



RIVEREAST

News Bulletin

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

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June 3, 2022



All Gave Some, Some Gave All... Andover resident Gerry Wright, in the foreground, along with his fellow veterans, offer salutes during Monday's Memorial Day celebration in Andover. See story and additional photo on page 28.

'Remember What Those Freedoms Cost'

By Sloan Brewster

"Each granite headstone or marble marker represents a light laid down for the price of freedom."

Lt. Col. Thomas Sousa, a U.S. Army veteran who served in the Iraqi War and is member of the Hebron post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) gave the address at a ceremony after the Memorial Day Parade in Hebron Monday.

Standing at a podium set up in the town center on Memorial Green with a backdrop of Soldiers at the ready, Sousa described how most folks would be spending the remainder of the day, adding a caveat.

"Get-togethers, picnics, barbecues, trips to the beach, lake, mountains or wherever, rest and relaxation ... an extra day off from work," he said. "There's certainly nothing wrong with enjoying the freedoms our great country offers but it's important to remember what those freedoms cost."

He spoke of the holiday's roots in Decoration Day in 1868 and the tradition of honoring the country's fallen heroes "through ceremonies, graveside visits, wreath placements, and flower lanes."

"These tributes were meant to remind us that each granite headstone or marble marker represents a light laid down for the price of free-

dom," he said. "Every man and woman that died in every war and conflict since the American Revolution paid the debt that liberty requires. Their lives for our lives. Their futures for our futures. Their freedom for our freedom."

Sousa spoke of what that sacrifice means, of the loss of "friends, classmates, coworkers and shipmates."

He described the never-ending sorrow carried by Gold Star Families – the families of those who lost loved ones in combat – and how they, of all people, know the pain that results when someone pays that heady price.

Sousa implored folks gathered on the green to take time before enjoying the rest of the day to give some thought to those who made that sacrifice.

"Before you enjoy the rest of this holiday, please make sure to reserve sometime today to pause, reflect and ponder the price paid in the past to ensure that we have a chance of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness here in the present," he said.

Before the parade, which concluded with the ceremony, folks lined Main and Church Street waving flags and awaiting the fire engines, old fashioned cars and marching bands that would pass in a slow celebratory, and yet earnest, cavalcade in honor of those fallen heroes.

A group of RHAM Middle School students, all from Hebron, sat at the edge of the road awaiting the opportunity to cheer on their friends from the school marching band as they dutifully marched in the second of three parades – the band participated in parades in An-

See Remember, page 25

Colchester's Memorial Day Parade Returns

By Michael Sinkewicz

After a two-year hiatus due to COVID-19, Colchester residents were able to line the streets for Sunday's Memorial Day Parade and show their support for veterans and active service men and women.

The community had a hot, sunny day to watch the Bacon Academy and William J. Johnston Middle School marching bands make their way through the parade route- spanning down Norwich Avenue before turning onto Main Street.

Many military units were represented, including the U.S Navy, Marine and Air Force Reserves. The Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion and Colchester Veterans Honor Guard also participated.

The parade featured several military vehicles and members from the town's fire department.

Political leaders, including First Selectman Andreas Bisbikos, could be seen walking as well.

A few other groups were given special recognition. The Continental Fire and Drum Corps was named "best marching unit." Colchester Community Theater was awarded "most original theme float," while "most patriotic float" went to The Good Times Motor Club.

At the conclusion of the parade at the town

green, a ceremony was held honoring those who have served.

The St. Andrews Choir performed "The Star-Spangled Banner" to start the program.

The highlight of the ceremony came when Jacob Finkelstein made remarks to the crowd.

Finkelstein previously served in the U.S Navy and participated in the invasion of Okinawa. He served on the USS Wichita, the USS Montauk, the USS Merrimac and USS Reina Mercedes. He's lived in Colchester for over 50 years and will celebrate his 100th birthday this summer.

Finkelstein, who was also the grand marshal of the parade, was honored to be included in the ceremony.

"Today we honor men and women who sacrificed their lives," he said during his speech. "Let us always remember."

The ceremony also highlighted Ray Ryan, who served in the U.S Army as an Infantry soldier.

Ryan had been the commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6990 for more than 10 years and the Commander and Senior Vice Commander of the Colchester American Legion Post 54 for over 15 years.

Ryan was also a founding member of the

Colchester Honor Guard. He was a Colchester resident for over 80 years.

In a proclamation effective through May 30, Bisbikos honored both Finkelstein and Ryan as well as all members of the Armed Forces who sacrificed their lives serving their country.

"We are forever indebted to these patriots for laying down their lives to protect our treasured way of life," he said in the proclamation.

State Rep. Brian Smith (D-48) also briefly spoke.

"It's important for us to recall that people fought and died for our country from our town before we were alive," he said. "We should carry those feelings forward every day."

The ceremony featured a quick display from the Navy Silver Dolphins from the Submarine Base in Groton. The Middletown Police Bagpipe Band also performed "Amazing Grace."

There was a reading of the names of those who died during the Civil War, World War I, World War II, the Vietnam War and Iraq War. Taps was performed at the conclusion of the ceremony.

Following the ceremony, Bisbikos emphasized how important it is for a community to

See Colchester Memorial Day, page 25

Inside...

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Colchester | |
| Budget Sent Back to Voters | pg 8 |
| East Hampton | |
| Parade Resumes After Hiatus | pg 14 |
| Portland | |
| Teen Named Mercy Salutatorian | pg 17 |
| Hebron | |
| Mill Rate Set | pg 20 |
| RHAM | |
| Tennis Takes Tourney Match | pg 31 |
| Regional | |
| Obituaries | pg 32-33 |



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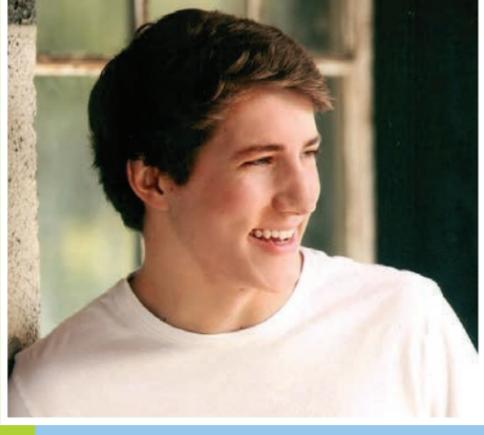
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RES-11-22



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

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RES-13-22

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RES-27-22

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From the Editor's Desk

Observations & Ruminations

By Mike Thompson

Two of the *Rivereast's* local state senators, Democrats Norm Needleman and Steve Cassano, sent statements to the paper last week in reaction to the massacre in Uvalde, Texas.

While I received the statements too late for inclusion in last week's paper, I wanted to share them here, as the shooting was and continues to be such an important story.

Norm, whose 33rd Senatorial District includes the *Rivereast* towns of Colchester, East Hampton and Portland, issued the following statement late last Wednesday:

"Today is another tragic day for our country, the residents of Uvalde and the loved ones and parents of those lost. It is a sad and tragic statement about where the United States stands as a country that we cannot find any path forward in resolving mass shootings in schools and gun violence in general. What's especially tragic is, without action, we will simply continue to face tragedy after tragedy as we have for years."

Cassano shared similar sentiments – and included a very sad loss of his own that he recently experienced. He wrote:

"Last year, I lost my son at the age of 50. I still carry the weight of his absence with me every day. The pain can be overwhelming. I cannot even begin to fathom the pain that 21 families are now experiencing. Nineteen of those families lost their children before they even got a chance to grow up. It is American tradition and the American dream for us to send our children to schools where they learn, grow and begin their lives. It is unfathomable to see Heartbreak and tragedy befall so many. Again."

"Today, Connecticut has some of the strict-

est gun laws in the country, which came in response to one of the greatest tragedies in our state's history, the events of Sandy Hook, Conn., on Dec. 14, 2012 where 20 children and six educators lost their lives to senseless violence. We've been asked repeatedly since those enhancements were enacted to ease up these restrictions. The issue is not that Connecticut's gun laws are too strict; it's that the rest of the country's laws are much too lenient. The tragedy at Robb Elementary School yesterday shows exactly why relaxing gun laws would move the state in the wrong direction. We need to keep those protections in place and continue passing responsible laws that protect our communities and children from gun violence, not only in our state but across our nation. Far too many lives are at stake if we do not act."

I've shared my thoughts on gun control many times over the years, so I won't rehash myself here, but I agree with both of the state senators – particularly Cassano's thoughts. The issue isn't that Connecticut's gun laws are too strict; the issue is the rest of the country isn't nearly strict enough.

And until we do something about that, tragedies like the one in Texas will continue to happen.

It's now June, which means it's the welcome return of Pride Month. There will be activities throughout the month to commemorate, including an event in Portland on June 25. And this weekend will bring what sounds like a very cool event in Middletown.

The fourth annual Middletown Pride cel-

Editor's Desk continued on page 7

Bulletin Board

I must confess I find myself reluctantly sympathizing with President Biden's struggles with what appears to be a concerted effort by ignorant outsiders and traitorous minions to add to his annoyances and diminish his executive pleasures as revealed in numerous news stories and commentaries over the past year and a half.

I fully understand how frustrating it can be to be thwarted at every turn by lesser mortals; dismissed as misguided or ill-informed because you don't know what you're talking about; to have opinions and statements mocked simply because you are hopelessly inarticulate; to have your historical recollections ridiculed; to be routinely advised "you can't do that;" and to have people hiding your stuff and insisting that you just misplaced it.

Allow me to elaborate from personal experience:

Example #1 (Thwarted wants): A year or two after we were married, my wife and I headed off to visit her family in Rochester, N.Y. As we were then living hand-to-mouth, we went the back way, up old Route 20 in an effort to avoid the toll on the New York Thruway. Taking a break at a back road flea market, I spotted a magnificent stuffed moose head priced at a mere \$250. I suggested to my wife that this treasure would be a wonderful decorative addition to our bedroom, in addition to its obvious practical value as a combination tie rack and dirty socks hanger.

She promptly voiced a number of wholly frivolous objections including: 1) we can't afford it; 2) it won't fit in our car; 3) she wasn't about to have some dead moose staring down on her when she's sleeping; 3) the vile thing is lacking 40 percent of its fur and the other 60 percent is probably flea-infested; and 4) "don't be an idiot." Needless to say, we left without the moose head and to this day she complains because I am forced to leave my dirty socks on the floor.

I still say we could have tied the thing onto the roof of the car.

Example #2 (Historical denial): While I vividly remember being the original latchkey child, my otherwise lovely mother stubbornly denies that I was almost completely left to my own wits—I mean devices—as a child and forced to use a house key wired to my stroller to access the house, which (by the way) during the winter was kept at a temperature that would have transformed a penguin into a block of ice. However, she remembers in exquisite detail some bogus tale about a near-failing grade she claims I got in science while negotiating 7th grade. Uncle Joe, I feel your pain.

Example #3 (Purloined stuff): The bits of string, broken tape recorders, frayed extension cords, miscellaneous nuts and screws and similar items I (as a frugal Yankee) squirrel away against some future emergency are constantly disappearing from the "junk drawer" in our kitchen to be replaced with dish towels and oven mitts and similar items that could just as easily be stored in the dishwasher when it's not running. My wife maintains this is the work of gremlins, who are apparently also responsible for leaving the mobile phone lying around wherever they happen to have ended their latest conversation with their sisters in upstate New York. Granted, I'm sure this isn't as annoying as having people constantly hiding the nuclear button on you, but it's still frustrating.

Example #4 (Failure to appreciate sheer genius or whatever): My brilliant plan (suggested each summer) to save the planet by transforming our yard into an unmowed butterfly garden is repeatedly thwarted by an obstructionist minority who lets the water run while brushing her teeth.

Example #5 (Lack of team support): My efforts as our two sons were growing up over the years to teach them the value of teamwork (i.e. shoveling snow, mowing the grass and doing all the chores I didn't want to do while I supervised them from the couch between sports programs) ran into repeated obstacles including: 1) "I have homework to do;" 2) "but I broke my arm" (probably on purpose); 3) "mom says I have to go get a haircut;" and so on and so forth until, in a final act of defiance and refusal to cooperate, they finally moved out of state.

Yes, Mr. President, it can be difficult to be king. Or to think you are. Take it from me.

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.



An Epoch Donation... East Hampton Lions Club Vice President Allen Guiot recently presented Epoch Arts executive director Elizabeth Namen and Rachel Martin, assistant artistic director, with a \$1,000 donation, in celebration of Epoch's 25th anniversary. Epoch Arts' mission is to serve the youth and community through the arts.

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

Correction

In a story last week on the cover entitled "EHHS Student Makes Disturbing Threat," it was reported that an expulsion hearing had been scheduled but was postponed. This is not accurate; a hearing had not actually been scheduled.

The *Rivereast* regrets the error.

Andover Budget, Round 2

To the Editor:

The second referendum for this year's budget need to be defeated on June 7. The \$400k increase on the town government side has been reduced by \$120k, so says the Board of Finance. I'm not convinced since they mysteriously came up with additional revenue? What I do know is that they have not eliminated the new fifth member of the Public Works department who would be making \$60k plus benefits. I see no need for any new hires this year.

Also, the \$319k Public Works salaries are all lumped together and when I asked Board of Finance Chairman Mark Brinker at the May 24 town meeting how much the new PW foreman was making, he said he was unsure and was unable to give me a number. I find that troubling.

Most other town employees are clearly noted in the budget: town clerk, town administrator, etc., but not the PW foreman who I've been told makes \$90k. This line item of PW salaries has grown over \$100k in the last three years. I doubt the work load has increased by that much? That would mean that the PW Foreman (two years of service) makes 30% more than our revered town clerk with many years of service and more than the town administrator. I made a motion to reduce the PW salary line item by \$50k and it was rejected.

First Selectman Maguire chimed in that we need to spend more on infrastructure and Bear Swamp residents would like their road paved so they support the salary line. To be clear, the town Public Works department does not do any road paving.

So the Budget is still too high and as usual the stacked deck of parents – sitting in together in the back bleacher area – helped pass town budget request #2. We the people who have been paying taxes for decades and do not have children in the school system – \$4 million budget, 188 students – need to vote 'no' on June 7 referendum #2. This is not the year for a large tax increase.

Don Denley – Andover

See Letters, page 6

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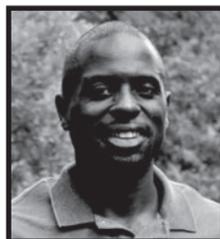
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★ Letters cont. from page 6

Thanks to 5K Volunteers

To the Editor:
I'd like to thank all the volunteers who helped out with the 5k race around the lake yesterday in Marlborough, Sunday, May 29. You guys did a great job!!! Thank you for taking the time out of your day. I'd like to thank the following volunteers CERT members, Patricia Jacques, Bob Wargo, Cliff B., Trish Brousseau, Ken Creggs, Ken Hjulstrom, Lisa Wolfe, Dennis Hoddinott, Amber Armitage, Diane Zareski.
I'd also like to thank our town constable Victor Otero, for helping with traffic and following the runners in his cruiser. I would also like to thank the Marlborough Ambulance, and for standing by in case anybody got sick or hurt. First Selectman and EMT Greg Lowrey, and EMR Josh Mcsparren-great job guys!!
It was a good day and a really good turnout. Everyone worked together to make this race go as smoothly as possible.
Ashley Jacques – Marlborough EMT/CERT Instructor
Emergency Management Clerk

Who Remembers the Children?

To the Editor:
Another Memorial Day passes. "We will never forget those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom" is the annual mantra. Meaning those that died in service to their country. But who remembers the multitudes of children who made the ultimate sacrifice for our immoral American freedom to own weapons of mass slaughter? Perhaps military veterans would want to share Memorial Day with our innocent children and citizens, who, in their classrooms, grocery stores, theatres, concerts, workspaces and anywhere else the public gathers, suffer one mass murder after another?
Everyone knows most military veterans vote Republican. Everyone knows the Republican Party is beholden to NRA campaign donations. Everyone knows it is the Republican Party doing its best to ensure Americans can get their hands on AR-15s or other high caliber semi-automatic assault rifles. Where is the integrity and morality of our American military gun culture that finds time to honor itself, but fails to protect the tens of thousands of innocents who die by guns in our own country every year?
The Vietnam War lasted 20 years with 58,300

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American deaths. But every year we lose 45,000 Americans to gun violence, most of them suicides. Thus, the person who brings a gun into their home for the purpose of 'protection' has instead endangered the life or lives of those living in that same home to a far greater extent. It is pure insanity. We send our American military personnel into danger armed with the most sophisticated weapons, the best training, the most expensive support systems including satellites, AWACs, intelligence gathering, etc. But we send our children to schools, or shoppers to the market amidst a heavily armed public, individuals of which might snap at any moment, unleashing the horror of military assault weaponry upon our defenseless citizens.

