Road promptly at 1:30 p.m. Floats should assemble at 12:30 p.m. Step-off will be at 2 PM.

The procession will stop for a brief ceremony at the Civil War monument on Bartlett Street; it will continue down Main Street as usual. A reviewing stand will be stationed at Brownstone Intermediate School. The parade will then turn left on Waverley Avenue, left onto East Main Street, and right onto Fairview Street, ending at Veterans Memorial Park.

The parade will also have a float competition. The theme for this year's float competition is: "Dear Veteran, Thank you for protecting my freedom." There are many symbols that represent Memorial Day, and float-designers are

asked to use one of these symbols "to teach and remind us of the true meaning of Memorial Day."

Details about no parking and road closures for the day will be announced in the weeks ahead.

Memorial ceremonies will take place at the Town Green immediately after the parade. All participants are requested to observe the ceremony. As in the past, all participants will be served refreshments at the American Legion Hall after the benediction.

Organizations that wish to participate must submit their reservation slips no later than Friday, May 11.

For more information, contact Sara Sterry Rutter, parade organizer, at 860-250-2041 or ssterryrutter@yahoo.com, or at 32 East Main St., Portland, CT 064080.

Portland Library News & Notes

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

Hours: Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Curbside delivery of requested items continues; call the library or reserve items online and you will receive a notice or call when your materials are available.

Youth Programs: Nutmeg Voting: Stop into the library to vote on the 2022 Nutmeg Nominees or submit your favorite title in your age group to portlandlibrary@portlandct.org. Winners will be announced on May 15, and next year's nominees will be announced on May 1.

May Storytimes: Registration is now underway, and space is limited. A craft will be offered for those in the preschool program. Masks are recommended, but not required. **Preschool Storytime:** Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m., May 3, 10, 17, 24. **Storytime for Toddlers and Tots: Mother Goose on the Loose:** Wednesdays at 10:15 a.m. or 11:15 a.m., May 4, 11, 18, 25

Lego Club: Thursdays at 3:30 p.m., through May 26, for kids of all ages. In this drop-in program, complete the weekly "Master Builder" challenge or enjoy free building time. No registration required.

Adult Programs: Fair Housing Matters: Homelessness – Issues & Solutions: Wednesday, April 27, 7 p.m., via Zoom. Speakers from Mercy Housing & Shelter and Columbus House will discuss facts about homelessness in our region, and share about services for prevention, access to safe housing and other resources. For more information, visit <https://www.facebook.com/PortlandCTSocialJustice>. Sponsored by: Portland Social Justice Coalition, Town of Portland, including Portland Library, Youth & Family Services, and the first selectman's office

Passport to Connecticut Libraries Contest: Runs through April 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.

The Dogs of Chernobyl: A Story of Hope & Resilience: Tuesday, May 17, 6:30 p.m., via Zoom. Feline behaviorist Stephen Quandt recently went to Chernobyl to participate in a spay/neuter and research campaign for the dogs that were descended from the pets left behind after the nuclear plant disaster of 1986. With many personally shot photos and videos, he will tell the story of meeting the inhabitants of the mostly abandoned town of Chernobyl City (you will meet two squatters, one a hero of the disaster), the totally abandoned city of Pripyat and the dogs (and some cats) that he encountered. Quandt created this webinar based on his experiences in the Exclusion Zone around the Chernobyl nuclear power plant. Registration required. A link will be sent to you a few days before the event.

Book Clubs at the Library: Tuesday, May 3, 1 p.m. *The Barbizon: The Hotel That Set Women Free* by Paulina Bren will be discussed. Thursday, May 5, 6:30 p.m. *Lost Children Archive* by Valeria Luiselli will be discussed. Mystery Book Lovers' Club: Tuesday, May 17, 1 p.m. *The Cabinets of Barnaby Mayne* by Elsa Hart will be discussed.

Portland Forum: Thursday, May 26, 6:30 p.m. In honor of AAPI Heritage Month, *On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous* by Ocean Vuong will be discussed.

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

Homelessness: Issues & Solutions

On Wednesday, April 27, at 7 p.m. on Zoom, the Portland Social Justice Coalition and the Town of Portland will present their third event in the Fair Housing Matters series – "Homelessness: Issues & Solutions."

Learn about Portland's new grant which helps prevent homelessness by expanding services through the Coordinated Access Network. Speakers from Mercy Housing & Shelter, Columbus House and St. Vincent de Paul will discuss facts about homelessness in our region, and share services for prevention, access to safe housing and other resources. Questions

for the panelists may be addressed to portland-socialjustice@gmail.com. This event is co-sponsored by Portland Social Justice Coalition, Portland Library, Youth & Family Services, and the First Selectman's Office.

Registration is encouraged at portlandlibraryct.org or by calling 860-342-6770. Limited computer and internet access will be available at the library. If you or someone you know is in need of shelter, call 211 to be connected with the Coordinated Access Network.

Follow PSJC at Facebook.com/PortlandCT-SocialJustice to learn more.

Final Days to Register for Town-Wide Tag Sale

The registration deadline for the Portland Historical Society's 26th annual Town-Wide Tag Sale Day on Saturday, May 7 is this weekend — all registrations must be received (even if mailed at post office) by Monday, April 25.

The tag sale registration sheet was included in the society's March newsletter and can also be found in the barrel on the front steps of the Ruth Callander House Museum of Portland History, located at 492 Main St. Registration and payment can also be done online by clicking on the link (the bright yellow tag sale banner) on the society's website, www.portlandhistsoc.org; just follow the instructions online. Completed paper registration sheets along with payment must be mailed to the society at P.O. Box 98, Portland CT 06480 and

received by Monday, April 25. The donation to the society for a spot on the Tag Sale Map is \$25.

The sign-up period will then close to allow time for preparation and printing of the map prior to the May 7 sales. 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. Registered tag sales will be marked with new pole signs this year, with numbers corresponding to sale locations on the map.

The annual Town-Wide Tag Sale is a major fundraiser for the museum. For more information, call 860-982-1486 or email portlandct-history@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.

Adult Programs: Tai Chi for Long Life: Saturdays through June 4 (started April 16), 10:30-11:15 a.m., or Wednesdays through June 8 (started April 20), 9:30-10:15 a.m., at Buck-Foreman Community Center (BFCC). Fee is \$40 for each session, or \$7 per week to drop in.

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.

Zumba: Wednesdays through June 8 (started April 20), 6-7 p.m., at Portland Riverfront Park. Fee: \$64 for the eight-week session, or \$10 per week to drop in.

Community Garden: All are welcome to grow their favorite vegetable, flower or herb. The garden is located in Bransfield Park on Rose Hill Road. Gardeners can purchase a 10x10 plot for the summer for a fee of \$30.

Ladies Spring Golf Clinic 2022: With PGA golf professional Gerry D'Amora from Portland West. Thursdays, May 19-June 16, 5:30-

6:30 p.m., at Portland West. Fee: \$140/residents, \$150/non-residents.

Youth Programs: 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.

Art Enrichment Programs with Abrakadoodle: Painting Step by Step Too: For ages 5-14. Wednesdays, May 11-June 1, 4:15-5:15 p.m., at BFCC. Fee: \$55/residents, \$65/non-residents. **One Sweet World:** For ages 2-5. Thursdays, May 1-June 2, 10:30-11:15 a.m., at BFCC. Fee: \$55/residents, \$65/non-residents.

Spring Quick Start Tennis: Tuesdays, April 26-May 31, at Portland High School tennis courts. Grades K-2 meet 4:45-5:30 p.m., grades 3-5 meet 5:30-6:15 p.m., and grades 6-8 meet 6:15-7 p.m. Fee: \$70/resident, \$80/non-resident.

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.

Second Chance Babysitting Course: June 8 and 9, 5-8 p.m., at Buck-Foreman Community Center. Those who complete the course will be CPR-, First Aid- and AED-certified by the American Heart Association for two years. Fee: \$80/resident, \$90/non-resident.

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.

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.

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.

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

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Portland • Portland

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.

Masks are required for unvaccinated individuals, and optional for those that are vaccinated.

Stations of the Cross: Through the Easter season, Trinity Church will have the Stations of the Cross set up in the church lawn for the pub-

lic to walk and reflect. Listen to pre-recorded readings at each station. Find the link under "Easter" on the Trinity website, www.trinity-churchportlandct.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 trinity-churchportlandct@gmail.com or call 860-342-0458.

Carpino Announces Community Art Contest

State Rep. Christie Carpino (R-32) has announced an art contest for residents, businesses and organizations of Cromwell and Portland to celebrate the uniqueness and beauty of our legislative district.

The collection of art work will begin on Monday, April 25, and will close on Monday, May 30. Submissions will be displayed at the State Capitol Complex in early June.

Artists will submit an original painting, drawing, photograph or combination on an 18" x 24" (or smaller) canvas or poster board. The imagery should represent the 32nd district.

Portland residents can drop their submissions to Portland Town Hall with First Selectman Ryan Curley. Participants may also mail their work to Carpino at 300 Capitol Ave., Room 4200, Hartford, CT 06106. Submission forms can be accessed at tinyurl.com/2p88u9ax.

The commemorative artwork will be displayed at the State Capitol from Monday, June 6 through Friday, June 17. Carpino will also share the artwork on social media at its conclusion.

To learn more about the contest, email Carpino at Christie.Carpino@cga.ct.gov.

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. Masks are optional. Services are livestreamed on the church's YouTube channel, and also available there for later viewing. The YouTube channel is "First Church of Portland CT."

The Rev. Jane Hawken's sermon this Sunday, April 24, is titled "After the Resurrection." Under Kasha Breau's direction, the choir will sing the anthem "Sing a New Song to the Lord" by Natalie Sleeth. A time of fellowship and refreshments follows the service.

Children are invited to Fellowship Hall at 10 a.m. for church school and child care.

First Church Nursery School offers a program for 3-year-olds on Tuesday and Thursday, and one for 4-year-olds on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Contact Amy Jahnke at 860-342-1111 or 1stchurchnurseryschool@gmail.com for more information.

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

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

National Day of Prayer

St. Mary Church, along with Knights of Columbus Council 7, will once again host the National Day of Prayer ecumenical service Thursday, May 5, at 7 p.m., at the church, 45 Freestone Ave.

Along with prayer and song from the choir of St. Mary, there will be a guest speaker, Beth Gouldruitto. She has headed up the Portland Congregational Church Refugee Resettlement Program, which has recently successfully resettled an Afghan family in Middletown.

On the night of the service, a goodwill collection will be held in support of the Portland Congregational Church Refugee Resettlement Program. At the conclusion of the service, refreshments will be served in the Parish Hall.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection

The Lower CT River Council of Governments will hold a free Household Hazardous Waste collection Saturday, April 23, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Clinton Public Works Garage, 117 Nod Rd., Clinton.

The collection is open to residents of the RiverCOG region which includes East Hampton and Portland. No commercial or business waste allowed.

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

Walk, Bike & Roll

Four Portland schools will join thousands of others across the country on Wednesday, May 4 (rain date: Thursday, May 5), to celebrate national Walk, Bike & Roll to School Day.

This spring event is held annually during National Bike Month and complements Portland's Walk, Bike & Roll to school event in October.

The Complete Streets Group (CSG) of Portland, is coordinating the morning event with support from schools, PTOs, and Portland Police. There will be three parking lot drop-off points for students: Town Hall for middle and high school kids; St. Mary Parish, east parking lot, for Brownstone students; and Fire Engine No. 2, at Bell Court, for Gildersleeve fourth-graders.

Permission slips and more detailed information about starting times, etc., will be available at the four schools starting the week of April 18. Parents can look for sign-up sheets in their child's school newsletter and/or contact their school's main office for more information.

Heavy Fire Damages Sand Hill Road Business

By Jack Lakowsky

On Saturday the Portland Fire Department responded to a heavy structure fire at 11 Sand Hill Rd., a blaze that damaged both the building and several boats stored there.

On Monday fire chief Bob Shea said there were no injuries. No one was inside the building at the time.

Media inaccurately reported a shelter-in-place triggered by presence of a chemical. Shea said this is not true, and the town gave no such order.

The building was to the rear of the property, one used for storage and boat restoration.

"Upon arrival, firefighters found heavy fire...extending to a large boat..." the department wrote on Facebook. "Suppression crews made quick work knocking down the bulk of the fire." Shea said crews dealt with the fire in a "quick attack." Facebook users praised the crews' performance.

There are no hydrants in the area, Shea said. Mutual aid came from East Hampton, Glastonbury and Westfield.

The local fire marshal is investigating.

At a glance at least, Shea said the building seems to be structurally sound, save for an interior wall. There was heavy smoke damage, he said.



Crews from Portland, East Hampton, Glastonbury and Westfield quelled a blaze at Classic Auto on Sand Hill Road. The Saturday fire damaged the building and several boats. Crews made quick work of dowsing the flames, Portland's fire chief told the Riverast.

Senior Center News & Notes

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

Food Bank Donations: People donating for Portland Food Bank are asked to drop off donations only during food bank hours, downstairs in the senior center, on Mondays and Thursdays, 9 a.m.-noon.

Foodshare: Monday, April 25, 1 p.m.

Rent Rebate: Call ahead to make an appointment; no drop-ins please.

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; Dulcimer Class, 6 p.m. **Wednesdays:** Light Aerobics, 9:30-10:30 a.m.; SyncoCize Exercise, 10:15-11 a.m.; chair yoga, 11:30 a.m.; Social Duplicate Bridge, 12:30-4 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month; Qi Gong with Lisa returns May 4, 1 p.m. (by session/month only); setback, 1-3:30 p.m. **Thursdays:** Knit & Stitch, 10 a.m.; Dancercise, 10 a.m. every other week; 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: Hammonasset Birding Walk & Talk: Friday, April 29. Bus leaves at 9 a.m. Have lunch at Lenny and Joe's. If you need a ride from your house, let the center know in advance. Cost is \$5 per van ride. If the bus is full, you can follow in your car – but register either way.

Special Events: Alan the White House Butler Presentation: Monday, April 25, 1 p.m. Parking on street only.

Lunch: Thursday, April 28, 12:15 p.m. Cost is \$5, due Tuesday, April 26.

Board Game Afternoon

Portland Youth & Family Services will hold a Board Game Afternoon for middle-schoolers Wednesday, May 18, from 2:30-5 p.m., at the Portland Middle School library.

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Portland • Portland

Trinity Church to Resume Charitable Concerts

By Jack Lakowsky

In 2018, Trinity Episcopal Church started hosting its “Vital Connections Through Music” concerts benefitting charities and nonprofits. The church hosted about six shows a year, in the spring and fall.

Proceeds went to nonprofits like the Portland Food Bank, the guide dog foundation Fidelco and Veterans-Backpacks for Life.

And then, the usual story; the COVID-19 pandemic spun the series for a loop. It cancelled in 2020 and held a fall show last year. Attendance at that show, according to Carol Hill, of the church’s Vital Connections planning committee, was on the low side.

This year Hill, her husband Tim Hill and Ray Phillips (both co-organizers on the committee) hope to revamp the series on May 14 at 7 p.m. at the church, 345 Main St.

Proceeds from the show will support people in Ukraine as war ravages their country. Russia invaded Ukraine in February and continues to press its offensive.

Phillips said each concert Trinity hosts will

benefit a different cause. Jim Hill said the next show may benefit the local fire department.

Concertgoers can enjoy a new sound system, as well as a new HVAC system, making for better ventilation, especially important during a pandemic.

The church has booked a Connecticut band, The Sharades. The band will play hits from the ‘50s, ‘60s and ‘70s. Phillips said this band has more of a following than previous performers. When the band was booked, it told organizers to make sure people had room for dancing.

Past concerts featured more artistic, “song-writer” type songs, the organizers said. Going forward hoping to gain more of a following, Trinity wants to host more bands like the Sharades, with popular appeal.

“We wanted to change focus,” Carol told the *Rivereast* last week. “We weren’t raising enough. [The money] isn’t for the church, it’s for outreach. We wanted to make more impact.”

Carol said Trinity’s space is very accommodating for concerts. The church is spacious

and has terrific acoustics. Standing on the altar, a normal speaking voice projects to the whole room.

“We’re not here to make money,” Carol said. “We’re here to open our doors.”

Above all, she said, the goal is to give people a space to enjoy some music.

Right now, the Sharades concert is the only one scheduled, Carol Hill said. They’re taking baby steps, she said, though she does hope for a return to the more robust show schedule of six per year.

“At one time churches were the hub of a

town,” she said. “We have this space; we should share it. I think it’s our greatest resource.”

Her husband said they hope to develop a following this year, drawing people back every year. The first step in this, he said, is “re-breaking the ice” and spreading awareness. The church wants to be an open, welcoming space to gather and celebrate.

“That’s what Jesus was about,” Jim Hill said.

For a \$10 advance ticket, call 860-342-0458 or email trinityvitalconnections@gmail.com. Tickets are available for \$15 at the door.

Trinity Church at Town-Wide Tag Sale

This year’s Town-Wide Tag Sale will be held on Saturday, May 7, from 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. – and Trinity Episcopal Church has space available.

Reserve a 20’x20’ space on the lawn of the church, 345 Main St. Reservation fee is \$25, and you must bring your own table/set-up. Set-up begins at 7:30 a.m.

Space is limited; to reserve a spot, call the church office at 860-342-0458 or email trinityvitalconnections@gmail.com.

Youth Vaping Program

On 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.

To learn more about the “This is Us, Portland” Prevention Council and how to help, contact Meg Scata at mscata@portlandct.org or 860-342-6758.

Vocal Chords Spring Concert

The Middlesex Hospital Vocal Chords (MHVC) group will present its 32nd annual Spring Concert on Saturday, May 7, at 7 p.m., at Portland High School, 95 High St. Samuel Tucker will make his debut as the new musical director.

Some selections included in this show will be “The Impossible Dream,” “Chicago in Concert,” “Down by the Riverside” and “Phantom of the Opera.”

Tickets are \$20 and can be obtained by calling 203-537-1498/860-342-3120, or 860-205-2067/860.347.2787. For more information, visit www.vocalchords20.org or ‘like’ the Vocal Chords on Facebook.

Kenny Fletcher Car Show at Valli

The Kenny Fletcher Car Show at Valli will celebrate its 10th anniversary this year, and will take place Saturday, April 30, from 3-7 p.m., at Valli Construction, 22 Sand Hill Rd. (Rain date: May7). The show is in memory of local veteran Kenny Fletcher who passed away from cancer on April 19, 2011.

Show car entry fee is \$10 at the gate. Admission for spectators is free; although, donations are appreciated. There will be trophies for first, second and third place, and dash plaques given to the first 200 cars. There will be music, and

food, water and soda will be available for purchase. No dogs, please.

