



News Bulletin

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

Volume 46, Number 37

Published by The Glastonbury Citizen

September 30, 2022



Garden Party... The Portland Garden Club was treated to a preview opening of the Overton Gallery at the Ruth Callender House Museum of Portland History on Sept. 21. The event served as a special thank you to the club which created and has maintained the Betty Keser Scott Garden on the museum property for over 20 years. Shown from left are Susan Ferguson, Judi Elder, Maureen Rich, Mary Anne Libera, Judy Sousa, Susan Dwyer, Susanne Anderson-Woronoff, Sandra Castelli and Bob McDougall, museum director. The museum will resume public hours on Sunday, Oct. 9, from 1-3 p.m. It is located at 492 Main St.

Colchester Teen Killed in Crash

By Michael Sinkewicz

A Bacon Academy student, just starting her junior year, was one of two teenagers killed following a motor vehicle crash in Glastonbury Sunday evening.

Andra Spencer, 15, was killed when the SUV she was riding in collided with a motorcycle on Hebron Avenue, near the Route 2 East on-ramp, according to Glastonbury Police and Colchester school officials.

The driver of the motorcycle, Gordon Southby, an 18-year-old Glastonbury High School senior, also died as a result of the crash, police said.

Colchester Superintendent of Schools T.Y. McDowell posted a statement about the crash to Facebook on Monday.

"All of us at Colchester Public Schools are deeply saddened by the loss of our Bacon Academy student, Andra Spencer, who was involved in a motor vehicle accident last night," he wrote. "Our thoughts and prayers are with the family as they endure this difficult time. As a community, we are committed to supporting our students who may be emotionally impacted by this tragic news."



Counselors will be made available at Bacon Academy and William J. Johnston Middle School for students seeking additional support.

First Selectman Andreas Bisbikos also offered his condolences this week in statement posted to Facebook Monday.

"My heart goes out to the family and loved ones who were affected by last night's sudden loss. Let us stand united in prayer and love during these difficult times," he wrote.

Police were called to the Hebron Avenue area at 6:52 p.m. to a report of a SUV

and motorcycle crash. There were three people in the SUV, according to authorities.

The other passengers were taken to the hospital with less serious injuries, police said.

Spencer's father, Brian Spencer, announced his daughter's passing on Facebook Monday afternoon.

"To all, it is with a very heavy heart that I must let you all know, God called my little girl home last night at 11:44 p.m. I am devastated, we all are," he wrote. "My life will never be the same."

Spencer was the middle child of three siblings, her father told *The Hartford Courant*.

"She was the sweetest, most [caring], young
See Colchester Teen, page 2

Still No Agreement on Compensation

By Jack Lakowsky

Last week the Marlborough Board of Selectmen's GOP members revealed they think the acting town CEO, in office for 90 days or until the board hires an interim town manager, should be paid nothing.

Board of Selectmen chair Amy Traversa, a Democrat, officially became the town's acting CEO in July, and ever since, selectmen have mulled what to pay her for the job. It wasn't until last week, though, that Republican selectmen Joe Asklar and Greg Lowrey stated their belief Traversa should receive nothing more than the standard small stipend she earns as a selectman.

Over the summer, Asklar and Lowrey challenged Traversa's chairmanship, asking the town attorney to review the 3-2 vote that put her in the seat. The lawyer affirmed the vote, then said per the charter, Lowrey, who was first selectman at that time, had to clear out his office.

The charter says the acting CEO lasts 90 days or until an interim town manager is hired. That deadline is Oct. 8, and the board hasn't even set up a search committee or publicly discussed op-

tions.

That same attorney said the board has the right to extend the 90-day period.

The board once again last week – after a sometimes-heated discussion – tabled the matter. Traversa recused herself for the discussion and, unlike during her previous recusals, left the meeting room. The board has perpetually kicked the topic of Traversa's compensation down the road, never coming to an agreement.

Selectwomen Betty O'Brien and Deb Bourbeau, respectively a Democrat and an unaffiliated member, devised a pay rate of around \$1,800 per week, similar to what the previous first selectperson's office was paid.

As he has before, Lowrey brought up the issue of retirement contributions, saying retirement benefits should not be offered to the acting CEO before they've agreed on their contribution. Bourbeau and O'Brien argued Traversa is eligible because she's a rehire (she was first selectperson before Lowrey).

Pay, Lowrey argued, is separate from the

CEO agreement.

Asklar, meanwhile, said he doesn't think Traversa should be paid at all beyond her select-board stipend.

Asklar said he takes a "harder" view of the issue. After again expressing skepticism as to whether Traversa should even have been made CEO to begin with, he noted that the charter is silent on whether the CEO gets paid. He added the point of not paying a CEO is to discourage anyone from getting entrenched in the 90-day position.

Lowrey agreed with Asklar. This seemed to be a shift in opinion, as at a meeting earlier this month, Lowrey motioned to pay Traversa \$227 a day.

O'Brien lambasted Asklar and Lowrey, saying she was shocked.

"I thought you were a better person than that," she said to Asklar. "I'm stunned."

Lowrey said by delaying the end of the CEO and the start of the interim town manager, the

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Cover Story • Cover Story • Cover Sto

★ *Colchester Teen cont. from page 1*

woman you would ever meet," he told the paper. "She was always concerned about doing the right thing and making sure you did, as well."

A GoFundMe page has been set up to help with Spencer's funeral expenses. The page states that Spencer was "coming back home with her mother and brother when they were involved in a car accident."

That page had raised nearly \$4,000 as of Wednesday afternoon. To donate, gotogofund.me/de7f08ab. The cause of Sunday's crash is still being investigated. Any witnesses or people with information should reach out to the Glastonbury Police Department at 860-633-8301.

Glastonbury Citizen reporter Shawn R. Dagle contributed to this story.



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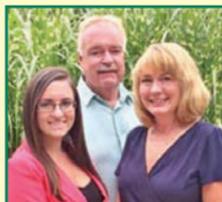
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Wednesday 11am-8pm	<i>Please note we are opening at 11am</i>

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Needleman Endorsed by Connecticut Realtors

State Sen. Norm Needleman (D-33) was recently endorsed by Connecticut Realtors as his campaign toward a third term continues.

Connecticut Realtors, representing 20,000 members, says it is focused on endorsing candidates “ensuring a positive environment for living in or transferring property in Connecticut.”

The 12-town 33rd District includes the *Rivereast* communities of Colchester, East Hampton and Portland. Needleman, of Essex, is being challenged for re-election this year by Republican Brandon Goff of East Hampton.

The Connecticut Realtors’ endorsement “is meaningful due to the sheer work Connecticut realtors do to support our local communities and keep our state economy strong,” Needleman said. “We need a strong real estate market to keep residents housed and strengthen our state’s capacity for growth. I will continue working toward solutions to achieve these goals.”

Needleman has additionally been endorsed by groups including the Independent Party, Planned Parenthood and AFT-CT in his campaign thus far.

Flu, COVID Booster Clinics

Chatham Health District, which serves as the municipal health department for Colchester, East Hampton, East Haddam, Hebron, Marlborough and Portland, has announced the following clinics for folks to receive the flu vaccine as well as the COVID booster vaccine.

No appointment necessary; see insurance information below.

All ages six months and over are welcome for flu, and 12 years and over for COVID-19 booster (Moderna Bivalent AND Pfizer Bivalent). Both the flu and COVID-19 vaccines may be received at the same time.

Bring a copy of your insurance card and a filled-out, printed copy of the consent forms (one for each vaccine) for each person receiving a vaccination. Forms are at www.chatham-health.org.

The following health insurances are accepted: Medicare (Part B); ConnectiCare; Aetna; Cigna; Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield. People who are covered by these insurance plans must bring their cards to the clinic. Note: UnitedHealthcare and other insurances are not accepted.

Call the Chatham Health District at 860-365-0884 for more information. Contact the office for proof of vaccination if needed.

Area clinics are:

Tuesday, Oct. 4, 4-6 p.m., East Hampton

Town Hall, 1 Community Drive, East Hampton; Thursday, Oct. 6, 3-5 p.m., Richmond Memorial Library, 15 School Drive; Wednesday, Oct. 12, 4-6 p.m., KOKO, 12 Long Crossing Rd., East Hampton; Friday, Oct. 14, 9-11 a.m., Colchester Senior Center, 95 Norwich Ave., Colchester;

Monday, Oct. 17, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Portland Senior Center, 7 Waverly Ave., Portland; Wednesday, Oct. 19, 3:30-5:30 p.m., Gilead Hill School, 580 Gilead St., Hebron; Thursday, Oct. 20, 10 a.m.-noon, Russell Mercier Senior Center, 14 Stonecroft Drive, Hebron; Friday, Oct. 21, 3-5 p.m., RHAM High School, 85 Wall St, Hebron;

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 9-11 a.m., East Hampton Senior Center, 105 Main St., East Hampton;

Tuesday, Oct. 27, 9-11 a.m., Marlborough Senior Center, 17 School Drive; Friday, Oct 28, 4-6 p.m., Marlborough Elementary School, 25 School Drive, Marlborough; Wednesday, Nov. 2, 3-5 p.m., Colchester Federated Church, 60 Main St., Colchester; Thursday, Nov. 3, 3:30-5:30 p.m., Portland Library, 20 Freestone Ave., Portland; Friday, Nov. 4, 9-11 a.m., Colchester Senior Center, 95 Norwich Ave., Colchester; Thursday, Nov. 17, 10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m., Russell Mercier Senior Center, 14 Stonecroft Drive, Hebron.

Standout Athletes of the Week

By Josh Howard

Here are the Rivereast Standouts of the Week for the week of Sept. 19-25:

Hayden Burke - Portland High School (Cross Country): Burke had a top-ten finish at the Going to the Sun XC Invitational, hosted by Coginchaug High School on Sept. 21. Burke, who finished 10th overall with a time of 18:39, was the first freshman to cross the finish line at the invite, which featured eight schools including Portland.

Elizabeth Glover - Bacon Academy High School (Soccer): Glover made 22 saves and registered a shutout as the Bobcats blanked Waterford 1-0 on Sept. 19 at Bacon. The sophomore goalie’s astonishing afternoon was the highlight on defense and freshman Alyssa Blanchette provided the offense by scoring the game’s only goal in the 31st minute. The Bobcats return home to welcome the Eastern Connecticut Conference (ECC) rival Fitch to BAHS on Tuesday, Oct. 3, for

a game at 4 p.m.

Sarah West - RHAM High School (Volleyball): West combined for 25 kills, 11 digs, and a handful of aces and blocks as the Raptors beat three opponents last week—all in straight sets. The senior ended the week with 11 kills and a season-high three ace in a victory over South Windsor, which improved the Raptors to 6-1 this fall. RHAM hosts an out-of-conference match against Cheshire this Saturday, Oct 1, at 11 a.m.

Emma Braga - East Hampton High School (Cross Country): Braga finished fifth overall, running a 21:42, at the Going to the Sun XC Invitational at Coginchaug High School on Sept. 21. The junior’s performance topped a strong group of Bellringers that won the seven-school event. Camryn Sprague (10th), Jocelyn Gustavson (11th), Savannah Garcia (13th), and Shea Thibodeau (20th) rounded out East Hampton’s top five finishers.

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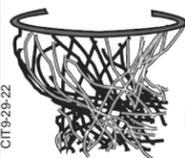


Registration is open for all Recreation League players & coaches.

The GBA is open to all town residents in grades 3rd through 12th and those 2nd graders who will be 8 years old by 12/31/2022. The season runs from mid-November through March.

Registration and additional details are found on the website:

www.gbahoops.org



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From the Editor's Desk

Observations & Ruminations

By Mike Thompson

Some good news this week from the state police: crime in Connecticut is down.

The state police issued its 2021 "Crime in Connecticut" report, detailing crime statistics from last year.

Overall crime in 2021 was down 2.76% from 2020 levels, the statistics showed. Violent crime dropped by 9%, to its lowest level in at least a decade, and motor vehicle thefts declined by 10.5%; there were nearly 1,000 fewer motor vehicles stolen in 2021 compared to 2020.

To break it down further: arsons are down 28.9%; burglaries are down 18.6%; assaults saw a 16.77% decline; robberies were down 5.9%; and property crimes dropped 2%.

The news wasn't all positive. In keeping with a disturbing nationwide, there was a 2.17% increase in instances of murder and manslaughter last year, with three more people murdered in the state in 2021 compared to 2020.

The number of reported rapes jumped a startling 23% last year, though in a press conference this week, Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) Commissioner James Rovella said that could be attributed to delayed reporting by victims due to the COVID-19 pandemic, according to *CTNewsJunkie*.

The stats appeared to back him up on this. After totaling between 800-900 per year since 2013, reported rapes in 2020 dropped to 638, then rose to 786 last year. So it appears sexual assaults are settling back to their utterly depressing normal levels.

Also disturbing if sadly not all that surprising: while the number of reported rapes in-

creased sharply from 2020 to 2021, the number of those cases actually cleared dropped. Of the 786 reported, just 163 – or around 20 percent – were cleared.

In fact, overall, the number of unsolved cases in the state rose. Just 15.5% of cases were cleared in 2021, compared to 16.7% in 2020. Those percentages.....are not very encouraging.

Overall, though, the report released by police this week is encouraging. Crime is down, and that's something to be celebrated.

In a press release sent to me this week, outgoing state Sen. Steve Cassano, whose district includes Andover, agreed.

"It's relieving to know crime is down in Connecticut, despite how it sometimes feels given the news," Cassano said. "Every day, we see awful headlines, but each headline is about an individual incident in a state of 3.5 million people. Anecdotes and hard statistics can show two distinctly different stories, and hard statistics show crime is largely dropping in our state. This report is a reminder that Connecticut is in fact one of the safest states in the country, according to the FBI, and that we need to stay focused to keep it that way."

All but one of the *Rivereast* towns is in the state's 2nd Congressional District. So, to everyone but those living in Portland, this may be of interest:

Eastern Connecticut State University will host a debate next Tuesday, Oct. 4, between incumbent Democratic U.S. Rep. Joe Courtney and his Republican opponent, candidate Mike France.

Editor's Desk continued on page 5



Get Lake-Smart... East Hampton Conservation & Lake Commission (EHCLC) members John Purple and Cheryl Lobo recently presented the Lake-Smart Award to Lori and Peter Bengston, who live in the Lake Pocotopaug watershed near Day Point Road. After having their home evaluated by the EHCLC, Bengston showed that they have worked to divert water that might have contained phosphates, nitrates and other impurities from their roofs and sloping land from flowing into Lake Pocotopaug. The Bengstons also do not use fertilizers or pesticides on their lawn. Residents who own properties on Lake Pocotopaug or in the watershed and would like to be evaluated should contact Jeremy Hall of the Parks & Recreation Department (860-267-7300 or jhall@easthamptonct.gov) or Jeremy DeCarli of the Planning & Zoning Department (860-267-7450 or jdecarli@easthamptonct.gov), or any members of the EHCLC. Property owners can also apply for improvement grants of up to \$150 from the Friends of Lake Pocotopaug; for applications, email Cap Nelson at capegan2015@gmail.com Photo by Marty Podskoch.

Bulletin Board

I was thinking the other day about retirement. Having left the business grind over a year ago, I recently realized that I needed a plan to make the (hopefully lengthy) slippery slope toward personal oblivion more enjoyable. Some people plan to relocate to Cape Cod and scour the beaches for sea glass; others say they'll play golf every day; still others dream of traveling to exotic climes.

I'm thinking of starting my own scooter-mounted seniors gang.

Really. It'll be called Geriatrics on Wheels, or "GOW"—a combination of Go and Ow, which I think speaks for itself, at least if you're at that point in your life where it hurts to bend over and put on your socks before you can get going in the morning. God knows, if I didn't keep active getting up to use the bathroom three times a night, I wouldn't have any flexibility at all.

Anyway, about the gang.

I got the idea for this some years ago when my kids attempted to hijack a couple of those little electric scooters they keep in big box stores for shoppers with mobility issues. Kids being kids, Sons #1 and #2 felt that since no one was using the scooters at the moment, and since the things looked like great fun, it made perfect sense that they should be able to fire them up and zip on down to the sugared cereal aisle, presumably flattening anyone unfortunate enough to be in their travel lane.

I patiently explained to them that the scooters are reserved for persons coping with a variety of disabilities, whereupon Son #1 (the sensitive one) vowed to devote his life to charitable enterprises and Son #2 (who tends to be somewhat less community-minded) claimed to have developed a sudden case of polio. Since he now suffered from a catastrophic mobility issue, he really didn't see the problem here and if I'd just stop droning on about persons who are less fortunate, he'd hop on one of the scooters and be on his merry way.

I then proceeded to explain the problem to him in somewhat more direct terms (trying not to teach him any new words that might get me in trouble at home or to attract too much attention from fellow shoppers who might feel compelled to contact the authorities) and off we went (Son #2 now dragging one leg), but not without longing looks back toward the scooters. You would have thought I'd canceled Christmas or something.

It was not long after this incident that I began to notice that there are a lot of companies out there trying to give away scooters and motorized chairs for free. TV ads and flyers promised that if I was on Medicare or Social Security disability or some other government program, these middlemen could get me a scooter for "little or no cost" to me, which I took to mean that good old Uncle Sam would pay for everything with money plucked off a tree somewhere deep in the Forest of National Debt.

Naturally, I was intrigued and filed that information away for future reference. I mean, who wouldn't jump at the opportunity to buzz around town on their very own free scooter? Alas, it turns out that quitting smoking all those years ago may have been a serious miscalculation—if I only suffered from emphysema or some obscure circulatory disease, I could even now be the proud owner of a shiny new scooter funded by the American taxpayer. However, all is not lost. It appears that if I live long enough and get decrepit enough, I may well qualify in the future. I am pinning my hopes on that happy day.

At that time, in some Eden of a state that does not tax pensions or the privilege of owning a motor vehicle from year to year, I plan to organize the halt, the lame and the infirm in my assisted living community into a scooter gang. Mounted on our free (or little cost to us) scooters and motoring along in outlaw packs at about two miles per hour, we will clog roadways and intersections on our way to bingo tournaments, complimentary blood pressure clinics, two-for-one sales on adult diapers, and mid-afternoon buffets featuring easy-to-chew cuisine.

Cruising carefree under our Viagra pennants, we will rule the roads (except at nap time) at least until seven o'clock or sunset, whichever comes first, when we will retire to our individual lairs to watch "Wheel of Fortune" reruns on TV and complain to whoever will pretend to listen about our inattentive children and how the country has gone to hell in a hand basket.

It will be so much more fun than golf.

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.

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

The Right Gal

To the Editor:

Irene Haines is the right gal for the right job.

Irene consistently opposes tax increases.

Irene fights to keep us safe from crime and our kids safe from drugs.

Irene expanded benefits for veterans.

Irene supports enhanced services for our seniors.

All with a careful eye on our tax dollars.

Join me in voting for Irene Haines on Nov. 8.

Melissa Engel – East Hampton

Kinney Road

To the Editor:

After a year of writing weekly letters. I'd like to acknowledge the *Rivereast* newspaper for respecting America's freedom of the press. The letters to the editor prompted us to receive unsigned messages, of support, in the mail and an important meeting with a DEEP hydrogeologist. A man whose information, about geology and water contamination, reassured households that we were absolutely right to be worried. His easily understood, environmental, knowledge

matched information online, in the news, the ERT Reports, common sense and the POCD concerns about DPW facility locations.

One, unsigned, letter we received was stuffed with articles about successfully reclaiming transfer stations. Another told us about feasible real estate in town. But Tuesday's letter was different. Tuesday's letter was a lovely floral card, well-written and well-meaning. It gave not only a return address but a name and phone number.

At first I froze, digesting their story, then picked up the phone, and dialed the number. An hour later I hung up feeling like I had made a new friend. America needs this kind of support and dedication.

At 84, this passionate former resident of Amston was brilliant and sharp as a tack. They had lived in Amston from 1963-2015 and still read the *Rivereast* weekly. They have been following our story with much concern. Unable to keep quiet they wrote, telling us they had worked for the Water Pollution Control Authority in Hebron for years. They knew every pumping station, every sewer line and every pocket of water in town. Like the DEEP hydrogeologist, they were terrified of what they read and ad-

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

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

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RIVEREAST

News Bulletin

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

Published Every Friday by The Glastonbury Citizen

87 Nutmeg Lane • Glastonbury, CT 06033

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Jean Tulimieri – Amston

Charter Provisions

To the Editor:

Like the average citizen, I expect the leadership of my town government to be cognizant of the provisions stipulated in Colchester's town charter. In fact, this charter specifies in § C-302D the first selectman (FS) shall ensure that all laws and ordinances governing the town are faithfully executed. However, despite being 10 months in office, that is not at all evident. The FS has frequently disregarded provisions specified in the charter, as has been continually brought to his attention by the Board of Selectmen. Although the Colchester town charter is reasonably understandable, without requiring an advanced reading comprehension level, the FS has repeatedly consulted with the attorney contracted for legal services for answers that should be readily attained by simply reading the charter. These legal services are not free, and a limit exists on the budgeted amount for them each year.

Speaking of the town budget, on Sept. 19, a town meeting was held on the third iteration of the proposed budget, which lasted approximately 9 minutes. That is because a motion was immediately cast and approved to adopt the third iteration without having any discussion or questions by the town's citizens (a primary purpose of the meeting). The FS and the Board of Finance (BOS) are acutely aware that there are several who question the appropriation of \$90,000 for a position that will not be filled, for which the FS has indicated will be allocated to other expenditures at his discretion. Doing this would violate § C-601C(1) of the town charter, which stipulates, "The (BOS) shall have the authority to approve supplemental appropriations from, and transfers within, the Board of Selectmen Budget as recommended by the Board of Selectmen, subject to the further approval of the Town Meeting, if so required."

With concern,

DeAva Lambert – Colchester

ARPA

To the Editor:

For over a year now, the ARPA Ad-Hoc Committee and the Board of Selectmen have collaborated to build the fundamental methods and procedures that would determine how the Town of Colchester would allocate the \$4.68M of the federal COVID relief funding which was part of the American Rescue Plan Act signed into law on March 11, 2021 by President Joe Biden.

We have successfully implemented oversight models and subsequent ARPA funding disbursements for Colchester non-profits and small businesses, now we are on to the final phase of the ARPA journey, which are municipal projects.

To start, town departments were asked to submit ARPA applications for projects they felt were needed to both improve / maintain their department (within ARPA guidelines) while also ensuring a tangible benefit to the community. The applicable department heads would then present their application and address questions from the ARPA Committee and the Board of Selectmen by way of joint meetings. After the presentations, the ARPA Committee will then engage in an assessment process that will produce an all-encompassing, recommended funding list of municipal projects in a prioritized order that will be sent to the Board of Selectmen for final review. At that point, the Board of Selectmen will make their final funding decisions.

The ARPA Committee also wants to hear from community members and give them a chance to voice their opinions on which projects they feel are most important to them and to the community (via a survey). The survey

results will be incorporated into the final prioritization decision by the ARPA Committee.

With the ARPA applications, discussions with town departments, and community feedback, we feel confident that we will push forward recommendations to the Board of Selectmen that best represents the needs of our town departments and our community members.

Sincerely,

**Dave Koji, Chair
Colchester ARPA Committee**

Urge for Going

To the Editor:

In the olden days, back in 1968, Tom Rush released the song "Urge for Going." It was by no stretch a top 10 or smash hit played endlessly on AM radio. Mainly it was played by the smaller radio stations on the FM band for us hippies who strummed guitars and went to coffee houses and intimate concerts where there was coffee served and you sat in uncomfortable wooden chairs to hear these discrete musicians.

Tom Rush captured a time of year, the fall, when scenery changes – the browning of the meadow grasses, bare skeletal branches, silent mornings, earlier darkness and cold, "all that stays dying, all that lives is getting out" he sings. He sings poignantly of the human spirit either putting up its defenses bracing for the harshness of winter or escaping. If you haven't heard the song for a while or ever at all, look it up and listen. I think you will agree.

Every year at this time I too feel "The Urge for Going." When I see the flocks of blackbirds winging south, plumage fading from brilliant to drab, the smell of autumn and the final show of wood asters, I know what is coming next. We all do. Spending so much time outdoors for so many years has given me the unique perspective of being able to watch these changes both on Earth and in the heavens. The planets and the constellations travel and tell time. And yes, I sing the "Urge for Going." The song talks of our lives. All of us. We all feel the same. Hold on to the remaining days of Summer and treasure them because they too are going.

Again, take some time to listen to the song. It will forever change your perspective on a yearly feature; the fall and coming winter. Stay warm.

Alison Walck – East Hampton

Europe Energy Crisis

To the Editor:

The extreme energy crisis in Europe should be a wake-up call for America. Pursuing the mythical "green energy" and/or "net-zero" policies of the left can only lead to ruin and human misery. Europe's travails provide a critical lesson for us to learn.

Dismantling steady and reliable sources of energy (carbon-based/nuclear) and depending on so-called renewables (wind/solar) is a fatal fool's errand. The potential capacity of renewables can't come close to providing the needs for our domestic population let alone meeting the needs of an industrial economy. Perhaps, this is the true intent and purpose of the left. Their purpose has nothing to do with the

climate or the environment. Their policies will have zero impact upon global temperatures but will devastate the environment. People living in third-world regions where the required minerals are found live in squalid ecological conditions and are subjugated to unimaginable horrors including child slavery.

Comparing the required land-use footprint of renewables vs. conventional is staggering. Untold millions of acres will be needlessly sacrificed for renewables despite remaining far short of what is required to provide essential energy. No reasonable metric provides justification for pursuing this abomination.

California, the harbinger of what left-wingers have in store for us, has just announced a ban of any natural gas-fueled furnaces by 2030. I'm sure the fuel oil that 90% of us in the northeast depend upon will be next. Gavin Newsom (Nancy Pelosi's nephew) has no worries as he is above the law and does whatever he chooses, as all the other elites do as well. He undoubtedly will still travel in his private jet while forbidding others from driving gas-powered automobiles.

We currently live in the greatest time ever for humanity and we should protect our right to securely remain here.

Sam Prentice – Andover

Marlborough Leadership

To the Editor:

Marlborough is in the midst of a transition between a three-member Board of Selectmen to a five-member Board of Selectmen and town manager system. The interim period during the search for a town manager was not clear in the newly revised charter that resulted from the election last November. Legal opinion clarified the dictates of the new charter. The position of the first selectman ended upon the election of the chair of the newly formed five-member board last May.

The town is fortunate that the newly elected chair, Amy Traversa, was not only experienced in the scope of the job, having served as first selectman previously but Ms Traversa is also a supremely capable manager of the many faceted and demanding tasks involved. She has stepped into the job as of July 10 with dedication and determination to carry on the business of our town while a search for the town manager is conducted. For more than 11 weeks she has worked 40-60 hours per week.

The latest delay led by two members of the BOS in determining her compensation is unconscionable. Ms. Traversa must be awarded her compensation retroactively and going forward until a new town manager is hired.

Editor's Desk continued from page 4

Occurring at 8 p.m. in the Fine Arts Instructional Center Concert Hall at ECSU, the debate will be moderated by Connecticut Public reporter Catherine Shen.

Each debate will feature a live audience and will also be broadcast and streamed on Connecticut Public platforms, including CPTV, ctpublic.org, YouTube and Facebook Live. The debates will also be simulcast on

There should be no reluctance to fairly compensate the person doing the job and doing it well during the months required to search and hire a town manager. Thank you, Amy Traversa, for stepping into the role.

It is time for all concerned to put our community above politics as promised by the two new members of the BOS elected in May. Belief in collaboration, accountability, transparency and responsibility are tantamount when conducting business for the town.

Sincerely,
**Dianne Dunn Greco
Executive Board,
Marlborough Democratic Town Committee**

Marlborough Democratic Town Committee

Teamwork, Integrity, Trust

To the Editor:

Brandon Goff was active-duty Navy, serving on a ballistic missile submarine in the Pacific where he was responsible for interior communications and navigation. Brandon knows the value of teamwork, loyalty, integrity, and trust. He is living them while serving his country. He continues to serve as a reservist. These traits are ingrained in service members.

You can trust Brandon as your representative to the Connecticut State Senate from the 33rd District. I'm confident he will continue to be above reproach as he navigates the rocks and shoals in Hartford.

Vote for Brandon Goff Nov. 8!

Alannah Coshow – Middle Haddam

Note: Coshow is chair of the East Hampton Board of Finance, writing as an individual.

Senior Luncheon Thanks

To the Editor:

Friday, Sept. 23, the Andover Senior Luncheon Program greeted Congressman Joe Courtney; Wes Skorski, candidate for state representative from the 55th District; Adrian Mandeville, vice chairman, Board of Selectmen; Scott Person, Board of Selectmen; Eric Anderson, Town Administrator; Gerry Wright, Retired First Sergeant U.S. Army Combat Engineer; and Charlotte Nelson, member of the Andover Democratic Town Committee and co-campaign manager for Wes Skorski. After a delicious meal including apple pie for dessert from Andover Pizza Restaurant, Route 6, our guests each spoke about issues of interest to the seniors.

We want to thank our guests for coming. A special thank you to the luncheon committee, Town Clerk Carol Lee, Alicia Lee, Carol Kukučka and Roberta Dougherty. Thank you to the

See Letters, page 6

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★ *Letters cont. from page 5*

following individuals who donated to the luncheon program: Tiu and Ylo Anson, Joan Foran, Adrian Mandeville, Charlotte Nelson, Wes Skorski, and Pat White.

