

RIVEREAST

News Bulletin

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

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May 27, 2022



College-Bound Highlanders... On Wednesday, eight Portland High School seniors signed letters of intent to play sports in college. Pictured from left are, back row, Zack Doncet, who will play soccer at Eastern Connecticut State University; Owen Delisle, cross-country and track, Sacred Heart University; Eli Evison, basketball, ECSU; and Jake Thompson (cross-country and track) ECSU. Front row: Caiden Hettrick-Rivera, soccer, ECSU; Shawn Laverty, cross-country and track, University of Vermont; Lindsey King, track and field, ECSU; and Kayla LaMalfa (cross-country and track), ECSU.

Hebron Man Found Shot in Driveway

By Sloan Brewster

State police are continuing to investigate after a 37-year-old Hebron man was found dead of multiple gunshot wounds in a Grayville Road driveway last weekend.

Police have identified the victim as Joseph Serra Jr.

According to a police report, on Saturday at about 5:11 p.m., state troopers received a call that there was a dead male in the driveway at 158 Grayville Rd. in Hebron. A male resident at the scene told police he had found the victim on the ground in the driveway.

Police said they determined, upon further investigation, that the deceased had died of several gunshot wounds. He was later declared dead by Emergency Medical Services.

The Eastern District Major Crime Squad also responded and took over the investigation, police said. Serra Jr.'s body was transported to the Office of the Medical Examiner, where a post-mortem was scheduled.

Police said Tuesday the investigation was ongoing.

A post on the town's website also indicates that the incident is under investigation and states that it was an isolated incident involving family members and there is no danger to the community.

In a phone call Tuesday, Town Manager Andrew Tierney reiterated that family members living at the address were involved in the incident.

"It was isolated to the residence and it appeared to be a domestic in nature," he said.

He said he had heard Serra Jr. suffered three gunshot wounds to the chest, adding that the details were "unsubstantiated."

Tierney also said he was close friends with

the Serra family and knew the victim, his father Joseph Serra Sr. and the family patriarch Paul Serra, who passed away in 2013.

He said Serra Sr. lived at the Grayville Road house with his two sons.

Tierney said the family kept to itself and at one time had a farm on the property, raising chickens, selling eggs and growing produce. Tierney said Serra Sr. inherited the property from his father and took care of his ailing mother, Helen Serra, who passed away in 2017.

Tierney said he wanted to clear up a rumor he had spotted on social media, where, he said, some people were speculating that the property was the subject of a tax sale. He said it was not true.

"He's not on the list for a tax sale," the town manager said.

Tax Collector Adrian MacLean confirmed that Serra Sr. was up to date on property taxes.

In July 2017, the town purchased 10 acres of open space on the property for \$66,750, Finance Director Elaine Griffin said.

The sale, according to Tierney, was done so Serra Sr. could pay off back taxes. He said Serra Sr. "was trying to do the right thing" and described him as a man with a "conscience."

The deal was a "win-win," Tierney said, as the Open Space Acquisition Committee was interested in getting the property, which connects to other open space in the area, including Grayville Park and local trails.

"It was the connectivity and the location that made it desirable," Tierney said.

Tierney also mentioned that it was not the first time police had been to the property, and

See Hebron Man Found Shot, page 3

EHHS Student Makes 'Disturbing' Threat

By Jack Lakowsky

East Hampton Superintendent of Schools Paul Smith said a student at the high school recently made a "disturbing" online posting that "referenced violence," and featured a "slew" of racist and homophobic terms.

Students brought the threat to the district's attention, and the district involved police. On Monday, Smith told the *Rivereast* that, after questioning the student, police determined there was no credible threat.

On Tuesday, Smith said the threat was in a Snapchat photo the student sent to friends.

Due to confidentiality laws, Smith said he was unable to share what consequences the student faces, or what criminal charges.

In its release Tuesday, the East Hampton Police Department said it charged a 15-year-old East Hampton juvenile with second-degree

breach of peace and second-degree threatening "after making threats and inappropriate comments on a social media page."

The alleged hate speech has rocked the school community. A parent, who asked to not be named, said they feel the district is trying to sweep the incident under the rug.

Though details on it are slim, parents are organizing an assembly to express their dissatisfaction with how the school is handling the post.

On the "Speak Your Mind East Hampton" Facebook forum, resident Monsta Vazquez said an expulsion meeting had been scheduled but was postponed. Because of this, she said, "our peaceful protest coordination will be more organized, and we can push for more support."

Parents are encouraging parents to reach out

to the superintendent and school board to express concerns.

Vazquez called for the student's permanent expulsion.

Smith said the lack of credible threat does not excuse the student from using vile slurs.

"The slurs made were highly inappropriate and disappointing," said Smith, adding the schools have programming to "combat things like this."

Smith said the district does not tolerate "language like this."

The school said the threatening post was made May 20, just days before a mass shooting at an Uvalde, Texas, elementary school left 19 children and two teachers dead.

"The message promoted violence with racial

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East Hampton senior softball players (from left) Einin Frost, Gianna Guiliano, and Julia Borrelli were celebrated for Senior Night on May 16. Frost was named a *Rivereast Standout* after pitching a complete game and scoring three runs.

Standout Athletes of the Week

By Josh Howard

Here are the *Rivereast* Standouts of the Week for the week of May 16-22:

Einin Frost - East Hampton High School (Softball): Frost pitched a complete game from the mound and scored three runs from the plate as the Bellringers celebrated Senior Night with an 18-5 victory over Old Saybrook on May 16. Frost, along with Julia Borrelli and Gianna Guiliano, were the three seniors honored prior to the game. Junior Reagan Burt also shined in the victory, scoring four runs and driving in four more.

Jack Holmes - Bacon Academy High School (Lacrosse): Holmes had three goals and dished out five assists as the Bobcats defeated Ledyard/Griswold 16-1 on an emotional night at Bacon Academy High School on May 19. The game was named the '1032 Game' in honor of former players Jake Chapman and Tyler Graham who tragically died following a car accident in Colchester in October of last year. Chapman wore jersey No. 10 and Graham wore jersey No. 32 while playing for the Bobcats before

graduating in 2021.

Chase Massey - RHAM High School (Baseball): Massey pitched a complete-game, striking out seven and walking only one batter as the Raptors upended Plainfield 4-1 on May 21. The junior surrendered only one run in the first inning and then shut out the visiting Panthers the final six innings. Bradley D'Amico provided support for Massey, connecting on a pair of hits, driving in a run and scoring another.

Leah May - Portland High School (Softball): May had a game for the ages as the Westbrook-Portland co-op softball team defeated Bassick 28-9. The PHS-senior went 5-5 from the plate, driving in 11 runs and scoring four more. She hit a pair of home runs, including a grand slam, as the co-op won their third game of the season.

To nominate someone for an Athlete of Week, or for questions or comments on sports-related topics, email Josh Howard at joshhoward-sports@gmail.com

Cover Story • Cover

★ *Hebron Man Found Shot cont. from page 1*

said they had been called there "on numerous occasions." He said that Serra Jr. had had some runs-ins with the law.

The state of Connecticut Judicial Branch's website lists several convictions, including driving under the influence of alcohol or a con-

trolled substance, illegal possession of a weapon in a motor vehicle, possession of marijuana and burglary, for a Joseph Serra Jr. with a birth year of 1984.

Tierney said Serra Jr. also assisted at the town transfer station "from time to time."

"It's very unfortunate," Tierney said. "I'm shocked. It's just something that I didn't see coming."

Tierney said there had not been a homicide in the town in decades.

"It's a sad day for our town. I don't think we've had a homicide since '89, when there was an issue out on East Street," he said.

According to archived issues of *The Hartford Courant*, in October 1991, Tina M. Morrison, 27, of Bristol, pleaded guilty to slaying Bruce Fairchild, 38, of East Street in Hebron.

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From the State Senator's Desk...

In this year's legislative session, my colleagues and I focused on providing aid to the people of Connecticut. We are living in tumultuous times, and it was imperative this year that we provided folks with well-needed and deserved financial relief. On May 3, just before the end of session, I voted to pass a state budget with historic tax cuts, some of the largest the state has ever seen, to deliver that relief.

First, the legislature passed a three-month holiday of the state's gas tax, saving 25 cents per gallon. We initially did so for three months, with the hope that oil prices would stabilize. Unfortunately, amid global crises, the oil industry has not met increased demand with greater supply, and prices continue to rise – and would be higher without the tax break. Accordingly, the legislature extended the gas holidays through Dec. 1. These cuts will save Connecticut residents more than \$158 million through the end of the year, according to projections.

The budget's tax cuts also include a new child tax credit for families, available to single filers earning less than \$100,000 per year and couples earning less than \$200,000. Families with children can claim this tax credit, valued at \$250 per child with a maximum value of \$750 for families with three children. It is expected to save Connecticut families \$125 million.

The Earned Income Tax Credit, used by nearly 185,000 Connecticut residents, will also be increased through the budget. The resulting change in the deduction will deliver \$49 million annually to Connecticut families.

Additionally, the phasing out of taxes regarding pension and annuity incomes for retired folks – which has already saved millions of dollars in recent years – will be accelerated, which will put another \$43 million back in their pockets.

The maximum property tax exemption has also seen changes, expanded from \$200 to \$300. This will save Connecticut families \$60 million this year. This is especially valuable in providing relief to homeowners and property owners, putting money back in their pockets.

Another valuable change involved adjustments to the tax rate charged by cities and towns on motor vehicles. East Hampton, Colchester, and Portland are among the towns that will see a lowering in car taxes.

This budget was designed with our state's needs in mind during these current times. That's why I'm proud to support this budget, which keeps every resident in Connecticut in mind and gives them financial relief in the process.

State Sen. Norm Needleman
D-33rd District

Note: The 33rd Senatorial District includes Colchester, East Hampton and Portland, as well as Chester, Clinton, Deep River, East Haddam, Essex, Haddam, Lyme, Westbrook and part of Old Saybrook.



On May 18, Probate Judge Jennifer Berkenstock (left) was nominated by unanimous vote of the Republican delegates to run for reelection for Probate Judge in the Region 14 Probate District. She's shown here with convention chairman David Balthazar.

Berkenstock Nominated for Reelection

On May 18, Probate Judge Jennifer Berkenstock was nominated by unanimous vote of the Republican delegates to run for re-election for Probate Judge in the Region 14 Probate District.

The district includes the towns of East Hampton, Portland, Marlborough and East Haddam.

David Balthazar served as the chairman and presiding officer of the convention.

Berkenstock is running unopposed in November for her fourth consecutive four-year

term. She was first elected in 2010, upon the consolidation of the four towns' separate Probate Courts into a regional district court. She has lived in East Hampton since 1988 and has been involved in a number of probate and community organizations over the years.

Berkenstock continues to serve as the chair of the Procedures Review Committee, in order to update and simplify the probate forms. She also is a member of the Executive Committee of the Probate Assembly.

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From the Editor's Desk

Observations & Ruminations

By Mike Thompson

As I was watching the horror from Texas on the news Tuesday night, a thought entered my head.

So many people complained last year, some in this very paper, about how terrible it was that kids had to wear masks to school – how traumatizing it was for them.

Like *this* isn't traumatizing for them????!!!!

It's both infuriating and crushingly depressing.

On a brighter note, it's nice to see more activities taking place for Memorial Day weekend this year. Last year, with the pandemic still lingering and vaccines still fairly new, some of the usual activities were put on ice, like Colchester's Memorial Day parade, which the town's Memorial Day parade committee reluctantly decided not to hold.

When I think of all the Memorial Day ceremonies I covered over the years for the *Rivereast*, my mind often goes to Pam Sawyer, the longtime state representative for Andover, Hebron, Marlborough and Bolton. Pam had a tradition of reading the poem "In Flanders Fields" at each Memorial Day ceremony she attended, and it was always a touching, very somber occasion.

The poem was written in World War I, by Canadian physician John McCrae, a lieutenant-colonel in the Canadian Forces. In case you've never read it – or even if you have – here it is. It's an incredibly touching, somber poem:

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago

We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

Speaking of Memorial Day, the offices of the *Rivereast News Bulletin* will be closed in observance of the holiday next Monday, May 30. However, our deadlines will remain the same. All submitted copy – such as letters to the editor, event listings and press releases – **must** be submitted no later than **noon Tuesday, May 31**. No exceptions will be made.

In closing, and in keeping with the Memorial Day theme, here's a beautiful quote from Barack Obama, which he said on his first Memorial Day as president in 2009:

"If the fallen could speak to us, what would they say? Would they console us? Perhaps they might say that while they could not know they'd be called upon to storm a beach through a hail of gunfire, they were willing to give up everything for the defense of our freedom; that while they could not know they'd be called upon to jump into the mountains of Afghanistan and seek an elusive enemy, they were willing to sacrifice all for their country; that while they couldn't possibly know they would be called to leave this world for another, they were willing to take that chance to save the lives of their brothers and sisters in arms."

Very well said, sir.

See you next week.



A Tour of Fenway... Where in the world is the Rivereast News Bulletin? Well, Nancy Gianetti of Marlborough (center) took her copy along when she brought friends Susan Hatcher from Missouri and Hal Williams from Florida on a recent tour of Fenway Park. The paper is the May 6 edition featuring the Barans at a Yankees game, keeping the rivalry alive! Are you taking a vacation or a day trip soon? Bring along a copy of the Rivereast, snap a picture with it, and email the picture to bulletin@glcitizen.com. You might win a prize!

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

Correction

In a story last week on Wes Skorski's nomination to run for the 55th District, it was stated the district, after November, will include Andover, Hebron, Bolton and Glastonbury. This is not true. After the redistricting takes effect this November, the 55th will include Andover, Hebron, Marlborough and part of Glastonbury.

The *Rivereast* regrets the error.

making things green, CO2. These people are either diabolical or insane (maybe both).

So we're all supposed to move to unaffordable and unreliable electric vehicles that provide very limited range. And everyone will have to recharge their vehicles after work at the same time. A sensible person would ask "where is all of this power going to come from" but these imbeciles will say "it comes out of the plug on the wall."

This energy insanity is going to lead to millions of unnecessary deaths. People are going to freeze to death in the winter, or starve to death choosing between food and heat. Democrats don't care about any of this.

Democrats are into sustainability believing there are already too many people alive on the planet. Culling the herd would be a good thing from their perspective. They always claim their proposals are "for the good of the children" but they actually desire to see the numbers of new children dramatically reduced.

This is why they so adamantly advocate for the abortions that kill the most vulnerable and innocent among us. Democrats are the party of death and should be reviled and defeated.

Sam Prentice – Andover

The Party of Death

To the Editor:

If some hostile source intent on destroying us was in control of our government, what differently would they be doing from what Biden and his Democrats are doing to us? Throughout my life, I've never seen such wanton disregard for the interests of our people. This reckless destruction is purposeful and the people promulgating it are seditious traitors.

These fools claim they're moving us away from fossil fuels to save the planet! We're going to rely on solar and wind energy to provide us with "clean" energy. In order to make us "Green" they want to reduce the very substance

Bulletin Board

Those of you who enjoy accumulating useless factoids may be interested to learn that that the scent of Play-Doh—the putty-like substance that has been a fixture of American childhoods since about 1956—is protected under law.

Really. Weird as it may seem, manufacturer Hasbro was granted a trademark on Play-Doh's smell in 2018.

I suppose many of you remember Play-Doh fondly. For me, it mostly brings painful memories of an art-challenged childhood filled with creative projects gone terribly wrong. These included whole herds of malformed Play-Doh sculptures intended to represent the family dog, majestic dinosaurs and cruel depictions of my long-suffering sister as a toad.

Sadly, my artistic vision far outstripped my talent. Toad or dog, my ambitious creations generally ended up looking pretty much the same—a series of unrecognizable blue or yellow lumps propped up on stumpy legs. ("No, no, Grandma, it's not a three-legged humpback muskrat. It's a stegosaurus!")

This pathetic parade of mutant Play-Doh creatures allowed my father to scratch off one more entry from his "Profligate Son Future Career List," with "artist/sculptor/window glazer" joining engineer, athlete, lawyer, teacher, businessman, carpenter (that's a whole other story) and fireman (yet another story) in the dust bin of my shattered prospects. Police officer, I should add (probably unnecessarily), was never ever a consideration.

As for me—oblivious that political science major and prison inmate were moving ever closer to the top of my career options as defined by the outside world—I proudly set my Play-Doh creations out on the window sill to harden so they could be preserved for the admiration of future generations and/or possible Christmas gifts.

It's all pretty sad in retrospect.

All are now gone, of course, victims of toy land climate change and my mother's efforts to keep a tidy house as the creatures' heads and legs dried up and fell off. Now, years later, having had two rather unartistic sons of my own, I understand that she probably viewed this mass extermination more as an act of mercy than an effort to introduce some new Dark Age aimed at outlier sculpture.

But, as usual, I digress from the topic at hand, which is supposed to be Play-Doh's unique trademarked olfactory qualities.

I imagine most of my '50-'60s generation—even those of us who haven't thought about Play-Doh in years—could be blindfolded in a dark room and still immediately identify Play-Doh by its unique smell. I must agree with the company that it really is extremely distinctive.

I do take issue, however, with Hasbro's description of Play-Doh's aroma as "a sweet, slightly musky, vanilla fragrance, with slight overtones of cherry, combined with the smell of a salted wheat-based dough." C'mon, guys, "a musky vanilla fragrance with slight overtones of cherry?" This is Play-Doh we're talking about, not your date for the Junior Prom. I may not be able to mold a recognizable stegosaurus, but I do know one thing: Play-Doh smells like—well, like Play-Doh; i.e., better than parts of northern New Jersey but nowhere near as nice as your Junior Prom date.

As for what "salted wheat-based dough" smells like, I must confess complete ignorance, but I doubt it's the stuff of best-selling colognes. And I'll leave it at that.

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.

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

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

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Reader Forum • Reader Forum

DeCaprio for the 48th District

Dear Colchester Voters:

I am Mark DeCaprio and I'm running for state representative for the 48th District, which includes Colchester. I am very honored to have been nominated this past week by the Republican Party to be the Republican candidate for state representative for the 48th District!

By way of background, I am a U.S. Navy veteran having served on a nuclear submarine at the Submarine Base in New London. After serving in the U.S. Navy, I graduated from Eastern Connecticut State University with a BS in biology and a master's degree in public health from the University of Connecticut. My wife Cathy and I have lived in Lebanon for 37 years where we raised our family. After college, I worked for the CT Department of Energy & Environmental Protection's Emergency Response and Spill Prevention Division, working the last twenty years as a division director.

I am currently serving on the Lebanon Board of Selectmen and the Zoning Board of Appeals Boards and just completed a term on the Lebanon Board of Education. Current volunteer at the Willimantic Covenant Soup Kitchen and for the last six years.

Our neighbors and friends that live in the district/state have new financial challenges caused by our current economy's high fuel prices, high inflation, high unemployment and Connecticut's high taxes. As an overarching principle to help bring some relief, I am strongly opposed to tax and spend policies and I will work hard to bring fiscal discipline, efficiency and balance back to Hartford!

I desire to serve you and our community and hope to earn your support on Nov. 8!

Sincerely,
Mark DeCaprio – Lebanon
Republican-Endorsed Candidate for the 48th District
Facebook: @DeCaprio4CT48th
Website: decaprio4ct48th.com
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Remembering Ted May

To the Editor:

Marlborough has a hero who will be recognized in the ceremony after the Memorial Day parade in Marlborough. He was one of the most generous and outgoing, caring-for-others-in-every-breath people I have known.

Ted May served as an Army medic in the Vietnam War, risking his life for others to live on. He gave to Marlborough's families over the years, as the obituary states..

I knew Ted for decades as a friend, starting in Marlborough politics. Later we coincidentally saw each other yearly at the post office, where we caught up on our lives. I left smiling each time as he made it a better day with his large-spirited presence. Unusually, in 2018, I saw him at the Post Office twice. The second time I noticed he had a limp. I asked him about it. He said he was being tested.

I then saw him just before Christmas. I was coming out of my doctor's office. He was sitting in the waiting room. I went over to see him.

As I arrived to shake his hand, he was called in to see his doctor. I asked him what was happening. He said they arrived at a diagnosis. He said it was ALS. I was shocked, speechless. This was a death sentence, and a tortuous way to die. As Ted reached the door to see his doctor he turned towards me and said "Merry Christmas!" That was Ted.

I discovered from one of his sons at the reception after his funeral Ted was exposed repeatedly to Agent Orange, a recognized cause of ALS. Ted died for his country.

Let us recognize all who have served and died for our country, and the families who have, and may still suffer their loss.

Dave Porteous – Marlborough

Support AES!

To the Editor:

Andover community members: please vote 'yes' for the budget. Andover Elementary's proposed budget for next year is over \$200k lower than it was in 2015 and has remained below that high mark in every year since. The actual budget numbers do not support claims of out-of-control spending and "unknown expenses." Further cuts will directly affect the resources available to our town's children. Let's maintain and nurture the things that make our town wonderful.

Budget information can be found online. The school budget is available for all to view on the Andover Elementary website (go to Board of Ed/2022-23 Budget Packet).

Mary Holer – Andover

Memorial Day Thoughts

To the Editor:

This weekend will see the long-awaited return of the Colchester Memorial Day parade, after two years of COVID19-related cancellations. It's a welcome return for a beloved event that traditionally marks the start of the 'summer' season in Colchester; but Memorial Day is about something much more somber than parades and ice cream on the Green. It is about remembering those who made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our country and its values at home and abroad.

As we mark Memorial Day with a return to the traditional celebrations this year, I am mindful that this year also marks a concerning occasion: war has once again broken out in Europe. For three months, the largest European war since the end of World War II has raged frighteningly close to NATO borders where American soldiers are stationed. We are fortunate that so far, Americans have not faced combat in this unprovoked conflict. However, Russia's invasion of Ukraine is a horrific reminder of the fragility of democracy and the post-WWII order that American soldiers gave their lives to build and uphold over the last century. Russia attacked Ukraine to do more than grab land and resources; Putin's Russia seeks to punish Ukrainians for turning toward and embracing western democracies like ours. It is the symbol of self-determination that Putin seeks to punish and

stamp out. In spite of the challenges we face as a country, there is still nothing our enemies hate more than the endurance of American democracy and like-minded democracies around the globe.

So this Memorial Day, we should enjoy the parade, barbecues, and time with friends and family; but we cannot forget that we have the opportunity to enjoy these things thanks to the sacrifices brave Americans have made for generations.

Bernie Dennler – Colchester

Extremely Fortunate

To the Editor:

Chris Rivers of Colchester is the Democratic nominee for the 48th District for the Connecticut House of Representatives. We are extremely fortunate to have Chris want to represent our district. Chris has made a commitment to public service with his current work on the BOE, and his service to our country in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Afghanistan.

I have had the pleasure of getting to know Chris, and he is a genuine individual. He has a thoughtful way of communicating and listening to citizens. Chris wants to promote and champion ideas, not divisive politics.

We need leaders who have the commitment, understanding, demeanor and integrity to get us moving forward, and away from political gridlock. I fully endorse Chris Rivers to represent the 48th District and encourage citizens in the district to join me in supporting his bid to be our next state representative of the 48th District.

Krista Kardys – Colchester

Memorial Day

To the Editor:

This upcoming weekend, towns will have parades, families will have barbeques, and it will be a time of celebration. After the years of COVID, it will be nice that we can do these things together again. However, I hope we can also take some time and reflect on what this holiday is meant to be about.

This holiday is about sacrifice. Specifically, this holiday is about those men and women who sacrificed their lives so we can get together to enjoy the freedoms that we share.

Freedom isn't really free, as it comes with a cost. I remember being a cadet at West Point when names of the fallen were announced at our mealtime. I remember the loss of several

of my friends who were killed in action. I also remember those that we've lost since returning from war due to scars both seen and unseen.

Memorial Day is meant to provide an opportunity to reflect on the cost of our freedom. Several of my personal friends sacrificed their lives for us all, and their families continue to feel that loss every day. I know I still do. So, I hope that in addition to the parades, sports, and events, we all take a moment to reflect.

If you're looking for a place to reflect, each town has memorials, and the Gold Star family memorial for Connecticut was just unveiled in Berlin. This memorial is for the families who have had to live with the loss of their loved ones. If you're looking to connect with a veteran who lost friends, please feel free to reach out. I'm more than happy to grab a beer, soda, or coffee with anyone that wants to chat, at 203-721-0167 or rivers4ctstaterrep@gmail.com.

Sincerely,
Christopher Rivers – Colchester
Candidate for State Representative, 48th District

Thanks for Your Help

To the Editor:

The Portland Veterans Affairs Committee, the American Legion Post 69, and the Town of Portland would like to thank all those who assisted with placing American Flags on the graves of veterans over the last few weeks in the Portland cemeteries. We would especially like to thank Tim Dickerson, Jim Landry, Andrea Farrington, Rodney Spooner and grandsons, along with Bill Willinsky, for all their help.

If residents notice that a flag was inadvertently missed for a Portland veteran, or because a grave marker does not list them as a veteran, the Portland town clerk's office has additional flags.

