



RIVEREAST

News Bulletin

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

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B-Ball Winners... East Hampton's fifth grade travel basketball team won one of the three tournaments at the MLK Day Basketball Tournament in Portland on Jan. 16. By winning the tournament, the team received an invitation to the New England Championships in March. Pictured are coaches Pat Zabroski, Brendan Hines and Peter Kellogg, along with, back row from left, Ian Aiello, Noah Salamone, Trevor Philbrick, Keegan King, Joseph Ploszay, Elijah Kramer, Cole McCarthy-Nowak; kneeling from left, Bryson Rall, Callahan Hines, Tommy Kellogg and Zachary Zabroski. For more on the tournament, see page 11.

Dennler Announces First Selectman Bid

By Michael Sinkewicz

Bernie Dennler officially launched his campaign for first selectman of Colchester and will likely become the Democratic nominee for the upcoming November election

During his Facebook talk show last week, Dennler announced his decision, stating that he had filed paperwork declaring his intention to run. He will likely receive the official Democratic nomination this summer.

Dennler, a lifelong Colchester resident, previously served on Colchester's Economic Development Commission and as vice-chair of the Board of Finance. Currently, he sits on the town's Public Safety Subcommittee and works in Lebanon as the office manager to the first selectman.

"I love Colchester, but I'm disappointed by some of the things we've seen lately," he said during his announcement. "So, I've decided to do something about it."

He added that "if, like me, you're disappointed in the direction of our town lately, this is the moment to get involved and stand up."

Dennler told the *Rivereast* this week that he considered entering the race for several months as residents continued to urge him to run.

He referenced several determining factors, including the prolonged budget season that consisted of four referendums as well as the recent controversy surrounding the new senior center project.

These issues, he said, solidified his decision. "There needed to be a change in leadership," he said. "The political climate in Colchester is probably the biggest reason [for running]. I think I might be able to lead in a way that lowers the temperature."

The political rhetoric in town, he continued,

has resulted in ineffective governing and there needs to be an avenue to discuss issues in a constructive way without the dialog further dividing the community.

To this end, the leader of Colchester is often responsible for mediating that conversation. Dennler argued that First Selectman Andreas Bisbikos – who was elected to the office in November 2021 – hasn't made genuine efforts to unite residents with conflicting views.

In his opinion, the problem is deeply rooted in Town Hall, where the culture has become "toxic."

"What I've seen and heard make me uncomfortable as a citizen of Colchester," he said. Bisbikos has consistently defended the working environment at Town Hall, arguing that reports of toxicity in the building are entirely false.

Through his work in Lebanon, Dennler feels adequately prepared for a promotion in Colchester. He cited his extensive responsibilities managing and coordinating daily operations in his office, while also exhibiting an ability to formulate long-term strategies in that town.

He referenced his work on municipal budgets and expansion projects, as well as assisting with emergency responses. This includes communicating with fire department officials and representatives from Eversource.

"I know how to work within a team," Dennler said, expressing that decisions cannot be made in isolation.

Still, he admitted that he doesn't have all the answers and solutions. His goal, however, is to meet with the major interest groups in Colchester, including local businesses, farmers and parents to "get a better sense of their needs."

See *First Selectman Bid*, page 15

Traversa: Another Charter Revision Needed

By Jack Lakowsky

Last week, Marlborough Interim Town Manager Amy Traversa released a statement refuting what she said was misinformation spread on Facebook, accusing the town of secrecy in the ongoing search for a town manager.

Last week, Traversa told the *Rivereast* "there's so much misinformation being foisted out there, it's dangerous and it takes energy and resources. It divides the town."

Traversa said Marlborough's politics have come to mirror national politics which, she said, does the town harm.

Late last year the selectboard – from which Traversa excused herself as chair to serve as town manager – formed an executive search committee from handpicked candidates. All four had to agree to approve seating a search team member.

With an even number of board members

– two Republicans, a Democrat and an unaffiliated member who ran as a Democrat – there have often been stalemates, which have slowed town business, including a vote on reducing the scope of a library renovation due to price hikes. Because the board canceled the work, the town lost a grant.

Traversa has blamed the charter. She said the charter requires for most votes a 2/3 majority, meaning four of five members, or three of four as the board stands now.

However, it was Traversa who blocked the addition of a member to make the board a five-person one again. Traversa refused to become interim town manager if the selectmen planned to put in a temporary chair.

The handpicking of the committee was something Traversa pushed for, reasoning it would ensure the "right" people are picked for the job,

something she said didn't happen with the charter revision commission, which led the switch from a first selectperson to a town manager as chief town administrator. Traversa has no vote on the board and won't have a vote until a new town manager is brought on.

Board Republicans Greg Lowrey and Joe Asklar believed this was an inequitable way of doing it. They believe it should be an open application process. After much debate, the selectboard eventually chose commissioners they could all agree on, including an international business lawyer, an administrator at a major hospital and the former longtime Republican finance board chairwoman.

Lowrey and Asklar also challenged Traversa's chair seat, a fight they lost when a town attorney affirmed Traversa's position and told

See *Charter Revision*, page 15

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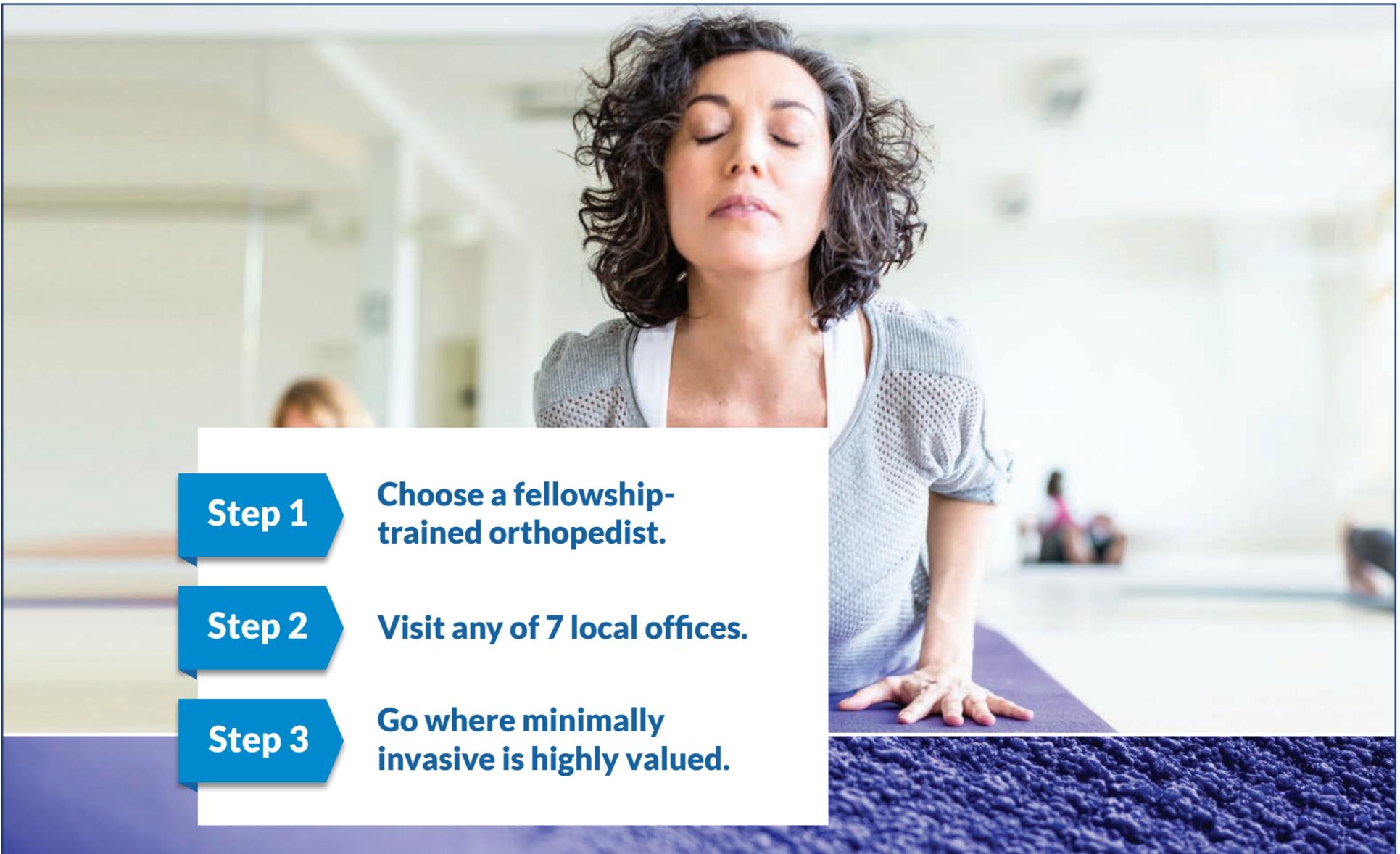
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From the Editor's Desk

Observations & Ruminations

By Mike Thompson

The recent death of a beloved Middletown state legislator was just the latest grim reminder that wrong-way driving is getting out of control.

Mistakes happen, I get it, but it seems that there have been more wrong-way crashes recently than ever before.

And the stats don't lie. According to the *Journal Inquirer*, there were 13 fatal wrong-way crashes in 2022 – compared to just four in 2021 and two in 2020.

You can't blame it all on people getting back to driving after COVID either. As the *JI* reports, things weren't nearly this bad before the pandemic. In 2019, there were six fatal wrong-way crashes, and in 2018 there were five.

Thirteen wrong-way crashes – with a total of 23 lives lost in those crashes. Already, two have died this year, including state Rep. Quentin 'Q' Williams, who perished when wrong-way driver Kimiede Mustafaj of Manchester collided with Williams' vehicle on Route 9 in Cromwell on Jan. 5. (Mustafaj also was killed in the crash.)

Why are so many people going the wrong way these days? Well, with cell phones and an influx of touch-screen everything in new

cars, it seems like it's easier than ever to drive distracted these days.

You can't overlook alcohol or drug use either. According to *CT Insider*, more than 75 percent of drivers who caused a fatal wrong-way crash on a state road in the last two years had a blood-alcohol content at least twice the legal limit or had consumed marijuana when the collision occurred.

The state's noticed the increase in crashes, and is looking to do something about it.

According to *CT Insider*, the state Department of Transportation is piloting a program that, via sensors and flashing lights, alerts drivers when they're entering the highway the wrong way. One such alert system has already been installed in Colchester, at Route 2 Exit 18.

Fifteen additional locations across the state are set to receive the technology this year, mostly at exits off I-84, I-91 and I-95 – and some state legislators want to expand the technology to even more locations.

While the alert systems should certainly help, the likely truth is it won't solve everything. At the end of the day, it all comes down to the drivers. As DOT spokesperson Shannon

Editor's Desk continued on page 7

Bulletin Board

The Better Business Bureau and Federal Trade Commission issue periodic alerts to people worried about radiation from their cell phones, cautioning that scammers are taking advantage of those fears by trying to push sales of a variety of questionable "protective devices."

Government experts emphasize that such devices are useless, adding that, in any case, there are no proven dangers from radio frequency (RF) radiation from cell phones—which, if I remember correctly, is the same thing the government said about cigarettes in the early 1960s and we all know how that turned out. In any case, there seems to be a thriving business in the sale of anti-radiation gimmicks regardless of the continuing huckster alerts.

Those who doubt the official line are particularly concerned about children (yeah, I know, it's always about "the children"), who "with their developing brains and thinner skulls, are especially vulnerable," according to one sales pitch for anti-radiation devices. (I feel compelled to observe that this is in sharp contrast to my experience, which seems to demonstrate that children in general—and mine in particular—tend to be thick headed and thin skinned, but perhaps mine is an exceptional case.)

Trying to keep an open mind, this past Saturday morning I delved into an assortment of official and not-so-official scientific reports and studies on the potential danger from cell phone radiation. A number of these involved the demise of multitudes of laboratory rats over a period of years—a sacrifice of questionable value, as I was unable to find any universal agreement on the potential threat from our phones. Some studies say we should be worried, others scoff at the danger and still others remain on the fence.

On a brighter note (I guess), I did find that those conducting the studies showed a preference for using male rats as subjects for experimentation (and autopsy), which may be an indication that more women are finding their way into the once male-dominated sciences.

Why no consensus? A Dr. Devra Davis bemoaned the obstacles to research in one online article. She suggested that scientists would obtain more useful results if they were allowed to experiment on people. However, she observed, "It would be unethical if we were to say let's take one group of pregnant women and expose them to cell phone radiation and the other group not." Fortunately (unless you're a rat) such ethical squeamishness apparently does not extend to inconclusive studies involving laboratory rodents.

Finding myself at a dead end, I next took a look at the various anti-radiation devices being offered to the public online and in stores. Not being much of a techie, I went into this assuming that the best way to protect the most precious part of myself against radiation and gamma rays and whatnot would be to line my underwear with tin foil, perhaps topped off by a jaunty tin foil cap to protect areas of lesser importance. It also seemed prudent to avoid carrying my phone in a front pocket.

As it turns out, there are a number of convenient alternatives to tin foil, ranging in price from about 20 bucks to as much as \$299 for the Bodywell IntelliCard, which "has been scientifically proven to reduce the absorption of radio-frequency and low-frequency electromagnetic radiation (EMF) from cellphones, headphones, smartwatches, and cordless phones in the head and body without interfering with the signal on your phone." Personally, I'd rather put that \$299 toward an iPhone upgrade or maybe a stuffed moose head and take my chances with the radiation, but that's just me.

A more affordable alternative, at about \$30, is a "phone shield made of a ceramic composition that absorbs electromagnetic radiation waves." My experience with coffee cups suggests that ceramic is not particularly absorbent, but perhaps the physics are different when it comes to radioactive death rays.

Then there's a company called Iyashi that for \$36.95 offers a protective pendant (that's right, a pendant you wear around your neck) made of Shieldite "a very rare mineral" that "alters EMF waves in the surrounding area to a safe wavelength for the body cellular structure."

Unfortunately, for those of us who might have access to our own personal cache of Shieldite, the company warns that its anti-radiation capabilities are "only possible when infusing the Shieldite mineral with our proprietary B.F.I.T.," whatever the hell that is. Probably genetically altered bacon fat or something. (After all, everything's better with bacon.)

Happily, there is another alternative for those of us who prefer to take our chances in the fast lane. The Federal Trade Commission suggests that the best way to limit potential exposure to cell phone electromagnetic emissions is to increase the distance between your phone and your head by using a hands-free device or using the speakerphone feature—i.e., put your phone on speaker and shout at it from across the room, preferably from behind a large piece of furniture or a lead-lined barricade. (Okay, I made that last part up.)

Or, you could do what I do. Keep your phone turned off at all times. This not only limits your exposure to harmful radiation, it also spares you from inconvenient annoyances, such as being instructed to pick up a gallon of milk on your way home from work.

Jim Hallas

Riverast Hours of Operation

The offices of the *Riverast 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 *Riverast* can be reached any time via email at bulletin@glcitizen.com.



Gilead Youth Group Rocks!... The Gilead Congregational Church Youth Group recently took a trip to a rock-climbing gym in Manchester to master the art of climbing and share in a time of fellowship and contentedness. Fun was had by all!

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

Replacing Parental Consent

To the Editor:

Recently a bill has been proposed for consideration for the Connecticut General Assembly. The proposed bill, #5480, would allow children 12 years of age and older to consent to receiving vaccinations without the parental consent or even the knowledge of their parents.

In the past year many school districts in Connecticut, with the help of federal and state funding, have installed medical clinics into schools to aid students during an "unprecedented mental health crisis"....a crisis that was undoubtedly exacerbated by the government's COVID-19 protocols in schools. First, students were separated from their peers and forced into remote learning – not the most equitable solution as not everyone has access to reliable internet, and once they returned to school they were masked for almost two years. Perhaps this prolonged concealing of identity made it easier to digest the introduction of additional pronouns?

In the government's typical slow creep incrementalism, they now propose giving themselves access to your children's bodies, allowing them to be injected with 100% liability free pharmaceutical products that have no long-term safety

data (in the case of CV jabs) and have been shown to have a detrimental effect on the overall health of children for a disease that has close to zero lasting effect on them. While these medical clinics aren't exclusively designed to be injection sites, they also serve as places to give your children mental health screenings, dole out prescriptions (ADHD and SSRI drugs), and give them advice on their reproductive health, without counsel from their pesky parents or guardians. Admittedly, not every child has a supportive home environment, but as the past several years have shown, the state works for its own best interests – not the interests of the people. We should be holding on to our children – not handing them over.

Colin McNamara – Marlborough

Proud to Support Denler

To the Editor:

Last Thursday I was very excited to hear Bernie Denler's announcement to run for First Selectman of Colchester. I am sure many other citizens of Colchester were as well considering the last year of divisiveness, floundering, backpedaling and mismanagement by the current administration.