Proceeds from the car show go to the Portland Food Bank, Portland Zion Lutheran Church, Middlesex Hospital Hospice, Portland High School Class of 2022 Project Graduation, Middlesex Cancer Center, and Portland VFW Post 6121.

For more information, call Michael Bellobuno at 860-707-4231 or Michael Brown at 860-982-3227, or look for the event on Facebook at Kenny Fletcher Memorial Cruise Night.

Poetry Contest to Honor Late Resident

The Buttonwood Tree of Middletown is accepting submissions for its poetry contest, “Set Your Conscious Free” which is being held in honor of Buttonwood Tree founder the late Susan Allison, as well as the late Barbara Payne, a longtime Portland resident.

Payne is being honored as the mother of Naji Chester Payne, Portland’s current poet laureate, who inspired and is co-sponsoring this contest. Barbara Payne was raised in a foster home and endured many challenges throughout her lifetime. She lived in the Chatham Court apartments from its establishment 34 years ago; she was known in the community as the “mother” of the neighborhood and highly regarded by the Portland Housing Authority. She served on the Housing Authority Committee, Community Action, and Parks and Recreation. Because of her commitment to the community, the Payne Chester Community Center was named after Payne and her late husband.

Naji Chester Payne was inspired by the poetry of Amanda Gordon and said he hopes that people who have never written poetry before will be encouraged to express themselves through poetry as he himself has done.

This contest is being sponsored by The Susan D.E. Allison Fund, Naji Chester Payne, Victoria Muñoz and The Buttonwood Tree.

The winner of the contest will receive \$100.

Zion Lutheran Church News

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

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

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.

Second place is \$50, and third place is \$25. There will also be honorable mentions.

The contest is open to anyone ages 16 and over, and there is no fee to enter. Entries can be submitted until 11:59 p.m. June 30; limit is one poem per person. Original works only (no plagiarism). Do not write your name on the poem; only put it on entry form. Submissions must be in English only, and must contain no offensive, vulgar or inappropriate language. No published poets, please.

Applications can be taken online or by mail and must include a completed entry form. Incomplete forms may be disqualified. Mail to The Buttonwood Tree, P.O. Box 71, Middletown, CT 06457.

Poems will be judged on: clarity of meaning, accessibility; creative imagery and words; and uniform structure (pick a style and stick with it). Poems should also pique the emotion of the reader, and teach something.

Length is 25 words to 250 words (poem title not included).

Go to buttonwood.org/poetry-contest to submit your poems. Visit buttonwood.org for more information, Instagram: @NPOETRY7, or call 860-347-4957 or email TheButtonwoodTree@gmail.com.

Horseshoe League Seeks New Members

The Portland Horseshoe League is looking for players of all abilities to join us for the 2022 season, which will start in late May. Folks from surrounding towns are welcome also.

Games take place at the Horseshoe pits in Bransfield Park on Rose Hill in Portland. The League meets Thursdays from 5:45-8 p.m.

Contact Andy Bauer at AndyTBauer@gmail.com if interested. Portland Horseshoes is an alcohol-free activity.

Charity Golf Tourney

The Exchange Club of Portland will hold its 33rd annual Charity Golf Tournament Friday, May 6, at Portland Golf Course. Proceeds support area programs and charities such as the Jason Fedash Town Tech Scholarship, New Horizon’s Domestic Violence Services, Middlesex Hospital Hospice and Rushford Center.

Cost is \$165/golfer for the four-person scramble event, which includes cart, lunch and dinner. Registration and sponsorship brochures are available at many Portland businesses or at www.portlandexchange.org.

Deadline for registration is April 30.

Methodist Church Spring Fair

Portland United Methodist Church, located at 381 Main St., Portland, will hold a Spring Fair Saturday, April 30, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. There will be crafts, vendors and baked goods.

‘Celebrate Trails Day’

The Portland Air Line Trail Committee will host a “Celebrate Trails Day” activity Saturday, April 23, at 10 a.m., starting at the trailhead parking lot at 82 Middle Haddam Rd.

Committee members will be on hand to provide trail information and lead hikes covering distances of two or four miles. “Celebrate Trails Day” is an annual spring celebration of America’s trails.

YFS at Earth Day

Portland Youth & Family Services is encouraging folks to “adopt” a street or park for Earth Day and help with some spring cleaning of the areas near you.

YFS will have a table set up Saturday, April 24, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., right outside its offices at 265 Main St., with “Pick-Up Portland” bags and Earth Day information; one bag per family please.

Pick-Up Portland bags will be accepted at the transfer station until the end of the month, even without a permit.

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.



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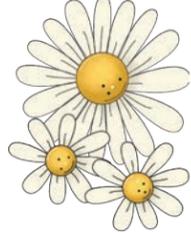
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★ *Letters cont. from page 7*

Instead, states formed militias. They mostly protected territory near their homes, but because they could be called up to national service, they had to be “well-regulated,” i.e., trained to common standards.

For 217 years, firearm regulation was widespread, but in 2008, the Heller decision for the first time asserted that gun rights were individual, setting us on our current dangerous course. Firearm regulations are not only constitutional, they are a moral imperative and have a longstanding history.

Briefly, to Don Denley, read up on job growth, GDP, wages, unemployment, nearly all measures of economic health. Inflation is too high, yes, but the overall economy is great. Also, if you think that being found not guilty by a jury of your peers is “a technicality,” you need to retake high school civics.

Sincerely,
Scott Sauyet – Andover

ARPA Funding Available

Dear Colchester Residents:

The ARPA Committee is still accepting small business applications. There is \$1M in ARPA funds specifically earmarked for our local businesses. A business may receive up to \$25K in federal funds. The ARPA Committee is also accepting non-profit applications. There is \$250K specifically earmarked for non-profits. Deadline for local businesses and non-profits is April 30. The Board of Selectmen unanimously decided that they will review all applications after the April 30 deadline to ensure funding fairness for all applicants.

The ARPA Recovery Funding Request Application can be found on the town website or can be picked up at the first selectman’s office within the Town Hall. It is important that your application meet the requirements of the act to qualify for funding. Please take the time to review the instructions and provided information before submitting your application. Approved applicants would be required to sign an attestation agreement and work with our ARPA consultant, UHY, to ensure that there is a level of accountability on how the funds are spent.

The appropriation of \$1M to our local businesses is a campaign promise that I look forward to fulfilling as first selectman. There will be more programs and initiatives in the coming months as well.

Sincerely,
Andreas Bisbikos
Colchester First Selectman

Choosing Concodello

To the Marlborough Voters:

I am writing this letter in support of Louise Concodello for the Board of Selectmen.

My connection to Louise began 14 years ago when my youngest son became part of her home daycare family. I had recently moved from NYC and knew very few people. Louise quickly became a connection to my new community. Over the next 14 years, I watched Louise dedicate herself, not only to the children in her daycare, but to the town of Marlborough.

Louise’s years of dedication include being on the local BOE – 27 years; Parks and Rec. Board – 26 years; Nature Trails – 15 years; and Lake Advisory – 14 years. If that isn’t enough, Louise was the vice president of MYAL for five years and served on the Bicentennial Committee and The Playscape Committee for four years.

Over the years, I watched Louise care for the children in her home during the day and then attend a town meeting each evening. Not only does she attend her committee meetings but she has also been attending the BOF and BOS meetings for the last 10 year.

Louise and I remain friends, even though my son is now entering high school. We certainly have not agreed on all issues but Louise always listens to my opinion with respect. Throughout the years, I have watched her listen to others and vote on important issues with grace and integrity. Louise does not have a personal agenda for wanting to be a selectman. Her desire comes from a genuine love and dedication to this town. Her experience and integrity is exactly what our town needs in a leader. I hope you will join me in voting for Louise on May 3 and allow her to continue to serve our community in a new capacity.

Pamela Farrington – Marlborough

Lettuce Rise!

To the Editor:

With the last spring frost date of May 12, it’s already more than four weeks into the zone of 6-8 weeks before last frost to get some veggie seeds in. Space lettuce seeds a half-inch apart, a quarter-inch deep. If full-sized lettuce heads are desired, thin the seedlings to six inches apart when they form their first true leaves. For a continual crop of lettuce, sow more seeds every two to four weeks until summer temperatures arrive. Lettuce, spinach, and kale could easily have been sown last month, but some of us rather wait a bit and purchase six packs of already sprouted and edible greens and maybe just sprinkle a few seeds around them for a second flourish of microgreens.

To accent your healthy greens, with beauty and pollinator smarts, tubs, planters, or window boxes are great containers for herbs to visually compliment leafy greens with the texture and fragrance of parsley and dill (host plants for the monarch caterpillar!) So, fill that wine barrel half way up with recycled water bottles or soda cans then top it all off with potting soil and nestle in some edible seedlings. It won’t be long before you’re enjoying a cool drink, sitting back on a warm evening counting Monarch cats and searching for where they’ll roam to create their chrysalis. Albeit, a small contained garden, but so much to nourish our bodies and toast our relationship with Mother Nature, our best neighbor.

Michele Sinkez – Amston

Board of Selectmen Balance

To the Editor:

It is with great excitement and expectation that I write about Marlborough’s opportunity on May 3. When voters fill in both bubbles on line A, they will be selecting two women dedicated to balance on the new five-member Board of Selectmen.

Debbie Bourbeau, unaffiliated and Betty O’Brien, moderate Democrat, will bring needed perspective to the leadership of our town. Foremost, as is evident from numerous letters already printed on these pages, they are experienced, dedicated public servants in Marlborough who understand the needs of our town. They have been out knocking on doors and meeting residents all over town.

Each voter can vote for two. Make your vote count by electing representatives who value accountability, representation, communication and collaboration.

Come meet and mingle with Debbie and Betty and support them Saturday, April 23, from 3-5 p.m., at the Marlborough Arts Center.

Music, refreshments and activities for kids will be available. A surprise guest will be attending.

Respectfully,
Dianne Dunn Greco, Chair
Marlborough Democratic Town Committee

The Marlborough Candidates

To the Editor:

On May 3, two members of the Marlborough community will be elected to the Select Board. This election is not about party affiliation, it is about voting for the best two candidates. Over most of the past 30 years I have known and worked with Debbie Bourbeau and Betty O’Brien, they exemplify honesty, fairness and integrity.

On May 3, please vote for Debbie Bourbeau and Betty O’Brien. Marlborough deserves their dedication and spirit.

Jim and Barbara Angelo – Marlborough

Supports Bourbeau

To the Editor:

We have known Debbie Bourbeau since 1991, when she was an educator in the Marlborough school system, and for several decades have seen the positive impact she has had on the town’s children, parents, and the organizations for which she has volunteered her time and energy, including the Board of Finance.

In any candidate we obviously consider her/his position on key issues, and more importantly, the leadership qualities, experience, and temperament a candidate would bring to the office. Debbie lives the essential leadership characteristics: competence, honesty, humility, transparency, and she is an effective listener. As well, Debbie:

- builds relationships and engages with diverse groups
- is a critical thinker
- understands the significance of sound financial decision-making
- is prepared to diligently engage to meet the needs of Marlborough

And a predominant factor is her willingness to undertake public service for the right reason: to make a positive difference, while serving the needs of the townspeople above her own.

After assessing Debbie Bourbeau’s background and her collective experience, we firmly believe that as a member of the Board of Selectmen she will ably serve the Town of Marlborough and its citizens with objectivity and a focus on achieving the social and financial goals the town has on its docket.

Michael and Lynn Quinn – Marlborough

Voting for Concodello

To the Editor:

I have known Louise Concodello for over 40 years beginning when our boys were students at Marlborough Elementary School. We have worked together on many projects including the original Playscape and the renovation of the Playscape in 2008 when she was co-chair and I was the chair of the Playscape Renovation Committee. She has always worked tirelessly for causes that have enhanced the Town of Marlborough. She has been a long -time member of the Board of Education, Parks & Recreation Commission, Lake Advisory, Nature Trails & Sidewalk Commission and Charter Revision Commission. Louise has abundant knowledge and history of the Town of Marlborough and her ability to work on both sides of the aisle would be a valuable asset to the Board of Selectmen.

Please join me in voting for Louise Concodello for Board of Selectmen and assure that her enthusiasm and knowledge of Marlborough will continue to enhance our beautiful town.

Barbara Lazzari – Marlborough
Note: Marlborough Parks & Recreation Commission speaking as an individual.

The Second Amendment

To the Editor:

Goodness! My first letter to the paper and Don Denley did all he could to get my name in bold print. I don’t know how many times he wrote in to get the same benefit, but the least I can do is give him a pass this week in respect.

Plus, there’s another letter about the Second Amendment – like all history, it’s good to consider it in context. America’s first government, the Continental Congress, was so decentralized (that’s where the states have more power, a concept modern Republican governors embrace) it could not put down Shay’s Rebellion in Massachusetts. In other words, a bunch of armed citizens to our north formed a (unregulated?) militia and our Founding Fathers were not amused. So much so they met in the nation’s capital of Philadelphia to toss out the Articles of Confederation, replace America’s first president Samuel Huntington (his house remains in Scotland, Conn.)

with a military general and create a more centralized government that could put down revolutions like this – and they did this behind closed doors, selling the idea later to the country with the Federalist Papers often written under pseudonyms.

Doesn’t sound much like the Founding Fathers were interested in supporting unregulated militias, only well-regulated ones. And the 1903 Militia Act clearly defines a well-regulated militia as the National Guard – which last time I saw, locks up their guns in an armory. Oh, and Darrell Brooks, who used an SUV as a weapon? Last time I saw, SUVs are in fact...regulated more than guns. But who has a problem with that?

Geoff Gaspar – Hebron

2+2+2:

To the Editor:

Marlborough has two new seats to fill on the Board of Selectmen.

Each registered voter in Marlborough can vote for and two candidates.

The Democratic Town Committee has endorsed two fantastic candidates!

Please – vote for both of them on the May 3 special election, held at Marlborough Elementary School.

Sincerely,
Ann Terezakis – Marlborough

Produce Shortages

To the Editor:

Supermarkets nationwide are facing fresh produce shortages — over \$150 million worth of produce is halted at the Texas-Mexico border right now because of Republican Governor Greg Abbott.

Texas DPS already makes random inspections of trucks after they pass through customs for safety reasons (tires, brakes, etc.), but last week Abbott ordered them to stop all trucks, resulting in hours-long delays.

“The governor has figured out we can stop trade along the border – slow it down” says Attorney General Ken Paxton.

The chief executive of the Texas International Produce Association said consumers will start seeing empty store shelves this week in the fresh fruits and vegetables departments, thanks to Greg Abbott’s unnecessary and self-imposed logjam on the Texas-Mexico border.

“Governor Abbott is directly responsible for applying these new senseless inspections on our industry as well as the adverse impact they are having on the economy and hardworking Americans, including truckers,” said American Trucking Associations President and CEO Chris Spear.

Texas governor Greg Abbott has effectively shut down international trade across the U.S.-Mexico border, explicitly asserting state power over national power and thus driving prices up all across the country.

Annie Steinbrecher – Marlborough

Safer Sidewalks Needed

To the Editor:

A safer sidewalk design is needed as Marlborough extends sidewalks from North Main Street/Pettengill Road down to Lake Road. Instead of two new dangerous crosswalks and moving the sidewalks to the west side of North Main, the sidewalks should remain on the east side of the road. Crossing North Main Street is a challenge, with many speeding cars flying by.

Adding a crosswalk at North Main/Chapman/Lake Road is dangerous, as there’s no line of sight for pedestrians to see fast approaching cars or for cars to see slower-moving pedestrians. If Marlborough is considering adding a speed bump and traffic calming measures for that crosswalk, then it should also add one at North Main Street/Lafayette Road where there’s a dangerous sharp blind curve.

Residents in nearby neighborhoods have lobbied for over 10 years to make it safer to cross the stretch of North Main by the beach associations. We talked to the Board of Selectmen, Sidewalk Commission, local constables and more. To date, the BOS solution was repainted crosswalks and reflective pedestrian signs posted at crosswalks by the lake. This hasn’t stopped speeding cars.

The original sidewalk design called for Merritt-style guardrails near all crosswalks to slow down traffic. Add them now to all the crosswalks.

Residents near North Main Street know the average speed is much higher than the 28 mph noted. Take a look at the fastest speeds registered and it’s a very different picture. We live it every day. Residents pulling out of driveways or turning in/out of nearby streets lower the average speed.

The weather is warming up and many are out walking with family, friends, dogs and kids. Residents crossing to have fun times at the lake will increase as summer arrives. Please slow down everyone!

Jane Boston – Marlborough

\$1.87 Billion Bad Deal

To the Editor:

Legislative fiscal analysts told lawmakers they expect the agreement on wages and bonuses for state employees negotiated by the governor’s administration and a coalition of labor unions to cost around \$1.87 billion over four years. This includes a general wage increase of 2.5% retroactive to July 1, 2021 and wage increases of 2.5% in 2022, 2023 and 2024, plus \$3,500 in bonuses spread over two fiscal years. In addition to general wage increases, state employees get annual incremental step wage increases. This works out to more than \$41,000 per state worker, increases pension liabilities and increases the potential for future tax increases.

But there is more. Republican legislative leaders joined by small business leaders and the Connecticut Business & Industry Association (CBIA) asked lawmakers to use federal pandemic relief funds to help

pay off \$460 million in outstanding loans from when state lockdown measures forced the state unemployment insurance trust fund to borrow almost a billion dollars from the federal government. CBIA President Chris DiPentima said that businesses face a 22% unemployment Insurance (UI) tax increase over the next four years to pay back the money borrowed. Governor Lamont downplayed the interest costs faced by the UI fund and said the federal funds could be used to cover other priorities. Again, giving businesses another reason to leave the state for a more friendly business environment.

And there is more bad news for the UI Trust Fund. The Senate voted to allow striking workers to receive unemployment benefits two weeks after walking off the job. The Labor Commissioner warned that the bill “may affect the solvency of the UI Trust Fund.” Unemployment benefits are funded from taxes paid by employers, again giving businesses another reason to leave the state.

Linda Ursin – East Hampton

Sloan Brewster & The Pit Bull

To the Editor:

Thank you, Carol Lee and Scott Person, for your support in nominating me to be on the upcoming Charter Revision Committee, and to the Board of Selectmen for approving my appointment – notwithstanding a bit of controversy, of which I’m grown accustomed to.

I have lived in Andover for 30 years and have proudly and effectively served my town in many capacities as a volunteer – two elected terms on the Board of Finance, and appointed positions on Inland Wetlands, Andover Elementary School Building Project, and the previous Charter Commission. I took ALL my positions very seriously and my attendance record and participation has been at a high level. I encourage Sloan Brewster and Adrian “The Pit Bull” Mandeville to do some research on me before attacking my integrity and commitment prior to COVID.