On Saturday, Oct. 1, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., the seniors and lunch committee will be holding a tag and vendor sale at Town Hall, 17 School Road, Andover to raise money for the senior luncheon program. Added this year will be entertainment for the children; bounce house, face painting, bean bag toss, bowling courtesy of Andover Rec Commission and free popcorn, courtesy of the Andover Fire Department. Please stop by and look at the excellent de-

signer clothes, shoes, glassware, furniture and more. Vendors are selling dips and soup mixes, plants, crocheted items for home and children, Color Street nails. Thank you to the residents of Andover who help keep our Senior Luncheon Program running.

Sincerely,
Cathy Palazzi
Andover Senior Coordinator

Let Kevin Blacker Debate

To the Editor:

I am disappointed to learn that the League of Women Voters of Connecticut is co-signing Connecticut Public's decision to exclude Green

Party of Connecticut candidate Kevin Blacker from participating in this year's 2nd Congressional District debate, based solely on an arbitrary "pay-to-play" policy for debate participation.

Excluding a candidate based on financial resources, despite that candidate having legal ballot access, is not only unjust, it is a disservice to the electorate. Just last month in her online blog post "Debate Reluctance is a Bad Sign for Democracy," LWVCT executive director Laura Smits decried the increase in debate cancellations due to candidates' refusal to participate. How can she bemoan lack of participation by those candidates who decline to debate while

simultaneously hosting a debate where willing and qualified candidates are barred from participating?

As a Green candidate, Kevin Blacker is restricted from accepting campaign contributions from corporations, PACs or labor unions. While this policy may help to keep Green candidates and their campaigns honest, it unfortunately also keeps them mostly broke. Blacker has even taken this a step further by refusing to accept any campaign contributions, choosing instead to run an entirely self-funded campaign. Should his decision to maintain financial independence really disqualify him from sharing his platform with the public?

Green Party of Connecticut candidate Kevin Blacker should be invited to participate in the 2nd Congressional District debate. If CT Public won't concede, then LWVCT should withdraw their sponsorship of the debate. Voters have a right to hear from all candidates on the ballot - period.

Brian Gay - East Hampton

Choosing Carpino

To the Editor:

I fully support Christie Carpino for re-election as our state representative. She has worked hard for the Portland community for the past 12 years and looks out for our best interest. Christie is a strong advocate for the education and safety of our children, the elderly, our first responders and our veterans. She cares about all issues affecting our families today. She is always available to listen to our concerns and helps in any way she can.

If you want honesty, integrity and commitment from our state government, please vote for Christie Carpino.

Rose Canneto - Portland

Skorski Endorsements

To the Editor:

The AFT CT has endorsed Wes Skorski for state representative in Connecticut's 55th District. The AFT is one of the most diverse unions in the state representing more than 30,000 women and men working in the areas of PreK-12 education, paraprofessional and school related personnel, higher education, health care, and municipal and state government.

The AFT stated, "The decision to endorse your candidacy was made because of your commitment to working families and advocating for issues that are important to AFT Connecticut's members. Clearly, this election is very important to the people of Connecticut. We need strong leadership that will help turn this State around and your election is a critical part of this."

In addition to the AFT endorsement, the CEA has given Wes Skorski a score of 100 on their



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questionnaire. 'CEA is a member organization championing for students, teachers, and public schools. CEA advocates for legislation at the state and federal levels, represents the rights of teachers, and works with state policymakers to continue to elevate the teaching profession and promote public education' (CEA website). His opponent did not even return the questionnaire. One can only speculate as to why that is. As a resident of Connecticut, it gives me confidence when an education union and the Connecticut Education Association support a candidate. They don't make these decisions lightly. Wes has proven his commitment to Connecticut schools by his own actions. He has served nine years on the board of education demonstrating his commitment to public service and education.

Wes has a committed outlook to education and has proven that he has our children's best interests at heart.

My vote is for Wes and for our children.

Charlotte Nelson – Andover

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

Time for New Energy

Dear Readers:

My name is Larry Lazor, a Republican running to represent you in U.S. Congress. I'd like to introduce myself.

My opponent, John Larson, has represented you for 24 years, and I have serious doubts about what he has accomplished. John promotes huge government spending and now the great state of Connecticut has high debt, high taxes, and high inflation all of which have made it more difficult for families/businesses. You've had front row seats as companies leave.

It's time for new energy and new ideas.

The Economy: Historic inflation rates are hurting all of our budgets and are the number one problem facing small businesses. Yet Congress continues to spend more. I stand for fiscal responsibility and lower taxes. Here, John Larson and I are opposites.

Healthcare Reform: Healthcare is too expensive, too complicated and has too many inequities. Government involvement in healthcare can make the problem worse. I understand the importance of abortion access and will support it as your congressman (something I've written about in *The Hartford Courant*).

Education Reform: As a father of three, I worry that parents are losing a voice and that educating 4- to 7-year-olds on gender identity and sex preferences is wrong. Decrease standardized testing, have fewer students in each classroom, and have disciplinary systems that address poor behavior. Teachers need our support.

If you want to learn more about what I stand for, you can do so by visiting either our website (lazorforcongress.com), Twitter feed (@larrylazor), or Facebook page (Larry Lazor for Congress).

Watch our debate Tuesday, Oct. 11, at 8 p.m., on CPTV – and encourage John to agree to more

debates. At a time of an all-time low confidence in government, voters need more discussion on the issues. This is our opportunity.

**All the best,
Larry Lazor – West Hartford**

Note: Lazor is running for the 1st Congressional District. The district's towns include Portland.

Vote for Election Integrity

To the Editor:

Methodically and across the U.S., Republicans have been working to dismantle the guardrails that keep American democracy on track. In 2021 alone, at least 19 Republican-ruled states passed measures whose official purpose was tackling (nonexistent) voter fraud but whose practical effect will be voter suppression, making it harder for low-income and minority Americans in particular to cast a ballot – and those efforts have continued (*The Guardian*, June 2022).

Every citizen has the right to vote and we should not let that be taken away from us by subversive legislation or conspiracy-minded sycophants. More than half the country has an election denier running to oversee statewide elections. Many of these down-ballot contests had narrow margins in the last midterm election, and voters can't afford to sit these races out. Please vote for free and fair voting in the upcoming election! Vote 'yes' to open voting.

John Barnowski – Colchester

Strength in Diversity

To the Editor:

Kudos to Florida Governor Ron Desantis for sending 48 documented visitors to the pristine island of Martha's Vineyard. These kind welcoming ultra-rich Americans took them in, housed them, fed them, kept them safe, but despite Edgartown being a "Sanctuary City" the City Council decided that 38 hours was enough and they relocated the 48 "visitors" to a military base on the mainland at Cape Cod. They expressed that they were "not equipped" to handle these unexpected visitors, even though it was the off-season and there were approximately 1,000 vacant hotel rooms on the island. They had the opportunity to gain strength in diversity – a phrase used often by presidents Obama and Biden, V.P. Harris and many other liberal progressive Dems.

This episode made the Vineyard-ites very nervous because if they allowed the "48" to stay there could be more on the way and these fine upstanding caring people are fine with immigrants coming to America so long as they don't want to stay in their exclusive neighborhood.

Then we have Joe Biden, this sorry excuse for our president. Stock market taking a nose dive, 8.3% inflation rate in August alone, \$85 billion in military equipment left in Afghanistan, crime at an all-time high especially in Democratic-run cities, open border policy, and Joe has the audacity to call out American citizens who support "Make America Great Again" – all this while inviting Elton John to perform at

the White House; reminds me of Nero playing his fiddle while Rome burned. And we know that Biden's "inflation reduction" bill will be a complete failure as he caves in again to the far left.

In closing, we have Ned Lamont – another liar and failure who, if re-elected, will put tolls on major roads. It's already in the works.

Have a nice day.

Don Denley – Andover

Supporting Steve Weir

To the Editor:

I recently had the pleasure of meeting Steve Weir and chatting about my concerns. He actually took the time to listen and address them with understanding and compassion.

I have spoken with many "politicians" in my travels with a veterans' group and Steve Weir was right at the top of what I would call "considerate" and "thoughtful" in answering my questions. He's got my vote!

Respectfully,

C. Anne Johnson – Marlborough

Get Involved

To the Editor:

I keep hearing that we are a divided nation and I agree. But it is not divided in two. It's three, or more. There are the far-right extremists and the far-left extremists. And then there are the rest of us, who are normal people that can actually think on our own without paying heed to the party we may be affiliated with. I believe we are in the majority, and we should start getting involved and making our position heard.

I firmly believe: The majority of us want women to have the right to determine what happens to their bodies. The majority of us want term limits for all politicians, including Supreme Court justices. The majority of us want a flat tax where everyone, including businesses, would be taxed the same percentage of income with no loopholes or deductions. The majority of us support the right to bear arms but do not want assault rifles in the hands of non-military citizens and want tighter gun control laws. The majority of us want to see ranked choice voting across the board to welcome new parties to the table without the risk of losing our vote.

If you read this and agree, please get involved. Let's write our representatives and senators, at the national and state level, along with our local

governments, to let them know where we stand on these issues and that we will vote them out if they do not start representing us. Get out and vote!!! We can no longer sit on the outskirts and watch what is happening. Our country is going in the wrong direction, and it is the extremists who are running the show while we sit around and watch. Let's get involved.

Joseph Fougere – Colchester

Who Says?

To the Editor:

Who says you can't have kids at 80?

Well, okay....not two-legged kids, but four-legged ones.

I mentioned to my daughter that I wish I could get more exercise. So I decided to go to CT Dog Rescue and adopt two dogs. I had 4 basic requirements:

1. Quiet, non-barkers; 2. two for companionship; 3. up to 50 pounds; 4. possibly older dogs.

Well, I got three out of four right. Had I prepared for 2 dogs? Yes! Two puppies? Nope.

No, No, No.....Outside! Carry them outside. Then scrub, scrub, scrub inside.

Well, I almost read *Rivereast* before it was snatched off the table and shredded into lots of little pieces.

Pick up, pick up, pick up all those pieces.

What do you think. Did I start to get my exercise wish??

Lorraine J. Spiegel – Colchester

Public Works Project

To the Editor:

Good day all. Yes, there was a public informational session last Monday. Yes, there were many who were concerned about the possibility of pollution due to the potential salt shed. There was also ground water concerns. The concerns raised will be investigated and solutions developed. I have already; one suggestion which I have already passed on.

While much work has been done, this meeting has shown us that still more needs to be done. This will be done in a methodical process. Not rushed, as some want us to do. A few have made suggestions. We welcome them. Sadly, many of them have already been thought of and dismissed as unworkable, or simply way too expensive. We have had in the past too many building projects which address today and ig-

See Letters, page 8

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by George M. Mantikas, DMD

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BURNING MOUTH SYNDROME

Burning mouth syndrome is an aptly named condition that causes a feeling of intense, painful heat or burning on the tongue, lips, gums, and other areas of the mouth. This happens when the brain cannot properly interpret the signals sent by the nerves in the mouth; however, why this sudden misunderstanding occurs is not fully understood. Some possible causes are hormonal changes, immune system issues, nerve damage, stress, anxiety, or depression. Conditions such as dry mouth, diabetes, acid reflux, and thyroid problems may also be involved. In spite of the strong sensation, the mouth will not be hot to the touch and there may be no visible signs of the condition at all.

We firmly believe that education and preventive care are key to optimal oral health as well as overall health. That's why we are focused on a healthy smile as well as a healthy body for all our patients. To achieve these goals, we conduct thorough exams, review medical histories, and provide instruction on proper brushing and flossing techniques. If you are as concerned as we are about healthy teeth and gums, call our office today for an appointment for comprehensive dental care.

P.S. Burning mouth syndrome can occur in anyone, but women beginning or going through menopause are the most likely to experience it.

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Reader Forum • Reader Forum

★ **Letters cont. from page 7**

nore tomorrow. Already, just in the past few years, we have seen a transformation to far more electric vehicle technology. This technology requires power. Hebron only has a few areas with the three-phase power we will need in this building for the future.

This is just one of the many issues that we need to be mindful of. Together, we will get through this and, the results, I hope, will be something everyone can get behind and support.

**Thank you,
Daniel Larson – Hebron**

Note: Larson is chairman of the Hebron Board of Selectmen, but said he is speaking as an individual.

Vote for Steve Weir!

To the Editor:

Please join me in voting for Steve Weir for state representative of the 55th District.

Who do we want to represent our community in government? Someone we believe has the ability to achieve the change we need in government. Are they the right person to speak for me, my family and my community? Is their voice strong enough? Do they have the fortitude to hold others accountable and make their voice (our voice) heard?

Without hesitation, Steve is that person. He is family-oriented, community-focused, honest, hard-working and really cares about the people he would represent. His background in business, law enforcement and community give him the experience to speak for his constituents. His focus on key issues associated with public safety, education, children and our state's fiscal health are critical. I am also confident he will work to reduce government spending to help make our state a destination for businesses and families while reducing our tax burden.

The people who serve us in the legislature are so often not equipped to achieve the change we need. Join me in supporting someone who is. Vote for Steve Weir!

Peter Kasper – Hebron

Note: Kasper is a member of the Hebron Board of Selectmen but said he is speaking as an individual.

Speechless, and Hopeful

To the Editor:

The presentation on Monday, Sept. 19, about the Department of Public Works (DPW) facility proposed for 17 Kinney Rd. left me speechless.

The review of work to date on this project was impressive, and I have enormous respect for the dedication to this project by the Public Building Committee members, Board of Selectmen, Town staff, and others. I must trust the Building Committee's word that 17 Kinney Rd. is the only option within Hebron's 36.9 square miles for this DPW facility.

But, it still seems odd to put a DPW facility in the center of town, in an area that we thought would become a tax-generating mixed-use development attracting people to the Town Center.

What kind of mixed-use residential/retail development will choose to be in and/or adjacent to a Public Works facility and municipal complex with firehouse and police facilities that are even bigger than the one we have now (which I think of as new)? Other than staff, who would want to spend time and/or live there?

I trust there are ways to manage the impact of this DPW facility on abutting properties, the neighborhood, and the potential development of a lovely, tax-generating town center.

I hope we can afford what it will take to accomplish this.

Lilli Rhodes – Hebron

Charter Chaos Continues

To the Editor,

Back in July I wrote a letter talking about the mess at Marlborough Town Hall resulting from a very poorly written revision to the charter, which was approved by voters last November.

There continues to be disruption over power plays at Town Hall ever since Amy Traversa was selected by a partisan 3-2 vote in May (with Amy herself casting the deciding vote) to be the Board of Selectmen chairman, which in turn put her in the role of "acting town manager."

Then, on July 10th, Greg Lowrey was ejected from his corner office at Town Hall and Ms. Traversa assumed the role of Marlborough's "CEO."

Since then, there have been ongoing discussions about whether or not Ms. Traversa should be paid. At the same time, no progress has been made in regards to assembling a Town Manager Search Committee, finalizing a town manager job description or even deciding what will happen when Ms. Traversa's 90-day clock runs out

on July 10 in regards to her current role. And throughout this all, legal expenses keep accruing as Board of Selectmen members debate the issues and seek legal opinions from our town counsel.

Yes, we continue to have quite a mess at Marlborough Town Hall. I suggest you all follow this very closely. How this plays out will have an impact on Marlborough in the near term and may play a role in things for many years to come.

Ken Hjulstrom – Marlborough

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

Wake Up America!

To the Editor:

We are suffering from a different disease, known as donkey pox! For the past two years we have had thousands of illegal trespassers entering our country and our Democrap representatives are allowing this to happen and they are breaking the law!

We elect senators and congressmen to represent us but the Democrap representatives in our state do not represent us. They do whatever our unqualified leader dictates. A wolf pack doesn't allow the dumbest wolf to lead the pack but we do!

Florida and Texas are overwhelmed with these criminal trespassers and our federal representatives do nothing about it! This is the worst disgrace I have witnessed in my lifetime. Florida has just flown two planeloads of criminals to Martha's Vineyard and are being criticized for doing so. If our elected representatives weren't allowing these criminals to enter our country we would not be

in this mess. How would you feel if hundreds of illegal criminals entered your neighborhood and you would have to pay for all their expenses?

The group that landed in Martha's Vineyard are now suing our country! (That's you and me.)

Not only that but we are paying the for all the attorney's fees to do so!

Frank Blume – Colchester

The Choice is Clear

To the Editor:

Honesty, respect, community involvement, and hardworking American values. Those are the virtues I personally live by and expect those who represent me in elected public office to adhere to.

When I first met Steve Weir, I was impressed with his professionalism, experience, commitment to family, and the desire to proudly serve the 55th District. As a successful job creating businessman and father, his dedication to his family and our community are unparalleled. Steve has unique experience as a former police officer to address the crime problem plaguing our communities. He will work to make our communities safer and hold those who want to harm us accountable.

Regardless of your party affiliation (Republican, Democrat or Independent), this election should be about voting for the most experienced candidate who will work hard to represent us and our families. Given his experience and work ethic, I believe Steve is the most qualified candidate and someone we can all be proud of to serve the 55th District.

I will be voting for Steve on Nov. 8 and encourage you to support Steve Weir to be your next state representative.

Jeffrey Murray – Andover

Note: Jeffrey Murray is a member of the Andover Board of Selectmen and the vice chair of the Andover Republican Town Committee, but said he is speaking as an individual.

Happy in Connecticut

To the Editor:

I am frequently puzzled when Connecticut residents complain about life in the Nutmeg State.

You never see tweets from Alabamans bemoaning where they are from, nor Arizonans, Floridians, or (heaven knows) Texans. Yet Connecticutters, who have a better standard of life, have no hesitation in blasting their home.

I get that Connecticut is expensive and that it is difficult for retirees and those on fixed incomes to afford. Yes, we have our problems, but compared to the states mentioned previously, we are in a good place.

As a father, I could not ask for a better place to raise my daughters.

Education and related opportunities are reasons for us all to be proud. Connecticut consistently ranks in the top five nationally for the quality of public schools. While inequity remains a problem in our cities, magnet schools,

school choice (which has existed for a long time here, despite claims to the contrary), and other programs are doing their best to achieve balance.

As for higher education, we are a thriving part of the Knowledge Corridor. Connecticut is one of a sadly small number of states with more colleges and universities than prisons. UConn is the best public research university in New England, with first-rate academics and athletics.

We have a workforce rich in opportunities in high-tech manufacturing, clean energy, health care, defense, and much more. Connecticut has common-sense gun laws and statistics show that crime is declining.

Crucially, the majority of Connecticut residents are inclusive of those who are different from them. We support the LGBTQIA+ community and most of us are not triggered by the pronouns.

Continue to gripe if you are unhappy. As for me, I am Connecticut proud and happy to live here.

Sincerely,

Matt Engelhardt – East Hampton

Pantherfest Thanks

To the Editor:

On behalf of East Hampton Middle School and EHMS PTO, we would like to thank our volunteers and sponsors for making this year's Pantherfest yet another huge success! For 23 years, this much-loved cross country and soccer invitational event has been our primary fall fundraiser and we depend on volunteers, donations and services from local families and businesses to ensure that it runs smoothly and successfully.

Special thanks to our "Gold Paw" sponsors: A Plus Reporting Service LLC (Plainville), Carl Guild & Associates (East Hampton), CitiHair Design (Middletown) and Mike's Auto Service LLC (Haddam); "Silver Paw" Sponsors: Adams Hometown Market (Portland), ADL Imaging (East Hampton), Cold Spring Farm (East Haddam), Dexter's Tunes, Tales & Ales (East Hampton), Duggan's Dance Center (Marlborough), Lakeside Automotive (East Hampton), Paul's & Sandy's Too (East Hampton) and Pizzeria DaVinci (Cobalt); and East Hampton Village Center sponsors: Airline Cycles, The Black Walnut Artisan Bread, Le Petite Boutique and Willow.

We also thank the following for their donations of goods, services and time: EHMS art teacher Carl Pastor for designing the T-shirts, East Hampton Parks and Recreation, EHHS Interact Club, the EHHS Cross Country Team, EHMS EarlyAct Club, Big Y Marlborough, Stop & Shop, and more than 75 parent and community volunteers. Without you this event wouldn't happen year after year.

Thank you again and see you next September!

Go Panthers!

**Christina Amaral, Principal
Emily Asklar, Assistant Principal
Mike Mercaldi, Athletic Director
Ken Landry, P.E. / Health Teacher
Cyndi Buchan and Donna Roberts,
Pantherfest Committee
Nancy Kohler, Sarah Malatesta and Nancy
Oakley, EHMS PTO**

Steak Dinner, Milk & Cookies

To the Editor:

When reading this paper, we all look through the sections pertaining to our local towns. But let's face it: the letters to the editor are a huge draw. For many years now, I've read the differing opinions (and back and forth) from Joe Stevens, Sam Prentice, Scott Sauyet, Don Denley, Ed Gyllenhammer, Ed Kozlowski and Ed Smith. There are others who write regularly, but these gentlemen have developed a cadence of back and forth in this weekly paper. At times, I've thought that it would be great to get these guys together, in person, to put faces with names, and remind each other of the value of diversity of thought.

This past Saturday, I had the pleasure of attending the Andover Volunteer Fire Department's steak dinner. The food was delicious, and the opportunity to interact with residents of Andover was fantastic. I stopped to talk at one table, and Ed Smith introduced himself. I was starstruck, and Ed was/is a gentleman. Immediately, the idea of getting them in the same room was rekindled. I spent time recently to reach out to each of the individuals named above and was successful in reaching some, and I'm working on the rest. Of the four people I connected with, three were enthusiastic about getting together and one was a bit reserved about the prospect. Three more remain elusive, but I'll stay after it.

The proposal is simple: We'll meet in a neutral setting, not to debate, but to hopefully find a

shred of common ground, and build from there. I'm toying with the idea of calling it a "Milk & Cookie Summit." For the three who I've not yet connected with, if you read this before I reach you, feel free to call me at 860-373-0244 or at steve@steveweirforct.com.

**Steve Weir – Hebron
Candidate for the Connecticut House of
Representatives, 55th District**

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

Support for Skorski

To the Editor:

I am writing this letter in support of Wes Skorski to represent the 55th District – Andover, Bolton, Hebron, Marlborough and Glastonbury – in Hartford.

Wes is a family man who has proudly raised his children here. As a small business owner, he understands firsthand the challenges of working people, and will apply this knowledge at the State Capitol. As chair of the Marlborough Board of Education, he worked capably across party lines to ensure the safety of students, teachers and staff during the COVID-19 pandemic.

It's critical that voters understand where candidates stand on key issues, particularly given the consequential nature of the upcoming midterm elections. Wes has been very clear on his plan for our district. He strongly supports a woman's autonomy over her health, and lets science guide his decisions on public safety. He is a clear advocate for public education and strengthening our already great schools. Wes acknowledges the real threat of climate change, and will work alongside his colleagues in Hartford to reduce carbon and invest in emerging technologies that will prepare us for the future. And, he will fight for affordable healthcare solutions by enacting legislation that will bring down prescription drug costs.

Most importantly, Wes understands the unique needs of a small proud district such as ours. I am excited to support his candidacy and encourage you all to visit his website, winwithwes.org, to learn more about his platform. Please vote on Nov. 8.

Sincerely,

Tiffany V. Thiele – Hebron

Note: Thiele is a member of the Hebron Board of Selectmen, but said she is speaking as an individual.

Social Security

To the Editor:

The GOP's plan – Cut, privatize and end Social Security. Republicans are coming for the program. Senators Lindsey Graham, Mitch McConnell, Marco Rubio, Rick Scott, Ron Johnson and others have all said that they want to cut the program. It's in Rick Scott's 11-point GOP plan.

Why does the GOP want to cut Social Security? So the employers – big businesses and corporations – will no longer have to match our donations. GOP calls it an entitlement. Ending Social Security would be life-threatening to seniors who spent their life contributing to it and who depend on it.

Annie Steinbrecher – Marlborough

Long Live His Excellency

To the Editor:

His Excellency, Edward Miner (meaning "fortune digger") Lamont, has been running a feel-good campaign highlighting Connecticut small business successes, our public education system, support for "bodily autonomy," and "historic tax cuts." He wants us to forget how his administration spent the last two years hamstringing mom-and-pop businesses with closures, mandates and health code hoops while big-box stores sucked up all the market share/profits and exported our dollars out of state. His wife's companies are currently restructuring in Tennessee.

While some states had the sense to limit children's COVID-19 safety measures because the illness has no statistical effect on them, Lamont forced children into remote tele-learning, masking, and isolating them through social distancing. This resulted in two years of lost education and a healthy dose of trauma. Rather than accept responsibility, Lamont talks about how children are "resilient"...maybe a Drag Queen story hour will help? Lamont's also very inclusive....that's why he banned thousands of children from Connecticut schools...SCIENCE!

Ned talks about Connecticut as a destination location for abortion, extolling his support for a women's "right to choose." But if a pregnant woman doesn't want to be injected with an ex-

See Letters, page 33



The Panama Paper... Deb Pinto of Hebron recently was in Panama, where she visited the Panama Canal, the rainforest, and other amazing locations with her husband Vin and daughter Stacey.

Where in the World is the *Rivereast*?

Hey! Are you taking a vacation or a day trip soon? Bring the *Rivereast* along with you, snap a picture with it, and email the photo to bulletin@glcitizen.com.



Icelandic Trip... Pictured is Tony Nipper, from Amston, arriving in beautiful Isafjordur, Iceland, recently.



A Restful Retreat... Portland residents Christopher Butler (age 14) and Allison Butler (age 9) are shown here with their favorite hometown newspaper during a recent trip to Yellowstone National Park.



Rivereast Takes a Hike!... Maureen and Joel Bednarz of East Hampton took their *Rivereast* on a coastline hike at Acadia National Park in Maine.

Where in the World?

**Going on a trip?
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Parents Overwhelmingly Push for Armed Officer

By Jack Lakowsky

In a Marlborough Board of Selectmen meeting last week, Marlborough Elementary School parents, through public comment and written letters, vehemently supported bringing an armed officer into the town's only school.

Selectboard chair Amy Traversa counted around 20 letters of support, and supporters packed the nearly three-hour meeting.

Chris Calloway, who described himself as "uniquely qualified" as a member of law enforcement and a father, said the best way to "harden" the school is with a uniformed police officer (known as a school resource officer or SRO) instead of a security guard (usually a retired cop, also called an ASO).

"Protecting this asset is invaluable," he said.

MES superintendent Holly Hageman said schools "tragically" need armed security, that despite other security elements violence occurs in schools like MES.

"That's why the Marlborough Board of Education wants to partner with the town," she said. The school is asking for, as Calloway suggested, an SRO, employed by local police, "a sworn active-duty police officer," as Hageman put it.

To have one, the superintendent said, schools must have a working relationship with police, as she said MES does.

Hageman described the guard as a deterrent to criminal behavior, a proactive and preventative resource. Hageman said they'd need training in social emotional support, medical certifications, and must be a positive presence. Hageman said the officer could be incorporated into MES's health curriculum.

And, importantly Hageman said, the officer would in no way be used to discipline stu-

dents. She has previously said an SRO would only be used in situations where one would likely call police anyway.

MES needs an agreement with the town to move forward. The school board isn't qualified to hire law enforcement personnel. Any guard the board hired wouldn't be a direct member of the police force. Hageman added she does not feel it appropriate for her to oversee an officer.

"It's not in my wheelhouse," she said. While she didn't present an exact salary, Hageman said the guard would be paid between \$30 and \$35 an hour for 180 days, making for an estimated salary (assuming the hire figure) of about \$50,400 annually.

There would be additional benefit costs, she said. There's some variation town-by-town on if the town or school pays for equipment. Funding for the position this year, if the town approves, would come through an agreement between the town and school because neither budgeted for it. Then, it would be a regular budget cost.

Hageman "respectfully" asked for an answer from the town by Oct. 30.

Selectboard member Greg Lowrey suggested having the Board of Finance look at the topic and get some more details for itself.

She didn't get into details, but selectboard chair and acting town CEO Amy Traversa said on Facebook that users posted "vile" comments about the board on this topic, apparently assuming the board was making a decision that night.

Traversa said the board simply asked for the presentation to begin considerations.

"We have a lot to discuss," she said. "We will be discussing the best way to handle this."

Senior Center News and Notes

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

Transportation: Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; Assistance, Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Bingo: Monday, 1-3:30 p.m.; Setback: Wednesday and Friday, 9 a.m.-noon; 8-Ball Pool: Monday through Friday, 9:30 a.m.-noon; Grocery Shopping: Wednesday, 8:30 a.m.-noon;

Meals-on-Wheels: Monday through Friday, noon; Congregate Meals: Monday, Wednesday

and Friday, noon; Medical Appointments: Monday through Friday, by appointment; Exercise with Anne: Thursday, 3-4 p.m.; Tai Chi: Thursday, 10:30 a.m.; Not Just Quilting: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.; Cornhole and Bocce Ball will be played Monday through Friday, weather permitting; Food Bank: Tuesday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sophisticated Ladies (Tap Dancing): Wednesday, 5:30 p.m.

There will also be a flu shot and Moderna booster shot clinic Thursday, Oct. 27, from 9-11 a.m.

Chicken Barbecue

The Marlborough Fire Department will host its 66th annual Chicken Barbecue at station No. 1 on Route 66 in Marlborough center from noon-2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 2.