Edmund Smith – Andover

Dizzying Pace

To the Editor:
Remembering my Irish grandmother, I recall how she used to say that life came at you at a "dizzying pace" these days. She lamented that back in her day things moved more slowly, so you had a chance to process events and discuss and debate different topics before the next big thing captured the news cycle. Maybe it was the advent of 24-hour news by CNN in the 1980s or the creation of Internet-based news, but since then the world has never been the same. We are constantly being deluged with a firehose of information, crises, and fear that it's hard to get a handle on any of it...and most don't even try.

The past couple months have seen a noticeable uptick in the fear porn as Ukraine, Roe v. Wade, Monkey Pox, food shortages, energy disruptions, inflation, and mass shootings seem to be cycling through the news ticker at an alarming rate. These non-stop and sensational topics serve to keep you distracted from what's actually afoot.

This past week's mass shooting in Uvalde, Texas served as the perfect distraction from the fact that the World Economic Forum and the W.H.O. were both meeting in Switzerland to carve up the world into the transhumanist vision that they promote. The videos coming out of their meetings are disturbing to say the least,

as they advocate more centralization of power and a greater collusion of governments with multinational corporations. The W.H.O. plans to have countries sign a treaty which would put them in the position of being solely responsible for the future pandemic response of upwards of 193 countries (including the U.S.).

But you don't hear about these things in the news...instead it's just wall-to-wall coverage of mad men and appeals for gun control. I wonder why.

Colin McNamara – Marlborough

With Us, Not Against Us

To the Editor:
The selectmen care so much for this town they are forgoing their salary. They reduced their own budget. They wanted to hear from us. They asked us to pay attention. I also care about this town and I am saddened we have to fight for fairness. I was called out for not attending meetings. So this year I really paid attention. You should too. Compare our budgets with other towns. Watch board meetings. Read minutes. The greatest tragedy for me has been losing friends with children due to my outspoken nature. Sadly, we are at risk of losing our school.

After the election the state will continue regionalization talks so we need to get a handle on this budget. We are paying over \$23k/student while the national average is \$14K! <https://www.usnews.com/education/k12/connecticut/andover-elementary-school-205293> states Andover's parent teacher ratio is 9:1. We have 193 kids and 21 teachers. A letter writer stated there is a proposed plan of 14 kids/class like that is bad. Is that bad?

Declining school enrollment should reflect in our budget. The superintendent claimed that unspent money goes back to the town. Does it? We can finally see expenditures but our questions remain unanswered. Are they using the budgeted money to prepay for supplies for next year? As of 2/2/22 no supplies were purchased. No books, cleaning supplies, etc. If the budget is bare bones, as we're told, wouldn't you be itching to spend the new money as soon as you get it on July 1? Yet after a reduction of \$250k

they still managed extra expenditures not in the budget.

Let's encourage the Board of Finance to work on the BOE budget. They need to hear from us loud and clear. The BOE needs to work with us not against us. Vote June 7th.

**Thank you,
Marcie Miner – Andover**

Support Andover!

To the Editor:
I support the 2022-23 budget passed at the recent town meeting. Yes, it is an increase; however, we must realize that all costs have gone up. In order to support the education of our Andover children and maintain and repair the infrastructure of Andover we need this budget. No budget increases for many years in Andover has led to crumbling roads and some town buildings in great need of repair. Blindly saying that we need a decrease in the budget will harm Andover by reducing the value of the town, school, and all our properties.

Please vote 'yes' for the budget on June 7.
Anne Cremé – Andover

Concert Thanks

To the Editor:
Several weeks ago, a benefit concert was held at Trinity Episcopal Church (a.k.a. Brownstone Church) in Portland to raise funds for the Ukraine Crisis Response Fund. Funds have been sent to the Episcopal Relief and Development organization which is working through the

Action by Churches Together Alliance (ACT) to meet critical needs for people fleeing the violence, including cash, blankets, hygiene supplies and other needed assistance. ACT is working closely with ecumenical and orthodox faith networks on the ground in the border areas of Ukraine. Concert proceeds and other donations totaled \$2,100!

On behalf of the Trinity Brownstone Vital Connections Through Music committee, thank you to all who attended the concert featuring The Sharades, volunteers who worked together to make the concert possible and all those who made donations for the Ukraine humanitarian cause.

**Carol K. Hill
Brownstone Vital Connections
Through Music Portland**

Ludicrous Letter

To the Editor:
John Barnowski has perhaps written the most ludicrous letter I've read. His depiction of reality is 180 degrees out of phase. He vainly characterizes Republicans as far-right extremists when the truth is that his progressive Democrats have moved so far to the left that anyone not joining them is regarded as a right-wing extremist.

He ridiculously accuses Republicans of wanting to ban everything when it's his own Democrats that desire to do that. They want to ban anything and everything that has made our country great. Among the things they seek

See Letters, page 30

Editor's Desk continued from page 4

celebration is scheduled for Saturday, June 4, from 2-10 p.m. This year, PrideFEST will kick off with its Pride March starting at 2 p.m. The march will start in the North End at the intersection of Main Street and St. John's Square, and will continue down the entirety of Main Street until the intersection with Union Street by the South Green.

After the conclusion of the Pride March, the event will transform into Middletown Pride's first-ever Pride Rally from 4-6:30 p.m., where participants will rally on the South Green with local activists and performers. Included among the performances will be the Legendary Drag Show, held in collaboration with the New Haven Pride Center. The show will take place on the Pride mainstage from 5-6:30 p.m., and will feature drag performers and educators displaying drag per-

formance styles from across the decades, from Stonewall to the present day.

PrideFEST will conclude with the Pride Showcase Concert on the South Green from 7-10 p.m., which will feature some of the state's "the state's best drag artists and LG-BTQIA2S+ groups" who "will wow you with their performances," according to organizers.

So if you're looking for something to do Sunday, and to celebrate a community that even today is ostracized far too much, I'd encourage you to head over to Middletown and check out PrideFEST. It frankly sounds like a very cool, fun event.

For more information, go to middletownpride.org/pridefest-2022.

See you next week.



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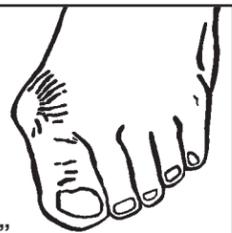
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After Heated Meetings, Budget Sent Back to Voters

By Michael Sinkewicz

After a pair of heated meetings Tuesday, the Board of Selectmen sent a revised \$15.86 million 2022-23 budget – a \$163,080, or 1.04%, increase from current year spending – back to voters.

The town meeting date is scheduled for June 8 and the referendum would be June 15.

It will be the second attempt to get voters to approve a town spending package for 2022-23. A \$16.03 million budget proposal was rejected by an 813-729 vote on May 24. (The Board of Education's \$42.02 million budget was passed that same day, by a 793-750 tally.)

At their May 31 meeting, the selectmen voted 4-to-1 in favor of sending the budget to town meeting; Jason LaChapelle, a Republican on the board, represented the lone dissenting vote.

The selectmen's meeting Tuesday immediately followed a meeting of the Board of Finance, at which the finance board revised and approved the town budget.

After lengthy discussion between finance board members and First Selectman Andreas Bisbikos, the board voted 4-to-2 to send the new numbers to selectmen for approval.

It is a \$170,402 decrease from the proposal that failed at referendum last month. The mill rate would be set at 27.08.

The budget reduction was mainly done by reducing the proposed hours for a new accountant position and using \$90,000 of savings. Bisbikos also shared that due to a donation made to the Colchester Police Department, a new police cruiser in the budget would now be offset.

During the selectmen meeting, LaChapelle asked Bisbikos what the role of the selectmen is during the budget process.

"Is this vote an approval?" he asked

In response, Bisbikos stated that each board member can decide that for themselves.

"You can interpret it however you want," he

said. "You can vote against sending it to town meeting and referendum."

LaChapelle made it clear that he didn't support the budget increase and voted against it.

Rosemary Coyle, a Democrat on the board, argued that each board member should use his or her vote as their stance with the budget proposal.

Coyle also expressed that while she has tried working with Bisbikos, she would like to be included in more budget conversations, especially when department changes are being decided.

"I'm concerned you don't see this Board of Selectmen as part of the process," she said, "It's important to realize you're a part of this board."

Bisbikos pushed back, arguing that he has included fellow board members in discussions.

"We're playing politics here," he said.

Coyle disagreed and again encouraged Bisbikos to involve the selectmen more going forward.

"I'm asking for you to do more processing with us," she said.

On Wednesday, LaChapelle posted on Facebook that he doesn't agree with the proposal. He argued that due to the large revenue that town has this year, the increase is even more than budget outlines.

"These increases, should this budget pass, will forever be our responsibility," he wrote.

The finance board meeting also contained spirited debate.

While the final motion did receive bipartisan support, two of the board's Republicans – Art Shilosky and Tim Vaillancourt – voted against it.

"I have a problem using fund balance to balance a budget," Shilosky said, referring to the town's saving account.

Both he and Vaillancourt were in favor of a zero-increase budget proposal.

John Thomas, a Republican on the finance board who ultimately voted for the proposed

cuts, wanted to know if Bisbikos could run the town effectively with the numbers he had brought to the board.

Bisbikos believed that the proposal was fair, and warned the board that if they wanted a larger reduction, it would cause a disruption in the towns' services.

"If you make more cuts, who do you want to lay off?" he asked.

He also argued that it was important to keep as many items in the budget as possible.

"You have to move the town forward," he said. "It's not easy and it's not cheap."

There was a contentious moment between Bisbikos and Vaillancourt due to disagreement over the budget process.

Vaillancourt didn't appreciate seeing new changes to the proposal with little notice.

He also believed that previous personal conversations he had with Bisbikos were not reflected in the proposal he was looking at.

Bisbikos disagreed with Vaillancourt's assessment of their conversations, though, and appeared poised to go into further detail, asking Vaillancourt, "Do you want me to embarrass you in front of the public?"

Andrea Migliaccio, chair of the finance board and a Republican, then intervened to get the meeting back on track. Later, however, LaChapelle, who stressed he was speaking as a citizen, criticized the rhetoric from Bisbikos, calling it "disgusting."

The finance board did discuss the different op-

tions for trimming the budget. They considered cutting the total by \$150,000 – a smaller amount than they ultimately settled on.

Maggie Cosgrove, chief financial officer, assured the board that proposed use of fund balance was acceptable and in accordance with the town's policy.

Mike Egan, a Democrat on the board, was unsure about that specific part of the proposal but was content with Cosgrove's assessment.

The finance meeting was held via Zoom for the first time this budget season.

Last week, Migliaccio said the board had to do a better job communicating with the public.

In its meeting immediately following the referendum, the finance board brainstormed ways to generate stronger voter turnout.

There appeared to be unanimous agreement that there needs to be more engagement with the public moving forward.

"That kind of slipped through the cracks in this last one," Egan said during that meeting on May 25.

One idea implemented was the addition of a tax calculator on the town's website, which the board hopes will be helpful for the public.

During that meeting, Bisbikos said he also feared that misinformation online was harmful to the community.

"There needs to be a mechanism to knock down propaganda and false information," he 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.

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, regula-

tion-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 Bacon seniors. Project Graduation's most critical event is a graduation night party. For more information, go to www.baconacademyprojectgrad.org.

'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.

Colchester Federated Church News

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

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

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

Twelve-Step Meetings: AA meets in the church library Monday-Wednesday and Friday at noon and Thursday at 10 a.m., and at 7:30

p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. On Saturdays at 9:30 a.m., Al-Anon meets in the Jerusalem Room and AA meets in the Stage Room.

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

New Membership Classes: Ostrout and representatives from Diaconate will offer a New Member Class for those who are interested in becoming members of Colchester Federated Church. Explore the local congregation and the two denominations our church belongs to – the American Baptist Churches and the United Church of Christ. The class will meet right after worship on June 19 and 26 and Joining Sunday will be July 10. Classes should be around 1.5 hours and our meeting location will be in the Lounge. Let Lorincz know if you'll be attending.

Vacation Bible School: Registration is now open for this free program open to the community. VBS will be held Aug. 8-12, from 9 a.m.-noon, or youth ages 4 through fifth grade. Register online by visiting the church website.

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 Chantclair, for ages 16 and up. June 4 and 11 are at the golf course and June 18 and 25 are at the driving range. Cost is \$95/resident, \$100/non-resident. Register online. Call Parks and Rec. for more information.

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.

For more information, call Parks and Rec.

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.

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., dance 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.

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The Colchester Hayward Fire Department recently held its annual awards banquet. Pictured from left is President John Knapp and some of the evening's honorees: Fire Chief Steven Hoffmann, Assistant Fire Chief Steve Morris, Assistant EMS Chief Audrie Babineau, Treasurer Chuck Maynard, and Vice President/Lt. Brad Bernier.

Firefighters Hold Awards Banquet

On Friday, May 20, more than 90 Colchester Hayward Fire Department members gathered in celebration of the department's 2021 Awards Banquet. Members and their families enjoyed a night of dinner, awards, laughter, dancing and karaoke. Honored were:

Cadet of the Year: Matthew Larosa; Probie of the Year: Nathan Marks; Fire Police of the Year: Michael Previti; EMT of the Year: Blake Bailargeon; Firefighter of the Year: Keith Kundahl; Officer of the Year: Lt. Brad Bernier; Presidents Awards: Bill Clark and Richard Berkman.

Years of Service Awards went to the following: 5 Years: Luis Goitia; 10 Years: Bill King, Jack Jobs and Elizabeth Szuba; 15 Years: Frank Gazdzicki; 20 Years: Jeff Bush, Jax Langdon and Chuck Maynard; 25 Years: Dave Barnes, Duane Palmes and Matt O'Connor; 30 Years: Walt Cox; 45 Years: Carl Albert; 50 Years: Tony Skut.

Twenty-five years is considered Life Mem-

bership in the CHFD. Because of this accomplishment, First Selectman Andreas Bisbikos and state Rep. Brian Smith (D-48) had proclamations for Barnes, Palmes, O'Connor and Skut.

Also, since it was EMS Week, the following members were recognized: Most EMS Shifts taken (666 hours): Richard Berkman; Most 2nd Crews Completed: Brendan Fiala and Blake Baillargeon.

Along with these were CPR Save Awards and various other unit citations from recent serious motor vehicle crashes.

There were three successful CPR Saves in 2021, and those EMS providers were the following career staff: Seth DeAngelis, Collin Maynard, Kyle Mosig, Walt Cox, John Drew, Don Lee, Sean Shoemaker and Bob Dombroski.

Mutual aid chiefs and captains from the Lebanon, East Haddam and Marlborough fire departments were also on hand for the banquet.

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, June 6: 8:30 a.m., Garden Club; 9 a.m., Making Memories Program; no Exercise with Anne or Sittercize today; 11 a.m., Learn to Sign; 12:30 p.m., Mah Jongg; 12:45 p.m., Set-back; 1 p.m., Bridge.

Tuesday, June 7: 9 a.m., Making Memories, Golf League; 9:15 a.m., BP Clinic; 9:45 a.m., Tai Chi; 10:30 a.m., AARP Lunch @ Papa Z's; 12:30-3:30 p.m., CHOICES Counseling; 12:30 p.m., Pinochle; 1:30 p.m., Bingo.

Wednesday, June 8: 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; 11 a.m., Cabaret trip departs; 12:30 p.m., Movie Club – *Cyrano* (rated PG-13); 12:30 p.m., Live Well with Diabetes (via Zoom); 1:30 p.m., Line Dancing; 2:30 p.m., staff meeting.

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

Friday, June 10: 9 a.m., Father's Day Breakfast with Apple Rehab; 10 a.m., Sit & Be Fit; 10:30 a.m., Choral Group; 11 a.m., Yoga; 1:30 p.m., Bingo.

Upcoming Programs: 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.

New to Medicare Event: Wednesday, June 29, 6 p.m., via Zoom. This virtual program is for individuals who are new to Medicare and feeling a little lost on all the different options. Laura Crews from Senior Resources will answer any Medicare-related questions. This is a free evening program, and registration is required. Register by June 22 to receive the Zoom link.

June is Dog Licensing Month

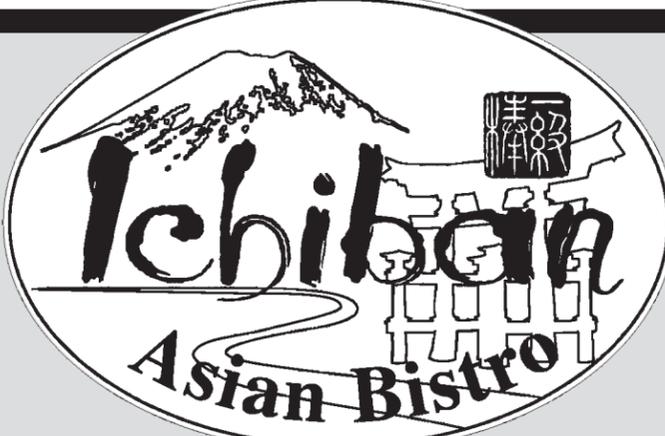
Town Clerk Gayle Furman is informing the public that June is dog licensing month. All dogs are required to be licensed in the state of Connecticut.