Portland Veterans Affairs Committee

Atlantis Expansion

To the Editor:

I'm sure by now there are many people in town that are tired of seeing letters about the Atlantis zone change and their appearances before the Zoning Board of Appeals. I thought they lost that request for a zone change you may say. When are they going to take down all those signs around town and in front of businesses in the village center?

See Letters, page 6

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★ Letters cont. from page 5

The answer to that question is not until Atlantis accepts the will of the town and its Plan of Conservation and Development. Atlantis is playing the waiting game. Waiting for the residents to tire of the fight and stop paying attention. And it is a tiring fight with the monthly meetings continued again and again. The writing of emails and letters in opposition all takes time which is a scarce commodity to all of us.

Now is not the time to stop the fight but now is the time to increase our efforts. It is work to keep a small town feel to our community but anything worth having takes work.

Please write or email the East Hampton Zoning Board of Appeals and voice your opposition. The next meeting is June 13 and can be attended in person or via Zoom. Voice your opposition and stop the Atlantis expansion.

Kenneth Dodson – East Hampton

Looking for Members

To the Editor:

The Town of Portland's boards and committees are actively recruiting for new members. There are several different boards and committees, all of which are listed on the town's website: www.portlandct.org.

Serving as a volunteer is a wonderful way to give back to your community. It is also a great way to keep up on current matters in town, and

to meet neighbors and friends. You simply must be a registered voter – either affiliated or unaffiliated (a.k.a. "independent"). In fact, unaffiliated voters make up the majority of registered voters in Portland.

To assist in recruiting new volunteers, the Democratic Town Committee has established a Nominating Committee. Members of the Committee include Rosa Aletta, Andrea Alfano, Susan Bransfield, Lauren Christensen, Susan Malecky and Jim Tripp.

If you have an interest in serving on one of Portland's boards or committees, contact one of us or call/text us at 860-982-1486. We will provide details to you on the process of getting nominated and then appointed by the Board of Selectmen. All town appointments are voted on and made by the seven-member Board of Selectmen.

We look forward to hearing from you.

**Thank you,
Members, DTC Nominating Committee
Rose Aletta, Andrea Alfano,
Susan Bransfield,
Lauren Christensen, Susan Malecky,
Jim Tripp**

Poppy Weekend Thanks

To the Editor:

The American Legion Auxiliary Post 197, Marlborough, would like to thank the Marlborough Country Bakery for giving us space at the bakery for our Poppy Weekend.

Poppy Weekend is the auxiliary's largest fundraiser to serve veterans, active-duty military, and their families. We could not make such an impact without your support!

American Legion Auxiliary Post 197

'Renewable Energy'

To the Editor:

The myopic, hellbent push for "renewable energy" is running roughshod over previously-cherished, nonrenewable, scenic vistas on land and sea, previously considered inviolate. We're witnessing the canceling of once-valued, aesthetic resources on a massive scale, yet no one gives a hoot.

It's a tragic version of "The Emperor's New Clothes" where none, except for the little boy, dared to oppose the ruse.

We've got to find that kid!

**Peter Kushkowski
"Almost Heaven"
Portland**

AR-15s

To the Editor:

Your reporter, Jack Lakowsky, should take more care when submitting articles.

In his front-page story on people illegally making firearms, he first uses an incorrect word. Instead of "disassembled" he uses "dissembled," which is a verb meaning to conceal a feeling or intention.

In both the article and the caption for the accompanying photograph he calls the AR-15 an assault rifle. That term comes from the people who oppose the Second Amendment at every turn. The AR-15 is no more an "assault" weapon than a semi-automatic .22 rifle. The .22 frequently has a magazine holding as many as 18 rounds, can fire just as rapidly, and kill just as easily as an AR-15.

In the interest of accuracy, you should print a correction.

George Kitchin – Andover

Editor's Note: While "dissembled" was indeed a typo that slipped through, the Rivereast stands by the rest of its reporting.

Who's On First?

To the Editor:

Marlborough recently saw a very interesting turn of events what with the vote by the Board of Selectmen to appoint Amy Traversa as the board's new Chairman. This raises some interesting questions in regards to who is in charge of our town. Per the new charter, Section 3.1.1, "In the absence of the Town Manager, the Selectmen Chair shall exercise the authority and perform all the duties of the Town Manager for a period not to exceed 90 consecutive days."

Previously, First Selectman Greg Lowrey had indicated that a new town manager would not be hired until the fall of 2023, just prior to the November 2023 elections, at which time the terms for the current first selectman and two of the other selectmen are due to expire. But based on other provisions in the new charter, Amy Traversa, supported by the two new members of the Board of Selectmen, opted to vote on the appointment of a chairman and selected Amy Traversa over Greg Lowrey.

Based on comments by Louise Concodello in a recent issue of the *Rivereast*, speaking as a

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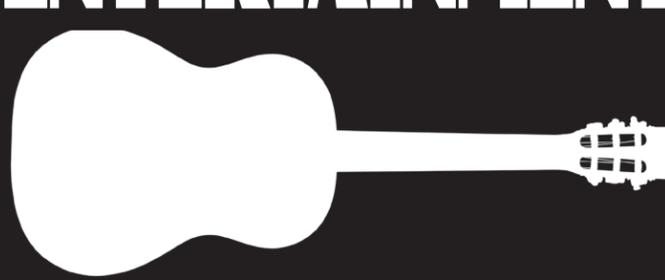
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Reader Forum • Reader Forum

former member of the Charter Revision Commission who oversaw changes to our charter, even she was surprised by this turn of events.

So now the question is, who is in charge at Town Hall? Is First Selectman Greg Lowrey still in charge or is Amy Traversa trumping his authority as the new acting town manager? I will be watching to see how this all plays out.

In the meantime, I would urge everyone to keep a close eye on Town Hall and become more informed about the town manager selection process.

Ken Hjulstrom – Marlborough

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

How They Vote

To the Editor:

Last week, U.S. House Republicans voted *against* funding to fix the baby formula shortage, *against* investigating white supremacist domestic terrorism, and *against* making it illegal for gas companies to price gouge American consumers.

Republicans complain and then vote against the solution.

Annie Steinbrecher – Marlborough

Affordable Housing

To the Editor:

The Hebron draft Affordable Housing Report and Survey, flawed as they are, provide vital information for the people of Hebron. When asked why citizens moved to Hebron, the most popular response was, by far, Rural Characteristics. Rural characteristics and Open Space were the first choice of 59 percent of Hebron. No one voted for more commercial development.

And yet, the Planning and Zoning Committee (PZC) continues to aggressively pursue commercial development, not only of the town center, but of the rural areas. While the citizens of Hebron want conservation, the PZC promotes development that will destroy the rural characteristics of the town. (Surrounding towns that have pursued commercial development generally do not have lower taxes than Hebron.)

To support high-density low-income housing, the report recommends that town address water supply issues. There is no single thing that will destroy the rural qualities of Hebron more than to build a pipeline from Amston Lake to town center. We should not use perceived deficiencies in affordable housing to justify public works projects that will ruin the town. Hebron taxpayers will be paying for development catalyzed by that water project forever.

The impact of the local property tax on affordable housing is absent in this report. High property taxes burden families and prevent low-income and middle-income families from moving to Hebron.

Government- and private-funded rental housing may seem like a good idea to some, but ultimately, will be self-defeating. Financing the infrastructure required for these developments will drive up taxes creating more social stratification within the town. Higher taxes will become even more of a wall for middle-income families to move to Hebron and so, Hebron will become a haven for high-income families.

There are better ways to promote equity in housing for low- and middle-income families.

John Collins – Amston

Budget Fact and Fiction

To the Editor:

To summarize the “It’s Not About the Children” letter last week, the author claims Andover needs to cut the AES budget because: 1. BOE is hoarding cash, and “has an open checkbook supporting many unknown expenses”; 2. People are stealing signs and bullying at town meetings; 3. Class sizes are 10-12 kids and therefore Andover kids are going into shock in middle school.

Let’s look at the facts: 1. BOE has a clear budget posted online and conducted a series of public workshops to explain every area of the budget. These are available as recordings online for any that have questions. It’s a mischaracterization to suggest the AES budget is full of unknown expenses and resulting in hoarding cash. 2. Suggesting that those supporting the BOE school budget are sign thieves and bullying at town meetings is ridiculous. Meetings have been tame this year. Last year we had a meeting get heated. Last year on Facebook we also had individuals naming specific AES families whose children were receiving special services and/or outplacement. That is shameful behavior, textbook bullying, and raised the temperature of this debate. 3. All AES classes are not 10-12 students. The Grade 4-6 classes average 19 students per class. Pre-k through Grade

3 would average 14 per class in the proposed plan. AES kids excel at RHAM, a testament to the quality of education they receive at AES.

Questioning the budget is not divisive, but using misinformation to enflame Andover voters is. Children are absolutely at the core of this debate. Further cuts to this fiscally responsible budget only serves to cut needed services to our students. I implore voters to use the BOE budget resources to form their own decisions and not rely on this Reader Forum, which is so often full of bluster and mistruths.

Jacob Isleib – Andover

Memorial Day Flags

To the Editor:

The St. Patrick Church Guild of East Hampton has placed American flags at the gravesites of veterans buried in St. Patrick Cemetery. We honor their memory and are very grateful for their service to our country.

Thank you to the volunteers who helped in this endeavor.

Ann DeMarchi – East Hampton

Plant Sale Thanks

To the Editor:

On behalf of the two garden clubs, Portland River-Valley Garden Club and Portland Garden Club, we would like to thank everyone that came out and supported our annual plant sale on Saturday, May 14. It was such a beautiful day and we had so many varieties of plants to choose from! The annual plant sale provides a large portion of our monetary needs for our clubs so that we can plant and care for the various gardens in town, provide educational programs, and carry out projects and services for the Portland community.

We sincerely appreciate the community’s support and also thank the residents who graciously allowed us to dig in their yards for plants to donate to our sale! We would also like to thank the *Rivereast* for their advertisement of the event.

Sincerely,

**Amanda Foley, President
Portland River-Valley Garden Club
and
Sue Anderson-Woronoff, President
Portland Garden Club**

Couldn’t Be Prouder

To the Editor:

Who likes change?

Not me. But change is not just inevitable, it’s important, it’s how new ideas and new growth happen.

In 2017, I had a vision of bringing people into Hebron’s downtown, to reinvent it and make it a vibrant and exciting place, so I created a non-profit and called it “The Town Center Project” (TTCP).

Saturday, May 14, Hebron’s Market Day, was the epitome of that vision. A first-time event for TTCP, it attracted several thousand visitors who filled Hebron’s historic district to enjoy the vendors, the artwork, the music, and the food. It was everything I could have imagined for our town, and more.

The best part? I got to enjoy it stress-free, because TTCP is now in the capable hands of new leadership.

Holly Habicht, TTCP’s VP for the past five years, is now president. Holly has all the skills needed to take the organization to the next level, and her talents were on display on Saturday. She pulled it all together, ably assisted by fellow Board members and volunteers, Wendy Weingarten, Kaitlin Hershey, Donna Lanza, Stephanie Raymond, and a host of others who took a 5-year-old vision and made it a reality.

Like every parent whose baby has grown up, I couldn’t be prouder.

**Judith Podell – Hebron
TTCP President Emeritus**

Spend Wisely

To the Editor:

After reading the articles in the paper about Hebron’s new spending spree, I could not help but notice many low-priority items. While we spend hundreds of thousands of dollars on these unnecessary things, the good men and women of the DPW are, as I understand, still working under a leaky roof and have cramped working and storage space. The transfer station recently received an attractive wooden outbuilding for the Swap Shack while DPW storage rooms, apparently, remain overflowing with stock. A non-leaky roof and a new storage shed might be a better investment rather than ignoring the public works and continuing to let it fall into disrepair, forcing Hebron to scrap it and build a new one.

A stitch in time saves nine. With the fire station and town hall being upgraded, there is no need to build new ones. Likewise, if we repair our present DPW we would not need another, thus leaving our high functioning watershed in town undamaged and hopefully designated to Open Space.

Neither a housing complex nor a municipal development will improve our water quality downstream from the Horton land. They will not improve the quality of life for long term residents who seek rural living. However, leaving the watershed intact and repairing the DPW we already have, could very well be a win-win for all of us.

We can only hope that our town leaders look closely at this watershed in terms of pollution, wildlife, clean water and the positive effect this land has on all of us. Keeping Hebron rural and laid back, with limited traffic is important to long term tax payers. Cramming the center of town with trucks, traffic and congestion changes the very nature of a town so many greatly enjoy.

Jean Tulimieri – Amston

Car Show Thanks

To the Editor:

We would like to thank everyone who came out Saturday, April 30, to support our 10th annual Kenny Fletcher Memorial Car Show at Valli. Due to the pandemic, we had to cancel in 2020 and 2021, but we were sure happy to back. We had a fabulous turnout with 220-plus show cars and lots and lots of spectators. It was a great way to welcome everyone back and to celebrate our 10th anniversary. We are so grateful to all the fantastic show car owners, and to the community. Without all your support we would not be able to make our donations each year.

A very special thank you to the following people who volunteer and help us put on this event each year: Donny, and Megan Etheridge, Karen and Rob Hanna, Tom, Colleen, Olivia, and Rachel Briggs, Lori, and Jackie Brown, Shaun and Teri Manning, Tommy, Missy, and Ashley Ghent, Kenny and Beth Burt, Pete Kalinowski, Matthew Binezewski, Michael Lastina, Josh and Jen Leary, Jimmy, Lynne and Jessica Nursick, Doug Simmons, Kim and Billy Hanna, Adam Fontenault, Sully Deane, Greg Tischofer, Carl Thorell, Clayton Puida, Alexa Rossi, Paul Rossi, Michael Hernandez, Josh Hanna, Kyle Lapidus, Clayton and Eric Brown, Michael Masselli, Paul Senecal, Tom and Elijah Mumford, Mike Wornoff, Mike Scranton, Dan “Otto” Pritchard, Butler Construction, and the *Rivereast News Bulletin*. We would also like to thank Bonnie and Vic Realejo, Portland Ale House, Michael Ruffino, and the Town of Portland for allowing us to put up our signs on their properties.

We hope to see everyone again next year!!!

Respectfully,

**Michael Bellobuono and Michael Brown
Portland**

The Bare Facts

To the Editor:

There once was a big mighty Russian mother bear who surveyed all the land around her, ate what she wanted and did what bears do in the woods. One day she gave birth to a baby bear who observed his mother and he too grew big, but not as big as Mother Russia Bear. Soon, Mother Bear could not roam as freely as she wanted and gave up some of the land around her. The baby bear (let’s call him Putin), seeing how the mother bear looked sad (although the other bears in the woods seemed okay), said, “I want to make my mommy proud of me and so he decided to take back some of the land, a little at a time.”

But then when he entered the land which the mother bear once roamed, he came upon a nightingale who told him to stop, but he would not listen, so the nightingale called all the other birds and animals of the woods to help the nightingale to stop this bear. Even Mother Russian Bear said, “Come home, son; you’re not wanted in the land of the nightingale,” but he still did not listen.

The moral of the story is: Does a bear s--t in the woods? Yes, but not where the nightingale sings.

Ralph Bianco – Colchester

Rivers for Rep

To the Editor:

I am totally, 100% supporting Chris Rivers for state representative of the 48th District, which includes the towns of Bozrah, Colchester, Franklin and Lebanon in the Nov. 8 election. Chris has earned my respect over and over again with his track record of repeatedly giving of himself to serve others, to protect-

ing our freedom and for standing up to do the right thing! Chris has the ability to convene key stakeholders, reaching common ground that serves all of the people’s best interest. This has been the missing piece in so many campaigns. We need to get back to elected officials who want to represent the needs of the people.

I am convinced Chris Rivers is just the person to do the right thing for the residents of our towns as well as work to bring the state of Connecticut into a harmonious state at the Capitol. We have a lot to be proud of and Chris has the proven leadership and communication skills to get us on track and help us accomplish important projects.

Vote Chris Rivers State Rep 48th District, Nov. 8.

Sincerely,

Sylvia Delson – Colchester

Tag Sale Thanks

To the Editor:

Thank you to all who supported our tag sale. We had an excellent turnout and I thank those who worked all day, Gerry and Ann Crème, Roberta Dougherty, Julia Haverl, Emily Timreck, and a huge thank you to Carol Lee who organized, moved and worked hard to help the seniors.

Special kudos to my husband Mike, who moved items and hauled items to the Transfer Station.

Cathy Palazzi

Andover Senior Coordinator

Thank You, Chris Cote

To the Editor:

Curb appeal is a well-known concept in real estate. It refers to the attractiveness of a property when viewed from the street, and is traditionally used by realtors when evaluating a home. However, the term also applies to town centers and business districts. Well-maintained public spaces signal that an area is safe and comfortable for walking, shopping and dining. It also gives confidence to prospective business owners that the town would welcome and support new investments.

With curb appeal, first impressions are critical. First impressions of Portland are often made as visitors cross the Arrigoni Bridge. According to the towns’ Plan of Conservation and Development, 30,000 vehicles enter town this way every day, passing by the traffic island with the “Welcome to Historic Portland” sign at the intersection of routes 17A and 17/66.

This is Portland’s front door. Unfortunately, until very recently our front door was overgrown with weeds and litter sending an unwelcome message about our village district and town. Thanks to the support of Chris Cote Golf and the Portland Garden Club that is changing.

Chris and the Garden Club have graciously offered to assume responsibility for the upkeep of the traffic island. Their efforts to boost Portland’s curb appeal are clearly visible. The fresh new landscaping looks great, creating a warm welcome for visitors and residents alike. Chris and the Garden Club’s leadership, generosity and commitment to Portland is very much appreciated.

**Mike Nadolski, Chair
Portland Economic Development
Commission**

Welcome Mr. Bordeaux!

To the Editor:

I am excited to publicly welcome Mr. Matthew Bordeaux as Hebron’s new town planner. I was thrilled to read last week’s article and learn of Mr. Bordeaux’s interest in the environment and dedication to preserving Hebron’s rural character. Nowhere is this more urgently needed than at 17 Kinney Rd.

The town of Hebron truly needs a voice of reason as the Board of Selectmen and town manager continue to blindly push their plan to place a massive industrial Public Works facility, with a 2,000-ton salt shed, on historic farmland surrounded by sensitive wetlands that feed directly into our groundwater protection zone. I know we can do better. Hebron has an opportunity to create a showplace that will make Hebron shine for decades, if not centuries, to come. The Raymond Brook Preserve, located a mere 21 feet across Kinney Road, is already one of the most popular and attractive resources Hebron has to offer. The property at 17 Kinney Rd., as part of the Village Square District, is designed to be a bridge between the Airline Railroad, the Raymond Brook Preserve and Main Street. I simply cannot comprehend how an industrial Public Works facility fits in this location. I look forward to speaking with Mr. Bordeaux and sharing the concerns of a growing group of citizens

See Letters, page 33

'This Is About Clearing My Name'

By Michael Sinkewicz

In the wake of her abrupt firing last month, Marli Rudko, the former executive assistant to First Selectman Andreas Bisbikos, has notified Colchester officials she intends to sue the town for wrongful termination.

In the May 23 letter, addressed to Bisbikos, Town Clerk Gayle Furman, and all the members of the Board of Selectmen, Rudko requests a hearing to present her own witnesses, facts and evidence regarding her termination.

"I want the truth to come out," Rudko told the *Rivereast* this week. "This is about clearing my name."

Rudko was terminated from her position in Town Hall on April 27 and escorted from the property by police.

In the official termination letter, Bisbikos accused Rudko of serious acts of misconduct including destroying documents.

But Rudko told the *Rivereast* that all of the allegations made against her are entirely false.

In letter, Rudko wrote that her privacy was violated by Bisbikos during a meeting she was having with the town's human resources director.

"I had filed a complaint with the Director of Human Resources regarding the inappropriate conduct, innuendos, hostile, verbally and physically abusive, toxic work environment created by the First Selectman," she wrote. "Said conduct was discussed in detail in said complaint and was the subject of the meeting."

Rudko claimed that Bisbikos was physically abusive by violating her personal space and making intimidating gestures.

In response, Bisbikos told the *Rivereast* that the claims made by Rudko were false, and de-

nied any physical abuse.

"It's a creative work of fiction," he said. "Someone truly evil would be making those accusations."

He maintained the town's position to terminate Rudko and is prepared for any potential lawsuit.

"The town is extremely confident that we'll get a favorable outcome," Bisbikos said.

He added that it's possible the town will accept Rudko's request for a hearing, but said nothing has been finalized.

Rudko told the *Rivereast* she was joined by another Town Hall employee and approached Bisbikos in February to address concerns of a toxic work environment, but that her concerns were not addressed.

Rudko in the letter stated she was "libeled, slandered, defamed, cast in a false light and subjected to a repeated pattern of intentional assaults at the hands of Andreas Bisbikos."

She also accused Bisbikos of knowingly making false claims against her.

"Andreas Bisbikos contacted the Colchester police at least twice, that I am aware of, and made false reports and gave false testimony as the Chief of Police to subvert my rights and evade the consequences of the Human Resources complaint," she wrote in the letter, "I believe, this conduct was intentional, reckless, willful and/or negligent."

She added that she believes this was "in derogation of law."

Bisbikos denied these allegations, stating that "there are no false reports, as Rodko claimed."

Rudko in the letter claimed that her federal civil rights were violated and that she intends to

sue "for redress of all the injuries and wrongs committed upon me by the town and its officers, employees and their agents."

Rudko said this week believes her personnel file contradicts the claims made by Bisbikos and that she never demonstrated negligent behavior in the workplace.

She told the *Rivereast* that she doesn't know how Bisbikos generated the claims he made about her.

"He's impulsive," she said. "He does things and worries about cleaning up the mess later."

Rudko stated that Bisbikos was searching for a justification to terminate her and that without any, it would come across as retaliation.

Rudko had worked for Bisbikos' election campaign and is the wife of Taras Rudko, a former member of the board of selectmen and chairman of the Republican Town Committee.

Rudko isn't the first former employee to complain about the atmosphere at Town Hall under Bisbikos. Earlier this month, a former Town

Hall employee reached out to the *Rivereast* and said flatly that "the Bisbikos administration has been toxic."

"People are not comfortable in the work environment there," said the former employee, who wished to remain anonymous for fear of retaliation.

"There's a lack of confidentiality," the person added. "Everyone's afraid to say something because they're afraid there's going to be retaliation."

The atmosphere at Town Hall, the former employee said, goes "beyond bullying."

"There's definitely an abuse of power going on there," they said.

But Bisbikos at the time denied any incidents of retaliation, saying, "There's nothing to fear at Town Hall."

He added that Town Hall is "an absolutely wonderful place to work. ... We have a very open and wonderful environment."

Upcoming Senior Center Trips

The Colchester Senior Center is planning the following trips for 2022. Reservations should be made in person at the senior center, 95 Norwich Ave. Trips are available to senior center members and adult guests over the age of 18, and are on a first-come, first-served basis; space is limited. Call the senior center at 860-537-3911 for more information.

Atlantic City: June 7-9. Stay two nights at Resorts Casino Hotel. The trip includes a \$25 slot credit and two \$20 meal credits. Cost is \$325/person double occupancy.

Sights and Sounds Theatre - David: Aug. 3-5. Tour the Amish country and see *David* at the Sights and Sounds Theatre in Lancaster County, Pa. Cost is \$585/person double occupancy, and includes a deluxe motor coach, two-night hotel stay, two breakfasts, two dinners, and all admissions, taxes, fees, and gratuities.

Thimble Islands Cruise & Chowder Pot III: Wednesday, June 29, 11:30 a.m. Menu choices are Baked Stuffed Sole, Baked Salm-

on, or Chicken Piccata, followed by NY-style cheesecake for dessert. Cost is \$116 per person.

Jesus Christ Superstar at the Thomaston Opera House: Sunday, July 17, 6:45 a.m. Pre-show lunch will be served at Black Rock Tavern with a meal choice of chicken marsala, salmon, or pork tenderloin. Cost is \$116 per person.

Spend the Day on Martha's Vineyard: Thursday, July 21, departing at 6:45 a.m. The trip will start with a three-and-a-half-hour tour of the "Storybook Island." Cost is \$124 per person.

Anne of Green Gables at the Goodspeed: Wednesday, Aug. 10, 11 a.m. See the classic novel reimagined as a folk-rock musical. Lunch at La Vita Gustosa (meal cost not included) will precede the show. Cost is \$60/person.

California Dreamin': Monterey, Yosemite & Napa: Oct. 10-17. This trip will include seven breakfasts, two lunches, and three dinners. Cost is \$3,249/person, double occupancy.

Lacrosse Fundraiser

All are invited to support the Bacon Academy boys' lacrosse team by dining at The Inishmor Thursday, June 2, anytime from noon until close. A portion of the proceeds during this time will benefit the team.

Ahavath Achim News

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

Friday night service, 6:30 p.m., hybrid in person and on Zoom; Shabbat morning service, 10 a.m., hybrid in person and via Zoom; Tuesday, Aggadath 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.

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.