Tickets are \$18 each and will be sold door to door by Marlborough firefighters. The Women's Auxiliary will also be hosting a bake sale.

Each ticket will buy half of chicken, freshly made coleslaw, a baked potato, dinner roll and dessert. The firehouse will be open for those who wish to eat their meal at the station. Meal

delivery is available to seniors and those unable to arrive at the firehouse to receive their meal. Notify the firefighter at time of purchase to be able to reserve a delivery.

Tickets are limited; residents are urged to call the firehouse at 860-295-6219 to get tickets if a firefighter has not stopped by. Leave a message with your name, address and number of tickets needed. All tickets are sold at a first-come, first-served basis.

Lions Eyeglass Collection Boxes

The Marlborough Lions collect used eyeglasses and hearing aids, which are then provided to people in impoverished countries all around the world.

The drop boxes are located at Town Hall, Liberty Bank, the Marlborough Senior Center and at the office of Dr. Steven Rafalowsky on Saner Road. The Lions collect the eyeglasses and hearing aids all year long and once a year Lions Clubs from all over Connecticut meet to turn in the collected items. Eyeglass cases are also appreciated.

Also, in early October, the Lions will also conduct free vision screenings at Marlborough Elementary School, which is done to help provide early identification of any children with vision issues. Often issues can go undetected without such screenings. The eye screenings are non-intrusive and utilizes a camera that detects any anomalies.

For more information or to learn more about the Lions, call Hjulstrom at 860-490-9116 or Lions President Megan Lloyd at 413-687-5537.

Congregational Church News & Notes

Sunday worship services at Marlborough Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, located at 35 S. Main St., are at 10 a.m. Child care for infants and toddlers is provided downstairs in the nursery; however, children are always welcome at the worship service.

Oct. 2 is World Communion Sunday, with worship led by Senior Pastor Bob Faulhaber, assisted by pastoral associate Val Seaver. Holy Communion is open to all, regardless of church affiliation, including children, with parental guidance. The bread used is gluten-free.

Faith Formation (Bible Study) is led by Pastor Bob Faulhaber and meets Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. upstairs in the lounge. All are welcome.

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 is now open for the fall season. The shop is open Fridays from noon to 3 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon. Second Blessings accepts donations during shopping hours. The shop also sells through eBay at <https://bit.ly/MCCebay>

General Info: Worship services and programs are open to all. The church is an Open and Affirming faith community. For more information on the church or its programs, call the church office at 860-295-9050.

St. John Fisher Church News & Notes

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

COVID-19 Protocol: For the fully vaccinated, masks are not required. For the unvaccinated, masks continue to be encouraged. Call the office for more information.

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

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

Family Faith Formation: This is a new program to focus on active faith formation within the family is underway for families of kindergarten through middle school students; registration is required on the church's Faith Formation website and will close at the end of September.

St. Mary Church Basket Raffle

St. Mary Ladies Guild will sponsor its second annual Bountiful Basket Raffle Saturday, Oct. 15, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. in the day chapel and after all weekend Masses. Last year's event consisted of 62 baskets and an array of gift cards for the grand prize.

All are welcome. St. Mary Church is located at 45 Freestone Ave.

For more information, contact President Jane Klemba at 860-301-3731 or klembajane@comcast.net.

Confirmation Community: The church's active 9th- and 10th-grade confirmation program continues. Registration is required as well.

Adult Worship Choir: Meets Wednesdays from 5:30-7 p.m. All are welcome to join. More information can be found on the church website.

Community Outreach and Service: Food drives are held the second full weekend of each month for Marlborough Food Bank; you may also bring non-perishable food or household donations directly to the Marlborough Food Bank Monday and Tuesday mornings. Sandwich-making and collection continues on the last Thursday of the month for St. Vincent de Paul in Middletown. The Community Garden to benefit Marlborough Food Bank continues to supply fresh produce each week and volunteers are always welcome. Other scheduled service opportunities can be found on the church website and are scheduled monthly.

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

Republican Campaign Signs Available

The Marlborough Republican Town Committee has various campaign signs available for Republican candidates. The signs are free.

The lawn signs include those for Steve Weir for state representative, Rocky Camardella for state Senate, Leora Levy for U.S. Senate, Mike France for U.S. Congress and Bob Stefanowski for governor.

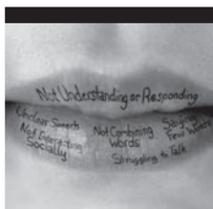
Call or text RTC Secretary Ken Hjulstrom at 860-490-9116 to order any of these signs. Free delivery can be provided.

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Rally Day... The Congregational Church of Marlborough recently held a Rally Day to kick off a year-long celebration of its 275th anniversary. The morning worship service featured music by Joyful Blue, a video presentation, followed by a picnic, face-painting, and a bounce house. The day also marked the start of the Sunday school year for children ages 3 through grade 8 and for the Junior and Senior youth groups for youth in grades 5 to 12. All children in the community are welcome and invited to attend Sunday school and youth groups.

Parks and Rec Programs

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

Youth Programs: Acrylic Landscape Painting: Wednesdays, Oct. 5-26, 3:30-5 p.m., at Marlborough Elementary School, for grades 3-6. Students will be guided through the techniques of landscape painting. They can bring a photo of a landscape, or choose from a collection. All materials are provided. Students are encouraged to bring a snack. Fee is \$90 for residents/\$95 for non-residents.

Parents Night Out: Friday, Oct. 14, 6-9 p.m., at Marlborough Senior Center, for grades 1-8. Parents can drop off the kids and go see a movie, have dinner or shop for a few hours. Kids will have the option of participating in arts and crafts activities, games, sports or watching a movie. Pizza and beverages will be provided. Fee for this program is \$15 per child for residents, \$18 per child for non-residents.

Artventures – Where the Wild Things Art!: Thursdays, Oct. 20-Dec. 8, 5:30-6:30 p.m., at MES, for grades K-5. Kids will explore many original art forms and techniques, and also hear stories such as *Where the Wild Things Are* or *Nova the Robot*, that go hand-in-hand with each project. Kids will take home works of art each week. Fee is \$110/residents, \$115/non-residents. No class on Nov. 17 and 24.

Safe Sitter: Saturday, Oct. 15, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., at Marlborough Senior Center, for grades 6-8. This class is designed to prepare students to be safe when they're home alone, watching younger siblings, or babysitting. Fee: \$110/residents, \$115/non-residents.

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

\$175 residents/\$180 non-residents.

Adult Program: Adult Volleyball: Thursdays, 8-10 p.m., at MES. Fee is \$5 per week to drop-in. Session begins Oct. 5.

Adult Sewing 101: Know Your Machine: Monday, Oct. 24, 5:30 p.m., at Marlborough Senior Center. Learn the basics of machine operating while creating a scrunchie. All participants must bring sewing machine. Fee: \$43/residents, \$48/non-residents.

Pilates/Barre: Wednesdays, Oct. 6-27, 6-6:45 p.m. All levels welcome. Fee: \$40/resident, \$45/non-resident, or a \$10 drop-in fee. Class instruction is virtual.

ZUMBA Class Fall Session: Tuesdays through Oct. 18 (started Sept. 18), 7-8 p.m., at MES. Fee: \$60/residents, \$65/non-residents, or a \$10 drop-in fee. Register on the Parks and Rec. website.

Teen/Adult Kickboxing: For ages 11 and up. Saturdays, Oct. 1-Nov. 5, 1-1:45 p.m., at Champions Karate in Colchester. Fee: \$50.

Driveway Reflective Number Signs: Cost of the sign is \$35. Vertical sign is double-sided 8" x 24" with 4" numbers on blue highway reflective metal. Order forms are online and at Town Hall.

Lions 'Masquerade 5K Road Race'

The Marlborough Lions will hold their annual Masquerade 5K Road Race Sunday, Oct. 30. This 5K will feature runners in costume and will follow the same course around Lake Terramuggus as the Lions' Memorial Day weekend race. The race will utilize electronic timing with computerized race results and the course is a certified 5K. The race starts promptly at 10:30 a.m.

Entry fee is \$30. Those registering by Oct. 15 are guaranteed a T-shirt. There is also a \$60 package price for families participating in the race. Anyone wishing to register on the day of the race must arrive prior to 10 a.m. Runners will start near the entrance to Blish Park on Park Road and will proceed on a course that

circles Lake Terramuggus.

The Lions are also seeking local businesses to sponsor the event in amounts of \$100, \$250 and \$500. All sponsors will be displayed on the race t-shirts.

The Lions Club supports programs which address various issues including blindness, drug abuse prevention and diabetes awareness in addition to supporting local organizations such as the Marlborough Food and Fuel Banks.

To register or for additional information contact Lion Ken Hjulstrom at 860-490-9116 or tigerladee@snet.net. Registration can also be done at marlboroughlionsclubfall5k.itsy-ourrace.com.

Richmond Library News & Notes

Richmond Memorial Library, located at 15 School Drive, has announced the following. Registration required unless noted; to do so, call the library at 860-295-6210 or email richmondprograms@gmail.com.

Silent Auction Donations Needed: The Friends of the Library group is currently accepting donations for its 25 Days of Cheer annual silent auction, to be held from Thursday, Nov. 3, through Monday, Dec. 5. This auction is the library's single largest fundraiser and all proceeds directly benefit the library, going towards library materials, programming for all age groups, and even new collections. Donations must be received by Thursday, Oct. 27.

Babytime: Mondays through Oct. 31 (no class Oct. 10), 10:30 a.m., for children ages 0-18 months and their caregivers. Drop-ins are welcome if space allows. The program will be outdoors unless weather requires it to move inside.

TWOsdays: For children 18-36 months and their caregivers on Tuesdays through Dec. 20. There will be songs, stories and hands-on-learning.

Fall Storytime: Wednesdays at 10 a.m., indoors in the Storytime Room, for children ages 3-5. Session 1 is underway, but Session 2 runs Oct. 26-Dec. 7 (no storytime Nov. 23).

STEM Saturday: Observe the Moon: Saturday, Oct. 1, is International Observe the Moon Night. All are invited to the library from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. for some drop-in activities that celebrate the moon, and to also check out the library's book display, which was entered into a nationwide contest sponsored by NASA. Registration is not required.

Lego Club: For children age 5 and up. The library will offer STEM-based challenges in-

volving Legos for children ages 5 and up on the following Tuesdays at 4 p.m.: Oct. 4, Oct. 18, Nov. 1, Nov. 15, Nov. 29 and Dec. 13.

Kids Crafting Club: Creative kids will learn new techniques and project ideas. The club started this week and will meet the following Tuesdays at 4 p.m.: Oct. 11 and 25, Nov. 8 and 22, and Dec. 6 and 20.

Storytime at the Lake: Fridays, Oct. 14 and 28, 10:30 a.m. All are invited for stories, songs and a hands-on activity, all on the pavilion at Blish Park. Registration is not required but appreciated.

Kids Take-and-Make Kits: Kids are invited to stop by and pick up a Worry Monster Take-and-Make Kit. Once they create their monster, kids can write down their worries on a piece of paper, fold them up, and feed them to their Worry Monster. Available while supplies last.

Cooking 101: Teens and young adults are welcome to join a dietician from Big Y on Mondays, Oct. 3 and Nov. 7, from 3:30-4:15 p.m., in this virtual two-part program series. Participants will learn basic cooking skills and create snacks and meals from their own kitchens.

Old-School Gamers Club: Once a month, the library will break out the Super Nintendo, PSOne, Xbox360 and more for some old-school gaming for ages 12-18. The program will meet Fridays at 4 p.m. on the following dates: Oct. 14, Nov. 4 and Dec. 2. Registration is recommended.

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Calling all Artists and Creatives

Marlborough Arts Center invites all artists and creatives to participate in The Artisan Gift and Art Sale, running Nov. 12-Dec. 18, at the center, 231 North Main St. Each artist can submit up to five art items priced at under \$100. There is no submission fee. Full details and submission forms can be found at www.marlborougharts.org. Drop-off

dates are Nov. 6 and 7. The Marlborough Arts Center is a nonprofit regional center for the arts that is housed in the historic Charles W. Hall Gallery. The center is handicapped-accessible and has on-site parking. For more information about events offered at the center, go to www.marlborougharts.org.

Residents Sought to Serve

The Marlborough Board of Selectmen is seeking residents who are interested in serving on the town's various boards and commissions. While applications are accepted at any time for all boards and commissions, the selectmen are providing notice and encouraging residents to apply to fill current vacancies on the following boards and commissions:

based on the current composition of the various boards and commissions, party affiliation or other qualifications may or may not be considered when appointments are made. People who are unaffiliated and those who belong to minor parties, as well as Democrats and Republicans, to apply.

Economic Development Commission (two alternates); Conservation Commission (alternate); Water Pollution Control Authority (two alternates); and Nature Trails and Sidewalks Commission (alternate).

Residents are welcome to attend any of the public board and commission meetings to learn more.

Those interested in applying can complete the application form at tinyurl.com/ycx4x7n4.



Birth Announced... Dr. Genna Marcin Roemer, previously of Marlborough, and her husband, Thomas Roemer, announce the birth of their first child, Claire Marie Roemer. Claire was born Sept. 6 at 5 lbs., 7.8 oz. and 19.25 inches long at Morristown Medical Center in New Jersey. The family resides in Hoboken, N.J. The maternal grandparents are Jeanine and John Marcin of Marlborough. The paternal grandparents are Stefanie and Ronald Roemer of Sparta, N.J.

In accordance with the town charter, and

Fall Tag Sale

The annual fall tag sale at the Marlborough Congregational Church, 35 South Main St., will be held Saturday, Oct. 8, from 9 a.m. to noon.

The Great Hall and several classrooms will be filled with a selection of household and seasonal items, furniture, linens, vintage and antiques, toys and games, collectibles, framed artwork, electronics, small appliances, clothing, and more. Buyers are asked to "make a generous offer" as everything is price your own. Selected quality items from Second Blessings thrift shop will be found among the vast array of items offered for sale.

A bake sale, sponsored by Dorcas Women's Fellowship, will be held outside. Second Blessings Thrift Shop, located down the hall from the tag sale, will be open from 9 a.m. to noon.

St. Peter's News & Notes

Services of Holy Eucharist at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, located at 30 Church St., are held each Sunday at 8 a.m. (Rite 1) and 10 a.m. (with music). All are invited to the Church Hall for coffee and conversation after the services. Meetings and Events: Balancing Class: Mondays, 10-11 a.m. - cost is \$5; Buildings and Grounds Committee: first Tuesdays of the month at 7 p.m.; Virtual Coffee Hours: Wednes-

days at 10 a.m.; Boy Scouts: Wednesdays at 7 p.m.; Building Networks International, Fridays, 7:30 a.m. Outreach: Food Donations: Items for various local food pantries can be placed in the brown donation box outside Phelps Hall. For more information, visit stpetershebron.com, search for St. Peter's Hebron on Facebook, or email office@stpetershebron.com.

The Worship Center News & Notes

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

Worship: Services are Sundays at 10 a.m., indoors, and are also broadcast on Facebook at www.facebook.com/TheWorshipCenterConnecticut and on YouTube; go toto access.

Fellowship Luncheon: Sunday, Oct. 9, directly following the morning service. The church will grill up hamburgers and hot dogs out on the patio (weather permitting).

Life Group Hebron: Meets Mondays at 7 p.m. at the Caseys' home, for worship, prayer, Bible study and fellowship. Next meeting is Oct. 3.

Journey Group: For grades 6-12. The mission of the group is to support the youth of Hebron and surrounding towns in their spiritual development. During the school year, the group meets every other Sunday directly after the service. Upcoming meeting is Oct. 9.

Virtual Prayer Night: Tuesdays, 6:30-8 p.m., via Zoom. All are invited to pray for each other, the community and the country. Contact the church office or website for a link and meeting ID.

One-to-One Confidential Christian Care: Provided by Stephen Ministry to people in difficult life situation. If in need of help, call the church office.

Ballroom Dancing: Sundays through Oct. 30, 6-8 p.m. Learn waltz and East Coast Swing with instructors Joe Belanger and Denise Jakel. Couples and singles welcome. Cost is \$15 per person per class. Call Joe to register: 860-372-8236.

1st Wednesday Prayer: All are invited the first Wednesday of every month to offer their prayer requests. Next meeting is Wednesday, Oct. 5, from 10-11 a.m.

Bucket of Blessings: The church's outreach team has been collecting snack-type food and monetary donations as a love offering for local first responders. To get involved, email jessicalbain@gmail.com.

Community Fund Grants Available

The Hebron Greater Together Community Fund, established by the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, is seeking letters of interest, with a deadline of Oct. 15. Grants of up to \$10,000 will be awarded by the end of December.

The objectives are to improve diverse participation and impact through new projects and to encourage the creation of innovative new projects for underserved populations.

For further details and information, email hebroncommunityfund@gmail.com.

Mill Site Tour

The Hebron Historical Society will lead a mill site tour in the Grayville/Reidy Hill neighborhood of town on Saturday, Oct. 22, at 11 a.m. Remains of cotton, paper and bit stock mills will be viewed.

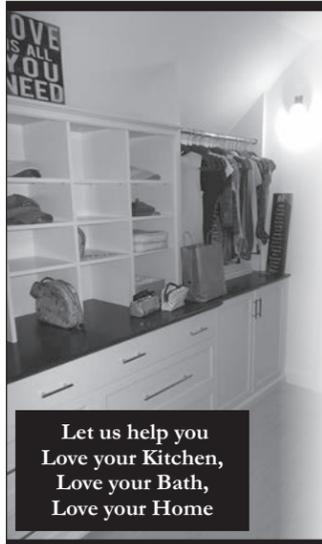
Sites are located on private and public lands with extensive walking over uneven ground.

Tour will begin at Grayville Falls Park (intersection of Grayville Road and Reidy Hill Road). Number of attendees is limited. Donation of \$10 per adult will be collected a start of tour. Rain date Oct. 23.

Register for the tour by contacting Mary-ElLEN at mergonci65@comcast.net or Sue at 860-368-7463. Final registration is Oct. 20.



Birth Announced... Ryan and Meaghan Kochuk of Hebron welcomed a baby girl on Sept. 1. Emerson Kathryn Kochuk was born at Middlesex Hospital. Maternal grandmother is Kathryn LeBlanc of Portland, maternal grandfather is Claude LeBlanc of Berlin, and paternal grandparents are Sam and Janelle Kochuk of Vermont. Emerson joins big brothers Riley, Jake and Miles.



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School Board Supports New Security Measures

By Michael Sinkewicz

Hebron school officials recently praised the measures taken by the Board of Selectmen to strengthen school safety.

Earlier this month, the selectmen unanimously approved several additional steps that address security using American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. This included a new police vehicle for \$80,000 and classroom toolkits and active shooter breaching kits for police vehicles at \$20,000.

In addition, the board also agreed to further measures that included increasing patrol hours near the school with current officers. The district will also begin active shooter training for school staff, students [when age appropriate] and police officers.

The education board had initially requested a second school resource officer, which the town will now likely include in the 2023-24 spending package.

"I agree with the [school board] that the Board of Selectmen took a great first step to increase security for our schools," Hebron Superintendent Thomas Baird told the Rivereast. "It is important for the second resource officer be included in the Town budget for the following year."

The selectmen emphasized that as of now, the new police vehicle is not for a new SRO. However, if the that position is added, the police department will have the option to allocate it for that purpose.

Baird expressed that the new patrols have already made an impact on the district.

"The additional patrol hours have meant we have additional police security at our schools," he said.

Baird also confirmed that school training had already begun and will continue.

"We started enhanced security training two years ago with plans to continue this training each year," he said. "This includes training for the police department, all of our staff, and training for our students in a developmentally appropriate manner. Any parents with concerns should reach out to their school principal."

The Board of Education previously sent a request to the town manager and the Board of Selectmen asking for the additional officer.

In a letter outlining the request, Hebron Board of Education Chairman Heather Petit expressed the importance that the officer be approved. She said it the SRO was needed for "full-time safety and security personnel for both schools."

She also indicated that the current SRO was having a significant impact on the schools.

"The School Resource Officer is forming positive relationships with our students, working with our families, training staff, teaching health and safety units of study in the classroom, and co-leading our District-Safety and Security Committee," she wrote in the letter.

Following the recent school shootings, Petit said the SRO has brought "comfort and ease to

students, families and staff."

During an education board meeting Sept. 15, Petit said she was "thankful for the collaboration" that got the latest measures passed.

She indicated that the new SRO along with additional preschool funding will likely be included in the next budget proposal. A special appropriation for the preschool funding was declined by the Board of Finance earlier this year.

Petit did not return a request for comment before press time.

Ali Schmeizl, a member of the education board, said during the meeting that the new steps are definitely a good start and praised the work done by the selectmen.

"I think our long-term vision is still to have that second officer but I appreciate them being innovative and really trying to look at what we can do now," she said.

Previously, Town Manager Andy Tierney estimated that fulfilling the full SRO request, including the new cruiser, would cost over \$175,000.

He also stated that finding an acceptable candidate and setting the officer up would take months, calling the request "unachievable." Instead, the board looked for immediate solutions that would address school security and allow other ideas to go through the budget process.

Parks and Recreation News

Hebron Parks and Recreation is offering the following programs. For full program descriptions and to register, visit hebronct.recdesk.com or call 860-530-1281.

Trunk or Treat: Friday, Oct. 28, 5-8 p.m., at Burnt Hill Park pavilion. There will also be pumpkin-decorating, bounce houses, wagon rides and music. Recommended donation is \$2 per family. If anyone is interested in decorating their vehicle, contact Parks and Rec. to sign up.

Babysitters Training: Saturday, Oct. 8, at Douglas Library, for ages 11-17. This one-day course is intended to teach age-appropriate skills necessary to care for children of all ages using concepts focusing on safety and prevention. A two-year certificate is awarded after completion of class and test. Cost is \$80.

Barre Fusion: Tuesdays through Nov. 1, 6:30-7:30 p.m., at the Gilead Hill School activity room. Donna Bellmore of Wildflower Fitness invites all levels to join her class that combines barre work to tone and build lean muscle mass, and the mindfulness and flow of yoga. Drop-in fee is \$15 per visit.

30+ Basketball: Tuesdays through Nov. 2, from 7-9 p.m. each week, at the RHAM High

School main gym. Drop-in games for all skill levels ages 30 and over. Cost is \$3 each week (cash only) drop-in.

Fall of Fame Basketball Camp: Grades 3 and 4 are Tuesdays, Oct. 18-Nov. 22, and grades 5 and 6 are Thursdays, Oct. 20-Nov. 17. From 3:30-5 p.m. each day, at Hebron Elementary School. Cost is \$100.

Air Line Trail Ghost Run: Saturday, Nov. 5, 9 a.m. This certified Half Marathon begins at Hebron Elementary School and follows the Air Line Trail to the finish line in East Hampton. For more information and to register, visit runsignup.com/Race/CT/Hebron/AirLineTrail-GhostRun.

Youth Basketball: Registration is open for the recreational and travel basketball programs, open to grades K-12. Registration deadline is Oct. 23. Visit the Parks and Rec. website for more information.

Hebron Paths: Are you interested in walking, hiking, biking, horseback-riding, or just getting back into nature? Check out the new website hebronpaths.org, dedicated to the paths and trails of Hebron. Maps and information are provided, with more to come soon.

Church of the Holy Family News

The Church of the Holy Family, 185 Church St. (Route 85), celebrates weekend Masses Saturday at 5 p.m. and Sunday at 9:30 a.m.; and weekday Masses Tuesday at 7 p.m. and Thursday at 6:30 a.m.

Visit holyfamilyhebron.org for more information. The church office can be reached at 860-228-0096.

Church Collecting for Homeless Shelter: The church collects items for the Windham Region No Freeze Hospitality Center, which provides assistance to homeless adults. Greatest needs: heavy-duty backpacks (new or used, in good condition); men's boxer briefs (supply is very low; sizes M, L, XL); 2 gallon or 2-1/2 gallon Ziploc storage bags (specific

size needed for the overnight stay program commencing Nov. 1); men's solid colored T-shirts, pullover sweatshirts, sweatpants, and hoodies (M, L, XL); \$15 Stop & Shop gift cards for gas to assist people living in their cars; shampoo (travel size or large bottles); men's shaving cream; and men's casual winter coats (new or used; clean and in good condition with zippers that work; L, XL, XXL). Note: Call to arrange pick-up of gift cards. Place donations of goods in the designated collection box next to the church's Cry Room. Place large quantities of donations in the Cry Room. For more information, call Monica or John McKerracher at 860-228-4211.

Senior Center News & Notes

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

All-Levels Yoga Class: Mondays through Nov. 7 (started Sept. 26), 10:15-11:15 a.m. Fee is six classes for \$18, or \$5 per class for drop-in. Bring a yoga mat if you will not be using a chair.

Grocery Shopping Trips: Fridays at 10 a.m. Schedule: Oct. 7 to Walmart; Oct. 14 and 28 to Stop and Shop; Oct. 21 to Big Y. Sign up by noon on the Wednesday prior to each Friday trip.

Bus Trip to Bill's Seafood in Westbrook: Wednesday, Oct. 19. Bus will leave at 10:30 a.m. and return is approximately 2:30 p.m. There are only 12 spots available. Bill's is cash only. Lunch payment is on your own, but the bus fee is \$5. Register by Monday, Oct. 17, by calling the center.

RHAM Bingo: Third Wednesday of the month, starting Oct. 19, from 2:30-4 p.m. The games will be run by the RHAM National Honor Society students. The games are free and prizes are awarded. To sign-up, call the senior center.

Flu and COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics: Thursday, Oct. 20, from 10 a.m.-noon, for all ages. The high-dose flu vaccine for 65+, the regular flu vaccine, and the reformulated versions of the Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech booster vaccines available. Consent forms, which need to be completed by everyone, are available at the Senior Center or on-line at Chatham Health (Chathamhealth.org). Please bring your insurance card and ID. The following insurance is accepted; Aetna, Anthem BC/BS, Cigna, ConnectiCare, Medicare Part B. We are unable to accept United HealthCare. This is a walk-in clinic, no registration required.

Community Café: Onsite meals take place Monday-Thursday at noon. Reservations due by 10 a.m. the day before the meal, and by 10 a.m. Friday for Monday's lunch. Requested donation

is \$3. Reservations required; call the center to register. For the full month's menu, check the newsletter, the website, or at the senior center.

Stamping Class: Tuesdays, 1-2 p.m. Learn the basics as well as advanced techniques of rubber stamping and card-making. Cost is \$35 for four consecutive weeks. You can pay the instructor at your first class, but must pre-register for the class by contacting the senior center.

Enhance Fitness via Zoom: Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 9-10 a.m. The class is free, but space is limited and pre-registration is required, by calling the center.

Bingo: Thursdays, 1-3 p.m. The first card costs \$1 and entitles a player to play in all bingo games. Each additional card is then 50 cents each. Prizes awarded each game. To register, or to volunteer to be a bingo caller, call the center.

Hand & Foot Canasta Cards: Tuesdays, 1-3:15 p.m. This is a variation on the rummy type game of Canasta and is played with 2-6 people. Registration required.

Exercise Equipment Room: Open by reservation only, in 45-minute time slots, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 9 a.m.-noon Friday. Call the center to reserve a time.

Sunshine Singers: Meet Thursdays, 10:10-11:40 a.m. This is a free program, but registration is required.

Knitting/Crocheting/Needle Group: Tuesdays, 10-11:30 a.m. Registration required.

Senior Transportation: Offered to ages 60 and up and all adult disabled individuals, for medical care, personal needs care, grocery shopping, or other pre-approved needs. Transportation available Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m., and Friday, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Appointments must be scheduled a minimum of 24 hours, but 48 hours is recommended; it is first-come, first-served. New riders need to schedule their first appointment a minimum of 48 hours in advance. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call the center.

Hebron DTC Event

The Hebron Democratic Town Committee will hold its fall fundraiser Saturday, Oct. 1, from 6:30-8:30 p.m., at the Gilead Grange Hall, 667 Gilead St.

Guests will enjoy a variety of sweet and savory desserts, an assortment of beverages (adult and other) and the company of Congressman Joe Courtney (2nd Congressional District), state Sen. Cathy Osten (19th District) and state representative candidate Wes Skorski (55th District).

There is a suggested donation of \$25 per person. Complimentary parking will be provided. For more information, visit Hebrondems.com or go to facebook.com/HebronDems.

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Resident Participates in Burial at Sea... Flag-bearer chief aviation electronics technician Jennifer Warzecha, right, from Portland, assigned to the first-in-class aircraft carrier USS Gerald R. Ford's (CVN 78) aircraft intermediate maintenance department, presents the ceremonial flag to Capt. Paul Lanzilotta, Ford's commanding officer during a burial at sea on the ship's aircraft elevator 2, Sept. 17. During the ceremony, the cremated remains of 30 souls were committed to the sea in the Atlantic Ocean. Ford is underway in the Atlantic Ocean conducting carrier qualifications and workups for a scheduled deployment this fall. *U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Julie R. Matyascik.*

Library Friends' Fall Book Sale

The Friends of Portland Library will hold its annual Fall Book Sale Saturday, Oct. 22, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. 23, from 10 a.m.-noon at the library located at 20 Freestone Ave.

There will be a special preview sale for Friends' Members only on Friday, Oct. 21, from 5:30-8 p.m. Anyone interested in becoming a Friend can join at the door. Members will receive an imprinted reusable bag and discounted pricing during the clearance event as a thank you for their support.