To register a dog, you will need proof of a rabies vaccine with an expiration of July 1, 2022, or later and proof that your dog is neutered or spayed. To obtain your license you can either visit the office or mail your request to: Town Clerk, 127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, CT 06415, along with a stamped self-addressed envelope and a check for the proper amount.

There is also online registration for currently registered dogs at colchesterct.gov on the town clerk page. The online registration does include processing fees for this service.

The license year is July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023. A spayed or neutered dog is \$8 and a not spayed or unneutered dog is \$19. Penalty charges of \$1 per month are added if licenses are not renewed by June 30.

For more information, email townclerk@colchesterct.gov or call 860-537-7215.



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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 MTI'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.

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.

Women's Softball League Seeks Members

The Colchester women's softball league is looking for ladies 19 and older to play slow pitch softball. Games are on Monday and Thursday nights. The season runs mid-June through mid-August.

If interested, visit www.facebook.com/colchesterwomensoftball and leave a message.

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.

Flag Retirement Ceremony

The American Legion, the Colchester Honor Guard and VFW will have a flag retirement ceremony on Flag Day, Tuesday, June 14, at 6:30 p.m., on the Town Green. All are invited.

Old and damaged flags will be accepted on the evening of the ceremony.

A used flag collection container is located on the left side of the stairs of the Colchester Senior Center for people who cannot attend the Flag Day ceremony.

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.

The Air Line Trail Toastmasters covers any towns within driving distance of Colchester – including Amston, Hebron and East Hampton.



Colchester Cares... The group Colchester Cares recently made a donation to the Colchester Senior Center. Pictured is senior center director Patty Watts (left) receives a check from Colchester Cares chair Kim Talrczyk, right.

Project Grad 2022-23 Board Elections

The Bacon Academy Project Graduation committee will hold elections for the 2022-23 board during a special meeting on Monday, June 6, at 7 p.m., at Bacon's Library Media Center. Nominations and actual elections will take place during the meeting. Board positions include president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, marketing & communications, and the UConn chair. Representation from all classes is encouraged.

Each position and its responsibilities are listed at www.baconacademyprojectgrad.org under "Meeting & Board Information." Those interested in learning more are encouraged to join the meeting, as the committee discusses our plans for the upcoming year. Those interested

in learning more or volunteering for a position can contact Melanie Hathaway at mghath425@gmail.com. The goal of the board is to increase awareness of Project Graduation's mission and promote fundraising opportunities for the classes of 2023-2026.

For more information and to learn more, go to www.baconacademyprojectgrad.org.

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, Aggadatah 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.

Resident Graduates

Alexander Bates of Colchester recently graduated from Stonehill College in Easton, Mass.

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Robocats, Ho!... The Bacon Academy robotics team, the Robocats, completed its season with a showcase and recognition night on May 17. The team showed off the completed robot and provided an opportunity for sponsors to test drive it. Robocats said they would like to thank the following individuals, organizations, and corporations for supporting the team: Dominion Energy, Carolina Precision, Tsunami Tsolutions, Baldi Sand and Gravel, InCord, Microbest, Colchester Lions Club, Ron Goldstein and Deb Howard.

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 Salmon, 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.

Berkshire Railroad Foliage Express: Sunday, Sept. 25, 8:30 a.m. Includes lunch at the Freight Yard Pub. On the way home, there will be a stop at Whitney's Farm & Market. Cost is \$123/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.

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REB-3-22



An Eagle Court of Honor was recently held at Colchester Federated Church for Eagle Scouts Benjamin Petrosky, left, and Thomas Russell.

Troop 72's Newest Eagle Scouts

An Eagle Court of Honor was recently held at Colchester Federated Church for Eagle Scouts Benjamin Petrosky and Thomas Russell. Both Petrosky and Russell crossed over to Troop 72 from Pack 109 in 2014 and graduated from Norwich Technical High School in 2021 from the pre-electrical engineering program with honors.

The two join 87 other Eagle Scouts in the troop's 83-year history. The Scouts must have earned 13 required merit badges and at least eight elective merit badges, served in troop leadership positions for at least 16 months, and spend at least 13 hours on service projects, not including the many hours spent on their own Eagle Scout service projects. In all, they have each completed approximately 325 different requirements.

The Eagle project is the highlight of the path to Eagle. Its focus is for the Scouts to be the project manager from concept, to funding and completion, including proposals, budgets, and writeup. All physical work for the projects was done by troop Scouts, leaders and some friends from Troop 72.

For Petrosky's Eagle project, he chose to make four benches on the Air Line Trail. The project was expanded to include two at the Lions Pond and one for the troop sponsor organization/Colchester Federated Church.

Petrosky is currently attending Three Rivers

Community College under the awarded Dominion Energy Scholarship, studying nuclear engineering technology. He will begin his internship this summer at Millstone Power Station/Dominion Energy. After graduating, he is considering furthering his education in undergraduate studies in nuclear engineering at UMass Lowell.

Meanwhile, for Russell's Eagle project he organized the refurbishing of the gazebo and sign board at Ruby and Elizabeth Cohen Woodlands in Colchester. This project fixed the various structural issues regarding the gazebo including a new floor and bench inside of the gazebo and gave both structures a new roof and paint.

Russell is currently attending Capital Community College in Hartford. He is majoring in computer networking/cybersecurity. He plans on possibly attending Worcester Polytechnic Institute after obtaining his associate's degree, or obtaining a certificate in cybersecurity provided by Google.

The ceremony also included guest speakers. Amanda Pearson, the Scout's guidance counselor from Norwich Tech and First Selectman Andreas Bisbikos. The new Eagle Scouts have much to be proud of and this achievement will follow them the rest of their life.

Troop 72 meets at Colchester Federated Church. For more information about Troop 72, email Scoutmaster@Troop72ct.org.

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 information, email the Colchester Garden Club at seedlibrarycolchester@gmail.com.

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RE6-3-22

Resident Graduates

Alaina Walsh of Colchester recently graduated cum laude from Roger Williams University in Bristol, R.I., with a degree in elementary education.

Council GOP Resists Parks & Rec Upgrades

By Jack Lakowsky

East Hampton Parks and Recreation Director Jeremy Hall, along with a consultant, presented to the Town Council a list of needs and wants the community named in a recent survey.

Most Republican council members appeared unresponsive to the survey's results.

Hall's consultant, Art Thatcher of the firm BerryDunn, assisted the department in developing a survey disseminated to the public earlier this year.

The survey was meant to gauge the townspeople's wants and needs for the town's recreation facilities and parks.

A renovation and "reimagining" of "loved to death" Sears Park, an indoor multisport complex, better pedestrian infrastructure, public access to the Connecticut River, a dog park and a splash pad were all items locals included in their request.

Another popular request, Thatcher said, was an indoor aquatics facility. Townspeople also want better communication from the town, specifically through email and social media.

Thatcher named as themes in many surveys needs for more facilities, better maintenance,

connections to the Air Line Trail, and a need for more gathering places.

People asked for "nontraditional" sports opportunities, such as bowling and biking, as well as more fun for teens and preteens.

Thatcher said the survey yielded 292 responses, nearly a fourth of East Hampton households.

"Most respondents felt parks and rec opportunities are important," Thatcher told the council.

Thatcher said the number of responses was excellent.

Mark Philhower, Republican council chair, disagreed. He said when the survey first launched, the same email accounts could fill out multiple surveys.

Thatcher said the company nixed this when the concern was brought to it, adding the firm usually allows the same email to fill multiple surveys so families in the same household can conveniently fill theirs out.

Council member Brandon Goff pointed out that the Commission on Aging recently conducted a survey that yielded far more responses.

Director Hall said a town-owned sports facil-

ity, named by many respondents, is preferable to a private facility. Sports on 66, an indoor sports business, was in East Hampton for a few years before closing.

Hall said private facilities tend to charge more, and this can price people out.

Later in the meeting, the council also resisted Hall's request for new staff, a program manager that would take on some administrative duties along with program coordination. Right now, Hall's program coordinator is part-time. The position sees high turnover, Hall said.

Hall said the position would help the department reach its goal of self-sustainability. Hall said the department is doing well, but existing staff have trouble meeting demand.

"The department needs more program staff,"

said Hall. The position would be about half-funded by department revenues, with the rest from the town.

The position's salary would be about \$42,000 a year.

Hall said the town's adult population wants more programming.

Philhower said he would favor adding the coordinator if it could solely be funded by special revenue. He said the position wasn't included in the budget voters recently approved.

Council member Pete Brown said the council should trust Parks and Recreation Department to cover the position's cost.

He said like a grant-funded position, if the money funding the position dried up, it simply goes away.

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.

Old Home Days Returns in July

The COVID-19 pandemic has put the Old Home Days event on ice each of the last two years, but the "glorious celebration" will return this summer, and take place July 14, 15 and 16.

This year, the Old Home Days committee will dedicate the 2022 festivities to the memory of Red McKinney, the perennial Master of Ceremonies, who died in December 2019. The theme for the event and parade is "Paint the Town Red!"

On Thursday, Friday evening and Saturday from the end of the parade until closing, singers and bands will entertain with funds raised entirely by the volunteer committee.

Old Home Days boasts a big top tent to shade attendees and provide seating for all of the vendor food options; a large stage for the entertainers; a dance floor to enjoy the music; a carnival for the kids; local organizations with a variety of food, drinks, treats and retail goods; and what's billed as "the largest parade in Middlesex County" on Saturday morning. The event also gives away bicycles to children 12 and under who can pick up one free ticket per night for their chance to win.

Business sponsorships are sought for the event. Call or text Jennifer Marozzi at 860-918-1302 for more information.

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.

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 today, Friday, June 3, from 3:30-7:30 p.m., at the VFW.

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

Bethlehem Lutheran Church News

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

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.

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.

Sports Boosters Golf Outing

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

For information, registration and sponsorship opportunities, visit ehhsboosters.com.

National Trails Day Events

National Trails Day is this weekend, June 4 and 5 – and East Hampton is hosting two events to celebrate.

East Hampton's first event is an educational walk Saturday, June 4, from 9-11 a.m., starting at the Air Line Trail's Smith Street trailhead (Cranberry Bog). There will be four informational stations with educational giveaways spread out over a three-mile walk. At each station participants will collect a ticket. Tickets should be presented at Cranberry Bog for a chance to win door prizes.

Prizes and donors are: Air Line Cycles gift

certificates for helmets, True Wellness massage gift certificate for one-hour massage, beer and swag from Fat Orange Cat Brew Co., Counter Weight Brewing Company, and Athletic Brewing Company, and gift certificates from Dunkin' Donuts, and DaVinci Pizza, and a Yeti mug. Trail is wheelchair-accessible and dogs on leashes are welcome.

The second event on Sunday, June 5, at 9 a.m., is a 15-20 mile no-drop gravel grinder. This also meets at Cranberry Bog. Registration and helmets are required for this event, trailsday.org.

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: Tuesdays at 7 p.m. and Saturdays at 9 a.m., with Erin Day of Ten Summit Yoga. Cost: drop-in \$10. Register at tensummitst@gmail.com.

Mahjong: Mondays at 11 a.m.

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

Featured Artist: Cathy Lovell will be show-

cased on our walls, starting June 9.

Communi-Tea: Saturday, June 11, 10 a.m.-noon. At this monthly gathering, take out a book and have a cup of tea. Coffee drinkers welcome. June 11 is also World Knit in Public Day; bring your projects.

Writer's Group: Wednesday, June 15, at 7 p.m. All are welcome; no experience necessary. There will be interactive writing exercises.

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.

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The recent Bellringer Spring Sprint was immediately preceded by a one-mile Kids' Fun Run. Pictured are the run's winners, Zachary Tyler, 7, from Maynard, Mass.; and Kayla Hawk, 8, and Forrest Bellucci, 12, both of East Hampton.

More Than 50 Participate in Spring Sprint

Ninety-degree heat didn't stop 52 runners and walkers of all ages from participating in the Bellringer Spring Sprint on Sunday, May 22 – the largest annual fundraiser for East Hampton High School's Project Graduation.

Due to the heat, the race, which is usually a 5-kilometer course, was shortened to 1.6 miles. Danielle Valiquette, 43, of South Windsor, was the overall women's winner with a time of 13:22, and Jacob Carson, 19, was the overall men's finisher with a time of 8:43. Helena Wisniewski, 12, of East Hampton, was the winner of the female 13-and-under category, and 5-year-old Nicholas LeBlanc of East Hampton won the male 13-and-under category. LeBlanc was the youngest 5K runner of the day.

The day began with a one-mile Kids' Fun Run. Twelve kids ages 2 through 12 ran around the west soccer field at the high school. The Fun Run winners were: Kayla Hawk, 8, of East Hampton, in third place; Zachary Tyler, 7, of Maynard, Mass., in second place; and Forrest Bellucci, 12, of East Hampton, in first place.

Besides contending with near record-breaking heat, the Spring Sprint runners had to navigate a new course that has changed three times in the past several years. The changes in the course have been caused by several extenuating circumstances.

Originally run along Lake Pocotopaug on North Main Street, the race had to be relocated three years ago away from traffic after a town ordinance was passed requiring the committee to pay police officers to oversee the race route to ensure runners' safety along town roads.

"It just became too expensive for the committee to have to pay for the police," said eight-year committee member and this year's chair of the

event, Melissa Curylo. "We don't raise enough money to offset the cost and still make a profit."

Starting last year – after taking a year off due to COVID-19 – the race was relocated to the East Hampton High School grounds. However, this year, with the high school track undergoing renovations, the race course had to be re-planned around the building to avoid the construction.

"It was really challenging this year," said Project Graduation Committee co-chair Cyndi Buchan. "With Coach Sean Russell's help, we came up with the best alternative route we could, given the circumstances. But admittedly, it wasn't the best race experience. We'd like to improve on that in coming years, but we need more volunteer help, since our most active committee members are parents of children who have either already graduated or will be graduating this year."

Buchan added that any East Hampton parents who would like to help Project Graduation with future events should send an email to ehstctprojgrad@gmail.com. Project Graduation raises funds year-round to provide a drug-free and alcohol-free all-night graduation celebration for graduating high school seniors.

The addition of business sponsorship for the race also helped with the fundraising this year, according to Curylo. Title sponsors were Paul's & Sandy's Too and Dickinson's Witch Hazel Skincare. Other sponsors were AllWaste Inc., Pizzeria Da Vinci of Cobalt, Kenneth Barber & Associates of East Hampton, Risinger Orthodontics of Glastonbury, and Classic Auto, Palmer Eyecare and Team Fitness, all of East Hampton.

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.

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.

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.



Since opening in April, Route 66's Paradise Marine & Dock Supply has prospered, according to owner Ed Yeomans. Soon, he plans to renovate the property.

New Shop 'Headquarters for Any Dock Needs'

By Jack Lakowsky

Ed Yeomans, owner of Paradise Marine & Dock Supply on Route 66, said his place is the place to go for any dock or boat service needs.

"Our focus on boat service is superior to everybody," Yeomans told the *Rivereast* this week.

Yeomans, a 30-year industry veteran, opened Paradise in April, partnering with a local businessperson.

"I'm looking forward to doing an outstanding job for boat and dock customers," Yeomans said.

Yeomans said Paradise can fix just about any boat needs, from engine replacements to winterization.

It's also a full-service dock provider, selling the product and taking it in during the cold months.

"We do it all," he said.

"We're the headquarters for any dock needs," he said. "We have the largest dock inventory in

Connecticut, floating or stationary."

While most other marinas provide winter storage and covering, Paradise focuses on maintenance and service.

For everyday upkeep, Yeomans advises adding fuel stabilizers after every refueling, and to make sure the boat is covered in the winter.

"A large majority of issues boaters face (are) related to old fuel," he said. "Covering the boat is essential to keep it looking good."

Yeomans said East Hampton's boating community is "just outstanding," and that business is booming.

He said he plans to beautify and renovate the property.

"We want it be beautiful for the town to blend right in," he said, adding he's already re-sided the building and put a deck on the roof.

Palm trees are on order, he said.

For more information visit paradiesemarinedocks.com or call 860-365-5930.

Local Students Honored

Three East Hampton students were recently honored at Eastern Connecticut State University.

Joseph Caruso, a senior who majors in criminology and sociology, was inducted into the Alpha Kappa Delta international honor society for sociology; Ian Dill, a senior who majors in English, gave a capstone poster presentation at the Department of English's annual awards ceremony; and Amanda Weech, a senior who majors in social work, was inducted into the Phi Alpha national honor society.

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.

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-Winston Churchill

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East Hampton • East Hampton



The East Hampton fire brigade lines up to strut its stuff throughout town during Belltown's Memorial Day Parade Monday.

Parade Marchers Eagerly Resume After Hiatus

By Jack Lakowsky

East Hampton's 2022 Memorial Day Parade was held on Monday for the first time since 2019. The pandemic put the celebration of the country's fallen military on hold.

The *Rivereast* caught up with parade-marchers – Girl Scouts, the middle school band, Little Leaguers, local officials and members of the armed forces – before the parade's outset from East Hampton High School.