Even a “cub” reporter should have the wherewithal to at least reach out to the person being slandered before putting my name in bold black print. I also take deep offense to the threat issued by The Pit Bull – Denley’s Last Chance.

My fellow Ando residents: you can be assured that the oath I took with our town clerk will result in my fulfilling my responsibilities

Sincerely,
Don Denley – Andover

Two Concerns

To the Editor:

When you are one member of a five-member board, you cannot do much without the help of others. Still, there are a number of things I think need attention. Economic development is one, and public safety is another.

Our town budget depends on a residential tax base for the great majority of its funding. Education costs are the great majority of our budget, but the demographics are changing. In the future more of our residents will have no children in our schools. Increasing our non-residential tax base reduces the tax burden for everyone and will preserve a first-class education system.

Our location astride a limited access divided highway makes it easy for crime to come to us. Depending on a state police presence 10 miles away and limited local police force might no longer provide sufficient protection from a highly mobile criminal element.

These are two things I see as concerns. There are others. For these, I will need to work with my fellow selectmen, and to do that I will need you to vote for me.

I promise to always do my best for our lovely town.

Louise Concodello – Marlborough

Note: Concodello is a candidate for the Marlborough Board of Selectmen. Presently, she is a member of the Marlborough Board of Education and the Parks & Recreation, Lake Advisory and Nature Trails & Sidewalk commissions, but she said she is speaking as an individual.

Very Grateful

To the Editor:

Last Friday, a friend suddenly took ill and became unresponsive and remained so despite attempts to revive him. 911 was called and within minutes two East Hampton police responded and immediately administered oxygen, followed by the East Hampton Ambulance Association and EMTs, along with a vehicle from the fire department. Our friend was examined, stabilized and transported to the Marlborough emergency facility by the town’s ambulance. Needless to say, this was a very frightening and critical situation.

We are very grateful to those who provide emergency services here, commend them for their compassionate and professional service and hope our East Hampton Ambulance Association will find the resources and volunteers to continue this vital service. Also, kudos to the dispatcher who remained on the line providing advice and instructions until personnel arrived.

Our friend ultimately was transported to Middlesex Hospital and returned home the following day.

Jim Mathias – East Hampton

Here is the Answer!

To the Editor:

This Sunday is Easter Sunday. Another holiday that has lost its true meaning over the years.

With all the hate that is rising up in our nation and in our world, it is time that we rediscover the Christian meaning of Easter which is love. The greatest love story ever told is Easter. One man dying for the sins of the world; Black, white, yellow, brown, red; men and women, young and old. No division,

See Letters, page 32

Marlborough • Marlborough

Congregational Church News & Notes

Sunday in-person worship services at Marlborough Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, located at 35 S. Main St., are at 10 a.m. All are welcome. The service is also livestreamed each week at mcc.marlborgconchurch.org, and is recorded to watch later. Childcare for infants and toddlers is provided every Sunday, downstairs in the nursery, during worship; 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 April 24. The service will be led by Pastoral Intern Val Seaver. After worship, a Coffee Hour is held in the lounge, and all are invited.

Mission-giving for the second quarter will go to the AHM Mental Health Fund.

AA meets downstairs in the Great Hall Wednesdays with two meetings, noon-1 p.m. and 7:30-8:30 p.m.

The Spring Tag Sale will be held at the church Saturday, May 7, from 9 a.m.-noon.

Second Blessings Thrift Shop is fully

stocked for spring and summer with new merchandise arriving every week. Second Blessings is located on the ground floor and is open Fridays from noon-3 p.m., and Saturdays from 9 a.m.-noon. Second Blessings accepts donations during shopping hours. Unique and higher-quality items are sold year-round through eBay at bit.ly/MCCebay.

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



Community Shredding Event

The town Conservation Commission will host a free Community Shredding Event Saturday, April 30, from 8 a.m.-noon, at the Town Hall parking lot, located at 26 N. Main St.

Residents who are interested in shredding their personal records to protect their identity and

promote recycling are welcome to participate. There is no cost to participate, but residents will be asked to show a picture ID. (No commercial documents, please.)

Food donations for the Marlborough Food Bank are welcomed.

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to discuss **AFFORDABLE, SUSTAINABLE HOUSING CHOICE**

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How Marlborough can provide Affordable Housing to support a diverse population.

- Should the Town consider tax abatements for developments with affordable housing?
- Should the Town purchase existing homes and resell as affordable housing?
- Should the Town create an affordable housing steering committee?
- Should the Town increase tax relief programs to seniors?
- Should the Town buy land for the development of affordable housing?
- Should changes to the Zoning Regulations allow for higher density housing opportunities?

Sustainable Housing Plan & Presentation drafts are available at www.MarlboroughCT.net

25 School Dr. (Elementary School Cafeteria)

Marlborough • Marlborough

Honor Roll

Kayla McCaffrey of Marlborough made the winter quarter 2022 honor roll at Spokane Falls Community College in Spokane, Wash.

Police News

4/11: Isaiah Lopez, 20, of Norwich, was arrested and charged with reckless driving, State Police said.

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: Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; and Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Bags and Bling Sale: Saturday, April 30, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at the library, held by the Friends of the Richmond Memorial Library. Costume jewelry, coin purses, and a variety of handbags will be available for purchase. All proceeds directly benefit the library and be used to purchase new Nature Explorer Backpacks for children.

Passport to Connecticut Libraries: Stop by any participating library through April 30 to pick up a passport that must then be taken to four additional participating libraries to be stamped. Passports must be returned by Friday, May 6, for a chance to win a gift card.

Spring Storytime: Monday, April 25, 10:30 a.m., for ages 2-5. Registration required; to do so, call 860-295-6210 or email richmondprograms@gmail.com.

StoryWalk: The latest StoryWalk is *The Noisy Paint Box: The Colors and Sounds of Kandinsky's Abstract Art* by Barb Rosenstock, which follows the life of Russian-born artist Vasya Kandinsky.

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Marlborough • Marlborough

Cell Tower Gets More Pushback

By Jack Lakowsky

The Marlborough Board of Selectmen heard more resistance this week to an 80-foot cell tower proposed for Blackledge River Valley, behind the cemetery near the intersection of West Road and Jones Hollow Road.

First Selectman Greg Lowrey, who at the Tuesday meeting said the cell tower was his idea, said the tower will improve cell coverage in that area.

Lowrey said local emergency services have trouble communicating in that area. Lowrey said that very day, a paramedic had a hard time hearing a patient reporting difficulty breathing.

Work on the tower is an item in the proposed 2022-23 town budget – specifically, \$30,000 for consulting. A referendum on the budget is set for May 3.

Selectpersons Amy Traversa and Joe Asklar suggested further review of the project, including looking at a secondary site at the West Road fire station and, if possible, a tertiary site.

Residents criticized Lowrey and the board for what they called poor communication about the project. At one point Lowrey said one reason he chose the site was no private landowners had offered their land.

West Road resident Peter Brander, who along with his wife Kerry Markey has vocally opposed the project, said no one approached the town offering their land because the project wasn't publicized properly.

Opposer Richard Doucette, of West Road, said they came home from vacation to find ribbons around trees near their home.

Doucette said he doesn't want to go to bed at night worrying about cell tower radiation affecting his health.

According to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), cell tower radiofrequency (RF) radiation must meet exposure guidelines, which were developed to protect people from RF

health risks.

Doucette was also concerned about the detriment to his property's value. He said he firmly believes the emergency service needs can be met by installing the tower on the fire station.

"That would eliminate the negative effects [on] my neighbors and myself," Doucette, himself a first responder, told the board.

Joan Doucette, also of West Road, said the only way she found out a cell tower might be built near her home was when "we returned from Maine and saw the land had already been marked off with blue ribbons."

She said Lowrey offered her assurances in a phone call. Lowrey at first said only one provider would use the tower, but then said more could be added, growing the town's revenue.

Joan Doucette said she understands the importance of emergency service communication, but that the needs of residents are important too. She said the fire station should be used instead and expressed concern for wildlife and the environment.

Markey said she spoke to a realtor, who said the price of her home could potentially drop.

In one 2007 study, "The Effect of Distance To [Cell Towers] on House Prices in Florida" from *The Appraisal Journal*, researchers concluded "prices of properties decreased by just over 2%, on average, after a tower was built." The study said impact on values was negligible after about 660 feet.

"People just don't want to look at homes near a cell tower," Markey said. Markey said she's looking forward to a presentation by the town, which she requested previously.

Brander also said he expects better communication from the town.

Another West Road resident, Elliot Dodge, also opposed the tower. He said the town's web-

site is hard to navigate – that he couldn't readily find the information he needed.

Dodge was concerned people in the neighborhood and people who use the Blackledge trail haven't been considered, and that the project has moved "fairly quickly."

Lowrey referred several resident questions to the zoning board.

Betty O'Brien, a Democratic candidate in the upcoming election, said the board should've done a better job informing residents.

Traversa said she regretted not asking more questions when Lowrey first mentioned the project, and committed to improving.

Asklar said after listening to the opposition, he wants the town to take a thorough look at alternative sites. Asklar said, if at all possible, the tower should go on the fire station.

"We have a responsibility to explore as best as we can moving it to a new location," said Asklar.

"Just today," replied Lowrey, "the dispatcher could not hear an ambulance in the neighborhood on a difficulty-breathing call."

Lowrey said improving communication in the river valley is urgent. He said the terrain eyed for

the project is higher than the secondary site, making for better coverage. He said to compensate, the tower's power might need increasing, "contrary to some of the concerns" residents brought forward.

Asklar said that, being a first responder, he understands the issue. He reiterated the board has a duty to residents, to try its best to allay their worries.

Traversa said there's more exploration to be done before the topic reaches the zoning commission. Lowrey said proper sites are limited.

The first selectman named three choices. Along with the two already named, he said Memorial Field is town land, and a potential site. He said no matter what, if the tower's built, it will be near houses.

"We don't have an option not near a residence," said Lowrey. He said the reason this is needed is the area is residential. He advised caution with any delays, emphasizing the seriousness of dispatchers not hearing first responders.

Asklar and Traversa were not swayed. Asklar said the town needs to exhaust all possibilities.

Lowrey said he'll have a fleshed-out plan ready by late May.

Parks and Rec Programs

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

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.

Youth Programs: Kids Fishing Derby: Sunday, May 15, 9-11 a.m., at Blish Park, for ages 4-15. Registration is \$10. Prizes will be awarded for biggest fish, smallest fish and first fish caught.

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

Horseback Riding Lessons: For ages 5 and up; English or Western style instruction. Lessons are private and are an hour in length. Days and times are flexible. Fee is four lessons for \$175 residents/\$180 non-residents.

Adult Programs: Barre/Pilates: Monday, April 25, 5:5-45 p.m., or Wednesday, April 27, 5:30-6:15 p.m. Class instruction is virtual or in person. Fee is \$18 to drop in.

Yoga: Monday, April 25, 6-7 p.m., or Tuesday, April 26, 9:30-10:30 a.m. Class instruction is virtual or in person. Fee is \$18 to drop in.

Yogalates: Thursday, April 28, 9:30-10:30 a.m. Class instruction is virtual or in person. Fee is \$18 to drop in.

Adult Open Sew: For ages 18 and up. Tuesday, May 3, from 5:30-7 p.m., at Marlborough Senior Center. There is a four-student maximum. Fee is \$38/residents, \$4/non-residents.

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

Sunset Yoga: Tuesdays, June 7-July 19, 6:30-7:30 p.m., at Blish Park. This class combines Hatha Yoga, with Vinyasa Flow, Mindfulness and Meditation. Fee: \$90/resident, \$95/non-resident.

Absentee Ballots Available

Absentee ballots for the May 3 special election to elect two new Marlborough selectmen are now available in the town clerk's office at Town Hall, 26 N. Main St.

Absentee ballots for the town budget referendum are also available.

For more information, call Lauren or Martha at 860-295-6206.

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.

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 registrars 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.

Mini-MAC Art Classes

Registrations are being taken for Mini-MAC art classes at the Marlborough Arts Center. Sessions will be held Friday, May 6-June 13, from 10-11 a.m. each week.

The classes are designed for 3- and 4-year-old students (with an accompanying adult) and focus on developing fine motor skills, exploring a variety of art media, building primary art vocabulary, and cultivating curiosity about art. Children will be encouraged to interact with the instructor and classmates while creating art based on storybooks and paintings by famous

artists.

Holly Marrero is the creator and instructor of the classes. She holds an AAS in graphic design and a BS in art education, and has been an art teacher for over 15 years, working with toddlers, preschool, elementary and middle school aged children.

Price is \$20 per class. To sign up, call the arts center at 860-467-6353.

Spring Clean-Up

The annual cemetery spring clean-up is scheduled for Saturday, May 7, at Marlboro Cemetery. Volunteers are invited to participate and are asked to meet at 9 a.m.

Residents are asked to remove any personal items and decorations prior to the clean-up. Any items found to be in violation of cemetery rules and regulations or a hinderance to maintenance will be removed. These items include shepherd hooks, glass objects, items hanging from trees and pots.

Consult the town website, marlboroughct.net, for a complete listing.

Scholarship Available

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

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

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Donate Life... April is National Donate Life Month. Each year, the Town of Marlborough flies the Donate Life town flag as a reminder for residents to register online to become an organ/tissue/eye donor. First Selectman Greg Lowrey (right) and Masonic Organ donation chairman Richard F. Denno (left) display the Donate Life flag that is being flown this month. To register online go to www.registerme.org.

St. John Fisher Church News & Notes

St. John Fisher Roman Catholic Church is located at 30 Jones Hollow Rd. Pastor is the Rev. Thomas J. Sas, John McKaig is deacon emeritus and the pastoral assistant is Holly Bangham. The church office can be reached at 860-295-0001; hours are Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. People are asked to call before heading over or connect via the phone or email at stjohnfisher30@yahoo.com.

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

Weekend Masses: 4 p.m. Saturday and 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday. All are welcome.
Weekday Mass: Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.

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

Community Outreach and Service: Food drives are held the second full weekend of each

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

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

Senior Center News and Notes

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

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

distancing. Assistance is offered each day from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

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

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. Beverly 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.

'Round the Lake 5K

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

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

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

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

4th Friday @ the Arts Café

The Marlborough Arts Center will host La Hot Jazz & Co. for the 4th Friday @ the Arts Café on April 22 in the Art Gallery at 231 North Main Street in Marlborough.

Led by Louie DeLorso on drums, Doug Maher on guitar, Steve Bulmer on bass, and Ken Fischer on keyboard, the group also adds in saxophone and flute.

Doors open at 7 p.m., the concert begins at 7:30 p.m., and admission is \$10 per person at the door. Masks are recommended. The arts center is fully accessible and there is on-site parking.

Benefit Assessment Payment Reminder

Homeowners in the sewer district that the last day to pay their Benefit Assessment Bill, without interest, is Monday, May 2. Late bills will be charged interest at 1.5% a month, reverting to the due date of April 1.

The tax office is open Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Tuesday from 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m.; and Friday from 8:30 a.m.-noon. There is also a Black Lock Box to the left of the main door where you can leave non-cash payments.

For more information, contact Barbara Murray at 860-295-6205 or email taxcollector@Marlboroughct.net. Failure to receive a bill does not invalidate the assessment fee or interest. Make checks payable to MWPCA.

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Board of Selectmen Hopefuls Make Their Cases

By Jack Lakowsky

On May 3 Marlborough voters will take part in a special election. In a way it's a first for the town – last year a charter revision increased the number of Board of Selectmen members from three to five.

The leadership of the town's government will change also. Right now, the town's chief executive, and chair of the select board, is its first selectperson. After the election, the chair of the select board and the government's chief administrator will be two different people.

A town manager, hired by the selectmen, will oversee town operations. Town managers are unelected public administration professionals who answer to the board.

There are four candidates running for the two new seats: Republicans Ken Hjulstrom and Louise Concodello, Democrat Betty O'Brien, and unaffiliated Deb Bourbeau, who has been endorsed by the Democrats and is running on the Democratic ticket.

Hjulstrom was the candidate endorsed by Republicans at their caucus earlier this year. Concodello, meanwhile, petitioned her name onto the ballot.

Currently, the select board has a Republican majority. Republicans could maintain this majority if either GOP candidate is elected. If both Democrats win, the board will shift left.

Due to minority representation requirements, only one Republican can be added to the board. Both Democrats could win seats.

Bios

Bourbeau has lived in town for nearly 50 years, and served as president of the Richmond Memorial Library Board for four years, sitting on the board for six years. Currently, she is secretary for the Board of Finance, and has been for several years.

Bourbeau taught at Marlborough Elementary School (MES) for 35 years. For nine years following her retirement, she provided a \$1,000 yearly scholarship to RHAM students. Bourbeau has described herself as a fiscally conservative moderate.

Hjulstrom is a familiar face in town, serving in town government for many years. He and his wife moved to town in 1986, coming here to raise their children. He is currently chair of the Board of Finance, an influential board which has a major say in the budget.

Hjulstrom said when he came to town, he "sought out many ways to help my community," joining the local PTO in the 1990s and the Lions Club in 2004. He is a member of the Community Emergency Response Team and served as president of the Florence Senior Housing board.

Previously working in engineering, Hjulstrom is now a full-time real estate agent.

Like her counterpart, O'Brien has lived in town for almost 50 years, raising her family here. For 10 years O'Brien worked at a major airline as a communications supervisor, and for 25 was a school psychologist until her retirement.

Concodello, a resident since 1977, entered the race by petition. The local Republican Town Committee endorsed Hjulstrom.

The Republican has an extensive history of serving the town. She has sat on the school board for nearly 30 years, the Parks and Rec board for 26, nature trails and sidewalks for 15, and the lake advisory board for 14.

Concodello sat on the charter revision commission that changed the select board's format.

Charter Revision

The charter's changes triggered this election. Each candidate answered why this change was needed and how it makes Marlborough's government more democratic.

Hjulstrom said he's pushed for a five-member select board for two decades, saying it increases minority party involvement.

"I also feel that hiring a town manager will further minimize 'politics' and provide more consistency as [board members] come and go," Hjulstrom said.

O'Brien also said a town manager will "reduce political posturing" and help lead the town in making good decisions. Also, she said, it's become harder over the years to find a resident (as is required of the position) to fill the first selectman's seat.

O'Brien also pointed out that town charters must be revisited every 10 years, adding it was the first time Marlborough changed its governing document in more than 30 years.

O'Brien said with a larger board, the 2-vs.-1 dynamic will be a thing of the past.

Concodello said voters showed they wanted a change when they voted for the revision in November.