Project Graduation Cornhole Tournament

Bacon Academy Project Graduation is holding a Cornhole Tournament Saturday, June 4 (rain date: June 5), at Hop Culture, 144 Cato Corner Rd. Check-in begins at 11 a.m., and play begins at noon.

The tournament is sponsored by RJ's Lawn Care, LLC. Food will be provided by Oz & Bones BBQ. Rain date is June 5.

Tournament is a double-elimination/bracket format. Players can bring their own standard bags, no double-sided/pro bags are allowed. Cost is \$80 per adult team, \$40 for student teams (high school students and younger), \$60 for mixed adult/student teams. All ages are welcome. Team cash prizes for winners are \$320 for first place, \$160 for second place and \$80 for third place.

Raffle items include a set of new, regulation-size wooden cornhole boards with bags, a set of double-sided pro bags, and Disney Park one-day passes.

To register and pay, go to www.baconacademyprojectgrad.org and click on the 'Cornhole Tournament' page. Same day registrations by 11:30 a.m. will be accepted. Email Melanie Hathaway at ba.projectgrad@gmail.com for more information or to request Venmo payment.

The mission of Bacon Academy Project Graduation is to enhance drug and alcohol-free awareness by providing safe graduation events for all graduating seniors of Bacon Academy. Project Graduation's most critical event is a graduation night party.

All Project Graduation events and initiatives to benefit BA seniors are entirely paid for through the fundraising efforts and contributions of Bacon Academy parents, students, businesses, and community members. No tax dollars are ever used. For more information, go to www.baconacademyprojectgrad.org.

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Polka Dinner Dance

St. Joseph's Polish Club, at 395 South Main St., is hosting a polka dinner dance Saturday, June 12. A ham dinner will be served from 1-2 p.m., then until 6 p.m. to polka music performed by Dennis Polisky and The Maestro's Men.

Tickets are on sale at the club for \$20 per person. Advanced tickets only. Call 860-537-2550 for more information. There will also be a tag sale in the pavilion from 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

Resident Presents Work

Liah Brown of Colchester, a student at Lasell University in Newton, Mass., was part of the university's School of Fashion annual Runway production, held May 6-7.

Brown presented original design work at the undergraduate showcase, held May 6.

Cougars Registration Open

Registration is now open for Colchester Cougars Football and Cheer. The Cougars will now be playing in the Southern New England Youth Football Conference (SNEYFC).

The Cougars are accepting registrations for boys and girls ages 6-14 from Colchester, Bozrah, Salem, Lebanon, East Haddam, East Hampton and Hebron. Visit www.colchestercougars.org for more information and to register.

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RES-12-20

Selectmen Approve Nonprofit ARPA Funds

By Michael Sinkewicz

The Colchester Board of Selectmen unanimously approved nonprofit organization applications for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds during its meeting May 19.

The nonprofit applications approved by the board were previously vetted by UHY – a firm hired to advise the town through the ARPA process – and the town’s ARPA committee.

The board approved a cap of \$250,000 for nonprofit applications. The total amount given to organizations so far is just under \$200,000.

Some of the nonprofits approved included Colchester Alternative School-Age Total Learning Experience (CASTLE), Colchester Cooperative Nursery School and the Colchester Volunteer Fire Department.

While the board unanimously approved all of the applications recommended to them by the ARPA committee, there was disagreement over applications that were not recommended to them.

Certain applications submitted by organizations were initially approved by the ARPA committee, but upon further vetting by UHY, were disqualified because they were not actual 501(c)(3) organizations.

Another nonprofit, called Save the Kid Fund, was not approved because the committee determined that the group did not have a Colchester address; its website gives an East Lyme address for the organization.

Dave Koji, the chairman of the ARPA committee, told the Board of Selectmen that all the applications went through the vetting process and every organization approved by the committee matched the criteria it had come up with.

Jason LaChapelle, a Republican on the Board

of Selectmen, raised questions about the ARPA review process and wondered why certain organizations were denied recommendation.

He argued that while Save the Kid Fund may have an address in a different town, the group is largely based in Colchester and serves the town.

“Why am I the only one doing this homework?” he asked.

In response, First Selectman Andreas Bisbikos argued that UHY and the ARPA committee caught many details late in the process, and that the board should accept their recommendations.

“We’re going to move forward with those who qualify,” Bisbikos said.

Bisbikos also stated that if members had serious objections or questions about the process or an organization, they shouldn’t be raised at the last moment.

“We set up certain criteria as a board of selectmen and we need to stick to it,” he said.

Denise Turner, a Democrat on the board, suggested an openness to learning more about the Save the Kid Fund, and potentially reviewing its application at a later date.

“We can look into this a little further and if we feel it qualifies, we can bring it back,” Turner said.

The board also passed three other motions making updates to the town’s ARPA program.

One of them, a motion approving the updated attestation agreement, was unanimously approved.

Two other motions were passed four to one, with LaChapelle – who has been outspoken with his disapproval of the ARPA process – representing the lone dissenting vote.

One of the motions approved the updated Colchester Comeback Grant Program – a document detailing the town’s ARPA objectives.

The other motion that was passed allows the selectmen to reduce both nonprofit and small business applications by an “equitable” amount.

The town had previously earmarked \$1,000,000 to small businesses and allowed a maximum funding request of \$25,000 per business.

Due to the number of applications, the town was positioned to go well beyond the earmarked amount.

The motion calls for keeping applications requesting under \$10,000 “as-is.” Funding requests over that amount will be trimmed by a percentage that allows the town to stay below the earmarked amount.

LaChapelle voted against this, arguing that

the board should ultimately decide which businesses should get reductions or not.

“I think we should leave open the option to decide who gets the full amounts,” he said.

In response, Bisbikos suggested LaChapelle wanted to pick “winners and losers.”

LaChapelle stood by his argument.

The board also approved of both the sewer and water budgets on a four to one vote- LaChapelle voted against it.

The combined increase from the current budget is 6%- which LaChapelle believed was not fair to the taxpayer.

During his first selectman’s report, Bisbikos announced that his community gift card idea – an ARPA initiative he campaigned on – was being dropped. He said a new idea was being worked on that would target those most impacted by the pandemic.

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.

Adult Golf Lessons: Mondays in June from 6-7 p.m., at Chanticlair, 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.

CCT Summer Children’s Theater Workshop

The Colchester Community Theatre (CCT) will hold its Summer Children’s Theater Workshop July 11-22. Auditions will be held Sunday, June 12, from 1-3 p.m., and Monday, June 13, from 6:30-8 p.m., at the Congregation Ahavath Achim (Colchester Synagogue) on 84 Lebanon Ave.

The workshop is open to all children entering grades 2-12 in the fall.

Every child must audition to attend the program. There are no exceptions. Pre-registration for auditions is required as well. Registration can be completed at tinyurl.com/nhkk97ja. Each child is to bring sheet music or an instrumental recording and be prepared to sing. An accompanist will be provided.

After auditions, those chosen to participate will be sent an invoice for the workshop fee of \$135 per child (additional \$15 Town of Colchester processing/administrative fee included).

The workshop will be held at the Bacon Academy auditorium, Monday, July 11, through Friday, July 22, from 9 a.m.-noon, culminating in

a show on Saturday, July 23, at 2 p.m. CCT will follow the Colchester Public Schools and CDC guidelines during auditions and the workshop for the health and safety of performers, patrons and staff.

CCT will be producing *Broadway Junior Revue: Raise Your Voice* for this workshop. *Raise Your Voice* is a brand-new revue featuring songs from across MTT’s *Broadway Junior* collection. Songs will include works from *Guys and Dolls*, *Oliver!*, *The Little Mermaid*, *Mary Poppins* and more. CCT will also customize the show through interstitials (i.e., transitions) between numbers.

For more information, contact Wallis Johnson at 860-267-1023 or Laura Brown at RTR1982@aol.com. CCT is also seeking for an accompanist who can volunteer their time on the audition dates. Contact Johnson or Brown with availability.

CCT is sponsored by Colchester Parks & Recreation Department.

Memorial Day Breakfast

The Colchester Lions Club will serve its annual Memorial Day Breakfast Sunday, May 29, from 7:30-11 a.m., on the Town Green.

Military service members (with ID) will eat for free. For others, cost is \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors and \$6 for children. Ages 2 and under are free. A full breakfast will be served: pancakes, eggs, home fries, bacon, sausage, juice and coffee.

Profits from this event are used to support various community programs and organizations.

‘Discover Colchester’ Hike

The next Colchester Land Trust (CLT) “Discover Colchester” Hike will be held, as part of CT Trails Day, in the Salmon River State Forest Saturday, June 4, weather permitting, or Sunday, June 5 (rain or shine). The hike will start on the Air Line Trail, at the hairpin parking lot on Bull Hill Road (1.3 miles from Route 16/Covered Bridge) at 10 a.m., and is for adults only.

This is a relatively quiet, moderately slow-paced hike, with stopping points along the way. It is roughly three miles long on moderate, uneven and steep terrain, so bring appropriate footwear. Please, no pets or children. Parking is minimal, so please carpool, the CLT said.

For more information, call A. Stannard at 860-912-0144. The CLT is an all-volunteer, nonprofit organization that works to permanently protect open space in Colchester. Go to www.colchesterlandtrust.org to join or donate.

Garden Club Offers Seed Library

The Seed Library is a new partnership between the Colchester Garden Club and Cragin Memorial Library. It will be open at Cragin, 8 Linwood Ave., from Friday, June 3, to Friday, June 10. The Seed Library will be available during regular open hours.

The Seed Library will offer vegetable, herb, flower and native seeds free of charge. Up to five seed packets can be taken from the Seed Library to grow at home. In order to best manage the Seed Library, anyone taking seeds is asked to record what is being taken in the sign-out log at the Seed Library.

Anyone who takes seeds is also encouraged to save seeds from mature plants and return them to the Seed Library at the end of the season. More details on seed saving will be shared later in the growing season.

For more info, email the Colchester Garden Club at seedlibrarycolchester@gmail.com.

Nursing Student Honored

The University of Saint Joseph’s department of nursing recently held its Undergraduate Nursing Award and Pinning Ceremony.

Colchester resident Danielle York, a senior graduating with a degree in nursing, was honored.

Resident Graduates

Connor Groene of Colchester recently graduated summa cum laude from Nazareth College in Rochester, N.Y.

Groene graduated with a bachelor’s degree in music education and a minor in jazz.



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Bacon Alumni Honored at Founder's Day

By Kate Corliss

Bacon Academy honored two alumni for their achievements in the arts during the Board of Trustees' annual Founder's Day celebration on May 18.

Siblings Nick and Marissa Napoletano — who graduated from Bacon Academy in 2008 and 2011, respectively — were recognized for their artistic talents, which, event speakers said, blossomed in high school.

Art teacher Paula Berglund, who has taught at Bacon Academy for 35 years, said the Napoletano siblings "have made a lasting impression" on both her and fellow art teacher Jodi Mendlinger.

Berglund's statement acknowledged that both honorees have "gifts that are unique from one another." She described Nick's "incredible ability to render the human form with precision and grace, that of a true Renaissance man" and Marissa's knack for "[executing] skillfully whatever she is doing, taking any medium given to her."

Berglund encouraged audience members to follow the honorees' art on social media. Nick — who is based in Charlotte, N.C. — shares his art on his Instagram account, @napoletanoart.

Marissa works in Denver, posting her murals and other projects on Instagram under the username @reveryart.

Neither honoree was able to attend the ceremony due to conflicting work projects, so their mother, Alisa Barnett, accepted the awards on their behalf.

"I could not be more proud of their talents," Barnett said in a speech to the audience, thanking Bacon Academy staff for giving her kids "the tools they needed to develop their inherent skills."

Colchester farmer Pierpont Bacon left an endowment "for the purpose of supporting and maintaining a school" upon his death in 1800. Founder's Day was established to honor both him and his wife, Abigail Newton Bacon, for this contribution.

Bacon Academy opened its doors at 84 South Main St. in 1803, making it the 13th-oldest public school in the nation.

According to Dolores Sawchuk, a lifelong Colchester resident who graduated from Bacon Academy in 1948, the Founder's Day celebration was held every May from the school's 1803 inception to 1962, when the facility moved to

its current location at 611 Norwich Ave.

Sawchuk started the program back up again as part of Bacon Academy's 200th anniversary celebration in 2003. The event is held in the cemetery behind the school's original Main Street location, where the Bacons are buried.

This year, a reception at the nearby Colchester Federated Church followed the ceremony. A slideshow presentation of the Napoletano siblings' work played while attendees ate lunch.

"It's an honor for Mr. Bacon and Mrs. Bacon, but also to give students of today some history," Sawchuk said.

Students from Bacon Academy's jazz band performed at the ceremony. Class officers were also in attendance.

Senior class Vice President Nathan Harasimowitz said it was "really cool learning about

the history" of his school at the Founder's Day event, as well as hearing the stories of alumni who have upheld Bacon's legacy.

"It's so cool how we have just a small school here in Colchester, Connecticut, that can just branch out to all places in the world, and how we can become so successful," Harasimowitz said.

Principal Matthew Peel said that inspiring students like Harasimowitz and his peers is another Founder's Day objective: program organizers want to show high schoolers that they can find success in "a wide variety" of fields as Bacon Academy graduates.

"The kids that are here today, we're gonna be honoring them at Founder's Day 30, 40, 60 years from now," Peel said.

Project Graduation Cornhole Tournament

Bacon Academy Project Graduation is holding a Cornhole Tournament Saturday, June 4 (rain date: June 5), at Hop Culture, 144 Cato Corner Rd. Check-in begins at 11 a.m., and play begins at noon.

Tournament is a double-elimination/bracket format. Players can bring their own standard bags, no double-sided/pro bags are allowed. Cost is \$80 per adult team, \$40 for student teams (high school students and younger), \$60 for mixed adult/student teams. All ages are welcome. Team cash prizes for

winners are \$320 for first place, \$160 for second place and \$80 for third place.

Registration is due by Tuesday, May 31. To register, go to www.baconacademyprojectgrad.org and click on the 'Cornhole Tournament' page or send payment by check with team member names and contact information (email or cell phone) to BAPG, P.O. Box 393, Colchester, CT 06415.

Email Melanie Hathaway at ba.projectgrad@gmail.com for more information or to make Venmo payment.

Vendors Sought for 'On the Green' Tag Sale

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

The Colchester Business Association (CBA) will host this event on the Colchester Green Sunday, June 12 (rain date Sunday, June 26), from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

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

Those looking to sell tag sale items can bring

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

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

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

Lions Carnival to Return

The Colchester Lions Carnival will take place Wednesday, June 1, through Saturday, June 4. Carnival hours are Wednesday and Thursday, 6-9 p.m.; Friday, 6-10 p.m.; and Saturday, noon-9 p.m.

Discount ride vouchers for bracelets will be available from Monday, May 23, through Tuesday, May 31, at Dime Bank, Mel's Downtown Creamery, Noel's Market and Westchester Marketplace. Cost is \$26 per bracelet, and supplies are limited.

Bracelets are valid Wednesday-Friday all day and Saturday from noon-5 p.m. After 5 p.m. Saturday, rides will be by ticket only. The cost of bracelets purchased at the carnival will be \$30.

Turkey Dinner

St. Joseph's Polish Club, at 395 South Main St., will host a turkey dinner Saturday, May 28, from 2 p.m. until the food runs out.

Dinner includes turkey, mashed potatoes with gravy, vegetable, cranberry sauce, stuffing, and a roll with butter. This is a first-come, first-served dinner. Pick-up or dine-in is available for \$10 per meal.

Call 860-537-2550 for more information.

Boy Scouts Seek Tag Sale Donations

Troop 13 is accepting donations for the annual Colchester on the Green Tag Sale on June 12.

Contact Sharon Colburn (Sharon.colburn278@gmail.com or 860-798-5341) for drop-off/pick-up of donations. People can also drop off at 7 a.m. the morning of the tag sale. Please no electronics, clothing or shoes.



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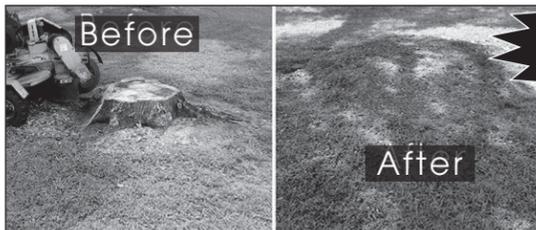
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Manchester OBGYN Associates Welcomes Dr. Lydia Lormand



Lydia Lormand, DO, FACOG, is a board-certified physician specializing in obstetrics and gynecology. She completed her ObGyn residency at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield, Massachusetts, after earning her Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree from New York College of Osteopathic Medicine, and her

Bachelor of Science degree from Binghamton University. As a resident, she received the Practicing the Art of Medicine Award, which is given to the chief resident who displays a strong ability to integrate the foundation of evidence-based medicine with clinical intuition, empathy, and compassion.

As a women's healthcare provider, Dr. Lormand's mission is to provide comprehensive healthcare to women through puberty, the reproductive years and menopause, and to make women feel comfortable and try to take away the fear and anxiety that can associated with ObGyn care. In her spare time, Dr. Lormand enjoys reading murder mysteries, traveling, scuba diving, playing volleyball and spinning.

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Voters Split at Budget Referendum

By Michael Sinkewicz

Colchester voters made a split decision at referendum on Tuesday – rejecting the proposed town operations budget, but approving a slight increase to Board of Education spending.

The proposed town budget of \$16.03 million – an \$333,482, or 2.12%, increase – was shot down 813-729, according to the town clerk’s office.

The education budget of \$42.02 million – a \$198,646, or .47%, increase – narrowly passed by a 793-750 vote.

The combined spending package for the 2022-23 fiscal year was \$58.06 million – a .90% increase from the current budget.

With both budgets factored in, the mill rate was listed at 27.27 – a decrease of 5.78 mills.

The turnout for both budgets was historically low, with only 1,543 people voting – under 10% of the town’s population according to census data. In comparison, 1,867 people voted on the education budget in 2021 and in 2017, that number was 3,019.

First Selectman Andreas Bisbikos expressed his disappointment with the town budget failing at referendum.

“The people have spoken,” he said. “I’ll be looking to make adjustments.”

Bisbikos said he already has ideas of what might potentially be cut.

While he’s passionate about the proposed increase to the tree removal services at \$50,000

and the addition of a senior services part-time bus driver at \$18,488, those items may have to be trimmed.

Bisbikos stated that the bottom-line cut to the town budget would likely be around \$100,000-\$150,000 – anything more would be problematic for the town from his perspective.

“There are some areas where I can be creative,” he said. “If the reduction is too much, we might be putting the town at risk.”

Andrea Migliaccio, chair of the finance board and a Republican, believes her board is ready to make the necessary cuts.

“I was surprised that one went down and the other passed,” she said. “We’re well prepared to go back to the table.”

Migliaccio acknowledged that voter turnout for first referendums has been declining in recent years.

“We need to address that,” she said. “We want to promote better turnout.”

She believes that with turnover in the Board of Education and with the pandemic, that it was a “unique” budget season.

Some citizens have criticized the board for not having virtual meetings or being unable to calculate what their new tax rate would be.

Migliaccio said she is open to making any changes that would help the public understand the budget process going forward – including adding Zoom meetings or online tools to assist

citizens.

“We’re on it. We’re going to improve,” she said.

Resident Monica Egan also hopes the public will be more involved in the future.

“Leadership that encourages citizen engagement and open dialogue from the beginning of the process is key to bringing people to the polls,” she said.

Egan is the chair of the Democratic Town Committee, but said she was speaking as an individual who has been involved with education budgets for many years.

Prior the referendum on Tuesday, Jason LaChapelle, a Republican member of the Board of Selectmen, posted on Facebook on Sunday criticizing the proposed budget increase.

“We as elected officials, especially those who promised to uphold strong conservative values, have the primary obligation of helping our neighbors navigate these trying times of historical hyperinflation,” he wrote.

The split vote on the referendum comes after both budgets were trimmed by the Board of Finance.

Bible Study at Christian Life Chapel

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

Stop & Shop Bag Program to Benefit CHFD

The Colchester Hayward Volunteer Fire Department has been selected by local Stop & Shop store leadership as the benefiting nonprofit in the Stop & Shop Community Bag for May.

The Stop & Shop Community Bag Program is a way for shoppers to give back to the local community. Every \$2.50 reusable Community Bag sends a \$1 donation to a local nonprofit.

The local Stop & Shop is located at 99 Linwood Ave.

The board cut \$79,500 from the town budget proposal by taking certain capital items – including bath house repairs, library repairs, windows at the fire house and an off-utility vehicle for fire department- out of the operational budget by using unassigned fund balance.

The approved education budget was cut by \$200,000 on a party-line vote during workshops. The two Democrats on the finance board believed that cut was unsubstantiated.

The passed budget calls for a three-position reduction at Bacon Academy, due to low enrollment.

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RES-27-22

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, May 30: Senior center closed for Memorial Day.

Tuesday, May 31: 9 a.m., Making Memories; 9:45 a.m., Tai Chi; 11 a.m., Memorial Day Picnic; 12:30 p.m., Pinochle; 1:30 p.m., Bingo.

Wednesday, June 1: 9 a.m., Making Memories Program, Walking Group meet-up at the Air Line Trail in Amston; 10 a.m., Adult Coloring, Sit & Be Fit; 12:30 p.m., Live Well with Diabetes (via Zoom); 1:30 p.m., Line Dancing.

Thursday, June 2: No Exercise w/Anne or Sittercize today; 10 a.m., Wii Bowling; 10:30 a.m., Canadian Rockies Documents Party; 11 a.m., Yoga; noon, Chair Massage; 12:30 p.m., Dominoes; 1 p.m., Knit & Crochet.

Friday, June 3: 10 a.m., Sit & Be Fit, Hearing Clinic, Normal vs. Not Normal Aging; 10:30 a.m., Choral Group; 11 a.m., Yoga; 1:30 p.m., Bingo.

Upcoming Programs: Father’s Day Breakfast: Friday, June 10, 9 a.m. Sponsored by Apple Rehab, this breakfast is available to all members, not just men. This complimentary breakfast will be served in the senior center

dining room. Space is limited; reservations will be required beginning June 1. More information will be available in the June newsletter.

Something Old, Something New Luncheon: Wednesday, June 15, 11 a.m. The Connecticut Historical society will give a presentation entitled “Something Old, Something New: Connecticut Weddings through the Ages.” A catered lunch will follow the presentation. More information will be available in the June newsletter.

It’s A Cool, Cool, Summer Ice Cream Party: Wednesday, June 22, 1 p.m. National Health Care will bring an old-fashioned ice cream truck right here to the senior center. The truck will be parked at the senior center, where you can walk up and select your favorite from several flavors of frozen treats, then head indoors to enjoy your treat. This is a free event for senior center members only. Registration is required by June 15.

What Did I Come In Here For? Understanding Memory Loss: Monday, June 27, 10:30 a.m. In honor of Alzheimer’s & Brain Awareness Month, Brookdale Buckingham will sponsor an informational presentation all about brain health. Light refreshments will be served. This is a free event, registration in required by June 21.

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RES-27-22

Portland • Portland

Highlanders Baseball Shocks Bellringers in Hartford

By Josh Howard

On April 20, East Hampton baseball crushed Portland 14-0 at Portland High School, handing the Highlanders their most lopsided loss of the season.

But less than a month later, Portland flipped the script and beat the Bellringers 2-0 on a picturesque spring evening at Dunkin' Donuts Park in Hartford last Tuesday, May 17.

Spencer Rosado was cool as a cucumber as he pitched a two-hitter under the bright lights where the Yard Goats normally graze.

Rosado, who went the entire way and struck out eight, said he didn't think about the venue and was solely focused on the task at hand.

"It feels great. It means a lot to us," Rosado said about the win. "I expected it to be honest. I expected to come here and shut them out."

Head coach Rick Borg has full trust in his junior lefty, even when his team got into a jam in the seventh inning with the winning run at the plate following an error.

"He was going to have to beg me to come out," said Borg, who added Rosado had earned the chance to pitch in the big moment.

The teams battled to a scoreless tie for the first three innings as Rosado and East Hampton's hard-throwing Nate Bigelow made easy work the first time through the batting order.

Rosado led off the top of the 4th inning with a single through the heart of the defense and then Michael Quesnel cranked a triple to deep left, sending Rosado home for the game's opening run.

"I was just trying to put the ball in play. I've been having a rough time at the plate recently," recalled Quesnel, who added that he thought the shot may carry the 308 feet needed to go over the left field wall. "But I can't complain about a triple."

Quesnel then scored following a sacrifice fly

to center field from Austin Vess.

The 4th inning fireworks turned out to be the only scoring.

"We expect him to do that," said Borg. "I love Mike Quesnel and I would play anyone in the state if I had nine more of him."

In the bottom of the seventh, East Hampton had runners at first and third with the winning run at the plate.

However – as he had done all game – Rosado responded with two consecutive strikeouts.

Rosado said his two-seam fastball was working all game and that he wasn't concerned about the late jam, adding, "I really just didn't think about it. I went out there and put in the work."