The sale will offer thousands of hardcover and paperback books, DVDs, CDs, puzzles and games. There is also a large collection of history books as well as a variety of comic books being featured.

The Friends of the Portland Library (FPL) is a volunteer-based, nonprofit organization whose mission is to support the Portland Library in its efforts to offer quality services and programs.

To help with the book sale, email Maureen at MLTSherman@gmail.com.

YFS News & Notes

Portland Youth & Family Services has announced the following pieces of news. For more information, visit www.portlandct.org/youth-services or the YFS Facebook page at www.facebook.com/PortlandCTYouth, email jrevicki@portlandct.org, or call 860-342-6758. To receive email updates about YFS programs and events, sign up at eepurl.com/h5m35f.

Little Hikers: Friday, Oct. 7, 10:30 a.m., at the Depot Hill Road parking lot of the Portland Air Line Trail.

Drop-In & Draw: Tuesday, Oct. 11, 1:30-4:30 p.m., in the Buck-Foreman Community Center, 265 Main St.

Group Facilitators Wanted: YFS is in the early stages of working on setting up support group-style meetings for LGBTQ+ youth, and a second group for parents of LGBTQ+ youth. We're looking for facilitators for these groups. Social work background and/or a member of the LGBTQ+ community is a plus, but definitely not needed. Anyone interested should contact Jesse (jrevicki@portlandct.org or 860-342-6758), and would be trained by the Director of Health Care Advocates International's Youth & Family Program.

Juggling and Circus Skills: Saturday, Oct. 15, noon-1 p.m., on the Town Green by the gazebo. In this free workshop event for kids of all ages, learn juggling, Chinese Stick, Balancing, Diablo, and other circus skills, from the artists at Oddfellows Playhouse.

Parks and Rec. News & Notes

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

Tai Chi for Long Life: Wednesday, Oct. 5, 9:30-10:15 a.m., at Buck Foreman Community Center, or Saturday, Oct. 1, 10:30-11:15 a.m., at Riverfront Park. Fee: \$7 to drop in.

Sunset Yin Yoga: Wednesdays, Oct. 5-26, 5-6 p.m., at the Riverfront Park stage. Fee: \$65 for the four-week session, or \$20 to drop in.

A Second Chance CPR and First Aid Classes: Parks and Rec. is offering a two-day baby-sitting-focused program on Oct. 11 and Oct. 12.

'Come On Over' 5K Run and 2.1 Mile Walk: This year's event is taking place Saturday, Oct. 29, at 9:30 a.m. Register at runsignup.com/Race/CT/Portland/ComeOnOver5KandWalk

Zumba: Zumba with Val is returning this October. Check back soon for more info.

Concert to Benefit Police Union

Local rocker Tony Rome and his band The Excuses will perform a concert to benefit the Portland Police Union on Sunday, Oct. 9, at 2 p.m., at Concentric Brewing, 91 Main St.

Contributions to the police union can be sent to the Portland Police Department, 265 Main St., Portland, CT 06480 – attn: Sgt. Scott Cunningham.

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.

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.

Craft and Art Show

Quarry View Historic Park and Campground will have its third Artistic Craft and Art show Saturday, Oct. 15, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; rain date is Oct. 16.

This is a large fundraiser for the park, which is a nonprofit 501c3 company. Vendors from all over the state will showcase their art and wares. There will also be food trucks located in the upper parking lot courtesy of the Brownstone Quorum.

Quarry View is still accepting applications for vendors to participate. If interested, email Darlene at quarryviewevents@gmail.com.

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October 7, 8 & 9

Friday, Saturday & Sunday

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Friday, Saturday & Sunday

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Daily

FRIDAY: Opening Ceremonies featuring Portland's own Small Town Roots
Antique Tractor Pull

SATURDAY: Cattle, Goat & Sheep Shows • Middlesex County Tractor Pull • TRUCK PULL
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SUNDAY: Open & Youth Sheep, Carting & Pack Goat and Sheep Shows
Poultry & Rabbit Showmanship • Oxen Drawing • TRUCK PULL
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Entertainment Tent

Craft Beer provided by Eli Cannons Tap Room and Concentric Brewing Company

FRIDAY: 5:00 Small Town Roots / 7:00 Hazzard County

SATURDAY: 1:30 That 70's Project / 4:00 Karaoke / 7:00 Jimmy Kenny & the Pirate Beach Band

SUNDAY: 11:30 Square Dancing / 1:00 Savvy Swap Fashion Show / Sports on TV w/3 big screens
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New Era for Portland High School Girls' Soccer

By Josh Howard

Cory Tobler has begun his second go-around at Portland High School.

The 2009 PHS graduate has returned to the local high school this fall, serving as the new head coach of the girls' varsity soccer program.

On Monday, Tobler's team went toe-to-toe with Rocky Hill before falling 3-1 at Portland High School.

"We took a lot of positives out of it," Tobler said of the home game against the Terriers, who play in the Central Connecticut Conference. "It's outside of our conference and they are larger than us, but we played right with them."

Junior Camryn DiMauro scored the team's only goal, hammering home a ball in midair to tie the game with 46 second left in the first half.

Rocky Hill would get a pair of goals – one off a deflection and the other from penalty kick – in the second half to outlast the Highlanders.

Tobler said one of his priorities this fall is getting his team to have confidence from the opening whistle.

"The first 30 minutes we were just out there and we weren't locked in," Tobler said while assessing his team. "When we got locked in, we battled with them for the rest of the time. I was really happy with what I saw out there."

Tobler is in the process of implementing his stamp on the program, leaning on his seniors to help with the transition.

"They have taken a leadership role," he said of his senior class, which features six players.

"They let me know what they liked and didn't like from last year. It's been a feeling out process."

Tobler, who played collegiate soccer at Eastern Connecticut State University after starring on the field in Portland, was hired in the summer and most of his players are learning his system for the first time.

However, Tobler has familiarity with some of his players from having previously coached youth soccer in Portland.

Over the first handful of games, the team has leaned on a defense with senior goalie Lauren Eckert protecting the backend.

Eckert made several saves against Rocky Hill, including a diving save in the 59th minute to keep the Highlanders within a goal. Through the first four games, Eckert and the defense had surrendered only five goals.

The first-year varsity goalie spent the previous couple of seasons as the understudy, watching and learning from all-conference goalie and 2022 graduate Hannah Brunk.

Tobler said Eckert has risen to the challenge, adding, "She's really growing into the position. She knows she has to be the leader back there and the team has really grown behind her."

Senior Mia Quesnel, who was a first-team All-Shoreline Conference (SLC) as a junior, and Amelia Hair have been tasked with being Tobler's voice on the field, setting an example for the rest of the team.

DiMauro, a junior, is leading a young group



Senior defender McKenzie LaMalfa controls the ball during Portland girls' soccer game against Rocky Hill on Sept. 26. The Highlanders fell to the Terrier 3-1.

on the offensive side. She scored two goals in the team's season opener on Sept. 8 as the Highlander's began the Tobler-era with a 2-1 win over Old Saybrook.

Tobler said they will rely on DiMauro to carry a bulk of the offensive responsibilities until the rest of the offense—which includes two starting sophomores and a starting freshman—get their varsity feet under them.

"They are growing into the system. I had to move some kids around to new positions and they are beginning to understand their roles," added Tobler. "A lot of the young girls are getting used to [high school soccer] and at first they were very timid, but now they are not back-

ing down. They are attacking and once they do that, the goals will start happening. That should bring more success later in the season."

While the offense gets more comfortable, Tobler said that Eckert and the defense will hold the fort down.

"We are in a learning process and we'll continue to get stronger and stronger. Every game we're getting better and learning how to play together," added Tobler. "I'm really happy that we're going in the right direction."

The Highlanders are in the middle of a three-game road trip before they return home on Thursday, Oct. 13, against Amistad. The game will start at 3:45 p.m.

Timeless Treasures Fall Fair

The community is invited to an old-fashioned church fair Saturday, Oct. 22, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., at the First Congregational Church of Portland, 554 Main St.

What can you expect to see? At "Grandma's Country Store" one will find baked goods, candy, jams and jellies. "Timeless Treasures" will offer a variety of vintage items and collectibles including tea cups, jewelry, hats, purses, doilies, linens, magazines, toys, and so much more. An array of homemade crafts will include greeting cards made with antique postcards and lavender sachets using vintage ladies' hankies.

There will be a "Tea Cup Auction" and children can have a framed thumbprint creation made at the "Children's Corner." Morning muffins and a simple luncheon including the church's famous apple crisp will be available at the "Garden of Eat'n Café." For those interested in history, "A Journey to the Past" room will be filled with church memorabilia encompassing their 301 years of existence.

Admission is free and masks are optional. For more information, call the church at 860-342-3244 or visit the church website, first-churchportlandct.org.

Senior Center News & Notes

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

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

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

Next Week's Programs: Monday: Light aerobics, 9:30 a.m. **Tuesday:** Bears on a Journey, 9:30-11 a.m. – making fleece teddy bears for cancer patients; donations are sought of light fleece, one yard or more for making teddy bears for cancer patients throughout Connecticut. If you would like to donate, call 860-342-0809; Watercolor Lessons, 9:30 a.m.-noon (to register, email bivenne@yahoo.com); Stretch & Flex: 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; Coupons for Troops, 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m.; setback, 1 p.m.; Exercise Tap Class, 1:30 p.m. **Wednesday:** Light Aerobics, 9:30-10:30 a.m.; SyncoCize Exercise, 10:15-11 a.m.; Let That Stuff Go session, 11:30 a.m.; Social Duplicate Bridge, 12:30-4 p.m.; Tai Chi Qi Gong with Lisa, 1 p.m. **Thursday:** SyncoCize II Balance & Core, 9 a.m.; Knit & Stitch, 10 a.m.; Cardio Drumming, 11 a.m.; Stretch & Flex, 11:30 a.m.; Mahjong, 12:30-4 p.m.; Scrabble, 1-4 p.m. **Friday:** Light Aerobics, 9:30 a.m.

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

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

Film to be Shown

Concentric Brewing, located at 91 Main St., will host a movie night Wednesday, Oct. 5, at 6:30 p.m. Mr. Harrigan's Phone (PG-13), a Netflix movie based on the Stephen King novella of the same name.

The movie had scenes filmed at Quarry View in Portland. There will be brief discussion and a Q&A, and some actual props from the film. During movie night, the brewery will donate 100% of sales of its Quarry Brown Ale to Quarry View.

Rally Day and Celebration at Zion

Zion Lutheran Church, located at 183 William St., will kick off its Sunday School season and celebrate the culmination of its Team Crumb Cake's summer walking fundraiser Sunday, Oct. 2, at 10:15 a.m.

All are welcome to come for an outdoor lawn party that morning. There will be crafts and games for the kids, and light refreshments for all – including crumb cake. Rain will move the party indoors.

Zion's Sunday School meets on the first and third Sundays at 10:15 a.m. during the school year. Children ages 3 to 16 are welcome to attend. Registration will take place at the Rally Day event or by calling the church office at 860-342-2860.

In Team Crumb Cake's summer walking fundraiser, 31 members of Zion walked and bicycled 5,860 miles, separately and together. They raised \$1,100 to support Camp Calumet, a year-round resident and day camp for youth and

families located in Freedom, N.H. The camp is a ministry of the Lutheran Church, ELCA. Teams throughout New England tallied over 271,000 miles during July and August. More information about the camp is at calumet.org.

All are welcome to attend these and other special events at Zion. Worship is held Sundays at 9 a.m. The service is conducted in person and masks are optional.

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.

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.

Halloween Activities are Brewing

It is ironic that one of the liveliest evenings in Portland's Village District stems from an ancient religious holiday dedicated to remembering the dead, All Hallows Eve.

For Portland families, Trick-or-Treating on Main Street the Friday before Halloween has been a warmly-welcomed fall tradition, at which business owners in the town's Village District hand out goodies to all the little ghosts, superheroes, pirates and princesses who stop by.

This year, Trick-or-Treating on Main Street will take place Oct. 28 from 4-7 p.m. For businesses located outside the Village District who want to participate in this year's event, space will be available in front of the Brownstone Intermediate School and playground for decorated tents and displays. There may also be opportunities to partner with village district

businesses to share the task of supporting the hundreds of trick-or-treaters.

For those looking for a way to burn off some extra Halloween candy calories, the annual "Come on Over" 5K and 2.1-mile fitness walk will take place the following morning, Oct. 29, with a 9:30 a.m. start time. Proceeds help support Portland's Parks & Recreation programs and fund future camp scholarships.

After the race, people can stick around at Riverfront Park for the Monster March from noon-2 p.m., hosted by Youth & Family Services. The costume parade for kids and pets starts at 12:30 pm. There will be pumpkin decorating, a craft for kids, spooky stories, and refreshments.

If interested in learning how to support or participate in either of these events, contact Jesse Revicki at 860-342-6758 jrevicki@portlandct.org.



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Congressman John Larson recently stopped by to lend his support to resident Rose Aletta, who is running for state representative. From right to left are former first selectwoman Susan Bransfield, Aletta, Larson, Jim Tripp, Tom Bransfield, Kevin Backman and Ken Kearns.

Portland, Cromwell DTCs Back Aletta

This week, Portland resident Rose Aletta, the Democratic candidate for state representative for the 32nd District, captured endorsements from both the Cromwell and Portland Democratic town committees.

Portland and Cromwell are the two towns in the 32nd District, which is currently represented by Republican incumbent Christie Carpino. Aletta and Carpino will square off at the polls in November.

Erin Livensparger, speaking for the Portland Democratic Town Committee, said, "With deep connections in both Cromwell and Portland, Rose offers a perspective that reflects her work experience in labor, service, and business. Rose's service as chairperson on Portland's Zoning Board of Appeals and engagement in the updating of Planning and Zoning Commission regulations has minimized zoning restrictions to benefit property owners. We look forward to her election in November."

Meanwhile, Jenn Lepore, explaining the Cromwell Democratic Town Committee's sup-

port, said, "Rose is the right choice for the 32nd District. As a lifelong resident of the 32nd District, she has lived and experienced the unique issues that face our community. I am confident that Rose will focus on the issues most important to our community including women's rights, affordable housing, and access to quality health insurance. The Cromwell DTC proudly endorses Rose Aletta for state representative for the 32nd District."

In thanking the two DTCs for their support, Aletta said, "I am running for State House District 32 because I believe Cromwell and Portland deserve better representation in Hartford. I am thankful to the Cromwell and Portland DTCs for their support in this mission and look forward to working with them and other community groups toward victory on Nov. 8."

Originally from Cromwell, Aletta has lived in both towns in the district, graduating from Cromwell High School and then moving to Portland to buy a home with her husband in 1991.

Youth Soccer Recap

The Portland youth soccer squads were in action recently. Here's how they fared:

U14: Played a league match on the road Sunday, Sept. 18, where they fell short to Avon 6-1. Portland's Mason Fournier scored early for the visitors. The team, who welcomed three guest players from Portland's U12 boys' team, never quit. Portland's Colin Martin was awarded the game's Teammate Award, and Pat Fraro had a great game at goalie, with over a half-dozen saves on the day.

The U14 team then faced off against Bristol in Portland this past Saturday, Sept. 24, falling short 7-4. Pat Fraro had another great game at goalie, punctuated by a saved penalty kick. Portland's goal scorers were Shane Guilmette (1), Nate Dietrichson (2) and Blake Harlow (1). Remy Wilson was awarded the game's Teammate Award. Portland took a smaller roster to Wethersfield the next day, Sept. 25, and played well but fell short, 2-0. Charlie Caratosios was awarded the game's Teammate Award.

U12 Red Crush: Split last weekend's ac-

tion, earning a 4-0 victory versus West Hartford on Friday night, Sept. 23, while losing 3-1 on the road against Enfield on Sunday, Sept. 25. Friday's win was paced by goal-scorers Luke Lawrence, Tyler Fournier and Ray Vardon (two goals), while quality defensive and goal keeper play from Nathan Clark, Ryan Quinn, and Logan Desmarais ensured the shutout. The Red Crush left it all on the field Sunday despite having a depleted roster. Strong individual efforts by Luke Lawrence, Jackson Vodola and Ryan Quinn helped keep the game competitive, bolstered by stout defensive play by Logan Desmarais and keepers Ray Vardon and Liam Witschy. Lawrence registered the team's only goal when he carried the ball past the defense to strike a low blast past Enfield's keeper.

Portland Earthquake U10: Ended last weekend with a tough 5-1 loss to East Windsor. While having a scoreless first half, Beckett Warner had the solo goal after beating the East Windsor defenders and connecting with the back of the net.

Pancake Breakfast This Sunday

Portland Volunteer Fire Department invites everyone to an All-You-Can-Eat Pancake Breakfast Sunday, Oct. 2, from 7-11 a.m., at Engine Co#1, 7 Middlesex Ave., right behind the Post Office.

The meal will feature sausage, all-you-can-eat-pancakes (chocolate chip, regular, blueberry) and assorted beverages. Cost is \$8 for adults and \$4 for children.

PVFD will also have ceramic pancake coffee cups for sale with its logo and a cartoon character squirting syrup on a stack of pancakes. Cups are \$20 each, and each time you return with the "clean" cup, PVFD will we will subtract one dollar from your breakfast.

For more information or to be placed on an email notification list (there is a sign-up list at door), or call Wayne Mergel at 860-759-6921.

Portland Joins International Walk to School Day

Portland will join communities from around the world to celebrate International Walk to School Day on Wednesday, Oct. 5; rain date is Oct. 6.

This annual event began in 1997 by the Partnership for a Walkable America to encourage walkable communities and has grown to an international event that takes place in over 40 countries worldwide.

Complete Streets Portland, with support from Portland Schools and the Brownstone Intermediate PTO, is sponsoring two Walk to School Day events this year. One walk is for the Portland high and middle schools, and another walk is for Brownstone Intermediate School. Stu-

dents, school officials, families, local leaders and community members are invited to participate.

On Wednesday, Oct. 5, high and middle school walkers will gather behind the town hall at 6:45 a.m., with the walk beginning at 7 a.m. Check-in for Brownstone Intermediate School (BIS) is from 7:45-7:55 a.m. at the Saint Mary Church parking lot, with the walk beginning at 8 a.m. Permission slips for student participation and request for adult volunteers will be sent home to BIS families next week.

For more information, contact Midge Mallicki, Complete Streets Portland member, at mmallicki3@comcast.net or 203-623-1145.

Portland Library News & Notes

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

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

Holiday Closing: The library will be closed Monday, Oct. 10.

Art Exhibits are Back: The Friends of Portland Library provide monthly artist receptions. Paula Szym Lee will exhibit in October, and the reception will take place Saturday, Oct. 8, from 1-3 p.m.

Annual Book Sale: Oct. 21-23. The Friends of the Portland Library will collect gently-used books, DVDs, CDs, puzzles and games. Proceeds benefit library services.

Youth Programs: Fall Storytimes: Pre-school Storytime: Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m., through Nov. 15 (no program Nov. 8), with a craft offered weekly; **Storytime for Toddlers and Tots: Mother Goose on the Loose:** Wednesdays, 10:15 a.m. or 11:15 a.m., through Nov. 16; this is an interactive session using rhymes, a story, songs, puppets, scarves and more.

Become the Ultimate "Ologist": Thursday, Oct. 6, 3:30 p.m., for grades 3-5. *The Ologies* is a book series that delves into following lost journals and investigating unusual topics. Explore one of the books in-depth.

Pumpkin Painting for the Portland Fair: Wednesday, Oct. 5, 6:30 p.m. Paint a pumpkin and library staff will bring it to the Portland Fair and enter it for you. Kids of all ages are invited to participate, but only those age 5 and up are eligible for fair entries. Pumpkins and paint will

be supplied. A parent or guardian must be with children to help with supervision. Space is limited.

Teen Advisory Group Meeting: Monday, Oct. 3, 3:30 p.m. Teens can come share thoughts on what they'd like to see the library offer in terms of programs, materials and more while enjoying some snacks and laughs with friends. You will earn community service hours for each meeting you attend. Registration is required.

#KusamaPumpkins: Monday, Oct. 17, 3:30 p.m. Yayoi Kusama is a Japanese artist famous for her polka-dot -adorned pumpkin and flower art. In this program, use #KusamaPumpkins and the work of other famous artists to create your own pumpkin masterpiece. Registration is required for this program so we know how many pumpkins and snacks to purchase.

Pokemon Party: Thursdays, Oct. 13-Nov. 3, 3:30 p.m., for grades K-2. Hatch Pokemon eggs, go on a scavenger hunt, and create our own Pokemon characters and trading cards in this four-week program for kids in grades K-2. Registration is required and space is limited.

Adult Programs: Talk About Books (T.A.B.): Tuesday, Oct. 4, 1 p.m. *Little Gods* by Meng Jin will be discussed. **1st Thursday Night Book Club:** Thursday, Oct. 6, 6:30 p.m. *Who is Maude Dixon?* by Alexandra Andrews will be discussed. **Mystery Lovers' Book Club:** Tuesday, Oct. 18, 1 p.m. *Djinn Patrol on the Purple Line* by Deepa Anappara will be discussed.

Movie: Wednesday, Oct. 12, 1 p.m. *Mrs. Harris Goes to Paris*, starring Isabelle Huppert and Leslie Manville, will be shown. The film runs one hour and 57 minutes.

America's Best Idea: Wednesday, Oct. 12, 6:30 p.m. In this program on the U.S. national parks, Richard Benfield will discuss the parks and their translation around the world.

Medicare 101: Thursday, Oct. 13, 6:30 p.m. Learn all about Medicare options with Ben Coleman.

Social Security Workshop: Tuesday, Oct. 18, 6:30 p.m. Tyler Boling, a VOYA retirement financial advisor, will discuss the ins and outs of Social Security.

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

Household Hazardous Waste Collection

The Lower CT River Council of Governments will hold a free Household Hazardous Waste collection Saturday, Oct. 1, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., at Haddam Elementary School, 272 Saybrook Rd., Higganum. The collection is open to residents of the RiverCOG region, which includes East Hampton and Portland. No commercial or business waste allowed.

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

Class of '92 Reunion

Portland, Mercy, Xavier and Vinal high school Class of 1992 will have its 30th reunion Saturday, Oct. 22, from 6-10 p.m., at Concentric Brewing Company. For more information or tickets, email Dana DiMauro at danak1927@gmail.com.

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Knights of Columbus Membership Drive

The local Freestone Council 7 of the Knights of Columbus, an international order of Catholic men, will hold a membership drive at all Masses the weekend of Oct. 1-2.

For more information on the local chapter of the Knights, go to www.KofC.org/joinus and enter council #7 for local information.

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Class of '72 Reunion... The Portland High School Class of 1972 recently held its 50th reunion in Middletown, at Red Fox Restaurant. All had a wonderful time.

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Portland Celebrating Cemeteries in October

Portland has four cemeteries and in October the Portland Historical Society we will be celebrating their history and some of the notable residents buried there. The society will host a series of guided tours each Sunday at 4 p.m., at a different Cemetery each week.

The tours will each last about an hour and will visit 10 sites of notable residents and families, where they will pay their respects and learn a little history.

The series begins at St. Mary's Cemetery, 261 Marlborough St., on Sunday, Oct. 9; followed by Trinity Cemetery, 245 Main St., on Oct. 16; the Swedish Cemetery, co-hosted with the cemetery association, 184 William St. on Oct. 23; and finishing with Center Cemetery, 55 Fairway Drive on Oct. 30.

Tours are open to the public and free of charge; donations will be accepted to benefit each cemetery.

Classes of '76, '77 Reunion

The 1976 and 1977 Portland class reunion is Friday, Oct. 21, at 7 p.m., at Campagna Restaurant, 151 Marlborough St., Portland.

All class of 1976 and 1977 graduates from Portland High School, Mercy, Xavier and Vinal are invited. Cost is \$45 per person, and includes a buffet dinner and music. There will be a cash bar.

Members of the class of 1976 should send a check to Carol Revicki, 20 Edwards Rd, Portland, CT 06480, or email Kimfischburg@gmail.com for more information.

Members of the class of 1977 can Venmo payment to Colleen Kimball @Colleen-Kimball-4 or mail a check to Kimball at 53 East Main St., Portland, CT 06480, or email kimball7984@gmail.com for more information.

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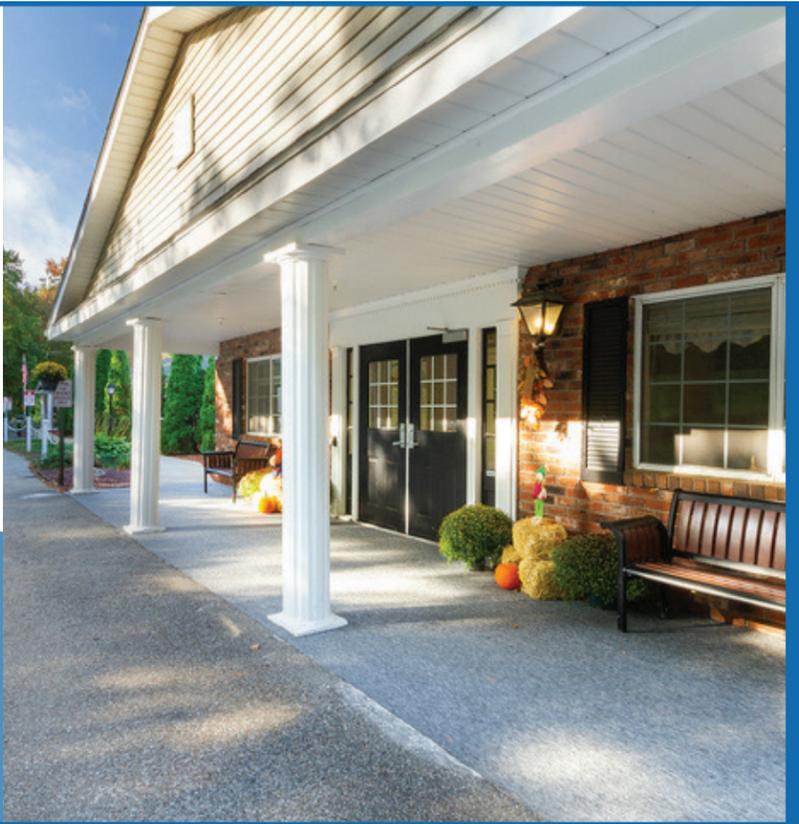
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CIT9-29-22

RE9-16-22

Belltown, Portland Receive Major State Grants

By Jack Lakowsky

Earlier this month the state awarded Portland and East Hampton nearly \$1,000,000 in grant money for sidewalk and streetscape improvements, work residents and businesses in both towns call for.

The towns received from the Office of Policy and Management a pair of Small Town Economic Assistance (STEAP) grants, a program to help small towns fund costly infrastructure work.

East Hampton got \$500,000 to fund street and sidewalk improvements in the Village Center, with a \$125,000 match from the town. Portland received \$400,000 for Main Street sidewalk repairs, with a \$100,000 match.

On Monday Portland First Selectman Ryan Curley said Portland's match will come from the town's general fund balance, a payment the selectboard recently unanimously approved.

Curley said this round of improvements, continuing on a long-term effort to fix much of Portland's sidewalks.

The town's hoping to complete more Main Street sidewalk repairs, from Arvid Road to Gildersleeve School, specifically the west side pavements.

Curley didn't have a timeline quite yet, still needing to go through proper procedures to design a concept and find a firm.

"We have to do our diligence, but it will be done," he said.

Curley estimated this brings Main Street sidewalk work to about 80% complete. Other areas need attention too.

Main Street is the town's current priority. Eventually, Curley said, focus will shift to Highland Avenue and East Main Street, areas where residents have pointed out the poor sidewalk conditions.

Curley said, technically but apparently by no means in practice, the state should be maintaining the Main Street sidewalks because it's on a state route, but this simply doesn't happen.

In East Hampton, Town Manager Dave Cox said the money accomplishes a few different projects downtown, mainly the replacement and improvement of sidewalks, streetscape and handicapped accessibility.

Cox said work includes shortening the crosswalks at the intersection of Main Street and Summit Street, making a brisker crossing for pedestrians. It'll also help fund reinstalling a bunch of memorial bricks a storm a few summers back displaced and "replacing and enhancing where we can add landscape amenities."

The town also looks to rehab the plantings at a parking lot and put in some raised beds.

Cox said the work improves the Village District's aesthetics and makes it more equitable, improving access for pedestrians, people with disabilities and low-moderate income residents, who can save costs on gas and car wear and tear.

Because it also helps local businesses, the grant money, Cox said, "improves the quality of life in and around downtown."

Pedestrian safety, he said, is a major focus. He also hopes to collaborate with some local businesses to arrange for some more outdoor seating.

East Hampton's cut of the price tag, Cox said, will come from its sidewalk improvement fund.

Cox said the town also fluffed itself about a \$30,000 cushion through its 2018 initiative making a Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) district in the Village Center. Money from this special fund is slated specifically for downtown work.

In a statement, East Hampton Economic Development Commission Chairperson Matt Reich and Vice Chair Jase Doane welcomed the approval of Belltown's application.

"East Hampton's Village Center is a destination that attracts both town residents and tourists to enjoy great food & drink, shopping, and much more," they wrote. "We thank Governor Lamont and his administration for their recognition of the benefits provided by the Village Center to the local economy and tourism."