"The [commission] agreed that with a town manager, politics has no place in Town Hall," Concodello said.

Bourbeau said "the charter hadn't been revised in far too long" and that the town's needs have changed. She said there was "too much emphasis" on party affiliations rather than the people the parties serve.

She said more balanced board, with two Democrats, two of the GOP and an unaffiliated (herself), will aid discussions about what's best for Marlborough.

Budgets

Though their parties don't align, Bourbeau and Hjulstrom (both finance board members) said when they dig into budgets, they look into wants vs. needs.

"While keeping taxpayers in mind, the budget needs to take care of issues that are current and relevant," said Bourbeau. She said questions, scrutinization and number-crunching are musts.

Hjulstrom prioritizes capital needs, like road and bridge repairs, as well as emergency vehicles. He said budget decisions can be hard to make, but "every budget proposal [has] items which must be prioritized [to] keep spending under control."

O'Brien said to be fiscally responsible, one must be willing to scrutinize and speak-up, and that anyone looking through budgets must be comprehensive. Previously, O'Brien oversaw a \$6 million dollar budget.

Last year, towns everywhere received money from the federal American Rescue Plan stimulus money.

Candidates offered thoughts on how the town has spent this money so far.

O'Brien said the town hasn't been transparent about the money's use and hasn't been collaborative.

Bourbeau said "for the most part," purchases have made sense, saying the money's been used for drainage and sewer work and other town needs.

Bourbeau said "there are some gray areas" that would benefit from more discussion. She said the money should be used for "large needs", to avoid unnecessary bonding.

Hjulstrom approved of how the town's used its ARPA money.

"I feel we've done a good job and [spent it on] items that otherwise may have been hard to fund, or which [might've been] pushed off into the future," he said.

Hjulstrom said keeping Marlborough affordable while providing necessary services is one of the biggest challenges facing residents.

"Scrutinizing every budget and every spending request is critical to controlling costs and preventing waste of taxpayer dollars," Hjulstrom said.

O'Brien and Bourbeau also named taxes as a key issue for Marlborough.

"People in town are rightfully concerned about their taxes," said O'Brien. "The only remedy is being willing [to analyze] every aspect of the budget."

Concodello answered saying the ARPA money was a "well-thought-out plan", and simply said selectmen "have had many meetings with his topic on the agenda."

Current Board's Performance

Right now the board consists of two Republicans, First Selectman Greg Lowrey and Joe Asklar, and one Democrat, Amy Traversa.

Hjulstrom said this board has been "somewhat" less partisan than selectmen boards of the past, but that it's always challenging keeping politics and agendas in check. He said if elected to the board, he plans to address partisanship and putting personal goals over those of the town and its people.

Concodello praised Lowrey, saying he's done "an outstanding job", and that the board works well as a team. She said the town should be proud of the work the board has done.

Bourbeau said she feels Lowrey hasn't communicated with the board as well as he should.

Bourbeau said the town's ARPA money has been spent as Lowrey thought it should be, and that more collaboration and discussion would be better.

O'Brien was critical of the board, saying she's "seen a pattern of behavior that excludes certain board members from" needed information, that's dismissive of opinions and unilateral in decision making.

Main Street

Bourbeau and Hjulstrom both said the Main Street area needs safety improvements.

The Republican said adding more traffic control and extending sidewalks down Main Street



Hjulstrom

Concodello

O'Brien

Bourbeau

will help improve public safety. He also said development must be done in a "controlled manner," allowing for attractive development that supports existing local businesses.

O'Brien also said suggested extending sidewalks. She said the business area is "becoming healthier and more vital," and would further benefit from added affordable housing and more events on the town green.

Concodello said "the center of town is starting to shape up," mentioning the local Big Y. She said improvements take time. She said it looks better than it did five years and said, "imagine what it'll look like in another five years."

"Marlborough has brought in some new businesses," wrote Bourbeau. "Some are happy about this, while others think [our] 'small town charm' is being lost."

Like Hjulstrom, Bourbeau said she'd like to see more enforcement on Main Street, specifically of speed limits.

Involving Residents

O'Brien said she will communicate frequently with town, informing them of select board actions.

"We should update the town website and make it easier to navigate," said O'Brien.

Bourbeau said residents should take it upon themselves to keep apprised of town goings-on, and that the select board should publicize relevant facts.

"The most important involvement is to reach out to residents [directly] affected by upcoming decisions, getting their input and using that new knowledge to make sound decisions," said Bourbeau.

Concodello said town bodies want input at the start of a plan, and that input after the fact is unhelpful. She said residents need to stay involved.

"The Board of Selectmen and other town boards and commissions must not serve in

a vacuum," said Hjulstrom. He also said the town must improve communication and public involvement, but that ultimately, the public must take an active role, attending meetings and making their voices heard.

Local Elections Matter

It is well-known that in towns and cities everywhere, turnout for local elections is low. This election is especially consequential for Marlborough. The new select board, whatever it's makeup, will interview and hire the town's first-ever chief administrator.

On behalf of the town and at the pleasure of the selectmen, town managers have many key responsibilities, including negotiating with contractors and overseeing the day-to-day of a town's various departments.

In essence, town managers are a kind of liaison between the town's citizens and its elected officials.

"If voters want certain people to represent them in the two new [selectpersons' seats], they should exercise their right to go and vote," said Concodello.

Hjulstrom pledged to "work for every one of our taxpayers, but first, I need their support, and trust, to be elected to serve."

Bourbeau said that in local elections, folks get the most "bang" for their vote. Results affect them directly, she said. She said she's hit the town talking to people about the election, and its possible outcomes – two Democrats elected, or one Democrat and one Republican.

"The results of this election will impact [Marlborough] for years to come," said O'Brien. She said in a Democracy, nothing is more important than the vote.

O'Brien has also gone around town informing people of how important this election is.

Marlborough voters will take their pick Tuesday, May 3, from 6 a.m.-8 p.m., in the MES community room, 25 School Drive.

Lions to Raffle Kayak

The Marlborough Lions Club is raffling 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.

Republicans Spring Plant Sale

The Marlborough Republicans are selling geraniums, deck pot plants and hanging plants just in time for Mother's Day and Memorial Day. The plants will be ready for pickup in the Town Hall parking lot on the morning of Saturday, May 7, from 9:30-11:30 a.m.

These geraniums will be available in a variety of colors including red, pink, fuchsia and white at a price of \$8 each. The hanging and deck plants will be available in several different varieties. The hanging planters will be sold for \$25 each and deck pot plants are priced at only \$30.

Ordering information can be found at www.MarlGOP.com under "fundraisers."

A large variety of plants will also be available for purchase on the morning of the plant sale.

For more information, call Liz Giannelli at 860-841-1547 or Sue Stolfi at 860-593-4763.

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, May 05, 2022 at 7:00 PM at 26 No Main St. (Marlborough Town Hall)

Amendment to Article Six B.7 Accessory Dwelling Units Delete Article Six C. 18 Use of Accessory Building for Dwelling

Amendment to Article Six A.C Village Cluster Residential Planned Development 6.A.C.1(E), 6.A.C.2 (D), 6.A.C.4, 6.A.C.6 (B).

Amendment to Article Ten E Off-Street Parking Multi Family Housing

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.Marlboroughct.net, under Minutes/Agendas then Agenda 2022 then Zoning Commission.

Kevin Asklar, ZONING COMMISSION CHAIR

2TB 4/22, 4/29

ADVERTISERS

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East Hampton • East Hampton

Garden Club to Meet

The Belltown Garden Club of East Hampton will hold its monthly meeting Monday, April 25. The members will gather at 5:30 p.m. at both the Comstock covered bridge and the Center School Gazebo gardens to do spring clean-up at both locations. New and interested folks are always welcome. All are reminded to show up with rakes, snippers and gloves. After the garden clean-up, members will move on to the Commu-

nity Room at East Hampton Public Library, 105 Main St., for discussion regarding future projects and field trips. Call Sue at 860-575-1349 if you plan to attend (for head count for pizza - which will be enjoyed after the gardening work). The Belltown Garden Club is a member of Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut and National Garden Clubs. For more information about the club and its activities, contact President JoAnn Hewitt at 860-267-4129.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection

The Lower CT River Council of Governments will hold a free Household Hazardous Waste collection Saturday, April 23, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Clinton Public Works Garage, 117 Nod Rd., Clinton.

The collection is open to residents of the RiverCOG region which includes East Hampton and Portland. No commercial or business waste allowed.

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

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

The Youth Group, for grades 6-12, will next meet Friday, April 22, from 6:30-7:30 p.m., in Fellowship Hall.

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.

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 optional, but the library will continue to offer them upon request.

Kindness EHxtravaganza: As part of its month-long Kindness EHxtravaganza in April, the library is hosting a silent auction to benefit Our Companions Animal Rescue and Sanctuary and the Connecticut Draft Horse Rescue. Visit the library website or call for more details. Also, Kindness EHxtravaganza kits are now available for pick-up. 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. One kit per family.

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.

DIY Days: Play-Dough! Saturdays, April 23 and May 21, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. or while supplies last, for children and families in grades K-8. No registration required; just drop in. In April, make some fruity-scented play-dough. In May, make a fidget spinner using popsicle sticks, pennies and ball bearings, then decorate it.

STEM Project Bags - Owl Pellet Dissection: Available starting Monday, May 2, at 10 a.m. Owl pellets are the undigested parts of a bird's food, which are coughed up like a cat's hairball. Kids ages 6 and up will act as ecologists and dissect real owl pellets at home using a step-by-step guide. Project bags are available in the children's department while supplies last. No registration is required.

Hatch the Chickens: Starting Tuesday, May 3, all are invited to stop in and watch as the library incubates seven real, live chicken eggs. They're expected to hatch around May 24, and then remain at the library before heading back to the farm on June 7.

STEMtastic: Veterinary Medicine 101: For grades 1-5. Wednesday, May 4, 4:30-5:30 p.m., for grades 1-5. Dr. Michelle Forella from Bolton Veterinary Hospital will teach all about what

veterinarians do and what it takes to become one.

Nintendo Switch Game Tournament: Saturday, May 7, 2-3 p.m., for grades 1-5. Compete for a trophy. All skill levels welcome.

EHPL Recommends...: The library recommends for kids *Maya and the Rising Dark*, by Rena Barron. This tale combines traditional folklore and modern-day adventure, and is, according to the library, a must read for fans of *Percy Jackson*.

Teen Programs: Middle School Advisory Board: Tuesday, 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: Wednesday, 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: Bass Fishing in Connecticut: Saturday, April 23, 3 p.m. This seminar is designed to help fishermen of all ages and experience levels effectively fish local waters. Topics include equipment, technique, baits/lures, and more.

CT Weddings Through the Ages: Tuesday, April 26, 6:30 p.m. The Connecticut Historical Society will present wedding clothing, accessories, photographs and prints to examine what makes a "traditional" wedding and what those traditions can reveal about how ideas of marriage have changed through the years. Registration required.

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.

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

Golf Tournament: May 19 at Blackledge Country Club in Hebron. There is a 10 a.m. shotgun start. Fee: \$125.

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

Richard Shonk
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Belltown Antique Engine & Tractor Meet

The Belltown Antique Car Club will host its 47th annual Antique Engine & Tractor Meet Sunday, April 24, from 8 a.m.-3 p.m., at Fireman's Field, Salmon River State Park on Route 16, across from the Comstock covered bridge.

This year's show is being held rain or shine on a "field conditions permitting" basis, as well as the governor's COVID-19 protocol requirements in effect at the time of the show. Consult the club website, www.belltownantiquecarclub.org, or call a club contact for an update. Rain prior to or on the day of the show may cause cancellation.

On display will be an assortment of antique stationary engines, as well as working scale reproductions, of the types that once powered early farm equipment, sawmills, lathes and even washing machines. Vintage farm tractors will also be exhibited, many of which have been restored. There will also be dem-

onstrations of these engines and old tractors throughout the day.

Judging begins at noon and trophies will be awarded at 3 p.m.

Also included in the show is a flea market with vendors offering antique engine, tractor and vehicle parts, used power equipment for home/farm use, and tools.

Food will be available on the premises, provided by the East Hampton Lions Club as part of its community fundraising efforts.

Admission for all – exhibitors, vendors and the general public – is free, though donations are accepted. Spectator parking is free. Please, no bicycles or pets.

For more information, visit the club website or email belltowncarclub@gmail.com. Club contacts for exhibitors and vendors: Alan Carlson, 860-510-9847; Peter Christianson, 860-510-3340; and Jim Way, 860-319-6088.

Middle Haddam Public Library News

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

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

Yoga: With Erin Day of Ten Summit Yoga. Tuesday, April 26, 7 p.m., or Saturdays through April 30, 9-10 a.m. Cost is \$10 to drop in. Register at tensummitst@gmail.com.

Basket Silent Auction: Bid on a variety of donated baskets, including baby, birding, gardening, candle, spa, coffee, tea, knitting, boat cruises on the Connecticut River, many local business gift certificates, and more. Reception and final chance to bid: Sunday, April 24, 3-5 p.m.

Artist/Photographer of the Month: Mantis Photography: Local wildlife and nature photographer Aaron Mannes will have his photographs displayed for viewing and purchase. His encounters include bears, snowy owls, fox and more.

Haddam Neck Covenant Church News

Haddam Neck Covenant Church, located at 17 Haddam Neck Rd., invites all to worship Sundays at 9 a.m. 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 May 5. This is an interactive study of compassion.

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.

Honor Society Inductee

Christopher Miller, a native of East Hampton, was recently initiated into the Merrimack College Circle of Omicron Delta Kappa, the National Leadership Honor Society.

Merrimack College is located in North Andover, Mass.

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koco4kids.org

Chicken Dinner to Benefit Ukraine

Haddam Neck Covenant Church, located at 17 Haddam Neck Rd., will host an eat-in or drive-thru BBQ Chicken Dinner Saturday, April 23, by reservation only. All net proceeds will be donated to Ukraine humanitarian relief.

This is the same recipe of barbecue chicken the church has sold at the Haddam Neck Fair for over 40 years. Dinner includes a thigh/leg chicken quarter, baked beans, coleslaw and corn bread for \$10 (cash only please).

Call in reservations to the church office at 860-267-2336 and indicate whether you will eat-in or takeout, and your pick-up time: noon-1 p.m., 1-2 p.m., 3-4 p.m., 4-5 p.m., or 5-6 p.m.

Church office hours are Monday through Friday, 12:30-4:30 p.m.

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Oil Painting Demo Next Week

The next program of the East Hampton Art Association will be held Wednesday, April 27, at 7 p.m. at the East Hampton Community Center, 105 Main St. The guest artist for the evening will be Shauna Shane, a full-time professional painter and popular demonstrator and teacher. She will present a demonstration in oils.

Early in her career, Shane was selected to be resident artist at Yellowstone National Park, and more recently was chosen to be resident artist at the New Britain Museum of American Art. She has exhibited and won awards in international competitions around the country, including New England and Northeast Watercolor Societies, Renaissance in Pastel, Academic Art Association, Northeast Watercolor, and the Hudson Valley Art Association Exhibits.

All are welcome. The programs are free to members and students, with a suggested donation of \$4 for nonmembers.



Shauna Shane will be the guest artist at East Hampton Art Association's next program, taking place Wednesday, April 27, at 7 p.m., at the East Hampton Community Center.

Police News

3/28: A 16-year-old male juvenile of East Hampton was issued a summons for second-degree threatening, East Hampton Police said.

3/31: Andrew Schultz, 35, of Glastonbury, was arrested and charged with third-degree larceny, payment card theft, and third-degree identity theft, police said.

4/3: Max Welch, 44, of Manchester, was issued a summons for sixth-degree larceny, police said.

4/6: Lorenzo Ward, 25, of Moodus, was issued a summons for misuse of a marker plate and operating an unregistered motor vehicle, police said.

4/6: Elizabeth Summers, 40, of Wethersfield, was arrested and charged with criminal violation of a restraining order, police said.

4/9: Anthony Allocca-Michaud, 24, of 435 Burrows Hill Rd., Hebron, was arrested for speeding, driving under the influence and operating an unregistered motor vehicle, police said.

From March 28-April 10, officers responded to five motor vehicle accidents, 22 medical calls and 12 alarms, and made 39 traffic stops, police said.

HNCC Spring Song Fest

The Haddam Neck Covenant Church Vocal Choir and Praise Band will present a Spring Song Fest Sunday, April 24, at 9 a.m. The Praise Band features Jan Ulanowicz on keyboard, Wayne Visintainer on electric bass, Chris Simonds on guitar, June Ingram on violin, and Mark Dupois on percussion.

Haddam Neck Covenant Church is located at 17 Haddam Neck Rd. Visit www.hncovenantchurch.org for more information.

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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.

Also, the church's Ladies Aid is accepting donations of fabric, yarn and quilting supplies for the Bits and Pieces sale. Donations can be dropped off at the church Sundays from 11 a.m.-noon, or call Darcey Yuille, at 860-301-4994, or Pionzio to make arrangements.

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*, based on the movie of the same name.

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 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.yppca.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.

EHMS Honor Roll

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

High Honors

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

Grade 7: Hailey Adams, Lucy Alford, Raymond Basley IV, Rohnan Burke, Charlotte Burr, Brooklyn Carta, Hunter Cashin, Alexis Castellani, Andrew Christensen, Leah Ciardullo, Arielle Clark, London Clark, Chloe Cloutier, Macie Coleman, Olivia Correia, Madeline D'Elia, Sayla DeStasio, Abbie Dipace, Lilly Engel, Kayleigh Engle, Michael Farrell, Owen Fielding, Daniel Fields, William Finn, Bryce Gagne, Kellen Garvey, Pearl Gaston, Isla Gerrie, Kaelyn Gould, Savannah Groeper, Sydney Henry, Nora Hyte, Aurora Judkins, Maja Kieda, Kaitlyn Knittel, Benjamin Kohler, Julian Kramer, Dolan Krasnitski, Mineth Kulatunga, Jonathan Lee, Avery Leitch, Ryan Lopes, Kelsey Lynch, Madison McGlynn, Helena McMillan, Emma Meleo, Bryson Milton, Eva Moren; Kenji Nichols, Liam O'Connor, Paige Ottone, Braelyn Paddock, Brett Paresi, Bryn Parmelee, Skye Peck, Devin-Patrick Preble, Gabriela Proxee, Danielle Riley, Robert Rodriguez, Axl Rostovsky, Dempsey Russell, John Salafia, Zephra Sanderson, Darren Schwedler, Daniel Sullivan, Kaylan Sullivan, Teagan Sullivan, Logan Supinski, Adelle Sylvester, Aiden Theriault, Ethan Vai, Empress Valencia, Taylor VanBlaricom, Mya Viveiros, Samantha Werme, Jaxon Wilson, Josie Wilson, Helena Wisniewski, Sebastian Woodson, Ethan Worrall, Maria Zabroski, Zachary Zgorski, Caitlynn Zory.