East Hampton head coach Tom Seidl was disappointed in his team's inability to generate offense or capitalize on the seventh inning opportunity.

"Our pitcher pitched a great game and their pitcher pitched a little bit better," added Seidl "[Portland] deserved to win. Rick is a good coach and we had them ready today and they beat us."

It was East Hampton's sixth straight loss and seventh loss in eight games.

"We are just struggling right now. I don't know what to say at this point. Sometimes you can't get out of your own way and that is kind of what we are going through right now," said Seidl. "I know what this team is capable of and we are not doing it right now and it frustrates me as a coach that I'm not able to pull it out of them."

For Portland, the win was big on several levels.

It not only avenged the earlier 14-run loss over a rival in Connecticut's biggest baseball venue, but it also provided a positive memory that will last a lifetime.

"It's an experience that the team will never forget and neither will I," added Borg, whose



The East Hampton and Portland high school baseball teams are shown at left prior to a May 17 game at Dunkin' Donuts Park in Hartford. The Highlanders won 2-0, avenging a 14-0 loss to the Bellringers less than a month earlier.

team turned around a season that began with eight straight losses. "This group is fun to be with and it's rewarding to see them improve over the course of the year. Sometimes teams will disintegrate a little bit at the end of the year after a tough season, but these guys hung together and I couldn't be more proud to get the win tonight."

It turned out to be the Highlanders' third and

final win of the season.

For Quesnel, who is the team's only senior player, the victory in Hartford capitalized a great baseball career.

"To come in here and do this in front of all these fans is really an awesome feeling," said Quesnel. "This is a fun group of guys and I love every single one of them like they are my brothers."

YFS News & Notes

Portland Youth & Family Services has announced the following pieces of news. For more information, visit www.portlandct.org/youth-services, email jrevicki@portlandct.org or call 860-342-6758.

Prevention & Wellness Council: Community members are sought to participate in the Portland Prevention & Wellness Council. The goal of the council is two-fold: education about drugs, alcohol, and tobacco products, and coordination of healthy community events and prevention through programs and community discussions. The council works with individuals, groups, schools, and religious organizations in the community to identify the needs of the community. The first meeting will be held Tuesday, June 14, at 7 p.m., at the Youth & Family Services Community Room, 265 Main St. If interested, call Meg Scata, prevention coordinator, at 860 342-6758.

Summer Offerings: YFS is working on its summer offerings. Watch the YFS website and its Facebook page for more information.

Little Hikers: This group ventures out on the first Friday of each month at 10:30 a.m.; next hike is June 3 and will begin at the Depot Hill Road entrance to the Portland Air Line Trail.

The hikers went about a third of a mile last time, and will probably keep it to a third or half of a mile this time.

Drop-in and Draw: Artists will meet the first Tuesday of the month between 1:30-4:30 p.m., starting June 7, in the community room. This mostly unstructured program gives kids of all ages a chance to spend some time doing artwork, of whatever they want. Drawing materials, paints, stencils, stamps, and more will be available. Parents of younger children are encouraged to participate. People can come when they want and stay as long as they want.

Mobile Petting Zoo & Ice Cream: YFS is joining with Senior Services to welcome Connecticut businesses Farm on Wheels, a mobile petting zoo, and the Ice Cream Emergency (ICE) Bus on the town green from 3:30-4:30 p.m. Monday, June 27. Lawn games will also be featured. All are invited.

Drop-In for Board Games: The YFS board games groups continue over the summer in the community room. There will be a selection of board and card games available from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 6, for Brownstone Intermediate School-aged kids, and one Wednesday, July 20, for middle and high school-aged kids.

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.

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

Next Week's Schedule: Monday: Senior center closed for Memorial Day. **Tuesday:** 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; 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. **Wednesdays:** Light Aerobics, 9:30-10:30 a.m.; SyncoCize Exercise, 10:15-11 a.m.; chair yoga, 11:30 a.m.; Qi Gong with Lisa, 1 p.m. (by session/month only); setback, 1 p.m. **Thursdays:** No Dancercise today; Knit & Stitch, 10 a.m.;

Stretch & Flex, 11:30 a.m.; Mahjongg, 12:30-4 p.m.; Scrabble, 1-4 p.m. **Fridays:** Light Aerobics, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

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.

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.

Trip to Mystic: Thursday, June 2, bus leaves the senior center lot at 10:30 a.m. Hit the shops, stroll and have lunch on your own. If you need a ride from home, let the center know in advance. Cost is \$5 per van ride.

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CT Trails Day Hike

On Connecticut Trails Day, Saturday, June 4, at 10 a.m., Middlesex Land Trust and Portland Air Line Trail Committee will partner to provide an approximate three-mile hike through the Palmer-Taylor Preserve, including a detour onto the historic Air Line Trail – see how these two trails intersect to provide a varied walking experience.

The hike will be at a slow to moderate pace with some moderate inclines for short distances and occasional tricky footing, but is generally suitable for new hikers. Meet at the red barn, 258 Middle Haddam Rd., Portland. Hiking boots recommended, as the trail crosses some wet areas, but sneakers are okay. Bring water and snacks. Kids and well-managed dogs are welcome. Hike leader is John LeShane.

Steady rain cancels – rain date will be Sunday, June 5, at 11 a.m.

Library Celebrates 125+2

Portland Library invites all to its celebration of 125 (+2) years of service, on Saturday, June 11, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., on the Town Green by the Waverly Center.

The free event will have fun for all ages, including a magician, live music by J-Walk, a bounce house, art classes for teens and adults, crafts, games, and treats. An historical exhibit by the Portland Historical Society as well as a read-aloud with a therapy dog will take place indoors at the Library during the event.

For more information and to register for the art classes, visit www.portlandlibraryct.org.

Portland • Portland

Portland Could Soon be a ‘Right to Farm’ Town

By Jack Lakowsky

Last week resident Sam Newsom advocated that the Portland Board of Selectmen make the town a “Right-to-Farm” community.

In last Wednesday’s meeting Newsom said the right-to-farm act, passed by the state a few decades ago under Gov. Bill O’Neill, protects farmers large and small from lawsuits.

Under the law, farmers are protected from lawsuits for normal farm operations, such as odor, noise and dust. It does not preempt town ordinances and is not immunity from the law or causing nuisances.

The board, along with First Selectman Ryan Curley, were receptive to the idea, saying some logistics would just need to be figured out.

According to state information the law does not “apply whenever a nuisance results from negligence or willful or reckless misconduct.” To be protected, a farm, whether a garden plot or whole acres, must be in operation at least one year.

Under the law, farmers also can’t be sued for producing compliant levels of chemical and/or water pollutants.

Newsom said there is a push to support local good growers. He said many people are participating in #NoMowMay, a campaign to get homeowners to let their lawns grow unmowed throughout the merry month. Letting wildflowers and grass grow feeds pollinators and shelters tons of critters, according to researchers.

He said many times, someone will move in next to an existing, compliant farm, then begin complaining about the farm’s footprint, commonly citing “loss of enjoyment of the home.”

“Maine has a right to [grow] food in its state constitution,” said Newsom, saying this makes the right to grow food “inalienable” in the Pine Tree State.

According to the state, around a dozen towns have adopted right-to-farm ordinances, including Colchester, Franklin, Columbia and Leba-

non.

Newsom said it would “honor the town’s heritage and protect its future.”

Newsom said growing one’s own food can help withstand the current economic turmoil.

“As the town keeps developing residentially, conflicts may go up,” he said, saying development is encroaching more and more on farmland.

He also pointed out the town’s Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) calls for adoption of a right-to-farm ordinance.

Curley said he believes there’s a lot of public

support.

“When Sam mentioned being a right-to-farm town, I thought it was a good idea to open the conversation,” he said. “If we take this road, we’d be looking at this as a support system for an existing state statute.”

Curley said because the POCD mentions it, the town should move forward.

The board appeared to support it. Selectman John Dillon raised a few concerns, mostly about increased zoning ordinance enforcements.

Curley said the board will resume discussions at its next meeting.

Town Clerk’s Office Seeks ‘Top Dog’

The Portland Town Clerk’s office is once again accepting donations of dog and cat food as part of its annual contest to determine which dog will wear the No. 1 dog tag for the upcoming year. The pet food collected will go to the Portland Food Bank, for those in temporary need.

To enter, just donate cans/ bags of dog or cat food when registering your dog between now and June 30. For each can/bag donated, your dog will earn a ticket for a drawing to be held at 2 p.m. on June 30. Limit of 16 tickets per dog. The first three tickets chosen will receive the No. 1, No. 2 and No. 3 dog tags.

All dog owners must obtain a license or renew their current licenses between June 1st and June 30 for the fiscal year beginning July 1. The state-mandated registration fee is \$8 for a spayed/neutered dog, and \$19 for a non-spayed/non-neutered dog. Certificate of spayed/neutered must be provided for first time licenses to receive the \$8 fee amount. A rabies vaccination certificate must also be provided for first time licenses or if the previous vaccination has expired.

More information can be found at www.portlandct.org/dog-licenses.

Honor Those Who Fell: Wear a Poppy

Members of the Portland American Legion Auxiliary will offer Memorial Day poppies this month.

Auxiliary members will also line the parade route on May 29, seeking donations for the poppies – which are made by veterans in veterans’ hospitals.

Funds collected from the poppy donations are used for the rehabilitation of veterans; for the welfare of families of veterans; to help pay

for some expenses for the hospital and field service volunteers (such as uniforms and transportation); and other items and services benefiting veterans, particularly those in the VA hospitals.

The poppy was made the memorial flower of the American Legion Auxiliary at the 1921 National Convention in Kansas City. All are encouraged to wear the poppy as a personal tribute to the deceased veterans and to honor the living veterans as well.



At a small event Friday, May 20, Portland Historical Society presented the recently restored welcome sign, by the Arrigoni Bridge, to the Portland Community in appreciation for many years of continuous support. Pictured from left are Trustee Chair Bob McDougall, Society President Julie Macksoud, property owners Mike and Patricia Ruffino, and Portland First Selectman Ryan Curly, who accepted the gift on behalf of the community.

Historical Society Thanks Community with Gift

The Portland Historical Society has restored the Portland Welcome sign by the Arrigoni Bridge, as a thank you to the community for the continued support of its events, including the recent Town-Wide Tag Sale.

A presentation event was held on Friday, May 20.

The sign was originally built in 1998 by Portland Revitalization Inc. (also known as PRIDE, which disbanded in 2007), in collaboration with the Rossitto family, the Economic Development Commission, and the Town of Portland, as a community service to help local nonprofits promote their activities.

Mike Giuliano, a member of the PRIDE board in 1998, and owner of Giuliano Auto Body, championed the project to replace the two murals which were on the wall: Welcome to Portland on one side, with the other side dedicated to M.A.D.D. (Mothers Against Drunk Driving). Giuliano worked with Jim Larson, a local builder, and Tom Humphreys, owner of Signs and Designs, to create the wall and artwork.

Portland Historical Society Museum Director Bob McDougall has been advocating to restore this popular landmark since 2016, when it was first discussed by Portland’s 175th Anniversary Committee.

“This sign is important because it provides a first impression to visitors and gives local organizations a highly visible location to promote

their events and activities,” he said. “It is also special because of the groups and individuals who collaborated to create and maintain it.”

The original sign was built on property owned by Fred and Elsie Rossitto, longtime residents and owners of Brownstone Amusements. The property is currently owned by Mike Ruffino, who maintains the landscaping around the sign and was an early proponent for the restoration. In 2016, the Knights of Columbus (Freestone Council 7), donated time and material to put a fresh coat of stain on the wooden wall.

McDougall added, “We want the community to know that we appreciate the support they have shown us in the past and hope they will continue to support our efforts to collect, preserve and share Portland history.”

The sign was restored by SignMart of Middletown.

First Selectman Ryan J. Curley agreed it is a great project and Portland Historical Society President Julie Macksoud expressed genuine excitement about this timely project as a long-term investment in the community.

“We think it is particularly appropriate for us to provide this necessary upgrade as just one of many local organizations who care deeply about this special town, its past and its future,” she said. “A bright new welcome sign sends a clear message that when we invite folks to ‘Come on Over’ we mean it.”

Community Art Contest

State Rep. Christie Carpino (R-32) is holding 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 close 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 submis-

sions 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.

Travel Soccer Fall Registration, Evaluation

Portland Soccer Club (PSC) has announced registration for the fall Travel Soccer Season is now open. All eligible players must register online and before the evaluations at bluesombrero.com/portlandsoccerclub. All players must pre-pay for registration prior to evaluations.

All player evaluations will be held at the Portland Recreational Complex, located on Route 17 (Gospel Lane) in Portland on Tuesday, June 14, from 5:30-7 p.m., with a make-up session Wednesday, June 15, from 5:30-7 p.m. All players must attend the evaluation sessions. All players participating should wear cleats, shin guards, and bring a water bottle and an appropriately sized ball. The wearing of any PSC uniform by players is prohibited. The cost per travel registrant is \$170.

All players will get a new uniform kit; ordering information and instructions will be sent after evaluations from the uniform vendor.

PSC said it anticipates fielding gender-based teams for the U9-U14 age groups during the 2022 soccer season, depending on player participation. Refunds will be issued if player is not

placed on a team. Registrations received after June 12 will be charged an additional \$30 late fee, and late registrations are not guaranteed a spot on a travel team.

All PSC tryouts will take place Tuesday, June 14. Times are based on age-grouping expectations for fall 2022 for both new and existing players. The club reserves the right to combine age groups based upon registration numbers. U9 (Birth Year 2014) and U10 (2013) will try out from 5:30-6:30 p.m., and U11 (2012), U12 (2011), U13 (2010) and U14 (2009) will be 6:30-7:30 p.m.

There will be a possible make-up session Wednesday, June 15, from 5:30-7 p.m., for all age groups. Contact club vice president Chris Donahue at donahuecj@sbcglobal.net or 860-638-7400 if you cannot make the June 14 session.

Other club contacts are president Chad Wilson, nosliw.dahc@gmail.com or 205-999-8842; and registrar Stephanie Bolstridge, stephaniebolstridge@gmail.com or 860-478-9693.

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Portland • Portland

Beaver Dam Burst Causes Flooding

By Jack Lakowsky

Bob Shea, Portland's public works director, said there's some mystery flooding reported last week in the area of Great Hill Pond Road.

Though he knows the cause, Shea is unsure how the cause itself happened.

Shea said a beaver dam holding back a huge amount of water suddenly broke last week, flooding Great Hill Lake. There were no injuries and no damage to any homes. He said the amount of water released was "enormous."

"They're great engineers," Shea said of the beavers. How the breach happened is unclear, as there were no storms or major rainfall last weekend.

The water reached the Noyse School of Rhythm's property, which has a popular picnic area, Shea said. The trick now is getting the area fixed up before the holiday weekend.

"We're going to get it graveled," Shea said. Shea said the cause is a mystery, and he "hopes it wasn't anything malicious," though he didn't rule this out.

"It's kind of crazy," he said. "It's a mystery as to what happened."

The manmade dam in that area is intact, Shea said.

One resident of Great Hill Pond Road, who did not give their name, said the lake is fed by a creek, where the beaver's dam was.

They said they feel dealing with the flood is the responsibility of the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP).

"DEEP knew about the beaver dam," they said. "They should've known it was unsafe. This could've been a tragedy."

Requests for comment from DEEP were not returned.

Swimmer Saved by Good Samaritans

According to a Portland Fire Department Facebook post, the department's dive team had a busy weekend. First, the team went to the Town of Lyme for a reported missing swimmer. According to media reports, the swimmer, 16, was eventually found dead.



Though beavers are normally adept engineers, a dam they constructed near Great Hill Pond ruptured and unleashed a flood onto the area. First Selectman Ryan Curley, who was in the area, snapped this photo of the dam, which is in the background.

Then, the team learned of a swimmer in distress at Great Hill Lake, the very same lake that flooded last week.

"Luckily we were not utilized as Good Samaritans were able to locate and bring the swimmer to shore."

Finally, the dive team went to Quonnapaug Lake in Guilford to assist an overturned canoe situation.

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."

On Sunday, May 29, the worship service will include the Rev. Jane Hawken's sermon titled, "Always Remembered, Always Remember." Under Kasha Breaux's direction, the choir will sing the anthem "America the Beautiful" by Katharine Lee Bates and Samuel A. Ward. 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 pro-

gram for 3-year-olds on Tuesday and Thursday, and one for 4-year-olds on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Contact Amy Jahnke at 860-342-1111 or 1stchurchnurseryschool@gmail.com for more information.

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. Those who wish to follow the church on Facebook may do so at The First Congregational Church of Portland, CT.

Parade Route for Sunday

This Sunday, May 29, Portland's Memorial Day parade will follow the same direction used last year. The parade will continue onto Waverly Avenue, turn left on East Main Street, turn right on Freestone Avenue and end on the field of Veterans Memorial Park.

Units will march on down into the field of Veterans Memorial Park off Fairview Street. All units will march to Veterans Memorial Park for the Memorial Day ceremony.

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

The procession will stop for a brief ceremony at the Civil War monument on Bartlett Street and finish behind the Portland Town Hall. There will be a reviewing stand in front of the Brownstone Intermediate School.

The Parade Grand Marshall is Louis Negrell, a U.S. Navy veteran who served during the Korean Conflict. He served on the USS Saratoga.

The American Legion Color Guard will lead the parade. Great Hill Mountain Band will perform before the parade on Main Street in front of the Brownstone Intermediate School. The musical units will be the Portland High School Band, Connecticut Blues Fife & Drum Corp, along with the Sphinx and Pyramid Temple.

The parade will take place rain or shine.

The parade is organized and overseen by The Portland Memorial Day Parade Committee. Committee members will serve refreshments to the marchers immediately after the benediction. Please stay and enjoy their efforts.

Ceremonies at the cemeteries will be held preceding the parade between noon and 1 p.m. Ceremonies will be held at Swedish Cemetery, Center Cemetery, Trinity Cemetery, St. Mary Cemetery, and Indian Hill Burial Grounds.

Last-minute registrants may contact Sara Sterry Rutter at 860-342-2815 or 860-250-2041 to participate in this year's tribute.

Chip Sealing to Begin

Public Works said it expects to begin chip sealing the following roads on or about June 1, and continuing throughout the month.

Adorno Drive, Airline Avenue, Ames Hollow Road, Barry Avenue, Belle Vista Heights, Butler Lane, Carlson Drive, Commerce Street, Crimson Heights, Elizabeth Road, Foley Road, Grove Street, Riverside Street, Riverview Street, Spruce Terrace, Stoner Terrace, Strickland Street, Sunset Terrace, Susan Circle, Tuccitto Road, Thomas Street, Wilcox Hill Road and Wilcox Lane.

The chip seal process consists of distributing a liquid asphalt emulsion on the roadway

and covering the liquid asphalt with crushed stone to provide a new wearing surface. Public Works said chip sealing extends the life of a roadway by protecting it from moisture, ultraviolet degradation and any other exposures that could damage a roadway. Drivers should exercise caution as loose stone will be present on the roadway. It is recommended when travelling on a recently chip sealed road to slow down and allow additional space between vehicles.

The department said it apologizes for any inconveniences and urged residents to use alternate routes where possible.

swimmer to shore."

Finally, the dive team went to Quonnapaug Lake in Guilford to assist an overturned canoe situation.

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.

Holiday Closing: The library will be closed Monday, May 30, in honor of Memorial Day.

Panel Discussion: Wednesday, June 8, 7 p.m. In this discussion, presented in partnership with the Solidarity Committee of Portland, residents affected by disabilities, including parents of children with disabilities, will share their experiences.

Museum Passes & Games - Reservations Recommended: Check out the latest on museums for art, nature, history and fun. Go to the library website and click on museum passes or call to reserve a pass. Board games are available to be borrowed without reservation.

Youth Programs: Summer Reading is Coming: This year's program theme is "Beyond the Beaten Path." Look for a schedule of upcoming events to be posted on the library website. Registration for summer programs will begin Monday, June 6. The Summer Reading Kickoff will be held in conjunction with the

library's anniversary celebration on Saturday, June 11. There will be a performance by magician Matt Matthews at 11 a.m.

Summer Reading Volunteer Training: Thursday, June 2, 3:30 p.m. Kids and teens entering grades 7 and up are welcome to apply for the library's Summer Reading Volunteer program. Interested applicants should visit the library or the Teen section of the library website to pick up an application. Volunteers are needed for program preparation and assistance, logging reading minutes and awarding prizes, and staffing the summer reading desk. Volunteers will be expected to attend a mandatory training session on Thursday, June 2 at 3:30 p.m. For more information, call the library.

Adult Programs: Book Club Discussions: First Thursday Night Book Club: Thursday, June 2, 6:30 p.m. *The Henna Artist* by Alka Joshi will be discussed; **Talk About Books (T.A.B.) Book Club:** Tuesday, June 7, 1 p.m. *The Beantown Girls* by Jane Healey will be discussed; **Mystery Lovers' Book Club:** Tuesday, June 21, 1 p.m. *Lady in the Lake* by Laura Lippma 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. The Knitters will have a booth at the June 11 library anniversary celebration.

Portland Garden Club: The club will have a table at the library's June 11 anniversary event. There will be an exhibit on pollinators, and kids of all ages can enjoy floral coloring.

Free Paper-Shredding Event

The Lower Connecticut River Council of Governments will hold a paper-shredding event Saturday, June 4, from 9 a.m.-noon, at the East Hampton Water Pollution Control Facility, 20 Gildersleeve Drive, East Hampton.

The event is open to residents of the River-COG region, which includes East Hampton and Portland. No commercial or business shredding will be allowed.

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

Veterans Breakfast Returns to Portland

After a two-year COVID-19 pandemic-forced hiatus, American Legion Ormont Post 69 in Portland will once again offer its veterans breakfast Saturday, May 28, at 12 Freestone Ave. Food will be served from 0730-1000, unless the food runs out sooner.

As always, the menu will feature egg omelets, sausage, bacon, toast, chipped beef on toast, grits, coffee, tea and orange juice. Food donations are \$8 per adult and \$6 per child 12 and under, with to-go orders welcome.

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



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Veterans Memorial Planting... On Thursday, May 19, members of the Portland River Valley Garden Club and the Portland Garden Club met to do the annual planting of the Veterans Memorial at Town Hall. The red, white, and blue flowers planted provide a living memorial to honor the deceased veterans. The plants were a donation from Gotta's Farm. From left are Jean Norton, Lucinda Patrick, Sandy Castelli, Diane Bascom, Sue Ferguson, Cathy Probolus, Sue Anderson-Woronoff, Sue Dwyer, Sue Wesoloski, Janice Cross, Mary Ellen Nocera and Colleen Brede.



Coffee Hour with Legislators... State Rep. Christie Carpino (R-32) and state Sen. Norm Needleman (D-33) held a post-session coffee hour at the Portland Riverfront Pavilion Thursday, May 19. The lawmakers provided a brief overview of the 2022 legislative session, which concluded earlier in the month, and held a discussion with residents in attendance. Topics covered during the discussion included newly approved mental health initiatives, additional public safety improvements, and increasing the state's use of renewable energy sources.

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.

Summer Concert Series: The series will return to Riverfront Park in July. If interested in sponsoring, call Parks and Rec.

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

Zumba: Wednesdays through June 8, 6-7 p.m., at Portland Riverfront Park. Fee: \$10 per week to drop in.

Youth Programs: 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.

Yoga for Beginners: Tuesdays, May 31-June

21, 6-7 p.m., at the Portland Rec. Complex. Contact instructor Cyndi Mazzotta directly with any questions, at anandayoga.20ct@gmail.com. Fee is \$65 for the four-week session. Watch for information about Parks and Rec.'s upcoming Parent/Toddler, Children's, Teen and Sunset Yin Yoga programs.

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.

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.

Slamma-Jamma Basketball: Parks and Rec. is offering two sessions of Slamma-Jamma Basketball this summer, for children in grades 3-8. All participants will receive a free ball and a free shirt. The first session takes place July 18-22, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., and the second is Aug. 8-12, also from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. These camps will be led by PHS head boys' basketball coach David Bradbury and members of the boys and girls high school basketball teams.

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 Mondays by 9 a.m. Bulletins for the service are posted each week on the church's website, zionlutheranportland.org.

Sunday School Classes: Held the first and third Sundays of the month at 10:15 a.m., following worship.

Adult Bible Study: The second and fourth Sunday of the month, at 10:15 a.m. The study, which started May 22, focuses on season 2 of

the television series *The Chosen*.

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

Honor Society Inductee

Katherine M. Donahue was recently inducted into the Alpha Omega Chapter of the Delta Alpha Pi International Academic Honor Society.

Donahue recently completed her sophomore year at Mitchell College in New London and is pursuing a degree in elementary education.

Knights to Hold Car Show

The Freestone Council of the Knights of Columbus will hold a car show Friday, June 3, in memory of the late Craig Weske, who at the time of his 2019 passing was serving as Grand Knight of the Freestone Council. Weske was also a member of the church choir and a long-time Special Olympics volunteer.

This year's car show will start at 3 p.m. in the parking lot of the Freestone Avenue church. Over 100 show cars and trucks are expected. There will also be dinner, a teacup raffle (at a dollar a chance) and more. Trophies will be awarded at 7:30 p.m.