The pair continued, "Thank you also to all the town leaders, town hall officials and staff, and most importantly the Village Center community for their hard work on and support of the application. The input from the downtown's businesses, property owners, and residents helped shape this endeavor. We look forward to the progression of this project."

In a statement, state Sen. Norm Needleman (D-34), said he's grateful to the state and to Gov. Ned Lamont for approving the funds.

"It's especially encouraging that these projects receiving support will receive joint funding from both the state and municipal leaders, allowing for them to work together," Needleman said.

Lamont earlier this month announced the \$31.3 million in state grants for 77 small towns in Connecticut, money meant to complete a wide variety of infrastructure improvements, such as the road safety reconstruction projects, sewer and drainage upgrades, sidewalk and pedestrian safety enhancements, and other kinds of capital improvement projects.

"Our small towns are part of what makes Connecticut such a great place to live and work, and by partnering with them on these grants, the state can help get these infrastructure projects completed so these towns can continue to thrive, remain competitive, attract businesses, and improve the quality of life for our residents," Lamont said.

Historical Society Open House

The Chatham Historical Society will have its monthly Open House Sunday, Oct. 2, from 2-4 p.m. Both museum buildings and the 1840 one-room schoolhouse on Bevin Boulevard will be open to the public.

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RE4-8-22

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Middle Haddam Public Library News

Middle Haddam Public Library, 2 Knowles Rd., Middle Haddam, has announced the following. 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. All players welcome.

Nimble Knitters: Thursdays at 1 p.m.

Bridge: Are you interested in playing bridge? A group is forming and looking for players. Contact the library for more information.

Parks and Rec. News & Notes

East Hampton Parks and Recreation has announced the following pieces of news. For more information, call 860-267-7300 or visit easthamptonct.myrec.com.

Annual Air Line Trail Ghost Run: Saturday, Nov. 5. Must pre-register online. Cost is \$45 per runner, and \$90 per relay team.

Air Line Trail Maintenance Day: Saturday, Nov. 19, 8:30 a.m.-noon. Maintenance will be at Bishop Cut, Cranberry Bog, Forest Street, and the viaducts. Register at one of those loca-

tions online.

Trunk or Treat Halloween Fun: Thursday, Oct. 27, 5:30-7 p.m., Center School. Register to trunk or treat or be a vehicle host.

Lego Camp: Fridays, Oct. 7-28, 3:30-4:30 p.m., at Memorial School, for grades 2 and up. Cost is \$55.

Calendar Making and Crafting: Wednesday, Nov. 2-16, 3:30-4:30 p.m., at Memorial School, for ages 5-9. Cost is \$40.



EHACC Accepting Grant Applications

The East Hampton Arts & Culture Commission is accepting applications from East Hampton High School juniors and seniors for \$200 grants to support an annual East Hampton High School capstone project.

The grant will help support two students' proposed capstone projects. The capstone project is a multifaceted assignment that serves as a culminating academic and intellectual experience for students. Capstone projects may take a wide variety of forms including a long-term investigative project that culminates in a final product,

presentation, or performance.

Applicants for the EHACC Capstone Grant will be invited to present his/her Capstone Project idea to commission members during an agreed upon commission meeting. Deadline to apply is Feb. 1.

Applications are available at www.arts-foreasthamptonct.org and can be submitted to arts@easthamptonct.org or can be mailed/dropped off at the town manager's office at the East Hampton Town Hall, 1 Community Drive, East Hampton, CT 06424.

Police News

9/12: Kelly Carrington, 62, of 96 Deer Run, Colchester, was arrested and charged with reckless driving and driving under the influence, East Hampton Police said.

9/17: Felix Cruz, 58, Waterbury, was arrested and charged with driving under the influence, failure to drive right and failure to display headlights, police said.

9/19: Jordan Niehoff, of Pomfret Center, was issued a summons for operating an unregistered and uninsured motor vehicle, police said.

9/21: David Benjamin, 56, of 12 Hayes Rd., was issued a summons for operating an unregistered and uninsured motor vehicle, police said.

9/22: Malik Carter 25, of 14 West St., was issued a summons for operating a motor vehicle

with a suspended registration and operating a motor vehicle without minimum insurance, police said.

9/23: Jeffrey Buckland, 45, of 36 East High St., was arrested and charged with second-degree criminal mischief, sixth-degree larceny and operating under the influence, police said.

9/29: Kimberly Crumb, 47, of Branford, was arrested and charged with first-degree failure to appear and violation of a criminal protective order, police said.

Also, from Sept. 19-25, officers responded to 14 medical calls, four motor vehicle crashes and five alarms, and made 36 traffic stops, police said.

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TORTELLINI ROMANO

onions, prosciutto peas in a cream sauce

MUSSELS ALA FRESCO

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East Hampton • East Hampton

Council Discusses Variety of Issues

By Jack Lakowsky

The East Hampton Town Council discussed multiple topics Tuesday evening, from granting money to the local VFW, helping a business take root and some tough news in the town's search for more water.

Council Waives Ordinance Fee

During the council's previous meeting, Brian Joy, who's in the process of opening an arcade machine repair and reselling business in town, brought to the town's attention an ordinance requiring any business with "entertainment devices" to pay to the local police department an annual fee, \$100 per machine.

Joy said this fee hurts his prospects, telling the *Rivereast* last week it would cut into his revenue.

The ordinance, passed by the town in 1981 when arcade halls were popular, also requires the local police chief vet and investigate the "moral character" of any owners. It also says owners must be on the premises during all hours of operation.

The ordinance also says anyone under 14 must be with a parent or guardian.

Council chair and Republican Mark Philhower said the ordinance is "a little ridiculous and outdated," and councilor and Republican Brandon Goff said the fee is excessive.

Goff said the town should "rebuild" or get rid of the ordinance entirely. The council stopped

short of this, instead only waiving the fees for Joy, saying it would look into it further and revise, or ultimately cut, the ordinance.

Town Manager Dave Cox said the regulation gives the council discretion to waive the fees.

Council Grants ARPA Funds to VFW

After some discussion as to whether giving money from the town's American Rescue Plan (ARPA) to a nonprofit would cause other nonprofits to make appeals, the council voted to give the local VFW post \$10,000.

Several councilors were careful to say this money, a one-time payment to a local nonprofit, meets the unwritten criteria the council has used so far when deciding to use ARPA money; that the funds must benefit as much of the town as possible.

In this case, Philhower and other councilors said the money benefits the town's veterans and anyone who takes part in VFW events.

The VFW asked for the money to offset losses from the pandemic, which stopped its fundraising efforts.

The VFW listed a few possible uses for the money, including scholarships, the local food and fuel banks, building work or with its usual effort, helping veterans.

Cox said the council's approval does veer from its past ARPA uses, but that it could hash out specific reasons why it felt this was a good

use of the money.

Last year, the local volunteer ambulance service asked for a few hundred thousand dollars of ARPA funds, but was denied because it wanted to use the funds to hire personnel, and town officials felt that wasn't a proper use of the money.

Specifying why it gave VFW the money, councilors said, will help prevent the other dozens of local nonprofits from asking for ARPA funds.

"I don't want to keep going down this wormhole," Goff said. "We need to make our intent clear before we say yes."

Council member Kevin Reich said it's "clear from the information" that giving to the VFW is appropriate.

"This provides funds to assist others who served our country so well," he said. "We know veterans are not having it easy."

The only councilor to vote against giving to the VFW was Republican Alison Walck. (Democrat Pete Brown recused, as he's a VFW member).

She said if even just a few nonprofits apply for the money, it'll be lengthy and overwhelming. She also said ensuring the money's going to people would've swayed her vote, adding she's with veterans "1,000%."

"They're not just gonna throw themselves a

party," Philhower replied.

After the request passed, VFW member Ted Turner said he understood it was a tough choice and thanked the council "except for the person who said they're vets 1000% then didn't give us the money."

Water Search Hits a Snag

Cox reported that testing for an aquifer in the Pine Brook Reserve area hit a wall – or, rather, bedrock.

Cox said after a few exploratory wells were drilled, crews kept running into bedrock before they hit water.

"The site does not yield water," Cox said, adding the actual aquifer is likely under wetlands, making it inaccessible.

The town is still looking at wells on Oakum Dock Road, Cox said, and will continue to evaluate next steps. Luckily, Cox said, the town received from the state bond commission \$1.5 million to search for water.

"That will keep us moving along, and there's no direct expense to the local taxpayer," said Cox.

Cannabis Moratorium Extended

Lastly, the council unanimously voted to extend its moratorium on recreational cannabis sales, a result of a request from the local zoning commission asking for time to review possible regulations.

EHVFD Designing Commemorative Patch

In 2023, the East Hampton Volunteer Fire Department will proudly celebrate its 100th anniversary. Several events are being planned to commemorate this important milestone, one of which involves the creation of a special uniform patch.

The department is inviting members of the community to submit their own designs for a 100th Anniversary patch.

The patch needs to measure 4.0 inches wide (at its widest point) by 4.5 inches tall and each prospective design shall include:

- "East Hampton Fire Department"
- "Est. 1923"

- "100th Anniversary"
- And some other element emblematic of the town and/or fire department

For reference, the EHVFD's current patch is shown as the profile photo on the department's Facebook page (www.facebook.com/EHVFDCT).

Submit your design via email to ehvfd.100th.anniversary@gmail.com by Oct. 31 and please include your name, address and phone number along with a photo of your entry. All entries will be considered and the winner will receive special recognition and be invited to ride in a fire truck during a parade in 2023.

Senior Bowling League Starting Up

There is a new mixed Senior Bowling League starting Wednesday, Oct. 5, from 2-4 p.m., at Kickback N' Bowl, 9 Bear Swamp Rd.

Cost is \$12 per week (plus a \$4 shoe rental if needed).

For more information, contact Jack and Linda Anderson at 860-882-3752 or jackande52@aol.com.



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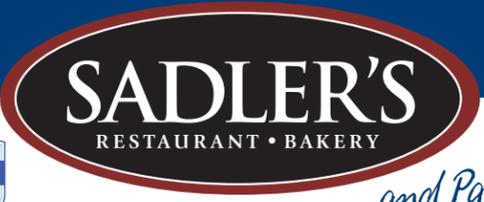
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East Hampton • East Hampton

Bellringers Volleyball Bounces Conference Rival

By Josh Howard

East Hampton girls' volleyball defeated Cromwell in three sets (25-21, 25-10, 25-10) on Sept. 21 at EHHS, sweeping a match for the first time this fall.

The Bellringers used a spectacular service game to beat their Shoreline Conference (SLC) foes, serving up 24 aces in the victory, which improved the team to 4-1.

Sophomore libero Olivia DeMartino tallied a dozen aces and junior Chelsea Woods added seven aces in the victory.

Head coach Molly Grabowski said that the performance was the best she had seen her team serve through the first five games, adding, "We have been working on serving aggressively, so I was definitely pleased with that."

After falling behind 6-2 in the opening set, DeMartino had nine straight service points, including four aces.

East Hampton would not trail the rest of the set or at any point during the remainder of the match.

Grabowski didn't use a timeout during the slow start, instead letting the team work it out together on the court.

"A struggle is good. I can't fix everything," said Grabowski. "I want them to know that they can handle it."

Woods, the team's setter, dished up a game-high 23 assists and added a team-high five digs. The junior had a pair of assists to start the second set, which continued the home team's momentum through the set.

Fittingly, DeMartino ended the third set and the match with an ace.

Senior Jenna Murphy, who is captaining the team with her twin sister Jordan Murphy and Reagan Burt, had six kills. Sophomore Sonja Venetainer added a half dozen kills as well.

Grabowski credited her captains, who are the team's only three seniors, for continuing to produce on the court while mentoring the younger girls.

"This year is a more mature group. I think they are smarter," stated Grabowski. "I think they play better and trust each other better."

Grabowski pointed to Burt's defense as being a difference-maker, saying she has been "a lot more aggressive" and "a lot more vocal" this season.

Last fall, the Bellringers won 12 of 17 regu-



East Hampton sophomore Olivia DeMartino gets ready to bump the ball as teammate Emily Tinson looks on during the Bellringers three set victory over Cromwell on Sept. 21.

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-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; and Saturdays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Children's Programs: Toddler Time: Wednesdays, 10:15 a.m., for children ages 18 months to 3 years. **Stories & Songs:** Wednesdays, 11:15 a.m., for ages 3-5.

Mindful Movements – Outside: Mondays, 10:30 a.m., at Sears Park/the lake. For ages 18 months and up; siblings welcome.

Baby Rhyme Time – Outside: Thursdays, 10:15 a.m., in the library community room.

STEMtastic: Why Do Boats Float?: Monday, Oct. 3, 4:30-5:30 p.m., for grades 1-5. Learn science and math skills through hands-on building activities. This week, build a boat that really floats and compete to see whose is the fastest. Held in the library community room.

DIY Days: Saturdays, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., for ages 5-14. Children and families in grades K-8 are invited to create a different toy, game or treat together. These activities are available while supplies last. No registration required; just drop in.

Kids Comic Creators: Big Nate: Wednesday, Oct. 19, 4:30 p.m., for grades 2-5. Learn about different styles of comics and make your own. This program includes read-alouds, drawing, games, prizes and more.

Middle-Grade Programs: Pre-Teen Advisory Board: Tuesday, Oct. 18, 5 p.m., for grades 5-8. New members are welcome. The library wants to know what you want, from pro-

gram ideas, to community service, new materials recommendations and more.

Fandom Showdown: Friday, Oct. 14, 3:30-5:30 p.m., for grades 4-7. Are you a superfan? Has a book, movie or TV series changed your life? Come on down to the Fandom Showdown for spirited debate and exciting games about your faves!

Teen Programs: Dungeons & Dragons: Wednesdays, Oct. 12, 26, Nov. 9, 5:30-7:30 p.m., for grades 8-12. No previous playing experience required. The library will provide basic, fifth edition, level four characters, all supplies and snacks.

Teen Nintendo Switch Tournament: Saturday, Oct. 1, 2-3 p.m., for grades 6-12. All skill levels welcome.

Teen Advisory Board: Tuesday, Oct. 5, 5:30 p.m., for grades 6-12. New members are welcome. Share your knowledge, creativity and interests with each other and with the library. Earn community service hours. Drop-ins welcome.

Fandom Showdown: Friday, Oct. 7, 3:30-5:30 p.m., for grades 8-12. Explore fandoms such as *Stranger Things*, *Marvel*, *Harry Potter*, and more.

Adult Program: Cookbook Club – Time to Tailgate! Tuesday, Oct. 4, 6:30 p.m., in the library's upper parking lot; bring a chair. Bring game-day favorites and 12 copies of the recipe to share. There will be samples and discussions of the dishes. The library will provide plates and utensils. Rain location is indoors.

Book Club: Tuesday, Oct. 18, 6:30 p.m. *In: The Graphic Novel* by Will McPhail will be discussed.

lar season games and a pair of state tournament games, advancing to the Class S quarterfinals.

Grabowski returned the bulk of starters from a season ago, losing only all-conference libero Julia Borrelli from the starting lineup.

With plenty of experience returning, the Bellringers have started the 2022 season by winning four of their first six matches this fall.

Jordan Murphy leads the team in kills, averaging three per sets, and Jenna Murphy has posted a team-high 13 blocks on the front line, while Woods leads the team in both assists and

digs on the second level.

"I think they have become more and more disciplined and I think they are able to be flexible and responsive," stated Grabowski, who added that she likes how the team has gotten better in each match. "They need to continue to grow their confidence out there. They are a very strong team and they play together, and I think they need to know it."

The Bellringers welcome North Branford to EHHS today (Friday, Sept. 30) for a match at 7 p.m.

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East Hampton • East Hampton

Town Moving Watershed Cleanup Forward

By Jack Lakowsky

Members of East Hampton's Parks and Recreation and Public Works departments, and even local students, will over the next few months help clean multiple areas of the Lake Pocotopaug watershed.

According to town documents, the watershed covers almost 616 acres, encircling the lake in a stretch from Wells Avenue to West Point Road.

Parks and Rec Director Jeremy Hall recently received approval from the Town Council to proceed with a handful of many projects planned to improve watershed health.

Hall told the council a grant funds the \$232,000 work, with a little more from town funds, paid mostly to a landscaping company helping the town.

First, the town's going to improve nutrient retention at Paul's and Sandy's Too. Algae blooms in the lake, toxic at high levels, tinting the water an unattractive green, have been an issue for years, largely attributed to nutrient runoff.

Another effort at Spellman Point Road, Hall told the *Rivereast*, will turn a faulty culvert into a "large vegetative swale," catching water and discharge from a nearby apartment complex.

More nutrient-absorbing plants are going in at Bay Road. New swales will collect water running off Route 66, stopping flow into the

lake.

Most important in this phase, Hall said, is restoration at Sears Park.

Hall said the town's putting in a riprap at the end of the park's trail to prevent future washouts, adding drains that'll feed a rain garden and a berm to mitigate beach flooding, and doing some reseeding and aesthetically pleasing planting.

A few of the projects are on private land, something council members bristled about.

In the council meeting earlier this month, councilor Pete Brown said the local wetlands commission needs to look more closely at construction projects, clearly laying out expectations to developers eyeing land near waterbodies.

More impactful work, Hall said, will come in the spring, with the town and local high school students working to clean the Christopher Pond area of the watershed, which feeds directly into the lake.

Hall said the town and students will send water-treating planted islands floating in the water, a green cleaning method.

To get the word out, Hall's helping put on a few public seminars, to talk to people about how things are going, and "where we plan to go in the future."

The first of these will be Thursday, Oct 27, at 6:30 p.m. in the high school auditorium.

Haddam Neck Covenant Church News

Haddam Neck Covenant Church, located at 17 Haddam Neck Rd., invites all to worship each week. Pastor is the Rev. Tom Cowger. Worship is at 9 a.m. Refreshments are served after the service.

Puppet Ministry: Each Sunday, the church's Puppet Ministry features Digger the Dog and friends from Farmer M's Red Barn to help explain the meaning of the message topic.

Sunday School: Sunday school programs

are offered for children 3 through 11 during the service.

Adult Bible Study: Will be held each Sunday in the chapel at 10:30 a.m. The study traces God's covenant with his people, from its beginning in Genesis through its fulfillment through Jesus Christ. **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.

Christ Episcopal Church News

Christ Episcopal Church, 66 Middle Haddam Rd., Middle Haddam, holds in-person and Zoom services at 10 a.m. each Sunday. All are invited for worship and coffee hour, or join electronically at www.christchurchmiddlehaddam.com. The Oct. 2 service will be led by the Rev. Joan Phelps.

Sunday School: During October, Sunday School classes will be held Oct. 2, 9 and 16. Children will study the Bible and worship service, make crafts and plan a project to help others. The Rev. Joanne Neel-Richards will help teach the class.

Blessing of the Pets: In honor of St. Francis of Assisi, the blessing will be held 30 minutes

after the service on Oct. 2. People and their leashed/caged pets are asked to congregate near the rear of the church. Stuffed animals and pet photos are welcome as well.

Donations: Donations of returnable bottles are placed in the barrels next to the shed. East Hampton Food Bank donations are collected and stored in the black totes near the rear door of the church. A Diaper Drive to benefit the Covenant to Care social worker's caseload is also ongoing. Leave the diapers at the Parish Hall.

For more information or if in need of pastoral assistance, call 860-267-0287 or Donna Hryb, senior warden, at 860-633-0472.

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 encouraged, but not required. Visit the senior center online at www.easthamptonct.gov/east-hampton-senior-center.

Lunches: Served at the center Monday through Friday, to ages 60 and up. 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. 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.

Writing Our Lives to Open Our Hearts: Thursdays, 10:30-11:30 a.m., or every other Wednesday (next date Oct. 12), at 9:30 a.m. The group will meet outdoors, weather permitting; otherwise it will be indoors or via Zoom. Register online.

Corn Hole: Wednesdays, Oct. 5 and 19, at 10:30 a.m. Played inside or outside. This is a friendly competition with junior rules. Pre-registration requested.

Meet the Author: Tuesday, Oct. 4, 1-2 p.m. Local author Pat Gauthier will discuss her book *One Baptism: The Power of Water and the Spirit*. The book is a historical, biblical and theological journey from the Jewish roots of baptism in the Old Testament through the New Testament. Call

the senior center to register.

Virtual Travel with Beeyonder: Thursday, Oct. 6, 2-3 p.m. "Travel" to Paris and learn of historical crimes and legends of the city. Pre-registration required.

Interact Game Day: Friday, Oct. 7, 10 a.m.-noon. High school kids will be present at the senior center to help present a morning of games, from cards to Cornhole (outside if weather permits). Call the senior center for more information.

Trip: In the Christmas Mood: See the Glenn Miller Orchestra Wednesday, Dec. 7, at the Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville. Lunch will be served. Cost is \$114 per person. Call for more information.

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

Scholarship Applications Due Today

Applications for the eighth annual East Hampton Ambulance Jim Morris memorial scholarship are due today, Sept. 30. The scholarship is available to East Hampton or Haddam Neck residents who have completed on year of studies at a four-year college or community college in an Allied Health field.

Forms are at www.ehems.org under the "contact us" tab. Completed applications should be sent to Liz Whitty, Scholarship Chairperson, East Hampton Ambulance, P.O. Box 144, East Hampton, CT 06424.



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On Aug. 25, the non-partisan League of Women Voters of Southeastern CT invited John Olin and Irene Haines to a 60 minute debate. Civility requires a timely response.

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Oktoberfest at CDHR

All are invited to Connecticut Draft Horse Rescue's 11th annual Oktoberfest on Sunday, Oct. 9, from 11 a.m.-3 p.m., at Autumn Ridge, 113 Chestnut Hill Rd. Admission is free.

Folks can meet the horses of CDHR, and there will also be vendors, raffles, wagon rides, food from Brick and Basil and Wayne's Wings and Things, and a variety of beers, stouts, ales and IPAs from Kinsmen Brewery.

For more information, visit www.ctdraftrescue.org or www.facebook.com/ctdraftrescue.

Red McKinney Golf Tournament

The East Hampton Rotary Club invites all to participate in its 29th annual Golf Tournament – which, for the second straight year, will be in honor of the late Red McKinney.

The tournament will take place at Blackledge Country Club in Hebron on Wednesday, Oct. 5; rain date is to be determined.

Registration is from 8-10 a.m., and there will be a shotgun start at 10 a.m. Format: scramble, with prizes for first-, second- and third-place teams, as well as closest to the pin, longest drive, and closest to the line.

This year's swag includes a golf vest. All at-

tendees are also asked to wear a red golf shirt.

Lunch will be a grab-and-go (between hole nine on Anderson Glen and hole 10 on Gilead Heights). Dinner will follow the tournament, and there will be a 50/50 raffle, live auction, and a tee-cup raffle after the dinner.

Cost is \$125, or \$25 for dinner only. Various sponsorship levels are also available. All proceeds fund the East Hampton Rotary Club and 100% of the proceeds will be supporting community service projects.

For more information and to register, visit ti.nurl.com/mudvvm7u.

Calling All Artists!

All painters, photographers and fiber artists are invited to submit their work to "Save a Horse – Buy Art," a juried art show taking place at the Essex Art Association (10 North Main St., Essex) from Oct. 21-23. The show benefits Connecticut Draft Horse Rescue (CDHR) of East Hampton.

Awards will be: Best of Show, Viewers' Pick, Best Painting, Best Photo, Best Fiber Art. This year's theme is comprised of four words: Connecticut, Draft, Horse, and/or Rescue. All

accepted entries will be notified via email and via the CDHR Facebook page (www.facebook.com/ctdraftrescue) on Oct. 14.

Details regarding art show rules and how to enter are available at ctdraftrescue.org/events/save-a-horse-buy-art. Artwork must be submitted Oct. 4-7. Artists are also encouraged to attend the opening reception Friday, Oct. 21, from 6-8 p.m.

For more information, email CDHRartshow@outlook.com.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection

The Lower CT River Council of Governments will hold a free Household Hazardous Waste collection Saturday, Oct. 1, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., at Haddam Elementary School, 272 Saybrook Rd., Higganum. The collection is open to residents of the RiverCOG region, which includes East Hampton and Portland. No commercial or business waste allowed.

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

Boat Launch Closure

The East Hampton Volunteer Fire Department will conduct its annual pump/flow-testing of all the department's apparatus on Thursday, Oct. 13, at Sears Park (weather permitting).

As a result, the Lake Pocotopaug boat ramp at Sears Park will be closed to the public between the hours of 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. on that day. Residents wishing to launch or retrieve their watercraft are encouraged to do so either before or after Oct. 13.

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.

Congregational Church News & Notes

The Congregational Church of East Hampton, UCC, located at 59 Main St., is open for in-person services with the Rev. Amie McCarthy every Sunday at 10 a.m. All services can also be accessed via Zoom by going to cc-eh.org. All are welcome.

Lunch Bunch at the Turquoise Table: Meets every Wednesday from 12:30-1:30 p.m. Bring a bagged lunch.

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

Family Movie Night: Saturday, Oct. 1, 6:30 p.m. *Hocus Pocus 2* will be shown.

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.

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Scouts Learn Fire Safety... Pack 57 was visited by members of the East Hampton Volunteer Fire Department at a recent pack meeting. Scouts learned about fire safety, how to stay safe during an emergency, and the importance of the gear firemen use. Pack 57 welcomes boys and girls in grades K-5. For more information, contact Cubmaster Sara Perez at pack57easthampton@gmail.com.

Beginner Bellringer Preschool

East Hampton High School's Beginner Bellringer Preschool Program is taking applications for the 2022-23 school year. Parents may have a preschool sent to them by contacting Kasey Tortora at 860-365-4030 ext. 1300 or ktortora@easthamptonct.org. All applications must be received by Nov. 4.

Preschool will be held three afternoons per week (Mondays, noon-2 p.m. and Thursdays and Fridays, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Sessions are open to 3- to 5-year-olds as of Jan. 1, 2023; in some cases, older 2-year-olds will be accept-

ed. There is a limit of 12 students per class.

The preschool program will begin Thursday, Jan. 5, 2023, and will end May 26, 2023. The cost is \$200 per student. Enrollment is limited. Applications will be selected this year on a first come first serve basis. Further information may be obtained by contacting Kasey Tortora via telephone or email as listed above.

All preschoolers must present completed documentation of a current physical and adequate immunizations (including the flu shot) before the start of the program.

CCC Reunion Oct. 9

On Sunday, Oct. 9, a reunion of Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) alumni, family, & friends will meet at 1 p.m. at the Connecticut CCC Museum at 166 Chestnut Hill Rd. (Route 190) in Stafford Springs.

They will celebrate the 89th anniversary of the founding of the CCC by sharing their stories and pictures of the CCC camps. All that are interested in the CCC are welcome to attend. Refreshments will be served.

The CCC ran from 1933-42. The U.S. Army supervised the camps, which had approximately 200 men each. The first year, 13 camps were set up in Connecticut, including one in Cobalt.

In the following years, eight more camps were added, including ones in East Hampton and Portland.

At the Oct. 9 reunion, East Hampton resident Marty Podskoch, author of *Connecticut Civilian Conservation Corps Camps: Its History, Memories and Legacy of the CCC*, will give a brief history of the CCC camps in Connecticut. Then CCC alumni, family and friends will share their stories of their CCC camps both in Conn. and other states. Refreshments will be served.

For more information, contact Podskoch at 860-267-2442 or podskoch@comcast.net or visit martinpodskoch.com.

Knights' Spaghetti Supper

The Knights of Columbus Belltown Council 6190 at St. Patrick Church in East Hampton will be sponsoring its semi-annual spaghetti and meatball dinner on Oct. 14, from 4:30-7:30 p.m., at the church parish center, located at 47 West High St. Rain date is Oct. 21.

Takeout and dine-in meals will be offered. Meal prices are \$12 for adults and \$11 for seniors. Children 6-12 are \$5, and children under 5 eat for free. The meal will include a salad,

bread, dessert, coffee, tea and punch drinks. Soda and water are not included; they are sold separately for \$1 each. Proceeds will support local charitable programs. Raffle prizes and musical entertainment will be offered as well.

The Knights of Columbus will also collect non-perishable food items for the East Hampton Food Bank.

Contact Jim Radavich at 860-319-9288 or jradavich@yahoo.com for more information.

Residents Sought for EHACC

The East Hampton Arts & Culture Commission (EHACC) is accepting applications from East Hampton residents to serve on the commission.

The commission meets the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Joseph N. Goff House Museum, 2 Barton Hill Rd., and help support and promote arts and culture in East Hampton.

EHACC offers several initiatives to the East Hampton community, including its annual Community Grant, which supports organizations and individuals with programs and/or projects that enrich the lives of East Hampton residents through the arts; the Capstone Grant, which supports East Hampton High School

students' proposed Capstone projects; the Student Art Award program; and the Art Purchase Award, through which locally made artwork is presented to a town facility as a way to support local artists.

EHACC also hosted a garden tour in July, which featured a plein air painting opportunity for local artists and self-guided tours of six community and private gardens in East Hampton.

Applications to serve on the commission are available in the town manager's office at Town Hall, 1 Community Drive.

For more information on EHACC, visit www.artsforeasthamptonct.org or email arts@easthamptonct.org.

Middle Haddam Public Library News

Middle Haddam Public Library, 2 Knowles Rd., Middle Haddam, has announced the following. 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 11:30 a.m. All players welcome.

Nimble Knitters: Thursdays at 1 p.m.
CommuniTea: Saturday, Oct. 8, 10 a.m.-noon. This is a monthly gathering; take out a book and have a cup of tea. Coffee drinkers

welcome.