News copy deadline for *The Riverast News Bulletin* is Tuesday at noon. Please address all letters & news articles to: *Riverast 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. Letters must be submitted by Tuesday at noon.** No exceptions will be made. Email 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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Kevin and Pat Rarey, Publishers

Josh Howard—Office Manager, Sports Editor

Mike Thompson, Editor

Staff Reporters:

Jack Lakowsky—East Hampton, Portland & Marlborough

Michael Sinkewicz—Colchester, Hebron & Andover

Art Department

Jeanne Giovann, Julie Kristoff

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Reader Forum • Reader Forum

Colchester wants someone who is actually committed to and has a track record of bringing the community together. Someone who in his job working for the town of Lebanon and in his service on multiple boards in Colchester knows how to get work done to move a town forward. Someone who is confident but not arrogant, understands procedures and can build consensus. Someone who does not put optics and self-promotion ahead of the people of Colchester.

Colchester is facing many challenges right now. We need someone who will do the hard work to understand a problem, bring a team together and work to find a solution.

I am incredibly proud to support Bernie for first selectman; I hope you will join me.

Respectfully and with hope for a bright future for the town of Colchester,

Vincent Rosé – Colchester

Bernie for Colchester

To the Editor:

On Thursday, Jan. 12, I was so excited to hear the announcement from local Colchester resident Bernie Dennler that he filed paperwork declaring an intent to run for first selectman! Bernie is seeking the Democratic nomination.

I have had the pleasure of working with and getting to know Bernie and I can say without hesitation he has the qualities to bring civility back to our beautiful community. The divisive politics and infighting have stalled our community progress and has torn at the fabric of our sense of one community.

Bernie Dennler grew up in Colchester and his family has called Colchester home for much longer. He has a deep connection and love for his hometown, and is currently working with his partner to restore a historic home they own on the Colchester Green. Bernie graduated from Bacon Academy, then went on to work in journalism and later municipal government. Bernie has served the town of Colchester on the economic development commission, BOF as the vice chair, and currently on the public safety subcommittee. Bernie also works for a neighboring community as the office manager in the First Selectman's office.

Bernie has hands-on experience in the complex issues of municipal government, and is well-prepared to move Colchester forward! I am excited to hear more about his vision for our community when the campaign gets underway.

Krista Kardys – Colchester

Let's Bring Colchester Together

Dear Colchester Neighbors:

Over the last year, I've become increasingly concerned about the direction of our town. We seem to be paralyzed by political chaos and drama that stokes division in our community and delays progress on critical issues. As someone who works professionally in municipal government for another town, it has disturbed me to watch what is happening here in our own. That is why I have decided to seek the Democratic nomination for first selectman. We need new leadership that will work to mediate conflicts instead of creating them.

In my day job, I've worked on municipal budgets, building projects, coordinating operations in emergencies, and more. Through my experience there and my experience here – where I've served on Colchester's Economic Development

Commission, as vice chair for our Board of Finance, and currently on our Public Safety Subcommittee, I've seen the ups and downs of how municipal government works. Government can be a messy, complicated thing. I want to put my experience with it to work to better serve our town and to fight for all of us as residents and neighbors. Fighting for the residents I serve is the biggest reason I love my job.

Over the next couple months, I'll be holding community conversations to hear more from other residents. I'm also looking forward to one-on-one conversations with folks. If you have something you want to talk about in town, reach out to me at BernieForColchester.com. Whether you are a Democrat, a Republican, an unaffiliated voter or something else, I want to hear you and understand where you're coming from in this community that we all share.

I believe that we can end this divisive era in our town and bring Colchester together.

**Sincerely,
Bernie Dennler III
Candidate for First Selectman
Colchester**

In Celebration of Wetlands

To the Editor:

The year 2022 marked the 50th anniversary of the passage of the Inlands Wetlands and Watercourses Act. You may wonder why this state wants to preserve wetlands when past generations just filled them in. The answer is that wetlands are important in a myriad of ways. Thousands of species of aquatic and terrestrial plants and animals as well as migrating birds call the wetlands home; almost a third of all listed threatened or endangered species of plants and animals rely on wetlands to survive. Wetlands provide flood protection, holding more than three times the water during storm events, they filter polluted stormwater to improve its quality and they help in shoreline and stream bank erosion control and even sequester carbon to reduce its effects on climate change.

Sadly, over half of the 221 million acres of wetlands that existed in 1800 in the United States have been destroyed. Today, the IWWA has changed things a bit. Standards for negatively impacting wetlands are high as applicants must show that there is "no prudent or feasible alternative" to impacting wetlands and any impacts must be mitigated by creating new wetlands elsewhere.

Connecticut, with its bucolic open space and extensive free state park system, provides abundant recreational opportunities to appreciate nature and enjoy wildlife for all of the fishermen, hunters, photographers, hikers, bicyclists, tourists and other general admirers of nature. Wetlands are an integral part of that preserved landscape.

Everyone has the opportunity to enjoy, and the responsibility to preserve, the many acres of undeveloped open space and pristine wetlands still remaining in our state. Consider volunteering your time for a local commission, or just

pick up litter you find when in nature. The reward is a Connecticut we can all be proud to call home.

**Falk von Plachecki, Chairman
Colchester Conservation Commission**

Public Works Project

Hebron Residents:

Regarding the Public Works Project being discussed for the past several months.

Our family has been here in beautiful Hebron for over 40 years. We have seen many changes, most for the better. We believe the projected Kinney Road site would be the best location for this particular project.

If you were to review the plans at hebronct.com you would see that this is the safest choice as well. This project would only require approximately 30% of the 88-acre parcel. This would include the Public Works building and other beneficial town use facilities for meetings or recreation. This plan was carefully designed by individuals that had a vision for our quickly growing town. Why would we want to start over and spend thousands more?

One of the other sites being discussed, Burnt Hill Park was already deemed inappropriate for this project a long time ago for many reasons. There is already a constant flow of traffic, people, and animals every day and especially on the weekends. The suggestion to move a ballfield at additional cost to make room for a public works facility already planned for the Kinney Road site seems like a big waste of taxpayer money to me.

I suggest we let our leaders do the job we pay them to do and present their well-thought-out plans with our support.

Hebron residents!!! Do your homework and please go to the website yourself! Hebronct.com,

click on Town of Hebron, click on the top center green bar, "Public Works Building Project Updates."

**Respectfully,
Steve Catanzaro – Hebron**

Arbiter of Republicanism

To The Editor:

Paul Bureau has appointed himself the arbiter of true Republicanism. He's decided the overwhelming majority of the House Republican caucus is Republican In Name Only (RINO). Who does he consider true Republicans? Twenty of the least serious clowns ever to hold public office: legislative bomb-throwers, Trump lickspittles, science deniers, election buffoons, attention-mongers, and wannabe demagogues. I don't know who Mr. Bureau thinks died and made him Hermann Göring, but claiming the moron brigade is the best the party can offer is about the most absurd thing I've heard a conservative say on these pages... and that's saying a lot!

The modern Republican party is a shell. It's been hollowed out by the Gingrich years, the

Tea Party foolishness, and the Trump ascendancy. What started as the party of the disenfranchised and the working Joe, the party of Lincoln and of Teddy Roosevelt, moved on to be the party of big business and the moneyed interests. In the last few decades it's become the party through which cynical billionaires like the Mercers, Adelsons, and Kochs, manipulate the gullible into enriching them – at the expense of their own pocketbooks and their own souls.

Even so, even in the morass that is the modern Republican Party, Mr. Bureau's heroes have distinguished themselves as the most vituperative, most puerile, most dishonest collection of pols in our history.

Paul Bureau hasn't said what he stands for, although we can make some pretty good guesses. Anyone who associates the Democratic party with communism and promotes the likes of Matt Gaetz and Lauren Boebert probably can't articulate a position of his own, only crying foul against the more compassionate and intelligent world he sees stacked against him.

(Apologies to Alison Walck: I couldn't fit "surge" in here. I'll try harder next time.)

**Sincerely,
Scott Sauyet – Andover**

Hebron's Community

To the Editor:

Delving deeper into defending our neighborhoods, on Millstream and Kinney roads, I find myself surrounded by like-minded people. People who still believe in decency, gravity, clean water and who generously share knowledge. However, there is a spooky hesitation as well. As if sharing knowledge, somehow, goes against the order of our present political landscape.

I started writing letters to share information and to console my grief as I listened to what was being proposed for the Raymond Brook Watershed. At first, I chose humor, although somewhat dark, with Mike Judd joining me in spirit. His cynical view of the United States is comical but not always funny as it hinges too close on reality. As political events unfolded, Hawthorne took up residence at my table. Who more than he knew the complex nature of New England town politics? As time progressed, an-

See Letters, page 6

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★ *Letters cont. from page 5*

other literary figure appeared and Anne Frank filled the vacant chair. Quietly, she reminded me of the dangers that come from unchecked power. And recently a friend said, "Don't let them do it, don't let them drain the joy out of you, because they will."

This is just what Dark Money and the Backlash Movement planned and still continue to do to our countrymen. Steal the joy, little by little,

by defunding valuable cultural avenues, weakening environmental regulations, squashing civil liberties and insulting or ignoring educated voices. The joy of cultural subjects almost feels taboo and it shouldn't. Dismissing culture and logic creates fear and fearful people are easily controlled.

Continuing my quest, meeting with neighbors, I understand, as they process information and go through the same stages of shock, disbelief, grief and fear. I am strongly opposed to development on the Raymond Brook Watershed. Hebron can do better. Please preserve the watershed. #save17.

Jean Tulumieri - Amston

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sign, instead of being designated a scenic road, would be more prudent.

I believe that Mal Leichter, and Richard Steiner are on point; “we as a town need to work together. This is needed for the good for our town! Please, I implore you to review the plans at hebronct.com. What do the rest of our 9,000 Hebron residents think???”

Todd Habicht – Hebron

Too Many Crises

To the Editor:

Another oft-overused word which lends itself to distortion and hype is “crisis.” When the media wants to make a bad situation seem much worse, they use the word “crisis.”

By definition a “crisis” is a time of intense

difficulty, trouble or danger; a situation that has reached a critical phase.

In order for the media to capture our attention is it really necessary to describe an unfortunate event into a raging crisis? Where is the perspective and comparison made so the reader can gauge the level of the “crisis?” What is the total overall picture relative to the event?

Statistics, are they accurate or skewed to lend credence to the storyline? Is the reporting factual and truthful?

During a real crisis there is one thing that helps avert another crisis or total breakdown in society and reaching an irreversible tipping point. That is leadership. A true and steady hand on the tiller. Someone in which the public can rely, lean on and trust to get us through.

A shining example of leadership is Volody-

myr Zelensky. The country is in a constant state of crisis and he is the glue holding the people and country together.

Does our language need to be inflated to turn an event into a crisis?

It is oft said, when the simple is adequate – embellish.

It is up to us as individual, to judge for ourselves given the truth and the facts and not various opinions when covering an event. We don’t need to be “fed and led.” We can come to our own conclusions given the facts. Truth and facts.

And we need leadership, true leadership, steady and trusted to get us through.

Alison Walck – East Hampton

Unite-Nations

To the Editor:

I paraphrase an online article by Robert Vin-

ey: The founding of the United Nations was the hopes for protecting mankind against another world war: the commitment of the nations of the world to resolve disputes peacefully, and protect the territorial integrity of countries against invasion by its neighbors. The UN worked as intended when Iraq invaded Kuwait, and the Security Council voted to force Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait under the action of a multi-national military force.

But in the invasion of Ukraine by Russia, the UN Security Council is incapable of acting similarly, due to Russia’s veto of any such action by the Security Council. However, UN Resolution #377, enacted in November of 1950, authorizes the UN General Assembly to act in place of the Security Council to end such a conflict when Security Council action is blocked by a veto. Note: Resolution #377 has been used 13 times

It seems under Resolution #377; the UN General Assembly could enforce a cease fire and install a multi-national Peacekeeping Force. The Russian annexation of Crimea and the Eastern

districts would be negotiated after the current conflict ends. The UN should insist on supervising these negotiations, with the threat of facing a vote in the General Assembly to lose their Security Council seat if Russia does not agree to cancel annexation and withdraw from Ukrainian territory.

Rather than oppose this action, Putin could “spin” it as achieving the goals he announced for the invasion: preventing Ukraine from invading Russia, and protecting Russian-speaking people in Eastern Ukrainian, all secured by the UN actions.

If this sounds like a reasonable and workable solution to this world nightmare write your congressman and senator and tell them to put a bill before Congress to have the UN invoke Resolution #377.

Ralph Bianco – Colchester

Kinney Road

To the Editor:

I understand that the Kinney Road “scenic road” designation was tabled for the second time.

As the request was submitted by an overwhelming majority of Kinney Road residents and certainly meeting enough criteria for an approval, I find this decision perplexing for a number of reasons.

I ask the P&Z members to consider the following. Where does it state that the criteria include an attorney review and the possible encroachment of future town or private developments on abutting properties?

This issue clearly stands alone. The decision by P&Z should be made in good faith and conscious to support the intent of the ordinance as written.

I believe it’s a dangerous precedent to allow political influences from other town agencies to influence and delay this decision. Where will it stop? You’re all members for a good reason.

See Letters, page 28

Editor’s Desk continued from page 4

King Burnham told *CT Insider*, “We’re doing everything we can do, but the public has to do their part in making the roadway safer. Driving a car is a huge responsibility. You need to take every precaution you can when you are driving a vehicle. Be alert, reduce your speed, put down your cell phone and never drive under the influence or if you can’t operate your vehicle safely.”

Absolutely. I’m all for the alert systems, and any other measures that may alert drivers before something tragic happens, but, simply put, we all have to pay more attention.

Hebron readers will notice this week a blurb about a retirement celebration next week for Town Clerk Carla Pomproicz. I hope a lot of people attend. I’ve dealt with Carla since I first started covering Hebron back in 2001, and she’s always been just such a delight.

In addition to being very helpful with whatever story I was researching, Carla would pass along tips for what would invariably turn into delightful human-interest stories.

And she did it all with a cheerful smile. In all the years I’ve worked with her – both in-person and over the phone – she’s always had such a sunny, pleasant attitude. When you’re a reporter, you don’t always get that pleasantness, so to regularly receive it like that was very much appreciated.

In short, Carla’s been great to work with, and whoever replaces her definitely has big shoes to fill.

Congratulations on your well-earned retirement, Carla.

Now this is sad. After 25 years, the annual Mid-Winter Chocolate Fest, hosted by the Women’s Fellowship of the First Congregational Church in Portland, is coming to a close.

I’ve never been to the festival, but I’ve often thought about it. Every year, it sounds like such a delight – and this year seems like no exception.

The festival will be held Saturday, Feb. 4, from 1-4:30 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall of the church, which is located at 554 Main St. in Portland. And if you come, you better come hungry (and maybe don’t tell your dentist).

The event will feature a Chocolate Mousse Café, a takeout-only booth where one can purchase a variety of delectable desserts

including the wonderful-sounding Double Truffle “Black Beast,” Lemon Truffle Pie and Turtle Cheesecake.

There will also be a Baked Goods Booth, offering a variety of breads including cardamom, muffins, bars, cookies, and pies in both chocolate and non-chocolate flavors. Also, the Candy Booth will have an assortment of items including English toffee, candy coated pretzels, chocolate covered cherries, candy rose bouquets, and lollipops in all shapes and sizes.

And there’s more than just food on the menu. With Feb. 14 just around the corner, there will be a Valentine’s Craft Booth, featuring gift mugs, small gift baskets for all ages, jewelry and unique greeting cards. The children’s area will include gift items and a combination craft/grab bag. New this year will be a sale room where one will find a variety of items including vintage treasures.

Why is this delicious, and fun, festival ending after this year? Simply put, “many of the women are aging, as am I,” said Nancy Johnson, who’s the chairperson of the fest.

While the festival is always a February event – just in time for Valentine’s Day – preparation for it of course begins well ahead of time. Johnson said she makes most of the candy and all of the lollipops, and begins doing so in early December. “I would like to finally have a holiday season when I don’t have to think about February,” she quipped.

Plus, she added, “I am the kind of person who likes variety in my life. Therefore, before I get too old I would love to try something new and use my creative gifts in other ways.”

I certainly can’t blame her for any of that, though I am sad to see the event go. And it sounds like she is too. “I would love to have someone step forward to take it over, but that doesn’t seem to be in the cards,” she told me.

Johnson said she’s hopeful Women’s Fellowship will have something new in the future – but in the meantime, she’ll have years of memories to look back on.

“It sincerely has been a blessing to offer an event that brings so much joy into people’s lives,” Johnson said.

So if you have a sweet tooth itching to be indulged – or even if you just want a fun afternoon out – head on over to First Congregational Church Feb. 4. Like I said, it sounds like a delight.

See you next week.

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by George M. Mantikas, DMD

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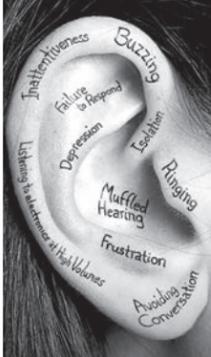
P.S. One common cause of a white spot is trauma to the tooth during its development.