For more information, contact Joe Loban, co-chair, at 860 358-9123 or jkloban@hotmail.com.

BOE Appoints New Director of Buildings and Grounds

At a regular meeting on Tuesday, May 17, the Portland Board of Education appointed Robert Shea as the director of buildings and grounds for Portland Public Schools.

Shea has served as the director of public works for the Town of Portland since 2018. Prior to serving as the public works director, Shea was a senior engineer at A & L Parts Specialties in New Hartford. Bob is a 33-year resident of Portland and is the fire chief for the Portland Volunteer Fire Department, a position he has held for the past 20 years.

“I'm looking forward to continuing the strong working relationship with the Board of Education, town, and stakeholders to improve our schools infrastructure and safety for students and staff,” Shea stated.

Superintendent of Schools Charles Britton welcomed Shea after his appointment.

“Bob is a great addition to the administrative team,” Britton said. “I'm confident that he is going to be proactive towards the developing, planning and maintenance of the district's facilities.”

Shea will begin his service with the Portland Public Schools on July 1.

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.

On Sunday, June 5, parishioners will celebrate Pentecost at the Church of the Holy Trin-

ity, 381 Main St., Middletown, at 9:30 a.m. All are invited to this outdoor worship, and picnic afterwards. Remember to bring a chair.

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

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

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

'Spirit of Portland Award' Nominations Sought

Nominations are sought for the annual Ralph Paley Spirit of Portland Award, to honor Portland's unsung heroes.

Nominations will be accepted until noon on Friday, June 24, and can be dropped off directly at the Waverly Senior Center, 7 Waverly Ave. Forms are available at the senior center, and can also be emailed; email LTracey@Portlandct.org to request one.

Call Lynn or Alexis at 860-342-6761 for more information.

Police News

5/20: David Mullen, 44, of 1 Elizabeth Rd., was charged with possession of a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia, Portland Police said.

Honor Society Inductee

Alyssa Couture, a native of Portland, was recently initiated into the Southern Connecticut State University Circle of Omicron Delta Kappa, the National Leadership Honor Society.

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Longtime Teacher (Belatedly) Honored for 30 Years of Service

By Jack Lakowsky

"Mrs. Cronen! Mrs. Cronen!" This is a familiar call to the children of long-time Memorial School teacher, Denise Cronen.

Two of Denise's three kids, Patrick Cronen and Meghan Buettner, had a game when they were young'uns: walk into any given place and start counting down from 10, then see how far you get before someone shouted mom's name. They rarely, if ever, reached zero.

Denise taught East Hampton elementary schoolchildren for decades, teaching as many as 20,000 kids how to read. She was in the exact same classroom from 1974 to 2007.

She continued to teach young learners in her new post in South Carolina, near her daughter. Her venerable career will come to a close next week; Denise is moving on to a new phase of life, the serenity of retirement.

Turns out, her kids learned, Denise never in her long career in Belltown was honored with the district's "Good Apple Award" given to exceptional local teachers.

District superintendent Paul Smith, who came to East Hampton well after Denise's departure, decided to change that.

"There are many parents in town with fond memories of having Mrs. Cronen as a teacher," Smith told the *Rivereast* Tuesday. "We were happy to award her."

Buettner said her mom started teaching right out of college. Denise holds a master's degree in reading from UConn.

Her first job was at Middle Haddam School, a schoolhouse that has since merged with the larger town district. Then she moved to, and stayed in, Room 5 at Memorial School. She was one of the first to teach full time Kindergarten in East Hampton.

Denise's largest passion was "all things literacy."

Buettner, who at one time was also a teacher, said her mom always related any childhood lessons to books she taught in the classroom.

"I taught for ten years," Buettner said, "Mom gave me a ton of books for my class library."

One work Denise frequently referenced was Judith Viorst's *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*, a staple of American children's literature.

"She always emphasized the legacy that literacy has on kids," Buettner said.



East Hampton schools recently bestowed a "Good Apple Award" to Denise Cronen, who taught at Memorial School for nearly 35 years. Her adult kids reached out to the *Rivereast* to share her story.

Patrick said, in adulthood, he now realizes how much his mom gave her students.

"It's endless work, tons of meetings and conferences," said Patrick. "There are extraordinary teachers in the world, and their dedication has been tested so much in the last few years."

"Mom always kept that bright light," he went on. "And she's an incredibly humble person."

He said, just a day before his interview, he was texting his mom, who's been readying herself to transition into retirement.

Denise said after all her years of teaching kids one of the most valuable skills they'll ever learn, all she hopes is that she made a difference in a few young lives.

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 and Friday, 3-6 p.m. Masks are optional.

Yoga: With Erin Day of Ten Summit Yoga, on Tuesdays through May 31 at 7 p.m., and Saturdays through May 28, 9-10 a.m. Cost is \$10 each week to drop in. Register at tensummitst@gmail.com.

Artist/Photographer of the Month: Mantis Photography: Local wildlife and nature photographer Aaron Mannes has his photographs

displayed for viewing and purchase. His encounters include bears, snowy owls, fox and more.

Through the Lens: Saturday, June 4. Photographer Aaron Mannes talks about his process, his cameras and the art of taking nature photos.

Ethical Spring Foraging Walk with Erin Day: Sunday, June 5. Meet at library at 9:30 a.m. to carpool to George Dudley Seymour Park. Walk to the river and back, talk about what's edible, what's not, and how to collect and use what you find.

Coming Soon: Walks with a geologist, gardener, tree specialist, mycologist, historians 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. This Sunday, the service will be devoted to praise through joyful song with the church choir and musicians. 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 will resume in the fall.

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.

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, May 27, from 6:30-7:30 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall.

Saturday, May 28, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., will be the CCEH Spring Market.

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

Police News

5/16: Travis Vanblaricom, 38, of 97 Middletown Ave., was arrested and charged with driving under the influence of drugs, East Hampton Police said.

5/17: Christopher Scaplen, 37, of no certain address, was arrested and charged with simple trespass and sixth-degree larceny, police said.

Also, from May 16-22, officers responded to 14 medical calls, two motor vehicle crashes and three alarms, and made nine traffic stops.

Tag and Bake Sale

The Second Congregational Church of Middle Haddam on Route 151 of Middle Haddam will hold its annual tag and bake sale on Saturday, June 11, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. There will be home-baked goods, cutlery products, items from estate sales and tag sale merchandise. The church is handicapped-accessible.

Free Paper-Shredding Event

The Lower Connecticut River Council of Governments will hold a paper-shredding event Saturday, June 4, from 9 a.m.-noon, at the East Hampton Water Pollution Control Facility, 20 Gildersleeve Drive, East Hampton.

The event is open to residents of the River-COG region, which includes East Hampton and Portland. No commercial or business shredding will be allowed.

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

BBQ Chicken Dinner

Haddam Neck Covenant Church, located at 17 Haddam Neck Rd., is also holding its drive-thru/takeout BBQ chicken dinner between noon and 6 p.m. Saturday, June 18.

Dinners are by reservation only and the cost is \$10 per dinner, which includes chicken (with the church's famous sauce), baked beans, coleslaw and cornbread. Cash only please.

Place orders by June 13 by calling the church office 860-267-2336 or email to officehnc@gmail.com.

Perennial Plant Sale

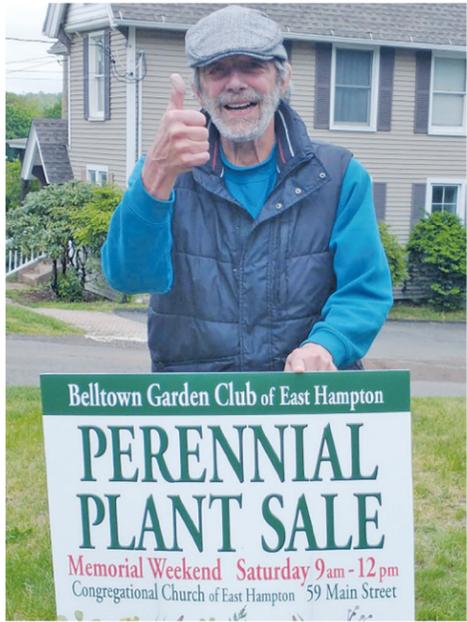
The Belltown Garden Club is will hold its Perennial Plant Sale in conjunction with the East Hampton Congregational Church's Open Air Market, on Saturday, May 28, from 8 a.m.-noon, at the church, 59 Main St.

There will be a large assortment of locally grown perennials will be offered for sale. Proceeds from this event, the club's largest fundraiser, go to supporting various club activities and projects in town, including the vegetable gardens at the food bank and the town gardens at Cranberry Bog, as well as the annual EHHS senior scholarship. The club extends special thanks to Rick Walker for generously donating many perennials to the club.

New this year, leftover plants will be offered for sale from May 28-June 4 on the sidewalk at the East Hampton Public Library, priced at 5 for \$5, with proceeds to benefit the Friends of the East Hampton Library.

Lastly, the club is asking the public for donations of used, in good condition, six-inch pots to re-use.

For more information, text Hollye Thomas at 860-986-1240.



The Belltown Garden Club is will hold its Perennial Plant Sale Saturday, May 28. The individual with the sign is club member Jon Raddatz.

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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. **Setback:** Mondays, 1 p.m., and Thursdays, 1:15 p.m. **Bible Study:** Tuesdays, 1 p.m. **Bingo:** Tuesdays, 1-2 p.m., in person and via Zoom. **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: Thursdays, June 9 and 23, 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 June 8), at 9:30 a.m. The group will meet outdoors, weather permitting; otherwise it will be indoors or via Zoom. Register online.

Tai Chi with Tom – New Session: Tuesdays (started May 24), 10:30-11 a.m., via Zoom. Cost is \$40 for the eight-week session. Class emphasis is on improving balance, functional mobility, and fall prevention. Register with a check, made payable to the Town of East Hampton, or with cash to the Senior Center. Once payment is received, you will be sent the link to the class. Instructor Tom Cushing will also offer a second class on Thursdays, which you may attend for half price. Call for more details. Register online.

Planning for Your Future – Funeral Planning: Wednesday, June 1, 9:30 a.m., presented by Tom Portelance of Spencer Funeral Home. Call the center for more details; pre-registration required.

Wordscape Book Launch, Reading, and Reception: Friday, June 10, 12:30 p.m., both

in-person and via Zoom. All are invited to come celebrate the diversity of lives and voices from the center's own writers. Selections will be shared by writers who have met with Elizabeth Thomas over the past two years. Light reception to follow. Pre-registration is required.

Book Club – Meet the Author: Jack Matthews: Tuesday, June 14, 10:30 a.m. Matthews, a local author, will present his new book, *Arte Perdida*, a saga of art, love, greed, revenge, and murder. Pre-registration required.

Family Tree: Friday, June 17, 10:30 a.m. Ken Doney will continue to help participants search for the history of their families. Bring your own mobile device. One-on-one time will be available. Register in advance.

Trips: Payments for trips will be accepted on Tuesdays and Thursdays, or by pre-arranged appointment time. Trips are: **Martha's Vineyard Daytrip:** Thursday, July 21. Cost is \$124/person and includes roundtrip ferry, island bus tour, and time to shop and dine on your own. There will be considerable walking. **Cathedral of the Pines:** Wednesday, Aug. 17, to Rindge, N.H. Explore the sanctuary, sacred spaces, monuments and burial grounds, built as a memorial to those fallen in service. Cost: \$104/person, includes lunch at Woodbound Inn.

Cranberry Bog Tour: Thursday, Sept. 22, to Wareham, Mass. This is a narrated bus tour of the world's largest cranberry grower, A.D. Makepeace Company. Have lunch at Lindsey's Family Restaurant, and a stop at Wright's Dairy Farm & Bakery on the way home. Cost: \$116/person. **Washington D.C.:** Oct. 21-24. Includes deluxe motorcoach, three nights' hotel, three breakfasts and two dinners, all sightseeing and admissions as per itinerary, a Friendship Tours escort, and driver and tour gratuity. Cost: \$745/person for a double or triple, or \$989/person for a single.

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

Memorial Day Parade on May 30
East Hampton's Memorial Day parade and remembrance ceremonies will be held Monday, May 30. The parade will assemble at the East Hampton High School parking lot at 8:30 a.m., and will start at 9 a.m. Organizations, businesses or community groups interested in marching or entering a float in the parade should contact Lou Carillo at 38 Old Middletown Ave., East Hampton, CT 06424 or call 860-462-3711. Trophies will be awarded for first-, second- or third-place floats. All veterans are welcome to participate in the parade. Refreshments to all parade participants following the conclusion of the ceremony at the post home, 20 N. Maple St.



East Hampton Yarners will sell handmade items at the Spring Market at the Congregational Church of East Hampton tomorrow. Their items will include baby blankets, lovies, sweaters and hats. Shawls, lap robes, dishcloths, hot pads, afghans, baskets and more.

CCEH Spring Market

On Saturday, May 28, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., the Spring Market will take place on the grounds of the Congregational Church of East Hampton, located at 59 Main St.

The market will include a tag sale, plant sale, face-painting for kids, to-go breakfast and lunch items, Quilts by Rae, Stained Glass, Tastefully Simple, author Jack Matthews, hand-painted signs by Sherry's Country Crafts, handmade cards, NYR Organic facial and body products,

colorSTREET, Coffee Break biscotti and sweet breads, AgroSci Garden Wall Kits, East Hampton Yarners handmade items, maple products from Rick's Sugar Shack, and more. The Belltown Garden Club will also sell perennials.

For more information or to reserve a vendor spot, call Lisa at 860-918-1170.

Camps to Start

Parks and Recreation will offer Middle School Sun & Fun Camp, as well as Sears Park Summer Camp, each week from June 20 through Aug. 12., from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. each day.

Fee is \$195/week; field trips included. For more information, call 860-267-7300 or visit easthamptonrec.com.

Dean's List

Tyler Seifert of East Hampton made the winter 2022 Dean's List at Southern New Hampshire University in Manchester, N.H.

Boy Scout Tag Sale

Boy Scout Troop 8 will hold a Tag Sale Saturday, June 4, from 8 a.m.-1 p.m., at the VFW, 20 North Maple St. Donations will be accepted Friday, June 3, from 3:30-7:30 p.m., at the VFW. This is the only day for donations.

Troop 8 cannot accept the following: TVs, computers, printers, textbooks, encyclopedias, couches, cribs, car seats and mattress.

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East Hampton Library News & Notes

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

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

Save the Date: Summer Reading Kickoff – All Ages: Friday, June 24, 5-7 p.m., at Center School field. Run an inflatable obstacle course, pet goats, and soak town employees in a dunk tank.

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

Toddler Time: Wednesdays starting June 1, 10:15 a.m. Children ages 18 months to 3 years are invited to come to sing, dance, enjoy a short story, and participate in free play. Drop-ins welcome.

Stories & Songs: Wednesdays starting June 1, 11:15 a.m., in the community room, for ages 3-5 years and their caregivers. Siblings welcome.

DIY Days: Snow in June!: Saturday, June 4, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., for children and families in grades K-8. This month, make fake snow out of baking soda and shaving cream.

Take and Make – Mini Art Exhibit: Tuesday, June 7, 10 a.m., for School Age (grades K-5) and Little Learners (ages 3-5). Help announce this year’s summer reading theme by painting your interpretation of “Oceans of Possibilities.” Register to receive a mini canvas and

paint set. Once you’ve painted your canvas, bring it back to the library for display and get a raffle ticket.

Hatch the Chickens: The library’s newly-hatched chickens will remain at the library until June 7, when they head back to the farm. All are welcome to pay a visit.

Switch Game Tournament: Grades 6-12: Saturday, May 28, 2 p.m. All skill levels are welcome. A trophy will go to the winner.

Adult Programs: Author Event!: Tuesday, May 31, 6:30 p.m. Author and local resident Jack Matthews will give a presentation about his latest book, *Arte Perdida*. Books will be available for purchase and to be signed.

Meet & Greet with New Director Tim Kellogg: Wednesday, June 1, 5 p.m. Meet the library’s new director. Light refreshments will be available, and registration is not required.

Take and Make – Mini Art Exhibit: Tuesday, June 7, 10 a.m. Help announce this year’s summer reading theme by painting your interpretation of “Oceans of Possibilities.” Register to receive a mini canvas and paint set. Once you’ve painted your canvas, bring it back to the library for display and get a raffle ticket.

Cookbook Club: The first Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m., starting June 7. Each month will have a loose theme; bring a dish and 12 copies of the recipe to share. Dishes should arrive ready to eat; the library will provide the plates and forks. People will sample and talk about each recipe and take home new ideas.

Focus on Fitness: Tuesday, June 14, 6:30 p.m. Certified personal trainer and nutrition coach Amie Meacham leads this program, which is for fitness novices as well as experts. This program meets the second Tuesday of the month in the library community room. Registration is required, space is limited and masks must be worn.

Stoned: This crash course in crystal and stone healing will take place Thursday, June 16, at 6 p.m. Learn the basics of crystals and stones, including cleansing, charging, healing properties, and more.

Artists Sought for Painting Event

The East Hampton Arts & Culture Commission will host a garden tour and plein air painting event, featuring six local private and community gardens, on Saturday, July 9. Local artists interested in participating in the plein air portion of the event must contact the East Hampton Arts & Culture Commission at arts@easthamptonct.org, or Melissa at 860-993-5311.

Artists will be able to set up at the gardens during the day of the tour to paint.

Watch for more details on the event. Visit www.artsforeasthamptonct.org for more information.



Photo Wall... East Hampton Middle School art teacher Carl Pastor recently created a photo wall to mark the return of the annual end-of-the-year eighth-grade semi-formal dance. The dance had been canceled the past two years due to COVID-19.

Age of Endurance – An Epoch Production

Epoch Arts is celebrating its 25th year of creating original art and theater, and from June 3-5 students will present an original two-act play called *Age of Endurance*.

The play focuses on the themes of hard work and committing to a task no matter how difficult or tired you become. When a storm hits a small island community, the islanders’ true and honest way of life is put into jeopardy as they are faced with two options: Hold fast to the truth and in the goodness of their work, or to take the easy way out. When a colorful group of strangers, led by the notorious Red

Dragon, land upon the island, the weary islanders must decide if their life of community, truth, and honest living can stand up to what these strangers offer them. The threads of their community and their elder’s tapestry, which is filled with the stories of old, are put to the test when they are offered an easy life filled with lies and deceit.

Performances are June 3, 4 and 5, at 7 p.m. each night, at Epoch, 27 Skinner St. Admission is \$12. Reserve tickets by emailing elizabeth@epocharts.org. Visit www.epocharts.org for more information.

Community Music Event – Participants Sought

The East Hampton Music Department is welcoming all local instrumentalists to join this year’s community band event.

Rehearsals will be held Thursday, June 2, from 7-8 p.m., and Tuesday, June 7, from 5-6 p.m., at East Hampton High School. The performance will be held on Tuesday, June 7, at 6:30

p.m., at the high school. No matter what the skill level, everyone is encouraged to participate in the concert. To sign up, attend at least one of the rehearsals, where you will be given this year’s music. The band will play a march, a hymn, and a medley. If you need to borrow an instrument, that can be arranged at the rehearsals as well.

Non-musicians are invited to come and watch the performance.

HNCC at Town-Wide Tag Sale

Haddam Neck Covenant Church, located at 17 Haddam Neck Rd., is supporting the Chatham Historical Society’s upcoming Town Wide Tag Sale on June 18.

This is the society’s main fundraising event, which helps in maintaining the museums and one-room schoolhouse. The church is also offering the use of its property to people that do not have the space to participate at their residence. Donation of \$15 is still required, payable to Chatham Historical Society. Applications are available at the library and town clerk’s office.

Note on the application that you will be setting up at 17 Haddam Neck Rd., so they put it on the map. All interested parties should contact Debbie Markham at 860-918-1490 to indicate if they will be using the property.

Collecting for Tag Sale

St. Patrick Guild will hold its annual tag sale Saturday, June 4, from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. The Guild will collect donations Tuesday, May 31, Wednesday, June 1, and Thursday, June 2, from 9 a.m.-7 p.m. each day; and Friday, June 3, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. only. Do not leave donations at the door; they must be received by a guild member.

‘Bits and Pieces’ Sale

The Haddam Neck Congregational Church Ladies Aid will have a “Bits and Pieces” fabric and yarn sale booth at the East Hampton Congregational Church Spring Market on Saturday, May 28, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., at the church, 59 Main St.

Rifle Salutes for Memorial Day

Fowler Dix Park VFW Post 5095 has released its schedule of rifle salutes taking place this Sunday, May 29, and Monday, May 30. For more information, call the post commander at 860-463-3203 or the post quartermaster at 203-494-1477.

Sunday, May 29: 9:10-9:20 a.m., White Birth Cemetery; 9:35-9:45 a.m., Jones Hollow Cemetery (Marlborough); 9:55-10:05 a.m., Century Cemetery (Marlborough); 10:25-10:35 a.m., Waterhole Cemetery; 10:40-10:50 a.m., Tartia Cemetery; 10:55-11:05 a.m., Skinnerville Cemetery; 11:25-11:35 a.m., Selden Cemetery; 11:40-11:50 a.m., Hog Hill Cemetery.

Monday, May 30: noon-12:15 p.m., VFW Post 5095; 12:10-12:15 p.m., Lakeview Cemetery; 12:25-12:35 p.m., St. Patrick Church Cemetery; 12:45-12:55 p.m., Union Hill Cemetery; 1-1:15 p.m., Middle Haddam Veterans Memorial.

Also, the VFW will conduct a rifle salute at Marlboro Cemetery prior to Marlborough’s Memorial Day Parade.

Town-Wide Tag Sale

The Chatham Historical Society will again sponsor the Town-Wide Tag Sale Saturday, June 18. Applications are available at the library and the town clerk’s office at Town Hall.

Signs will be distributed and each participant’s location will be shown on over 300 maps given out the day of the sale.

Send applications to Debbie Day, 20 Mark Twain Drive, East Hampton, CT 06424, along with a check for \$15 in order to be included on the maps; make checks out to the Chatham Historical Society.

This event is a fundraiser that helps the society maintain the two museum buildings and one-room schoolhouse.

Invitation to Air Line Trail Toastmasters

All are invited to learn the art of public speaking by joining the Air Line Trail Toastmasters Club, which meets virtually on the second and fourth Thursday of the month, from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Email contact-6976@toastmastersclubs.org for more information.

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East Hampton Public Schools Top Ten Students of the Class of 2022



The East Hampton Board of Education is pleased to announce the Top Ten students in the graduating Class of 2022. The Valedictorian is Victoria Schiavoni. The Salutatorian is Benjamin Nafis.



Victoria Schiavoni, daughter of Jillian and Peter Schiavoni, is the valedictorian of the Class of 2022. As a junior, Victoria was the recipient of the Gettysburg College Book Prize and was inducted into the National Honor Society. Victoria was named as a National Merit Scholar Commended Student based on her excellent PSAT and SAT scores, meaning she scored among the top fifty thousand of over one and half million test takers nationally. An established leader of her class, Victoria served as her class president for two years. As secretary and treasurer for the French Club, she has contributed to various fundraisers for the nonprofit organization Roots of Development, which focuses on building sustainable projects for communities in need in the country of Haiti. A true scholar-athlete, Victoria competed on the varsity soccer team all four years of high school and was a sprinter for the track team for two years. Victoria will attend the University of Connecticut in the fall, where she was accepted into their Honors Program. Victoria plans to study biomedical engineering and has goals of working in the biotechnology field or becoming a doctor.



Benjamin Nafis, son of Nancy and John Nafis, is the salutatorian of the Class of 2022. As a junior, Benjamin was the recipient of both the Society of Women Engineers Certificate of Merit for Excellence in Mathematics & Science and the Yale Book Award. A two-year member of the National Honor Society and Interact Club and recipient of the 2022 CABE Leadership Award, Benjamin has proven to be a strong leader. He is the first chair alto saxophone player in the jazz band and a member of the Tri-M Music Honor Society. Benjamin is a four-year member of the varsity soccer team and the East Hampton travel team. Benjamin has a passion for mountain bike racing and is a category one junior mountain bike racer throughout New England since 2018. He helped organize and is the captain of the high school mountain bike team and serves as the assistant coach for the middle school cycling team. This past summer Benjamin helped facilitate and participated in the Great Divide Mountain Bike Route, which is a twenty five hundred mile off-road cycling route spanning the border of Canada to Mexico. Benjamin plans to attend the University of Connecticut this fall, where he will study biology with the goal of working on important advancements in the field of microbiology.



Juliet Byrne, daughter of Laurel and Michael Byrne, is ranked third in the Class of 2022. In her junior year, Juliet was the recipient of the Clarkson University Achievement Award, which is presented each year to a student who demonstrates outstanding leadership qualities and is recognized by their peers and the school faculty as being a positive contributor to their school and community. Juliet is the historian of the National Honor Society and a three-sport varsity athlete in cross country, indoor track, and outdoor track. Juliet is also a member of the Interact Club. Juliet is most proud of her personal style and how it has developed throughout the past few years. She has been able to develop a curated closet filled with thrifted clothes through spending hours in thrift stores and creating outfits that display her unique style. This fall, Juliet will attend Bennington College, where she will major in psychology.