Writer's Group: Wednesday, Oct. 12, 7-8:30 p.m. Write in the company of writers. Get away from the distractions at home and work on your own projects.

Cacao Ceremony: Saturday, Oct. 23, 10 a.m., with current artist Megan Desrosier. This ceremony will include a guided meditation into the heart space and an art project. Artistic ability is not required to be a part of this experience. Please register.

Writer's Workshop: Wednesday, Oct. 26, 7-8:30 p.m. Published author Jack Matthews will discuss the elements of writing and publishing. Please register.

Space Available: Are looking for space for meetings? Or a space to work from home? There are options at the library; stop by to take a look.

Colchester • Colchester

Body Cam Footage Offers Insight into Firing

By Michael Sinkewicz

Recently unearthed police body camera footage offers proof that First Selectman Andreas Bisbikos is a “pathological liar,” according to Bisbikos’ former secretary, who was abruptly fired from her position in April.

The video footage shows the moment officers responded to Town Hall in April to escort Marli Rudko out of the building, and then later arriving at her residence to retrieve “town property.”

The footage provides further information regarding the termination of Rudko, who had served as the executive assistant to the first selectman since Bisbikos’ election last November. Rudko is also the spouse of Republican Town Committee Chairman Taras Rudko.

Links to the videos were posted online earlier this month by Jason LaChapelle, a Republican on the Board of Selectmen.

LaChapelle said the footage was acquired by a citizen through a Freedom of Information request and then later provided to him.

In the official termination letter, Bisbikos accused Rudko of serious acts of misconduct – including destroying documents – that led to her termination on April 27.

Rudko has consistently denied all the accusations described in the letter, and filed an intent to sue letter to the town in May for wrongful termination.

In itself, the body camera footage is particularly relevant because Bisbikos cites behavior from that day in the termination letter. Bisbikos stated in the letter that he was told by staff that Rudko had not completed a response to a pending FOI request and that she had downloaded the completed request and took it home.

On the same day, Bisbikos also accused Rudko of mishandling documents.

“You were observed destroying documents in your office without authorization,” he wrote. Rudko denied that this happened.

Rudko was an “at will” employee, meaning that she could be terminated without a reason being provided.

The Body Camera Footage

The body camera footage is from two police officers who arrived at Town Hall the afternoon of April 27. LaChapelle posted a version of the footage that includes his own personal commentary, as well as versions without his comments.

The first officer arrived outside the first selectman’s office but Bisbikos was not present. The officer asked the employees in the office if there was “yelling or screaming” or any issues with an employee. A voice in the background responded by expressing “not that I’m aware.”

After stepping away for a period of time, both officers return with Bisbikos, who then informs Rudko that she will be terminated. She is then escorted out of the Town Hall by one of the officers without any signs of a struggle.

Bisbikos told the *Rivereast* why the initial call to police was made that day.

“There was a disturbance regarding the shredding of documents and the slamming of desks. She was walked out of the building on her own free will and the police were there for everyone’s safety,” Bisbikos said.

When asked if he has evidence that Rudko was destroying documents, Bisbikos stated that he did.

“Yes, we have a direct witness, which is the reason why I returned to the office after hours,” he said. Bisbikos did not immediately make that witness available for comment.

Rudko discussed the footage and her termination with the *Rivereast*. She said the allegation that she was destroying documents “doesn’t make sense” and that she did not have a shredder in her office. She also pointed out that documents in the office are scanned, emphasizing that shredding documents would not achieve much.

Her takeaway from the footage was that Bisbikos was a “pathological liar.”

Later in the footage, Bisbikos is seen speaking to the officers and he explained the situation to them.

Bisbikos expressed that Rudko took a flash drive home with her that contained town information. The officers informed Bisbikos that he could enact a policy that outlines what employees can and cannot do with town property, but that there was “nothing criminal there” if she was still in possession of it.

Bisbikos told the officers that Rudko’s behavior has been “unacceptable.”

“I think she’s undermining the administration,” he said. “This was the final nail in the coffin.”

He then stated that terminating Rudko was necessary.

“So, I think I had to get her out,” he said. “I couldn’t risk anything further.”

This week, Bisbikos explained what he meant by “undermining the administration” and elaborated on why the police were sent to Rudko’s house to retrieve the flash drive.

“Her course of actions over an extended period unfortunately demonstrated a lack of professionalism and trust in serving the citizens of Colchester,” he said. “A town employee has stated on the record that Ms. Rudko took the flash drive home and that she was unsure if she would bring it back. Once she was terminated, the police were sent to retrieve town property.”

In the footage, an officer arrives at the Rudko residence, where Taras Rudko answered the door. He told the officer that the flash drive was not at the home. The officer did inform Rudko that he was there due to an official complaint by the first selectman.

Marli Rudko expressed that a citizen had previously made an FOI request for communications between Dave Koji, the chairman of the ARPA committee, and members of his committee.

According to Rudko, that request was forwarded to Koji who then began working to fulfill the request. Ultimately, the request was sent back to Rudko who then provided it to the citizen.

At a later date, the first selectman had ad-

ditional questions regarding the FOI request, according to Rudko. She took the flash drive home with her for review but determined that it was too much extra work on top of her normal responsibilities. She said the flash drive was brought back to Town Hall.

Regarding the complaint that she was doing work at home, Rudko said that was a normal practice for town employees, who were given remote access to finish tasks.

Bisbikos confirmed he was aware that sometimes employees took work home.

“During COVID, certain flexible work arrangements were adopted where practical. However, the general expectation is that employees would perform their work functions in the offices,” he said.

Bisbikos confirmed that he did view the body camera footage and that “it is heavily edited and full of opinion.”

Both Rudko and LaChapelle expressed that the footage demonstrated an “abuse of power.” They claimed that the police were called under false pretenses.

“My only goal was to expose an abuse of power,” LaChapelle told the *Rivereast*, explaining why he posted the videos.

In response to LaChapelle’s claim, Bisbikos stated all the evidence should be examined first.

“Mr. LaChapelle should talk to our Human Resource Director and review all corroborating information before prematurely drawing conclusions,” he said.

Bisbikos previously stated that “there are no false reports,” regarding his communications with police.

Rudko pointed to her own FOI requests that have yet to be completed, which she believes will further support her stance.

Specifically, she believes her old emails will indicate that her job performance was more than adequate.

“They will show people thanking me for going over the top with helping,” Rudko said.

In the termination letter, Bisbikos wrote that “there have been a number of concerning issues with your performance, including, but not limited to concerns regarding your interactions with staff and the public, inconsistent attendance, a failure to keep my office adequately informed regarding functions of this office and a refusal to perform functions of the position to which you were assigned.”

Rudko said she and another Town Hall employee approached the first selectman in February to address a toxic work environment, but that her concerns were not addressed. Before she was terminated, she met with the director of human resources.

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

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CHFD Open House

The Colchester Hayward Fire Department will hold an Open House and Recruitment event Sunday, Oct. 16, from 11 a.m.-3 p.m., at the firehouse, 52 Old Hartford Rd. Kids and adults are invited to come meet local firefighters and EMS providers, check out equipment, learn fire prevention and safety information, and tour the museum headquarters station. Events that will take place include: vehicle extrication demonstration, fire extinguisher

training and demonstration, fire safety and prevention information available, firefighter gear try on with photo op, antique fire truck rides, blood pressure screenings and ambulance tour, Touch-a-Truck, Smokey Bear visit, smoke trailer, Gator UTV and marine units on display, and a CPR/Lucas device demonstration. Also, there will be hot dogs for lunch, while supplies last.

Youth Football Recap

The Colchester Cougars youth football squads were in action last weekend. The Pee Wee division faced Ledyard, and the other divisions faced East Lyme. Here are the results: Pee Wee: Won, 26-6. Defense was stout with a trio of linebackers leading the way, but the defensive highlight was the performance of Nate Drylie who burst onto the scene with a few quarterback sacks up the middle. Nate Drylie and Cam Brodeur received some time at running back and both capitalized on the opportunity with Cam nearly reaching pay dirt and Nate punching it in for a touchdown. The offensive line is young but developing, and making good progress. Micro: Lost, 13-6. Jakob Sheehan had several sacks and caused fumbles, PJ Brodeur recovered a fumble as well as making multiple tackles. Connor Peck, Brandon Hopkins, Hunter Mosdale, and several others made key tackles all over the field. Aiden Francis did well on defense and stepped in to start as quarterback and lead the offense down the field. Samuel Gorman, Brandon Hopkins and Jakob Sheehan ran the ball from the back field, and Aiden Francis bulled his way into the end zone for the only offensive touchdown. Junior: Won, 32-0. The Cougars scored on a touchdown run by Mason Howard to go up 8-0 at the end of the first half. In the second half, Howard ran for two more touchdowns and Vinny Arrigoni punched in a touchdown as well. The Cougars special teams were 4-for-4

kicking extra points on the big leg of Howard. The strong great offensive line effort of Brady Bigelow, Colton LaFlash, Charlie Gorman, Drew Browning, Jack Wissler and Sam Collozo allowed for the running attack. On defense, the Cougars were led by the strong play of Adam Bigelow, Cody Obryon, Carter Hebert, Blake Allard and a big takeaway by Gavin King. Seniors: Won, 36-0. The defense held East Lyme to seven first downs. On offense, Brevin Gonzales connected with Robbie Corrado for a few passes including a touchdown. Eddie Gignac rushed for four touchdowns. Seniors will play at Westerly this Saturday night.

Ham Radio Presentation

All are invited to come learn more about ham radio and Colchester Senior Center's idea to set up a broadcasting site at the senior center on Monday, Oct. 17, at 10 a.m., at the senior center, 95 Norwich Ave. Amateur radio (ham radio) is a hobby and service that brings people, electronics, and communication together. Registration is required for this free presentation and can be done by calling the senior center at 860-537-3911.

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, Oct. 3:** 8:30 a.m., Garden Club; 9 a.m., Making Memories, Exercise with Anne; 10 a.m., Sittercize; 11 a.m., Learn to Sign; 12:30 p.m., Mah Jongg; 12:45 p.m., Setback; 1 p.m., Bridge; 1:30 p.m., Pumpkin Centerpiece. **Tuesday, Oct. 4:** 9 a.m., Making Memories; 9:15 a.m., blood pressure clinic; 9:45 a.m., Tai Chi; 12:30 p.m., Pinochle; no Bingo today; 1:30 p.m., AARP Meet the Candidates. **Wednesday, Oct. 5:** 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., "Be Alert, Never Get Hurt" fire safety; 1 p.m., Tech Time with Harry. **Thursday, Oct. 6:** 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Energy Assistance by appointment only; 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, Oct. 7:** 10 a.m., Sit & Be Fit; 10:30 a.m., Hearing Clinic by appointment only, Choral Group; 11 a.m., Yoga; 1:30 p.m., Bingo. **Upcoming Programs: Flu Vaccination Clinic:** Friday, Oct. 14, 9-11 a.m., conducted by Chatham Public Health. Be sure to bring any Medicare and/or insurance cards. Call the senior center to schedule an appointment. **Bavarian Pretzel Demo:** Monday, Oct. 17, 1:30 p.m. Go through the steps of making Bavarian pretzels. Sign up in the office. Cost is \$3. A sample will be provided at the end of the demonstration. **Oktoberfest Luncheon:** Wednesday, Oct.

19, 11 a.m. All are invited for some accordion and keyboard music by Bellows & Ivory, followed by a German-style meal of bratwurst with sauerkraut, German potato salad, red braised cabbage, rolls, warm pumpkin doughnuts and apple juice. Tickets are \$9 each and available until Oct. 12 or sold out. **Mask-Making with Jodi:** All are invited to create a felt mask for the Halloween season. All materials will be provided for a Cost of \$3; registration is required. **Funeral Preplanning Presentation:** Monday, Oct. 24, 10 a.m. Pat McCarthy from Aurora McCarthy Funeral Home will offer a presentation on the preplanning process and answer any questions. Refreshments will be served. This is a free program, but registration is required by Oct. 19. **Annual Halloween Costume & Pizza Party:** Monday, Oct. 31. Engage in traditional Halloween festivities including a costume parade, contests, and games. Tickets are \$7 each. Costumes are encouraged; if you show up in one, the center will refund you \$1. Registration is required and can be done by visiting the office. Space is limited.



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Funds for Food Bank... Colchester Democrats raised approximately \$300 for the Colchester Fuel Bank at the Celebrate Colchester event this past Saturday. Those who couldn't make it to the event but would still like to donate, checks made to the "Colchester Fuel Bank" can be mailed to Colchester Social Services in Town Hall at 127 Norwich Ave. The Colchester Fuel Bank is funded entirely by donations from community members. The Fuel Bank makes it possible for residents in need to receive small oil deliveries during the winter months to cover the gap between other heating delivery programs.

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: Wednesday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; and Friday, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Voter Enrollment Session

The registrars of voters in Colchester will hold a voter registration enrollment session Tuesday, Oct. 4, from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., in Room 103 at Town Hall, 127 Norwich Ave. The registrars will be completing the preliminary registry list.
 New voters can register in person. Existing voters who need to change their registration address are encouraged to stop by the registrar's office at this time.

Youth Basketball Registration

Registration for Colchester Youth Basketball is open, and can be done online at www.colchesterbasketball.org. Colchester Youth Basketball offers a Travel program for grades 4-8 and a Recreation program for grade one through high school. Both programs are separated into boys' and girls' leagues.
 The Recreation program offers a clinic for grades 1 and 2 and a practice and a game each

week for grades 3 through high school. The Recreation program is separated into divisions for grades 3/4/5, grades 6/7/8, and high school. The Travel program will run from approximately mid-November through early March. The Recreation program for grades 3 through high school will run from approximately mid-December through the second week in March and the clinics from January through the second week in March.

DTC Pasta Dinner Oct. 16

The Colchester Democratic Town Committee will host its annual pasta dinner Sunday, Oct. 16, from 5-7 p.m., at the St. Joseph's Polish Society, 395 S. Main St.
 This dinner has been renamed "Dot's Pasta Dinner" after the late Dot Mrowka, since she began the annual Spaghetti Supper tradition so many years ago. This year's event is dedicated to state Rep.

Brian Smith on his retirement from the state house. Guests will include Congressman Joe Courtney, state senators Norm Needleman and Cathy Osten, as well as other state and federal officials.
 Tickets are \$20 each and can be purchased either at the door or online at secure.anedot.com/colchesterdemocrats/donate, or go to colchesterdemocrats.org and click on Donate.

October Programs at Cragin

Cragin Memorial Library, 8 Linwood Ave., has announced the following programs, which are free and open to the public. For more information, call the library at 860-537-5752 during normal hours: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; and Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Storytime @ Cohen Woodlands: Tuesday, Oct. 4, 11:30 am. Bring a blanket and come for the last outdoor storytime.
Sensory Table: Fridays, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Fall Storytime Sessions: All held at the library. Registration required. Siblings welcome. Sessions run Oct. 24-Dec. 15, and the schedule is: Walkers and Talkers (12-24 months), Mondays, 10:30 a.m.; Toddlers (24-48 months), Mondays, 11:15 a.m.; Preschool Storytime (4- and 5-year-olds), Tuesdays, 11:30 a.m.; Mother Goose (2- to 5-year-olds), Wednesdays, 10:30 and 11:15 a.m.; Baby Storytime and Stay and Play (1-12 months), Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.
Halloween Take & Make Crafts for Children: Oct. 1, 11, 15, 22, 27 and 29.
Foodie Fun Take & Makes: Saturdays, Oct.

1 and 29, for teens and adults. Check out the library's Facebook page for a how-to video. While supplies last.
Teen Advisory Board: Tuesday, Oct. 4, 3 p.m., for grades 6-12. Check in with your peers and librarians to talk about making the library the best teen space possible.
Macramé Leaf Kit: Wednesday, Oct. 5. While supplies last. For teens and adults.
Mad Hatter Take & Make Craft for Children: Thursday, Oct. 6.
A Court of Fantasy Readers: Thursday, Oct. 6, 5:30 pm. This month's book is *The Book of Magic* by Alice Hoffman. Books are available for checkout at the adult circulation desk.
Teen Gaming: Tuesday, Oct. 11, 3 p.m., for grades 6-12. Try a new board game or play with friends on the library's new Nintendo Switch.
Colchester Musical Organizations in the Late 19th and 20th Centuries: Thursday, Oct. 13, 6:30 p.m., via Zoom. This program is presented by Gary Walter in partnership with the Colchester Historical Society. Registration is required: tinyurl.com/2p8pj35v.

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Project Graduation... Bacon Academy's Project Graduation is a nonprofit organization with the sole focus of keeping high school seniors safe on the night of graduation. Fundraising for that night starts in the freshman year of high school. Parents of any student can volunteer to raise funds that will go towards their child's graduating year. All are invited to sign up for volunteering at concessions for UConn soccer and basketball games. Visit www.baconacademyprojectgrad.org for more information. From left are Janet Richards, Tricia Dean, Kathleen Carnelli and Jen Treat.

Fall Market Vendor Fair

Colchester Federated Church, 60 Main St., will host its annual Fall Market Vendor Fair Saturday, Oct. 1, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., featuring crafters, vendors, food trucks and more.

If interested in being a vendor at the fair, email Renee Misbach at rouillette01@snet.net for more information.

A Court of Fantasy Readers

Cragin Memorial Library's newest book club will meet Thursday, Oct. 6, at 5:30 p.m., at the library, 8 Linwood Ave., to discuss *The Book of Magic* by Alice Hoffman.

Books are available for check out at the adult circulation desk at the library. Call the library to register or register online via Facebook for email updates.

This program is free and open to the public. For more information, call 860-537-5752.

Christmas Fair Nov. 12

St. Andrew Church will hold its Angels and Snowflakes Christmas Fair Saturday, Nov. 12, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., at the church hall, 128 Norwich Ave.

Booths include: Bake shop, Baskets and More Raffle, Teacup auction, Little Gift Shop with handmade items, Quilters Corner, Christmas Treasures and Attic Treasures tag sales, Faith Corner of gently used religious items, and local crafters.

This year, there will be a Christmas Café, which will serve muffins in the morning, then soup, hot dogs, baked potatoes, and meatball subs at lunch.

Giant Tag Sale

St. Andrew Church will hold its 13th Multi-Family Tag Sale Saturday, Oct. 1, from 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m., at the church hall, 128 Norwich Ave. Proceeds from this event will go toward the purchase of a new outdoor creche (nativity manger scene) for the church.

All donations will be accepted today, Friday, Sept. 30, from 1-7 p.m., in the Parish Hall. Please no clothing, shoes, or large furniture/appliances.

This event will include household, collectibles, glassware, jewelry, toys, sports, holiday, and baby items. Doors will open at 8 a.m. on Saturday for early-bird entry (fee of \$5).

For donation information, call Carol at 860-303-1842.

Community CPR

There will be a free Family and Friends CPR course at Colchester Hayward Fire Department, 52 Old Hartford Rd., Wednesday, Nov. 9, from 7-9 p.m.

The video-based course teaches CPR and relief of choking in adults, children and infants. Use of an AED (Automated External Defibrillator) is also included in the training, and participants receive a student manual for ongoing reference.

To sign up, contact fire headquarters at 860-537-2512 or firedepartment@colchesterct.gov.

Book and Bake Sale

The Friends of Cragin Memorial Library will hold its Book and Bake Sale at the library, 8 Linwood Ave. All are invited.

The sale begins on Friday, Sept. 30, from 4-7 p.m., with a pre-sale admission of \$5. The sale continues with no admission charge on Saturday, Oct. 1, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sunday, Oct. 2, from 11 a.m.-3 p.m.; and Monday and Tuesday, Oct. 3 and 4, during regular library hours. Monday and Tuesday is the \$5 special; fill a box or bag for \$5.

There will be books, music, movies and games. Baked goods will be individually wrapped for safety. All proceeds benefit programs funded by the Friends, which include museum passes, adult programs, children's programs, summer reading programs, and other materials to benefit patrons of Cragin Memorial Library.

Musicians Sought for CCO

The Colchester Choir & Orchestra (CCO) is looking for new members. Seats are open in all sections – both choir and orchestra.

CCO will perform two concerts in the 2022-23 season. Sponsored by Colchester Parks & Recreation, the group plays a wide variety of music, from pops to classical. The group rehearses weekly at Bacon Academy, and looks forward to welcoming new members looking for a social orchestra and choir with a passion for music.

Rehearsals are held Tuesdays. Choir is from 6-7:30 p.m., and orchestra is from 7:30-9 p.m.

To register, go to colchesterctrec.recdesk.com and look for "CCO 22-23" under registration.

For more information, visit www.colchesterchoirorchestra.org.

Upcoming Senior Center Trips

The Colchester Senior Center is planning the following trips. 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.

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.

West Point Campus Tour: Thursday, Oct. 20, 7:30 a.m. Take a trip to Thayer Hotel's Bountiful Buffet, then participate in a guided tour of the United States Military Academy

at West Point. Cost is \$127/person; a non-refundable payment is due at the time of registration.

42nd Street at the Goodspeed Opera House: Wednesday, Nov. 2, 11 a.m. Have lunch at La Vita restaurant then head over to the Goodspeed for a 2 p.m. matinee of a newly-imagined production of *42nd Street*. Cost is \$60 per person. Lunch is not included in the cost of the trip.

A Christmas for Carol at Newport Playhouse: Tuesday, Dec. 6, departing at 9:30 a.m. There will be a buffet lunch before the show and a cabaret show afterward. Proof of vaccination required. Cost is \$132/person and is non-refundable.



Carl Guild & Associates has moved, and is now located at Homestead Center, 392 South Main St., Unit 2, just across the street from St. Joseph's Polish Society.

Carl Guild Relocates Colchester Office

Carl Guild & Associates has relocated its Colchester office to a newly updated space at Homestead Center, located at 392 South Main St., Unit #2, just across the street from St. Joseph's Polish Society.

Guild said, "We couldn't have chosen a better spot, both easily accessible for our clients and with a beautiful new cozy interior, we are thrilled to service our clients in this new office!"

Officially opened this past August, the new location offers parking, an entry with coffee and snack bar, a private conference room, and community style meeting space as well.

Carl Guild & Associates is a full-service brokerage with offices in East Hampton, Colchester and Glastonbury. To learn more, visit www.carlguild.com or contact Guild directly at carlguild@gmail.com

History Museum Open Sundays

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

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

Police News

9/13: Nila Haaga, 59, of Cornwall, was arrested and charged with DUI and failure to drive in proper lane, state police said.

9/19: Bradley Griffin, 31, of Eastford, was arrested and charged with DUI, police said.

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Cover Story • Cover

★ No Agreement cont. from page 1

town's modernization is being delayed.

"I'm disappointed we haven't taken any steps to get an interim town manager," Lowrey said, adding he's asked twice to have the issue put on past agendas, to no avail.

O'Brien pressed Asklar on whether he thinks Traversa has done a competent job, but he avoided the question.

Traversa has not said if she intends to pursue the town manager position. O'Brien has previously advocated for Traversa on this. Traversa, both in the meeting and in an interview with the *Rivereast*, said Marlborough suffers from high CEO turnover, which she said is a detriment that costs important relationships with state officials, who hold the purse strings on grants and other funding. (Traversa served as the town's first selectman for one term, from 2015-19.)

Asklar said the "clock is running out" in the search for an interim town manager, saying "we have to find someone".

Asklar harkened back to the 2019 election, when Lowrey beat Traversa in the first select-

man's race by a 1,294 to 875 tally. He said the difference in votes indicated voters were "not happy" with her job performance as first selectman.

"The public does not want her in that seat," he said.

In a release sent to the *Rivereast*, the Marlborough Democratic Town Committee (DTC) listed what it feels are Traversa's noteworthy achievements over the nearly three months since she took office, including completing building work at the library, purchasing an emergency vehicle, and increasing the marketing of board and commission openings.

DTC also said it plans to disseminate more information about Traversa's work.

DTC also listed several items it feels needs action: proposing the Board of Finance allocate funds to support a thorough search to hire a town manager, paying the acting CEO until an interim is found, placing the welfare of the town above all else and revisions to the new town charter.

Andover • Andover

Andover Lands STEAP Grant

By Michael Sinkewicz

Andover received a \$275,000 grant through the Small Town Economic Assistance program [STEAP] that will contribute towards the town's new municipal parking hub.

The town will match \$75,000, which should cover the total cost of the project, according to Town Administrator Eric Anderson.

"It's definitely a big win for the town," Anderson told the *RiverEast*. "We positioned ourselves well to take advantage of the grant opportunities out there."

STEAP funds are awarded by the State Bond Commission for capital projects, including new constructions proposals or building renovations.

Anderson stated that the town will take down the condemned firehouse at 15 Center Street and build a four-bay parking structure for senior transportation.

Last week, state Sen. Steve Cassano (D-4) announced the grants for both Andover and neighboring Glastonbury.

"I'm grateful to Governor Lamont in making

these approvals, which will lead to both Andover and Glastonbury gaining new and improved local resources," Cassano wrote in a statement. "I'm especially happy that these grants help connect local and state funding allowing collaboration between town and state government."

Anderson said the town received the full amount that they had requested. The new project will address a town need and help developments in the center of town, which he hopes will "revitalize it."

"Basically, we're putting a bunch of money into that neighborhood," Anderson said, adding that "some aspects have gotten in rough shape."

He expressed that there are other projects planned in that section of town, including a new parking area.

Anderson said one of the goals is to have the new structures blend in while also being modern. The parking hub will be capable of future electric charger installation – something Andover has established as a goal moving forward.

In the future, Anderson expects electric transportation to be more prevalent, and projects should keep that at the forefront.

"I think we're trying to plan for the long term and make it not just right for today but for the future," he said.

Anderson stated that a few years ago, the town began planning for the "big picture."

"We take that vision and figure out how to implement that," he said.

The new parking structure will be built with those goals in mind, and other projects will be, as well. Anderson said a new senior center is in the planning stages and it will likely involve alternative energy ideas, including solar.

Keeping energy as a top priority will also help the town maintain its facilities, Anderson said.

The state signed a Memorandum of Understanding in 2020 with 14 other states to help advance electric technology. One of the goals was to head towards achieving 100% of all new medium and heavy-duty vehicle purchases being zero-emission by 2050, according to the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

These types of vehicles include vans, buses and trucks. The state also issued the Electric

Vehicle Roadmap in 2020 that listed ideas for municipal governments to modernize their existing infrastructure.

The new hub will hopefully be a welcomed addition for the town's senior population, which Anderson said continues to grow.

"As the population ages, we need to provide services to the senior population," he said," he said.

The grant is latest win for the town, which received an Eversource grant that allowed them to install 2 electric vehicle charges as Town Hall. Anderson said he know of at least 4 teachers who currently utilize the charges.

Anderson emphasized that the application process for grants can be extensive, even requiring a "couple hundred hours of leg work" to get done.

In order to position the town in the best place to win the grant, the town needs to finalize its proposal and have all the necessary discussions with engineers and planners. Sometimes, that requires reaching out to different agencies and getting the proper approvals and reports.

While Anderson said he is very grateful that the town received the grant, he was not surprised, expressing that an "enormous amount of work" went into it.

Tag and Vendor Sale Saturday

Andover seniors will host a tag and vendor sale Saturday, Oct. 1, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., at Town Hall, 17 School Rd.

There will be glassware, Christmas items, household goods, furniture and more. Vendors will sell cards, nail products, crochet items, dips and soup mixes, and plants. There will be entertainment for the children with a bounce house, fingerpainting and free popcorn, courtesy of the Andover Volunteer Fire Department, as well as other games.

There will be a variety of clothing choices, brand new with tags or slightly used, ranging in value from \$20 to \$200 new. Sizes are from 6 to 3X. Designer and brand name clothing & shoes. Shoes are size 8 to 9 1/2.

Clothing prices start at \$3, \$5 and \$7. You will decide, unless they have been marked with a special price. Some designer names are: LOGO, Jennifer Lopez, Chico, Torrid, American Eagle, Old Navy, Tek Gear, Merona, Champion, Vera Wang and more.

There will also be linens, housewares, lamps, furniture, antiques, home décor, holiday decorations, curtains, blankets, pillows, toys, fishing equipment, tools, DVDs, CDs and more.

All proceeds benefit the Andover Senior Luncheon Program.

Call Cathy Palazzi at 860-916-6122 for more information.

Senior Citizen News & Notes

The following have been announced for Andover seniors, veterans and disabled. To attend any event, call senior coordinator Cathy Palazzi at 860-916-6122 to register. Visit the senior page at andoverct.org for all senior events and information. A new events calendar will be posted for September and October.

Rides to Food Pantry: The bus is now available for the Food Pantry on Mondays at 5 p.m. and for the Wednesday Foodshare or food pantry – all of which take place at Andover Congregational Church.

Tuesday Shopping: To Willimantic Oct. 11 and 25, and to Manchester Oct. 4 and 18. Masks available on all vehicles.

Rides to all town events, town meetings, referendums or board meetings, and all medical appointments, are available by calling Palazzi. All seniors, veterans and disabled are welcome. If you have a caregiver, they may come with you.

Flu Clinic: Thursday, Oct. 13, 2-5 p.m., at

the Andover Elementary School gym. Call Palazzi for reservations.