Grade 6: Alexis Bailey, Julia Barry, Elizabeth Beer, Thomas Bertelsen, Jr., Kylie Bigelow, Anna Bothamley, Brody Buckley, Mathias Bueno Olascuaga, Aubrey Butler, Noah Cahoon, Savannah Carrington, Amelia Chrin, Julia Clark, Samantha Coleman, Brandon Coppolelli, Kailyn Crowley, Olivia Currier, Noah Cyr, Anja Czaja, Charlotte Daniels, Luke Davidson, Elijah Dickson-Cotto, Giuliana Don-Aroma, Taylor Dudek, Dakota Duplin, Cole Eighthmy, Lauren English, Julian Faden, Hadley Fazekas, Zoe Ferrigno, Gabriel Finn, Owen Flannery, Cassandra Franklim, Adriana Garcia, Essio Giovanelli, Brett Gustavson, Brianna Gustavson, Cailan Hall, Abigail Hambidge, Sean Hargreaves, Aden Hilton, Holden Hines, Alexis Hopkins-Frank, Jason Hurt, Gradon Johnson, Kaitlynn Johnston, Addison Jump, Shonali Karkun, Aiden Kelly, Addison Kentzler, Jaxson Kentzler, Eliana Kiernan, Gavin King, Brendan Kissane, Eli Kloepfer, Gavin Kloepfer, Grace Krug, Kaden LaFave, Emily Le Moine, Caden Lee, Kenzie Lee, Ella Lessard, Alyssa Levenduski, Owen LoPresti; Alexander Maalouf, Trent Mackie, Brenna Mai, Jasmine Martin, Addison Marzi, Elizabeth McNaughton, Hudson Milardo, Noah Miro, Jack Morrell, Peyton Moulthrope, Leah Murphy, Nethum Nakandala, Mackenzie Napiello, Vincenzo Niosi, Kaya O'Brien, Kaeden Owen, Addison Perkins, Alivia Peterson, Bryce Pierson, Sadie Pinaud, Brayden Pisani, Ava Ploszay, Faythe Pugo, Travis Raines, Mason Rall, Kayla Rau, Emily Rawlinson, Ryan Reola, Elisabeth Romero, Elise Roy, Raelyn Saucier, Reid Saucier, Cayden Schoonerman, Taylor Schoonerman, Hunter Steiner, Jakob Stevens, Katelyn Stiles, Mackenzie Strickland, Christian Terry, Brooklyn Thorpe, Logan Thorpe, Avery Trombino, Annabel Tucker, Nevaeh Van Cott, Kaelah Van Wey, Samuel Vitiello, Juliana Ware, Peyton Wentworth, Elizabeth White, Zoey Wilks, Riley-Jewel Wong, Gabriella Zisk.

Honors

Grade 8: Jackson Benson, Carli Blakey, Nicolas Borrelli, Richard Carl, Jack Cote, Ethan Dewhurst, Chase Dinunzio, Stephanie Franklim, Hannah Malinka-Morgan, Colin Marshall, Stephanie Martin, Liam McGarty, Grace Pekar, Nevaeh Ranney, Colin Roy, Logan Ruel, Shane Ruggiero, Chelsea Ryan, Landon Searles, Samantha Traino, Damon VanBlaricom.

Grade 7: Grace Flannery, Luke Garcia, Shea Gaughran, Kailyn Granatowski, Justin Hotchkiss, Joseph Jarzabek, Brian Kostoss, Krystal Kozikowski, Hudson Lombardi, Madeleine Mohr, Colin Neary, Peyton Paiva, Alexandre Rodrigues, Aubrey Root, Nathan Tiano, Robert Tinney.

Grade 6: Ethan Arcari, Carmelo Aresco, Owen Bell-Feliciano, Louis Bouffard, Scarlett Cassell, James Cote, Jordan Evans, Joseph Fazzino, Walker Hebler, Connor Hill, Hunter LaRose, Keirah Lyman, Elexia Markham, Sandra Markham, Preston McGrath, Cassandra Owocki, Aidan Poston, Sheiknoor Salad, Ava Strickland.



Easter Flowers... On Wednesday April 13, several East Hampton Senior Center participants came together to be guided through how to make an Easter floral arrangement in a teacup. The event was led by retired florist Shirley Cavanaugh.

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 30. 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 homemade almond cookies for dessert. Cost is \$13/each. To place your reservation, call 860-510-8102 by April 23.

Proceeds benefit ongoing projects.

Senior Center Trip to Martha's Vineyard

The East Hampton Senior Center will offer a Martha's Vineyard Daytrip through Friendship Tours on Thursday, July 21.

The trip includes a roundtrip ferry, island bus tour, and time to shop and dine on your own. There will be considerable walking.

Cost is \$124/person. For more information or to register, contact the senior center at 860-267-4426 or seniorcenter@easthamptonct.gov.

Christ Episcopal Church News

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

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.

Volunteers Sought for Clean Energy Task Force

The Town of East Hampton is looking for volunteers to serve on its Clean Energy Task Force. The force is charged with researching and facilitating the use of clean renewable energy, and with educating East Hampton residents about clean and alternative energy options.

Other groups that currently have vacancies for either full members or alternates include the Arts & Culture Commission, Conservation-Lake Commission, Design Review Board, Economic Development Commission, Inland Wetlands Watercourses Agency, Middle Haddam Historic District Commission, Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, and Planning & Zoning Commission.

The volunteer application is available in the town manager's office at Town Hall, 1 Community Drive, or at <https://www.easthamptonct.gov/home/pages/volunteers-needed>.

Talk on Preventing Algae

University of Connecticut professor Mike Dietz will give a talk on ways East Hampton residents who live on Lake Pocotopaug and those in the water shed can help prevent nutrients, chemicals, oil, dirt, bacteria and sediment from entering into the lake and fostering the growth of algae.

The talk will be held on Thursday, May 5, at 7 p.m., in the Town Hall community room. The talk is sponsored by the East Hampton Conservation & Lake Commission (EHC&LC).

The presentation is open to the public and those unable to attend may participate by Zoom and YouTube. More info on this will be available on the town's website. For more information, call EHC&LC member Marty Podskoch at 860-267-2442 or podskoch@comcast.net.

Parent Program on Substance Use Prevention

The East Hampton Prevention Partnership will sponsor a special parent program Tuesday, May 17, from 7-8 p.m., at East Hampton High School, 15 N. Maple St.

Stephen Hill, a national speaker on substance use prevention and mental health awareness will speak about a personal comeback story. This program is free and open to the public. Hill will also speak to students during the school day.

The first 10 parents in the door will receive a \$25 Stop & Shop gift card.

For more information, email Courtney Widrick Fitzkee at cwidrick@easthamptonct.gov.

Local Artist's Work on Display

Local artist Geryl Yocher will exhibit her work at Town Hall during April and May.

Yocher attended Central Connecticut State University, graduating from the art education master's program. She taught art in the Portland Public Schools system for eight years, and at Wesleyan Pottery in the children's pottery program. She has also led art workshops at the Second Congregational Church of Middle Haddam.

Yocher paints in oils and acrylics, but her medium of choice is watercolors.

Donations Sought for Online Auction

The Friends of East Hampton Public Library will hold its second online auction May 9-20, and donations are sought.

Donations of goods to be auctioned off, and cash to purchase local gift cards, are being accepted at the library, 105 Main St., until April 29. The auction will take place on the Friends' Facebook page, www.facebook.com/friendsoftheeasthamptonpubliclibrary.

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.

First Steps in Music.

Local musician Mallory Kokus is offering a music and movement class for children ages birth through 6 years and their grown-up. The class is called First Steps in Music and will meet Fridays at 5:30 p.m. from April 29-June 3.

Children and their grown-ups will dance, sing, wiggle, bounce, and more! Class will be held at Creative Dance Center, 2 Barton Hill Rd. Cost is \$80 per family for the six-week session.

Register by today, April 22. Information can be found on Facebook (Music with Mallory) or email mallorykokus@gmail.com. This program is supported by a grant from the East Hampton Arts and Culture Commission.

East Hampton • East Hampton

Gravel Commits to CCSU

By Josh Howard

East Hampton High School senior Kaylee Gravel recently signed her National Letter of Intent, accepting an athletic scholarship to run both cross-country and track at Central Connecticut State University.

"I'm beyond excited to announce that I'll be furthering my academic and athletic career at CCSU," Gravel declared on Instagram in February. "So thankful for my family, friends, and coaches who have helped me get to where I am today! Can't wait for the next four years! Go Blue Devils!"

Gravel, a three-season runner, is in the middle of her final athletic season as a member of the Bellringers' outdoor track and field team. She also runs cross-country in the fall and recently earned all-state in February for her performance during the indoor track and field season.

This spring, Gravel and the indoor team are looking to defend their state title after winning the Class S state championship a year ago, defeating powerhouse Bloomfield in dramatic fashion.

Gravel earned an individual Class S state title a year ago, winning the 800 meters as a junior and said she is hoping to duplicate that feat this spring.

"It's really awesome," Gravel said about being part of such a talented and close team at EHHS. "A lot of the girls have worked really hard and we've all connected really well, even with the guys' team. The groups push and motivate each other."

She added that the team has several younger girls that have stepped up early in the season, giving them an extra edge this spring.

Gravel, who is fresh off an outdoor Class S state championship in the 1000 meters in February, is comfortable running any distance – including the 1600 and 3200 meters.

Her journey to CCSU started back when her father Greg Gravel, an avid runner, talked her into running some local races in the area. Later she joined the cross-county team at East Hampton Middle School and quickly fell in love with the endurance sport.

"It's something I enjoy doing. It's not a hassle to go running," Gravel said. "It's definitely relaxing and takes my mind off of things."

Running, along with the hours of training devoted to running, takes up a majority of her time at EHHS. However, she is also part of the



Kaylee Gravel, a senior at East Hampton High School, has signed her Letter of Intent to run cross-country and track at Central Connecticut State University.

school's Interact Club and has played travel softball. She said she will miss "the team and the people" the most at the high school.

At CCSU, she'll be joining a steady and competitive Blue Devils team led by head coach Eric Blake, who has been coaching both the men's and women's programs at Central for over a dozen years.

Gravel said that close friend Jake Ireland, who is a 2020 graduate of East Hampton High School and now a runner at CCSU, was a driving force behind her looking into the New Britain-based school.

Her mom, Lisa Gravel, is a Central alum, which also factored into her decision.

"I was looking out of state but then scheduled a visit to go there to meet Coach Blake, and some of the team and really ended up really liking it. I was really surprised," said Gravel, who has lived in East Hampton her entire life. "I felt at home when I went. I discussed it with my parents and I thought it was a really nice fit. They have lots of options for academics."

At Central, Gravel will major in exercise science and may pursue a minor in nutrition as well.

She said she wants to experience everything that college has to offer, adding, "I am looking forward to competing against new people and seeing where I can go. I'm excited about the team and making new friends."

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 contacting the center at 860-267-4426 or seniorcenter@easthamptonct.gov. Senior center hours are Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Masks are 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.

Wii Bowling: Thursday, April 28, 10 a.m. Registration required.

Writing Our Lives to Open Our Hearts: Thursdays, 10:30-11:30 a.m., or every other Wednesday (next date April 27), at 9:30 a.m., indoors with masks, or via Zoom. Register online.

Art with Karen: Sunday, April 24, 2-4 p.m. Karen Williams will take people through beginner steps of creating an acrylic painting. Cost is \$5 for supplies. Pre-register or call to register. Pay instructor the day of event.

Goat Snuggling: Come hold and interact with some baby goats on Mondays, April 25 and May 2, at 1 p.m. both days. Call for more details. Pre-registration required.

Family Tree: Friday, April 29, 10:30-11:30 a.m. In this presentation by Ken Doney, get help searching for the history of your family and learn the basic research tools. One-on-one help is

available as well. Bring your own mobile device. Pre-registration required.

Planning for Your Future: Wednesdays, May 4, May 18 and June 1, 9:30 a.m. each day. Themes are: May 4 – 'A Gift for Your Family,' covering how to plan and talk to families; May 18 – 'Legal Essentials as We Age,' presented by Manchester attorney Julia Paul; June 1, 9:30 a.m., 'Funeral Planning,' presented by Spencer Funeral Home. Call the center for more details; pre-registration required.

Trips: Payments for trips will be accepted on Tuesdays and Thursdays, or by pre-arranged appointment time. Trips are: **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 Jewing@easthamptonct.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.

Honor Society Inductee

Victoria Kelpen of East Hampton was recently initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and all-discipline collegiate honor society. Kelpen was initiated at Nazareth College in Rochester, N.Y.

Local sales agent with local Medicare Advantage plans.

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REA-15-22

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REA-22-22

Education All the Chatter in Budget Talks

By Sloan Brewster

At a public hearing on Andover's proposed \$12.95 million spending plan for the next fiscal year – a 531,268 or 4.28% increase over the current year – education spending was a large part of the conversation.

Board of Education Chair Gerard Crème spoke in support of the town budget and the education budget.

"I support the budget and I support whatever this town thinks it needs in order to be a successfully growing town," he said.

Crème also put in a plug for the town's decision to fund a new community/senior center.

"As a senior citizen I am ecstatic that we are finally getting a senior community center," he said.

The town is funding an estimated \$975,000 2,200-sq. ft. traditionally framed and designed community center building with funds from the American Rescue Plan.

Several speakers spoke in support of Andover Elementary School's \$4.12 million ask, a \$220,387 or 5.65% over current year's \$3.90 million spending plan.

Jennie Morrell, a kindergarten teacher at the school said it was a responsible budget and necessary for staff to carry out what they need to do.

Superintendent of Schools Valerie Bruneau reiterated Morel's comments.

"I feel this year we have really gone far beyond to make sure that the Board of Education did its due diligence listening to all the stakeholders along the way," she said. "I think we have created a budget that's academically sound, it's fiscally responsible."

Bruneau and Morrell asked for support for the education budget.

Eric Shevchenko, a local member of the RHAM Board of Education, spoke about the regional school district's budget.

The district's \$30.28 million combined operating and capital spending package proposal

translates to a \$374,517 or 1.22% decrease from the current year's \$30.65 million budget.

The numbers translate to a \$5.03 million levy for Andover, a \$215,536 or 16.63% reduction from the current year. Hebron's levy would be \$14.28 million, a \$54,056 or 47.17% slash from the current year and Marlborough's levy would be \$10.96 million, a \$104,925 or 36.20% cut from the current year.

Shevchenko said he was answering a question about the district's capital budget that was posed in public comment during a recent board meeting.

Specifically, Shevchenko said, someone asked if items in the capital budget were needed.

The \$504,619 for capital projects includes \$126,225 in flooring fixes; \$152,900 to deal with issues with walk-in coolers/freezers and compressors; \$67,650 to do some re-caulking around windows and foundations at the high school; \$57,844 to do some re-caulking around windows and foundations at the middle school; \$60,000 retention pond maintenance and engineering services; and \$40,000 to repair sidewalks and curbing around the campus.

"My answer is that we can almost always put a capital project off one more year. The problem is we don't know which capital project cannot go another year," he said.

He pointed by way of example to the town's Bunker Hill Bridge, which flooded last year after sinkholes developed in it.

The town he said put off fixing the bridge and "it collapsed," he said.

Shevchenko said the RHAM board was endeavoring to bring capital spending to a level yearly amount of about \$500,000.

"Our belief and hope is that if we keep it at a steady level that we'll be able to have our various capital projects funded as we move forward," he said.

Finance board member Joanne Hebert asked Shevchenko about approximately \$600,000

in surplus funds the RHAM board is keeping. While the board is legally allowed to keep up to 2% in surplus funds, Hebert said the towns would have benefitted from the extra cash and pointed out that RHAM's debt service bill was decreasing.

"The bottom line is a decrease but there was a chance to really dig into that budget this year," she said. "Maybe this could be the year that RHAM could give a little back."

Shevchenko agreed that RHAM debt was going down by about \$1.4 million and said RHAM had returned surplus funds to the towns last year.

He said a lion's share of the bond reduction was swallowed back into the budget to increase teacher salaries to bring them up to what teachers in surrounding towns, including Andover

make.

"The teachers at RHAM were making significantly less money," he said. "There was a plan with the new teaching union contract coming in at the same time [as the debt reduction], there was a plan to do right for the teachers."

He said as far as returning funds to the towns, it's the same as when towns' keep money they underspend and set it aside for future expenses.

"You keep that money back to sort of save up for these future needs," he said.

Hebert said while she saw all sides of the situation, "it just would've been helpful" had RHAM returned the surplus.

The finance board will continue to workshop the budget until it is finalized for the annual budget meeting on May 4.

Movies Coming Up

Movies will be shown at the Town Hall community room, 17 School Rd., on Wednesdays, May 11 and June 15, at 1 p.m. All are welcome to attend. Bring your own snacks and drinks. Transportation for seniors is available; call Cathy Palazzi at 860-916-6122.

On May 11, the 2008 film *27 Dresses* will be shown. The movie stars Katherine Heigl as a woman who's been a bridesmaid 27 times, but never a bride. James Marsden also stars. The

movie runs one hour and 51 minutes, and is rated PG-13.

On June 15, the 2002 movie *All Hail* will be shown. In the movie, a famous TV weatherman becomes Public Enemy Number One when he fails to predict a terrible hailstorm. He's forced to flee Buenos Aires. The movie stars Guillermo Francella, Peto Menahem and Romina Fernandes. Rated TV-MA, the film runs one hour and 58 minutes.

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.

Passport to Connecticut Libraries

All April, Andover Public Library is participating in the statewide Passport to Connecticut Libraries program. Nearly 140 Connecticut libraries are participating.

To begin, visit Andover Public Library to pick up your passport. Staff will stamp it and give you a token gift to get you started. Then, take your passport along as you visit other participating libraries. At each visit, you must show your library card, and then the library will stamp your passport and give you another small gift.

If you visit at least five participating libraries and return your passport to a participating

library by May 6, you will be entered into one state-wide drawing for a chance to win a \$150 Visa gift card for adults (18 and up) and a \$100 Visa gift card for children (under 18). This is a statewide contest where four winners will be selected: one adult and one child from a random drawing from all who visited at least five libraries, and one adult and one child from a random drawing from all who visited the most libraries.

For more details and a full list of participating libraries, visit the library, 355 Route 6, during open hours: Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

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.

Police News

3/14: Joshua Chism, 41, of 7 Center St., Apt. B, was arrested and charged with risk of injury to a child, disorderly conduct and third degree assault, State Police said.