Jennifer Tripp, daughter of Anastasia and David Tripp, is ranked fourth in the Class of 2022. In her junior year, Jennifer was the recipient of the University of Rochester Frederick Douglass and Susan B. Anthony Award, which is presented each year to a student who is committed to understanding and addressing difficult social issues and is dedicated to community action. Jennifer is a member of the National Honor Society, serves as the historian for the Spanish Club, and is on the public library Teen Advisory Board. Additionally, Jennifer is a member of the Flag Team, Environmental Club, and the Student Ambassadors. She also volunteers her time as a library intern at the high school. Jennifer is goal keeper and co-captain of the varsity soccer team as well as the co-captain and a four-year member of the tennis team. Jennifer is proud to have served as team captain and values the connections she made with her teammates. This fall, Jennifer will attend Eastern Connecticut State University, where she was accepted into the Honors Program. She will study political science with the goal of eventually becoming a lawyer.



Chris Anderson, son of Andrea and Chad Anderson, is ranked fifth in the Class of 2022. In his junior year, Chris was the male recipient of the Innovation & Creativity Award Program Award, which is presented each year to students who are leaders in their school and community and demonstrate outstanding achievement in innovation, creativity, or entrepreneurship. Chris is a member of the National Honor Society and a member of the varsity soccer and tennis teams. Chris is also a member of the East Hampton Environmental, Interact, French, Yearbook and Business Clubs. Chris is most proud of all the projects he was able to complete with the Environmental Club while at East Hampton High School, helping to keep the school clean and environmentally friendly. This fall, Chris will attend The University of Connecticut. He will study environmental science with the goal of learning ways to maintain the sustainability of the planet.



Annin Daley, daughter of Alison and Kevin Daley, is ranked sixth in the Class of 2022. In her junior year, Annin was the recipient of the George Eastman Young Leaders Award, which is presented each year to a student who demonstrates strong leadership experience at school and in the community, has high grades, takes challenging courses, and has extensive involvement in extracurricular activities. Annin is a member of the varsity cross country team and has been honored as 2nd Team All-Conference for the past two years. She has also been a member of the East Hampton High School concert band and is a member of the Tri-M Music Honor Society. Annin is also the National Honor Society secretary, a Board of Education student representative, a member of FSC North Premier Soccer, a youth soccer coach for Coerver CT East ball skills program, and a member of the Student Ambassadors program at EHHS. Annin is most proud of the fact that she has been able to balance a busy schedule—including soccer, coaching, school activities, and her academics—while reaching the goals she set for herself as a freshman. Making the top ten has reassured Annin that her hard work has paid off. This fall, Annin will attend Castleton University, where she was accepted into the Honors Program. She will study nursing with the goal of eventually becoming an ICU nurse practitioner.



Sarah Johnson, daughter of Cathy and Alex Johnson, is ranked seventh in the Class of 2022. In her junior year, Sarah was the recipient of the Suffolk Book Award, which is presented each year to a student who is committed to education and the school community. Sarah is the President of the Interact Club and an area representative for Interact District Board 7970 of Southern Connecticut. Sarah is also a performer for the color guard and a member of National Honor Society, the Feminism Club, and the Gender Sexuality Alliance. Sarah is also a member of the girls' tennis team and the Drama Club; she is also the secretary of the Next Generations Board. Sarah is proud that she has taken advantage of all opportunities in high school, including learning how to spin a flag, garden, and plan events, while she remains optimistic about the new and unknown. Sarah would like to thank her family for supporting her through high school, especially during the pandemic. She would also like to thank Mrs. Keska for sharing her love of community service with students and inspiring Sarah to become involved with community service projects. This fall, Sarah will attend The University of Colorado at Boulder, where she was accepted into the Global Engineering Academic Program and will study civil engineering.



Jenna Tigner, daughter of Angela and Mark Tigner, is ranked eighth in the Class of 2022. As a junior, Jenna was the recipient of the Rensselaer Medal based on her demonstration of excellence in mathematics and science. A leader in her class, Jenna was inducted into the National Honor Society as a junior, where she currently serves as the president during her senior year. Well-rounded and involved in her school and community, Jenna is a member of the Youth Forum, Student Ambassadors and Interact Club. Jenna is also an original member and the president of the Bring Change 2 Mind Club, where the goal is to normalize talking about mental health and end the stigma surrounding it. Jenna also works at the Belltown Discovery Center Daycare, where she is the head afternoon teacher. She enjoys working in the Toddler 2 room and making connections with families. This fall, Jenna will attend the University of New Haven, where she was accepted into the dual degree program. She plans to earn her bachelors in forensic science and masters in cellular and molecular biology. Jenna hopes to become a crime laboratory analyst.



Elizabeth MacDonald, daughter of Lynn and Scott MacDonald, is ranked ninth in the Class of 2022. As a junior, Elizabeth was the recipient of the Rochester Institute of Technology Computing Medal and was inducted into the National Honor Society. Elizabeth is a two-year member and editor for the Yearbook Club and is a member of the Interact Club, the public library Teen Advisory Board, and the Student Ambassadors. Elizabeth is a three-season athlete. She served as the team captain for the varsity basketball team and was co-captain for the varsity soccer and tennis teams in her senior year. This past spring, Elizabeth was the recipient of the 2022 CIAC Scholar Athlete Award, which is presented to two seniors each year whose academic and athletic careers have been exemplary and who possess high levels of integrity, self-discipline, and courage. Elizabeth is especially proud to have been able to represent her school both academically and as an athlete. This fall, Elizabeth will attend the University of Connecticut, where she was accepted into the Honors Program. She plans to become an advanced practice registered nurse.



Kaitlyn Baran, daughter of Angella Stella, is ranked tenth in the Class of 2022. In her junior year, Kaitlyn was the recipient of the Clarkson University Leadership Award, which is presented each year to a student who demonstrates outstanding leadership qualities and is recognized by their peers and the school faculty as being a positive contributor to their school and community. In her senior year, Kaitlyn was selected by the faculty as the recipient of the Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizen Award based on her dependability, service, leadership and patriotism. Kaitlyn is a member of the Interact Club, Spanish Club, and Art Club. She has been a medicinal administrator for Cat Tales Rescue since 2020. Kaitlyn is most proud of the large number of obstacles and personal challenges she has overcome thus far; this achievement has encouraged her to keep up her hard work. This fall, Kaitlyn will attend The University of Connecticut, where she was accepted into the Honors Program. She will study animal science with the goal of eventually becoming a veterinarian and opening up her own practice.

East Hampton • East Hampton

Dean's List

Isabella Marie Diaz of East Hampton made the spring 2021 Dean's List at Eastern Connecticut State University.

Dean's List

Victoria Kelpen of East Hampton made the spring 2022 Dean's List at Nazareth College in Rochester, N.Y.

Hike at Cranberry Bog

The American Hiking Society has designated the first weekend in June as National Trails Day and hikers and riders will find nearly every town in the state hosting outdoor events. In East Hampton, there will be an informational walk on the Air Line Trail, starting at Cranberry Bog, at 9 a.m. Saturday, June 4.

The trail surface is fine for wheelchairs, and dogs on leashes are welcome. Station visitors will be given a ticket, and presenting tickets from all four to the Cranberry Bog station will constitute eligibility for a prize drawing late in the morning. Included in the prizes are gift certificates for a bike helmet at Airline Cycles, a massage at True Wellness Massage, a certificate from Dunkin' Donuts, and a six-pack of non-alcoholic beer.

Drawing participants do not need to be East

Hampton residents.

Also in East Hampton that weekend, there will be a 15-to 20-mile gravel grinder (easy) bike ride on Sunday, June 5. There are still spots available on the gravel grinder and pre-registration is required: see trailsday.org for more information.

Neighboring towns are also featuring events. For instance, on Sunday, Portland is hosting an educational walk, and Colchester is hosting a birding hike followed on Sunday by a walk to Norton Park. Visit trailsday.org for information on these and all Connecticut weekend events.

Resident Graduates

Samantha Zimmerman of Middle Haddam recently graduated from Stonehill College in Easton, Mass.

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RE4-16-22

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RE7-23-21

Laura Stack's 19-year-old son, Johnny, died by suicide on November 20, 2019, after becoming psychotic from dabbing high-THC marijuana concentrates.

Following the death of her beloved child, Laura vowed to educate parents, teens, and communities about the dangers of today's high-THC marijuana on adolescent brain development, mental illness, and

JUNE 6, 2022 6-7:30 P.M.
the dangers of today's marijuana

A Virtual Presentation by Laura Stack, founder and owner of Johnny's Ambassadors

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/110275940923102992>

Please follow the link below to view. This presentation is free. If your child is going to watch, we encourage a parent or caregiver to be present to answer any questions they may have.

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/110275940923102992>

RE5-27-22

LYME BITES

Awareness and Early Detection Are Key to Preventing Lyme Disease...

- After coming in from outside, immediately put your clothes in the dryer for 10 minutes. This will dry out and kill any ticks on or in the clothing.
- Do a full tick check, getting any ticks off as early as possible. If a tick is found embedded, pull it out by using fine point tweezers at the head, do not squeeze the body and send all the fluids in the tick into the person it is attached to.
- If you find an attached tick save it. Put it in a container with a moist cotton ball, so if you start to feel sick or get a rash the tick can be sent to a lab to see what infections it has.
- Don't wait or assume Lyme disease is hard to catch and easy to cure, as nothing can be further from the truth!

May Is Lyme Disease Awareness Month

Here are some facts, you may or may not know:

- The CDC estimates 476,000 Americans get Lyme disease a year. That breaks down to 9154 cases per week or 1308 cases per day!
- Ticks are very active right now, and the nymph tick is so small it is the size of a poppy seed and not only hard to see, but hard to feel crawling on you. Make sure and do a thorough tick check after coming in from outside, and use Permethrin on clothing and shoes for added protection.
- Lyme disease is spread by more than just ticks. It has been reported and found to be spread by mosquitoes, fleas, biting flies, from mother to baby in the womb, through breast milk and has been detected in vaginal fluid as well as sperm.
- Tick bites are painless, so you certainly won't feel one. What's more is that less than 50% of people will end up with the classic "bullseye" rash. Many will end up with an oval or round shaped solid blemish area, or in many cases there is no rash at all. In the case there is a rash, it will be warm to the touch. If you start to feel flu like symptoms get to a doctor.
- Many patients with chronic Lyme disease are profoundly debilitated, with quality of life issues. Most severe symptoms reported are: fatigue 54%, sleep impairment 38%, constant muscle and joint pain 38%, neuropathy 34%, cognitive impairment 28%, memory loss 27% gastrointestinal issues 25%, headaches 19%, twitching 9% and heart related issues 9%.

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RE4-29-22

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CIT5-26-22

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CIT5-5-22

Marlborough • Marlborough

Veteran, Agent Orange Victim to be Honored in Parade

By Jack Lakowsky

Dolores May, widow of the late Ted May, a Marlborough Vietnam veteran who died of Agent Orange-related ALS in 2019, said her husband would've been honored about the posthumous honors he's been bestowed.

"I'm very proud of him," Dolores told the *Rivereast* on Monday. "We're all so proud of him. He went through so much in Vietnam. I'm glad he's getting this honor."

The Marlborough American Legion will honor May in a ceremony directly following Monday's Memorial Day Parade.

The legion has asked Ted's friends and family to comment on his legacy, Marlborough First Selectman Greg Lowrey said in an email.

Ted lived in town most of his life and was heavily involved, serving the Marlborough Youth Athletic League, the American Legion, as a charter member of the local VFW and various boards and commissions, including 12 years on the Board of Selectmen.

Ted served in the US Army and was honorably discharged as a medic in the 9th infantry in Vietnam. Upon returning he was stationed at Valley Forge General Hospital in Pennsylvania, the largest military hospital at the time.

Born in New Britain, Ted grew up in Newington.

According to his obituary, Ted was a lifetime member of the Disabled American Veterans and a leader in the state's Democratic Party.

Ted had a distinguished career in banking. He was VP of Connecticut Bank & Trust, Fleet

Bank, senior VP of Citizens Bank, TD Bank and Farmington Bank. He was active in the Government Finance Officers of CT, the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities and the Council of Small Towns.

Like countless Vietnam servicepeople, Ted was exposed to a highly herbicidal brew containing dioxin – commonly known as Agent Orange.

The U.S. government employed Agent Orange during the conflict. Nearly 50 years after the war's end, many veterans are dealing with the severely adverse health effects of the toxin, linked to cancers, diabetes, birth defects and other disabilities, according to the Aspen Institute.

The Red Cross estimates three million Vietnamese people have been affected by dioxin, including at least 150,000 born with serious birth defects. Millions of Americans and Vietnamese are still dealing with, sometimes fatal, after-effects.

The herbicide defoliated millions of acres of forest and farmland, with huge tracts of land unusable to this day. Agent Orange was banned in the U.S. in 1971.

As a trained medic, Ted knew something was up when he was exposed to the toxin. Dolores said he brought his concerns to his superiors.

"He was told his government would never do anything to hurt him," Dolores said. Dolores met Ted when she was 18. They were married 47 years. They had two sons, who gave them nine grandkids.

In the last years of his life, Ted battled a debilitating case of ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig's disease, caused by his exposure to Agent Orange.

"He was sick for many years," Dolores said. "Most things you get from [Agent Orange], he got." She said ALS is a horrible disease she wouldn't wish on anyone.

He may have struggled in his last years, but Ted never regretted serving his country, Dolores said.

"I was angry he had to go through this," Dolores said. "It wasn't fair."

After he passed, Ted was given a very special honor—a bridge was named for him on Route 2. Commuters will recognize the sign near Exit 12, eastbound over West Road.

The bridge's official handle is the "Theodore J. May, Jr. Memorial Bridge," according to state Department of Transportation (DOT) documents. The bridge was named last year.

Phil Paternasto, a friend and high school classmate of Ted's, helped get the naming approved.

The two were acquainted in school but became closer after reuniting on their class's 50th reunion planning committee.

"He was the type of person who was very outgoing, very personable," Paternasto said Tuesday. Paternasto frequently visited Ted in the veteran's final days.

Paternasto said he greatly admires Dolores and the rest of the May family, praising their perseverance and strength. He said ALS is an immense strain on family and friends.

Paternasto and another of Ted's schoolmates reached out to the DOT about naming a local bridge after him. Paternasto said COVID delayed the process, but it was an altogether easy thing to do.

"If you have an idea to do it, do it," he said of naming a roadway or bridge after an important person.

"If someone's done charitable things, good things for the town they live in, they should be honored," Paternasto said.

Paternasto said he was "ecstatic" when the state approved the request. Each time he drives by the sign he feels pride, a feeling he shares with Dolores.

Town chief Lowrey, quoting Abraham Lincoln, said Memorial Day is a day to honor vets who gave "the last full measure of devotion."



Ted May, a Marlborough veteran who in 2019 lost his life to ALS, is being recognized for his service to his town and country in Monday's Memorial Day Parade. It's not the first time he's been honored. The Route 2 bridge over West Road was recently named for him.

Lowrey, also a veteran, said the holiday also honors the families of deceased servicepeople, that they "bear a burden only [they] can understand."

"We are grateful to the support you gave your service member, so they could carry out the mission the mission of protecting the rest of us," Lowrey said to families of veterans. "Those flying a US flag on Memorial Day are reminded to fly it at half-mast until noon, and full staff for the rest of the day."

Marlborough Town Hall is accepting worn U.S. flags, Lowrey said.

Dolores said she hopes the attention given to Ted "makes more people aware that although we lose our troops in combat, we also lose them to PTSD and Agent Orange."

"Families go through a lot taking care of vets," she continued. "It's heartbreaking what they go through."

Of her late husband, Dolores said he "was just a wonderful person. He loved his family, his country, Marlborough. He deserves the honor, and so does all of our military."

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.

Adult Programs: Barre/Pilates: Mondays, 5-5:45 p.m., June 6-27 or Wednesdays, 5:30-6:15 p.m., June 1-29. Class instruction is virtual or in person. Fee for Mondays is \$60, and fee for Wednesdays is \$75. For both sessions, there is an \$18 drop-in fee per week.

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

Yoga: Mondays, June 6-27, 6-7 p.m., or Tuesdays, June 7-28, 9:30-10:30 a.m. Class instruction is virtual or in person. Fee for either session is \$60, or an \$18/week drop-in option.

Yogalates: Thursdays, June 2-30, 9:30-10:30 a.m. All levels welcome; bring a mat. Class instruction is virtual or in person. Fee is \$75 for resident, or an \$18/week drop-in option.

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.

Pickleball: Wednesdays through Sept. 28, 9-11 a.m., at the Blish Park tennis courts. No fee.

Youth Programs: Netto Summer Day Camp: For grades K-7. June 20-Aug. 12 at Blish Park. Campers will enjoy camp games, arts & crafts, swimming, sports, field trips and special events. All campers are supervised by counselors and lifeguards trained in CPR/First Aid. Fee per week is \$175/resident, \$185/non-resident.

Swim Lessons: Will begin the week of June 27. All lesson levels are offered. All lessons are held at Blish Park. Fee: \$65/resident, \$70/non-resident.

Lego: June 27-July 1, at Marlborough Elementary School. **Minecraft Engineering,** for

ages 5-7, is 8:30-11:30 a.m., and **Minecraft Master Engineering,** for ages 7-12, is noon-3 p.m. Fee: \$145/resident, \$150/non-resident.

Skyhawks Basketball Camp: June 27-July 1. Ages 5 and 6, meet 9 a.m.-noon; fee is \$140/resident, \$145/non-resident. Ages 7-12 meet 9 a.m.-3 p.m., and fee is \$170/resident, \$175/non-resident.

Music Lessons Summer: July 5-26, at MES. Private lesson instruction on band instruments will be provided. Lessons are a half hour in length and will occur on the same day and time signed up for. Slots are available from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Fee is \$135/resident, \$140/non-resident.

Acrylic Landscape Painting: July 5-7, 9-11 a.m., at MES, for grades 3-6. Fee: \$80/resident, \$85/non-resident.

Paint like a Famous Artist: July 5-7, noon-1 p.m., at MES, for grades 1-2. Fee: \$40/resident, \$45/non-resident.

Skyhawks Multi-Sport Camp (Soccer, Baseball and Basketball): July 5-8, 9 a.m.-noon, at Blish Park. There is a camp for ages 7-10, and a camp for ages 4-6 (Mini-Hawk). Fee: \$109/resident, \$114/non-resident.

Summer Running Training Camp: For grades 7-12. Session 1 meets July 11-14, Session 2 from July 25-28, and Session 3 from Aug. 1-4. Time is 8:30-10:30 a.m. each day. Camp is held at the RHAM High School track. Fee is \$80/resident, \$85/non-resident. Discount is given if registering for more than one session; contact Parks and Rec. for more info.

Watercolor Painting: July 12-14, 9-11 a.m., at MES, for grades 3-6. Fee: \$80/resident, \$85/non-resident.

Pee Wee Craft Corner: July 12-14, noon-1 p.m., at MES, for grades 1-2. Fee: \$45/resident, \$50/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.

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).

Dean's List

Marlborough residents Noah Dubitzky and Rachel Woodmancy each made the winter 2022 Dean's List at Southern New Hampshire University in Manchester, N.H.

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On the Road, Again and Again.... Last year Marlborough residents Mary Morse and her husband Walter went on a classic American road trip, an odyssey across the Lincoln Highway, the first road for automobiles built across the United States, from New York to California. The couple visited several different impressive sites and landmarks, including a memorial to victims of the Holocaust in Tennessee, magnificent rock formations out West and mile markers built by the Boy Scouts a century ago. In the photo, Mary leans on a mural in Bucyrus, Ohio, a work so realistic they said they thought it was real! Mary and Walter said they're lifelong travelers, with no plans of stopping.

Senior Center News and Notes

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

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

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

Sip and Paint with MAC

Marlborough Arts Center will hold a "Sip and Paint" evening event Wednesday, June 22, from 6-9 p.m., at the center, 231 N. Main St.

Participants will paint and stencil their own canvas tote and matching zippered pouch. It is easy to do. Each tote is made of heavy canvas with a genuine leather handle.

Price is \$65. For more information and to reserve a spot, go to www.balsamdesignct.com.

Resident Graduates

Marlborough resident Charles Dursin recently received a bachelor's degree from Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Worcester, Mass.

Green to Collect Weathered Flags

State Rep. Robin Green (R-55) is encouraging residents to 'Retire Your Worn American Flags' at Town Hall, 26 N. Main St. Flags will be collected through Friday, June 10.

The U.S. Flag Code specifies that the flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning. All flags collected during this time will be given to a local veterans' organization for a proper retirement ceremony.

For more information, contact Green at 800-842-1423 or Robin.Green@housegop.ct.gov.

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Community Columbarium Info Session

The Cemetery Committee will present an information session about the Marlborough Community Columbarium on Thursday, June 9, from 7-8 p.m., at the West Road firehouse. The columbarium has been installed at Marlboro Cemetery and is now available for sales.

Residents are invited to attend and gather information about this addition to the town cemetery.

Arts Center Members' Show Open Weekly

Marlborough Arts Center's Members' Art Show will be open every Friday through Sunday through June 5, from 1-4 p.m. each week. The show is in the gallery, 231 N. Main St.

This show includes paintings, sculpture, pottery, jewelry, fiber art, and wood-turned works. Works can also be viewed at www.marlbrougharts.org.

For more information, leave a voice message at 860-467-6353, or email marlbroughartscenter@gmail.com.

Artist's Works at Town Hall

Carole Jeffries, an award-winning national artist, is exhibiting a selection of her works at Town Hall from now and through the end of December. The exhibit is open to all who visit the Town Hall during its normal opening hours.

Jeffries is a member of Marlborough Arts Center. For those who might be interested in purchasing any of her works, means of contacting Jeffries directly are available at Town Hall.



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Greater Together Community Fund Seeks Volunteers

The Marlborough Greater Together Community Fund Advisory Committee is in search of additional committee members.

The committee is comprised of Marlborough residents who work to identify community needs and to ensure that distribution of funds yields the greatest benefit to town residents.

To serve on the committee, applicants must be residents of Marlborough, not serve as an elected town official, and be at least 14 years old. Typically, evening meetings are 1-2 hours

a month as determined by the committee. Occasionally, 1-2 hours of additional work outside the committee meeting is required. Previous experience in community organizations or in grant-making is not required.

If interested in joining the committee, submit a simple application form for consideration. To apply, visit www.hfpg.org/marlboroughcf. For more information, send a message to marlbroughcommunityfund@gmail.com. Deadline for applications is June 15.

Memorial Day Parade Info

The annual Memorial Day parade will take place this year, after being absent for two years due to COVID-19. The parade is organized by the American Legion Post 197 in conjunction with the town of Marlborough.

A short Memorial Day service will take place at the rear of the town cemetery off Route 66. Flowers will be presented at the memorial, followed by taps and a firing squad salute. After the short ceremony, the parade will step off at approximately 1:30 p.m. The parade will

originate in front of Marlborough Elementary School on School Drive.

The parade will proceed to South Main St. and then march north to the Marlborough Green, after crossing Route 66. At the Green, a Memorial Day service will be held.

Participation will include bands from RHAM, the Marlborough Fire Department, Connecticut Valley Field Music, the Scouts, youth groups, East Hampton VFW, Marlborough American Legion and more.

Richmond Library News & Notes

Richmond Memorial Library, located at 15 School Drive, has announced the following pieces of news. For more information, call the library at 860-295-6210 or visit richmondlibrary.info. To register for programs, call the library or email richmondprograms@gmail.com.

Seed Library: The library has a new seed library available to browse. There is a binder alongside the storage unit with information about each seed currently available; help yourself to the information sheets when you take seeds. People should record which seeds they take, as well as what town they live in. There is a limit of five seed packets per person, with a maximum of one per type. The library will accept unopened and partially open and used seed packets, but is refraining from accepting seeds outside of their original packaging for the

time being, to avoid issues concerning cross-pollination.

The World in a Coffee Cup: Thursday, June 9, 6:30 p.m. The presentation will include four main areas of interest: Growing, Roasting, Expressing, and Reading Labels. There will be a blind "cupping" (taste test) following the talk and then a coffee dessert bar where patrons can sample freshly brewed coffee (including decaf), chocolate-bomb coffee, and gourmet baked goods. Bags of Wild Women Coffee will be available for purchase. Registration is required.

Babytime Bounce and Rhyme: Wednesdays through June 22, 10:30 a.m., for babies and toddlers ages birth to 2, and their caregivers. Registration is highly recommended as space is limited. Drop-ins will be permitted if space allows.

Second Blessings Thrift Shop

Second Blessings Thrift Shop, located on the ground floor at the Marlborough Congregational Church, 35 South Main St., is open Fridays from noon-3 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m.-noon. Second Blessings accepts donations during shopping hours.