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They Say It's Your Birthday... Andover Seniors Young At Heart celebrated birthdays with cake and ice cream at the meeting Jan. 4. Pictured are treasurer Georgia O'Brien and Cheryl Mayhew. *Photo by Mary Duval.*

Library Friends Membership Drive

Library Friends acting president Julie Victoria and membership chair Janice Bazzani announce the launch of the 2023 membership campaign – and said they hope to exceed last year's record number of 138 Library Friends. They call on all community members – including the already-lifetime members, now 69 in number – to consider joining.

Donations to join this 501(c)(3c) nonprofit organization are: \$3/senior or student, \$5/individual, \$10/family, \$25/business, \$150/lifetime, \$500/patron. Donations of any amount are appreciated and can be mailed to Andover Friends of the Library, P. O. Box 117, Andover, CT 06232.

Established in 1989, the Library Friends provide ongoing financial support for print and audio books, DVDs, children and adult programming, a \$1,000 educational scholarship for an Andover high school senior, subscriptions, as well as equipment, supplies and facility enhancements beyond the library's current

budget. Events and fundraisers include the annual goods and services auction, a free summer gazebo concert, an ice-cream social, the book/bake sale along with the quilt raffle, a visit with Mrs. Claus, and the Basketpalooza.

Membership forms are emailed to current and former members and are also available by visiting the library at 355 Route 6, by calling 860-742-7428 or online at tinyurl.com/3zk7kd42.

Included is a section to indicate opportunities to volunteer, from baking, gardening, book sales and tech support to serving on a committee or sharing a talent or hobby via a program. The Library Friends welcome your ideas and suggestions by emailing andoverfol@gmail.com.

Library hours are: Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; and Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. For library news, updates and photos, visit facebook.com/AndoverPublicLibrary.CT or the town website at www.andoverconnecticut.org/library.

RHAM • RHAM

Social Media Presentations for Parents/Caregivers

AHM Youth & Family Services is partnering with Welcome 2 Reality and will host two presentations for parents and caregivers who have children, tweens and teens who use phones and are on social media.

The first presentation, "Social Media and Our Youth," will be Tuesday, Jan. 31, and will cover the benefits/drawbacks, interpretation, legal ramifications of social media and how to be responsible with social media. The second presentation, "Support for Parents and Caregivers," will be on Tuesday, Feb. 28, and will discuss strategies how to monitor technology use at home; giving structure and sup-

port with clear boundaries; giving access or freedom in increments. Parent concerns will be addressed on topics such as internet addiction, addictive technology (cell phone, fear of missing out – a.k.a. F.O.M.O.), video-gaming and overstimulation.

Each presentation will be from 7-8 p.m. via Zoom. There is no cost to attend but space is limited to 40 registrations. To register, email AHM Prevention Coordinator Jenn Boehler at jenniferb@ahmyouth.org.

For additional information, visit ahmyouth.org/hec-coalition-committee.

Parenting Workshop

The AHM Family Resource Center will offer a free Parenting Workshop Tuesdays, Jan. 24 and 31, 7:30-8:30 p.m., via Zoom. The workshop is appropriate for parents with children of all ages.

Topics to be covered include using encouragement, naming emotions, reasoning, involvement, communication and humor. Class participants will receive the book *E.N.R.I.C.H. Your Relationship with Your Child* by Dr. Debbie Kruegel-Farr.

Kruenegel-Farr is a parent coach, consultant, and educator with a Ph.D. in research, human development and family studies. She also previously worked in Hebron as the AHM Family Resource Center coordinator.

Registration is required; to do so, email Becky Murray at beckym@ahmyouth.org.

Youth Lacrosse Registration, Clinic

RHAM Youth Lacrosse registration is open for its 2023 spring season. There are programs for both boys and girls in grades K-8, who reside in Hebron, Marlborough, Andover, East Hampton, Columbia, Bolton and other local towns that do not offer a youth lacrosse program.

Visit www.rhamyouthlacrosse.com for more information and to sign up. Email any questions to ascibek@gmail.com. Registration deadline for the spring season is Saturday, Feb. 11.

Also, RHAM Youth Lacrosse will hold a free Learn to Play Lacrosse clinic Saturday, Feb. 4, at RHAM High School, for any child interested in trying lacrosse. No equipment is required to attend the clinic. Visit www.rhamyouthlacrosse.com to sign up and for more information.

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 Feb. 1. The senior food pantry is open the opposite Wednesdays, also from 9-9:30 a.m.; next date is Jan 25.

AA Meetings: Saturdays and Mondays, 7 p.m.

Sunshine Stampers: Thursday, 9:30 a.m.

Faith Sharing with the Movies: Tuesdays at 11:30 a.m.

Superbowl Sunday: Sunday, Feb. 12, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Upcoming Library Events

Andover Public Library, located at 355 Route 6, has announced a pair of upcoming events. All are welcome, and while registration is not necessary it is requested, by calling 860-742-7428.

Saturday Storytime: Jan. 29 at 10:30 a.m. Andover Friends of the Library will read a story about Chinese New Year and afterwards show kids how to make a dragon puppet. Admission is free.

Take Your Child to the Library Day: Sat-

urday, Feb. 25, at 10:30 a.m. During this event, Ellen Repay of the Andover Friends of the Library will present a story about winter and/or snow, followed by a craft. Officially, the 12th annual Take Your Child to the Library Day is Saturday, Feb. 4, but the day will be celebrated all around Connecticut during the month. All attendees at this Feb. 25 program will have their names put into a drawing to win a bookbag filled with goodies. No purchase is necessary.

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Faith-Sharing with the Movies: Tuesdays at 11:30 a.m.

Senior Citizen News & Notes

The following items have been updated for Andover seniors, veterans, and disabled. If you want to attend any events, call senior coordinator Cathy Palazzi 860-916-6122 to register. For all senior events and information, visit the senior page of the town website, andover.org.

Shopping Dates: Tuesdays. Manchester: 1/24; Willimantic: 1/31. Masks are available on all vehicles.

Senior Luncheon Dates: Fridays, Feb. 3 and Feb. 17. Reservation required by 2/1 for the 2/3 lunch, and by 2/15 for the 2/17 lunch.

Rides to Fundraiser: The annual senior fundraiser will be Sunday, Feb. 5, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at the Andover Elementary School gym, and rides are available by calling Palazzi. There will be baked goods, basket and raffle tables, and several vendors. Pizza will be available for purchase at 12:30 p.m. If you would like to bake

something for the fundraiser, let Palazzi know.

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.

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.

New Seniors Welcome: New seniors are welcome to all events. Call Palazzi for all luncheon reservations and transportation needs. For all Young at Heart events including movies, call Sue Schmidt at 860-604-1057, and call Georgia O'Brien at 860-742-9947 for all trip information.

Senior Transportation Info

Andover Senior Transportation is available for free to all Andover seniors, all veterans, and all disabled. A caregiver may accompany any person that requires assistance or if under the age of 21.

The transportation service picks people up at their home and takes them to their medical appointment; the driver then waits for them and returns them home.

For all transportation appointments, call Cathy Palazzi at 860-916-6122.

Souper Bowl Grinder Sale

Andover Congregational Church, located at 359 Route 6, will hold its 31st annual Souper Bowl Grinder Sale Sunday, Feb. 12.

Grinder selections are ham, turkey or tuna. Chili, in quarts and pints, will also be sold, as will be garden salads. All options include chips and a soda. Pick-up will be on Feb. 12 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Pre-order is requested.

To pre-order, leave a message at the church at 860-742-7696 or access an order form at www.andoverctchurch.org.

Senior Fundraiser Feb. 5

Andover's annual senior fundraiser will be Sunday, Feb. 5, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at the Andover Elementary School (AES) gym, 35 School Rd.

There will be baked goods, baskets, books, crocheted items, decorated boxes, dip and soup mixes, greeting cards, home products, jewelry, Tastefully Simple, Color Street Nails, pizza, beverages, popcorn, and more.

Call 860-916-6122 for more information.

Bingo & Baskets

Andover Congregational Church, 359 Route 6, will hold a Bingo & Baskets night Friday, Jan. 20, starting with dinner at 5:30 p.m. The game starts at 6:30 p.m.

Admission is \$12 and includes dinner, drink, dessert and bingo. No reservations required. Leave a message at the church at 860-742-7696 for more information.

Learn CPR

All are invited to learn CPR Saturday, Feb. 4, from 9-11 a.m., at the Andover Volunteer Fire Department, 11 School Rd. Classes include use of training materials, CPR/AED/Choking for adults/child/infant, and two-year certification from the American Heart Association.

Cost is \$20 and registration is required; to do so, call Deputy Chief Mindy Hegener at 860-706-3074.

175th Committee Selling Items

All are invited to purchase T-shirts, cookbooks, ornaments or calendars from the town's 175th Committee. All money raised will support the events planned for May and June 2023.

Contact Cathy Palazzi at 860-916-6122 for more information. Items may also be purchased at Town Hall.

Veterans to Meet

The Andover Veterans coffee meeting will be held Saturday, Jan. 21, from 1-3 p.m., in the Andover Town Hall Community room. All veterans, active duty members or spouses are welcome to attend for camaraderie, coffee and cookies.

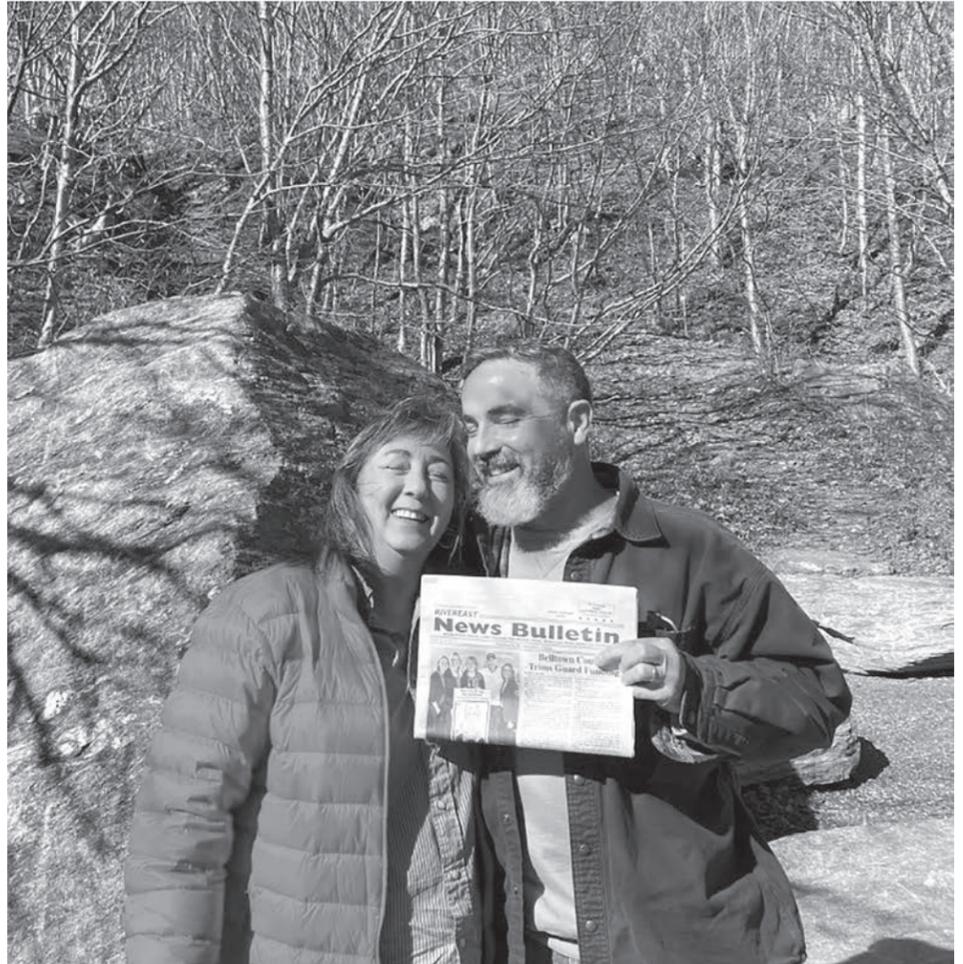
For more information, call John Botti at 860-839-3481 or Susan Camoroda at 703-472-3209.

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 and your address to bulletin@glcitizen.com.



G'day Mates!... Suzanne & Henry Bombria, owners of Merciful Saviour Gift Shop in Colchester, recently went 300 miles into the Australian Outback – and they brought along their Rivereast!



Checking Out the Foliage... John and Wendy Tierney of East Hampton are shown with the Rivereast in Jeffersonville, Vt. The two recently spent a long weekend leaf-peeping!!!



Climb Every Mountain... John and Hazel Tierney of East Hampton recently took a trip to northern Vermont to meet up with Hazel's high school girlfriends and their husbands. Hazel (right) is pictured with her friend Blanche Ahkeah of Utah (left) at Smugglers' Notch!



Checking Out the Cliffs... On a visit to Ireland, Geraldine Transue (right) of Colchester and her daughter Wanda Lanham of Coventry enjoyed seeing the Cliffs of Moher.

Where in the World?

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MLK Book Drive... The Portland Lions Club participated in its State District 23C Dr. Martin Luther King Book Drive. Partnering with Portland Library, the Lions club purchased 24 books for the teen area in honor of King. Pictured from left are Lions Marcia Nicol, Phyllis Sundell, Elizabeth Tripp, Phyllis Murphy, Club President Mary Pont, Susan Bransfield, Sarah Richards, Bernice Zampano, Mary Lang, Mike Pelton, Cindy Rooth, Jim Tripp, Rod Schlosser, Teri Schlosser and Guy Lardizzone.

First Congregational Church News

The First Congregational Church of Portland, located at 554 Main St., is a member of the United Church of Christ. The church is an "open and affirming" congregation, welcoming everyone. Facial mask-wearing is optional, but encouraged. The building is accessible. The worship service is livestreamed as well as available for later viewing on the church's YouTube channel; search on YouTube for First Church of Portland CT.

On Jan. 22, the 10 a.m. Sunday worship service will include a celebration of the Rev. Jane Hawken's ministry on the occasion of her retirement. The Rev. Toni Smith is preaching and leaders from the church, Middlesex Association, and Southern New England Conference of the United Church of Christ will participate. Special guest musicians the Wild Notes will provide music beginning at 9:50 a.m. Under

Kasha Breau's direction, the choir will sing the anthem "Love Grows Here" by Don Besig. Infant/toddler care is offered this Sunday.

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

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

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 not leave Food Bank donations at the senior center unless the food bank is open. The food bank is open Mondays and Thursdays from 9 a.m.-noon. Also, the senior center does not need any donations directed toward the center; please only leave donations for the food bank, and only during food bank hours.

Free Grab-and-Go Meals: The senior center is offering Waverly Senior Center members, who reside in Portland only, one free Grab-and-Go meal starting in February. You must be able to pick up the meal yourself, at 11:45 a.m., at the Waverly Senior Center, in the Mary Lou Rice room. Please do not arrive before 11:30 a.m., as there are programs in that room. Note: You are not eligible if you are already receiving Meals-on-Wheels. You must register one week in advance for a Grab-and-Go Meal. For information, or to sign up, call at 860-342-6761.

Next Week's Programs: Monday: Light Aerobics, 9:30 a.m.; Crafting with Tracy, 10 a.m.; SyncoSize II Dance fitness, 10:30 a.m.; AARP Driver's Course, 12:30-4:30 p.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 return Jan. 17 from 9:30 a.m.-noon (to register, email bivenne@yahoo.com); Coupons for

Troops, 1-4 p.m.; setback, 1 p.m.; Music Night, 6 p.m. **Wednesday:** Light Aerobics, 9:30-10:30 a.m.; SyncoCize Exercise, 10:30-11:30 a.m.; Chair Yoga, 11:30 a.m.; Social Duplicate Bridge, 12:30-4 p.m., multipurpose room; Tai Chi Qigong, 1 p.m. **Thursday:** Knit & Stitch, 10 a.m.; Mahjong, 12:30 p.m.; Scrabble, 1 p.m. **Friday:** Light aerobics, 9:30 a.m.; Tech class with two Portland High School seniors, 10:30 a.m.

Blood Pressure Clinic: 10:30-11:30 a.m. on the first Monday of each month (unless the first Monday is a holiday; then the clinic is the following week).

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. Masks required.

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

Trip: Tuesday, Jan. 24, to Walmart and Panera for lunch; bus leaves the senior center at 10:30 a.m. Cost is a \$5 bus fee to driver. To register, call Lynn or Alexis at 860-342-6761.

Volunteer Drivers Sought for Meals-on-Wheels: The senior center is currently recruiting volunteer drivers to help deliver meals to the homebound Monday-Thursday. The delivery usually takes about an hour. For full details, call Alexis at 860-342-6761.

Trinity Episcopal Church News

Trinity Episcopal Church, located at 345 Main St., invites the community to celebrate each week.