Adult Volleyball

The Adult Volleyball program will start on Friday, April 22, from 7-9 p.m., in the Andover Elementary School gym, 35 School Rd. All are invited; come ready to play.

Bingo & Baskets

Andover Congregational Church, 359 Route 6, will hold a Bingo & Baskets night Friday, April 22, starting with dinner at 5:30 p.m. Game starts at 6:30 p.m.

Admission is \$10, which includes dinner, drink, dessert and bingo. No reservations required. Leave a message at the church at 860-742-7696 for more information. All are invited.

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.

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.

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.

Kentucky Derby Tea

Andover Congregational Church, 359 Route 6, will hold a Kentucky Derby Tea Saturday, May 7, from 1-3 p.m. All are invited.

The tea will include an assortment of teas, a basket raffle and homemade treats. The theme for this year's tea is "Roses."

Admission is \$10. Reservation required. Leave a message at the church office, 860-742-7696, to reserve seats.

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.

Norton Fund Scholarship Applications Available

The Andover Norton Children's Fund Commission is offering a scholarship to an Andover high school senior to help finance their post-high school education.

The commission is accepting scholarship applications for the \$1,000 Chester D. Norton scholarship. The application deadline is May 1. Commission members will meet in mid-May to select the recipient of the scholarship as well as the allocation of funds for next year's back-to-school needs.

Links to scholarship applications can be

found on the Andover town website, the Norton Children's Fund Commission Facebook page and the School Counseling Scholarship Information page of the RHAM High School website. You can also email Charlotte Nelson charnelson14@gmail.com for a link to the application.

To be eligible, the applicant must be an Andover resident and a graduating high school senior, and they must be headed to an accredited two- or four-year college/university or technical school.

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 April 27. The senior food pantry is open the opposite Wednesdays, also from 9-9:30 a.m.; next date is May 4.

Faith Sharing: Tuesdays at 11:15 a.m. in the sanctuary.

Prayer Requests: All are invited to email the church on any prayer requests they have.

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

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.

Andover • Andover • Andover • Andover • Andover • Andover • Andover

Cover Story • Cover

History Museum Open for Season

The Andover Historical Society will open its Museum of Andover History, Saturday, May 21, from 4-6 p.m. The museum is located in the Old Town Hall on Monument Lane.

Additional openings are planned for June 18, July 1, Sept. 17, Oct. 15 and Nov. 19, from 4-6 p.m. each day. The museum will also be open Memorial Day, Monday, May 30, from 10 a.m.-noon.

New items are continuously being added to the display.

Veteran Services

Any Andover resident interested in serving as the municipal veteran services contact person for the Town of Andover should send a letter of interest to the Town Clerk, 17 School Rd., Andover, CT 06232 or email townclerk@andoverct.org.

Community Fund Issues Call to Apply for 2022 Grant Money

Andover's Greater Together Community Fund Advisory Committee is seeking 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.

Senior Fundraiser April 24

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.

There will be jewelry, postcards, crochet items, sewn items, craft items, children's games, food, beverages and more.

Call Cathy Palazzi at 860-916-6122 if you need a ride to attend.

Senior Tag Sale

Andover seniors are collecting donations for their May 21 tag sale, which will raise funds for the senior lunch program. Call Carol Lee at 860-989-6988 to arrange for drop-off/pick-up of your items.

Library Cards Available

Here is a friendly reminder from Andover Public Library: any resident of Andover ages 5 and over is eligible to receive a free library card. These cards expire after three years, but are renewable for as long as you maintain your residence in Andover.

In addition to allowing you to borrow books from Andover Public Library, your library card allows you to check out books from any public library in Connecticut. Also, your Andover Public Library card is your key to access to OverDrive/Libby – a selection of eBooks and audiobooks. An active library card is required for students applying for the Andover Friends of the Library's annual scholarship program.

All are invited to stop by the library, 355 Route 6, to sign up for, or renew, a library card. The library is open Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Perfect Fit Seminar

On Tuesday, May 24, at 6:30 p.m., Andover Public Library, 355 Route 6, will present a "Perfect Fit Seminar" with Nancy Galo, a tailor with over 40 years of experience doing alterations.

Galo will teach women how clothes should fit properly to look great and feel comfortable. Women will also learn the construction of clothing, which the library said will eliminate paying too much for cheaply made pieces. Participants can bring in problem garments and learn what a tailor can do.

Space is limited to 20 participants at this in-person program, and pre-registration is appreciated. Call 860-742-7428 to reserve a space.

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The Swap Shack – where folks can drop off gently used stuff for others to “swap” – opens at the transfer station on Old Colchester Road in Hebron on Sunday at 10 a.m., and will be open on subsequent Sundays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

★ Earth Day Activities cont. from page 1

The idea, Hershey and Rathbun said, is to keep usable stuff out of the waste stream.

Doing so is beneficial from multiple standpoints, according to Rathbun. It preserves items, keeping resources from being recycled or crushed and thrown out and eases the use of new resources to replace them. It also keeps things out of the landfill and saves people money by reducing their need to buy new stuff.

Rathbun said the swap shack is a good thing as long as folks adhere to the rules and make sure the items they leave inside are clean and usable.

He said some folks might leave small kitchen appliances, such as toaster ovens or microwaves, but most of the time when such things are left behind, people won't take them.

"That kind of thing, I think most people want to buy it new," he said.

He said in the past he has seen old bedframes and sometimes people will take those, sometimes with the intent to shorten the legs and use the frame as a garden ornament.

He said he has seen plastic Adirondack chairs that were dirty and covered with leaves, seemingly having sat in someone's yard for months.

Like other soiled items, they are not a draw for takers.

"If you want to give it to somebody else, it's got to be clean, not stained, and in good shape," he reiterated. "People tend to shy away from it as soon as they find something that's not quite right with it."

Sprucing Things Up

Hershey said the Green Committee will be installing shelves in the shack and improving signage at the transfer station and putting some new trash and recycling containers at public places in town.

The project will be funded by a \$10,000 Department of Energy and Environmental Protection grant, named the "Lee Sawyer Community Waste Reductions and Recycling Grant," in honor of the former DEEP chief of staff who died in 2020.

Parks & Recreation Director Craig Bryant said the location of the new trash receptacles is yet to be determined but they may be in the center of town as at some local trail heads.

He said he wants to give people "an option to dispose of trash rather than on our trails."

The committee will also use funds from the grant for educational outreach, Hershey said.

Earth Day Ideas

In addition to the ribbon-cutting for the swap shack, this weekend will also serve as a time to clean-up trash along roads and in parks in town. The Green Committee will have a dumpster at Town Hall and committee members will be out doing their thing to get rid of litter, Hershey said.

Rather than the usual organized cleanup with teams working together, this year – as they did last year – individuals will be working alone on their own roads or in "hot spots," including the parking lot at Ted's Food Center, Veterans Park, Burrows Hill, Mill Stream and Old Colchester roads, where lots of nips and other litter is known to land, Hershey said.

"We're asking residents to at least clean up your own curbside," Hershey said.

There will be folks cleaning up town parks and trails, including youth sports groups that will be at their prospective fields.

The committee will also add compost and plantings to the pollinator garden at Town Hall and clean up any debris that settled there. That will take place at noon. Residents are welcome to join the kid-friendly activity, Hershey said.

Dr. Gale Ridge, of the Department of Entomology at the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, who spoke to the *Rivereast* this week about a story on invasive jumping worms that will be in a future issue of the paper, said picking up trash along the roadside instills pride in the community. She said planting a tree on is another great way to pay homage to the earth on Earth Day as trees absorb greenhouse gasses.

"If everybody planted a tree, if every single family planted a tree, it would make a big difference," she said. "Planting a tree would be a tremendous help."

She also recommended driving slower, which she said allows cars to go a greater distance using less fuel.

Ridge said mindset, however, is what's really crucial.

"We need to do activities to protect the environment and we also need to have a change in fundamental attitude so that it's more of a holistic approach," she said.

Resident Michele Sinkez, who planted the Pollinator Pathway Garden at Raymond Brook Preserve, will lead the event "Walk, Talk and Cut" at the preserve on Sunday at 1:30 p.m.

The event was coordinated with local Girl Scout Catherine Chester, who is working on her Gold Award project. Folks in attendance will learn to identify and control a variety of non-native invasive plants. After learning about the plants, there will be some light plant control activity.

All are welcome. Meet at the Kinney Road parking lot at the preserve. Wear clothing that protects from ticks, bring garden gloves and a manual (not powered) tool or two to cut or up-root plants.

After this weekend, the swap shack will be open Sundays between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

For more information on the Hebron Green Committee's Earth Day plan's visit hebrongoesgreen.com/earthday. For info on the swap shack visit hebrongoesgreen.com/swapshack.

Cover Story • Cover

★ New Liver cont. from page 1

The couple had their fourth child, Lennon, "right before the country shut down."

"We hunkered down for a good year," Stefanie said. "Thankfully, our kids are very understanding."

Stefanie also said she and her husband are ambiverts, so staying at home isn't the worst thing they could think to do.

She said the pandemic has affected her family in a way similar to most people. She's now less apt to go out and feels a certain uneasiness about doing so.

"That's not [unique] to us," she said.

The family hasn't started any fundraising yet. Stefanie said before they take money, they want

to make sure the surgery's a sure thing.

There is one way to help the family, Stefanie said; ending the stigma against liver disease.

When people see someone with jaundiced skin, she said people assume alcohol or drugs are the cause.

"That's certainly not our case," she said. She said removing the stigma around alcoholism and drug addiction would make people with liver issues more comfortable going out.

"There's nothing he could've done differently to avoid this," Stefanie said.

To share Ryan's story, visit www.thedonorapp.com/ryandonohue.

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Obituaries

East Hampton

Cecile P. Kauffman

Cecile P. Kauffman, 73, of East Hampton, beloved wife of Blake Kauffman, passed away peacefully at her home Thursday, April 14, surrounded by her loving family. Born Feb. 3, 1949, in Grand Isle, Maine, she was the daughter of the late Jean Cyr and Violet (Carrier) Cyr and stepfather Cyr Corbin.



Cecile worked as a corporate secretary for a manufacturing company and then on to Mercy Housing before her retirement.

Besides her husband Blake, she is survived by her son, Scott Levesque and wife Kelly of Texas; two daughters, Jodi Levesque of East Hampton, Kelli Levesque and husband DeShaun Billings of Cromwell; stepchildren, Shannon Abbott and husband Bobby of Oklahoma, Brandy Kauffman of East Hampton, Stephanie Kauffman of Middletown; her nieces, Heather Morin of Cromwell, Jaimie Morin of Middletown; her brothers and sisters, Dorothy Roy, Roland Carrier, Theresa Doty, Paul Corbin, Joan Corbin, Jude Carmichael, David Corbin; her 10 grandchildren, Kaylee, Brandalyn, Nathan, Morgan, Tysen, Ally, Madison, Devin, McKenzie, Shayla; great niece and nephew, Maya and Mason; and many nieces and nephews and cousins.

She was predeceased by a brother, Jim Cyr. Cecile had a love and passion for sewing, specifically quilts and blankets, crafting and cooking. She adored her family, with her pride and joy being her grandchildren.

Friends called at Spencer Funeral Home, 112 Main St., East Hampton, on Tuesday, April 19.

To leave online condolences, please visit www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com.

Portland

Karen E. Holohan

Karen Elizabeth Holohan, 76, of Portland, passed away peacefully on Monday, April 4. Born Dec. 12, 1945, in Middletown, she was the daughter of the late Harold and Roberta (Schultz) Holohan.



Karen was a longtime employee with decades of care given to patients at Middlesex Hospital. Karen was also a longtime member of the Eagles Club Aux. in Middletown.

Karen was a big kid, funny, thoughtful, kind, stubborn, and would give up anything to help her loved ones. Karen was an amazing aunt, sister, daughter, and friend. Her family and friends were her world and she never let us forget that. Karen will be deeply missed by all of her family and friends.

Karen is survived by her sister, Sandy Bazinet and her husband Keith of Meriden; a brother, William Holohan and his wife Johanna of Florida; many nieces and nephews, great nieces and nephews and great-great nieces and nephews.

Besides her parents, she is predeceased by a brother, Jimmy Holohan; two sisters, Donna Guest and Maureen Gaudet; brother-in-law, Nelson Gaudet; nephew-in-law, Roger Horner; and nephew, Robby Cameron.

The family will hold a celebration of life at a later date.

Marlborough

Francis McKeon Buckley

Francis McKeon (Mac) Buckley, beloved husband for 56 years of Donna Ricciuti Buckley, died Monday, April 11, surrounded by his devoted family. Born Nov. 22, 1941, in New Haven, he was the son of the late Mr. Christopher H. Buckley and Margaret Elaine McKeon Buckley. He was a graduate of Archbishop Stepinac High School in White Plains, New York, the College of the Holy Cross, and Georgetown University Law Center.



Mac and his family lived in Marlborough for over 40 years. In addition to his wife, he is survived by his five daughters: Marcia Buckley (Mark Thompson) of Brookeville, Md.; Mary Buckley-Harmon (Steven Harmon) of Ipswich, Mass.; Moira Buckley (Jeff Kestenband) of Glastonbury; Michelle Buckley (Christopher Dixon) of Dayton, Maine; and Monica Boyce (Brandon) of Lemoore, Calif. Mac also leaves 11 grandchildren: Mark, Brigid, Leah, Sophie, Lucy, Cameron, Daniel, Claire, Caroline, Benjamin and Evelyn; a sister, Lucy Buckley Maloney-Walsh (Robert Walsh); a brother, Christopher H. Buckley (Marguerite); brother-in-law, Edward Ricciuti (Mercedes); and numerous beloved nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his brother Mark Gerard Buckley.

Mac began his legal career in 1967 as a law clerk to the Honorable John P. Cotter, justice of the Connecticut Supreme Court. He later joined the Stamford office of Cummings and Lockwood as a litigation associate. In 1969 he became an assistant United States attorney until 1972, when he was appointed to serve as an assistant federal defender for the District of Connecticut. Later that year, he was appointed as a special federal attorney heading the regional office of a national drug enforcement program, the Office of Drug Abuse Law Enforcement (ODALE). Mac entered private practice in 1974 with his law partner and friend, Hubert J. Santos, forming Buckley and Santos in Hartford. Later, he practiced law with his daughter, Moira Buckley.

Mac had many interests outside of the practice of law, one being politics. In 1974, he was the Republican candidate for the First District Congressional seat, running against and losing to incumbent William R. Cotter. From 1975 to 1977, he served on the Newington Town Council.

Mac was passionate about boxing and coaching young people. He began boxing at an early age, continued throughout college, and started coaching boxers while he was in law school. In the early 1970s, first in conjunction with the Police Athletic League and then independently, Mac ran a Hartford boxing gym in Charter Oak Terrace, which became the Nelson-Anderson Memorial Boxing Club. He later joined his friend Johnny Duke to train fighters in the Bellevue Square Boys Club. Over the years, he trained some of Hartford's best amateur and professional fighters. In 2004, he and his dear friend, Troy Wortham, a former professional boxer, founded Championship Rounds Boxing and Books, an after-school boxing program in Hartford. In 2010 Mac was inducted into the Connecticut Boxing Hall of Fame.

In addition to training boxers, Mac helped establish the Connecticut Rising Stars, an AAU basketball team out of the New Britain Boys and Girls Club. He was fiercely dedicated to helping and influencing the future of those he coached and became a father figure to many young men.

Above all, Mac was a beloved husband, father, and grandfather who valued time with his family. Mac, Donna, and their five daughters shared

the work on their Black Angus cattle farm and enjoyed showing the animals at local fairs. He faithfully attended his daughters' sporting events and loved fishing, gardening, and playing tennis with his grandchildren.

The Buckley family would like to thank the staff at Middlesex and Hartford Hospital and Hartford Healthcare Hospice, who provided compassionate care to him and his family.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Tuesday, April 19, at St. Paul Church, 2577 Main St., Glastonbury. Burial followed at Holy Cross Cemetery, 1318 Hebron Ave., Glastonbury. Calling hours were held at the Mulryan Funeral Home, 725 Hebron Ave., Glastonbury, on Monday, April 18.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to National Alliance for Mental Health (NAMI) Connecticut, 1030 New Britain Ave., Suite 201, West Hartford, CT 06110; Charter Oak Boxing Academy (COBA), 81 Pope Park Hwy., Hartford, CT 06106; or Alzheimer's Association at alz.org/ct.

For online condolences, please visit www.mulryanfh.com.

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Colchester

Edith Gitlitz

Edith "Eadie" (Mirlis) Gitlitz, 87, of Colchester, passed away Thursday, April 14, peacefully at her home, surrounded by her loving family. She was born in Brooklyn, N.Y., Oct. 20, 1934, to the late Al and Regina Mirlis.

She married her husband Sidney, the love of her life, on Oct. 25, 1954, and they remained happily together for 67 years, until his death. They moved to Colchester in 1954, where they raised their three daughters. She spent her time helping her husband with his pharmacy, National Drug, and then happily spoiling her children and seven grandchildren.

She was an active member of Ahavath Achim Synagogue. She loved to cook for her family and friends, and spent her Wednesdays playing Mahjong with her friends. She enjoyed working on crossword puzzles and watching the Food Network and HGTV.

She is predeceased by her husband Sidney, her daughter Karen, and her brother Seymour. She is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Marcy and Peter Hutchinson of Colchester; her daughter and son-in-law, Maureen and Michael Reid of Seymour; and her seven beloved grandchildren.

The funeral was Monday, April 18, at Ahavath Achim cemetery on Taintor Hill Road in Colchester.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Special Olympics or the American Cancer Society.

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★ Letters cont. from page 16

no pointing out our differences; no one better than anyone else!

Jesus Christ died for the sins of the world! And on the third day he rose from the dead! Jesus showed us what true love means; i.e., to give of ourselves to one another. To look after each other.

The world is looking for answers to all this hate and division. The answer is simple, follow the ways of Jesus. As he said in this scripture, Matthew 22, Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"

We were once taught this scripture in public school, but then someone along the way decided we didn't need God in our schools anymore! And we wonder why we're in the mess that we're in today? The solution to our problems is simple. Follow Jesus!

Shirley Ellis – Colchester

A Reminder to Remember

To the Editor:

I was chagrined to read Tim Rinell's (East Hampton) letter and poem he sent to the *Rivereast* about Ukraine. To paraphrase him:

I see a little girl
Pink hat and mittens
Brightly colored winter coat
Crying she's all alone
A Russian soldier taps the back of her head
For a second red mist in the air
Then silence for a second
The world watches
We take their boats and shop elsewhere.
"We get 24/7 useless information on what the U.S. and the world should be doing"; The point ...Russia had already invaded Ukraine.... Executing thousands of Ukrainians ... it's genocide..."