The store now offers spring and summer merchandise along with vintage and antiques, including side chairs and furniture, toys and games, puzzles, baking and cooking, entertaining, decorating, gift-giving, and more. The

Holiday Room is open and showcases Christmas and winter holidays. A large collection of like-new Vera Bradley handbags was recently donated, as was newly arrived jewelry including name-brand and artisan pieces.

New merchandise is offered for sale every week. Unique items are sold year-round through eBay at bit.ly/MCCebay.

For more information, call the church office at 860-295-9050. Masks are recommended. The shop will be closed May 27 and 28, and June 4.

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Andover • Andover

Tweaked Budget Heads to Referendum

By Sloan Brewster

On Tuesday, residents agreed to send a newly tweaked \$12.73 million budget – a 2.44% or \$302,929 increase over current spending – to referendum.

Tuesday, at the second town meeting held so far this year, voters agreed to pass the budget onto referendum 61 to 30.

A \$12.89 million proposal – a \$466,768, or 3.76%, increase – failed to meet voter satisfaction at a referendum last Tuesday.

The Board of Finance returned to the drawing board following day and made adjustments including reducing spending and increasing revenue, Marc Brinker, finance board chair told the assembled crowd Tuesday.

The board reduced expenses by \$163,839 and added \$114,861 to revenue, Brinker said. The additional \$144,861 is a payout from the state to cover losses the town might have incurred from a 32.46 mills cap imposed by the state on

car taxes. While the proposed mill rate is below that at 31.91 mills, the town still gets the money, Brinker said.

“It turns out it’s not above the cap but this is a windfall for the town, so we were going to take it,” he said.

The board reduced expenses for Andover Elementary School by \$50,000, Brinker said. Prior to the failed referendum, it had knocked off \$20,000.

With the new numbers, the school budget now translates to \$4.052 million – a \$150,387, or 3.85% – increase over the current year.

On the town side, cuts the board made include eliminating an \$18,839 expense for a part time employee for the Department of Public Works and reducing several fund allocations, including \$5,000 from an insurance fund and \$25,000 from contingency.

“It doesn’t leave us with a lot of margin if

something unexpected happens,” Brinker commented on the contingency reduction.

The finance board took \$15,000 from the line item for equipment for the Public Works Department and \$20,000 from Fire Department equipment, Brinker said. It reduced tree removal fund by \$25,000, a move Brinker call “a little risky” and cut \$5,000 from building maintenance.

After the tweaks, capital spending for major projects hits \$925,000, an increase of \$50,000 over the current year, Brinker said.

“This is where the Board of Finance, at last week’s meeting, made most of the changes to the budget,” Brinker said. “It still leaves us with a pretty strong commitment to replacing and repairing town infrastructure.”

Drivers Brinker listed for the town budget include an additional full time employee for public works, a spike in utility and energy costs and increased staffing in the building and land

use office.

Speakers mostly decried numbers they said were too high, with some pointing fingers at the school budget.

Resident Marcie Miner made a motion to cut the school budget by 10%, for which she received a round of laughter. Moderator Wally Barton said she had to put a number to her motion. The \$400,000 motion she then made was received with more laughter.

Resident Bill Derosiers asked where she proposed to take those funds, but was not given an answer.

The motion failed with 25 ‘yes’ votes and 65 ‘no’ ones, the announcement of which was met with whoops and applause.

A motion by resident Don Denley to knock the Public Works Department budget by \$50,000 was voted down by a standing vote.

The next referendum will take place on June 7.

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 June 8. The senior food pantry is open the opposite Wednesdays, also from 9-9:30 a.m.; next date is June 1.

Prayer Requests: All are invited to email the church 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.

June Bingo & Baskets: Friday, June 24. Dinner at 5:30 p.m., bingo at 6:30 p.m.

Town Seeks Poet Laureate

The town is looking for its very first poet laureate, which will serve as an advocate for poetry and promote the appreciation of and participation in poetry and literary arts activities among Andover’s residents.

Applicants must be at least 16 years old and must be a resident of the town for at least the past three years prior to the application deadline.

Application deadline is July 1. Following a panel review in August, the winning poet will be notified in mid-September. The winner’s term will run Oct. 1, 2022-Sept. 30, 2024, and his/her duties will include making at least three public presentations during town events each year. Reappointment is a possibility. The town reserves the right to revoke the tenure of the poet laureate if he or she fails to fulfill their duties or is involved in criminal or unethical ac-

tivities.

Applicants will submit a cover letter, resume and 3-4 selections of their work, in paper format or electronically. The winner will be chosen by a review panel of one literary professional, Board of Selectmen, and the Andover Library Board members.

The selection criteria are: noteworthy distinction within the field of poetry; excellence of the poet’s work; commitment to fostering appreciation and participation in poetry. Toward the end of the selection process, finalists will be asked in for an interview by the review panel to assist in making a final determination.

Applications may be submitted via email to andoverctpubliclibrary@gmail.com, or by mail to: Andover Public Library, Attn: Poet Laureate Committee, P.O. Box 117, Andover, CT 06232.

Donations Sought for Plant/Garden Equipment Sale

Do you have gardening/yard stuff that’s in decent shape, but you just want to get rid of it? Do you have house plants you are overrun with? Are you dividing your hostas, day lilies or other yard plants?

Andover Congregational Church will hold a Plant Sale/Garden Equipment Tag Sale on Saturday, June 4, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. – and organizers are looking for garden-related donations, i.e., hand tools, pots, hanging baskets, pruners,

statues, wind chimes, fountains, etc.

The church has consigned a selection of perennials that will be for sale as well.

Also, if people have yard stuff they want to sell, they can rent a space on the lawn for \$20.

The church is accepting donations for this sale daily through June 2.

Call the church at 860-742-7696 for more information or to rent a space.

Manchester Resident Endorsed for Senate Bid

Manchester resident Jacqueline Crespan, minority leader of the town’s board of directors, was unanimously endorsed for state senate by delegates at last week’s 4th District Republican Convention.

The district includes Andover, Bolton, Glastonbury and Manchester. The senate seat is currently held by Democrat Steven Cassano. District Democrats have endorsed Manchester resident MD Masudur Rahman.

Crespan was nominated at the May 16 convention by former Manchester Mayor Lou Spadaccini. The nomination was seconded by Donald Palmer, Manchester Republican Town Committee chair.

“This unanimous support means the world to me and inspires me to work even harder,” Crespan said. “We have momentum and positive energy, and from now until Election Day, I will be talking to Democrats, Independents, Republicans and unaffiliated voters about why, as our next state senator, I will help to create a safer, more affordable Connecticut.”

“I have lived the American Dream,” added Crespan, who was born in Uganda during the dictatorship of Idi Amin. “I know what it is like to live without freedom. I love the United States, I love Connecticut, and I truly love public service. I want to bring my life experience to the State Capitol to be your voice. I will be a senator who listens to parents, to small business

owners, to seniors, and to our most vulnerable residents. I offer a change of course and fresh ideas and I look forward to meeting with families across our district to talk about our state’s future.”

Crespan has been a resident of Manchester for more than 23 years. She is a real estate investor who owns various apartment complexes in Manchester. Crespan has over 20 years of experience in the information technology field, and has held leadership positions such as lead software engineer and systems business analyst for primarily the insurance industry.

“I will be a voice for everyone,” Crespan said. “My life has been about confronting and overcoming challenges through hard work and perseverance. As your state senator, I will be fighting to improve your quality of life every day, and I will collaborate with people of all political parties to help move our state forward. I have already received positive feedback from people throughout our region, and I am excited about meeting voters and listening to their thoughts and concerns. Together, through positive dialogue and action, we will lift our state up.”

A graduate of Central Connecticut State University with a degree in computer science, Crespan is a member of the Golden Key National Honors Society.

For more information, visit www.jacqueline4ct.com.

Senior Citizen News & Notes

The following have been announced for Andover seniors, veterans and disabled. To attend any event, call senior coordinator Cathy Palazzi 860-916-6122 to register. Transportation available for all events, as well as shopping on Tuesdays, Foodshare/food pantry rides on Wednesday, and lunches on Fridays. For all YAH events, call Judy Knox at 860-643-6824; for all movie information, call Sue Schmidt at 860-604-1057; and for all trip information, call Georgia O’Brien at 860-742-9947. Visit andoverct.org for all senior events and information.

Senior Luncheon: Friday, May 27, at Town Hall. The meal will be outdoors, weather permitting. Cost is \$5. For a ride, call Palazzi.

Memorial Day Parade: Monday, May 30.

Fire Department Food Drive

The Andover Volunteer Fire Department will host a food drive to benefit the Andover Food Pantry.

Especially needed are cook-out essentials needed such as: hot dogs, hamburgers, chicken, ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise, relish, barbecue sauce, pickles, etc. Bring donations to the fire department at 11 School Rd. on Saturday, June 18, between 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Monetary contributions welcomed. Make checks payable to Andover Food Pantry.

Movie Coming Up

The 2002 movie *All Hail* will be shown in the Town Hall community room, 17 School Rd., on Wednesday, June 15, at 1 p.m. All are welcome to attend. Bring your own snacks and drinks.

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.

Transportation for seniors is available; call Cathy Palazzi at 860-916-6122.



Farewell, John... Andover seniors held a “farewell party” for Andover Elementary School Principal John Briody on Friday, May 13, in appreciation for the help he has been to the seniors these many years. Photo by Cathy Palazzi.

Obituaries

Colchester

Elizabeth Ann Ryan

Elizabeth Ann "Bette Ann" (Schutte) Ryan, 91, of Colchester, beloved sister, aunt, wife, mother, and grandmother, passed away Monday, May 23, at Middlesex Memorial Hospital. Born July 29, 1930, she was the daughter of the late Elizabeth (Saffrey) and Walter Schutte.



She was predeceased by her beloved husband of 43 years, Burton C. Ryan; her sisters, Marguerite (Radicchi) and Helen (Tiezzi); and nephew, Richard Tiezzi.

She leaves to remember her with love her children, Kathleen Ryan (Elliott Huron) of Trumbull, Robert Ryan of Colchester, Carol Barkett (Woodrow) of Maineville, Ohio, and Jeannine Savalle (Jeffrey) of Salem; grandchildren, Douglas Huron (Jennifer) of Jersey City, N.J., Mallory Huron of Trumbull, and Tara Quehl (Christopher) and Woodrow Barkett II, both of Cincinnati; as well as step-grandson, Jeffrey Savalle Jr. (Simone), of Salem; nephews, Arthur J. Tiezzi (Sylvia), Michael (Selina) Ryan, and Daniel Ryan; nieces, Linda Tiezzi Parrish and Sally Ryan; sister-in-law Miriam Ryan, and many great-nieces, nephews, and friends. As well, her family would like to acknowledge Paul and Marian Chreiman, dear neighbors and friends for over 30 years, for their faithful and loving kindness, companionship, and assistance, particularly in the last few years of her life.

"Bette Ann" grew up in Chester, on the farm of her maternal grandparents Ellen and Robert Saffrey and graduated from Chester High School in 1948. Shortly thereafter she moved with her mother to Westchester and worked until her marriage at Aetna Life & Casualty in Hartford. After their marriage in 1955, she and her husband moved to Bulkeley Hill Road and in 1957 to the home they built there, where she remained until her death. She attended the Colchester Federated Church and for many years was very involved in the Women's Fellowship there, as well as their Bell Choir and the Friends of the Cragin Memorial Library.

She enjoyed gardening, the beach, shopping, spending time with beloved family, and a good cup of coffee in the morning. She was until almost the end of her life the upholder and hostess of many family holiday traditions and celebrations. But more than anything, she was a lifelong baker, eventually earning the nickname "The Pie Queen" from her granddaughter Mallory (who, to her great delight, eventually "took up the torch" of holiday pie-making). In addition to her delicious pies, her "Aetna brownies," congo bars, apple brownies, cheesecake, sour cream coffee cake, and other treats are stuff of legend in her family and thanks to her precise recipes will remain so.

The family will receive friends at the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home, 167 Old Hartford Rd., Colchester, on Saturday, May 28, from 11 a.m.-noon, with a service immediately following. Burial will be at Linwood Cemetery, Colchester.

Donations in her memory may be made to the Colchester Federated Church or the American Heart Association.

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

Hebron

Phyllis Platinsky Tkacz

Phyllis Platinsky Tkacz, 74, of Hebron, passed away peacefully at home with her family by her side on Saturday, May 21, after a very courageous seven-month battle with cholangiocarcinoma. She was born July 22, 1947, the daughter of the late Louis and Filomena (Visone) Platinsky.



Phyllis grew up in Hartford and attended school in Hartford and Glastonbury. Phyllis stayed at home to take care of her children. When her children were older, Phyllis worked as a hairdresser and was later employed by Connecticut Bank and Trust. Phyllis finished her career with the State of Connecticut, Worker's Compensation Commission, Administrative Offices, as a personnel officer and retired in 2009.

Phyllis' life was full of family, friends and travel, visiting many locations in the U.S., Caribbean and Europe. Phyllis' adventures were often shared with the Tkacz family, who she enjoyed traveling with. Phyllis also enjoyed visiting her special friends, the Nava family, in New Mexico. Phyllis will be remembered for her compassion and love for her friends, especially Sharon Dzurich of Windsor Locks, who was her best friend and constant companion.

Phyllis was especially close to her sisters who shared with her many many special memories that will always be cherished. Phyllis enjoyed trips to the casino with her husband and sister, that were cleverly disguised with the phrase "lunch and errands." It was common knowledge that if you told Phyllis a "secret," you also told her sisters. The sisters loved and supported each other endlessly throughout life.

Phyllis was an inspiration to others. Phyllis gave her kindness and knowledge to many in need supporting others in their journey to better themselves. Phyllis adored her family and spent much of her free time making memories on family vacations to the beach in New Jersey, trips to Baltimore to visit her sister, and outings with her grandchildren to the beaches, parks and other special locations in Connecticut and Plattsburgh, N.Y.

Special family events were always celebrated with a picnic in the backyard or a special meal from Pasta Vita, her famous macaroni salad and cake with buttercream frosting. The memories made with Phyllis will be forever cherished.

Phyllis is survived by her loving husband, William C. Tkacz, as well as her daughter, Kari Glaude and son-in-law Jamie Glaude of Bolton, and son, William J. Tkacz of Culpepper, Virginia. Phyllis is predeceased by her sister, Angela Breen and nephews, Bryan Gilbert and Bruce Gilbert. Phyllis is survived by her siblings, sister Carole Gilbert of Lebanon, sister Elaine Kittredge and brother-in-law David Kittredge of Baltimore, Md., and brother Joseph Platinsky of Mattapoisett, Mass.

Phyllis loved to spend time with her grandchildren, Parker Glaude, Jordyn Cabral and Gwendolyn Glaude, creating memories and love that will never be forgotten. Phyllis is survived by her special nephews, Patrick Kittredge and Jeremy Kittredge; great-nephews, Justin Wright and Bryan Wright, and her goddaughter, Alison Caines. Phyllis had numerous grandchildren, including Kyle, Nicholas, Ryan, Aidan, Amelia, Thomas, Liam, William, Ireland, Christian and Emmett. Phyllis is survived by her niece, Dayna Wright, and many other nieces, nephews, cousins, and extended family who she loved dearly.

A funeral liturgy will be held at 10:30 a.m.

Saturday, May 28, at Saint Columba Church, 328 CT-66, Columbia. Burial will be private.

The family would like to extend our gratitude to the entire staff of NP15 Surgical Oncology of Yale New Haven Hospital; Smilow Cancer Center, especially Dr. Kevin Billingsley, M.D., Nicole Miller, P.A., Terri Diclementi, P.A., Dr. Andrew Putnam, M.D. Palliative Care; as well as the Visiting Nurse & Health Services of Connecticut, Hospice and Palliative Care Team, especially Erin Dunton RN, who took such impeccable and compassionate care of Phyllis.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Visiting Nurse & Health Services of Connecticut, 8 Keynote Drive, Vernon, CT 06066.

To share a memory or express a condolence to the Tkacz family, please visit www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

Colchester

David R. Daigle

David R. Daigle, 59, of Ocala, Fla., formerly of Colchester, passed away unexpectedly Sunday, Feb. 27. David was born in Geneva, N.Y., the son of the late Joseph and Bernadette Daigle.



David was a 1981 high school graduate of Bacon Academy in Colchester where he played basketball and participated in track and field. Shortly after high school David served our nation in the United States Air Force. After service, David shared his love of music, which took him to many places only his heart could understand.

He is survived by his son, Derek; his stepmother, Violet Daigle of Ocala, Florida; his sisters, Adrienne Graves and Suzanne Clifford of Port Charlotte, Fla., Marie Kuper of Hebron, Louise Griswold and her husband Michael of Lacey, Wash.; nieces and nephew, Shane Graves, Sherilyn Rauschkolb and her husband Benjamin, Timothy and Paul Kuper, Michael Griswold; and as well as many aunts, uncles and cousins.

In addition to his parents, David was predeceased by his nephew, Dillion Clifford.

David's family will have a memorial service on Monday, June 6, at 5:30 p.m., at the Elks Lodge #771, 44 Maynard St., Middletown. Family and friends are welcome to come. Burial will be private.

Marlborough

June E. Buckley

June E. (Tripp) Buckley, 86, of Marlborough and Hebron, beloved wife of 66 years to Arnold Buckley Sr., passed away peacefully Saturday, May 21, at Colebrook Village in Hebron, with her husband at her side. Born June 24, 1935, in Acushnet, Mass., she was the daughter of the late Carlton and Dorothy (Chateaufneuf) Tripp. June had worked as a hairdresser at the Cherry Department Store in New Bedford for many years.



Besides her beloved husband Arnold, she is survived by her son, Dale Buckley and wife Violet; grandchildren, Tyler (Emily) Buckley, Chantelle and Danielle Buckley; along with two great-grandsons, Solomon and Benjamin and her sister Sally Westmoreland (John).

She was predeceased by her sons, Arnold R. Buckley Jr. and Bryan R. Buckley.

Friends called at the Spencer Funeral Home, 112 Main St., East Hampton, on Thursday, May 26. A funeral service was held that morning in

the funeral home, followed by burial in the family plot in Marlboro Cemetery.

Arnold and the family would like to thank all of the caregivers who took amazing care of June the last few months.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the charity of the donor's choice.

To leave online condolences, please visit www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com.

Colchester

Richard R. Carli

Richard R. Carli, 78, of Colchester, passed away Tuesday, May 17. He was a beloved father, friend and car enthusiast.



Richard was born May 21, 1943, to the late John Carli and Carmella Fillipelli in Hartford. Richard graduated from Bacon Academy in 1965 and afterward, joined the Army during the Vietnam War.

Richard was a dedicated and hardworking man. He did whatever he had to, in order to provide for his family. In his down time, he loved cars! His friends could still tell stories about his blue Datsun 280Z. Richard was also an avid music lover, with a special appreciation for the Rolling Stones. He maintained his lifelong devotion to their music in particular.

Richard will be sorely missed by his children, Matthew Carli and his fiancée Ashley, Kerry and Adam Hoyt, and Scott and Liana Carli. He is further survived by the mother of their children, Barbara, as well as his grandchildren, Addison, Mason Hoyt, Mackenzie Hoyt, Lennox Carli and Logan Carli. Richard leaves behind a brother Geno Carli, and was predeceased by his brothers, David, Peter and Victor, and sisters, Gloria and Josephine.

A visitation will be held Thursday, June 2, from 10 a.m.-noon, at the Aurora McCarthy Funeral Home, 167 Old Hartford Rd., Colchester. A service will immediately follow in the New St. Andrew Cemetery, Gillettes Lane, Colchester.

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

Marlborough

Robert Perry Ulrich

We sadly announce the passing of Robert Perry Ulrich of Marlborough. Robert was born March 5, 1939, and died peacefully Wednesday, March 16, of a lengthy battle with lung and heart disease.



He spent his childhood in West Haven, where he thrived as an avid athlete at West Haven High School. He then joined the Marines. Oorah! Robert was born to Mildred (Perry) and Herbert Ulrich.

He is predeceased by his parents and sister Joan. Robert is survived by his life partner Joanne Hooper of 17 years.

He was also survived by his eldest son Dean and his wife Marianne of Bluffton, S.C.; his daughter Pamela and her husband Mark Fois of Oxford; his youngest son, Todd and wife Vanessa of Hollis, N.H.; his stepdaughter, Meredith Wolfrom of Melrose, Mass.; his stepson, Matthew Gasper and wife Debra of Granger, Ind.

Robert is also survived by his grandchildren Kaitlyn and her husband Kenneth Long of Reddington. Nicholas and his wife Brittany of Charlotte, S.C.; Courtney Ulrich of Brooklyn, N.Y., McKenna Belury and her partner Nicholas Barone of Seymour; Dana Ulrich of San Diego, Calif.; Daniela Fois of Mamaroneck, N.Y., and Stephanie (Fois) and her husband Andrew McCallister of Washington, DC., Sienna and Ayla Wolfrom of Melrose, Mass., Madelyn and Rose Gasper of Granger, Ind. Robert is also survived by his great-grandchildren Henry, Jacob and Max Long, Kelly Ulrich of Charlotte, S.C.

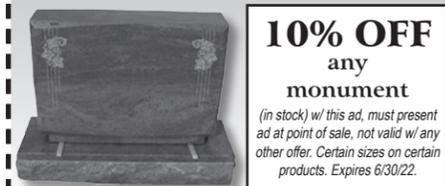
Robert worked in manufacturing for 40 years until he retired and passionately was the family genealogist, which he leaves behind an extensive legacy of a rich history.

Robert was an active member of various organizations such as the Mayflower Society, the Scottish Rites of Newington, VKVSW Association, the Shriners organization, where he volunteered to bring young children and families to the Shriners Hospital in Springfield, Mass. He was also a 32-degree Mason.

He was an active member of the Marlborough Congregational Church. He belonged to several

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Obituaries

church groups that supported giving back to the community.

Robert was an avid athlete playing softball and football. He was also an avid golfer and hiker all his life. He also crewed on sail boats in Connecticut and Florida. Robert led a highly active life.

The wake is Thursday, June 9, from 5-7 p.m., at Spencer Funeral Home on Main Street, East Hampton. A private funeral will be held the following day. Donations can be made in honor of Robert Ulrich at Shriners Hospital Boston: Love Shriners.org.

To leave online condolences you can go to www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com.

East Hampton

Howard W. Behm Jr.

Howard "Skip" W. Behm Jr., 76, of East Hampton, beloved husband of Susan (Swan) Behm, passed away Tuesday, May 17. Born in Middletown, he was the son of the late Howard Wes Behm and Ester (Tyler) Behm of Portland.



Skip is predeceased by his sister, Sharon Rosano of Portland, and is survived by sister, Debi Davis of the Virgin Islands; stepson, Ryan Reed and his partner Laural Lovey of Portland; a very Special Young Lady Bella Reed; several nephews, nieces, cousins; his devoted cat Jack; and a very close friend, "Partner in Crime, Best Bud" Jim Stavoli.

Skip was previously employed years ago as a woodshop teacher at Silver Lane School in East Hartford. He then went to work side by side with his father at Whitmore Behm Tool Company in Portland where he retired from. He enjoyed working on old cars, going to tag sales and refurbishing old tools. Skip served in the United States Army and was a member of the National Guard.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 22478, Oklahoma City, OK 73123 or Connecticut Human Society, 701 Russell Road, Newington, CT 06111

A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

To leave online condolences, please visit www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com.

Portland

Edward Anthony Moskey

Edward Anthony Moskey, 88, of Portland, beloved husband of Ann (Larson) Moskey, passed away in the early evening of Wednesday May 11. He was surrounded by his caring wife of nearly 64 years and family members. He was born in Middletown, son of the late Joseph and Mary (Kuzaro) Moskey.



Ed was a proud veteran serving with the U.S. Army and was employed with then-United Technologies Pratt & Whitney and International Fuel Cells for a combined service career of over 45 years, prior to his retirement. Although Ed never really 'retired,' He kept busy painting, woodworking, & repairing anything thrown his way, all upon request and all to perfection. In his spare time, you could find Ed golfing, organizing his workshop, watching the UConn Huskies and most importantly thoroughly enjoying time with family and friends.

Besides his wife Ann, Ed is survived by his son, David Moskey and his wife Lorraine of Bolton; daughter, Jane Harrington and her husband Joe of Shrewsbury, Mass.; daughter, Diane Coleman and her husband Michael of Portland; and son, Dan Moskey and his wife Maria of Apex, N.C.

Ed was also blessed with 10 grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren, whom he adored: Tim, Sarah, Chris, Molly, Matt, Kelly, Kenny, Katie, Jessica, Kevin, Ryley, Claire, Bodhi and Annie. Ed was fiercely proud of all his grandchildren and couldn't wait to cheer them on, whether it was at their basketball or softball games, or track and cross country meets, to name a few.

The grandkids learned a lot from Papa/Grampa but nothing more important than his famous "papa hook shot," the art of scratching a lottery ticket, how to dance the polka or chicken dance, and the fun of rummaging through his coin collection searching for that rare coin that he was always on the lookout for during their many

sleepovers together.