Bible Study starts at 8:30 a.m. each Sunday. Worship is at 9:30 a.m. Sunday School is in session and held during the service. Children ages 4-12 are welcome to attend Church School.

All who are vaccinated may remove their masks. All who are not fully vaccinated are asked to wear their masks.

The church is open for prayer and meditation on Fridays from 2-4 p.m., and there will also be a gathering in the church office at the same time,

for Anglican Prayer beading. No prior beading experience is required. All are welcome.

Check out more information, the church's calendar of events, donate, or listen to past sermons at www.trinitychurchportlandct.org. If you have any other prayer requests to lift up, email the church office at trinitychurchportlandct@gmail.com.

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

Zion Lutheran Church News

Zion Lutheran Church, located at 183 William St., offers in-person worship Sundays at 9 a.m. Masks are optional.

A recording of the service is posted to YouTube on Mondays by 9 a.m. Bulletins for the service are posted each week at zionlutheranportland.org.

Sunday School meets the first and third Sunday of the month at 10:15 a.m., following worship. Ages 3 to 16 are welcome.

Adult Bible study takes place on the second

and fourth Sunday of the month, following worship at 10:15 a.m. The focus is on season two of the television series *The Chosen*. Anyone may join at any time. Call the church for details.

The community is welcome to participate in any or 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.

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, or contact Jesse Revicki at jrevicki@portlandct.org, or 860-342-6758. To receive email updates about YFS programs and events, sign up at eepurl.com/h5m35f.

Drop-In & Draw Meet-Up: Friday, Jan. 20, 10:30-11:30 a.m., on the first floor of the Buck Foreman Community Center (BFCC), 265 Main St. This month, parents and caregivers can work on a fork-painted polar bear craft.

Youth Services Advisory Board: Tuesday, Jan. 24, from 4:30-6 p.m., on the first floor of the BFCC. This is a town-appointed advisory board that is open to the public.

Prevention & Wellness Council: Wednesday, Jan. 25, 6:30-7:30 p.m., in the Buck-Foreman Community Center, 265 Main St. Help YFS work as a community on youth substance use prevention, positive mental health, and becoming a recovery-friendly community. If interested in joining, contact Revicki or just show up.

Ryan's Story: A Father's Hard-Earned Lessons About Cyberbullying and Suicide: Thursday, Jan. 26, 7-8 p.m., at the Portland Middle School auditorium. Parents will get an unambiguous message that they need to step up and take responsibility for how their child uses technology and interact with their peers in person and online. There will be a student presentation in the school on Friday, Jan. 27.

Youth Listening Circle: Tuesday, Feb. 7, from 6-7:30 p.m., at a location to be determined. YFS is looking for students in middle and high school that are interested in having a discussion on race, culture, diversity, equity and more. Join students from East Hampton, Durham and Middlefield and have your voice heard. Call or email Jesse to sign up.

Afterschool Drop-In & Draw: Tuesday, Feb. 14, from 2:30-4:30 p.m., on the first floor of BFCC. This is time for students to come after school and do some semi-structured art. Come when you want, and stay as long as you want.

LGBTQ+ Support Groups & Meet-Ups: YFS said it is finalizing details for these, and plans to hold them every other Wednesday at Portland Library. Watch for more information.

Exchange Club Seeks New Members

The Exchange Club of Portland is looking for new members.

The Exchange holds various events year-round that contribute towards area organizations in supporting the club's effort to helping others in need.

In 2022, the Portland Exchange helped the Portland food and fuel banks, Middlesex Hospice, New Horizon's Domestic Violence Shelter, Gilead Community Services and more.

The Exchange also annually gives out the John Goodrich Scholarship to an area high school senior, and contributes to other local scholarship programs.

Members of the Exchange hand out flags during the Portland Memorial Day parade and hold a Touch-A-Truck events each year that supports a veteran's charity.

If interested in joining, visit www.portlandexchange.org for more information.

Brownstone Quorum Meeting Rescheduled

The Brownstone Quorum annual meeting, planned for Jan. 23, will now take place Monday, April 24, at 7 p.m., in the Mary Flood Room at Portland Library, 20 Free-stone Ave.

The meeting to elect officers and present awards will be followed by a presentation by David DeLucia, past president of the Ct. Cactus and Succulents society, on cacti and succulents in Connecticut.

The public is invited, and light refreshments will be served following the presentation.

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Vocal Chords Seek Tenors, Basses

The Portland-based Middlesex Hospital Vocal Chords, under the direction of Samuel Tucker and accompanied by an orchestra, is looking to expand its tenor and bass sections.

No auditions are necessary. Rehearsals are Tuesdays at 6:45 p.m., at Msgr. Fox Parish Hall, St. Francis Church, 10 Elm St., Middletown, as the group prepares for its spring concert, taking place Saturday, April 29, at 7 p.m., at Portland High School.

New members will be accepted through Jan. 31. You do not need to be affiliated with Middlesex Health in order to join.

For more information, visit vocalchords20.org, look for the group on Facebook or call 860-342-3120.

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Carpino Appointed to State Commission

The 2023 Legislative Session is underway at the state capitol, and state Rep. Christie Carpino (R-32) will begin a new role this session, serving on the Governor's Council on Women and Girls. She was appointed by House Minority Leader Vin Candelora to the council.



Carpino

"Christie's strong advocacy efforts throughout her tenure on women's issues are a testament to her ability to navigate discussions on these complex topics," said Candelora. "Drawing from her unique perspective as a lawmaker, mother, and wife, I have great confidence that Rep. Carpino will make positive

contributions to the Governor's Council on Women and Girls."

Additionally, Carpino was re-appointed as the House Republican Caucus chairman and will serve on the regulations review, government administration & elections, and the public health committees.

"It is a great honor to continue to serve the communities of Cromwell and Portland," Carpino said. "This session, I will continue to focus on promoting sound public policy that addresses the skyrocketing cost of living, fostering greater opportunities for residents and businesses to prosper, and increasing access to health care for most in need."

The current law-making period will conclude on Wednesday, June 7. For updates on the action of the legislature, visit www.repcarpino.com.

Preschool Screening

Valley View School in Portland will conduct a preschool screening Friday, Jan. 27, for children ages 3-4. The screening is designed to answer any questions or concerns about a child's development as well as identifying children who may be eligible for the preschool selection process.

During the screening, children will meet with members of Valley View's preschool team and participate in a variety of activities that assess different developmental areas including cognition, communication, fine and gross motor

skills and social interaction. During this time, the parent/caregiver will meet with another member of the team to discuss the child's adaptive and personal social skills.

Following the screening, parents/guardians will receive a letter stating their child's results.

In order for the child to attend Valley View's preschool program, they must participate in the screening process. Peer role models are determined on a year-to-year basis.

For more information and to schedule an appointment, call Valley View at 860-342-3131.

Portland Library News & Notes

Portland Library, 20 Freestone Ave., has announced the following events. Registration required for all programs unless noted. For more info, to register, and for 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. Masks are optional.

Artist Reception for Pamela Hanks: Saturday, Jan. 21, 1-3 p.m. Sponsored by Friends of the Portland Library. Hanks writes and illustrates children's books. She has a sizeable collection of alien paintings that were born of COVID and her strong urge to paint with traditional acrylic paint.

Youth Programs: Winter Reading Challenge: Smitten with Mittens: Runs through Friday, March 3. This year's theme is inspired by Jan Brett's picture book version of the classic folk tale "The Mitten." Visit the library on or after Jan. 9 and get a mitten to color and hang on our bulletin board. Each time you check out materials in January and February (up to once per day), the library will add a new winter animal to your mitten. Once you've added all eight animals from the story, you will have completed the challenge and will win a small prize.

Special Events: Save the Dates: Wednesday, Jan. 25: Mitten PJ Storytime and Activities; Saturday, Feb. 4: Take Your Child to the Library Day; Friday, Feb. 10: Family Fort Night and Nocturnal Animal Hunt; Tuesday, Feb. 21: Readers' Theater: *The Mitten*; Saturday, Feb. 25: Wildlife in Winter program from White Memorial Conservation Center.

Drop-In Playdates: Thursdays through Feb. 23 (no program Feb. 16), at 10:30 a.m. Children ages birth to 5 and their caregivers are invited for an hour of socialization and open play with the story room toys. No registration is required.

Winter Storytimes: The schedule is: Preschool Storytime, Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. through Feb. 28; Storytime for Toddlers and Tots: Mother Goose on the Loose, Wednesdays at 10:15 a.m. or 11:15 a.m. through March 1.

Tinkerlab: Thursday, Jan. 26, 3:30 p.m., for grades K-8. Practice your engineering and coding skills. No registration required.

The Mitten: PJ Storytime and Activity Night: Wednesday, Jan. 25, 6:30 p.m. Based on Jan Brett's book *The Mitten*, there will be crafts and activities, hot cocoa, and a visit with a special guest from the story.

Take Your Child to the Library Day: Saturday, Feb. 4. This year marks the tenth anniversary of the *Paw Patrol* franchise, and the library is celebrating. See if you can find Marshall, Rubble, Chase, Rocky, Zuma, Skye, Everest, Ella, and Liberty in the library scavenger hunt and create crafts to take home. Sgt. James Kelly will be at the library here with Portland's police dog Magnus for an 11 a.m. program for school-aged kids. Registration for the police dog program is required and space is limited.

Teen Programs: Celebrate National Pie Day: Monday, Jan. 23, 3:30 p.m. Make a hedgehog book craft, then taste-test different kinds of pies and vote on your favorites.

Teen Lock-In: Friday, Jan. 27, 6-9 p.m., for students in grades six and up. After the library closes for the night, get the party started with food, games and surprises. Space is extremely limited.

Adult Programs: Mitten Tree: Bring in mittens and gloves for children or adults to be distributed by the Portland Food Bank.

Winter Seed Sowing: Native Perennials Garden Program: Wednesday, Jan. 25, 7 p.m., in the Mary Flood Room. Co-sponsored by the Portland River Valley Garden Club. In this hands-on workshop led by Master Gardener Lynn Keller, people will have the opportunity to plant a variety of native perennial seeds which will be ready for transplanting in the spring and early summer. Bring an empty milk jug to bring home starter seeds.

Katharine Hepburn: From Hartford to Hollywood: Jan. 31, 6 p.m., via Zoom, presented by the Connecticut Historical Society.

February Programs: Book Discussions: 1st Thursday Night Book Club: Thursday, Feb. 2, 6:30 p.m. *The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo* by Taylor Jenkins Reid will be discussed; **Talk About Books (TAB):** Tuesday, Feb. 7, 1 p.m. *The Four Winds* by Kristin Hannah will be discussed.

Wednesday Movie: Wednesday, Feb. 8, 1 p.m. *Ticket to Paradise* will be shown.

Adult Paint Party: Thursday, Feb. 9, 6 p.m. The party will have a Valentine theme.

Black History Month Programs: Who Are We: Monday, Feb. 13, 6 p.m. This documentary will be shown, followed by a discussion. **Summer of Soul:** Thursday, Feb. 23, 1 p.m. This is the award-winning film about the 1969 Harlem Cultural Festival.

Seed Library: Will soon be available for garden enthusiasts, whether beginner or seasoned. You will find free seeds available for your garden. Have some leftover seeds? Donations are welcome.

MLK Basketball Tourney a Success

By Josh Howard

To honor Martin Luther King Jr., Portland High School hosted the MLK Day Youth Basketball Tournament on Monday.

Basketball programs from around Connecticut gathered for a day of reflection, remembrance and roundball.

PHS senior and basketball star Harrison Collins organized the event as part of his capstone project, saying that putting on the event was both challenging and rewarding.

"I thought it was a success; it was a really fun event," Collins said.

Over 100 young basketball players from grades 5-8 gathered inside the gymnasium at Portland High School for a series of round-robin tournaments.

Six boys' teams and four girls' teams participated in the daylong festivities, with local teams from Portland, East Hampton and Colchester in attendance. Teams from Branford, Coginchaug, Guilford, Groton, and Milford also traveled to Portland to participate.

The boys' team from East Hampton won the fifth-grade tourney and the boys' team from

Coginchaug won the seventh-grade tournament, while the girls' team from Milford took home the trophy in the eighth-grade tourney.

Collins, who is averaging 20 points per game for the Highlanders this season, said it was difficult to balance his time between his high school obligations and planning the tournament, but was glad that he could help bring an event like this to the local community.

"I think it was really important that it's not just a day of remembrance, but to truly understand why we celebrate," added Collins.

Collins gave a speech in between the boys and girls championship games, connecting the legacies of King with the professional basketball players that paved the way for equality in the sport.

The event was free to the public; however, donations were made by attendees. Funds received will benefit The King Center, a nonprofit memorial and exhibit in Atlanta, Ga., established by King's widow Coretta Scott King in 1968.

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 adionne@portlandct.org.

Adult Drop-In Programs: Volleyball: Wednesdays at Gildersleeve School. Non-competitive play is 5-6:30 p.m., and competitive play is 6:30-8 p.m.

Men's Drop-In Basketball: Tuesdays, 7:30-

9 p.m., at Portland Middle School. Watch for details on Women's Drop-In Basketball, coming soon.

Kids' Blast After School Program: Mondays-Fridays, 3-6 p.m., at Brownstone Intermediate School, for grades K-6. Cost to attend is \$18 a day. There are currently openings for January, purchase a Kids' Blast membership on the Parks and Rec. website, email adionne@portlandct.org or call 860-342-6757.

Class of '73 Reunion

The Portland High School Class of 1973 will celebrate its 50th reunion Friday, May 12, beginning at 5:30 p.m., at the Red Fox Restaurant in Middletown.

All 1973 graduates from Portland High School Class of '73 and their spouses, partners or significant others are invited to attend. The cost is \$65 per person, and includes a buffet dinner, music, memories and more. There will be a cash bar.

The reunion planning committee is still searching for contact information for 15 classmates. If you have not been contacted or know a classmate who has not yet been contacted and is interested in attending, please call or text Don Milardo at 508-259-5526 or Diane (Kollias) Bascom at 860-985-1861 for more information and/or to request an invitation.

Little League Registration

Portland Little League Registration for the spring season and winter clinics runs through March 1. There are baseball and softball programs offered for players ages 5 through 14.

Visit www.portlandlittleleague.com to register.

United 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. Pastor is the Rev. Judith Johnson-Siebold.

A Fourth Sunday weekly Communion service at 1 p.m. replaces the regular 9 a.m. service on those Sundays.

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Highlanders Wrestling Aims High

By Josh Howard

Mark Favale is on his second go-around as the head coach of the Portland High School wrestling team.

After coaching the team for a decade, Favale stepped away in 2013 before returning to be the face of the program three years ago.

"It's nice to be back in the wrestling room," Favale said of his second stint.

His first year back with the team was a trying one as high school wrestling was canceled for the 2021-22 season because of the COVID-19 pandemic, causing a dip in the number of wrestlers that came back across the state the following season.

But that dip didn't hurt the team's production a year ago as the team finished 11th overall at the Class S state championships last winter.

Standouts Spencer Rosado and Andrew Johnson are back after placing third and fifth in their respective weight classes at the state finals a season ago.

After serving as team captains as juniors, Rosado and Johnson have also returned to that leadership role as seniors.

"We set the example that if you want to be on this team you'll be joining something that has to do with excellence, hard work, and passion," said Rosado, who wrestles at 138 lbs. "The younger guys want to be part of that and they want to put that hard work in and do what it takes."

Johnson, who wrestles at 182 lbs., added, "We started the season off with a lot of new faces, but at the same time we had that culture in the room from the returning wrestlers. We

are a hard working team and the new kids are learning."

The team's third captain, senior Jacob Maruschock, suffered a season-ending knee injury prior to the meets starting, yet Favale said he has not wavered from his captain duties.

Favale called Maruschock his "coach in the school."

"He has stepped up a lot and basically been a third coach on the team," added Favale. "He comes to every practice and he helps the young kids a lot. He's my go-to whenever I need anything done."

Coaching the team with Favale is assistant coach Dan Harding, who previously wrestled at the State University of New York (SUNY).

Favale said Harding does a lot of the heavy lifting in the weight room and practice room, getting the team ready for competition. He added that the head coach and assistant coach labels are "in title only" and that the two work in unison to help the wrestlers in whatever way they can.

According to Favale, it is also a balanced lineup on the mat this season.

"We fill up all the weight classes and we're deep in a lot of them," added Favale.

The results are reflecting that depth as the Highlanders won 12 of their first 15 contests this winter.

"The captains have set the tone; they set a good example in practice," said Favale. "It's a nice balance between working hard and having fun."

The team recently took fifth overall at the Casey Yates Annual Memorial.

'Chill for Change' Returns Feb. 11

Middlesex YMCA and Camp Ingersoll will hold the annual Chill for Change at Jobs Pond in Portland on Saturday, Feb. 11, at 1 p.m.

At the Chill for Change, folks jump into Jobs Pond in the middle of winter, all to raise money for a cause. Costumes are optional, but encouraged!