How dare he remind us of how ineffective the World has been trying to overcome such evil, with its too little too late attitudes. How dare he remind us of the past travesties done by another evil force. How dare he! But he did dare! So, Tim do you want to run for president ... I'd vote for you.

Perhaps your first executive order could be to have NATO, UN and USA send non-combatative troops including nurses and doctors – all to give humanitarian aid.

Ralph Bianco – Colchester

No Hardship for Atlantis

To the Editor:

The Zoning Board of Appeals meeting on April 11 was enlightening. It was made very clear that a hardship clause to this giant corporation is obviously false, manipulative and not supported legally. The truth is that the continued push to commercialize a residential neighborhood is a real hardship to the people. The people who have invested in their homes, live, vote, pay taxes and raise children.

I am so thankful to the residents of East Hampton who have worked hard together and voiced their opposition to this commercial sprawl, and to the Zoning Commission who overwhelmingly agreed to save our residential and historic neighborhood. I hope the Zoning Board of Appeals stays true to the promises in the article of Planning of Conservation and Development by not supporting commercial creep. Please attend the next PZA meeting to support East Hampton Main Street.

Ryan Bothamley – East Hampton

ARPA Money is Your Money

To the Editor:

As all of you know nothing is free. The federal government has allocated relief funds available to both municipalities, schools, businesses, and negatively impacted residents. How much you ask? Well, the Town of Colchester received \$4.8M and the Colchester school system received \$2.5M in ARPA funds. The schools received an additional ~\$1.5M in ESSER grants.

Did you know that currently there is a deadline to apply for these funds? Did you know that you as a taxpayer whether you get any relief funds or not, we are all liable to pay them back via taxes? I ask that you visit the Colchester town hall website for further details.

Lastly, with the infusion of these dollars into the town and our schools do you believe that our taxes should go up? I for one believe that our taxes should be lowered this year as a result of these cash infusions.

Thank you,

Taras W. Rudko – Colchester

Misses the Point

To the Editor:

I'm not sure that accusing others of ethnohomocentricism is a path down which Edmund Smith should go. But, in fact, that is what he did recently. Having a "fixation on Black men" qualifies more as a white progressive liberal characteristic. Something to prove loyalty to the cause, something to bring gravitas to an otherwise subpar liberal existence. Derisive and irrational accusations are usually signs of projection, but this is not the forum to do a deep dive into Edmund's own ethnocentric proclivities. The fixation to which I will readily admit, however, is an effort to counterbalance the guilt-ridden, phony, devious, sycophantic, white progressive liberals that utilize minorities as props to maintain their own sociopolitical fiefdoms. And just like with every racial issue, Edmund misses the point. Just keep quoting the facts that support your arguments, Edmund, and ignore the ones that don't. Just like science, another thing you're not good at...

And what is wrong with this country, Scott? The usual idiots who only quote the most glamorous headlines about gun crime and then whine about immorality, stupidity, and constitutionality never reference a typical weekend in Chicago (27 shot, 6 dead two weeks ago). Do any of these idiots do any fact-checking, never mind feel empathy or remorse for the slaughters that have become sport in many urban settings? Why do so many white idiots who consider

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themselves champions of minorities blatantly attack urban statistics as examples of white, gun-nut, racist conspiracy theories? I think we know why. They are the same individuals with IQs low enough to elect Joe Biden and The Cackler. Embarrassing.

And The Hammer is happy about jobs and unemployment stats. Almost back to Trump-era numbers! Yay! The Hammer's other comments are usually crap. Did I use too much thesaurus this time, Hammer?

Regards,
Ed Kozlowski – Colchester

Mature Options

To the Editor:

"Man's attitude toward nature is today critically important simply because we have now acquired a fateful power to alter and destroy nature. But man is a part of nature, and his war against nature is inevitably a war against himself. ... We're challenged as mankind has never been challenged before to prove our maturity and our mastery, not of nature, but of ourselves." Rachel Carson, 1963, author of the game changing book, *Silent Spring*.

As Hebron moves forward, we too are facing the challenges of mastering self-control and determining the exact nature of our future. We have the chance to *not* develop the watershed situated directly above our clean marsh, but to leave it alone and allow it to continue to do its present job. By doing this, we can prevent a problem from starting.

We also have a chance to consolidate our impact on nature by refurbishing our present Public Works facility where it now stands and/or to use the, adjacent, Eversource land. It may be inconvenient. It may cost more than we want it too or it may not. Either way, if we do in fact build on the watershed between CVS and Kinney Road and we then damage our own drinking water supplies downstream, we will have only ourselves to blame. And if money is your primary concern, consider the costs of repairing and cleaning up an environmental mistake. A mistake that will travel downstream to several towns before draining into the Connecticut River.

Clean drinking water is, and will continue to be, a problem in our lives as Americans and all over the world.

"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."
Jean Tulimieri – Amston

Tips to Protect Environment

To the Editor:

As we celebrate Earth Day, the Colchester Conservation Commission would like to offer some tips to protect the environment year-round.

Go on a local adventure and support land trusts. Take a nature hike and explore the great outdoors. Local land trusts help preserve open space, maintain miles of trails, and offer informative hikes and presentations. Join or support a local land trust today!

Leave no trace behind. Chances are that you go on a hike to see the great outdoors and not someone else's trash. Bring out what you carry in and dispose

of trash properly.

Support local famers. Shopping at farmers' markets, orchards, nurseries, and local farms is a great way to reduce your carbon footprint. The food tastes fresher and it keeps your money in the local economy.

Compost your food scraps. Placing your food scraps like coffee grounds and banana peels keeps waste out of landfills and local waterways. Composting is also great for your garden.

Plant native trees, shrubs, and perennials. This time of year is when most people buy new plants. Select native plants that don't require as much fertilizing or watering to take root. Invasive or non-native species can take over your garden quickly, need more watering, and can ruin wildlife habitat.

Protect wetlands. Aside from protecting and improving water quality, wetlands provide fish and wildlife habitats and store floodwaters. Follow your municipal wetland agency's regulations when building or landscaping near a wetland or waterway.

Colchester Conservation Commission

Wasteful Budget

To the Editor:

The Hebron town budget is wasteful, misdirected and is a harbinger of future waste. We don't need \$50K dog parks, \$3.7M water projects or to spend \$145K to refurbish a vandalized skatepark. More to the point, the referendum on the Public Works building, the first building of a \$50M municipal complex, has been rescheduled until fall. This delay is a strategy to obscure the financial impact of this boondoggle on taxpayers.

We no longer have "limited government" serving the people of Hebron. Insider initiatives are ruining the small town we love. This government uses our taxes to promote development and urbanization, which will bring high crime, traffic congestion, higher taxes, and a lower quality of life. The town demands more staff, employee raises and new buildings without promise of improved service. The town budget is out of control.

This could only happen in a place where democracy has been lost or taken from us. The town charter is not followed. The Board of Finance now directs or meddles in the operations of the town and the schools. The Board of Selectmen, which was meant to be a steward of the present and the future, has become a rubberstamp. A viable democracy requires two parties, but the town Democratic Party died long ago of opportunism and a lack of conviction.

The local town committees nominate only one candidate (or don't support new qualified candidates) ensuring that many insiders are "elected." Concerned citizens who attend board meetings are referred to as "f*** neighbors" (see *Rivereast*, 7/30/2021, <https://glcitizen.com/archives/rivereast-news-bulletin/2021-2/>). Conflict of interest codes are ignored, even by selectmen who have town contracts!

We are left with only one course of redress: the town budget referendum. Vote 'no' on May 3. Take back our town. Send a message!

John Collins – Amston

LEGALS

MIDDLE HADDAM HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION MEETING Thursday, April 28, 2022 6:30 pm at TOWN HALL LEGAL NOTICE

Public hearing will be held to consider the following: Application 565 for a Certificate of Appropriateness at 119 Middle Haddam Road --- for installation of Cummins 20KW Propane standby generator --- for applicants Chuck and Donna Roberts. Application 566 for a Certificate of Appropriateness at 57 Middle Haddam Road --to remove all the siding, repair the sheathing necessary, and wrap and re-clad the house in new cedar clapboard --- for applicant George A. Selmont. The foregoing applications are available for public review at the East Hampton Building Department. At this hearing interested persons may be heard and written communications will be received. Dated: April 20, 2022 Regina Starolis, MHHDC Clerk 1TB 4/22

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, May 5, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the Buck Foreman Room (2nd Floor), 265 Main Street, Portland, CT. Public access through Zoom link A at www.portlandct.org to consider the following: PZC Application #21-15: 264 Freestone Avenue. Request for Special Permit for plastics manufacturing business to occupy one unit within the existing building. Application of American Precision Mold Inc. Property of Global Freestone LLC. Assessor's Map 20, Lot 179. Zone I (Industrial). 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 19th day of April 2022 Robert Ellsworth, Chairman Planning & Zoning Commission 2TB 4/22, 4/29

Town of Portland

Legal notice is hereby given to the water and/or sewer usage customers of the Town of Portland that quarterly bills are due and payable April 15, 2022. Payments not made in full on or before May 17, 2022 will be subject to interest of 1.5% per month from the due date. Failure to receive a bill does not invalidate the charge. Please contact the Water/Sewer department if you do not receive your bill at (860) 342-6735 or by email darcy@portlandct.org. Please feel free to leave your payment in the drop box located to the right of the back door at the Town Hall, which is located at 33 East Main St., Portland, CT or by mail at the address listed below. Town of Portland Water/Sewer Dept. P.O. Box 71 Portland, CT 06480-0071 Cynthia L. Gotta, CCMC Town of Portland Collector of Revenue 3TB 4/8, 4/22, 5/6

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, 4/6, 4/22

Legal Notice Annual Town Budget Meeting and Budget Referendum Town of Portland, Connecticut

The **Annual Town Budget Meeting** will be held in person at the Portland Middle School-Cafeteria, 95 High Street (COVID safe protocols will be adhered to) and via Zoom A - www.portlandct.org **Monday, May 2, 2022 at 7:00 PM, EDT** The **Budget Referendum** will be held at the Portland Middle School-Band Room, 93 High Street **Monday, May 9, 2022 from 6:00 AM to 8:00 PM, EDT** **Contact Town Clerk's Office for Absentee Ballots** Pursuant to Section 1201.4 of the Town of Portland Charter, the Annual Town Budget Meeting and the Budget Referendum shall be held at the above noted dates, places and times to consider and act upon the 2022-2023 General Fund Operating Budget as adopted by the Board of Selectmen at its meeting of April 6, 2022. The recommended budget for FY 2022-2023 is **\$37,038,774**. The recommended amounts for the major budget functions are highlighted in the following table.

General Government	\$1,535,612
Public Safety	\$2,323,035
Public Works	\$2,415,700
Planning and Development	\$202,184
Health and Human Services	\$361,260
Portland Library	\$777,620
Employee Fringe Benefits	\$3,363,470
Risk Management	\$226,500

TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT:	\$11,205,381
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EDUCATION:	\$22,752,909
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Debt Service	\$1,943,654
Sundry	\$1,136,830

TOTAL OTHER EXPENDITURES:	\$3,080,484
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TOTAL GENERAL FUND OPERATING BUDGET	\$37,038,774
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The estimated mill rate would be 32.39, a decrease of 2.62 mills over the FY 2021-2022 mill rate of 35.01. The estimated mill rate is subject to adjustment based on approved State of Connecticut Budget revenues to the Town. The budget is available for public inspection in the Town Clerk's Office located at 33 East Main Street, the Portland Public Library located at 20 Freestone Avenue, and on the Town's website www.portlandct.org Dated at Portland, Connecticut this 7th day of April 2022 Attest: Ryan J. Curley, First Selectman 2TB 4/22, 4/29

ADVERTISERS

The *Glastonbury Citizen* and *Rivereast News Bulletin* will make every effort to see that all advertising copy is correctly printed. The publisher assumes no liability or financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertising, but will reprint, without charge, that part of an advertisement in which an error may occur, provided that a claim is made within 5 days of publication. The liability of the publisher on account of errors in or omissions from any advertisement will in no way exceed the amount of the charge for the space occupied by the item in error, and then only for the first incorrect insertion. Also, the publisher takes no responsibility for statements or claims made in any advertisement, and will upon request, reveal the name and address of the person or persons responsible for placing any display advertisement, political or otherwise, except for "blind" box ads. The *Glastonbury Citizen* Inc. reserves the right to reject advertisements which it deems unsuitable for its publications. Every effort will be made to verify the legitimacy and propriety of all ads for the protection of our readers. The *Citizen* will take requests for specific placement of ads and will try to accommodate everyone's requests. The *Citizen* cannot guarantee specific placement.

TOWN OF MARLBOROUGH, BOARD OF SELECTMEN NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING MAY 2, 2022 AND BUDGET REFERENDUM MAY 3, 2022

The legal voters of the Town of Marlborough are hereby notified and warned that a Public Hearing will be held in the Cafeteria at Elmer Thienes/Mary Hall Elementary School, 25 School Drive, Marlborough, CT on Monday, May 2, 2022, at 7 P.M. for the following purpose: To discuss a budget in the amount of \$26,766,064 for the Town of Marlborough for the fiscal year July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 as recommended by the Board of Finance. To consider and act upon any additional items which are the proper subject of a Public Hearing, including Special Appropriations or Transfers of Unexpended Funds, as needed. At the conclusion of the Public Hearing, the budget shall be submitted to a Referendum vote upon the voting machines at the Elmer Thienes/Mary Hall Elementary School, 25 School Drive, Marlborough, CT on Tuesday, May 3, 2022, from 6:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. to vote on the following questions: 1. "SHALL THE BUDGET OF \$26,766,064 FOR THE TOWN OF MARLBOROUGH FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2022 TO JUNE 30, 2023 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF FINANCE, BE ADOPTED?" (Please note: This amount includes Marlborough's share of the Regional School District No. 8 (RHAM) Budget, Town Operations, Capital Improvements, Local BOE Budgets and Debt Service payments.) 2. "SHALL THE BUDGET OF \$29,771,705 FOR THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 8 PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM (RHAM) FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2022 TO JUNE 30, 2023 BE ADOPTED?" (Marlborough's share of the Regional School District No. 8 (RHAM) operational budget would be \$10,777,357.) 3. "SHALL THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM BUDGET OF \$504,619 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 8 BOARD OF EDUCATION (RHAM) FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2022 TO JUNE 30, 2023 BE ADOPTED?" (Marlborough's share of the Regional School District No. 8 (RHAM) capital budget would be \$182,672.) Absentee Ballots are available in the Town Clerk's office. Please call 860-295-6206. Dated at Marlborough, Connecticut, April 19, 2022. Gregory Lowrey, First Selectman Joseph Asklar, Selectman Amy Traversa, Selectman 1TB 4/22

LEGALS

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 8 TOWNS OF HEBRON, ANDOVER AND MARLBOROUGH NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING MAY 2, 2022 AND BUDGET REFERENDUM MAY 3, 2022

The electors and those persons eligible to vote at the Annual Meeting of Regional School District 8 are hereby notified that said Annual Meeting will be held **virtually and in person** on Monday, May 2, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. for the following purposes via the following: Joining info Join with Google Meet meet.google.com/qik-crrr-sbv Join by phone (US) +1 475-882-6352 (PIN 666092345) 1. To choose a Moderator to preside. 2. To discuss a budget in the amount of **\$30,276,324** for Regional School District 8 for the fiscal year from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. The Moderator shall adjourn the Annual Meeting at its conclusion and the budget shall be submitted to vote upon the voting machines in each of the District's member towns of Hebron, Andover and Marlborough on May 3, 2022, in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Sections 10-51 and 7-7, as amended, between the hours of 6:00 A.M. and 8:00P.M., under the following heading: QUESTION 1. "SHALL THE BUDGET OF **\$29,771,705** FOR THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 8 PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM (RHAM) FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2022 TO JUNE 30, 2023 BE APPROVED?" QUESTION 2. "SHALL THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM BUDGET OF **\$504,619** AS RECOMMENDED BY THE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 8 BOARD OF EDUCATION (RHAM) FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2022 TO JUNE 30, 2023 BE APPROVED?" Voters approving said Questions will vote "Yes" and those opposing said Questions will vote "No". Voting will be in the following polling places: Town of Hebron: Hebron Elementary School 92 Church Street Hebron, Connecticut Town of Andover: Andover Town Hall 17 School Road Andover, Connecticut Town of Marlborough: Marlborough Elementary School 25 School Drive Marlborough, Connecticut Persons qualified to vote at the Annual Meeting who are not electors will vote in their respective polling places. Pursuant to Connecticut law, no person who is eligible to vote in more than one town in the District is eligible to cast more than one vote at the referendum. Dated at Hebron, Connecticut, April 6, 2022. By Order of the Chairperson of the Board of REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 8 Michael Morris, Chairperson 1TB 4/22

Town Of Colchester Public Hearing Notice

The Colchester Sewer and Water Commission will hold a Public Hearing to present and gather public comment on the proposed budget for the 2022/2023 Fiscal Year including proposed rate schedules on Wednesday, May 4, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting is virtual (Zoom). A link is available at www.colchesterct.gov.