Senior Luncheon: Friday, Oct. 14. Attending will be Republican candidates Mike France, who is running Connecticut's 2nd Congressional District; Steve Weir, who is running for the state House of Representatives (55th District); and Jacqueline Crespan, who is running for state Senate (4th District). Following the speakers, Carolyn Brodgerski, an entertainer from Marlborough, will perform.

New Seniors Welcome: New seniors are welcome to all events. Call Palazzi for all luncheon reservations and transportation needs including medicals, Foodshare, food pantry, weekly shopping, movie rides, Farmers Market, and town meetings and scheduled voting dates. Call Judy Knox at 860-643-6824 to join Young at Heart, call Georgia O'Brien at 860-742-9947 for all trip information, and call Sue Schmidt at 860-604-1057 for all movie information.

Farmers Market Oct. 5

The next Andover Farmers Market will be Wednesday, Oct. 5, from 4-7 p.m., outdoors at First Congregational Church, 359 Route 6. There will be several farmers, bakers, a food truck and music.

The final market will be Saturday, Nov. 5, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., and it will include crafters.

Flu Clinic Coming

A flu clinic will be held at the Andover Elementary School gym, for all residents over 21 years old and AES staff workers, will be held Thursday, Oct. 13, from 2-5 p.m.

Call Cathy Palazzi at 860-916-6122 for reservations.



The early stages of communication disorders are easier to spot when you know the signs. Early detection can improve treatment and quality of life. For more info visit IdentifyTheSigns.org.

IDENTIFY THE SIGNS



Library News & Notes

Andover Public Library, located at 355 Route 6, has announced the following pieces of news. For more information, call the library at 860-742-7428.

Wednesday Storytime: Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. This is a weekly event for those who may not be old enough to attend school quite yet. The lower-level door (the "train door") will be unlocked. All ages are welcome, and the library will leave it up to the parents to decide if their child is ready to sit with the small group. While the weather is still nice, storytime will

be on the Friends' Patio, and when it gets too chilly, storytime will move inside.

Book & Bake Sale: Saturday, Oct. 15. To prepare for the sale, the library is requesting donations of gently-used books (fiction and non-fiction for all age groups), as well as playable CDs and DVDs. Donations may be left inside the library during business hours: Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; and Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Please do not donate VHS tapes, textbooks or *Reader's Digest* condensed novels.

Congregational Church News

Andover Congregational Church, UCC, located at 359 Route 6, invites all ages to worship Sundays at 10 a.m. The service also streams live on the church's Facebook page (First Congregational Church, Andover, CT). For more information, call the church office at 860-742-7696, email andoverctchurch@gmail.com or visit www.andoverctchurch.org.

Children's Church: Sunday school is provided.

Food Pantry: Mondays from 5-7 p.m. Bring your own bags. The **Foodshare Van** comes to

the church every other Wednesday from 9-9:30 a.m.; next date is Oct. 12. The senior food pantry is open the opposite Wednesdays, also from 9-9:30 a.m.; next date is Oct. 5.

AA Meetings: Saturdays and Mondays, 7 p.m.

Sonshine Stampers: All are invited to join this group, which meets Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. to make greeting cards.

Route 6 Prayer Stop: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4-6 p.m. All are invited to stop by for free drive-thru prayer.

Andover Pumpkin Patch

Andover Food Pantry is sponsoring its first-ever "Pumpkin Patch Fundraiser" behind the pantry, in the historical field at 359 Route 6 in Andover.

This will run from the end of September throughout the entire month of October.

Featured for sale will be pumpkins, gourds, corn stalks, bales of hay, apples, cider, jellies and jams, and more. Take a photo with your family in the photo-op area. Different events

will take place throughout October.

All are asked to consider donating their no-longer-needed wagon or special outdoor fall decoration to the pantry for this fundraiser. People can drop it off behind the Andover Congregational Church where the food drop-off boxes are. A tax donation letter will be given to you upon request.

For more information, call Food Pantry Director Joan Soucy at 860-208-3226.

Fraternal Order of Police Endorses Crespan

Manchester Board of Directors Minority Leader Jacqueline Crespan, Republican candidate for the state Senate in the 4th District, has received the endorsement of the Connecticut Fraternal Order of Police. The district includes Andover, Bolton, Glastonbury and Manchester.

Crespan is running against Manchester Democrat MD Rahman for the seat. Incumbent Steven Cassano, also a Manchester Democrat, is not seeking re-election.

"It is our honor as members of the Connecticut State Fraternal Order of Police to endorse Jacqueline Crespan," said Sgt. John Krupinsky of the Connecticut State Fraternal Order of Police. "As the 4th District's new state senator, Jacqueline will be a friend of law enforcement. I urge all citizens living in Andover, Bolton, Glastonbury and Manchester to join us in voting for Jacqueline Crespan to bring about a safer Connecticut."

"Overwhelming law enforcement support for my campaign continues to build, and I am so honored to receive this important endorsement," Crespan said. "I am proud to stand with local law enforcement and support common sense solutions to keep our communities safe. I will never abandon our local police and our state troopers. If given the honor of serving the people of the 4th district, I will work to pass common sense policies that strengthen and respect, rather than vilify and undermine, our

police."

Crespan said she would have voted 'no' on the controversial police accountability bill.

"Democrats, Independents, Republicans and Unaffiliated voters all want safer communities - that's what I hear every day," Crespan said. "From now until Election Day, I will be making the case to anyone who wants a safer, more affordable state to elect me as your new state senator. At the State Capitol, I will fight to make our neighborhoods safer. I am asking for your support and your vote."

"I have lived the American Dream," added Crespan, who was born in Uganda during the dictatorship of Idi Amin. "I know what it is like to live without freedom. I love the United States, I love Connecticut, and I truly love public service. I want to help make our state safer, stronger, and more affordable. I want to bring my life experience to the State Capitol to be your voice. I will be a senator who listens to parents, to small business owners, to seniors, and to our most vulnerable residents."

Crespan has been a resident of Manchester for more than 23 years. She is a real estate investor who owns various apartment complexes in Manchester. A graduate of Central Connecticut State University with a degree in computer science.

For more information, visit www.jacqueline4ct.com

History Museum Open Monthly

The Andover Historical Society will next open its Museum of Andover History on Saturday, Oct. 15, from 4-6 p.m. The museum is located in the Old Town Hall on Monument Lane.

The museum will also be open Saturday, Nov. 19, from 4-6 p.m.

New items are continuously being added to the display.

Book and Bake Sale

Andover Friends of the Library will hold a Book and Bake Sale Saturday, Oct. 15, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., at First Congregational Church of Andover, located at 359 Route 6, across the street from library.

Prices: hardcovers, \$1; paperbacks, 25 and 50 cents; DVDs/audios, \$1. There will be special sale prices for all items beginning at 1 p.m.

Gently-used books, DVDs, CDs and audiobooks are sought for the upcoming sale. People are asked to bring donations inside the library during open hours; do not leave them outside. Please do not donate VHS tapes, encyclopedias and textbooks, magazines, or *Reader's Digest* condensed novels.

The Friends' last day to accept donations for this sale is Wednesday, Oct. 12.

For directions or more information, call the library at 860-742-7428, or visit www.Facebook.com/AndoverPublicLibrary.CT.

Obituaries

Colchester

Joyce Ann Dixon

Joyce Ann Dixon, of Norwich, passed away Wednesday, Sept. 14, 2022. She was 88 years old. Born in Cincinnati, Ohio, on July 4, 1934, she was the daughter of the late Gaither and Ruth (Story) Bates.



Joyce married Earl Dixon Sept. 30, 1954. The couple shared a wonderful life filled with loving family members, ever growing to become a legacy of grand proportions. Joyce was a doting grandmother and great-grandmother who loved cooking for her family and who knew just what special dish to make for each one of them on their birthday.

Joyce will be sadly missed but always remembered with love by Earl, her husband of nearly 68 years; her children and their spouses, Ruth Dixon, Jane and Savas Aydemir, Earl and Jodi Dixon, Joyce and Todd Rozek, Robert and Lynn Dixon, Helen and Eugene Fulvi; 18 grandchildren; 36 great-grandchildren; and a host of extended family members and friends.

Funeral services will be held in New Jersey Saturday, Oct. 22, at 11 a.m., at the First Presbyterian Church, 457 Division Ave., Carlstadt, NJ 07072. Burial will be private, according to her wishes.

Donations in her memory may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, www.alz.org.

The Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home of Colchester has been entrusted with care of local arrangements. To share a memory or sign Joyce's online guestbook, visit www.auroramccarthy-funeralhome.com.

Portland

JoAnn Creighton

JoAnn Cehowski Creighton passed away at Middlesex Hospital Sunday, Sept. 11. JoAnn was born in upstate New York on March 18, 1950. She grew up in the Capital Region of New York in the city of Watervliet. In 1977 she married her husband Mark and they lived in several different states while Mark served



in the United States Coast Guard. She has been a resident of Portland CT for the last 37 years.

JoAnn devoted most of her life to caring for others. She was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother. One of her first jobs was working as a candy striper at a local hospital. She was a lifelong animal lover and cared for many animals throughout her life. She met her husband when she took a job caring for animals in New Hampshire.

For several years she was a homemaker and stay-at-home mother to her two children, Amber and Jeffrey. Through the years she continued to care for others as an aide in preschool programs, as a nurse's aide in a nursing home, and as an aide and companion through the visiting nurses. JoAnn cared for elderly family, friends and neighbors. In the last few years, she spent a lot of her time taking care of her grandson, Ishaan, and her honorary grandchild-

dren, Elianna and Stavros. JoAnn was so patient and generous in giving so much of her time and energy to those around her. It brought her great happiness.

JoAnn has been admired for her creativity and talent. She was always in the midst of crafting and creating things. Through the years she worked with many different artistic mediums-including drawing, painting, macrame, cross stitch, weaving, wood working, paper quilling, photography, candle making, and wool felting. She gifted her artwork to so many people in her life. JoAnn loved to create beautiful things and she also found beauty in so many things. She was an avid collector and loved to decorate her home with antiques and her collections. She was always excited to find treasures and could never drive by a tag sale or antique shop without stopping to look. Another beautiful thing that JoAnn loved was nature-she enjoyed gardening and spent countless hours creating many beautiful gardens. Over the last decade JoAnn and her husband took on beekeeping.

JoAnn will always be remembered for her kindness, creativity, unique style, giving spirit, and love for others.

JoAnn was predeceased by her parents John and Rose Cehowski. She is survived by her husband of 45 years, Mark Creighton; her children, Amber and Manish Pandey and Jeffrey and Samantha Creighton; and her grandson, Ishaan Pandey. She is also survived by her four siblings: Karen McAvoy, Susan Kennedy, Sandra Cehowski, and John Cehowski of upstate New York, as well as her mother-in-law, Elaine Clark, and sister-in-law, Chlo Creighton of New Hampshire. She is loved and remembered fondly by many cousins, nieces, nephews and dear friends.

Funeral services for JoAnn will be held at St. Mary Church in Portland on Saturday, Oct. 1. Calling hours will begin at 11 a.m. in the day chapel and funeral Mass will begin at noon. Following the Mass, a private burial ceremony will take place at St. Mary Cemetery.

JoAnn lived with an autoimmune disease called CREST syndrome/scleroderma for the last 20 years of her life. If you would like to help raise awareness and find a cure for this disease you could make a donation to the National Scleroderma Foundation in her honor. National Scleroderma Foundation 300 Rosewood Drive, Suite 105 Danvers, MA 01923. www.scleroderma.org.

Portland

Wilhelm Eduard Kutz

Wilhelm Eduard Kutz, 87, of Portland, died Sunday, Sept. 25, at his home, with his wife and son by his side, as a result of Myelodysplastic syndrome (MDS). Wilhelm was born April 17, 1935, in what is now Janow, Poland, in a German community and settlement.



Wilhelm grew up on his parents' farm that had been in his family for many years, and due to the unfortunate events of World War II, his family was forced to leave that region, and he lost both parents at a young age. In his 20s he immigrated to the United States and lived most of his life in Portland.

He was the son of Eduard and Pauline (Wack) Kutz, and was predeceased by his brothers, Arthur, Emil, Herrmann and Heinrich; and sisters, Auguste, Emalia and Theresia; and was also predeceased by his infant daughter, Christina Theresia Kutz, who died in 1978.

Wilhelm is survived by his loving wife of

nearly 50 years, Roselies (Stachowiak) Kutz, whom he was very proud of and loved dearly. He is also survived by his son, attorney Ronald Wilhelm Kutz of Hartford, and his daughter-in-law, Colleen Erin (Kelliher) Kutz, as well as three granddaughters, Annaliese Christina Kutz, Adeline Grace Kutz and Katerina Hannah Kutz, all of Hartford – all five of whom he loved deeply, brought him great pride, and all of whom he could not do enough for.

Wilhelm was an active member of Zion Lutheran Church in Portland, and had previously served on the church council, and had a steadfast faith in God. Wilhelm was fiercely loyal and protective of his family, placing their needs ahead of his own, was a very hard worker, and took great pride in his home.

Wilhelm taught and lived a lifestyle of strong values, frugality, and perseverance, and valued education, hard work, and faith. He enjoyed gardening and landscaping his properties, and enjoyed meeting and socializing with people. You always knew where you stood with him! No nonsense!

He would like to thank Dr. Karthikeyan Kandavelou of Middlesex Oncology for working with him all these years and extending quality years to his life.

Funeral services will be held Saturday, Oct. 1, in Zion Lutheran Church, 181 William Street, Portland. A wake will be held at 9:30 a.m. at the church and services will begin at 11 a.m. Burial will be in the Swedish Cemetery, Portland. A reception will follow.

Memorial donations may be made in his honor to Zion Lutheran Church, 181 William St., Portland, CT 06480.

Portland Memorial Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Hebron

Allen L. Piper Jr.

Allen L. Piper Jr., 78, of Hebron, husband of Diane (Zareski) Piper, passed away peacefully Tuesday, Sept. 20, at Hartford Hospital, with his wife and daughter by his side.



Allen was born March 29, 1944, in Latrobe, Pa., to Allen Sr. and Blanche (Johnstone) Piper. He attended schools in Pennsylvania before graduating from West Virginia University with a degree in mechanical engineering. While attending the university, he was a member of the Kappa Sigma fraternity.

After graduation he worked for Pratt and Whitney, Turbo Power and Marines System, and Electric Boat. In 1985 he and partner Ted Srubas founded Protek Security Systems Inc., which remained in business for 27 years. Outside of his work, Allen's passions were his beloved family, skiing, sailing, and all things mechanical.

Allen is survived by his wife Diane of 47 years, daughter, Lindsay (Piper) Mastroianni (Stephen), and grandchildren Landon, Fiona and Piper. He also leaves a brother-in-law, Joseph Zareski; good friends Jim Bucier and Rich Fochi; and the family dog, Clementine.

Holmes-Watkins Funeral Home handled the arrangements. Relatives and friends joined the family to celebrate Allen's life at Holmes-Watkins, 400 Main St., Manchester on Tuesday, Sept. 27. At Allen's request, the scattering of his ashes will be private.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Dana Farber Cancer Institute, of Boston.

East Hampton

Deborah Lee Tremblay

Deborah Lee "Debbie" Tremblay, 73, of Montreal, Canada, peacefully passed away Friday, Aug. 26, with family by her side. Debbie was born in Windham, and was a graduate of East Hampton High School. She was the daughter of the late Maurice and Lillian (Caron) Pellerin and the late Edward A. Tremblay.



Debbie worked as an administrator at travelers and Aetna insurance companies in Hartford, before working at Pratt & Whitney in both East Hampton and Canada. She also worked as a caregiver in later years.

Debbie was a magnet for making friends. She lit up a room with her warm and genuine smile. Debbie's family was her whole life and never missed a family function. She enjoyed cooking her specialties for her family, which included her famous potato salad, delicious roast beef, and her delectable chocolate chip cookies. Debbie also enjoyed music and loved to dance. Debbie was an advocate of the South Shore Community Church in Canada and attended Bible study where she made many good friends.

Debbie is survived by her three children, Kenneth Sartre, Tammy Sartre, Brigette (Skeene) Cohen and her husband, Warren; and six grandchildren, Mallory, Shane, Justin, Constance, Alexander, and Olivia—all from Canada.

Debbie also leaves her sister, Priscilla (Tremblay) Ulm of East Hampton, and half-brother Jesse Tremblay of California; niece, Tuesday Warley and her husband Bob, and her nephew, Jason Ulm; aunts; many cousins; and her long-time friend Ann Nichols, also from East Hampton.

Debbie will be forever in our hearts and always with us in spirit.

A celebration of life will be held at the convenience of the family, at the South Shore Community church, Greenfield Park, Q.C., Canada.

Colchester

Norma Rokos

Norma "Titi" (Carrero) Rokos, 85, of Colchester, passed away peacefully on the early morning of Sunday, Sept. 25. Born Dec. 5, 1936, in Brooklyn, N.Y., to the late Abraham and Felicia Carrero; Norma grew up in Queens, N.Y.



She started working at MetLife in 1955 and worked in the payroll department until her retirement. She was an independent N.Y. working woman, riding the subway daily to her NYC office from her home in Queens, N.Y. For most of her career she dressed to the nines, loved her jewelry and heels, and loved shopping at the iconic NYC stores like Macy's and Saks. In fact, she loved showing the younger generation her first credit card from Gimbel's. Her husband, Robert, surprised her often with gifts and she especially loved the ones that came in those beautiful robin's-egg blue Tiffany bags.

It was not unusual to visit her in Queens and have a mix of nieces and nephews visiting or sleeping over. All of them grew up together listening to music in her side room, and she laughed when she heard Uncle Robert telling the kids if they were especially good, he would let them listen to Frankie Lane.

Titi Norma considered her sons of the heart, John and Howie, a part of the family and felt blessed that they continued to keep in touch with her over the years. After her retirement, Norma moved to Colchester to be closer to family. She was the favorite aunt to not only her nieces and nephews but also their children and more recently to the next generation (her great-nieces and nephews) who were getting to know her as well during weekly Saturday breakfasts and other family get-togethers.

Calling hours will be held Saturday, Oct. 1, from 10-11:30 a.m., at the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home 167, Old Hartford Rd, Colchester, CT 06415. A funeral liturgy will follow at noon at St. Andrew Church, 128 Norwich Ave., Colchester. Burial will follow in the New St. Andrew Cemetery on Gillette's Lane in Colchester.

She will be forever loved and remembered by her sister-in-law, Fabiola Carrero; the sons of her heart, John Maya and Howie Waskowitz;

See Obits, page 34

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Reader Forum • Reader Forum

★ *Letters cont. from page 8*

perimental gene therapy out of concern for her unborn child's safety, Ned blinks and wishes her the best of luck during her pregna...errr... unemployment.

One area Lamont has delivered on is the economy. Just look at the "historic surplus" we have built up and the huge payments toward our pension plans. This isn't the result of many billions pouring into Connecticut from the feds in COVID relief, just good fiscal management... nothing to see here!

So ask yourself, has this 30-year blue wave stranglehold on the legislative process resulted in a better place for us all to live...or just a better place to be a multigenerational gaslighting billionaire?

Colin McNamara – Marlborough

Attack Ads

To the Editor:

If you watch a fair amount of TV you are currently being bombarded by a relentless deluge of attack ads. A few may have actual information in them, though most are just vague, generic attacks. But the one featuring Lisa of Plainville, an apparent small business owner, is relentlessly unfair. Jahana Hayes did not create our current inflation problem. It is a worldwide issue. And Lisa fails to mention a single vote Jahana made that delivered a "punch in the gut" to her small business. In fact there were many votes, mostly Democratic, to aid small businesses and individuals. Forgivable loans to keep people employed comes to mind. Don't know if Lisa availed herself of such loans. The pandemic, its effect on supply chains and jobs, caused the Federal Reserve and Congress to loosen the money supply. That was an attempt to prevent another "Great Recession."

Inflation is hurting most of us, but blaming it on Jahana is just politics at its worst.

Dan Hatch – Colchester

Women Win with Wes!

To the Editor:

I write today enthusiastically endorsing Wes Skorski for the 55th District of the Connecticut House of Representatives.

As a resident and active volunteer in Hebron, I have seen firsthand the commitment Wes has for improving the lives of our towns' residents. With bipartisan support, he has steadfastly served for almost a decade as a member of the Marlborough Board of Education — during undoubtedly one of the most challenging times our schools have faced. As board chair, he successfully led and put people and our students over politics. Without a doubt, he has the experience and skill set to represent our towns in Hartford.

I am most enthusiastic about Wes' commitment to women's rights and his pledge to protect their personal decisions regarding reproductive health. The right to safe and legal abortions across the nation has been eroded by the recent Supreme Court decision to overturn Roe v Wade. We in Connecticut must vote for legislators that will continue to protect our state's laws that support women's reproductive rights. By sending Wes Skorski to Hartford, I know he will stand up for women and families on this critical issue.

As you head to the polls on Tuesday, Nov. 8, I ask for your support of Wes Skorski for the 55th. The issues facing us are of critical importance and with the leadership of Wes Skorski, I know he will fight for all of us.

Claudia Tejada Riley – Amston

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

Wes for Town Safety

To the Editor:

Last week's release of Connecticut's annual crime statistics report, which compiles data on crimes reported to law enforcement agencies in the state for the 2021 calendar year shows that violent and property crimes are down in Connecticut from the previous year, preserving our state's status as one of the safest in the country.

Despite the positive news, we must remain focused on further reducing crime. Even one crime in our community is too many. My own work van was stolen from my driveway just a couple of years ago. I feel the sense of personal violation we experience when we are victimized.

The 2022 legislature put politics aside and established a bipartisan group to draft policies that made our communities even safer. They increased funding to offer more training for police and closed the gap between our state and local officers. They listened to law enforcement and improved the court system to address backlogs.

They funded more youth prevention programs to stop a problem before it even starts. They didn't only toughen penalties, they worked on fixing the system.

When elected, I pledge to continue the effort to make our communities safer by working with community leadership, law enforcement, and the public. As a business owner and chair of the Marlborough Board of Education, I understand how to bring people together, to hear all sides and get results.

**Warmest regards,
Wes Skorski – Marlborough
Democratic Candidate for 55th District**

Note: The 55th Assembly District covers Andover, Hebron, Marlborough and parts of Bolton and Glastonbury. Also, Skorski is chairman of the Marlborough Board of Education, but said he is writing as an individual.

Chris Rivers for Colchester

To the Editor:

On Nov. 8, voters will decide who will represent our town in the state legislature. I plan to vote for fellow Colchester resident Chris Rivers.

When I served on Board of Finance, I learned how important our state representative is to balancing our town's budget. Towns like Colchester count on state funding for significant parts of the budget from road aid to education grants. Although we sometimes assume we'll receive this money, it's not always guaranteed.

While on BOF, I remember anxiously waiting to see if the state budget would include anticipated cuts to Colchester's education cost sharing (ECS) grants. We count on our state representative to fight for our town when developing the state budget and to be an advocate for Colchester at all times. Current state Rep. Brian Smith helped champion the senior center renovation, saving Colchester taxpayers \$2.5 million.

I know that as a resident of our town and a member of the Board of Education that Chris understands the importance of the state representative in securing critical funding for Colchester. He will continue the tradition of other Colchester representatives like Brian Smith and Linda Orange in fighting for our town's fiscal wellbeing at the capitol.

Bernie Dennler – Colchester

Vote for Brandon Goff

To the Editor:

I support the election of Brandon Goff to state senate for the 33rd district this coming November because he has the common sense his opponent lacks. I've had the pleasure of speaking with Brandon on several occasions and his stance on many of the issues in Connecticut is reasonable and logical for the state of Connecticut to return to economic prosperity and growth. His support of making Connecticut affordable again is important to our family as we continue to struggle under the astronomical cost of living here in Connecticut. His stance on issues like freedom of choice, education, decreasing crime, and supporting small business make him the best candidate for the 33rd District.

Please vote for Brandon Goff on Nov. 8!

Brittany Grant – East Hampton

Note: The 12-town 33rd Senatorial District includes the Rivereast towns of Colchester, East Hampton and Portland.

Question?

To the Editor:

Sept. 27 marked the 235th anniversary of Burnt Hill neighbors rescuing Cesar Peters' family from being sold into southern enslavement — a testimony to the importance of neighbors helping neighbors.

Hebron is a thriving suburban community, but this has resulted in weakening community bonds. Parents leave town for employment and children leave their neighborhoods for education. If such a kidnapping happened today would Hebron residents know or care?

Cesar Peters' rescue and the completion of the U.S. Constitution occurred within days of each other. Locally, Hebron people saw the value of their neighbor despite the color of their skin. With the Constitution, skin color was linked to a 3/5th slave status and promoted slave importation.

Hebron has a proud history of accommodating others. Once manumitted, Cesar Peters bought his abductor's house. As a result, by the early 19th century, seven middle class African-American families lived beside Yankee neighbors in Hebron Center as the paid work force for Center Village plantations — a totally different economic system than in the South. Southeastern Connecticut had one of the largest concentrations of African-Americans in New

England. Hebron seems to have originated this unique paid labor system.

About this time, Hebron people like John Thompson Peters born at Burnt Hill Park and Dr. Ezekiel Skinner who apprenticed to Governor Peters became involved with the American Colonization Society. Ezekiel Skinner was fundamental in establishing Liberia! During Gov. Peters' term, Prudence Crandall established her school for young African-American women in Canterbury. Josephine Griffing was involved with the early stages of the Freeman's Bureau. Replacing her led to the failure of Reconstruction.

Today this rich heritage of community spirit is little known, celebrated or preserved!

Where do Hebron residents stand today on the importance of racial equality and equity compared to the past?

John Baron – Hebron

Elect Weir for the 55th

To the Editor:

To the residents of Andover, Bolton, Hebron, Glastonbury and Marlborough, there is only one clear choice to represent us in Hartford, and that is candidate for state representative Steve Weir. Steve will work tirelessly to stand up against tax increases, overspending, and government mandates while advocating for more transparency just as I have for the past six years. We need someone who can relate to our small town's needs and share our concerns in Hartford.

We need a knowledgeable individual with a common-sense approach to move our state forward, and that's what Steve will do when elected in November. I encourage you to support Steve Weir who has a strong business track record, a former police officer and lastly a community leader who will do whatever he can to get Connecticut back on track.

If you want a person who truly cares, listens to your concerns, and who will fight for us, Steve Weir will represent our small towns well. Please vote for Steve Weir on Nov. 8.

**State Rep. Robin Green
R-55th District
Serving Andover, Bolton,
Hebron, Marlborough**

Voting for Rivers

To the Editor:

I didn't know much about Chris Rivers until I spent some time with him a few months ago, when he first started knocking on doors to introduce himself to the people of this district. And I listened to his story. How 9/11 had quite an impact on him at such a young age that he committed to enlisting in the United States Army, and how he served time in both Iraq and Afghanistan.

I was taken in by his commitment to serve his country then, and now his community. Chris listens and understands everyday issues. He'll be a great advocate for the people, as well as an asset in Hartford. That's why I'll be voting for Chris Rivers for state representative in November.

Denise Turner – Colchester

Note: Turner is a member of the Colchester Board of Selectmen, but said she is speaking as an individual.

It's More Than Salt

To the Editor:

I greatly appreciate the outpouring of support for Kinney Road following the recent Public Building Committee meeting. The grassroots effort to oppose placing a Public Works facility in this location has really taken hold. The danger such an industrial facility would pose to the environment cannot be understated. Fortunately, it appears the PBC heard the message loud and clear. But I would also like to make it clear that the problem with placing an industrial facility at this location, salt shed or not, goes beyond contaminated water.

The area along Kinney Road is at the center of Hebron's distinct history. This vibrant and historic landscape can be an educational and economic boon. It can be transformed into an open air classroom where students and residents learn about our illustrious past and the natural world. In today's "experience economy," it can bring a steady stream of visitors to our town center and benefit the businesses located there. In fact, Dr. Sarah Holmes' archaeology report and the State Historic Preservation Office note the area has the potential to qualify for the National Register of Historic Places.

Indeed, this area should be celebrated for its unique historic character. These unspoiled fields have been the same since Native Americans began roaming the area thousands of years ago. In 1675, the land was a gift from the Mohegan Sachem Attawanhood to his English

friends. The rectangular lots parallel to Kinney Road were laid out by Hebron's original proprietors in 1704. These active farm fields feature three rare stone wall laneways and two ancient white oak "Wolf Trees." In the early 1800s, this area was owned by Governor John S. Peters and Hon. Sylvester Gilbert, two of the most influential people in Hebron history.

For more information please visit Kinney Road Matters on Facebook and #Save17.

**Sincerely,
Kevin J. Tulimieri – Amston**

Weir's What We Need

To the Editor:

A vote for Steve Weir, Republican candidate for state representative (55th District), will help put balance back in Hartford!

The Connecticut state government has been out of balance for years and not conditionally, we have seen the state dwindle in population, jobs, and education while taxes, crime, and the cost of living continues to increase. And at a much higher rate than other states!

Steve has founded small business and understands the struggles that small businesses face. He also sees the struggles that low-income and middle-class families face as well. The economy thrives on small business and that's what brings jobs. And jobs that remain. This is a critical element to the state economy and one that also helps keeps taxes down and wages up. Steve will bring this to Hartford!

Another critical element that Steve will look to remedy is the public safety. Steve wholeheartedly believes that every individual deserves the right to live free of fear. It begins with the state legislature. And Steve will bring that too!