The beautiful weather seemed to energize participants, particularly the young ones. The joy to gather for a community tradition was palpable. Kids in sports gear chased each other in the grass, running into skids and shouting their excitement as only a child can.

The parade began its march through town bright and early, at 9 a.m.

An early arrival was the East Hampton Middle School Marching Band, led by director and music teacher Neil Shilansky.

"We've been doing this for years," said Shilansky, excepting the last two of course.

The band was riding the momentum of its recent spring concert.

Local Girl Scout Troop 62059 made its parade debut this year. The 32-girl strong group is the largest in East Hampton, according to supervisor Megan Englehardt.

"The girls were too young before," Engle-

hardt told the *Rivereast*. "We're feeling really good."

One young scout said she's never before marched in a parade and was overjoyed to take part.

Jean Bish was there helping mini athletes get ready to march. It was his first-time taking part in an East Hampton Memorial Day Parade.

One young man, a player for local nonprofit childcare center KOCO, was a veteran of parade marching, having walked in three. It was his first Memorial Day march.

Town Council Chair Mark Philhower said he's never missed a Memorial Day Parade.

"I'm just happy to be here on this nice day," he said. "I love being back."

Philhower's father was a veteran of World War II.

Councilor Kevin Reich said "after two years of COVID, this is truly a very special day for these fine folks.

"This is part of celebrating all that they've done for us," Reich said. "They are why we are who we are, why the USA is what it is."

Senior Center Trip to Martha's Vineyard

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

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

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

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.

Water Systems to be Flushed

The Town Center Water System will be flushed from Tuesday, June 7, through Thursday, June 9, and the Royal Oaks Water System will be flushed from Tuesday, June 14, through Thursday, June 16.

The town's water department periodically flushes its water lines to ensure that the valves are in good working order and to maintain water quality. Flushing will be between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. There may be a

temporary drop in pressure and any possible discoloration of the water during flushing operations. Customers are advised to avoid using washing machines, dishwashers or other water using devices during flushing operations.

Running cold water will help to clear discolored water. If discolored water or low pressure persists into the next day, call the water department at 860-267-2536.

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.

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.

Chatham Health District Q & A: Monday, June 13, 10 a.m. Meet at the Senior Center for a Zoom presentation with Chatham Health District to have questions answered about COVID-19, vaccinations, boosters and more. Pre-registration requested.

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.

Chair Yoga with Kitch: Wednesdays, June 15-Aug. 17, 11:40 a.m.-12:40 p.m. The class meets in the Community Room at Town Hall, as well as via Zoom. Register online at MyactiveCenter.com. The 10-week session is \$20.

Payment may be mailed or dropped off to the senior center; make checks payable to the Town of East Hampton. Note: The June 15 yoga will be at Sears Park at 11:30 a.m.

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.

MyActiveCenter.com Training: Tuesday, June 21, 9:30-10:30 a.m. Learn the basics of how to log in, use the site and register for activities. Pre-registration requested, by calling the senior center.

East Hampton Speaks: Friday, June 24, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Discuss the days of yesterday. Bring memories and memorabilia to share. Register online. Limited space available.

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 Jewing@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.

Class of '67 Reunion

The East Hampton High School class of 1967 will celebrate its 55th Class Reunion Sunday, Sept. 25, at 5 p.m., in the upper room of Lakeside Bar and Grill, 81 North Main St. Attendees will order off the menu; pay as you go.

If interested in attending, call Rita at 860 798-1092, Lauralei at 860 424-2284 or GERALYN at 860 682-2067 as soon as possible, as a head count has been requested by management.

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. 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.

Running for Brews

There's a new social running club in East Hampton – and all are invited.

Running For Brews meets Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. at Dexter's Tunes, Tales and Ales, 91 Main St. Runners proceed to run a 5K (or whatever distance they want) along the Air Line Trail route, and then end with cold brews or water at Dexter's.

All levels of runners (or walkers) are welcome. Contact Greg Jones for more details at jonesinthelife@gmail.com or text 860-966-7179.



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KOCO4Kids Corner



Congratulations, Graduates!

Whether from preschool, high school or college, we congratulate the students and staff of KOCO who are graduating this season. All the best in your next adventures!

koco4kids.org

East Hampton • East Hampton

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: Toddler Time: Wednesdays, 10:15 a.m., for children ages 18 months to 3 years. Drop-ins welcome.

Stories & Songs: Wednesdays, 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.

Mindful Movements – Outside!: Monday, June 27, 10:30 a.m., at Seamster Park/Memorial School, for ages 18 months and up. Siblings welcome; register online.

Canvas Kids – Pablo Picasso: For grades 1-5. Tuesday, June 28, 3 p.m. Registration is required. Learn about Picasso and create your own Mixed-Up-Mask.

Special Police Officer Storytime!: Wednesday, June 29, 10:15 a.m., at Seamster Park. A local police officer will do the reading this week. Registration required. Siblings welcome.

Read to a Therapy Dog: Wednesday, June 29, 4-5 p.m., in the community room. Kids in grades K-3 are invited to come to the library and read aloud to a trained therapy dog, Lilly. Registration required. Each participant will be assigned a 15-minute time slot during the hour of the program.

Baby Rhyme Time – Outside: Thursday, June 30, 10:15 a.m., at the Village Center Gazebo, for ages birth to 18 months and their caregivers. Bring a blanket/something comfy to sit on. Parking available at the Congregational Church/Center School.

Amazing Animals – Aquatic Adaptions!: Thursday, June 30, 2-3 p.m. Registration required. Amazing Animals is a four-part series of nature programs hosted by the Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center. This week, meet several of DPNC’s resident pond animals, play a snapping turtle game and make a frog call craft. For ages 5 and up. Siblings welcome.

Teen Programs: Take and Make (Grades 6-12): Mini Art Exhibit: Tuesday, June 7, 10 a.m. Registration required. 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.

Pre-Teen Advisory Board: Tuesday, June 21, 5:30 p.m. Students in grades 6-8 can provide input to expand the library’s YA/Teen collection and plan programs.

Teen Advisory Board: Wednesday, June 22, 6 p.m. Students in grades 9-12 can help plan events and programs they want to see at the library. Teen Advisory Board requires a monthly commitment and participation.

Adult Programs: 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.

Book Club: Tuesday, June 21, 6:30 p.m. *The Twelve Lives of Samuel Hawley* by Hannah Tinti will be discussed. Registration required.

Tapping into the Past: Tavern Life in Early Connecticut: Tuesday, June 28, 6:30 p.m. Learn about how taverns were an essential part of every Connecticut town.



You’re a Runner, You’re a Track Star

East Hampton Public Schools recently posted to Facebook this aerial photo of the refurbished track, now open to the public before and after school hours and all day during the summer, Superintendent of Schools Paul Smith said.

The work was completed throughout the winter and spring. The district’s fields committee, which includes Town Council member Kevin Reich and Parks and Recreation director Jeremy Hall, oversaw the work, and Smith said the

group deserves the credit.

Smith also said work on the district’s tennis courts, and its new pickleball court, will finish after the high school’s graduation.

The athletic booster club donated a storage shed, Smith said.

To keep the track healthy, no dogs or baby carriages are allowed on the track.

“We’re happy with all the fields,” Smith said.

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Volunteers Sought for Clean Energy Task Force

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

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

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

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Sale Dates 6/4/22 through 6/30/22

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|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | Gordon’s Gin 80° \$19 ⁹⁹ (1.75 L) | Dewers Scotch 80° \$34 ⁹⁹ (1.75 L) | Bulleit Bourbon 90° \$51 ⁹⁹ (1.75 L) |
| | Bota Box Wines \$19 ⁹⁹ (3 L box) | Black Box Wines \$19 ⁹⁹ (3 L box) | Sutterhome Wines \$9 ⁹⁹ (1.5 L) |
| WINE | Berringer Main and Vine \$9 ⁹⁹ (1.5 L) | Berringer Founders Wines \$16 ⁹⁹ (1.5 L) | Mondavi Private Selection Wines \$16 ⁹⁹ (1.5 L) |
| BEER | Natural Lite & Ice 12 oz., 30-pack cans \$17 ⁴⁹ | Bud & Light 12 oz., 12-pack cans \$11 ⁹⁹ | |
| | White Claw 12 oz., 2/12-pack cans \$31 ⁴⁹ | Long Trail Ale 12 oz., 2/12-pack cans \$28 ⁹⁹ | |

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Ford Commits to Central Connecticut State University

By Josh Howard

Melina Ford, a junior at Mercy High School in Middletown, has committed to play Division I soccer at Central Connecticut State University (CCSU).

Ford, who has lived in Portland her entire life, became a nationally recognized goalie this past fall and will be protecting the nets in New Britain for the Blue Devils starting in 2023.

"I have always been interested in Central because my grandfather used to teach there and it is close to home," said Ford. "Also, I already knew the coach and some of the players on the team."

She will be playing under a familiar system at her next destination, having played club soccer under CCSU head coach Mick D'Arcy, who has been guiding the Blue Devils for over two decades and has led the program to 10 conference titles and 10 NCAA tournament appearances.

Ford's journey to collegiate soccer started at the age of three.

The now 17-year-old first started as a field player and began playing goalie for the town team around the age of 10. She continued to rotate between playing in the field and in goal throughout middle school before finally settling in as Mercy High School's starting goalie as a freshman in high school.

Ford said playing multiple positions gave her

a better perspective of the game, adding, "I feel like it gave me a sense of how different minds on the field work."

She has thrived since taking over the goalie duties at Mercy, earning All-Southern Connecticut Conference (SCC) twice, All-State the last two years, and All-New England last season.

Ford also became the first Mercy soccer player to ever be named All-American this past fall.

The three-year starter has been a brick wall, registering over 30 shutouts, including back-to-back goalless games as Mercy was crowned co-champions of the Class M state tournament last November.

In the tourney semifinals, she blanked Granby and then held Sacred Heart Academy scoreless through regulation and two overtime periods (110 game minutes) as Mercy and Sacred Heart settled on a 0-0 tie in the title game.

Last fall was a banner year for the Tigers of Middletown, who won their second straight SCC title and the draw in the state title game earned the program their first state championship recognition.

Ford recalled the stress and exhaustion of the double OT tie in the title game, saying, "It was exciting but it was very nerve-wracking because I didn't want to let the team down with everything that was riding on the game. I felt like I had to step up and take it on."

The season ended with a championship, but it started with a pair of losses in the first month of the season.

Things began to turn around for Ford and her team following a 3-0 loss to Guilford on Sept. 29.

"In the beginning it was a bumpy ride," recalled Ford. "We really just needed that one loss to get us to work together."

Mercy would not lose another game the rest of the season, including a redemption win over Guilford (1-0) on Oct. 21.

This fall, the Tigers will return all but one starter as Ford heads back into goal for her fourth and final high school season.

"We already have that team chemistry and we know how to work with each other," said Ford, who has become an unquestioned leader on the field, taking over that role this past season.

Ford, who also plays basketball and has run outdoor track for Mercy, said it was important for her to make a collegiate decision prior to her senior season.

"It already feels like it has made a big impact and I won't have to stress as much," said Ford,



Melina Ford has committed to play soccer at Central Connecticut State University.

who added that she looked at schools outside of the state before deciding to stay local. "I always had the feeling that I wanted to stay in Connecticut."

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: Saturday, June 4, 10:30-11:15 a.m., and Wednesday, June 8, 9:30-10:15 a.m., at Buck-Foreman Community Center (BFCC). Fee is \$7 each day.

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

Junior Golf Workshops: Parks and Rec. will hold two more workshops for children in grades K-2, 3-5, and 6-8. One will be Wednesdays, July 6-27; and the third will be Mondays, Sept. 12-Oct. 3.

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 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.

Outdoor Worship: On the second Sunday of each month this summer, worship will be held outdoors on the front lawn in front of the Fellowship Hall (weather permitting). The dates are: June 12, July 10 and Aug. 14. Bring your own chair(s), a hat, sunglasses, water, anything to make yourself comfortable, especially if it's

sunny and hot. Worship will be indoors for the other Sundays this summer.

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*. Anyone may join at any time. Call the church for more details.

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.

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.

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.

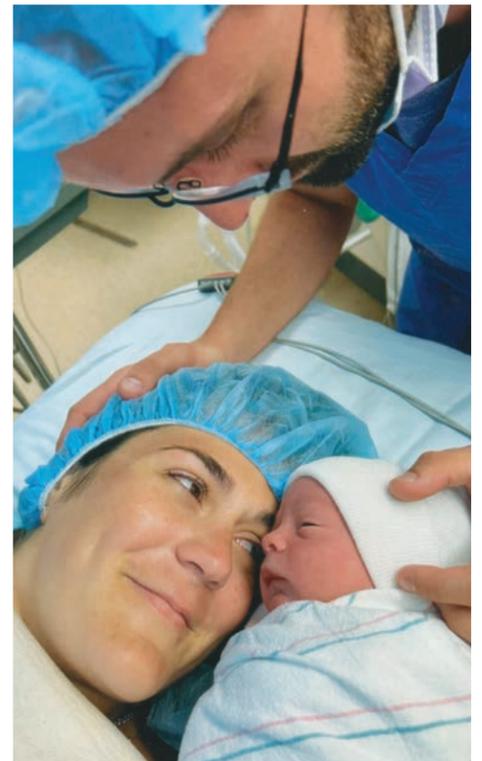
Little Hikers: This group ventures out on the first Friday of each month at 10:30 a.m.; next hike is June 3 and will begin at the Depot Hill Road entrance to the Portland Air Line Trail. The hikers went about a third of a mile last time, and will probably keep it to a third or half of a mile this time.

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.



Birth Announced... Kyle and Courtney (Classon) Day of Portland have announced the birth of a son, James Ronald Day. James was born May 5 at Manchester Memorial Hospital. Paternal grandparents are Ronald Jr. and Michelle Day, and Shelley King. Maternal grandparents are James and Patricia Classon. Paternal great-grandparents are Sharon and Ronald King, and Ronald Day Sr. Maternal great-grandparents are Janet Knowlton and Lois Classon.



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Grant Received... Portland Youth & Family Services and Portland Parks & Recreation recently received grants from the M. Jones Fund at the Community Foundation of Middlesex County. Scott Nardozi, a board member at the Community Foundation, is pictured presenting the grants to Parks & Rec director Nate Foley (in left photo) and YFS administrator Jesse Revicki (in right photo). The funds will go towards summer programs and camps for community youth.



Scholarship Winner... Senior Sierra Koss (right) was awarded the Portland Exchange Club's John W. Goodrich scholarship at Awards Night at Portland High School. Kpss will study nursing at the University of St. Joseph in the fall. Jamie Leonard from the Portland Exchange presented the award.

Poetry Contest to Honor Late Resident

The Buttonwood Tree of Middletown is accepting submissions for its poetry contest, "Set Your Conscious Free" which is being held in honor of Buttonwood Tree founder the late Susan Allison, as well as the late Barbara Payne, a longtime Portland resident. Payne is being honored as the mother of Naji Chester Payne, Portland's current poet laureate, who inspired and is co-sponsoring this contest. The winner of the contest will receive \$100. Second place is \$50, and third place is

\$25. There will also be honorable mentions. The contest is open to anyone ages 16 and over, and there is no fee to enter. Entries can be submitted until 11:59 p.m. June 30; limit is one poem per person. For rules and to submit your poem, go to buttonwood.org/poetry-contest to submit your poems. Visit buttonwood.org for more information, Instagram: @NPOETRY7, or call 860-347-4957 or email TheButtonwoodTree@gmail.com.

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 Trinity, 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 trinity-churchportlandct@gmail.com or call 860-342-0458.

Book Sale, Read & Recycle

The Friends of the Portland Library group has fiction, romance, teen and children's used books, in the Second-Hand Prose Bookshop at the Portland Library during regular library hours. The library is located at 20 Freestone Ave. Books are 50 cents for paperbacks and children's books, \$1 for trade paperbacks and \$2 for hardcover. DVDs are 50 cents each disc, unless marked otherwise. There are also mystery and general fiction books that have been removed from the library collection, all for 50 cents each. Also, the Friends' Read & Recycle program will accept donations Saturday, June 25, from 10 a.m.-noon, in the Mary Flood Room of the library. The Friends welcome donations of gently-used

books, puzzles, CDs, DVDs and games. No textbooks, business books, computer books, self-help books, VHS videos or magazines, please. All donated items must be in "sellable" condition; the Friends cannot accept items that are dirty, moldy or in poor condition. Donations must be dropped off at the library side door, and volunteers will be available to receive the donations. Donations are tax-deductible and acknowledgement forms will be available. Donated items are sold at various Friends' book sales held throughout the year, and all proceeds are used to support programs of Portland Library. Visit www.friendsofportlandlibraryct.org for more information or email questions to friendsoftheportlandlibrary@gmail.com.

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 bluesombbrero.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 guaran-

teed 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.

Methodist Church News

Portland United Methodist Church, located at 381 Main St., holds in-person worship Sundays at 9 a.m. All are invited. Masks required for those not fully vaccinated.