People can support the event by jumping into the pond or donating to a jumper. This year's goal is to raise \$30,000; last year's event raised over \$25,000. All funds raised go directly to supporting camp scholarships and life-changing camp experiences. Donate, register as a single

jumper, or register a team at CampIngersoll.org.

All jumpers must preregister and raise at least \$100 to participate.

Awards are given for Best Costume, Best Team Theme, and Biggest Piggy Bank (most funds raised). The individual who raises the most money will receive a certificate for a free session of camp. This certificate can be used for your own family, or gifted to anyone you know.

For more information, contact Ben Silliman at bsilliman@midymca.org or 860-342-2267, or search for YMCA Camp Ingersoll on Facebook.

Library Friends Receive Art Books

The Friends of the Portland Library group recently received a large selection of art books from a private collection including books on master artists, impressionism – both French and American – and art collections in museums around the world.

These books, along with puzzles, games, DVDs, and fiction, romance, teen and children's used books, are available in the Second-Hand Prose Bookshop at the library, 20 Freestone Ave., during regular library hours.

Books are 50 cents for paperbacks and children's books, \$1 for trade paperbacks and \$2

for hardcover. DVDs are 50 cents each disc and puzzles and games are \$2 unless marked otherwise.

FPL also has "I Love CT Libraries" reusable bags on sale for \$1 each. See a sample at the front desk and purchase them from the library staff. All proceeds benefit programs funded by the Friends, such as the Library's Museum Pass program, children and adult programs, and the library's DVD collection.

Visit www.friendsofportlandlibraryct.org for more information or email questions to friendsoftheportlandlibrary@gmail.com.



Pictured from left are Portland High School wrestlers Spencer Rosado, Andrew Johnson and Tyler Quinn, following the Casey Yates Annual Memorial Wrestling Invitational on Jan. 8. Rosado and Quinn placed second and Johnson placed third in their respective weight classes.

Rosado and junior Tyler Johnson each made the championship match, finishing second in their respective weight classes. Johnson placed third, while Ethan Dean, Ethan Krasniewski, and Matt Gish, who is one of three wrestlers from Cromwell High School that competes with the Highlanders, also finished fourth.

Both Rosado and Johnson said they set lofty goals prior to the season and each eye a state title individually, yet it's the team aspect that they say has carried the team this season.

"We were connected friendship-wise before we even started wrestling, so it's a tight bond," said Rosado, whose younger brother Joshua Rosado is a freshman on the team. "I see a lot of similarity in myself because I started wrestling

as a freshman and it's kind of nice being able to show him things so he didn't have to learn the hard way."

Johnson called the team a "brotherhood."

"We've been in the same friend group since kindergarten, so the chemistry is there," added Johnson. "Wrestling is a lifestyle and we're all a family here."

The Highlanders will host consecutive multi-school meets over the next two weekends, starting this Saturday, Jan. 21 when they welcome teams to Portland High School for the Arrigoni Classic, starting at 10 a.m.

On Saturday, Jan. 28, the program will hold their annual Highlander Invitational, starting at 9 a.m.

Mid-Winter Chocolate Fest

The Women's Fellowship of the First Congregational Church in Portland will host its 25th, and final, Mid-Winter Chocolate Fest on Saturday, Feb. 4, from 1- 4:30 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall of the church, 554 Main St. All are invited to drop by and experience an afternoon of chocolate treats and valentine delights.

The Chocolate Mousse Café will be a take-out-only booth where one can purchase a variety of delectable desserts including their always favorite Double Truffle "Black Beast," Lemon Truffle Pie and Turtle Cheesecake. The Baked Goods Booth will offer a variety of breads including cardamom, muffins, bars, cookies, and pies in both chocolate and non-chocolate flavors. The Candy Booth will have an assortment of items including English toffee, candy coated pretzels, chocolate covered cherries, candy rose

bouquets, and lollipops in all shapes and sizes.

The Valentine's Craft Booth will have gift mugs, small gift baskets for all ages, jewelry and unique greeting cards. The children's area will include gift items and a combination craft/grab bag. New this year will be a sale room where one will find a variety of items including vintage treasures.

The snow date will be Sunday, Feb. 5, from 1- 4 p.m. Admission is free.

As this is the last time this event will be held, the Women's Fellowship said it would like to thank everyone for their support and participation through the years.

For more information, call the church at 860 342-3244 or visit www.firstchurchportlandct.org.

Food Bank, Foodshare Truck

Portland Food Bank is located in the lower level of the Portland Waverly Senior Center, 7 Waverly Ave. The food bank is open Monday and Thursday, 9 a.m.-noon, except for holidays.

To access the food bank's services, people are required to register with the food bank (copy of an ID and recent piece of mail or utility bill) and be a Portland resident. Donations are only taken during food bank hours. Call 860-342-6795 for more information or for volunteer and donation opportunities.

The Connecticut Foodshare truck comes to the Waverly Center every other Monday from 1-2 p.m., except for holidays. People using the Foodshare are required to form a line and everyone will have an opportunity to "shop" at the truck once it is set up. People do not have to be a Portland resident to attend the Foodshare, and they're asked to please bring bags.

The next Foodshare is Jan. 30 at 1 p.m.

KoC Free-Throw Contest

The Freestone Council 7 Knights of Columbus will hold its annual youth basketball free-throw contest Friday, Jan. 27, at 7 p.m., at Brownstone Intermediate School.

Portland girls and boys, ages 9 through 14 can participate in the event. Medals will be awarded to top finishers in their age and gender groups based on best of 15 free-throws. Registration forms will be provided at the event. Call 860-342-0881 for more information.

Kindergarten Registration

Valley View School has announced kindergarten registration for the 2023-24 school year.

Parents/guardians whose children will be five years of age on or before Jan. 1, 2024, should contact Valley View School at pgross@portlandct.us to indicate you will register your child for kindergarten. Provide your child's full name, phone number and address.

Further information regarding kindergarten registration will be provided once you contact the school.

Presidential Scholar

Kelly Lynn Boutin of Portland, a senior majoring in mechanical engineering, was named a Presidential Scholar for the fall 2022 semester at Clarkson University in Potsdam, N.Y.

Resident Completes Graduate Degree

Danielle Hall of Portland graduated with a Master of Science in Nursing from the University of Saint Joseph during the December commencement exercises.

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Town to Shell Out \$250K to Settle Lawsuit

By Jack Lakowsky

In a closed-door meeting earlier this month the Marlborough Board of Selectmen gave interim town manager Amy Traversa permission to pay \$250,000 to settle a lawsuit a former employee brought against the town.

The settlement was advised by legal counsel. Voters will choose whether to pay the money.

The employee, former public works employee James Foley, sued the town a few years ago for allegedly violating the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA), naming the town and Traversa, who was first selectman at the time of Foley's employment, as defendants.

Starting in 1996, Foley was a town employee as a maintainer and snowplow driver, as well as several other roles.

The lawsuit reads that several times, in 2009, 2017 and 2019, Foley was suspended from work for what the town and Traversa called the result of "failure to timely [sic] request leave from work or provide appropriate notice of a need for leave and unauthorized absence from work...".

Court documents read that in 2017, Foley emailed a request for leave under the FMLA, attached to which was a doctor's note, asking Foley to be excused from work due to "significant difficulty with tinnitus."

Tinnitus is a chronic ringing in one or both ears, which can be constant or sporadic. It's a common issue, according to the Mayo Clinic.

Traversa emailed Foley back saying his request needed more details, sending Foley a U.S. labor department form for Foley to fill out.

Soon after, court documents show, Foley filled out the form, with further information from his physician saying Foley was "unable to perform" his duties "due to the condition". The letter asked Foley get a leave of absence and, upon returning, work a lighter schedule to care for his condition. Tinnitus makes it difficult for him to hear and sleep, court documents read. The doctor said Foley needed to avoid long-term noise exposure.

Once again, Traversa resisted.

In a letter to Foley's doctor, Traversa said the responses did not "provide enough specificity to allow [the town] to make determination on how to proceed with Mr. Foley's request for intermittent medical leave under the FMLA."

Traversa pressed for more information "regarding the likely frequency and duration of Mr. Foley's inability to perform [his job]."

Then, after receiving even more information, the town denied Foley's request for leave, say-

ing his "current condition does not satisfy the criteria set forth under the FMLA" Traversa said Foley was given OSHA-safe ear protection, a claim Foley denied.

In July 2017, Traversa and the town got a letter from Foley's doctor again requesting Foley be excused due to this tinnitus, and that he needed time off.

Traversa sent the doctor another letter asking for a certification form. Throughout August 2017 Traversa and the doctor communicated, agreeing to Foley's reduced work capacity. Traversa wrote Foley a letter asking a slew of questions, including the doctor's basis for the diagnosis, or if other things could be causing Foley's issues because, Traversa said, OSHA standards had been met.

The doctor suggested Foley work duties other than the snowplow, the noise of which was the main cause of his discomfort.

The doctor completed the form, saying during a flare-up, Foley would be unable to work.

Traversa replied saying the town still needed more information on what specific duties Foley couldn't perform because of his condition, that the letter must "specify what functions of the employee's position the employee is unable to perform so the employer can determine whether the employee is unable to perform one or more essential functions of the employee's position."

Traversa also demanded "clarification on whether [the doctor] concluded that Mr. Foley's stress and sleep deprivation are chronic serious health conditions as defined in federal regulations." The doctor replied that while Foley's issues aren't "serious health conditions", they do cause significant problems.

Once again, the doctor said the only job Foley can't perform regularly was snowplowing, though in flare-up he may need to leave work, seek medical attention.

Then, Traversa again denied Foley's request, saying it did not meet "eligibility requirements for leave under the FMLA. Traversa noted the doctor defining Foley condition as "not serious health conditions under the FMLA."

Traversa said the doctor was "restating what Mr. Foley told him," not giving a "medical opinion." She again said the request wasn't specific enough. She said Foley was expected to report to work unless using his sick time.

Then, in March 2018, Foley requested FMLA leave to care for his mother, who had cancer and was undergoing chemotherapy.

Traversa replied asking for more informa-

tion, then eventually granted this request under the condition Foley "did not currently require time off to care for his mother."

Sending another email, Traversa told Foley he needed to provide 30 days' notice before taking intermittent leave, noting Foley was absent April 12, not providing timely notice. She told Foley to provide all foreseeable medical appointments to his supervisor, and that Foley needed to tell his supervisor why he was leaving, each time.

On May 3, after Foley had a follow-up about his tinnitus, Traversa said he had taken excess time off but would not be penalized because of a supervisor error.

"Ms. Traversa also informed Mr. Foley that he had exhausted all paid leave aside from ten hours of sick time that he would allotted each month."

Any unexcused time off would be "subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination of [his] employment."

Court documents read the parties disagreed on the days Foley took off, and on the hours, he used to care for his mother.

In May 2018 Foley took five days of funeral leave after his mother passed. Documents read the parties disagree on whether Foley's "union contract allowed for three days of funeral leave or five days."

That summer Foley was prescribed a medication that prevented him from operating town trucks. He requested worker's compensation. Traversa told Foley his claim "has been, and still remains, denied."

On Aug. 7, 2018, Foley was absent for treatment. Traversa emailed his union rep saying his remaining sick time did not cover his eight-hour shift, and that she was investigating whether to discipline Foley.

Yet another doctor wrote a note describing Foley's condition, and again Traversa asked for more details, warning Foley that if he did not fill out the necessary forms and provide the needed information, she "would have no choice but to further delay or deny" the request.

Throughout their correspondences Foley noted long delays in Traversa's replies, up to a week, court documents said.

In September that same year Traversa told Foley he was being considered for punishment because of "unexcused absences." Foley said the town was notified, a claim he and the town disagreed on. Foley submitted more medical information, which the town denied was properly completed.

Just days later Traversa told Foley he was being suspended without pay for four days because of the absences.

On Sept. 11, 2018, Foley filed a complaint with the state Department of Labor. The next day Traversa gave Foley "provisional permission", saying the town was "exercising its right to obtain a second medical opinion at its own expense."

In February 2019, after some more back and forth, Traversa told Foley he had exhausted all his FMLA time and more absences would lead to discipline, including firing.

"On March 8, 2019, Ms. Traversa sent Mr. Foley a termination letter which stated that he had" used all his FMLA time and had kept taking time despite not being allowed to, court documents read.

The court noted Foley did have unexcused absences going back to before his FMLA issue, and that the town's reasoning for firing Foley after he'd been informed that he'd used up his time was "valid" and "nondiscriminatory," agreeing with the town there's no way to add FMLA time. The court did say a few of Foley's FMLA requests were not valid based on his doctor's own information.

However, the court deferred this issue to a jury.

The Riverast has reached out to Traversa for comment.

According to a town legal notice, locals will vote on the special appropriation of \$250,000 to settle the litigation at 7 p.m. on Feb. 1 at Marlborough Elementary School, in person and via Zoom.

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: For grades 1 and 2. Wednesdays, 3:30-5 p.m., Feb. 1-29, at Marlborough Elementary School. All materials are provided. Students are encouraged to bring a snack. Fee is \$90/residents, \$95/non-residents.

Adult Programs: Zumba: Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m., at MES. Cost is a \$10 drop-in fee each week.

Adult Drop-In Volleyball: Thursdays, 8-10 p.m., at MES. Fee is \$5 per week to drop-in.

Session runs through June.

Adult Drop-In Basketball: Sundays, 8-10 a.m., at MES, for ages 18 and up. Fee: \$5 per week. Session runs through March.

Dog Obedience - Polite Dog Manners: Tuesdays, Feb. 7-March 14, 5:30-6:30 p.m., at Marlborough Senior Center. These are beginner-level classes for dogs 5 months and older. Fee: \$120/resident, \$125/non-resident.

Trip: UConn Huskies vs. St. John Red Storm (Men's Basketball): Saturday, Feb. 25, noon. Trip includes charter bus to Madison Square Garden, tickets to the game and free time in New York. Fee is \$109 for baseline seats or \$140 for sideline seats. Bus leaves from Glastonbury Park and Ride.

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Arts Center Membership Drive Underway

The Marlborough Arts Center is holding its 2023 membership drive. Memberships are valid from January through December each year. New memberships are welcome and renewals encouraged.

The Arts Center is a regional nonprofit organization which includes all the towns in the Marlborough area. Artistic and cultural activities are offered throughout the year, including fine art shows, classes, and musical presenta-

tions.

Membership forms can be downloaded from www.marlborougharts.org, printed, and submitted with a check to Marlborough Arts Center, 231 North Main Street, Marlborough CT 06447. Payments can also be made through PayPal by using a link on the webpage.

The Arts Center phone number is 860-467-6353.

4th Friday @ the Arts Café

The Marlborough Arts Center will open the new season of 4th Friday @ the Arts Café concerts with the band Driving Route 9 on Friday, Jan. 27, at 7:30 p.m., at the arts center, 231 N. Main St.

Driving Route 9 is an East Haddam band that performed on the lawn of the arts center last summer. The band plays modern Folk/pop, with a Celtic twist. Fronting are Becca Gripp of Wilmington, Del., and Barry O'Doherty, of Do-

negan County, Ireland, who have been a song-writing duo since 2017. They are accompanied by Paul Emmerling of East Haddam on bass guitar and Dana Takaki of California on violin.

The concert will begin at 7:30 p.m., but the doors open at 7 p.m. Admission at the door is \$10/person. Facemasks are optional. The arts center is handicapped-accessible and provides on-site parking.

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. Worship is and is broadcast live every Sunday and recorded for later viewing at mcc.cong-church.org.

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

Jan. 22 worship will be led by the Rev. Valerie Seaver. The Chancel Choir will sing. Seaver's sermon will be based on Isaiah 9:1-4 and Matthew 4:12-23.

27th Annual Financial Meeting: Held in the meetinghouse on Sunday, Jan. 22, at 11:15 a.m., for the Approval of the 2023 Budget, 2022

Statistics, and 2022 Report of the Treasurer.

AA meets downstairs in the Great Hall Wednesdays with two meetings, one at noon and another at 7:30 p.m.

Second Blessings Thrift Shop: Closed until Feb. 3, to set up for late winter and spring selling. Donations will be accepted this month by calling the church office to make arrangements. The shop also sells items year-round through eBay at bit.ly/MCCebay.

General Info: Worship services and programs are open to all. The church is an Open and Affirming faith community. For more information on the church or its programs, call the church office at 860-295-9050 or Pastor Val Seaver's direct line at 860-295-0432.

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:

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

Those interested in applying can complete

the application form at marlboroughct.net; the link for the form is at the bottom of the page on the left-hand side.

In accordance with the town charter, and 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.

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

Taxes Due

The second installment taxes for real estate, motor vehicle, personal property and the first installment of the supplemental motor vehicle tax were due Jan. 1, and the last day to pay without interest is Feb. 1. Interest will accrue at the rate of 1.5% per month, reverting to the due date. Minimum interest is \$2.

Taxes of \$800 or less are due in one installment.