I have known Steve for quite a few years, and I assure you that Steve is passionate about people! People being happy. People being successful. And people feeling safe. Long before deciding to run for public office, Steve was (and is) out in the community assisting with so many various efforts and causes: Connecticut Apartment Association, Connecticut River Chamber of Commerce, his church, Boy Scouts, local basketball coach, and many others.

But what I love the most about Steve is he listens! He is a truth-seeker, a fact-finder, and a problem-solver. And that's what we need in Hartford. Please join me in voting for Steve Weir for state representative! For more information about Steve, please visit steveweirforct.com.

Liz Gorgoglione – Marlborough

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

What They Took

To the Editor:

Apparently, Annie Steinbrecher and Ed "The Hammer" Gyllenhammer are kindred spirits when it comes to mixing prose with bad poetry as a form of muddled communication. I admire both of them, though, because even in the midst of a catastrophic demonstration of political ineptitude by the current executive branch, Annie and The Hammer (sounds like a new TV crime drama, doesn't it? *Annie and The Hammer...*) remain steadfast in their beliefs. P.T. Barnum called. He's got a bridge for sale if you're interested.

Clearly, MSNBC and CNN commentators have been successful as Democratic operatives regarding Annie and Ed. With respect to Ed, I'd like to know what the basis is for his statements about President Trump embracing neo-Nazis, anti-Semites, etc. Is there actual proof of such activities, like, say, a laptop containing irrefutable evidence? If there is, it should be given directly to the FBI so that it won't be concealed prior to a presidential election bid. Wait a minute...why does that sound vaguely familiar? The Hammer can now add fiction and fantasy as two new gadgets in his literary toolbox.

And Annie left a few things off her list of inanity:

- They took the media
- They took free speech
- They took Twitter
- They took Facebook
- They took Science
- They're taking fossil fuels
- They're taking your kids
- They're working on guns
- They burned the country
- They stole the White House

This is a movement promulgated by your Democratic Party, the members of which have a convoluted vision of democracy and a compulsion for control. Cashless bail, open borders,

See Letters, page 34

Obituaries cont.

her nieces and nephews and their children, who thought of her as a second mother/grandmother, and all looked out for her in her later years – nieces and nephews: Beverly and Mathew Botchis; Ronald and Kathy Carrero; Ronalyn Cordova; Gregory and Nancy Cordova. Grandnieces and nephews: Richard and Penny Gale; Mathew and Kelley Gale; Norma Lee and Aaron Wallace; Michael Carrero; Christopher Cordova; Timothy and Suzanne Cordova; Crystal and Dwayne Jahns; and Alex Botchis. Greatnieces and nephews: David Gale and Alejandra Perez-Handler; Kenneth Gale; Elizabeth Gale; Jacob Wallace, Makayla Gale, Julia Gale, Ethan Gale, Tori Carrero, Mackenzie Jahns and Landon Jahns.

In addition, her friends were an important part of her life and she continued to keep in touch with those near and far by phone and cards. She was especially grateful to the close friends she made at Amston Village.

She is predeceased by her husband, Robert Rokos; brother, Abraham Carrero; sister, Rosa "Tessie" Cordova and Richard Cordova; nephews, Richard and Dennis Cordova.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Colchester Volunteer Fire Department.

Marlborough

Alfred M. Pellegrini

Alfred M. "Freddy" Pellegrini passed away at his home in Marlborough Thursday, Aug. 18, at the age of 84. He was born and raised in New Britain.

He was a motorcycle enthusiast from a young age, competing in enduros and having motorcycles throughout most of his life. He loved tag sales and sold at Mansfield Flea Market for years. He retired from the State of Connecticut, working at Blue Hills Hospital.

Freddy's kind heart will be remembered by all those who knew and loved him.

A memorial service will be held at a later date.



LEGALS

LIQUOR PERMIT
Notice of Application
 This is to give notice that, I,
JOHNNY MATUTE RIVERA
 164 NORWICH AVE
 COLCHESTER, CT 06415-1269
 Have filed an application placarded 09/27/2022 with the Department of Consumer Protection for a CAFE LIQUOR PERMIT for the sale of alcoholic liquor on the premises at:
544 CHURCH ST
HEBRON CT 06231
 The business will be owned by: **HIDE-AWAY LLC**
 Entertainment will consist of: Acoustics (not amplified), Disc Jockeys, Karaoke, Live Bands, Sporting Events
 Objections must be filed by: 11-08-2022
 JOHNNY MATUTE RIVERA
 2TB 9/30, 10/7

LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF MARLBOROUGH
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
PUBLIC HEARING

The Marlborough Zoning Board of Appeals will hold the following public hearing On Wednesday, October 12, 2022 at 7:00 P.M. in Town Hall, 26 North Main Street.
 APPLICATION #ZBA-04-22 – Brian & Megan Konopka – 47 Hemlock Drive (applicant/property owner) - is seeking variance of Article Three A.1, Minimum Requirements, Article Three A.3 Conformity of Buildings & Land, Article Three A.5 Reduction of Lot Areas or Minimum Required Yards, Article Three A.9 Minimum Required Yards, Article Six D. 2.c Rear Yard Setback, in order to construct an accessory building on a single family house with a Rear Yard Setback of 35 feet where 50 feet is required.
 APPLICATION #ZBA-05-22 – Richard & Lisa Dennis – 47 Lakewood Drive (applicant/property owner) - is seeking variance of Article Three A.1, Minimum Requirements, Article Three A.3 Conformity of Buildings & Land, Article Three A.5 Reduction of Lot Areas or Minimum Required Yards, Article Three A.9 Minimum Required Yards, Article Ten J.C.1.f Front Yard Setback, in order to construct a garage setback of 20 feet where 35 feet is required.
 Written testimony should be sent at least 24 hours ahead of the public hearing date to building@marlboroughct.net, and oral testimony may be given during the public hearing.
 2TB 9/30, 10/7

Retirement Announcement
ROZANN VENTI, MD
 of
 Hebron Medical Associates, LLC
 Announces her retirement
 as of 12/31/22
 Call the office at 860-228-9463
 by Dec 1, 2022 to
 request transfer of records
 2TB 9/30, 10/7

TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of Hearing
 The East Hampton Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a regular meeting on October 5, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall, Eaton Smith Council Chambers Room 107 and via ZOOM Virtual Meeting to consider the following:
 • Amendments to East Hampton Zoning Regulations in Accordance with Public Act 21-29, Articles 1 – 9.
 • Amendments to Zoning Regulations: Proposed Section 8.4.Q - Adult Use Cannabis and Medical Marijuana.
 Ray Zatorski, Chairman
 Note* any question re: Proposed Changes are on file in the Land Use Office 860-267-7450.
 2TB 9/23, 9/30

LEGAL NOTICE
MARLBOROUGH ZONING COMMISSION
PUBLIC HEARING
 The Marlborough Zoning Commission will hold the following Public Hearing Thursday, October 6, 2022 at 7:00 PM at Town Hall located at 26 North Main Street.
 Application #Z-06-22 – Marlborough One, LLC (Property Owner) – 37 Hebron Road, Special Permit – Self Storage Facility
 Application #Z-08-22- Austin HGB, LLC Bill Gjonbalaj (Applicant / Property Owner), Map 6 Block 28 Lots 4,5,6, 12 and #25 South Main Street Provide apartment housing by building (2) 48-unit buildings Application
 Application #Z-10-22 – C&B Marlborough Associates LLC (Applicant/Property Owner), 41-45 Hebron Rd – Amend the text for the DPIPZ-4 zone to allow for Public Utility Installation continued.
 Written testimony will be received at the public hearing and written testimony can be sent to the Building /Land Use Department at Town Hall ahead of the public hearing.
 Kevin Asklar, ZONING COMMISSION CHAIR
 2TB 9/23, 9/30

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

★ **Letters cont. from page 33**
 mail-in voting, fentanyl smuggling, inflation... the list goes on. I especially liked the allegations of kidnapping and human trafficking of Venezuelan immigrants. The only possible danger to those immigrants would have been a Martha's Vineyard tour bus driven by Teddy Kennedy.
Regards,
Ed Kozlowski – Colchester

I'm With Wes
 To the Editor:
 I recently had the opportunity to spend time with Wes Skorski along with Amston Lake friends and neighbors. Wes is the Democratic candidate for state representative in the 55th district. Wes was extremely approachable and easy to talk to; he listened carefully to our questions and embraced our ideas. He is genuine and trustworthy, with pertinent life experience. One issue that is important to many of us is the rising cost of prescription drugs. It was comforting to hear Wes talk about this being one of his top priorities when elected.

I understand Wes's opponent is focusing on public safety. It's important to point out that over the last 10 years, overall crime in Connecticut has fallen 30%. Additionally, under Democratic leadership, the 2023 budget calls for significant strides in public safety. For instance, \$11M has been budgeted for strategies led by law enforcement officials to trace firearms to their sources, reduce stolen cars, reduce violent crime (down 43% in Connecticut over last 10 years) and promote safety on rural roads. It seems like the Democrats have a good handle on Public Safety. Vote for a candidate who is focused on every day issues. Vote for Wes Skorski.
John Matra – Amston

Republicans Remain Quiet

To the Editor:
 We are in another election cycle and it's curious that Republican candidates remain quiet about Trump's insurrection, the obstruction of justice or his shoplifting of top-secret documents. They are silent on MAGA Republican efforts to restrict voting rights and repeal the affordable health care act. Local GOP candidates Bob Stefanowski and Steve Weir seem indifferent to the MAGA Republican extremism that criminalizes abortion and refutes any form of reasonable gun legislation. These candidates seem to compartmentalize the MAGA extremism within their ranks – from Rick Scott's efforts to eliminate Social Security and Medicare to the inhumane treatment of refugees seeking asylum. Instead, they campaign against progressive taxation and watering down the police accountability act, which was enacted in the wake of national protests racial injustice and police brutality.

Acknowledging the plight of climate refugees, and expanding voting rights might seem like radical ideas, but they only seem radical to those who applaud atrocities. The reality is when you remain silent in situations of inhumanity and sedition, when you are neutral on climate science, and protecting democracy, when quiet on reversing Roe v. Wade, and reasonable gun legislation, then you have chosen the side of extremists. The truth is all Republican candidates may not be seditionists, inhumane or racists themselves, but they have decided that sedition, inhumanity, and racism are not deal-breakers for their campaign. They are willing to tolerate the MAGA Republican extremism swelling within their ranks, even if it means inflicting more suffering on those who are already suffering.
Joe Stevens – Hebron

MARLBOROUGH WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
LEGAL NOTICE
 Notice is hereby given to all property owners connected to the sewers in the Town of Marlborough that a sewer usage charge is due in one installment on October 1, 2022. The last day to pay without interest is November 1, 2022. Interest for a late payment is 1.5 % per month reverting to the due date. Minimum interest is \$2.00. The usage charge set for the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 is \$541.00 per EDU. Failure to receive a bill does not invalidate the fee or interest. Contact the tax office immediately if you do not receive a bill. Please make checks payable to MWPCA (Marlborough Water Pollution Control Authority) Payments may be mailed to Tax Collector, PO Box 29, Marlborough, CT 06447. There is a lock box to the left of the Town Hall door for check payments only, or at the Tax Office in the Town Hall, 26 No Main Street, Marlborough CT. The Tax Office is open Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Tuesdays 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Fridays 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon.
 Barbara C. Murray, WPCA Collector
 1TB 9/30

LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
 At the regular meeting of the East Hampton Town Council held Tuesday, September 27, 2022, an ordinance amending Chapter 155 of the Code of the Town of East Hampton regarding Extending a Moratorium on Certain Activities Related to Adult-Use Cannabis was adopted. The ordinance is available in the Office of the East Hampton Town Clerk and shall take effect 20 days after publication.
EAST HAMPTON TOWN COUNCIL
 Mark Philhower, Chairman
 Tim Feegel, Vice Chairman
 Pete Brown
 Brandon Goff
 Eric Peterson
 Kevin Reich
 Alison Walck
 1TB 9/30

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, October 11, 2022, at 7:00 P.M., to be held virtually through the GoTo-Meeting Platform, on the following:
 1. **Petition 2022-8** – Petition of the Hebron Planning and Zoning Commission to amend the Hebron Zoning Regulations pertaining to the definition of Affordable Housing and opportunities for the Commission to provide relief of certain provisions of the PRD Zone when affordable housing is proposed. Application to amend Sections 2.F.4.3.2, 2.F.4.4, 2.F.4.5.1.e, 2.F.4.5.3.1, 2.F.4.5.3.c and d, 2.F.4.7.4 and Section 9.C.
 2. Request for Designation of Kinney Road as a Scenic Road pursuant to the authority of General Statutes Section 7-149a and Hebron Code of Ordinances Chapter 313 Streets and Sidewalks.
 Dated at Hebron, Connecticut, this 26th day of September, 2022.
 Natalie Wood, Chair
 Planning and Zoning Commission
 Tue, Oct 11, 2022 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM (EDT)
Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.
<https://meet.goto.com/714447149>
You can also dial in using your phone.
 United States: +1 (872) 240-3212
Access Code: 714-447-149
 Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts:
<https://meet.goto.com/install>
Legal Notice will be published in the Riverast News Bulletin on September 30, 2022 and October 7, 2022.
 2TB 9/30, 10/7

LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON
 To all owners of taxable personal property and persons conducting business in the Town of East Hampton Pursuant to C.G.S. 12-40, notice is hereby given that all persons conducting business or having taxable personal property as defined by CT State Statutes in the Town of East Hampton must file with the Assessor's Office a complete and accurate declaration of all tangible personal property as of October 1, 2022.
 Owners of unregistered motor vehicles, vehicles registered out of state and garaged in East Hampton, construction equipment, campers and trailers must also be declared to avoid penalty. Deadline to file declarations is Tuesday, November 1, 2022. In the event a person or business fails to file a declaration of personal property, the Assessor shall fill out a declaration of all personal property believed to be owned by the taxpayer, estimate an assessed value using the best information available and add a 25% assessment penalty for "Failure to File". C.G.S. 12-42
 As a courtesy the Assessor's office has mailed Personal Property Declarations to anyone that the office is aware of having taxable personal property or is conducting business in the Town of East Hampton. New Businesses should request forms from the Assessor. First time filers are required to submit an itemized asset list of personal property, including description of tangible items, acquisition dates and original cost (including transportation and installation). Extensions to file may be granted for good cause. Requests for extensions must be submitted in writing on or before Tuesday, November 1, 2022. Failure to receive a declaration does not nullify obligation to declare taxable personal property. Blank declarations are available online at: <https://www.easthamptonct.gov/assessor/pages/personal-property-declarations>.
 Anyone requiring additional information may contact the Assessor's office: 860-267-2510 Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 8:00am - 4:00pm/Tuesday 8:00am - 6:30pm/Friday 8:00am - 12:30pm.
 Deborah T. Copp CCMAI
 Assessor, Town of East Hampton, CT
 1TB 9/30

CLASSIFIEDS PAY

in The Glastonbury Citizen & Riverast News Bulletin
 Fill out, clip and mail to:
 The Glastonbury Citizen, P.O. Box 373,
 Glastonbury, CT 06033-0373
Citizen Deadline: Mon. NOON • Bulletin Deadline: Wed. NOON
 Category (example: For Sale) _____
Classified Text: A word is anything with spaces around it. For example: Rd., 2BR, 6-cyl. are all one word each. A phone number is one word.)

Additional Words (20¢ per word): _____
Email Your Classified Line Ad
 to nancy@glcitizen.com and call with your credit card number.
PLEASE CHECK ONE
 \$10.00 per week for 25 words or less in *The Glastonbury Citizen*; 20¢ ea. add'l word
 \$9.00 per week for 25 words or less in the *Riverast News Bulletin*; 20¢ ea. add'l word
 \$18.00 per week combination rate, 20¢ ea. add'l word for insertion in both in both papers.
 Please make checks payable to: *The Glastonbury Citizen*.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WANTED
 SENIOR MALE SEEKING ONE BEDROOM APARTMENT: Works part-time driving a city bus, quiet and I have a lap cat. Call Dennis 860-270-9571.

WANTED TO BUY
 BUYING ANTIQUES & OLD STUFF. Costume jewelry, pottery, bottles, crocks, jugs, toys/games, glassware, silver plated items, signs, typewriters, sewing machines, bar items, tools, radios, clocks, lanterns, oil lamps, knives, hunting, fishing, military, Masonic, fire dept. and more. Donald Roy 860-874-8396.

The Absolute BEST!!
1 Day NRA Pistol Course
 Date determined after 8 reservations
 No NRA Computer Course required *125 GROUPS OF 10 OR MORE ANYTIME WEEKENDS.
 Includes continental breakfast & lunch. Water & juice all day.
Millstream Preserve
 Call (860) 295-9974 to register.
 REG-9-22

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RiverastNewsBulletin

LEGALS

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF ANDOVER REVENUE COLLECTOR'S NOTICE

To the property owners of the Town of Andover:
The second installment of the taxes listed on the October 1, 2021 Grand List becomes due and payable to the Town of Andover on October 1, 2022. Payments must be postmarked, paid on line, or brought to Town Hall by November 1, 2022 to avoid an interest charge. Interest will be charged starting November 2, 2022 on all delinquent bills at a rate of 18% per year (1½% per month) from the due date of July 1st, with a minimum charge of \$2 for each bill. View or pay taxes online at www.andoverct.org. Cash, check or money order payments are accepted at the Town Hall during business hours. Payments by check or money order may be mailed to the Tax Collector's office or placed in the drop box outside Town Hall. Office hours in October are Monday 8:15 pm – 7:00 pm and Tuesday– Thursday 8:15 am – 4:00 pm. The office will be closed on Monday, October 10, 2022 in honor of Columbus Day. Please refer to www.andoverct.org for updated office hours. Failure to receive a tax bill will not invalidate the tax or any interest which may, by State law, accrue. If you have any questions, please contact the tax office at 860-742-4035 option 4.
Eileen Curtin, Tax Collector
Town of Andover
17 School Road
Andover, CT 06232

3TB 9/30, 10/7, 10/28

EMPLOYMENT

SEEKING OFFICE ASSISTANT FOR ROCKY HILL OFFICE. 28-32 hours per week, flexible. For information contact 203-233-0956 or kari2001ala@gmail.com

SEEKING PART-TIME PCA for middle-aged, disabled woman in Marlborough 2.5-3.5 hours in early evenings. Personal care, range of motion exercises. \$17.75/hr, CNA preferred. 860-365-5661

PART TIME – PERSON WITH EXCELLENT COMMUNICATION SKILLS TO CALL RETAIL BUSINESSES. MON-FRI 25 HOURS PER WEEK. DAYS. \$18/HOUR TO START PLUS COMMISSION. PERMANENT POSITION. GLASTONBURY OFFICE (860) 633-6744

COLCHESTER WINE AND SPIRITS is looking for part time liquor store clerk. Stop in person to apply at store, 99 Lincoln Avenue, Colchester, CT.

DRIVER & PCA NEEDED, part-time. For appointments, shopping, errands, cleaning, cooking and personal care depending on which position. Experience preferred. Excellent driving record required for driving position. \$17.75/hr. Background check and drug test required. 860-949-7016

HELP WANTED: CASO'S HVAC, LLC, East Hampton, CT is now hiring Commercial & Residential HVAC Mechanics/Technicians. B2 or S2 License Required. Must have at least 5 years experience. We offer competitive hourly wages. Please email resume to caso-hvac@comcast.net or call 860-267-5851.

WAITSTAFF WANTED: Flynn's Grill restaurant Monday-Friday 7am -2pm, hourly plus tips (19-23/hr). Apply in person 860-657-8159

PART TIME COUNTER HELP NEEDED: Patty Cakes Bakery in Glastonbury. Job includes serving customers, making sandwiches, stocking and general clean-up. Can lead to full-time. Call Kayla for appointment 860-692-8444

PART TIME / FULL TIME CASHIER WANTED - Please apply in person, 1633 Portland Cobalt Road. \$15 to start. Portland Cigo and Self-storage. Weekends a must. 860-342-1020

HELP MOM! Medicine Reminders, Meals, Transportation, Housekeeping, Companions.
All of our caregivers are aged 50+, with many years of experience.
Bonded, insured, background checked.
We truly are **YOUR EXTENDED FAMILY LLC**
COLCHESTER 860-967-0831

Andover School District Substitute Teachers
Andover Elementary School has immediate openings for per diem substitute teachers. Applicants must hold a Bachelor's Degree. AES is a Pre-K through Grade 6 school. Please visit www.andoverelementaryct.org for an application. Send completed application to:
Taylor Parker, Principal
Andover Elementary School
35 School Road
Andover, CT 06232
~ or ~
parkert@andoverelementaryct.org

REAL ESTATE

FOR SALE

MILESTONE CONDO FOR SALE, Glastonbury. 2 bedrooms, all appliances, a nice back yard, 2 parking spaces. \$199,000 Call 860-649-1372 or 860-471-9882

"CT RIVERFRONT CAMPSITE. 3.2 ACRES. This is a unique opportunity to own CT River waterfront suitable for campsites on the river with approximately 100' on the water at a very reasonable price. It is easily accessible by boat from either of two very close-by boat launches in Haddam or Haddam Neck. It is not a site one can drive to. \$40,000 or best offer. Call for viewing: 860 305-7641"

RENTALS

APARTMENT FOR RENT IN PORTLAND: Large 2 bedroom, second floor, 1 bathroom, laundry hook-ups, no pets \$1200/month plus two months security. No utilities. Call 860-985-5750

STUDIO APARTMENT FOR RENT. EAST HAMPTON / MARLBOROUGH LINE. Available 10/15/22. 2nd floor. No pets. \$900 includes utilities. Call or text 860-918-8496

GLASTONBURY OFFICE FOR RENT: Beautiful space, part-time, Glastonbury Center, Utilities and WiFi. Supportive environment of mental health professionals. Loads of windows. Available 9/12/22. Call Laurie Rhines 860-759-3400

2 BDR APARTMENT FOR RENT: South Glastonbury. First floor kitchen, living area and full bath. Second floor two bedrooms. \$1400 plus utilities. Available October 15, 2022. Call 860-633-8883

COLCHESTER, RETAIL SPACE 2400 SQAURE FEET. South Main Street. Former laundry. Call 860-537-1100.

A NICELY RENOVATED HOUSE TRAILER FOR RENT. In Lebanon, near route 2. Two persons, non-smoking. No pets preferred. \$1400 or best offer. Call 860-908-4316

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RE9-30-22

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RLFrancks@comcast.net

Scheduling Fall Cleanups Now

Time to start thinking about fall cleanups for leaves will be falling and gutters will be filling up, summer overgrowth around the home needs to be cut back. Plan ahead schedule now.

SERVICES INCLUDE: **Weekly/Bi-Weekly Mowing • Brush Removal Downed Tree & Debris Removal • Mulch Installation Light Moving • Light Hauling • Spring & Fall Cleanups**
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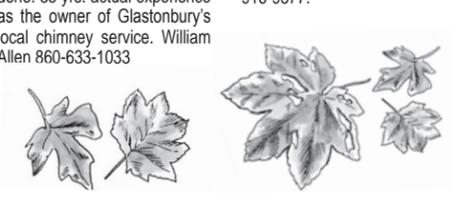
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TAG SALES

ANNUAL FALL TAG SALE. Marlborough Congregational Church, 35 South Main St., Sat., Oct. 8, 9-12. Clothing, household, collectibles, furniture, toys, vintage and much more!

TAG SALE: Saturday October 1st, 8:30am-3pm. 10 Pettengill Rd, Marlborough. Futon, chairs, books, bridal gown, garden & household items, misc.

TAG SALE: Friday 9/30 & Saturday 10/1. 34 Coolidge Ave. Newington 9am. to 2pm. Furniture, household goods, etc.

MOVING OUT TAG SALE: Saturday & Sunday Oct 1st & 2nd. 8-4 Toys, Furniture, Clothes, 80 Brightwood Lane, West Hartford.

HUGE TAG AND MOVING SALE: 26 Payne Blvd. Portland, Saturday Oct 8th, 8:30-2pm. Furniture, household items, tools, Ariens snow thrower, outdoor furniture and more. Everything must go. Rain or Shine. (to be run Oct 3rd week)

TAG SALE: Every Saturday through September & October! (weather permitting) 9am - 3pm. 317 Waterhole Road, East Hampton. Downsizing, new and used items.

YARD SALE: Saturday Oct 1st. 8:00-4:00 199 Prospect Hill Road, Colchester. Craft Items. Movies, Costumes, Adirondack picnic table much more to see.

TAG SALE: 8 Textbook Ave. Rocky Hill, Oct.1 to Oct. 2 9am. to 3pm. Fishing equipment, garden and power tools, bicycles, etc. PLEASE NO EARLY BIRDS!

SUPER GIANT TAG SALE: For the Historical Society of Glastonbury is coming up starting Friday! September 30-Sunday, October 2! 9am-3pm. 972 Main St, South Glastonbury HUGE! Free except Early birds Friday 8-9am, \$10. hsgct.org

WEST FARMS VILLAGE CONDOMINIUM: Tag Sale, Huge Tag Sale over 40 Participants. Saturday Oct 1st. 490 Brittany Farms Road, West Farms Village, Club House New Britain. Plus size ladies clothes, vintage salt & pepper shakers, Waterford crystal sugar and creamer, floral arrangements, costume jewelry, loads of dishes, baking pans and other household items. Ask for Judy's table.

MOVING SALE: at 85 Hog Hill Road in East Hampton on Saturday October 8th from 8:00 to 4:00. New Misc. Building materials large and small, door hardware, clothing, ski jackets, snow pants, golf clubs, linens, home décor, kids toys, games, Nintendo and play station games and tons of Nerf Guns. Come and see! Rain Date - Sunday October 9th.

TAG SALE: Sunday Oct 2 10 am - 2pm. 110 Cloverdale Circle, Wethersfield. End of Estate Sale, Everything must go. Household items, some furniture, Come see and make and offer. Any questions 860-205-1518.

TAG SALE: 1693 Main Street, Glastonbury. Sat. Oct. 1, 10-4. Antiques, Collectibles, many useful and entertaining items. NO EARLY BIRDS PLEASE!

HUGE TAG SALE: Saturday October 1st. 8am-4pm. 236 Forest Lane, Glastonbury. Sofas, Loveseat, Piano, Bench, Lamps, Clocks, Linens, Coolers, Sea Shell collection, Puzzles, Holiday decorations, Houseplants, Perennials. Much more.

TAG SALE (INDOORS): Saturday October 1st 9am-2pm. at 24 Hopewell Road, South Glastonbury. Household and many tools., clothes, jewelry, furniture, frames, art supplies.

FIRST CHURCH GIANT TAG SALE: Friday October 21st, 12pm - 7pm and Saturday October 22nd, 9am - 3pm. 2183 Main Street Glastonbury. Books, Clothes, Kids Furnishings & More.

TAG SALE: 8am-3pm all Sunday's in October and Saturday Oct 29th. 91 Brindlewood Path, Colchester (inside garage). Toys, books, games, puzzles, kitchen and more.

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RivereastNewsBulletin 

Fun! Support a good cause! Find a treasure!

SUPER Giant Tag Sale

Friday, Saturday, Sunday
Sept. 30, Oct. 1 & 2
9am-3pm
**972 Main Street, Rte 17
South Glastonbury**

To fund Historical Society of Glastonbury's Education and Preservation Projects. Info — hsgct.org



Having a Tag Sale?

Reach more than 75,000 Homes
For Just \$15
A Week
(Now through Oct. 27)

Your Tag Sale ad will appear in:

- Rare Reminder, mailed Thursdays to 40,500 homes in Newington, Wethersfield & Rocky Hill/Cromwell
- Glastonbury Citizen, mailed Thursdays to 5700 paid subscribers in Glastonbury
- Rivereast News Bulletin, mailed Fridays to 27,500 homes in Portland, East Hampton/ Cobalt/Middle Haddam, Marlborough, Hebron/Amston, Andover and Colchester.

Just e-mail us at
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Deadline is every Tuesday at 10am for that week's papers.

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LIKE NEW FULL SIZE MATTRESS and BOXSPRING, Metal Head and Foot boards. Wood posts, Moving. Paid \$750 Bobs Furniture, First \$300 Cash takes it. East Hampton. Call 813-323-8507

END ROLLS OF NEWSPRINT. Great for art projects, wrapping and packing, table coverings for public dinners, etc. The Glastonbury Citizen 87 Nutmeg Lane (off Oak Street) 860-633-4691.

SEASONED FIREWOOD - Cut split and delivered. Prompt service \$270. cord. Call Dennis 860-208-5864



FIREWOOD FOR SALE - Quick delivery. \$240 for full cord. Call Reggie or Ray 860-657-8052, 860-952-4741

FOR SALE: 1979 HONDA GL 1000 GOLD WING. Original owner, excellent condition, approx 64,000 miles. \$3500 Call / Text 860-944-2381

FOR SALE: Sleeper Sofa Love Seat. Chocolate Brown and in great condition. Cushions never sat on. Mattress moderately used. \$450. Call 860-558-4458

SEASONED FIREWOOD - Cut split and delivered. Prompt service \$270. cord. Call Dennis 860-208-5864

FOR SALE: Chain Link fence panel sections for sale, 6 by 6, 6 by 10, 6 by 12, 3 and 4 ft. gates. Call 860-295-9974

FOR SALE: NEW Thule bike rack. Holds 4 bikes with locking and tilting feature. \$400 Call Bill 860-305-8910

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