Resident Named Salutatorian of Mercy High Class

Mercy High School has announced that Ella Bankoski of Portland is salutatorian of the Class of 2022. The announcement, made by Alissa DeJonge, president of Mercy High School, came following the traditional annual senior class tree dedication ceremony on the Middletown campus, on May 10. During their years attending Mercy, Bankoski maintained an impeccable academic record while staying actively involved in school organizations and activities, showing dedication to the Mercy community and greater community, the school said in a press release. Bankoski is daughter of Brian and Tonia Bankoski of Portland. During her high school years, she earned the Brown University Book Award, and awards in math, Latin and chemistry. She was a participant on the Mercy gymnastics team and served as this year's co-captain, dive team, the Junior Classical League, Peer Ministry and served as a board member, Mercy Ambassadors, the National Honor Society, Math National Honor Society, and vice president of the Latin National Honor Society.



Ella Bankoski

Bankoski will attend Sacred Heart University in the fall.

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Portland • Portland

Sangria Saturdays, Sunday Brunches

By Jack Lakowsky

Bringing in experience from overseeing many restaurants, new Ridge Restaurant partner Matt Bailey, along with owner Patti Vale, are ready to serve customers something different.

The Ridge, which opened last year, is the restaurant and bar housed in the same building as the Quarry Ridge Golf Course.

Bailey is an owner of Fork Hospitality, a restaurant consulting group. The company both owns its own restaurants and helps optimize many more. Two of Fork's major success stories are Elm City Social and its counterpart, Olives and Oil, both in New Haven.

It was a night out by the Ridge owners to Olives and Oil, the energy and atmosphere they felt there, that made them want to partner with Bailey. Bailey stepped in to help run the restaurant and bar.

Fork also runs Tomato Joes in Rocky Hill. "We've got all sorts of restaurants, from American gastropub to Italian," he said. "When we come into a spot we look for what can we develop, how can we make it a success."

Bailey said the picturesque property, and the fact that the local market is underserved, compelled him to join up with Ridge.

"I'm excited to show people what we have to offer," said Bailey.

In the New Haven restaurants, food is served fresh, never frozen. The same goes for Ridge, where local farm-fresh food is also offered.

Bailey said he sources from Connecticut farms, some as close by as Middletown and Glastonbury.

Sourcing locally, Bailey said, is armor against the current supply turbulence hindering just about every industry. A supply issue with a farm across the country won't affect the Portland restaurant. It also keeps dollars in the local economy and ensures the high-quality fare Ridge wants to be known for.

Bailey has some exciting plans. He said starting June 5, he's starting Sunday brunches. Eventually, the restaurant will have Sangria Saturdays.

Ridge emphasizes synergy with the golf course and pro shop, like its "wine and nine", putting while enjoying some vino.

"People are happy about the much-improved course conditions and clubhouse renovations," he said. "Customers say it's the best it's been in years. With what we offer, we're on par with any private clubs in the area, except we welcome everyone and skip the stuff atmosphere."



Ridge Restaurant, the eatery at Quarry Ridge Golf Course, offers unique treats that are hard to find but easy to enjoy, like its honey-garlic cauliflower, an irresistible treat even to someone like this reporter, who thinks cauliflower should be banned. Ridge has many future plans, including adding Sunday brunches. Also pictured are Ridge's signature charcuterie boards, a caprese salad with fresh mozzarella, and a lemony baked cod on pesto farro.

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.

St. Mary Church News

St. Mary Roman Catholic Church is located at 45 Freestone Ave. The church office can be reached at 860-342-2328. Office hours are 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Friday. For more information, visit www.stmaryportlandct.org. Pastor is the Rev. John Antonelle. Masks are strongly recommended.

Weekend Mass: 5 p.m. Saturday and 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Sunday. The 10:30 a.m. Sunday Mass is livestreamed each week; visit the parish website for more information.

Weekday Mass: Monday and Tuesday at 8 a.m., and Friday at 12:10 p.m.

Confession: Saturday at 4-4:45 p.m., or call

Antonelle for an appointment.

Other Programs: For information on faith formation programs, baptisms, blessings of marriages, Knights of Columbus, the St. Mary Ladies Guild and more, call the church office.

Grace and Mercy Church News

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

Lawn Irrigation Inspections

During June, July and August, the town inspector will conduct inspections of irrigation systems on the public water supply.

In order to do this, your system must be activated. If for some reason it is not activated, call Public Works at 860-342-6733 to schedule an appointment for a different time.

If the inspector comes out and your system is not activated, you will still be charged the \$75 inspection fee.

'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.

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Standouts Athletes of the Week

By Josh Howard

Here are the *Rivereast* Standouts of the Week for the week of May 23-29:

Luke Stennett – Portland High School (Golf): Stennett shot a 69 (-2), finishing as the co-medalist as the Highlanders easily won the Shoreline Conference (SLC) championship at TCP River Highlands in Cromwell on May 24. The sophomore was one of three Highlanders to be named first-team all-conference – joining Quinn Lapinski and Joe Lamalfa – as Portland cruised to a conference victory, besting runner-up Morgan High School by 28 strokes. Along with winning conference, the Highlanders finished the regular season with a perfect (16-0) record.

Diana Zito – RHAM High School (La-crosse): Zito broke the program’s single season assist record, dishing out 24 helpers this spring and surpassing the mark at RHAM High School in the team’s final game of the season on May 19. The junior was a true scoring threat for the Raptors, scoring goals and setting up a record number of other, and she was also named a scholar-athlete for her leadership on the field, along with her work in the school and in the

community.

Jake Martino – Bacon Academy High School (Track & Field): Martino took first-place in the javelin at the Eastern Connecticut Conference (ECC) championships on May 23 at East Lyme High School. The junior set a personal-best mark, throwing the projectile 152’10”, as the Bobcats secured the top three spots in the javelin thanks to Martino, Peter Walsh (2nd), Peyton Adams (3rd). Bacon Academy placed fourth overall as a team.

Nicholas Rivard-Lentz – East Hampton High School (Track & Field): Rivard-Lentz pulled the rare double-dip, capturing a conference championship on the track and in the field during the Shoreline Conference (SLC) championships at Old Saybrook High School on May 25. The senior won 110 meter hurdles, running a time of 16.59, and then won the pole vault, vaulting 13’03”, which was nearly two-feet higher than second-place finisher Gage Rovelli of Coginchaug.

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



Portland High School sophomore Luke Stennett was the co-medalist of the Shoreline Conference golf championship as the Highlanders won the conference meet in a landslide.

Cover Story • Cover



A John Deere tractor carrying U.S. veterans to the Memorial Green was part of the cavalcade in Hebron’s Memorial Day Parade Monday.

★ Remember cont. from page 25

cover and Marlborough as well – that hot and sunny day.

One of the students in the group, Olivia Perez, said it was a family tradition to mark Memorial Day with parties and get-togethers celebrating the beginning of summer while noting its more serious connections.

“It’s nice to celebrate [those who gave their lives] because they aren’t able to be here,” Perez said.

A little way down the road, Mike and Kristen Raymond sat with their children, four-year old Jacob and two-year old Emily.

Kristen said the family was there to “celebrate everyone who served our country” and to educate the children about that history.

Col. Dennis Saucier, who gave the invocation at the beginning and end of the ceremony pointed to the sanctity of the occasion.

“We remember those who rest now in eternal peace in cemeteries across our nation, on foreign soils, beneath the waves of the ocean,” he said. “They rest and they wait. We honor them and their sacrifice and we’ll remember why they gave their lives for this nation for our liberties and freedoms. Let us be challenged and motivated to be united together to be worthy of their sacrifice and to never forget what they

have given us as a precious gift.”

Joe Fetta, commander of the Hebron chapter of the American Legion, spoke of the “solemn duty” to honor simply and profoundly those who paid that price.

“We gather to honor, remember our fallen heroes,” he said. “The agony, they suffered and their blood that was shed is the price of liberty that blesses our nation.”

Before listing the names of Hebron’s fallen, Fetta also reflected on those who survived war.

“The survivors of our wars, the families, the veterans, and all Americans are the legacy of our heroes, and each of us has an obligation to keep this legacy alive by remembering those who have secured our freedom,” he said. “They gave everything so that we may have the things we love.”

He then invited women from the American Legion Ladies Auxiliary to lay wreaths over the war monuments on the green. Shortly thereafter, the soldiers behind the podium were given the order to take aim and fire at the sky in salute of the dead.

The bellowing shots resonated over the bustle of traffic in echo of distant and past sounds of war, bringing home the gravity of the occasion.

Cover Story • Cover

★ Colchester Memorial Day cont. from page 1

come together, especially after the pandemic. “This is a tradition that this community can never lose,” he told the *Rivereast*. “This is one of the events that brings everybody together.”

He stated that both Finkelstein and Ryan were both perfect examples of citizens who deserved to be recognized on Memorial Day.

“Not only are they Colchester residents but they are individuals that provided so much effort and dedication to our country to ensure that we have the wonderful life that we take for granted every day,” he said.

Chris Rivers – a current member of the Colchester Board of Education and also the Democratic candidate for the 48th District this fall – reflected on his own military service.

Rivers was deployed to Operation Iraqi Freedom and Afghanistan.

“For me, this holiday is really about my lost friends,” Rivers said. “It’s about the families that continue to sacrifice each and every day without their love one and it’s about making sure that we as a community and we individually do something that lives up to that level of sacrifice.”

Rivers also emphasized the value of a town experiencing events like the parade and hopes it will inspire people.

“We could all choose to stay home and re-

member in our own way,” Rivers said. “But there’s something special that happens when we all collectively get together and remind ourselves that we are a community and that anything that we want to tackle, whether it’s big or small, needs us to tackle it as a community.”

Spectators echoed that view, expressing how for many people, the parade is a significant day of the year.

Linda Bromley, who has lived in Colchester for many years, believes the parade is a great way for the town to support kids.

“I think it’s a huge day for the kids in the community,” she said. “It’s nice to watch them and they’re so happy to be here.”

Her kids grew up in Marlborough and used to march in that town’s parade.

She also expressed how important it was to read the names of people who died in war.

“Nobody wants to be forgotten,” she said.

The parade also brings out local groups who enjoy interacting with the community.

The Colchester Leo Club, which is made up of kids ages 12-18, was selling waters. The money raised will ultimately go to charities that the kids decide on.

“It’s great to be fully able to interact with the community again,” Beth Mullen, an advisor with the club, said.



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Marlborough • Marlborough



'Round the Lake Winners... The May 29th running of the Marlborough Lions 'Round the Lake 5K was a successful event, with over 120 runners. The overall winners were the couple from Marlborough pictured here: William Sanders (who ran the race in 16 minutes, 9 seconds) and Sybil Sanders (20 minutes, 16 seconds). The Lions thanked the local businesses who provided race sponsorships, as well as Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members for providing traffic control, volunteers with the Roy B. Pettengill Ambulance Association, and town constables. For more information on becoming a Lion, call club president Megan Lloyd at 413-687-5537 or secretary Ken Hjulstrom at 860-490-9116.

Congregational Church News & Notes

Sunday in-person worship services at Marlborough Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, located at 35 S. Main St., are at 10 a.m. All are welcome; masks are optional. The service is also livestreamed each week at mcc.marlbconchurch.org, and is recorded to watch later.

During worship childcare for infants and toddlers is provided every Sunday downstairs in the nursery; however, children are always welcome at the worship service.

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

Sunday, June 5 is Pentecost Sunday. The service will be led by the Rev. Bob Faulhaber and will include Holy Communion. At the Marlborough Congregational Church, communion is open to all, regardless of church affiliation, including children with parental guidance. The bread used is gluten-free. After worship, a meet-and-greet time with refreshments will be held in the lounge, and all are invited.

Mission-giving for June will go to the AHM Mental Health Fund. Donations can be made payable to the church and sent to P.O. Box 57, Marlborough, CT 06447 or placed in an offering box on a Sunday.

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

Second Blessings Thrift Shop will be open Friday, June 3, from noon-3 p.m. The shop will be closed Saturday, June 4 for a nursery school Touch a Truck event. Starting June 10, the shop will be open every Friday from noon to 3 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon. Second Blessings accepts donations during shopping hours. Unique and higher-quality items are sold year-round through eBay at bit.ly/MCCebay.

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

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.balsam-designct.com.

Local Students Honored

Several Marlborough students were recently honored at Eastern Connecticut State University.

Daniel Cormier, a sophomore who majors in accounting; was awarded the Eastern's Founders of Accounting Scholarship; Abigail Erikson, a junior who majors in psychology, was inducted into the Psi Chi international psychology honor society; Jacob Lee, a senior who majors in psychology, was inducted into the Psi Chi international psychology honor society and received departmental honors for highest distinction; Allie Rulli, a senior who majors in business administration, was inducted into the Alpha Mu Alpha national marketing honor society; Cameron Soulagnet, a junior who majors in environmental Earth science; was awarded the Geomorphology Research Recognition award; and Jessica Tardif, a senior who majors in social work, was inducted into the Phi Alpha national honor society.

Fife and Drum Corps Seeking Members

The Marlborough Jr. Ancient Fife and Drum Corps is now recruiting children between the ages of 8 and 17 to join the ranks.

Members learn to march and play the fife, snare drum or bass drum from our very capable instructors, free of charge. Members have opportunities to travel throughout New England while the Corps performs at parades, musters and other events.

The Marlborough Jr. Ancients meet every Tuesday night at 6:30 p.m. for lessons and marching practice.

For more information, visit Marlborough Jr. Ancient Fife & Drum Corps on Facebook or visit www.MarlboroughJrAncients.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.

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.

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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.

Parks and Rec Programs

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

Special Events: Summer Concert – Seat of Our Pants: Thursday, June 9, 6 p.m., at the Blish Park pavilion. Admission is free.

Adult Programs: Barre/Pilates: Mondays, 5-5:45 p.m., June 6-27 or Wednesdays, 5:30-6:15 p.m., through June 29 (started June 1). 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.

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 through June 30 (start-

ed June 2), 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.

Resident Graduates

Maggie Crean of Marlborough recently graduated from the University of New Hampshire.

Coffee with Wes

All are invited to have coffee next week with Wes Skorski, a Marlborough resident running to be state representative for the 55th District (which after November will cover Andover, Hebron, Marlborough and parts of Glastonbury).

Skorski will be at Marlborough Bakery, located at 8 Independence Drive, on Thursday, June 9, from 7-9 a.m. Residents of the four towns are invited to stop by and tell Skorski what issues are important to them. All viewpoints are welcome.

This will be the first of many Coffee with Wes events. Visit WinWithWes.org for more information.



Lions Donate to Ambulance Association... The Marlborough Lions recently donated \$650 to Marlborough's Roy B. Pettengill Ambulance Association. The funds donated were a portion of the profits from the Lions' Pancake Breakfast in April. The Lions support vision related services worldwide and also provide various services to the town, including annual vision screenings for students at the elementary school and at local daycares, and provides donations in support of the local Food and Fuel Banks. Anyone interested in joining the Lions can call President Megan Lloyd at 413-687-5537 or Secretary Ken Hjulstrom at 860-490-9116. New members are welcome. Pictured is Marlborough Lion Kevin McNally presenting the donation to Mark Merritt on behalf of the ambulance association.

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.

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.

Mini-MAC Art Classes

Registrations are being taken for Mini-MAC art classes at the Marlborough Arts Center, 231 N. Main St., holds sessions Fridays through June 13, from 10-11 a.m. each week. Instructor is Holly Marrero.

The classes are designed for 3- and 4-year-old students (with an accompanying adult) and focus on developing fine motor skills,

exploring a variety of art media, building primary art vocabulary, and cultivating curiosity about art. Children will be encouraged to interact with the instructor and classmates while creating art based on storybooks and paintings by famous artists.

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

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Calling All Cooks!

The Andover 175th Anniversary Committee is creating a cookbook with recipes from local people to celebrate our town. Recipe forms are available electronically on the committee's Facebook page; search for "Andover CT 175th Anniversary" as well as in print form at Town Hall and the Andover Public Library.

People can submit as many recipes as they

Vacancy on Advisory Committee

The Andover Greater Together Community Fund Advisory Committee is accepting applications to fill a vacancy on the nine-member board.

In 2019, the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving created funds in 29 Hartford area towns with a \$100,000 grant to each community. Half of the money, \$50,000, is in the form of an endowed fund while the other half, \$50,000, is available for immediate use. The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving established an all-volunteer Selection Committee in 2019 which was made up of Andover residents who would form a nine-member Advisory Committee of volunteer town residents to administer the grant process and consider applications for grant funding from local nonprofits for projects that serve and benefit Andover residents.

The Andover Greater Together Advisory Committee is responsible for selecting and distributing the \$100,000 funds awarded by the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving to local nonprofits to assist in projects that will help

want. Recipes from kids or for kids are particularly encouraged.

Recipes must be submitted by Aug. 1, as the committee hopes to have the cookbooks for sale by Nov. 1.