PROPOSED USAGE RATES COLCHESTER SEWER AND WATER COMMISSION 2022- 2023 FISCAL YEAR

Residential-Use Rates				
	Existing Water	Existing Sewer	New Water	New Sewer
(thousands of gallons)				
Serv Charge per qtr.	\$33.17	\$ -	\$ 43.17	\$ -
0 to 10	\$7.66	\$ 8.46	\$ 8.12	\$ 8.97
10 to 20	\$7.96	\$ 8.57	\$ 8.44	\$ 9.08
20 plus	\$10.19	\$ 8.85	\$ 10.80	\$ 9.38
Unmetered sewer based on 18,000 gallons per quarter - \$163.52				
Irrigation water meter (unsewered) – all water charged at \$10.80/1,000 gallons				

Commercial-Use Rates 3/4 in. or larger meters

	Existing Water Rate	Existing Sewer Rate	New Water Rate	New Sewer Rate
Service charge, per quarter (Includes use to 20,000 Gal. use)				
3/4 in. meter	\$195.67	\$170.81	\$217.41	\$ 181.06
1 in. meter	\$196.84	\$170.81	\$218.65	\$ 181.06
1-1/2 in. meter	\$198.43	\$170.81	\$220.34	\$ 181.06
2 in. meter	\$202.79	\$170.81	\$ 224.96	\$ 181.06
3 in. meter	\$234.91	\$170.81	\$259.00	\$ 181.06
4 in. meter	\$246.8	\$170.81	\$271.61	\$ 181.06
6 in. meter	\$274.55	\$170.81	\$301.02	\$ 181.06
8 in. meter	\$306.28	\$170.81	\$334.66	\$ 181.06
Over 20,000 Gal. use	\$7.92 per 1,000 gals	\$8.55 per 1,000 gals	\$8.40 per 1,000 gals	\$9.32 per 1,000 gals
Private Fire Service:				
	Existing Water Rate		New Water Rate	
Up to 4 in.		\$ 22.76 per quarter		\$24.13 per quarter
4 in.		\$137.07 per quarter		\$145.29 per quarter
6 in.		\$398.45 per quarter		\$422.36 per quarter
8 in.		\$848.84 per quarter		\$899.77 per quarter
10 in.		\$1,526.62 per quarter		\$1,618.22 per quarter

LEGALS

**LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF ANDOVER
2022 – 2023
ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING
Wednesday, May 4, 2022 - 7:00 p.m.**

The Electors and Citizens qualified to vote in town meetings in the Town of Andover are hereby notified that the Annual Budget Meeting for the Town of Andover will be held at the Andover Elementary School in the Gymnasium – 35 School Road on Wednesday, May 4, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. For the following purposes:

1. To choose a Moderator for said meeting
2. To receive the budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 as prepared by the Board of Finance
3. To approve a budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023
4. Adjourn

Copies of the Budget are available in the Town Clerk's Office. Voting by absentee ballot is not permitted for this meeting. Dated at Andover, CT this 14th day of April, 2022.
Andover Board of Selectmen

1TB 4/22

**LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF MARLBOROUGH
SPECIAL ELECTION**

The Electors of the Town of Marlborough, Connecticut are hereby warned to meet at their respective polling places in said town on Tuesday, May 3, 2022, for the following purpose:

1. To cast their votes for 2 SELECTMEN, per Charter Revision Notice is hereby given that the location of the polling place is as follows:
Elmer Thienes/Mary Hall Elementary School
Community Room
25 School Drive
Marlborough, Connecticut

Absentee Ballots will be counted at the same location. Voting tabulators will be used. The polls will be opened at six o'clock in the morning (6:00 a.m.) and will remain open until eight o'clock in the evening (8:00 p.m.). Dated at Marlborough, Connecticut, this 14 day of April, 2022.
Lauren A. Griffin
Town Clerk
Town of Marlborough

1TB 4/22

**LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF MARLBOROUGH
BOARD OF FINANCE with the BOARD OF
SELECTMEN
PUBLIC HEARING
Monday, May 2, 2022
Immediately following Annual Town Meeting
MES Cafeteria**

The Marlborough Board of Finance along with the Board of Selectmen, will hold a Public Hearing Monday, May 2, 2022 at immediately following the Annual Town Meeting to discuss the fiscal year 2022-2023 Town Budget.

The following itemized information shall be presented:

- (a) A statement of actual receipts from all sources during the last Fiscal Year;
- (b) A statement by classification of all actual expenditures during the last Fiscal Year;
- (c) An estimate of anticipated revenues during the next Fiscal Year from each source other than from local property taxes and an estimate of the amount which should be raised by local property taxation for the next Fiscal Year;
- (d) An estimate of expenditures for the next Fiscal Year;
- (e) The amount of revenue surplus or deficit of the Town at the beginning of the Fiscal Year for which estimates are being prepared;
- (f) A statement of the actual and anticipated receipts and expenditures through June 30 of the current Fiscal Year;
- (g) A statement of the financial resources of the Town including a listing of all indebtedness;
- (h) A line entry of the Regional District #8 Board of Education's assessment on the Town for the next Fiscal Year;
- (i) An amount in a contingency fund not to exceed two (2) percent of the total estimated expenditure for the current Fiscal Year.

At this hearing, interested persons may be heard. A copy of the proposed budget is on file in the Office of the Town Clerk and on the town website www.marlboroughct.net.
Gregory Lowrey, First Selectman
Joe Asklar, Selectman
Amy Traversa, Selectman

1TB 4/22

**LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF HEBRON
ANNUAL BUDGET REFERENDUM
May 3, 2022**

The electors and voters of the Town of Hebron, Connecticut, and any other persons entitled to vote upon any matters contained in the notice are hereby notified and warned to vote in the Annual Budget Referendum to be held at Hebron Elementary School, 92 Church Street in Hebron between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 3, 2022.

1. SHALL THE TOWN OF HEBRON APPROVE A FY 2022-2023 BUDGET OF \$37,016,920 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF FINANCE?
2. SHALL THE TOWN OF HEBRON APPROVE A FY 2022-2023 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM BUDGET OF \$675,088 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF FINANCE?

Voters approving the recommendation of the Board of Finance will vote "Yes" and those opposing the recommendation of the Board of Finance will vote "No".
Absentee ballots will be available from the Town Clerk's Office. Dated at Hebron, Connecticut this 20th day of April, 2022.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Daniel Larson, Chairman
Gail B. Richmond, Vice Chairman
Peter D. Kasper
Marc P. Rubera
Tiffany V. Thiele

TOWN OF HEBRON	BOARD OF FINANCE RECOMMENDED BUDGET		May 3rd, 2022
EXPENDITURES	ACTUAL 2020-2021	ADOPTED 2021-2022	PROPOSED 2022-2023
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	3,309,204	3,317,273	3,496,441
PUBLIC SAFETY	1,013,396	1,105,776	1,139,427
CIVIC & HUMAN SERVICES	688,789	852,657	991,324
PLANNING & LAND USE	140,510	188,489	211,618
PUBLIC WORKS	1,004,132	1,033,886	1,076,997
INSURANCE & BENEFITS	1,698,938	1,674,772	1,670,107
CONTR. OPEN SPACE LAND ACQ.	140,000	125,000	150,000
CONTR. TO CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT	590,680	768,877	587,485
CONTR. TO DEBT MANAGEMENT FUND	0	0	0
CONTR. TO CAP-NON RECURRING	0	0	0
CONTR. TO CAPITAL PROJECTS	118,488	152,022	156,796
CONTR. TO REVALUATION	50,000	50,000	40,000
TOWN PROPERTY SEWER FEES	14,280	14,280	14,280
DEBT SERVICE	675,412	1,086,298	1,092,124
BOF RECOMMENDED REDUCTION - TBD			(76,000)
SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION	0	1,135,372	0
RHAM ASSESSMENT	14,453,425	13,971,476	14,259,027
HEBRON BOARD OF EDUCATION	<u>11,386,957</u>	<u>12,063,673</u>	<u>12,207,294</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>35,284,211</u>	<u>37,539,851</u>	<u>37,016,920</u>
REVENUES			
TOTAL TAX REVENUE	29,586,516	28,751,244	29,190,545
STATE - GEN GOV'T SUPPORT	494,168	407,719	400,082
STATE - EDUCATION SUPPORT	6,003,855	5,817,069	5,997,693
DEPARTMENTAL	1,075,389	768,119	786,600
OTHER ONE TIME REVENUE SOURCES	0	37,328	0
DEBT MNGMT /UNASSIGNED FUND CONTR.	<u>0</u>	<u>623,000</u>	<u>642,000</u>
TOTAL REVENUES	<u>37,159,928</u>	<u>36,404,479</u>	<u>37,016,920</u>
MILL RATE	36.33	36.33	31.70
PROPOSED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM BUDGET 2022-2023		PROPOSED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM REVENUES 2022-2023	
Road Resurfacing and Road Improvements	311,583	Balance from Previous Appropriations	4,452
Large Dump Truck w/ Plow - 2nd Year Funding	145,000	LOCIP Funding	70,751
Roll Off Truck - 3rd Year Funding	168,505	Funding from Other Sources: Public Safety Fund	11,400
Gilead Hill School Roof Restoration	50,000	Interest	1,000
TOTAL CIP BUDGET	675,088	General Fund Contribution	587,485
		TOTAL CIP REVENUE	675,088

1TB 4/22

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN SEEKS
VOLUNTEERS FOR CHARTER
REVISION COMMISSION**

On March 24th the Andover Board of Selectmen voted to initiate a Charter Revision Commission to be appointed by the Board at their regular meeting on Monday, April 11, 2022. The Board will likely expect the Commission to complete its final report by July of this year to better ensure that the process will result in a vote on the November 8 State election ballot. Any Town elector wishing to apply to be a member of the Commission should provide a letter of interest to the Office of the Town Administrator no later than Monday, April 11 at noon. No more than one third of the members may hold other public office in the town. No more than a bare majority may be registered with one political party. Thus, a 5 member commission may include one public official and no more than three members of the same political party.

4TB 4/1, 4/8, 4/15, 4/22

**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

**TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of Hearing**

The East Hampton Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a regular meeting on May 4, 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:
A. PZC-22-004: Saint Clements Marina, 49 Oakum Dock Road for Site Plan Modification in C Zone – Section 5.2.B.
Map 02/ Block 9A/ Lot 4.
Ray Zatorski, Chairman
Note* any question re: Applications and Maps are on file in the Land Use Office 860-267-7450.

2TB 4/22, 4/29

**LEGAL NOTICE OF ACTIONS
HEBRON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
15 GILEAD STREET, HEBRON CT**

At its April 14th, 2022 meeting, the Hebron Conservation Commission took the following action:
Petition 2022 – 04 F – Ruth Way, 720 Gilead Street, Hebron CT 06248, Notification of Timber Harvest – **Affirmed**; "Permitted Use as of Right Activity"
Dated at Hebron, CT this 19th day of April 2022.
James P. Cordier, Wetlands Agent
For Thomas Loto, Chairman, Hebron Conservation
<https://transcripts.gotomeeting.com/#/se58d16f52c2eed-be38e7b87b881ea085ca3596f9dc9dcb1afccc0daa9ba6ae269>

1TB 4/22

**LEGAL NOTICE
ANDOVER CHARTER REVISION
COMMISSION
PUBLIC HEARING
THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2022 – 7 P.M.
COMMUNITY ROOM OF THE TOWN OFFICE
BUILDING**

The Andover Charter Revision Commission will conduct a Public Hearing to receive public input on issues pertaining to the revision of the Andover Town Charter. Dated at Andover, Connecticut this 19th day of April, 2022.
Andover Charter Revision Commission

1TB 4/22

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FREE

FREE! FREE! FREE! Oak entertainment center with glass doors and storage drawers; mint condition Technics stereo receiver & CD player, Kenwood dual cassette deck, Infinity speakers, 2 wooden bookcases needing painting. Can text photos! Glastonbury 860-977-4807

WANTED

ALWAYS BUYING OLD TOOLS - Wanted, old, used, and antique hand tools and tool chests. Machinist, wood-working, engraving, and workbench hand tools. Also of interest, firearms and other related items. Honest offers made in your home. Please call Cory, (860) 322-4367.

WANTED: COMPOSTED MANURE delivered to our garden in East Hampton. Call 860-267-6040



WANTED TO BUY

BUYING ANTIQUES & OLD STUFF. Costume jewelry, pottery, bottles, crocks, jugs, toys/games, glassware, silver plated items, signs, typewriters, sewing machines, bar items, tools, radios, clocks, lanterns, oil lamps, knives, hunting, fishing, military, Masonic, fire dept. and more. Donald Roy 860-874-8396.

"Pet of the Week"

Meet River! He is an 18 month old Beagle/Rottweiler mix. He is a very sweet, affectionate and craves attention and lovin'. He is a medium to high energy guy. River LOVES to play with other dogs! His home MUST have a physically fenced yard. River would do well in a home with older children (12 years of age and older).

Marie, 6 months, is an adorable gray and white kitty with the most stunning lime green eyes. Patience, quiet, and a gentle touch are going to be key with Marie. She purrs loudly for head and face scratches and absolutely loves toys of all kinds. A sunny windowsill is a must because she loves to watch the birds. Marie does have a few health challenges. She may do best with an experienced cat owner.

**For more information on adopting CATS or DOGS, call 860-569-0722
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EMPLOYMENT

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FT POSITION - Accounts payable, process invoices, vendor set ups, respond to account inquiries, reconcile accounts, other accounting tasks as needed. Submit resumes to: MKay@MysticLogistics.com

PAINTER WANTED - Must have experience and transportation. Please call Mike 860-608-8376

MEDICAL ASSISTANT POSITION IN PODIATRY office in Marlborough CT Salary \$14-\$16 per hour Monday, Tuesday and Thursdays May-October (Approximately 22 hours per week) Monday - Thursdays October-April (Approximately 30 hours per week) Job Description: Rooming patients and review intake forms. Cleaning rooms after each patient. Take X rays. Set up minor office surgical procedures. Instrument sterilization, Supply inventory Back up front desk assisting patients with appointments. Light office cleaning. Qualifications: Medical assistant experience needed. Must be reliable, punctual, pleasant and organized. Benefits:401(K), 401(K) match, Profit Share, PTO Fax resume to 860 295 9184

THE KIDS CLUB CHILD CARE CENTER IN MARLBOROUGH IS LOOKING TO IMMEDIATELY HIRE 2 PART TIME EMPLOYEES. One position is for M-F 7:00AM-12:30P.M, the other one is M-F, 3:00-5:30. Those interested must be flexible, dependable, be able to lift at least 20 pounds and have experience working with children ages 3 months to 5 years. If interested in learning more about the position please call the center at 860 295-0498 or send us an email at thekidsclub98@yahoo.com with your availability, qualifications and questions that you may have.

PART-TIME OFFICE ASSISTANT, FLEXIBLE HOURS. Must have social media skills. Call Susanne at 860-682-2485

SEEKING SUMMER CAMP STAFF: We are searching for qualified candidates ages 16+ for the position of Summer Camp Program Leaders and Program Specialists. This fun and exciting position works directly with children grades PreK-8th, organizing games, arts and crafts, attending field trips, etc. Please visit the Town of Hebron website to apply or call 860-530-1281 for more information.

PART-TIME RESIDENT ATTENDANT 6:30pm - 11:00pm 3 days/wk includes every other weekend Please call Christal at Greystone 860-342-2509

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HELP WANTED LANDSCAPING. FULL TIME. Driver's license required. Grundman Landscape, Colchester. 860-267-1510

E2 ELECTRICIAN / APPRENTICES WANTED with residential experience. Call John 860-214-4045 or email gardelec@frontier.com

QUALITY TREE WORKERS WANTED: Ground or Aerial Experience, Jardinero o Operador de Camiun de Cangilones Small tree company in East Hampton, CT, in search of team players with positive attitudes, safety conscious, proficient tree work skills, clean driving record. Pay \$16-30, 860-267-0300 or sheehantreeremoval@gmail.com. Open to conversations with small, professional tree companies who are in the same boat and want a win-win situation.

HIRING SHIPPING RECEIVING CLERK: Bell Power Systems, located in Essex, a well-established value added distributor of diesel engines, is excited to announce an opening for a Shipping and Receiving Clerk. The right candidate should have the following qualifications/experience: Shipping/Receiving Procedures (track shipments, shipping labels, BOL, packing techniques, etc.). Knowledgeable in inventory control, Organized/Detail oriented, Ability to learn computer operating software, Good communication skills. Qualifications: Ability to operate a forklift is a must, HS diploma or experience. Send work history to: emma.stroede@sdsiesel.com. Bell Power Systems provides equal employment opportunities to all employees and applicants without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability or veterans status.

PART-TIME KITCHEN ASSISTANT 12:30pm - 7:00pm 4 days/wk includes every other weekend Please call Christal at Greystone 860-342-2509

POSITION WANTED

RWB NURSE ADVOCACY & CASE MGMT: Attend Dr visits & ask imp questions Fight Ins. company denied claims Care Coordination & Disease Mgmt. Richard Williams-Briggs RN, MBA 30 yrs exp, reasonable rates

EMPLOYMENT

Parks Maintainer II

The Town of East Hampton is accepting applications for the position of Maintainer II for the Parks and Recreation Department. This is a full-time, bargaining unit position, with benefits. \$21.78 per hour; 40 hours per week, plus OT as necessary. A Parks Maintainer II performs manual labor in the construction, installation, repair and maintenance of municipal parks, sports fields, recreational facilities, equipment, etc. Also works as a Public Works Maintainer II. Ability to operate and use a variety of tools, trucks, and machinery. Snow plowing experience and CDL with class B (air brake endorsement) required. Applicant should be dependable, have a clean driving record and be in good physical condition. Must possess or be willing to obtain a Connecticut Certificate of Personal Watercraft Operation License and Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI) certification. EOE/AA/M-F.

Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, resume and an employment application by Friday, 5/6/2022, (or until filled) to the Town of East Hampton, Department of Human Resources, 1 Community Drive, East Hampton, CT 06424, or by email to lseymour@easthamptonct.gov.

1TB 4/22

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REB-13-21

Office Assistant

The Town of East Hampton is looking for a highly organized and detail-oriented Office Assistant. This is a part-time position. The Office Assistant will provide administrative support to the Town Manager's Office, including the Human Resources Department. The candidate will be required to cover at least one (1) evening meeting per month and assist other departments as needed. Must have knowledge of general office procedures and be flexible and adaptable and proficient in Microsoft Office. \$17.00 per hour. Monday-Thursday, up to 19.5 hours per week. Please submit cover letter, resume, and an employment application by May 6, 2022, or until filled, to the Town of East Hampton, Department of Human Resources, 1 Community Drive, East Hampton, CT 06424, or by email to lseymour@easthamptonct.gov. EOE/AA/M-F. www.easthamptonct.gov

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RE-4-8-22

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(1) Seasonal Laborer

This is a seasonal position with up to 40 (forty) hours a week weather permitting, within the Public Works Department for the summer. The successful candidate will be expected to perform general work in construction, repair and maintenance of town roads, grounds and facilities.

Requirements: Familiarity and ability to operate grounds maintenance equipment, power equipment, and hand tools as well as possession of a valid Connecticut driver's license.

A Town of Marlborough Employment Application and a general job description are available at the Town Clerks Office, 295-6206. Completed applications are to be submitted to the:

Marlborough Town Clerk
26 North Main Street
P.O. Box 29
Marlborough, CT, 06447

Application deadline is Friday, May 13, 2022 at 12:00 P.M.

We consider applicants for all positions without regard to race, creed, religion, gender, national origin, age, disability, marital or veteran status, sexual orientation, or any other legally protected status.

3TB 4/15, 4/22, 4/29

Drivers Wanted

Attention To Detail is looking for drivers to pick up and deliver cars to and from car dealers. Part time position.

If you are interested in this position please come to our facility in Middletown, CT to fill out application.

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195 Dekoven Drive
Middletown CT 06457

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RE3-20-20

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REB-26-21

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