Failure to receive a bill does not invalidate the tax or interest. New homeowners who do not have a copy of their tax bill should call the tax office at 860-295-6205.

Taxes can be paid at the tax collector's office at Town Hall, 26 N. Main St. Office hours are Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Tuesday, 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m.; and Friday, 8:30 a.m.-noon.

People can also mail payments to Barbara C. Murray, Tax Collector, P.O. Box 29, Marlbor-

ough, CT 06447; make checks payable to the Town of Marlborough. To obtain receipts when mailing a payment, send copies of the bills with a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Tax payments can also be made online at marlboroughct.net using a credit card, with a 3% charge; debit card, with a \$1.50 charge; or ACH (automatic checking). Online, you are able to look up the taxes due and the total taxes that were paid in 2022. There is also a box to the left of the Town Hall door for payments – checks only.

Questions concerning the assessment of vehicles should be directed to Simon Wake, assessor, at 860-295-6201 or assessor@marlboroughct.net. Call the tax office regarding any tax questions at 860-295-6205 or taxcollector@marlboroughct.net.

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.

Monday, Jan. 23: Not Just Quilting, 9:30 a.m.-noon; 8-Ball Pool, 10 a.m.-noon; Meals-on-Wheels, noon; Lunch, noon. Menu: grape juice, Italian meatballs with sauce, bowtie noodles, garlic knot, wholegrain fruit bar; setback, 1-4 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 24: Grocery Shopping, 8:30 a.m.-noon; Quilling, 9 a.m.-noon; Meals-on-Wheels, noon; Mahjong, 1-3 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 25: Not Just Quilters, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.; Assistance, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; 8-Ball Pool, 10 a.m.-noon; Meals-on-Wheels, noon; Congregate Meal, noon. Menu: roast turkey with gravy, stuffing, cranberry sauce, mixed vegetables, rye bread, fresh fruit; setback, 1-4 p.m.; Sophisticated Ladies, 5-7 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 26: Tai Chi, 10:30-11:30 a.m.; Meals-on-Wheels, noon; Rummikub – a fast-moving rummy tile game, 1-3 p.m.; Parkinson's Exercise with Anne, 3-4 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 27: Not Just Quilters, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.; 8-Ball Pool, 10 a.m.-noon; Assistance, 10 a.m.-noon; Congregate Meal, noon. It's National Chocolate Day! Menu: 100% juice fruit

punch, pot roast with gravy, garlic smashed potatoes, vegetable medley, wheat bread, chocolate cake.

Congregate Meals: All meals are served with milk, bread and margarine. Suggested donation: \$3 or what you can afford.

Transportation: Available Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Transportation available to the senior center, shopping, and medical and non-medical appointments. A 36-hour advance registration is required. Masks are also required, as well as appropriate distancing.

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

Income Tax Prep: AARP will do free Income Tax Preparation at the senior center Thursdays, Feb. 9 and 23, and March 9 and 23, from 9 a.m.-noon each day. To sign up, call the senior center.

Weather-Related Closings/Late Openings: In instances of inclement weather, tune to WFSB-TV 3 or NBC Connecticut for the latest.

Historical Society Calendars Available

Marlborough Historical Society's 2023 calendars are now available. This year's theme is 'Historic Newspaper Articles.'

The cost is \$20 and can be purchased online at www.marlboroughhistory.org/store or by mail at MHS, P.O. Box 351, Marlborough, CT 06447. All proceeds go to support preservation initiatives and upcoming events by the Marlborough Historical Society.

Arts Center Exhibit at Town Hall

Marlborough Arts Center has a new exhibit at Town Hall. Featured is artwork by artists who are members of the center's board of directors.

There are watercolors by Audrey Carroll, acrylic paintings by Roy Wrenn, wire sculpture by Neal Alderman, mixed media and acrylic paintings by Laurie Gelston Alt, and watercolors by Mary Horrihan.

The exhibit is open to the public during business hours at Town Hall: Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; and Fridays from 8 a.m.-noon.

Dean's List

Lauren Costa of Marlborough made the fall 2022 Dean's List at the University of Saint Joseph in West Hartford.

Costa is a nursing major.

Dean's List

Scott Mocko of Marlborough made the fall 2022 Dean's List at the University of Bridgeport.

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Donations Sought for Tag Sale

Marlborough Arts Center, located at 231 North Main St., will hold a tag sale Saturday, Feb. 4, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. – and donations are sought.

People can donate various items and working household goods; please, no books, TVs or clothes.

January drop-off dates and times are: Saturdays, Jan. 21 and 28, from 10-11:30 a.m.; and Tuesdays, Jan. 24 and Feb. 1, from 6-7 p.m. Items may be left at the lower level next to the door.

Snow date for the tag sale is Saturday, Feb. 11.

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 stjohfisher30@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.

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.stjfisher.org, or look for the church on Facebook (Saint John Fisher Roman Catholic Church).

President's List

Nicholas LaMantia of Marlborough made the fall 2022 President's List at Southern New Hampshire University in Manchester, N.H.

Dean's List

Noah Dubitzky of Marlborough made the fall 2022 Dean's List at Southern New Hampshire University in Manchester, N.H.

Cover Story • Cover Story

★ *First Selectman Bid cont. from page 1*

An 'Erosion of Trust'

Dennler said he believes Bisbikos' tenure has featured several missteps, resulting in an "erosion of trust."

He elaborated on how he would've approached specific issues differently, including the budget process, arguing that certain financial information was largely withheld from residents creating a perceived lack of transparency.

Certain facts pertaining to the senior center project, he said, came out after the municipal budget was finally approved in November.

Town officials announced that there was a budget shortfall with the project, sparking controversy with whether the proposal could move forward as planned. Litigation associated with the project is now expected to cost the town at least \$30,000.

Dennler stated that the situation could've been handled differently, resulting in less division.

"There was a lack of a clear strategy," he said, adding that the community was alerted of the issue too late. "It was intentionally withheld and [the conversation] should've started much sooner."

Beyond current political debates, Dennler pointed out his own ideas he'd like to pursue. Mainly, he called for a more proactive role in economic planning and development. While it's important to maintain the rural feel of the town, he said, there are ways to attract new businesses and revenue streams, as well.

Sometimes, he added, there isn't enough money available to embark on new projects, but it'll be crucial to find ways to "invest in the town."

Making improvements also involves plans to develop community spaces. He pointed to necessary improvements to the Youth Center, recreation fields and parking areas, which would allow more people to participate in local events on the Town Green, he said.

As his campaign takes shape, the intention is still to broadcast his Colchester news show on Facebook, which he hosts with ARPA chairman Dave Koji. That show, he said, served as an "eye-opener" with community members reaching out with their ideas and concerns.

It allowed Dennler to "interact with residents

outside the political bubble."

Will Bisbikos Run Again?

Bisbikos did not confirm or deny whether he will run for office again.

"The time to discuss any potential first selectman run will be closer to June/July," he told the *Rivereast* this week.

Dennler stated that if Bisbikos does run, he's hoping "we can try to keep things constructive."

He has serious concerns with decisions made in the last year, and "we're going to have to talk about that" and "focus on what the job performance has been."

Dennler is running as a Democrat, but emphasized that at times, he's taken stances independent of political party and tries to stand up for his true beliefs, regardless if they're different from other Democrats.

Democratic Town Committee Chairman Monica Egan told the *Rivereast* that the official nominee won't be determined until the summer.

Individually, she believes Dennler is the "best choice for Colchester."

"His experience really prepares him for this job," she said. "He has the character and temperament to do this well."

While the process won't begin for a few months, Egan said the DTC will likely hold a vote next week to endorse Dennler in seeking the nomination.

As of now, he is the clear choice to ultimately win the nomination, she said, expressing that there's excitement surrounding his announcement.

No other Democrat has announced their intention to run, almost ensuring that Dennler will have broad DTC support.

"Something extraordinary would have to happen," Egan said, referring to another candidate winning the nomination.

Dennler still doesn't view himself as a politician.

"Not really," he said, expressing that his family has a long history of public service. "I want to serve my town."

He expressed that he's the right person for the job because he has "a different personal approach to things and the ability to bring people together and build consensus."

Cover Story • Cover Story

★ *Charter Revision, cont. from page 15*

Lowrey, first selectman at the time, his office had to be dissolved right away.

They also questioned Traversa's pay, saying she should be paid her relatively small selectman stipend only, not a salary, an effort that failed.

The two Republicans also tried bringing in new interim town manager before hiring a fixed one, replacing Traversa. Lowrey has also said if Traversa runs for the Board of Selectmen in 2023, she'll be violating ethics if she does so as town manager.

"I think that town managers are well advised to not run for town office in the same time their running for political office," Lowrey said last November, saying campaigns start well before the elections. "A manager can't run for office in the same town, in my opinion."

Asklar said the board has an obligation to look at the language in the charter, the same charter not one selectboard member knew called for an immediate start to the process or would put the selectboard chair at the town's helm.

Traversa's been accused of making a power grab, as well as violating Freedom of Information laws by closing town manager search committee meetings to the public.

"I didn't seek out this position," Traversa said, adding she very much plans to step down as town manager and resume her chairmanship when the time comes. On if she's going to run for selectboard again, Traversa didn't say exactly.

One thing Traversa was clear on: the new town manager, after they've got their feet on solid ground, will need to look at another round of charter revision to iron out what Traversa said were multiple issues, despite the revision commission's "best intentions."

This can only happen after the search committee does its job. The committee met two weeks ago in an executive session, and these sparked accusations of secrecy. Selectpersons Debbie Bourbeau and Betty O'Brien, who have mostly sided with Traversa throughout the process, were also accused of opaqueness when they pushed to discuss hiring an armed school guard in a private session.

Lowrey said he wasn't sure why the board needed executive session, though he eventually agreed to it. He said certain aspects will certainly need to be discussed behind closed doors, but in this case, the board was crafting policy, which is public.

They originally went ahead with this plan, then backtracked last minute, discussing the matter in public.

Traversa said what accusers call secrecy is confidentiality. As when the town buys or sells real estate, the confidentiality, she said, is to keep the town's leverage in hiring, adding when schools hire a superintendent, they don't invite the public to interviews and negotiations.

Traversa said the town is a representative government. Residents voted for and put their faith in officials to conduct town business, Traversa said, and forming the committee is included in this charge. She added if the committee held

public meetings, politics would come into play. The misinformation, Traversa feels, derails this important work. It makes the town seem toxic – not exactly attractive to employees.

The town has its work cut out finding a new manager. Marlborough is small, so Traversa worries the town will have to start with a person at the start of their career or, conversely, at the very end. The town hasn't kept up with administrator salaries, including the executive's, another pricey issue the town has to address.

Traversa said a national search for a town manager may be in the cards, which would mean relocation expenses.

The town also has to find a finance director, a position vacant for some time now. Traversa wants to push for sustainability, putting solar panels on town buildings, a task she hopes the new town manager would take on.

Traversa said town officials have to cohere on Marlborough's goals if the new manager is to have a "soft landing" into town.

When asked if old grievances have stymied town business and whether it might be time for veteran politicians like herself to step aside for new faces, Traversa said she feels this is exactly what was accomplished forming the search committee, even though it has former members of local government.

Traversa said ideally, the work will be done, a manager hired and the committee dissolved, by spring.

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This picture of the 1957 VFW Little League baseball team is one of the featured images in the Colchester Historical Society's new 2023 calendars.

Historical Society Calendars Available

The Colchester Historical Society's 2023 Calendars are here! The theme this year is Sports in Colchester, and the calendars feature images of sports teams and games in Colchester from 1931 to 1973.

Do you remember watching the Colchester Inter-County League Baseball team playing on the town green? Did you, or your relative, play on the 1972 Bacon Academy basketball team? Or maybe you remember the Bacon Academy women's basketball team? Revisit those and more memories in the 2023 pictorial calendar.

The limited-edition 2023 Colchester Historical Society calendar sells for only \$12. This year, for \$20, the historical society will include a copy of *Historical Landmarks: A Historical Tour of Colchester*. This book features 50 historic sites throughout Colchester, many in walking distance from the center of town. For an additional \$20, you can also add the illustrated

history of Colchester, *Images of America: Colchester*, written by Colchester Historical Society Collections Chairman, Gary Walter.

Calendars can be purchased at the Colchester History Museum on Sundays through Jan. 29 (or sold out), from noon-2 p.m.; look for the "Calendars for Sale Today" sign in front of the museum. Calendars can also be purchased at Nathan Liverant and Son Antiques at 168 South Main St.; hours are Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

The calendars and books can also be mailed for an additional shipping fee; contact the society at mail@colchesterhistory.org or call 860-537-4230. Calendars and books can also be purchased at www.colchesterhistory.org/get-involved/shop-1.

Calendar sales provide funds to support the historical society.

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, Jan. 23: 9 a.m., Making Memories, Exercise with Anne; 10 a.m., Sittercize; 11 a.m., Chinese New Year Party, pre-registration required; 11 a.m., Learn to Sign; 12:30 p.m., Mahjong; 12:45 p.m., setback; 1 p.m., bridge.

Tuesday, Jan. 24: 9 a.m., Making Memories; 9:45 a.m., Tai Chi; 11:30 a.m., Bingo players luncheon; 12:30 p.m., Pinochle; 1:30 p.m., Bingo; 7 p.m., SCBC meeting via Zoom.

Wednesday, Jan. 25: 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; 10:30 a.m., Free Gift Card Bingo; 1 p.m., Creative Life Journaling.

Thursday, Jan. 26: 9 a.m., Exercise with Anne; 9:30 a.m., Strategic Planning meeting; 10 a.m., Sittercize, Wii Bowling; 11 a.m., Yoga; noon, Chair Massage; 12:30 p.m., Dominoes; 1 p.m., Knit & Crochet.

Friday, Jan. 27: 9:30 a.m., Painting with Ruth; 10 a.m., Sit & Be Fit; 10:30 a.m., Choral Group; 11 a.m., Yoga; 11 a.m., Lunch Bunch to Log Cabin Lebanon; 1:30 p.m., Bingo.

AARP Tax Aide: Fridays, Feb. 3-March 24, by appointment only. AARP Tax Aide counselors will be available by appointment to assist people with tax preparations. Space is very limited. Call the senior center to schedule an appointment.

Upcoming Senior Center Trips

The Colchester Senior Center is planning the following trips – and reservations are due soon.

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.

Canadian/New England Cruise: May 12-20. Sail the St. Lawrence River and Northern Atlantic while visiting ports in Canada and New England. Arrive in Montreal by deluxe motor coach, then set sail with stops in Quebec City, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Sydney and Halifax, Nova Scotia, Bar Harbor, and Boston. Includes overnight accommodation in Montreal, a three-hour tour of Montreal, din-

ner, all meals on board, daily activities, nightly entertainment, casino, and deluxe motor coach back to CT from Boston. Prices start at \$1899 per person for twin. Final payment is due Jan 28. You must have a valid passport. Call or visit the senior center for more information or call Friendship Tours directly at 860-243-1630 or 800-243-1630.

Spain & Portugal: Costa Del Sol to the Portuguese Riviera: Oct. 14-25. Taste some of the delicacies of this southern Spanish region. Includes 10 breakfasts, two lunches and four dinners. Cost is \$5,029 per person for double, if booked before March 15. You can come into the senior center to register in person or register online at gateway.gocollette.com/link/1102385.

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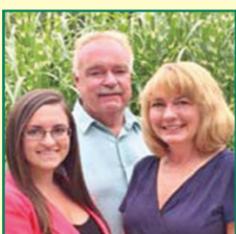
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Ahavath Achim News

Congregation Ahavath Achim, 84 Lebanon Ave., has announced the following schedule:
 Tuesday, Aggadatah class from the Talmud, 6 p.m.; Talmud class, 6:30 p.m.; Kabbalah class, 8 p.m., on Zoom and in person; Wednesday classes, 2:30-4 p.m. – Hebrew Conversation, Jewish Literacy and Jewish Business Ethics on Zoom. 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.
 There are daily Facebook Live classes on Ken Alter’s Facebook page. Also on the page: “Ask the Rabbi” and the Positive Affirmation of the Day.
 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.

Parks and Rec News

Colchester Parks and Recreation, located at 127 Norwich Ave. (Town Hall), has announced the following items of interest. For more information or full descriptions, call 860-537-7297 or visit www.colchesterct.gov/recreation-department.