For more information, contact Shirley DeFla-viis at shirleydef@aol.com or 860-742-9238.

enhance and benefit the residents of Andover. In September of 2021, the community awarded five grants ranging from \$250 to \$6,000 to local organizations. Currently, they are working on grant applications for 2022. The Advisory Committee meets once a month via Zoom on the first Thursday of each month at 5 p.m. The purpose of the Greater Together Community Funds program is to support the community in taking ownership around the needs in their towns; encourage broad and inclusive civic engagement and anchor the Hartford Foundation in each town.

For more information on the Andover Greater Together Community Fund, go to www.hfpg.org/andovercf. For application forms, visit www.hfpg.org/andovercf or email committee co-chair Dianne Grenier at deardianne@comcast.net

Due date for completed applications is July 1.

Note: any elected official is not eligible to serve on this committee.

RHAM • RHAM

RHAM Tennis Takes Tourney Match

By Josh Howard

Clutch would be a good word to describe the girls' tennis team at RHAM High School.

Needing a win to assure a spot in the state tournament, the Raptors defeat Enfield (4-3) in the regular season finale and then upset higher-ranked Berlin (4-3) in the qualifying round of the Class L tourney.

Leading the way were four senior captains – Lauren Fenton, Teresa Hooker, Addison Brown, Morgan Fazzino – that have played pivotal roles on the court and led the way off of it.

"Their experience, enthusiasm and love of the game has been infectious for the entire team," head coach Carol Fish said of her seniors. "We're a young team. We have a lot of freshmen and they have really learned a lot from the work ethic of the seniors."

Fenton served as the team's No. 1 singles player and Hooker served as the No. 2 singles, while Brown was half of the team's No. 1 doubles team and Fazzino was half of the No. 2 doubles team.

Against Enfield on May 25, the doubles teams were instrumental in the victory.

Brown and Grace Baran (6-1, 6-0), Fazzino and Anna Lavenburg (6-1, 6-1), and the No. 3 doubles team of Kate Landry and Kiley Stanford (6-3, 6-1) all won.

Those three victories, along with a win from No. 4 singles player Sophia Orama secured a team win for the Raptors, who finished the regular season 6-9.

The combo of Brown and Baran were a consistent force for Fish this season, posting an

11-3 record as a tandem.

Fish said that Baran, a junior, is a player who made a significant leap this spring.

"She has been phenomenal," Fish said of Baran. "Not only has she had a great season [in doubles], but she has stepped in to play singles and will do whatever is necessary for the team."

Fazzino also reached 10 wins as a double player.

Fish also pointed to Fenton, who is a multi-sport athlete at RHAM, praising her willingness to go toe-to-toe with the other team's No. 1 singles player, who are often year round tennis players.

In the tourney win over Berlin on May 27, it was the next generation that carried the team.

Despite playing shorthanded, the No. 19 Raptors prevailed over the No. 14 Redcoats at Berlin High School.

Junior Bridget Austin won the No. 3 singles match (6-1, 6-2) and RHAM again swept the three doubles matches.

Baran and junior Anna Lavenburg rallied to win (1-6, 7-5, 1-0), sophomore Kiley Stanford and freshman Alison Polochanin prevailed (6-2, 6-3), and the freshman duo of Kate Landry and Ella Mayo won a tiebreaker (6-3, 5-7, 1-0).

The win over Berlin was the crowning achievement for the Raptors, who starting the season with four consecutive losses.

Following the slow start, the team rebounded with three straight victories—defeating Simsbury, New Britain and E.O. Smith.

The win over New Britain on April 24 was the team's first and only clean sweep, winning all seven matches.

Fenton, Hooker, Austin, and Brynn Maleryn each won singles matches, while the duos of Brown/Baran, Fazzino/Lavenburg, and Landry/Stanford won doubles matches.

On Tuesday, the resilient Raptors fell to No. 3 Newington in the first round of the state tournament, ending the careers of the four seniors and the season for the other 16 players.

Fish, who wrapped up her second season with the girls after coaching the previous five

AHM Restarts CHOREs Program

With spring here, Andover, Hebron, and Marlborough seniors can once again start receiving visits from AHM CHOREs youth workers. The teen workers tackle outdoor projects at the homes of seniors.

CHOREs is offered at no cost to seniors who have physical or financial limitations. Applications are available through AHM.

Teens who would like to work in the program, and seniors requesting CHOREs services, should call AHM youth employment coordinator Kristina Henry at 860-324-1820. Leave your name and number and expect a weekday call back. To learn more about AHM, visit www.ahmyouth.org.

RHAM • RHAM

AHM Concert June 17

AHM Youth and Family Services will hold its spring concert Friday, June 17.

The concert will feature the international band RUNA, a group featuring Celtic-American roots music, will perform. The band's blend of traditional Irish and Scottish tunes, along with its repertoire of originals, has influences of jazz, bluegrass, flamenco and blues.

Tickets are \$40 per person. Live streaming for the performance is also available for \$25 per household. There is a handful of tickets left to purchase; no tickets will be sold at the door.

Proceeds benefit AHM's social and human service programs for the children, teens, young adults, families and seniors of Andover, Columbia, Hebron and Marlborough.

This year's event will feature the concert and during intermission, patrons will be treated to desserts from local restaurants and bakeries. Also during intermission, there will be a brief live auction of vacation, restaurant, and sports packages.

To purchase tickets, go to ahmyouth.org/spring-concert-tickets. No tickets will be sold at the door.

AHM Family Resource Center Programs

The AHM Family Resource Center will be having the following groups this summer for children and parents or caregivers:

Play and Learn Groups: Tuesdays, June 28-Aug. 2, from 9:15-10:30 a.m., at Gilead Hill School (GHS), for children ages birth-5, and parents or caregivers. Fee is \$50 per family for the session. Activities will include crafts, activities and circle time. There will information on child development and parenting topics.

Messy Play: Tuesdays, June 28-Aug. 2, 11 a.m.-noon, at GHS, for children ages 2-5 and parents/caregivers. Fee is \$45 per family for the session. Children will get to explore different messy materials in a relaxed setting.

Outdoor Play and Learn: Wednesdays, June 29-Aug. 3, 9:30-10:30 a.m., at Veterans Memorial Park in Hebron, for children ages birth-5 and parents/caregivers. Fee is \$40 per

family for the session. Children can play on the playscape, enjoy art and other activities, and have circle time.

First Steps in Music: Thursdays, 9:30-10:15 a.m., at the AHM building, 25 Pendleton Drive. Session 1 will be June 30-July 14, and Session 2 will be July 28-Aug. 11. Fee is \$45/family per session. This group is a researched early child program developed by John Feierabend from Hartt School of music, facilitated by musician and teacher Mallory Kokus who is trained in this method.

More information can be found online at tinyurl.com/2289cykn. Registration is at ahmyouth.org/programs-services/family-resource-center. Contact Becky Murray at beckym@ahmyouth.org or Laura Beeler at laurab@ahmyouth.org or 860-228-0871 for more information.

RHAM • RHAM



RHAM tennis seniors (from left) Lauren Fenton, Addison Brown, Morgan Fazzino, Teresa Hooker. Photo credit: Dan Fish.

with the boys program, is hoping that some of the returning girls become year round tennis players.

"I've really enjoyed it," Fish said of the season. "Some of the younger girls have never played at all, so I've loved to see them improve

and how everything started to click. Their understanding of the game and their skill sets improved tremendously. I'm really looking forward to next year and to see what happens with our younger players."

Class of '79 and Friends Reunion

There will be a reunion of the RHAM High School Class of 1979 and friends Saturday, Aug. 20, from 6-10 p.m., at Blackledge Country Club, 180 West St., Hebron. Payment is due in June.

The night includes: 6 p.m., meet & greet and cash bar; 7-10 p.m., Light fare (appetizers, mac and cheese, wings, sliders, flatbreads), dessert, DJ, dancing and reminiscing. Bring an item of RHAM memorabilia and get a door prize.

Attire is casual dress.

RSVP to Philip Bodey at bodey.built@cox.net or 860-919-6555. Cost is \$50, due June 20.

Payment can be made via cash or check (made payable to Bodey) and sent to Bodey at 1198 Flanders Rd., Southington, CT 06489. Payment can also be made via Venmo (@Philip-Bodey).

Feel free to share the invitation with fellow alumni from any class.

For more information, call Robin Kearns Sage at 860-670-2532, Inger Nielsen Avery at 860-213-0577, or Heidi Philbrick Warren at 860-508-9806.

All are encouraged to also join the "RHAM Class of 1979" Facebook group.

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Mental Health Awareness Walk

AHM Youth and Family Services will hold a "Here 4 You" mental health awareness walk at Blish Park in Marlborough Friday, June 3, from 5-8 p.m.

Registration cost is \$15 for students, \$20 for individuals, and \$35 for families. All funds raised will help support mental health services for the communities of Andover, Columbia, Hebron and Marlborough. T-shirts, snacks, drinks and entertainment will be provided at the park.

To register, go to ahmyouth.org/mental-health-awareness-walk-registration.

Class of '82 40th Reunion

There will be a 40th reunion of the RHAM High School Class of 1982 at Blackledge Country Club in Hebron on Saturday, Aug. 13. The event will be in the evening; specific time and additional details will follow.

Find out more by joining the Facebook group "RHAM High School Class of '82" or email Sara Tarca at sarastarc@comcast.net for information or an RSVP.

Reader Forum • Reader Forum

★ *Letters cont. from page 7*

to ban are: free speech, traditional religion in the public sphere, energy independence derived from oil and gas, the internal combustion engine, liberal education unfettered from indoctrination, true science, and, most importantly, common sense.

These misanthropists wish to destroy the nuclear family and its keystone of parental authority. They seek to confuse young children in schools about their gender and want to sexualize them, depriving them of the innocence of childhood. They promote these perverted notions and then instruct the children not to tell their parents! Why would they do that if what they're doing is appropriate?

My goodness, who could believe that a political party would seek to acquire power so as to pursue its agenda! It's unlikely blue-brained Connecticut accepts the Trumpian agenda, but I hope the rest of the country does, because our survival depends upon it. The Democratic Socialists are intent on destroying our country and are too stupid to comprehend they will suffer as well.

I'm a proud Trumpist who hopes he runs and wins again to obtain restitution for the election unfairly stolen from him. We'd not be living through these dire situations if he'd rightfully been re-elected, and he will restore our greatness when he is.

Sam Prentice – Andover

Response to 'Party of Death'

To the Editor:

Thank goodness Sam Prentice is not in charge of anything, because ignorance is dangerous! Fortunately, his views are relegated to a small circle (expanded a bit by his screeds in the *News Bulletin*).

Very little harm is done with his anti-science stands and backwards thinking. We could recommend some seventh grade Earth Science course, but Sam, most likely, is too closed-minded to participate and learn some truth about the impending climate catastrophe in which hundreds of thousands of people all over the planet are already suffering.

This is essentially due to too many years listening to the false information generated by the fossil fuel industries. Information that hides the truth that their own scientists have known for decades...excess CO2 emissions cause the greenhouse effect! People who have the knowledge of true science are frustrated because of the misinformation and its acceptance by too many jerks like Sam.

If there's truly a "Party of Death," surely Sam Prentice would be in a leadership role!

Katie Potvin – East Hampton

Andover Taxation Blame Game

To the Editor:

Andover voters are divided over the budget and affordability of life in town. What's to blame? AES, property tax revaluation, RHAM, or public works? Let's cut through the baseless claims and look at some real data.

AES: the school budget was \$4.32 million in 2015-2016, and is now proposed at \$4.05 million; that's a 6% cut from 7 years ago. Consider the cumulative price increase of 22% since 2015, and the proposed AES budget is over a *25% cut* since 2015 when adjusted for inflation. AES has tightened its belt with consistent responsible budgeting and yet has become the scapegoat for Andover budget hawks. If we can agree that facts matter, we all need to look elsewhere for tax relief. There's just not more to cut at AES.

Tax revaluation: Nope, try again. Holding the budget constant, if property values go up, the mill rate is adjusted down. The only thing that affects your taxes is increases/decreases to the total town budget amount.

RHAM: RHAM budget increased 17% since 2017/18, but adjusted for inflation, that's a modest increase of 2%.

Town/Public Works: the largest increase in our town taxes in recent years has been from 2018/19 to 2019/20 fiscal years, when it went from \$2.23mil to \$3.31mil, a 48% increase. However, I don't see this as a reason to slash the town budget. By the state of our roads in the Long Hill and Bunker Hill areas, there's a strong argument that we need to maintain this investment to town infrastructure improvements.

To summarize, the real data does not support the claims of out-of-control spending. When I look at our town I don't see extravagance. We're already running lean. At the coming referendum, please vote 'yes' for the budget to support our great town and end this cycle of divisiveness.

Jacob Isleib – Andover

Moderation

To the Editor:

If we have diametrically opposed viewpoints there could be problems between us. Or, we could agree to let the other have their way, as long as they don't get in ours. But simply denying the other his/her choice would be a denial of freedom. Not the American way. At least, not the American way I was taught.

Most of us have occasion to use the phrase "agree to disagree," or "you're entitled to your opinion." I'll be honest: I say those things, out loud or to myself. But, even as I say those things I still believe you are wrong. I still believe there is something you are not understanding. That if only I could find the right combination of words to make you see the light, then we would not be disagreeing, or disagreeable. However, unless we are talking about some discrete, observable, measurable physical event or attribute, there are far too many variables and nuances for us to ever completely agree. Aside from the outside world (of which we are talking), there is our internal world: what we've learned, believe, understand and perceive. Those aspects of ourselves will never, ever align completely. It is impossible to completely agree with anyone.

Luckily, most people will agree on some social norms, such as that killing is wrong, stealing is wrong, loving one's children is right, etc. Such is the basis for our civilization, our culture. Beyond those basics, we enter the world of perceiving and interpretation, a subjective world where there is no definitive right or wrong. Our different educations, family history, religious beliefs, experiences, successes and failures all add up to something entirely different, from person to person. No agreement... so we must compromise.

I know that I am right about this.

John Barnowski – Colchester

Healing Through Music

To the Editor:

As the country struggles to process yet another mass school shooting, there was comfort and healing to be found through the power of music, at least for one evening.

On Wednesday, May 25, East Hampton's Center School held its band and chorus concerts. The 4th and 5th grade bands took the stage individually and then collectively before a combined chorus closed the show.

For many of the students, this was their first time playing an instrument or singing in front of an audience of anyone other than their families. The joy was palpable – every blast of a trombone, beat of the drum, or note of song had resonance. Like all beginner bands and choruses, it was a perfectly imperfect performance, and it was exactly what the community needed at that moment.

Thank you to the Center School band teacher, Emma Gould, and chorus teacher, Ehren Brown, for the gift they provided on that evening. I am excited to see how these young musicians will continue to grow and how East Hampton will nurture them as artists. They are off to a great start.

No matter what debates come in the next few months regarding school safety, let us keep in mind how important music and all the arts are as an outlet for grief, a means of expression, and a cause for celebration. Our 4th and 5th graders reminded us of that, and we owe it to them and all East Hampton students to ensure that music keeps enriching this community.

Sincerely,

Matt Engelhardt – East Hampton

Enough is Not Enough

To the Editor:

And yet another mass slaughter of children, and the continual platitudes, excuses, accusations are presented. Well, I say enough is not enough. It is not enough that the NRA and the gun manufacturers say it is a mental health problem, and the mental health institutions and psychiatrists say it is a gun problem. They must start working toward a winnable solution.

The first step (A) should be that the NRA and gun manufacturers contribute 10 billion dollars toward the research and implementation of mental health solutions regarding gun killings. The second step (B): the mental health institutions each contribute five billion dollars (they don't make as much money) toward the research and implementation of why guns should and should not be available to just about anyone. Perhaps these two entities working together rather than against each other may help. These efforts should not be overseen by the government – they will only bog it down with self-inflated bureaucracy; instead, capable leaders such as Elon Musk, Jeff Bezos, Irene Rosenfeld, Ursula Burns would be the type of leaders

to get the job done.

As for the rest of us – gun advocates, anti-gun people, those who care, those who don't: If you are part of the problem, correct your actions. Case in point: several years ago I visited a home where a loaded pistol was lying on the kitchen table, when I pointed that out to the homeowner (and pistol's owner) they shrugged their shoulders. Stop shrugging your shoulders and act responsible! To the parents: if you see your child acting aggressive – even if you don't think he is a monster – Make sure they do not have access to a gun. For us all: if you see something do something.

As for me, I'll contribute a hundred bucks to A & B when they get organized.

Ralph Bianco – Colchester

Experience, Presence, Gravitas

To the Editor:

It is with tremendous pride and relief that I introduce my husband, Attorney Kurt J. Comisky, as a candidate for representative for the 34th State House District. After spending his career in federal labor and employment law, and as a member of both the Connecticut and United States Supreme Court Bar, he knows the law, he knows how government works and he knows how to negotiate with in an adversarial environment.