In addition to providing the family entertainment, one of his finest qualities was taking pride in his work, whistling while he worked, and never complaining about hard work. He knew how to improvise. Never say never with Dad/Papa around! He led by example.

Ed also leaves his brothers Frank, Ted, and sister, BettyAnn. Ed was predeceased by his brother Joe and sisters Genevieve and Regina. We also would like to acknowledge some of Ed's extended family – Jane (Pete) Mathieu, John & Marcia Larson, Ann & Bill Curry.

The Moskey family would like to sincerely thank the staff at Middlesex Memorial Hospital Comfort Care Unit 7th Floor for making Ed's last days more peaceful with their care, compassion, and support.

The funeral liturgy was held Tuesday, May 17, at St. Mary Church, 51 Freestone Ave., Portland. Burial with military honors followed at St. Mary Cemetery, 261 Marlborough St., Portland. Calling hours were held Monday, May 16, at Biega Funeral Home, 3 Silver St., Middletown.

Those who wish may send memorial contributions to the Alzheimer's Association at act.alz.org or Middlesex Hospital Hospice Unit, Middletown.

To share memories or express condolences online, please visit www.biegafuneralhome.com.

The good Lord willing and the creek don't rise – we will all be together again.

Marlborough

Paul Gene Anderson

Paul Gene Anderson, 75, of Marlborough, beloved husband and high school sweetheart of Bonnie (Kinghorn) Anderson, passed away peacefully at home Monday, May 16, with family by his side. Born Aug. 1, 1946, in Hartford, he was the son of the late Eric and Marjorie (Warner) Anderson Sr.



Paul was a 1964 graduate of RHAM, where he excelled in art and won many school and state awards. Paul was retired from Pratt & Whitney, where he had worked for over 40 years. Paul was a resident of Marlborough for over 55 years, where he raised a family and enjoyed traveling, camping, gardening, fishing, motorcycling, and automotive restoration.

Paul was a member of the Salmon River Country Riders NETRA Motorcycle Club in his younger years and loved cycling of all forms. Paul's passion for old cars brought him annually for many years to the Carlisle, Pa., automotive flea market, where he would buy and sell old car and truck parts. Paul and Bonnie would often take rides in Miss Molly to find out just where does that road go?

Paul was a member of the Marlborough Congregational Church for 55 years. As a member of the Marlborough Volunteer Fire Department, he served on the Roy B. Pettengill Ambulance Assoc. as an EMT. When the fire department formed the fife and drum corps, Paul lettered the bass drums in Old English lettering. He was a former Cubmaster with Pack 39 and assisted with Boy Scout Troop 39. Paul was never afraid to take on any project and would always be there to help family and friends at a moment's notice.

Besides his wife Bonnie, he is survived by his two sons, Kenneth (Robin) Anderson of Marlborough, Brian (Jennifer) Anderson of Bethlehem; a brother, Eric (Lucille) Anderson Jr. of Andover; six grandchildren, Tyler Anderson, Katelynn (Josh) Vesser, Leann, Lindsey, Hunter and Courtney Anderson; several nieces, nephews, and great-nieces and nephews.

Besides his parents, he was predeceased by his brother, James Anderson; his sister, Christine Miller; and loving in-laws, Harry, Mabel, Glenn (Nancy), and Bruce Kinghorn.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, June 11, at 11 a.m., at Marlborough Congregational Church.

The family would like to thank the Middlesex Hospice team for their kindness in caring for Paul, especially nurse Kelly and social worker Jan. They'd also like to thank caregivers Paul and Michael, who had such devotion and compassion for our loved one.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Roy B. Pettengill Ambulance Assoc. P.O. Box 308 Marlborough, CT 06447 or to the Shriners' Children's Hospital of New England at www.lovetotherescue.org.

To leave online condolences, please visit www.spencerfuneralhomeinc.com.

Portland

Rita Randazzo

Rita Irene Spencer Randazzo tragically passed away Tuesday, May 17, at the age of 72.



Rita will forever live in the hearts of her children, Lisa and Gina; her grandchildren, Damon, Kyle, Brandon, Danny, Meghan, Sarah, Ally, Katie, Hailey; and her great-grandchildren, Logan, Julia, Jonah and Asher.

She has been reunited in Heaven with her son, Dean.

Rita was born Aug. 15, 1949, to William and Dora Spencer. At 40, she fulfilled her dream of becoming a nurse after building the foundation for her ever-growing family. Rita was a devoted matriarch who built her dream home so her family could spend every holiday, gathering or birthday party together. She would often hand sew matching outfits for her children and grandchildren including making the wedding dresses for her daughters and daughter-in-law, Kelly.

Rita was a very talented woman whose love for crafting was shared with the whole family. Traveling to Florida was a favorite activity of hers, and that love was passed down generations with some of her grandchildren and great-grandchildren living there.

For over 30 years, Rita shared her life with Joe Bials, she loved him from the beginning and their love will last an eternity. Rita's smile would light up a room and her laugh would echo throughout the house.

The love she will always have for her family is palpable. Rita will be severely missed everyday by her family, friends, and everyone who knew her.

A celebration of Rita's life will be scheduled for a later date that is to be announced.

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East Hampton

John P. Bozzi Jr.

John "Bozzi" Paul Bozzi Jr., 72, of East Hampton, beloved husband of Gisele (Pouliot) Bozzi, passed away Saturday, May 21, at Middlesex Hospital Medical Center in Marlborough. He was born in Middletown, son of the late John P. Bozzi Sr. and Lena (Grassi) Bozzi.



John was a graduate of Xavier High School and later became a veteran, serving with the U.S. Air Force during the Vietnam War. He was employed by the City of Middletown for 30 years, holding various positions, most notably as building superintendent of City Hall. He was always approachable, agreeable and maintained life with positivity and a smile.

John loved to potter and had a basement full of workable and non-workable items; nothing got tossed until he found out how it broke. He also loved all the seasons, enjoyed boating, snowmobiling, ice fishing with his brother Al, and was an avid Yankees fan.

John is survived by his wife, Gisele; sisters-in-law, Debra Bozzi, Diane Barto; brothers-in-law, John Pouliot (Sue), Thomas Pouliot (Karen); as well as many nieces and nephews who affectionately called him Uncle Bozzi.

He was predeceased by his parents; brother, Alexander "Al" Bozzi Sr.; and sister, Carol Ann.

Funeral services will be held Saturday, May 28, at 10 a.m., at Biega Funeral Home, 3 Silver St., Middletown. Burial will follow at St. Sebastian Cemetery, Rockfall. Calling hours will be held today, Friday, May 27, from 4-7 p.m., at Biega Funeral Home.

Those who wish may send memorial contributions to the Boston School of Medicine, Amyloid Research, 72 East Concord St. K-503, Boston, MA 02118-2526, or to the Meriden Humane Society, 311 Murdock Ave, Meriden, CT 06450.

To share memories or express condolences online, please visit www.biegafuneralhome.com.

RECYCLING IS CREATING

When you recycle, you create something new.









Reader Forum • Reader Forum

★ Letters cont. from page 7

opposed to placing the DPW on Kinney Road.

Mr. Bordeaux speaks of his experience under Mark Pellegrini, who has "been a leader for a long time in planning circles." Well, Hebron needs a leader now. I am optimistic that Mr. Bordeaux can lead Hebron in a new direction and help preserve one of Hebron's environmental and historic treasures. For more information, maps and photos of 17 Kinney Road, please visit Kinney Road Matters on Facebook.

Sincerely, Kevin J. Tulimieri – Amston

Andover Budget

To the Editor:

This year's budget will be unacceptable until there is a significant decrease in spending. Now while I'm glad that it was defeated on Round 1 but it was only a 25-voter difference and only 410 taxpayers voted – very disappointed in the turnout. We are looking at the largest tax increase in over a decade. Reval jumped everyone's property values and we know it's a double-edged sword. So we the core of Andover's voters need to get fired up and go to town meetings – I know they are not any fun!! – but especially we need to vote down this budget on referendum #2.

Our leaders are not listening – Fish, Dowling, Mandeville, Maguire, Murray, King. They are comfortable with a \$400k spending increase on the town side of the budget. That is unconscionable in a normal budget year but now with record inflation it's just arrogant. At bare minimum it needs to be cut in half. \$90K for the public works foreman is overly generous, plus a gas card and the unlimited use of our town vehicle. Does the Board of Finance think they live in Glastonbury?? The addition of a fifth worker in Public Works is also unaffordable and needs to be eliminated.

Now on to the Board of Ed budget: \$200k spending increase – Superintendent Bruneau tells us there is nowhere to cut. \$4.2 million to operate a safe, modern, updated facility for 188 students – several years ago we had over 300 and spent less -- Andy Maneggia, we miss you – Class size of 20 or less. I suggest that she digs a little deeper and finds some savings. This is one of the main reasons that the two budgets should be separated. Bifurcation could be in our future.

Vote 'no' on referendum #2 – both budgets are too high!!!

Don Denley – Andover

Supports Rivers for State Rep

To the Editor:

What a refreshing conversation I had with Chris Rivers a few months ago, when he expressed an interest to run for state representative for the 48th District. Everything he talked about had to do with a positive message, doing the right thing, listening to the people – well frankly, it didn't sound like politics at all. That got my attention.

Chris has amazing experience serving our country in active combat, leading troops through war times and always staying focused on making sure he listened to his team and did what was best for the team – not about himself at all. I have grown so tired of political agendas which are really laced with personal agendas. Chris is taking the time to listen to what we, the people, need from government. Isn't it about time for this approach at all levels?

We have some great elected officials. Let's continue to build a group who wants the best for our communities. Our local towns need a continued and, in some cases, a resurgence of growth in business development, education, farming and public safety. Chris Rivers is focused on these priorities. Let's get him elected on November 8th.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Bylone – Colchester

Note: Bylone is the manager of Rivers' campaign for state representative.

An Excellent Candidate

To the Editor:

Recently, I had the honor and distinct pleasure of nominating Chris Rivers as the candidate to replace me as state representative for the 48th House District, representing the towns of Colchester, Bozrah, Franklin and Lebanon. This was an easy thing for me to do, as I can think of no one more able or qualified to represent us in Hartford.

A Connecticut native, Chris lives a life of public service, something he came to early via his Boy Scout career and service during high school as an EMT. While in high school during the aftermath of 9/11, Chris set aside his college plan, enlisted in the Army, and was deployed to Iraq shortly after graduation. While deployed he applied to the U.S. Military Academy and

was accepted to the West Point Prep School and, subsequently, to West Point where he has distinguished himself in the physics and nuclear engineering program and met his wife who was also a cadet.

As an Army engineering officer, Chris was deployed to Afghanistan where his unit was responsible for locating explosive devices along major routes. He later served as an operations research and systems analyst at the Center for Army Analysis before leaving active service to earn two master's degrees, in public policy and international relations, respectively.

Now living near the intersection of Colchester, Lebanon and Bozrah, Chris currently serves on the Colchester Board of Education. He is a thoughtful and intelligent man who listens carefully and whose science and military experience enables him to solve problems by viewing them from all angles and asking insightful questions. These qualities, coupled with his advanced degrees in public policy and international relations make him an excellent candidate for state representative and I highly recommend him to my fellow citizens of the 48th District.

Sincerely, Brian T. Smith D-48th District

Beware the Far Right

To the Editor:

Watching the unfolding of primaries around the country has me concerned. In the past, I have often split tickets when voting. Not now. The far right, Christian radicals and ultra conservatives have tainted the Republican brand and too many of them want to infiltrate public offices. As shorthand for this, let's call it Trumpism. It is disquieting to read national news about voting threats, gerrymandering, and the capturing of courts. It is more frightening to watch it trickle down to the state and local levels.

The Trumpist playbook is to acquire as many

levers of power as possible, then to force their agenda on the entire country. Their aim seems to be to ban or abolish anything that they find disagreeable. Liberals are blamed for cancel culture, but conservatives are trying to cancel far more. Not everyone accepts their agenda. It seems to me that not even a legitimate large minority wants such a world.

Many good people are registered Republicans. Many candidates for local offices may be fine citizens, sincerely interested in benefiting their communities. However, unless a candidate for office publicly rejects Trumpism, I cannot in good conscience consider voting for them. Given that the notable politicians on the national news have seemed unwilling to do this, the brand remains tainted, thus making every Republican suspect.

Conservatives (i.e., Republicans) rant and rave about making America great again. Their apparent idea of what that means seems to apply only to a subset of American citizens; the subset that fits their nostalgic view of the past. As noted last week, nostalgia is not a proper template for the present or future.

In the interest of balance, the radical left is not a good alternative. We must restore moderation to American politics. Without it, the future appears bleak.

John Barnowski – Colchester

Town of Andover, CT Solicitation Notice

The Town of Andover is soliciting the following: Request For Proposal to Reclaim and Repave Shoddy Mill and Long Hill Roads. Due 6/13 at 2pm. Pre-bid site visit scheduled for 5/26 at 8am at Public Works, 12 Long Hill Road. Request For Qualifications to Contract Town Engineering Services. Due 6/15 at 2pm. Applicants are encouraged to speak to the Town Administrator, Eric Anderson prior to submitting a proposal. Email contact eanderson@andoverct.org or 860-771-1072. Requests for Qualifications/Proposals can be viewed on the town website at www.andoverct.org.

2TB 5/27, 6/3

LEGAL NOTICE of SPECIAL TOWN MEETING Wednesday, June 1, 2022 at 7:10 P.M.

Buck-Foreman Community Room, 265 Main Street, Portland, CT 06480

Pursuant to Section 503(g) of the Town Charter, a Special Town Meeting will be held by the Board of Selectmen on Wednesday, June 1, 2022 at 7:10 P.M. in the Buck-Foreman Community Room, 265 Main Street, Portland, CT for the following supplemental appropriation: NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen hereby approves a supplemental appropriation from the General Fund fund balance in the amount of \$322,500. The allocations of transfers for the General Fund are increases to 01-093-000-90006 Transfer Out - Cap Non Rec Other by \$250,000 and increases to 01-093-000-90012 Transfer Out - Cap Non Rec Town by \$72,500. The funds transferred to Fund 24 are to account 24-000-000-00501 Interfund Transfer-In General Fund for \$250,000. The funds that would be transferred into Fund 08 are as follows:

Table with 5 columns: Account Number, Department CODE, Account DESCRIPTION, EXPLANATION, Amount. Rows include Fuel Pumps + Reader Monitoring System (\$57,500) and Plow for Large Dump Truck (\$15,000).

Dated this 19th day of May 2022 Attest: Ryan J. Curley, First Selectman

1TB 5/27

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF HEBRON

CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES § 12-155 ET SEQ.

The Town of Hebron Tax Collector has levied taxes upon the following properties and has slated them for public auction to satisfy delinquent taxes and/or other charges owed by the record owner(s) for this property. Taxes as of the last day of May 31, 2022 set forth below. Additional taxes, interest, fees, water/sewer and utility charges authorized by law accruing after May 31, 2022, are owed. Interested bidders must attend the same in person and a FIVE THOUSAND (\$5,000.00) DOLLARS deposit in the form of a bank check is required.

Time & Place of Sale 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, June 15, 2022 Douglas Library of Hebron, Library Meeting Room, 22 Main Street, Hebron, CT

Table with 4 columns: Delinquent Taxpayer, Property Address, Property Boundaries, Total Amount Due, Lienholders/Other Party. Lists three properties with details on taxes and owners.

Inquiries should be directed to:

Matthew J. Willis, Esq. willis@halloransage.com (860) 241-4074 Halloran & Sage 225 Asylum Street Hartford, CT 06103

THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR AND IS AN EFFORT TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE

TOWN OF HEBRON Matthew J. Willis, Esq. Municipal Counsel May 27, 2022

1TB 5/27

LEGAL NOTICE OF ACTIONS PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION HEBRON, CONNECTICUT

The Hebron Planning and Zoning Commission took the following actions at their Regular Meeting/Public Hearing, which was held on Tuesday, May 24, 2022, at 7:00 P.M., on the following:

Petition 2022-5 – Application of the Town of Hebron Planning and Zoning Commission for the adoption of the Hebron 2022-2027 Plan for Housing Choices – Affordable Housing Plan. APPROVED with conditions 1.) Remove last bulleted item in sidebar on Page 25. 2.) Revise first sentence under Set-Aside Development sidebar to read "At least 30% of the units in a "set-aside development" using the Affordable Housing Appeals Procedure must meet the affordability criteria and dedicate." 3.) Include Matthew Bordeaux, Director of Planning and Development, under list of Participants.

Petition 2022-6 - Special Permit Application of the Hebron Lions Agricultural Society requesting approval for the sale of beer and wine on September 8th thru 11th, 2022, under Section 5.0.3 of the Hebron Zoning Regulations, premise located at 347 Gilead Street, R-1 District. Public Hearing set for June 14, 2022.

The video recording of the Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting can be seen using the following link: https://transcripts.gotomeeting.com/#/s/e30f26b4b5e09cde5d-80f931ed7ea488e0cda5d2632623d2d6a77355ca84e95f Legal Notice will be published in the Rivereast News Bulletin on May 27, 2022.

1TB 5/27

LEGAL NOTICE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS TOWN OF HEBRON, CONNECTICUT

The Hebron Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing at a meeting scheduled for Tuesday, June 7, 2022, at 7:30 PM, to be held virtually through the GoToMeeting Platform, concerning the following:

Petition 2022 – 2, Request of Allen Fichtel, Owner, for a variance to Section 2.E.5 of the Hebron Zoning Regulations, to allow a 96 square foot shed 18 feet from the front property line where 25 is required and 4 feet from the side property line where 10 feet is required by the Regulations, on premise located at 203 Deepwood Drive, Amston Lake (AL) District. Dated at Hebron, Connecticut, on this 16th day of May 2022. Martin Halloran, Chairperson

Interested persons may appear and all written communications will be received. Legal Notice will be published in the Rivereast News Bulletin on Friday, May 27, 2022 and Friday, June 3, 2022. Legal Notice will be published on the Town of Hebron Website at https://hebronct.com/agendas/

Zoning Board of Appeals Tue, Jun 7, 2022 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM (EDT) Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone. https://meet.goto.com/788980141

You can also dial in using your phone. United States: +1 (224) 501-3412 Access Code: 788-980-141 Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts: https://meet.goto.com/install

2TB 5/27, 6/3

TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON LEGAL NOTICE Notice of Hearing

The East Hampton Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a regular meeting on June 1, 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-22-006: James Marino, 27 Salmon Run for 2 lot Subdivision Map 35/ Block 95/ Lot 7/ 51. B. PZC-22-007: Carrie Sue Clausi, 124 Tartia Road, for 2 Subdivision Map 27/ Block 54/ Lot 7.

Ray Zatorski, Chairman Note* any question re: Applications and Maps are on file in the Land Use Office 860-267-7450.

2TB 5/20, 5/27

LEGAL NOTICE of SPECIAL TOWN MEETING Wednesday, June 1, 2022 at 7:20 P.M. Buck-Foreman Community Room, 265 Main Street, Portland, CT 06480

Pursuant to Chapter XII Section 1203.4 of the Town Charter, a Special Town Meeting will be held by the Board of Selectmen on Wednesday, June 1, 2022 at 7:20 P.M. in the Buck-Foreman Community Room, 265 Main Street, Portland, CT for the following supplemental appropriation:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Portland Board of Selectmen hereby approves the supplemental appropriation of \$120,000 to the General Fund line item #01-023-000-14014 – Private Police Duty and \$20,000 to the General Fund Line Item #01-023-000-51001 – Gas & Diesel and an increase in estimated revenue to line item #01-000-000-00324 Police Private Duty in the amount of \$140,000. Dated this 19th day of May 2022

Attest: Ryan J. Curley, First Selectman

1TB 5/27

LEGAL NOTICE ANDOVER CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING MONDAY, JUNE 6, 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. Town electors are referred to the draft Minutes of the Commission's May 23, 2022 meeting on the Town website or at the office of the Town Clerk, which feature the first draft of the Commission's Draft Report which is subject to possible revision after this Public Hearing, and will be sent soon and no later than July 12, 2022, to the Board of Selectmen. Dated at Andover, Connecticut this 24th day of May, 2022. Andover Charter Revision Commission

1TB 5/27

**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, June 2, 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:
Application #21-16: 264 Main Street. Request for Special Permit for change of use on second floor from commercial to residential apartments. Application and Property of 264 Main LLC. Assessor's Map 28, Lot 48. Zone B3.
Application #21-17: 143 Marlborough Street. Request for Special Permit for small engine repair business to be located in existing rear building. Application of Chester Dumont. Property of 143 Marlborough Street LLC. Assessor's Map 20, Lot 214. Zone B2.
 At this hearing interested persons may appear and be heard and written communications will be received. A copy of this application is available for review in the Portland Land Use Department.
 Dated at Portland, CT this 18th day of May 2022.
 Robert Ellsworth, Chairman

2TB 5/20, 5/27

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Water Pollution Control Authority
Town of East Hampton
June 7, 2022
Virtual Meeting**

The Water Pollution Control Authority of the Town of East Hampton, Connecticut, will hold a public hearing pursuant to Chapter 102 of the Connecticut General Statutes at the Town of Colchester – Town of East Hampton Wastewater Treatment Plant, 20 Gildersleeve Drive, in East Hampton, Connecticut, on the 7th of June 2022, at 6:30 P.M. to consider whether or not the Town should adopt the proposed 2022-23 water budget and recommended water rates for the customers of the Village Center and Royal Oaks systems, copies of which are available at the Town Clerks office, 20 East High Street, East Hampton, CT 06424.
 Affected property owners, electors and citizens qualified to vote in town meetings of the Town of East Hampton, Connecticut, are invited to attend and participate in such public hearing. Dated at East Hampton, Connecticut, this 5th day of May, 2022.
 East Hampton Water Pollution Control Authority
 By Scott Clayton
 Its Public Utilities Administrator

1TB 5/27

EMPLOYMENT

**TOWN OF HEBRON
DEPUTY FIRE MARSHAL**

The Town of Hebron is seeking qualified candidates for the part-time position of Deputy Fire Marshal. State of Connecticut Fire Marshal Certification is required. The rate of pay is \$20/hour and hours vary based on demands of the department. Please send resume and Town of Hebron employment application to the attention of Andrew J. Tierney, Town Manager, Town of Hebron, 15 Gilead Street, Hebron, CT 06248 by Friday, June 10, 2022. The Town of Hebron is an equal opportunity employer.

1TB 5/27

**Public Works Administrative Specialist
May 2022**

The Town of Marlborough is accepting applications for the position of Administrative Assistant to the Public Works Department. The purpose of the position is to provide high-level administrative support to the Public Works Department and manage the day-to-day activities of the Department. This is a 30 hour/week position, consistent with normal business hours of the Town Hall.
 Candidates must have a minimum of five years of administrative or office management duties in a similar fast-paced environment. The full job description and employment application may be obtained in the Town Clerk's office at Town Hall or online at www.marlbroughct.net.
 Please submit an application, resume and cover letter to: Marlborough Town Clerk, 26 North Main Street, P.O. Box 29, Marlborough, CT 06447. The Town of Marlborough is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Open until filled.

2TB 5/27, 6/3

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WANTED TO BUY

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.

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.

ADVERTISERS

The Glastonbury Citizen and Riverast News Bulletin will make every effort to see that all advertising copy is correctly printed. The publisher assumes no liability or financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertising, but will reprint, without charge, that part of an advertisement in which an error may occur, provided that a claim is made within 5 days of publication. The liability of the publisher on account of errors in or omissions from any advertisement will in no way exceed the amount of the charge for the space occupied by the item in error, and then only for the first incorrect insertion. Also, the publisher takes no responsibility for statements or claims made in any advertisement, and will upon request, reveal the name and address of the person or persons responsible for placing any display advertisement, political or otherwise, except for "blind" box ads. The Glastonbury Citizen Inc. reserves the right to reject advertisements which it deems unsuitable for its publications. Every effort will be made to verify the legitimacy and propriety of all ads for the protection of our readers. *The Citizen* will take requests for specific placement of ads and will try to accommodate everyone's requests. *The Citizen* cannot guarantee specific placement.

EMPLOYMENT

HIGHLY MOTIVATED ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: for multiple properties with great customer service skills & ability to multitask needed for busy property management company. Proficient in Microsoft Word & Excel and Adobe PDF required. Immediate opening! pay dependent upon experience. Full benefit package including health, dental & life insurance. Email resume to eric@advanceco.net.

Caso's HVAC, LLC, East Hampton, CT is now hiring Commercial & Residential HVAC Mechanics/Technicians. B2 or S2 License Required. Must have at least 5 years experience. We offer competitive hourly wages. Please email resume to casohvac@comcast.net or call 860-267-5851

E2 ELECTRICIAN WANTED: with residential experience. Call John 860-214-4045 or email gardelec@frontier.com

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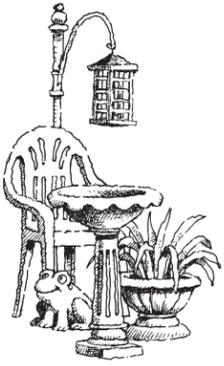
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