Programs: Card-Making Class: The third Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m., at Town Hall. Upcoming dates: 2/15, 3/15, 4/19. Cost: \$15 per class, per person (\$20 for nonresidents). A minimum of two people is needed for this class.
Senior Yoga: Mondays, Jan. 30-Feb. 27, 4:45-5:45 p.m., on Facebook Live, for ages 45 and up. Cost: \$35/residents, \$40/non-residents.
Zumba: Mondays, 6-7 p.m., Jan. 23-March 13 (no class Feb. 20), at Jack Jackter Intermediate School. Fee: \$65/resident, \$70/non-resident
Gentle Yoga: See the Parks and Rec. website for dates and times. Cost: \$40/resident, \$45/non-resident.
Intermediate Yoga: Tuesdays, Jan. 24-Feb. 28, 5:45-6:45 p.m., at JJIS. Cost: \$70/resident, \$75/non-resident.
Summer Employment: Through March

4, people can apply to join summer day camp staff. Applications are online. Parents are welcome as well; you will be paid for your time, and your child can participate for free!
Events: Puzzelpalooza: Friday, Jan. 27, 6 p.m., at Town Hall. Register as a team or individually. You can come with as many as four people; all teams get the same puzzle and the first one to finish wins a prize. A maximum of 10 teams will be allowed. Children can be included on a team, but there must be at least two adults on each team. Bring your own snacks.
Spring Clean-Up: Saturday, April 22, at 8 a.m., on the Town Green; rain date: April 29. Jobs include spreading mulch, raking, weeding, picking up garbage, and more. Locations include the schools, town buildings and parks. Meet up afterward at Mel’s Downtown Ice Cream for a free ice cream as a ‘thank you.’
Food Festival on the Town Green: Saturday, May 6; rain date is May 7. There will be vendors, games and food. Watch www.facebook.com/FOODIEAFF for more information.

Ladies Guild Offering Trip

The St. Andrew Ladies Guild is offering a travel opportunity in May. From May 10-12, people can head to Lancaster, Pa., for a few days enjoying the picturesque countryside of the Amish farmlands.
 Travelers will see two shows. First, there will be reserved seats at the Sight & Sound Theatre to see *Moses*. Journey back in time and relive the golden splendor and pride of ancient Egypt, the poverty and oppression of the Hebrew slaves and the humble broken man that God raised up to become the deliverer.
 Also, head to the Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre and see *Footloose*, which tells the story of a teenager moving from Chicago to a small town where the reverend has outlawed dancing. With the help of the reverend’s daughter and best friend they convince the Reverend and town to allow the teenagers to dance, helping heal the town from a tragedy that affected them all.
 On the way home, folks will visit “The

Sweetest Place on Earth,” Hershey, Pa., and meet a local guide for a guided Hershey Town Tour. Hear the story of philanthropist Milton Hershey and his creations.
 The last stop before heading home is a visit to the Wind Creek Bethlehem Casino for lunch on your own.
 Cost is \$615/person double and \$745/person single, and includes transportation, two shows, two nights’ hotel, two breakfasts, two dinners, sightseeing and admissions as per itinerary, and a tour guide and driver gratuity.
 Deposits are being accepted. Deposit is \$150 and the check is made to Friendship Tours. Send deposits to Guardian Angels Parish, 128 Norwich Ave., Colchester, CT 06415. Trip protection coverage is strongly recommended at the time of deposit.
 For more information and reservations, contact Barbara Gozzo at 860-537-0179 or barbgozzo@gmail.com.

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Finance Board Preps for Budget Season

By Michael Sinkewicz

As municipalities prepare for budget season, Colchester's Board of Finance continues to gather information and formulate a strategy in an attempt to avoid last year's prolonged process.

During the Jan. 11 meeting, the finance board reviewed a survey that will be made available to residents, which includes a variety of budget and town related questions.

While officials aim to transition smoothly into budget discussions and presentations in the weeks ahead, the board also debated how the town should cover the legal expenses encumbered from the senior center project litigation from December.

Initially, First Selectman Andreas Bisbikos estimated that those legal fees would be somewhere between \$15,000-25,000. Now, that cost will likely be at least \$30,000, he said during the meeting.

Currently, the finance board is expected to hold its first budget public hearing on March 7, about a month earlier than last year.

Officials are hoping to bring in more department heads to help explain their individual budgets and the services included in them, along with any new initiatives.

The ultimate goal is to avoid the budget experience officials and residents went through to get the current spending plan approved.

In November, voters finally passed a town budget after a fourth referendum. The \$15.63 million proposal passed easily by a 1092-528 tally and it about \$80,000 below the 2021-22 budget. The mill rate is 26.82.

However, school spending was approved at the first referendum in May.

The Board of Education is expected to begin its own budget process in February, with a pre-

sentation by school administration. It continues to be unclear who will be leading those efforts.

Superintendent of Schools Daniel Sullivan III just started in the role earlier this month; he had been superintendent in Putnam from 2019 through the end of 2022. He had been preparing a budget presentation for Putnam, in order to help facilitate a smooth transition with the interim superintendent in that district.

With Sullivan only a few weeks into the job, Assistant Superintendent Charles Hewes may ultimately make the budget presentation next month.

During the meeting, education board member Chris Rivers said it was a "technicality" regarding who would be the one presenting the information. He emphasized that Sullivan and Hewes will "both be engaged throughout the process."

Sullivan stated that his first job as head of schools will be "restoring respect and trust," the budget process is a significant opportunity to interact with different boards as well as the community.

In addition to hearing from the superintendent moving forward, the finance board indicated that corresponding with the district's principals would also be beneficial.

Andrea Migliaccio, chairman of the finance board, expressed that she "noticed the lack of that kind of communication with [the principals]."

Hearing about each individual school directly from the principal could help the board, along with potentially touring the schools at some point in the future.

Migliaccio walked the board through a draft of a budget survey, which consisted of around 13 questions.

For some questions, respondents would be able to select different metrics to express their opinions.

One question asked about the "overall job of local government in providing services." The response options included, "poor," "average," or "good."

Other questions attempt to gauge the community's satisfaction with road conditions and the quality of schools and special education.

Following last year's extensive budget season, officials are seeking more clarity as to why the municipal spending plan failed numerous times.

To that end, a straightforward survey question asks if each budget was "too high," "too low," or "adequate."

Some questions needed to be modified or removed entirely. One asked residents to attribute a reason for "yes" votes at the last referendum. Democratic board member Mike Egan expressed that it was a "leading question."

Another question, which was modified, explained that the town was entering a year that would likely include politically motivated intentions due to local elections next November. In that environment, the question continued, there will be an expected spike in social media agendas, and citizens must determine how to sort fact from fiction.

The question included a variety of communication streams to gather where residents typically receive their town government information. While the board appeared interested in understanding where residents consume information, members objected to the build-up to the question, which they decided was unnecessary.

Still, the basis for the question comes after a contentious budget process. Town officials frequently combatted claims of misinformation and even fraud.

Members of the Board of Selectmen voted against sending one proposal to a town meeting due to several concerns, including transparency issues.

During a previous interview, Bisbikos stated

that "false narratives were being put out there" during some of the referendums, which likely resulted in the proposals being rejected.

As the board discussed the update with the legal fees, Bisbikos indicated that the actual cost could even exceed the \$30,000 mark.

Last month, town attorneys from Shipman & Goodman LLP represented the town in a lawsuit involving the new senior center project. The plaintiffs, selectman Jason LaChapelle and Republican Town Committee Chairman Taras Rudko, sought an injunction that would stall the town from moving forward with a construction contract.

After that request was denied by a Superior Court judge, the town awarded the bid earlier this month.

The debate, however, now involves whether the legal expenses should come out of the town's budget or directly from the Senior Center Building Committee's project budget.

Migliaccio said that after consulting with the town's finance director, the legal costs should be included in the \$9.5 million project amount approved by residents at referendum.

Egan disagreed, arguing that the litigation was filed against the town itself, not the building committee. There's a specific portion of the town budget allocated for legal situations, he said.

Tim Vaillancourt, a Republican on the board, assessed the matter differently.

"It was actions taken by the Senior Center Building Committee that caused the litigation," he said.

Democrat Mike Hayes reiterated Egan's point, expressing that if they "sued the town and not the senior center, then it becomes a town expense not a senior center expense."

"That's really what it should come down to," he added.

Bisbikos said that he could continue discussing the issue with the finance director, but indicated that if the funds were taken out of the town budget, a transfer would be necessary to cover the amount.

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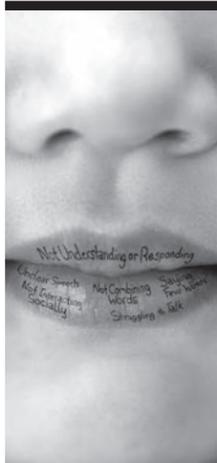
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<p>DINNER CHOICES</p> <p>Chicken Parmigiana Eggplant Rollatini</p> <p>Rollled eggplant stuffed with ricotta, prosciutto and roasted peppers</p> <p>Chicken Marsala</p> <p>Sauteed with mushrooms, shallots in a marsala wine sauce</p> <p>Stuffed Pork Chop</p> <p>Stuffed with broccoli, gorgonzola cheese and ritz crackers in a brown cognac sauce</p> <p>Stuffed Sole</p> <p>Crab meat stuffing served over spinach</p> <p>Balkan Meatballs</p> <p>Beef meatballs sauteed with scallions, roasted red peppers, grape tomatoes in a marsala cream sauce</p>	
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Colchester • Colchester

CLT Pancake Breakfast

Colchester Land Trust (CLT) will hold a Pancake Breakfast and Timber Framing Overview Sunday, Feb. 12, 10 a.m., at 23 Lee Court. CLT members and non-members welcome; cost is \$5 for non-members.

Park in a cul-de-sac and walk down a driveway. Meet inside the barn. All are invited to this pancake breakfast in a traditional timber frame barn on the property of board members Russ and Natalie Moore. Kids welcome. Warm drinks will be served.

Space is limited to 30 people; RSVP to Natalie at natsamoore@gmail.com by Feb. 5. The barn is unheated, so folks should dress for the weather.

Ukrainian Catholic Church News

All are invited to worship each week at St. Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church, 178 Linwood Ave. The church offers Eastern Rite Divine services. Church doors are open for Divine Liturgy on Saturdays at 4 p.m. and Sundays at 9 a.m.; the Sunday service is bilingual.

For more information, call the church at 860-537-2069.

Free CPR/AED Course

The Colchester Hayward Fire Department is offering a free CPR/AED course next week. Available dates are Monday, Jan. 23, from 6-8:30 p.m., and Tuesday, Jan. 24, from 2:30-5 p.m. Classes will be held at Company No. 1, 52 Old Hartford Rd.

This 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 will receive a student manual for ongoing reference.

To register for one of the classes, call 860-537-2512 or email firedepartment@colchesterct.gov.

Spring Baseball, Softball Registration

Registration for Colchester spring baseball and softball teams is at www.cbsl.org.

Anyone interested in coaching should sign up for that volunteer role when registering a player. People can also volunteer for any of the different volunteer roles via the "volunteer opportunities" tab on the website as well.

President's List

Elijah Blanchard of Colchester made the fall 2022 President's List at Nichols College in Dudley, Mass.

Honor Society Inductee

Nicholas Tartsinis of Colchester was recently initiated into the Western New England University circle of Omicron Delta Kappa, the National Leadership Honor Society.

Dean's List

Jennifer Whipple of Colchester made the fall 2022 Dean's List at Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pa.

Westchester Church News

Westchester Congregational Church, 98 Cemetery Rd., holds worship Sundays at 10 a.m. The services are also available on Zoom; visit westchestercongregation.org for login information.

Sunday School meets during the worship service.

Meetings: The church hosts several groups meeting weekly: Al-Anon, Wednesdays at 7 p.m.; AA, Fridays at 7:30 p.m.; Scout BSA

Troop 109, Tuesdays at 7 p.m.; and Cub Scout Pack 109, one Thursday per month at 6 p.m.

Outreach: The church has a white wooden Blessings Box in the lower parking lot with non-perishable food items and other useful items. Anyone in need or who wishes to donate may stop by and take or leave a few items.

For more information, email westcongregation@gmail.com or call 860-267-6711.

Abundant Life Church News & Notes

Abundant Life Church, a Christ-follower church that believes salvation through Jesus Christ, is located at 85 Skinner Rd. For more information, call 860-537-3082 or visit AbundantL.com.

Sunday Services: Sunday School is at 9:30 a.m. and the main service is at 10:30 a.m. There is also Children's Church available for ages 4-11. All are welcome. The main service is also broadcast live each week on Facebook. Visit www.facebook.com/groups/abundantlifeCT or

look for the church on Facebook. For more information, call the church.

Power of Prayer: If in need of prayer, call the church to be placed on the prayer list. You may also ask about the various days and times the prayer groups meet and come at that time.

President's List

Rachel Bova of Colchester made the fall 2022 President's List at Southern New Hampshire University in Manchester, N.H.



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East Hampton • East Hampton

New Year, New Middle Haddam Library

By Jack Lakowsky

“The what?”
Twenty years ago, that’s the answer you’d get asking anyone if they knew about the Middle Haddam Public Library.

After much work, including renovations and an awareness campaign, that appears to be the case no longer.

With a recent approval for a new handicapped-accessible walkway and entrance, the Middle Haddam Public Library is starting the year strong with this major step towards its ambitious revitalization.

Library board president Donna Roberts and vice president Barbara Angelico said now, the library hopes to keep its strong momentum going with the Middle Haddam Historic District Commission, which must go over the library’s proposed plan.

Handicapped accessibility, they said, has been a library goal for years. Previous boards made attempts to work on the building, but they met resistance from the town and never got their feet off the ground, Angelico said.

The two officials said they’re confident they’ve done this job the right way, in the right sequence and at the right pace, modernizing and beautifying the library while maintaining its historic nature.

The library’s architect, Jeff Kamm, said the new ramp and porch match the building’s aesthetic, and follow the architectural style of

when the library was first built in 1909. The last addition was in the 1960s, nearly a half-century ago. Everyone was confident the plans will be well received, and those who’ve seen them, Angelico said, were highly impressed.

Kamm and the board did not want to have a stagnant, Sturbridge Village-type feel, but a dynamic, living one, like when owners of historic homes pretty up their venerable houses. He has experience renovating historic structures, and has done several locally.

He said after passing away, a patron left the library a significant endowment, with the condition the library use it for a grand remake that, unfortunately, just turned out to not be possible. Mainly, the benefactor wanted the library to have a quiet reading room, a cozy space readers can enjoy as they read a book from among the library’s sizable selection.

The ramp and connected porch, Kamm said, keep in the spirit of the bequest. Weather cooperating, the outdoor space can be used for not only quiet reading and study, but outdoor programs – concerts, magic shows and the like, engaging programming the library hasn’t had among its otherwise robust offerings, like writers’ groups and informational talks about the autism spectrum. The ramp will be “disguised” by a stone wall, Kamm said.

Getting to this point took quite bit of a work, they said. It also took a global slowdown: the library closed for the pandemic, freeing up time



This early photo of the Middle Haddam Public Library captures the building’s historic nature. Now, the library board is hoping to preserve that trait while modernizing the library, making it more accessible. A new handicapped-accessible ramp and porch area, recently approved by town zoning, is a major step in the effort.

to clean out, renovate and – as had not been before – catalogue individually the library’s collection of some 20,000 books, each recorded individually.

A few years ago the library did a survey, gauging what the town wanted to see in a modern, updated building, like better lighting (check), new furniture (check), a new ceiling (check), and, as it’s very much hoped will be done come summertime, the new ramp. The library also dealt with housekeeping, cleaning out mold and deteriorated books.

The questions the board asked itself were, what is the library’s future? What is its purpose? Where does it fit in a small town with a robust public library?

Among other niches the library board hopes to meet, it wants to make the library itself a community space, a commodity at a premium in East Hampton.

To get the word out, the board and library staff launched an awareness campaign that has achieved at least some success. Twenty years ago, said Roberts, you could’ve asked just about anyone in town about the library, and you’d be

met with raised eyebrows and a shrug.

There’s more to do still, but, Roberts said, now about half of town residents know the library is there, and that it’s open to the public, even though it’s technically a private nonprofit operation.

The library got on social media to help spread the word and got itself a tab on the town’s website, letting people know that (first of all) the library exists and serves anyone, not just Middle Haddam village residents.

Next, and the board members said they expect this to be a touchy subject with neighbors, the library wants to get a parking lot. Right now there’s very little space. Visitors, especially when there’s a busy program, often have to park on the street.

Also, they suggested, the state needs to implement better traffic calming measures on Middle Haddam Road, to encourage pedestrians to walk to the library.

For more information visit www.middlehaddamlibrary.com.

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 us at easthamptonpubliclibrary.org, or on Facebook at facebook.com/EastHamptonLibrary

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

Children’s Programs: Storytimes: Toddler Time: Wednesdays at 10:15 a.m. for children ages 18 months to 3 years, Stories & Songs: Wednesdays at 11:15 a.m. for ages 3-5 years, Mindful Movements: Mondays at 10:30 a.m. Held in the library community room. For ages 18 months and up; siblings welcome, Baby Rhyme Time: Thursdays at 10:15 a.m. For children ages 0-18 months and their caregivers. Held in the library community room.

DIY Days – Lego Refrigerator Magnets: Saturday, Jan. 21, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Children and families in grades K-8 are invited to create a different toy, game, or treat together. No registration required; just drop in. Available while supplies last.