He is a sane, sensible, pragmatic centrist who can win because he does not get wrapped up in his own causes or outraged by draconian policies that are a throwback from another era, but more importantly, he understands the job he is asking you to elect him to do and that job is to look out for the needs and concerns of the citizens in the 34th District. Needs and concerns he understands as a 30-year resident who has served on multiple committees and boards. I said I was proud of him. I am. I said I was relieved. I am. I'm relieved because we have a candidate who has experience, who has presence and gravitas, who is level-headed and who already possesses the skill set to start on day one. I'm hoping there are more people like me out there and will vote for my husband, Kurt.

Kerry Comisky – East Hampton

A Big Thank You

To the Editor:

Once again, it is time to thank the Portland Postal Workers for their efforts in the annual food drive that helps replenish the Portland Food Bank, with a special "shout-out" to Paul Carey, who coordinated the entire effort. In addition to their daily route, they are responsible for picking up all the donated food from the community.

This year, as usual, the residents of Portland made it a very successful drive with their very generous donations.

I would also like to thank the volunteers that helped carry in, label and put away all the food that was donated, which was no easy task. It encompassed the better part of the day on Saturday. All this to benefit those in need.

Sincerely

**Ruth Maio, Director
Portland Food Bank**

Zoning Change Issue

To the Editor:

Mr. Dobson of East Hampton was absolutely correct in his estimation that Atlantis Marketing is trying to wear down the citizens of this town by persisting in their effort to get a zoning change to build their mega store on the corner of Route 16 and Main. On the other hand, the East Hampton Zoning Board of Appeals could have put this issue to bed the first time it was addressed by the dozens of homeowners in that area (in a residential zoned area) who strongly oppose this inappropriate development of that area. On researching the members of the board, not one of them live anywhere near a commercial business of the size proposed by Atlantis Marketing. If they did, they might find it more difficult to remain "impartial."

I, too, encourage every citizen of this town to attend the next zoning board meeting to protest the manipulation and bullying of the Atlantis Management Group. We don't need another, bigger gas station in town; we don't need the increased traffic, congestion, light-pollution and trash production that a mega store will bring. We do need people to go down to the center of East Hampton to purchase a cup of coffee, a snack or loaf of bread, a meal or a drink at one of our lovely shops and stores.

There is absolutely no reason why this issue should not end at the next meeting. Please attend on June 13 and register your opinions in person or via Zoom.

Sandra Marshall – East Hampton

Get Out

To the Editor:

Take some time, go out to the state forest. Take a walk to the other side of that hill sit and listen. No car noise or traffic. Birds chirping, a chipmunk squawks, the crow caws. And there he is, your favorite bird from childhood, a Scarlet Tanager, up from the sugar can fields of Cuba. Rare now it could be the last male, doesn't it take two? You know you never see the female, keeps a low profile and doesn't talk much. Then you hear an airplane and head back from the walk. Car door slams. Engine noise on to the paved road. Did I mention not to take your phone?

Let's just forget it, but as for female Black jockeys? What if it was Diana Taurasi?

Tim Rinell – East Hampton

Thanks for the Grant

To the Editor:

Portland Youth & Family Services and Portland Parks & Recreation would like to thank the M. Jones Fund at the Community Foundation of Middlesex County for the generous grants we received from them last week. Scott Nardozi, a board member at the Community Foundation, stopped by to surprise and congratulate us. We are truly honored and thankful for the generosity, and will be putting the grant towards summer programs and camps for the youth of our community.

**Jesse Revicki, Administrator
Portland Youth & Family Services**

**and
Nate Foley, Director
Portland Parks & Recreation**

Guns, Guns, Guns

To the Editor:

Thank God that the founding fathers gave us the second amendment right to bear arms, (muskets and black powder long rifles); well no doubt they meant to write in weapons of mass destruction.

We love to see lots of guns in movies, TV, video games and news shows, what fun.

Guns keep us safe from all the people that have guns.

Guns are designed to kill living beings and they are very efficient at that. Mostly we use them on precious human beings.

Guns are so powerful; they give us the ability to be super inhumane takers of life.

Guns are so beautiful; so much nicer to have around than innocent children.

Do we love our guns, ... more than friends, more than family and much more than children? Maybe God loves guns more than us too?

Richard Thrall – Marlborough

Atlantis Expansion

To the Editor:

Less than two weeks remain before the Zoning Board of Appeals decides whether Atlantis Marketing will be granted a backdoor zoning change on Main Street. Connecticut law is clear that a nonconforming lot such as the Atlantis gas station is not allowed to expand beyond the limits of its present property lines yet the ZBA has asked for revised plans from Atlantis.

As in previous meetings with the Zoning Board, the issue of the properties being an eyesore was raised. To compound the problem the developer acknowledged in front of the appeals board that they deferred any maintenance on the properties since acquiring them over two years ago.

How a building or property looks should not be grounds for changing zoning. If properties have deteriorated into an eyesore, then enforce the towns blight law but do not try to circumvent state law and the East Hampton Plan of Conservation and Development.

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

Spring Sprint Thanks

To the Editor:

The East Hampton High School Project Graduation Committee would like to thank all participants of the Bellringer Spring Sprint and Kids' Fun Run, held on Sunday, May 22, as well as the business sponsors of the event. Specifically, the committee would like to thank our two title sponsors: Paul's & Sandy's Too and Dickinson's Witch Hazel Skincare, as well as our other sponsors: AllWaste Inc., Pizzeria Da Vinci of Cobalt, Kenneth Barber & Associates of East Hampton, Risinger Orthodontics of

See Letters, page 34



#Dadication



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Obituaries

Colchester

Matthew Desautels

Matthew Desautels of Colchester, passed away unexpectedly at home Wednesday, May 25. He was 36 years old. Born in Norwich July 16, 1985, he was a son of Peter and Lori Desautels, with whom he made his home.



Growing up in Colchester, Matt attended school there and attended Norwich Tech and graduated from Bacon Academy. Beginning from a very young age, Matt was a sports enthusiast, playing little league baseball, youth basketball, and then graduating in later years to enjoy hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, and ATV riding. Matt was a skilled carpenter by trade, building homes for many years with Lenkiewicz Construction. He was also a handyman who enjoyed tinkering, fixing things, or working on cars in his garage.

Aside from his many hobbies, Matt spent some of his time volunteering at the Historical Society and a rescue farm in Salem. He had many friends and was a thoughtful and helpful neighbor. Matt will be remembered fondly as a generous man who would always lend a helping hand.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by his sister, Jennie Desautels of Colchester; brother, Adam Desautels of Hebron; maternal grandmother, Jennie Lenkiewicz of Colchester; his uncle, Dave Lenkiewicz of Lebanon; cousins, Jay and Ally Lenkiewicz of Lebanon; his longtime work buddies, Jon Solsky and Kenny Semmelrock; and his cat, "Dusty"; along with many extended family members and friends.

A memorial Mass will be celebrated Saturday, June 4, at 11 a.m., at St. Andrew Church, 128 Norwich Ave., Colchester, followed by a celebration of life at the Colchester Fish and Game Club, Old Amston Road, Colchester.

In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory may be made to the Colchester Fish and Game Club, P.O. Box 257, Colchester CT 06415.

The Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home of Colchester has been entrusted with care of arrangements. For online condolences, please visit www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

Portland

Joyce A. Pudvan

Joyce A. Pudvan, 82, of Portland passed away peacefully in her sleep at home Monday, May 30. She was born in the coal mines of Charleston, W.Va., on Aug. 23, 1939. She was the daughter of the late Edna May King. Joyce was the widow of Allen E. Pudvan.

Joyce moved to Jackson, Mich., in her senior year of high school and held a variety of jobs after graduation. On a fateful trip back to West Virginia, her mother introduced her to the man of her dreams, Allen. The courtship blossomed after an accident sent Allen to the hospital and Joyce visited daily. They married six months later on April 9, 1960. Following the marriage, they moved to Connecticut, settling in Portland in 1961.

Joyce was the proprietor of the Portland Package Store, which she ran for six years. She held a variety of other jobs before becoming a full-time mother and homemaker. She enjoyed

knitting baby blankets and hats donating them to newborns in hospitals. She also enjoyed gardening, cooking and baking. Following her husband's retirement, they traveled extensively. Of all their travels, they enjoyed cruises the most. On one cruise, they became great friends with another couple and enjoyed several more wonderful cruises with them.

Joyce is survived by her daughter and caregiver Malinda Pudvan of Portland; her beloved puppy, Sarah Jane; her brother, Jerry King of Brooklyn, Mich.; her sisters-in-law, Georgina King of Jackson, Mich., and Frances Pudvan of Bay City, Mich.; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition, she was predeceased by her husband, Allen Pudvan, after 53 years of marriage; by her brother Kenneth; her brother-in-law Francis "Bibs" and sisters-in-law Carroll, Judith and Carol, all of Michigan.

Malinda would like to express sincere appreciation to mom's caregivers from Companions and Homemakers for their devotion and wonderful care of mom for the last 10 years. Their daily presence gave Mom joy even as her health deteriorated.

Funeral services will be held today, Friday, June 3, at 10 a.m., in the Portland Memorial Funeral Home, 231 Main St., Portland. Friends may call at the funeral home this morning from 9 a.m. until the time of the service. Burial will be in the family plot in Center Cemetery, Portland.

Hebron

Elizabeth Dombrowski

Elizabeth -Margaret Dombrowski, 99, lifelong resident of Hebron, passed away peacefully, with her family by her side, at Windham Hospital, on Friday, May 27. Born on the family farm in Hebron on March 10, 1923; she was the daughter of the late Michael and Elizabeth Baron.



In her early life, Elizabeth graduated from Windham High School and worked at retreat in Hartford as a secretary. In 1944, she married her late husband Henry Adam Dombrowski with whom she spent 44 years prior to his death in 1990. In their early marriage they worked side by side on the Dombrowski family farm until she became a well-known employee of the Colchester Bakery for many years. In her later life, she enjoyed spending time with family, gardening (her flower gardens were admired by all), became a dedicated Red Sox fan who was thrilled when they finally won the World Series and never missed a UConn woman's basketball game. In the summer months she spent many hours sitting on her front porch watching her neighbors go by. Many will miss waving to her as they drive up Burnt Hill.

Elizabeth is survived by her daughter, Joan and husband Ronald Churney; son, Henry and wife Joyce Dombrowski; grandchildren, Henry and wife Lynn Dombrowski, Paul and wife Lindsay Dombrowski, Elizabeth and husband Ronald Zahacefski and Gwendolyn and husband Stewart Wyatt; great-granddaughters, Emma and Juliette Wyatt, and Charlotte and Henley Dombrowski; and numerous other extended family and friends.

A funeral Mass will be held Monday, June 6, at 10 a.m., directly at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 30 Church St, Hebron, CT 06248.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorial donations be made to the St. Peter's Episcopal Church, where she was a lifelong member, or to the St. Joseph Cemetery Association.

For online condolences, please visit www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

Colchester

Jennifer M. Caron

Jennifer M. Caron of Colchester, 37, passed away peacefully into the arms of our Lord Tuesday, May 24, surrounded by her family. Jennifer loved and was loved. Her loss is felt beyond comprehension.



She will be missed by those she leaves behind: parents Steven and Diane (Keeney) Caron; brother, Nathan Caron; maternal grandmother, Lorraine Keeney; loving aunts, uncles, cousins, friends; her dog, Herman.

Words cannot express how grateful we are for all the love and care than was given to her, and us, during her life, especially during this most difficult time. Jennifer received a double-lung transplant 15 years ago, and her gratitude for that selfless, anonymous act was immeasurable. It gave her, and us, an additional 15 years. After receiving her "second wind," Jennifer lived deliberately and as if tomorrow was not guaranteed. We would like to thank Connecticut Hospice and the medical professionals who cared for her throughout her life; it truly takes a village.

Calling hours will be on Friday, June 10, from 9:30 -11 a.m., at St. Andrew Church, 128 Norwich Ave., Colchester, immediately followed by Mass at 11 a.m. Burial will be at the New St. Andrew Cemetery, Gillette Lane, Colchester, with a celebration of life following. Per Jenn's request, please wear blue (her favorite color) and/or something sparkly. (We all need more sparkle in our lives.)

In lieu of flowers, Jenn requested donations be made to the Connecticut Humane Society Newington, or have an adventure you have always wanted to experience. There is no time like the present.

Guillot Funeral Home of Taftville is in charge of arrangements.

Marlborough

Celia Bagdonis

"An Ode to Nana" "Lovely!" That was our Nana's response upon receiving a savory delight such as Eggplant Parmigiana, Lo Mein or some other tasty dish. Like our recently departed Papa, she also had a sweet tooth, but would love when the said cuisine was brought for her (though it has to be noted that she did have an affinity for chocolate, as most of us do). A night owl, Nana would be inspired by the enchanting evening sky and would use that time to work on her paintings, catch up on her reading and written correspondence as well as spoil her grandchildren with delicious and plentiful midnight snacks and watch what are now nostalgic movies. Her most treasured past-time however was spending every moment she could with her husband, our late Papa, the growing family and watching the antics and shenanigans of her great-grandchildren.



This revered matriarch of the Bagdonis Family was born in Dudley, Mass., on June 24, 1923, of Polish decent and ancestry. Nana loved cooking and her family loved eating her fare which included the most delicious pierogies, kielbasa and potatoes, as well as, the very best French toast and pancakes. A genuine Renaissance woman, Nana's unique and eclectic talents and personality shined wherever she went.

Our dearest Nana, Celia Bagdonis (nee Plaszeski), passed away peacefully Saturday, May 21, at the age of 98. She will always be cherished, treasured and missed by any who had the pleasure of meeting her or knew her, but especially by her beloved family and friends.

Nana was predeceased by her eldest son, John R. Bagdonis, and her husband, John S. Bagdonis. She is survived by her son, Glenn Bagdonis and his wife Susan Bagdonis; her grandson, Guthrie Bagdonis and his wife Stephanie Bagdonis; her granddaughter, Emily Bochman and her husband Ryan Bochman; and her great-grandchildren, Ainsley and Gracey Bagdonis and Gavyn Bochman.

Anyone could tell at a glance that she had the friendliest disposition and that she was very special. She touched the lives of so many and made the world a better place. A milliner in her own right, Nana was always bedecked with eye-catching hats that featured butterflies, flowers or pins. She paired her fine headpieces with elegant scarves and brooches. She was also a known crow whisperer. She could charm them from miles around with her kind demeanor and scrumptious feed.

Our Nana was an inspiring and vivid artist who would always share her pieces whether they were oil paintings, sketches or even special occasion cards with her drawings on the covers. Nature was almost always her muse, and she would capture the delicate details and brilliant colors that the seasons brought on her canvases. Her masterpiece oil painting of Papa, with Cape Cod as the landscape, was her prized accomplishment. It captured his essence, person and the Cape so intimately, that it comes to life and encapsulates that moment in time precisely. Every stroke of her paintbrush was always made with so much passion, intricacy and love. Nana's artwork and dedication as an artist is such an important part of her legacy. Her paintings adorn the walls of our homes and they are as beautiful and vibrant as she was.

Nana was a dedicated literacy volunteer and believed that everyone deserved the ability to read. Through this volunteerism, she forged a friendship with Barbara Bush, that continued in letters for some time after they met. In her sixties, she took advantage of the life-long learning programs offered to seniors in Connecticut and enrolled in English Literature classes at Eastern State University. She deeply admired the works of Mark Twain, and would often visit his historical landmark residence and grounds in Hartford. She passed this admiration down to her grandchildren, who would have adventures visiting this Connecticut gem with her. Reading and discussing Samuel Clemens' novels and poetry became a most adored pastime with Nana.

A member of the coveted "Red Hat Society," Nana's enthusiasm for social gatherings also extended to her frequenting the Marlborough Senior Center as well as a becoming a regularly contributing artist and cognoscente of the Marlborough Arts Center. It also has to be said that she fancied the game of Bingo, and was fantastic at playing and winning. (Nana would always share her spoils with her great-grandchildren.) She was such a vital part of the Marlborough community, believing in sharing and giving back what she and Papa could to the town that they put their roots down in. That great Bagdonis tree has grown into four generations of family, thus far, living in their fair hamlet.

Our Nana met our Papa while working at Pratt & Whitney in East Hartford, and began to grow towards their most momentous journey, with friendship becoming their foundation that began the blossoming fondness that they had for one another. They were blissfully wed Feb. 6, 1943, at St. Bridget Church in Manchester. After their nuptials, they built their hearth, home and legacy in Marlborough. Both hailing from the state of Massachusetts, they found Cape Cod to be their favorite vacation destination, visiting their favorite beaches there throughout the year.

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Nana departed us and was with our Papa again on the morning of his funeral Mass. In light of this, a joint Mass was held in both of their honor at St. John Fisher Roman Catholic Church in Marlborough, followed by a lovely reception that was held at the Blackledge Country Club in Hebron. A burial service will be held in Nana's honor on Monday, June 6, at the Marlboro Cemetery in Marlborough, at 10 a.m. Masks are required to attend, please and thank you.

As previously stated, our resplendent Nana and Papa have shown us all what it means to have an everlasting unity that rivals those written about by the great bards and troubadours of times past. It is fitting that we celebrated the lives of Nana and Papa together, as their love was the ballad that sang so true and so strong and it will forever more in our memories and hearts. We thank you readers for joining us on

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Obituaries

these esteemed pages to commemorate our beloved and revered Nana and Papa and their narratives.

Nana's signature farewell was always "good-bye for now, love." Goodbye for now to our amazing and magical Nana. We love and miss you dearly every day, good bye for now, love.

Glastonbury

Kathleen Barbera Hinchey

Kathleen Barbera Hinchey of Glastonbury, seven months into her 95th year, passed away Wednesday, May 18, in the warm embrace of her family. She was born Caterina Teresa Barbera in Brooklyn, N.Y., on Oct. 28, 1927, to Sicilian immigrants Carmelo and Teresa DiLucca Barbera.



An only child, Italian was Kathleen's first language and she spoke no English when she entered the Brooklyn public schools where – like many Italians of that era – she endured unkind taunts and slurs from students, teachers and administrators.

Kathleen's teen and early adult years provide a fascinating glimpse of the time and place where she lived. During World War II she worked part-time at Western Union in Manhattan at a time when telegrams were not delivered, but rather were read over the phone by high school students hired specifically for that purpose. After that, she worked as a switchboard operator for the New York Telephone Company; then for a major oil concern requiring (among other things) that she watch New York harbor through binoculars for the arrival of the company's oil tankers; then for Racing Form, the premier publication of horse racing, at which time professional gamblers on the payroll advised her against playing the ponies; and then for RCA's recording studios on East 23rd Street, where she got to watch live radio broadcasts and recording sessions featuring top entertainers of the day.

After graduating from high school, Kathleen was one of three former students chosen to work at Brooklyn Polytechnic, one of the nation's oldest engineering colleges. There she met Francis Hinchey, an engineering student whom she married in November 1950 during the great "storm of the century" and with whom she moved to Hartford for his job at Pratt & Whitney Aircraft. Kathleen continued to work a variety of jobs while raising six children: Steven (Debbie), Terry (Nancy), Kevin, Patty (Don), Tom (Danette) and Sean (Lana), all of whom survive her.

During this time, Kathleen also thrived creatively as a lead actress for over 15 years in the original Glastonbury Players, with additional appearances for the Wethersfield Players, the Windsor Jesters, Cue & Curtain in East Hartford, and the legendary Oval in the Grove in Farmington. Moreover, theatrical competitions brought Kathleen onto the prestigious stages of the Wadsworth Atheneum, Hartford Stage Company and the renowned Parsons' Theater. Among her fondest memories were rehearsing her lines at home with her children while folding the family laundry, and working with notable local theater director, Valerian Yavorsky.

Since moving from East Hartford to Glastonbury in 1959, Kathleen was an active member of

St. Augustine's Roman Catholic Church. She served on the board of the Altar Guild and on the Parish Council, was a lector at weekend masses, became a Eucharistic Minister, brought Holy Communion to shut-ins at home, and in 2008 was honored with the St. Joseph Medal which she received at a ceremony at St. Joseph Cathedral in Hartford.

Kathleen was also a volunteer for over 15 years at the South Glastonbury Public Library, one of the town's historic gems staffed entirely by community volunteers. She recalled this volunteer work as one of her most enjoyable experiences.

In Glastonbury Kathleen also enjoyed her two longest and most fulfilling jobs: a temporary four-week gig at Glastonbury Drug that lasted 14 years (with a wonderful boss, Jim Spencer), and 22 years as a travel agent at Holidays Unlimited (with another terrific boss, Sam Ridge) which enabled her to travel to Europe, Asia and Africa, and to help clients plan their trips.

Sadly for all, Kathleen divorced in 1987, but she went on to blossom as a 12-time grandmother – to Ryan (Sarah), Scott (Tina), Caitlyn (Alex), Greg, Keith, Ben, Eric (Jenn), Danielle, Devan (Chris), Victoria, Harrison and Isley – and a nine-time great-grandmother who was

"Nana" to Kayden, Kelsey, Liam, Aidan, Kat-erina, Camden, Ashford, Adeline and Harry.

The family received visitors on Tuesday, May 24, at Mulryan Funeral Home. A funeral Mass took place at St. Augustine in South Glastonbury on Wednesday, May 25, with burial at St. Augustine Cemetery.

Donations may be made to: St. Francis Foundation – Cancer Care at St. Francis Hospital (www.saintfrancisdonor.com/giving).

Portland

Harold R. Larson Celebration of Life

Harold R. Larson (Hal) passed away peacefully Wednesday, Oct. 21, 2020, at his home, surrounded by his family. Due to COVID-19 concerns, the family has waited until now to host the "celebration of his life."

Hal's life will be celebrated Saturday, June 11, from 11 a.m.-noon, at First Congregational Church, 554 Main St., Portland.

A little about Hal: Born Nov. 4 1934, He was the youngest son of Charles William Larson and Elsie Nelson Larson of East Hampton. Hal grew up on the Wheeler Dairy farm in Portland (Larson farm) with his three brothers, Charles, Robert and William.

Hal married his high school sweetheart, Susan Porteous Larson, and raised three children, Dayna, Peter and Tim.

He was the head of the art department at Benet Junior High School in Manchester, where he worked for 34 years. He was also a talented set designer and director. During his life, he was credited for designing and directing over 43 productions with the proceeds going to either the school(s) or his church, The First Congregational Church in Portland.

Hal loved to sing and was well-known for his gregarious and fun-loving spirit. He will forever be remembered for his amazing talent, warm hugs, great sense of humor, loyalty to his family and friends, as well as, his kind and generous heart.

By everyone he touched, Hal will be forever missed.

Marlborough

Daniel M. Gelsomini

Daniel M. Gelsomini, 56, of Ipswich and Beverly, Mass., formerly of Marlborough, passed away unexpectedly Monday, May 9, at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. Born in Woburn, Mass., he was the son of Dorothy Gelsomini of Marlborough and the late David Gelsomini.

Danny started framing houses in Connecticut at the age of 17. Throughout his career he worked for various remodeling and construction companies in Connecticut and Massachusetts, including owning his business, "Gelsomini Construction," for 10 years. Danny loved proving his ability to fix absolutely anything. Most recently, he was employed by Paul Hagggett & Co. out of Marblehead, Mass.

Danny loved going on adventures, rock-climbing since the age of 20 and often sleeping in the back of his car in order to be on a route at the crack of dawn. He traveled throughout the country, rock climbing in Hawaii, Yosemite, Red Rocks in Nevada, and the Gunks in New York. He loved kayaking, camping, hiking, mountain biking and snowboarding in the White Mountains.

Danny enjoyed listening to classic rock and the blues, blasting Rolling Stones, Bob Dylan and AC/DC while driving around the North Shore. Danny loved having lunch or dinner with his daughters at the Ninety-Nine, his favorite restaurant.

Danny was caring, kind, hard-working and oh so witty. He loved his family and friends so deeply and he would do anything for anybody and never asked for anything in return. His personality and laughter filled a room; everyone knew the exact moment when he arrived at a family gathering. There was never a dull moment when Danny was around. He was a loving father, the most devoted son, an "always there for you" brother, a goofy uncle and the most loyal friend.



Danny is survived by two daughters, Sierra and McKenna Gelsomini, of Gloucester, Mass.; his siblings, David Gelsomini, Dennis Gelsomini (wife Rita), Dean Gelsomini, Debbie (husband Kelly) Pearson, Darlene (husband Marty) Kalkok, Darren Gelsomini and Donna (husband Kevin) Bellmore; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

A Celebration of Life will be held at Cove Community Center, 19 E Corning St., Beverly, Mass., on Monday, June 20, from 2-5 p.m. All are invited to join us to eat, drink and celebrate Danny's life. Please feel free to share your favorite stories or photos.

Danny's daughters are working with the Echo Lake Foundation to design a memorial bench and plaque to be placed at either White Horse or Cathedral Ledge in New Hampshire in honor of their father's love for climbing and the outdoors. This will be a healing spot for all, to watch other climbers reach for the sky just as their father loved to do.

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★ Letters cont. from page 30

Glastonbury, and Classic Auto, Palmer Eyecare and Team Fitness, all of East Hampton.

As the biggest annual fundraiser for East Hampton Project Graduation, the Bellringer Spring Sprint has become a town tradition many runners look forward to.

EHHS Project Graduation is seeking a new race chair to head up this important event next year. If you are interested in helping to keep this tradition running smoothly (pun intended) please send an email to ehhsprojectgraduation.com.

The committee also welcomes anyone interested in volunteering for Project Graduation to help with other fundraising events.

Project Graduation is a nonprofit organization that provides an alcohol-free and drug-free post-graduation celebration for East Hampton high school seniors.

Thank You, East Hampton High School Project Graduation Committee

Uvalde, Texas

To the Editor:

An 18-year-old gunman burst through the door of an elementary school with an assault rifle and murdered 19 kids + 2 teachers and, in response, Republicans are proposing new limits on doors.

- Uvalde: AR-15
Buffalo: AR-15
Boulder: AR-15
Orlando: AR-15
Parkland: AR-15
Las Vegas: AR-15
Aurora, CO: AR-15
Sandy Hook: AR-15
Waffle House: AR-15
San Bernardino: AR-15
Midland/Odessa: AR-15
Poway synagogue: AR-15
Sutherland Springs: AR-15
Tree of Life Synagogue: AR-15

Annie Steinbrecher – Marlborough

Your Representative for the 55th

To the Editor:

I'm excited to announce my unanimous endorsement for the Republican nomination as candidate for the 55th House District. Indeed, I'm humbled and motivated by district-wide support since announcing my candidacy including State Representative Robin Green who has served with honor in Hartford, bringing a voice to our district's common-sense values and hard work ethic.

The foundation of my campaign will focus on the needs of the constituents in Andover, Bolton, Glastonbury, Hebron and Marlborough and legislation/budgets that will make Connecticut a better place to work, live and raise a family.

I will bring my entrepreneurial spirit to Hartford as your State Representative, as well as my experiences as a community leader, former police officer, and my most important roles of husband and father. Connecticut families need a better balance in the legislature, where ideas are brought forward and debated and discussed, instead of rammed through on a supermajority vote – one-party rule does not benefit Connecticut.

Now and through to Election Day, Nov. 8, I hope to earn your trust and vote.

Respectfully, Steve Weir – Hebron

LEGALS

TOWN OF ANDOVER ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Andover Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m., Wednesday June 15, 2022 to solicit comment on the application of Nick Glowacki, 17 School Road. The applicant is seeking relief from Sections 14.1 (to allow and 11.2 (setback requirements) of the Andover Zoning Regulations so as to construct a 22' x 36' attached barn on the property.

2TB 6/3, 6/10

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON

The East Hampton Town Council will hold Public Hearings on Tuesday, June 14, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. during the Regular Town Council Meeting in the East Hampton Town Hall Council Chambers, 1 Community Drive, East Hampton, CT 06424. The Town Council will hear comments on the following topics:

1TB 6/3

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.

2TB 5/27, 6/3

Legal Notice Town Of Hebron Connecticut Water Pollution Control Authority Public Hearing June 14, 2022 7:00 PM

WPCA Public Hearing Tuesday, June 14, 2022 7:00 PM (EDT) Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone. https://meet.goto.com/362029533

2TB 6/3, 6/10

LEGAL NOTICE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION HEBRON, CONNECTICUT

The Hebron Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing at a Regular Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, June 14, 2022, at 7:00 P.M., to be held virtually through the GoToMeeting Platform, on the following: Petition 2022-4 - Petition of the Hebron Planning and Zoning Commission to amend the Hebron Zoning Regulations pertaining to Accessory Apartments, permit detached accessory apartments in compliance with new state requirements, and update associated use tables and definitions.

2TB 6/3, 6/10

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TOWN OF COLCHESTER SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING – June 8, 2022 REFERENDUM – June 15, 2022

The legal voters of the Town of Colchester and those qualified to vote at town meetings of said Town are hereby warned to meet for a Special Budget Meeting on Wednesday, June 8, 2022, at 6:30p.m., to be held at Colchester Town Hall, 127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, CT for the following purposes:

Budget Summary table with columns: Revenues, Expenditures, FY 2020-2021 Actual, FY 2021-2022 Adopted, FY 2021-2022 Projected, FY 2022-2023 Proposed.

Mill Rate Calculation table with columns: Education, Town, Debt Service, Transfers/Capital, Total.

*The Education budget was adopted at a referendum held on May 24, 2022. The current Town meeting and referendum are for the Town budget only (including debt service and transfers/capital)

1TB 6/3

ADVERTISERS

The Glastonbury Citizen and Rivereast News Bulletin will make every effort to see that all advertising copy is correctly printed. The publisher assumes no liability or financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertising, but will reprint, without charge, that part of an advertisement in which an error may occur, provided that a claim is made within 5 days of publication.

LEGALS

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 TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON IWWA ACTIONS

Notice is hereby given that the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency held a Regular Meeting at 6:30 p.m. on May 25, 2022 at the East Hampton Town Hall and via ZOOM to consider the following:
 Application IW-22-007: Carrie Sue Clausi, 124 Tartia Road – Two lot subdivision within an Upland Review Area. Map 27/ Block 54/ Lot 7 – Approved with Conditions
 Application IW-22-010: Cindy Walker-Gaines, 71 North Main Street – Modifications to existing permit IW-18-004. Map 04A/ Block 45/ Lot 7 - Approved with Conditions
 Chairman Joshua Wilson

1TB 6/3

Legal Notice Andover Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission

The Duly Authorized Agent of the Andover Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission APPROVED the following applications on June 1st, 2022:
 • Application #IWWC 22-05: Nick Glowacki, 17 Lakeside Drive- Construction of a 22-foot x 36-foot wood-framed barn and associated rainwater infiltration gardens and drywells within the 200-foot Upland Review Area of Andover Lake.
 • Application #IWWC 22-06: Jose Nater, 272 Route 6- Placement of a 10-foot x 16-foot shed on a 12-foot x 18-foot gravel base within the 100-foot Upland Review Area of an unnamed brook.
 The above decisions may be appealed to the Andover Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission pursuant to Section 12.2 of the Town of Andover Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations, available at www.andoverconnecticut.org.

1TB 6/3

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF ANDOVER REFERENDUM TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 2022

The Electors and Citizens qualified to vote in the Town of Andover are hereby warned to meet at their respective polling place in said Town on Tuesday, June 7, 2022 for the following purpose:
 To adopt the Budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023.
 The location of the polling place is as follows:
Community Room of the Town Office Building - 17 School Road – Andover, CT
 The polls will be open from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Absentee Ballots are available in the Town Clerk's Office for anyone who is eligible to vote in the Town of Andover who will not be able to vote in person at the polls.
 Dated at Andover, Connecticut this 24th day of May, 2022.
 Carol H. Lee
 Town Clerk

1TB 6/3

TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS NOTICE OF HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Regular Meeting at 7:00 pm on June 13, 2022 at the East Hampton Town Hall - 1 Community Drive and via Zoom meeting (see Town website for details) to consider the following:
 Application ZBA-22-002: Atlantis Marketing, 1 Colchester Ave., 5 Colchester Ave. and 157 Main St for a variance to increase lot coverage from 30.4% to 36.9% and reconstruction and expansion of legal non-conforming use in the R-2 Zone. Map 7A/ Block 56/ Lots 22, 21, and 24.
 Application ZBA-22-003: Patricia Santangelo, 40 Eastham Bridge Rd., reduce front set back from 50' to 46' to build front porch. Map 24/ Block 64/ Lot 4A-17.

2TB 6/3, 6/10

TOWN OF COLCHESTER LEGAL NOTICE

The Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on June 15, 2022, at 7:00 P.M. to hear and consider the following petitions:
 1. **Town of Colchester Affordable Housing Plan** – The Commission will consider public testimony regarding the Affordable Housing Plan, prepared in accordance with Section 8-30j of the Connecticut General Statutes
 At this hearing interested persons may be heard and written communications received. A copy of this petition is in the Planning Department, Town Hall, 127 Norwich Avenue, and may be inspected during regular business hours (8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday).
 Planning and Zoning Commission
 Joseph Mathieu, Chair

2TB 6/3, 6/10

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Andover Municipal Board Clerk

The Town of Andover is accepting applications for a Board Clerk to take minutes at Planning & Zoning Commission, Inland Wetlands Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals meetings. Potentially there are opening for other meetings including Board of Selectman, Board of Finance and Board of Assessment Appeals.
 Please submit employment application and or resume to Eric Anderson 17 School Road, Andover, CT 06232 or eanderson@andoverct.org. These positions will remain open until filled. Application can be found at www.andoverct.org.

2TB 6/3, 6/10

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REB-13-21

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

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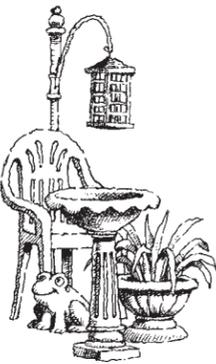
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