Valentines for Seniors: Saturdays, Jan. 28-Feb. 11. Stop by the children’s room and use the supplies provided to design a Valentine’s Day card for a local senior citizen.

Take Your Child to the Library Day: Saturday, Feb. 4, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. There will be mini-golf and crafts from 11 a.m.-4 p.m., and face-painting will be offered from 1-4 p.m. No

registration required.

Nintendo Switch Tournament: Grades 1-5: Saturday, Jan. 28, 2-3:30 p.m. This is a Nintendo Switch game tournament for elementary school-aged kids. All skill levels welcome. Registration required.

Teen Programs: Teen Friday: Friday, Jan. 27, 3:30-4:30 p.m., for grades 6-12. Kick off your weekend with a variety of games, activities, and crafts.

Teen Dungeons and Dragons: Wednesday, Feb. 1, 5:30-7:30 p.m., for grades 8-12. No previous playing experience is required. The library will provide basic fifth edition, level four characters and all the supplies needed to play.

Adult Program: Author Event! Sarah Grote: Tuesday, Jan. 24, 6:30 p.m. Grote is an award-winning photographer and painter residing in central Connecticut. Her first book tells the story of Spencer and Oliver, Percheron geldings rescued and nurtured by the Connecticut Draft Horse Rescue, which is located right here in East Hampton.

The Town of Iron Toys: The Mechanical Banks of the J. & E. Stevens Company: Tuesday, Jan. 31, 6:30 p.m. Demonstrating his collection of 20 mechanical banks dating from the late 1800s, Richard Donohue will lead this interactive presentation about the J. & E. Stevens Company of Cromwell.

Cabin Fever Series: Saturday, Feb. 4, 1 p.m., presented by the Chatham Historical Society.

Helping Hands Closed for February

Helping Hands, a ministry of Cornerstone Church, will be closed for the month of February and will reopen on Saturday, March 4. The church will start accepting donations again Thursday, March 2.

For more information, email Judy Holmquist at judyhlm49@yahoo.com.

Dean’s List

East Hampton residents Anthony DeZinno and Kyla Norton made the fall 2022 Dean’s List at Western Connecticut State University.

DeZinno is an art major and Norton is a nursing major.

Voter Canvass to be Conducted

The registrar of voters will conduct the annual canvass, as required by the secretary of state, starting Tuesday, Jan. 24.

Lists are purchased from a vendor with electors who may have had an address change not reported to the registrar of voters. For this reason, not all registered voters will receive a letter. If you are sent a letter, the envelope you receive is marked “Read carefully. Do not lose your right to vote.” A postage-paid envelope is provided for your convenience.

If the registrars do not receive your response within 30 days, your voting status is changed to “Inactive” and puts your ability to cast your ballot in jeopardy. This status pertains to all elections, primaries and referendums.



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After Almost 60 Years, Local Nursery School in Jeopardy

By Jack Lakowsky

This coming fall, East Hampton Nursery School, a local private nonprofit preschool, might not welcome young learners for the first time in more than half a century.

Kim Jordan, president of the school's board, along with head teacher Wendy Zimmerman assistant teacher Melissa Moulthrop, enrollment coordinator Melanie King, fundraising coordinator Kerry Parsons and health consultant Phoebe Romero, all talked the *Rivereast* this week to discuss the school's tough situation.

To stay afloat, the school started a GoFundMe, hoping for \$15,000.

Jordan described the school's situation succinctly.

"Desperate," she said, saying the school will finish this school year, but starting in the fall isn't guaranteed.

The school's press release says, "despite our best efforts to fundraise while keeping tuition rates low for our families, we need additional help."

The pandemic, the staff said, swept the school's legs out from under it. The school received no state funding or relief, and enrollment

has plummeted.

Jordan estimated that around 10 years ago, the school had a wait list for its 40 available spots. Now, the school's enrollment is about 20 total students.

Jordan said the pandemic caused apprehension among parents, who were more likely to delay school for their kids than ever before.

Also, costs for cleaning services, insurance and supplies are all way up, Jordan said, further constricting the school's finances.

Another challenge the school staff hold no grudges for: the East Hampton school district has expanded its preschool, and it's not easy to compete with free. Still, the school and the district have a close relationship, they said, and the nursery's youngsters team up with local 4th-graders as "book buddies".

But, said Zimmerman, EHNS is a nursery school that sets itself apart, taking kids on field trips, giving them an attentive learning experience, saying kids leave the school incredibly well-prepared for the big jump to kindergarten. They have Mother's Day tea and "tons of celebrations and volunteer opportunities."

The school is a volunteer-run nonprofit, and all donations serve its goal of teaching the town's youngest.

The school wants to fundraise and find other avenues of income, but for now donations are the best way for an infusion of desperately needed resources.

"EHNS has laid the foundation for countless students as they have developed into future leaders," reads the school's release. "Students from our school have become high school valedictorians, Top 10scholars, and members of the National Honor Society."

"Anything you can give would be greatly appreciated by the entire East Hampton Nursery School family."

To donate, visit www.gofundme.com/f/help-save-east-hampton-nursery-school or Venmo @easthamptonnurseryschool. Checks can be made to East Hampton Nursery School, P.O. Box 135, East Hampton, CT 060424.



Masquerade!!... Students in grades six and up are invited to the annual Masked Ball Dance at Epoch Arts on Friday, Feb. 10, from 7-9 p.m. Teens can get dressed in their dance attire – fancy, funky or fun – and dance all night to a live DJ. There will be a photo booth along with fun props to pose with. There will be free food and drink all night. Feel free to wear a theater mask or paint one. Cost is \$10. There is no need to register. For more information, visit www.epocharts.org. Pictured at a previous Masked Ball are Zephra Sanderson and Maria Zabroski.

East Hampton Energy Fair

The East Hampton Clean Energy Task Force will host an Energy Fair Monday, Jan. 23 (snow date Feb. 6), from 5:30-8:30 p.m., at East Hampton High School, 15 Maple St.

All are invited to come learn about ways to save energy and money. Snacks and drinks will be available. No registration is required.

Exhibitors include: PACE (People's Action For Clean Energy), Eversource (Electrical Utility), Newington Electric (EV Chargers), Airline Cycles (E-Bikes), PosiGen Developer, LLC (Solar), Sustainable CT (Community

Funding), Earthlight Technologies (Solar), Valley View / Mercury Excelum (Windows), Absolute Air Services, LLC (HVAC), Lantern Energy (Energy Conservation), Glasco Heating & Air Conditioning (HVAC), Frontier (Internet).

Presentations are in the T-Bell Room, and include: 6-6:20 p.m., PosiGen; 6:30-6:50 p.m., Eversource; 7-7:20 p.m., PACE; 7:30-7:50 p.m., Sustainable CT; 8-8:20 p.m., Earthlight.

Haddam Neck Covenant Church News

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

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

Kids Church: Music and hands-on interactive activities are offered for kids in the Fellowship Hall during the worship service. All are

welcome.

Bible Study: Adult Bible Study is held each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. in the Chapel. The study traces God's covenant with his people.

Zoom Bible Study: Thursdays from 7 to 8 p.m. The study looks at various ways to approach Bible reading to enhance the ability to hear what God says.

Office Info: The office can be reached at 860-267-2336; hours are Monday-Friday, 12:30-4:30 p.m. The church website is at www.hncovenantchurch.org.

Congregational Church News & Notes

The Congregational Church of East Hampton, UCC, located at 59 Main St., is open for in-person services 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.

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

Choir meets every Thursday from 7-8:30 p.m. All voices are welcome.

Upcoming: Saturday, Jan. 28, 6:30 p.m., Family Movie Night; Saturday, Feb. 4, Souper Bowl of Caring.

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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Wilcox Court Info Sealed

By Jack Lakowsky

A verdict in the case levelling allegations of vandalism against local Republican registrar of voters Lori Wilcox isn't decided yet, and her next court is in February.

Until then the public, for reasons the court's website called "statutory," won't have access to the case, as the state court system sealed the record.

East Hampton police last August arrested Wilcox, alleging she spraypainted a neighbor's car.

According to the police affidavit, Wilcox denied the accusation.

"There's not a clear reason why" Wilcox allegedly spraypainted the car, police chief Dennis Woessner has previously told the *Rivereast* Monday.

Wilcox wrote nothing specific, spraying the car in random places, police said.

Wilcox lives on Hawthorne Road, according to police. Police redacted from the case report the name and address of the alleged victim, as well as the names of witnesses.

The complainant said the damage was worth \$9,000, which makes the criminal mischief charge felonious. It can carry up to five years in prison, according to state documents.

According to police a home camera captured Wilcox approaching the vehicle, wear-

ing a long light-colored shirt.

Police found a blonde hair, the same color as Wilcox's, stuck to the fresh spray paint on the vandalized car.

Police spoke to Wilcox, telling her about the vandalism while she was wearing what was possibly the same long, light-colored shirt. Wilcox said she knew nothing about it, according to police. Officers told her there was a recording of the incident, and Wilcox continued to claim she knew nothing.

After reviewing video evidence, officers arrested Wilcox, handcuffing her at her home and bringing her in for processing.

"Wilcox stated that she did not want to speak about the incident and stated that she wanted a lawyer, though she did not call one while in custody," police wrote. "Wilcox was not asked any questions during the processing, but she continued to cry and say 'I didn't do anything.'"

Since she's an elected official, the town cannot remove Wilcox from office, according to Town Manager Dave Cox, adding if Wilcox is proven guilty, this would be in the hands of state elections officials.

In addition to her role as registrar, Wilcox previously sat on the Board of Finance.

Art Association Meets Jan. 25

The East Hampton Art Association (EHAA) will hold its monthly program Wednesday, Jan. 25, at 7 p.m., in the East Hampton Community Center at 105 Main St.

This meeting features Amy Ordonez of Studio 13 who will guide the audience through a session on intuitive painting.

Ordenez works with clients on abstract intuitive painting. With a degree in sculpture and art history from Eastern Connecticut State University, this former Wadsworth Atheneum docent has spent the last year "unlearning" much of her technical training to embrace a more free and abstract style. Over the last five years she has run an art studio in East Hampton for both adults and children.

Ordenez lives in East Hampton with her husband and three children, and enjoys spending time reading and caring for her hobby farm. Learn more about her at www.amy-studio13.com.

Other future EHAA meetings are: Feb. 22, featuring iconographer Grace Zazzaro; March 22, featuring oil painter Tom Swimm (pending confirmation); April 26, featuring fine artist Elizabeth Sennett; and May 24 featuring a guest to be determined.

Everyone is welcome at all EHAA programs. The programs are free to members, with a suggested donation of \$4 for non-members. Pro-



Resident Amy Ordonez will be the guest artist at the Jan. 25 meeting of the East Hampton Art Association.

grams/demonstrations and meetings are also always free for students. Coffee, tea and refreshments will be served.

Anyone may become a member of EHAA for \$15/year per individual or \$20/year per family.

Nursery School Seeking Help

Since 1968, East Hampton Nursery School (EHNS) has been preparing the town's youngest learners for kindergarten and beyond – but, after 55 years, it may be in danger of closing its doors for good.

Due to COVID setbacks and increasing operating costs, EHNS may be forced to close, officials with the school said. The school did not receive any state funding during or after the pandemic, and now donations are needed to help keep the school running.

EHNS alumni have gone on to become high school valedictorians, Top 10 scholars, and

members of the National Honor Society. They have also participated in many arts activities, sports groups, and organizations in town. The head teacher of the school attended it herself.

Since EHNS is nonprofit, all funds raised go right back to the school and all donations are tax-exempt (06-0844605).

A GoFundMe has been started for any donations; it is located at gofund.me/8f40a587. People can also donate via Venmo @easthampton-nurseryschool, and can send checks, made out to East Hampton Nursery School, to: P.O. Box 135, East Hampton, CT 06424.

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. The library has a new P.O. box number: 123.

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

Yoga: Mondays at 9 a.m., Tuesdays at 7 p.m. and Saturdays at 9 a.m., with Erin Day of Ten

Summit Yoga. Cost is a \$10 drop-in fee. Register at tensummitst@gmail.com.

Mahjong: Mondays, Jan. 23 and 30, 11:30 a.m. All players welcome.

Nimble Knitters: Thursdays through Jan. 26, 1 p.m.

Spinning Fibers: Now every Thursday, at 10 a.m. Bring your own wheel and fiber. All are welcome.

Walleye on the Fly: Monday, Jan. 23, 7 p.m. Have a discussion with Rowan Lytle on wall-eye, also known as yellow pike.

Senior Center News & Notes

East Hampton Senior Center, 105 Main St., announces the following. Registration is required for all programs unless noted; register 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: **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. **Tap Dance:** Thursdays, 11:15-11:45 a.m.; **Cribbage:** Fridays, 9:30-11 a.m. **Mahjongg:** Fridays, 10 a.m.-noon; call also to put your name on a list if interested in learning how to play. **Textile Group:** Fridays, 1 p.m.

Writing Our Lives to Open Our Hearts: There are two groups; one meets Thursdays, 10-11 a.m., and one meets every other Thursday, 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. The group will meet outdoors, weather permitting; otherwise it will be indoors or via Zoom.

Teen Glow Paint Night

Epoch Arts will hold a Teen Glow Paint Night, for students in grades 6-12, on Friday, Jan. 27, from 7-9 p.m., at Epoch, 27 Skinner St.

Teens can grab a friend and come for a glow-in-the-dark paint night. Feel free to wear something that glows in the dark to go along with the night.

Cost is \$25. There is no need to register. For more information, visit www.epocharts.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 welcome. To connect electronically, go to www.christchurchmiddlehaddam.com for directions. The Holy Eucharist will be celebrated with the Rev. Diana Rogers.

Sunday School: New students are always welcome. Call the Rev. Joane Neel-Richards at 203-671-3455 for details or contact her at jneelrichard16@gmail.com.

Bible Study: Contact the Rev. Bobette Reed Kahn at bobette@kahn.com for information and instructions. The class meets on Wednesday at 6 p.m. via Zoom.

Donations and Contributions: Place all returnable bottles in the barrels next to the shed.

Items for donation to the East Hampton Food Bank are collected in the black containers next to the rear door of the church.

Welcome: Linda Hilliard will join us as substitute organist this Sunday.

Upcoming Event: The annual meeting will occur immediately after the worship service on Jan. 29.

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

Valentine Pop-Up Boutique

On Saturday, Feb. 11, the Congregational Church of East Hampton, located at 59 Main St., will hold a Valentine Pop-Up Boutique from 9:30 a.m.-noon.

Featured will be a chocolate bake sale, Emma's Famous Fudge, gifts and a Valentine photo booth. There will be free coffee or hot chocolate for all who attend.

Storm date is Sunday, Feb. 12, from 1-3:30 p.m.

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Winter Fun with Little Ones
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-Look for animal tracks in the snow
-Set up and maintain a bird feeder
-Paint the snow (diluted food coloring in a spray bottle)
-Draw with chalk on ice
-Gather a snowman kit using random mittens, buttons and other items
-Bring snow inside to play with in the sink or bathtub
koco4kids.org

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Taxes Due

Taxes for the second installment of real estate, personal property, and supplemental motor vehicles were due and payable Jan. 1. The last day on which to pay without penalty is Feb. 1.

The supplemental motor vehicle tax bills were mailed Dec. 9. There is not an additional mailing for the second installment of real estate and personal property bills.

Make checks payable to: Town of East

Hampton. Payment can be made at Town Hall, 1 Community Drive. Hours of collection: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; Tuesday, 8 a.m.-6:30 p.m.; and Friday, 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Payments may also be mailed to: Collector of Revenue, 1 Community Drive, East Hampton, CT 06424. People can also pay online by visiting www.easthamptonct.gov.

Resident Joins Sotheby's Realty



Dana Flanagan

Two Sotheby's International Realty affiliate firms within the luxury real estate brand's global network last week welcomed top-producing real estate agent Dana Flanagan, serving markets in both Connecticut and south Florida.

Flanagan will work with William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty in Connecticut, operating out of the firm's Hartford County brokerage, and with ONE Sotheby's International Realty in Florida, operating out of the company's Fort Lauderdale brokerage.

Formerly associated with Nest Seekers, Flanagan brings over 20 years of real estate expertise, closing approximately \$35 million in total dollar volume and over 85 home sales annually. Specializing in properties across all price points, she is hands-on with her business in both Connecticut and Fort Lauderdale, Fla., along with surrounding communities including Palm Beach and Miami. She lives and works in both parts of the country.

Flanagan is a president of international real estate with Wall Street Luxury, a concierge service for ultra-high net worth clients that delivers luxury real estate opportunities, marketing solutions, and vacation and destination experiences. Most recently, she drew upon the service to facilitate the listing of properties at a golf resort in the Caribbean.

Flanagan is also a host and producer, with several lifestyle and real estate TV shows airing nationally, including *American Dream TV*, *A Taste of Winter* and *Dining Divas*, and her

listings have attracted the attention of HGTV's *House Hunters*. She has over 140,000 followers on Instagram.

"I am thrilled to be working now with the exceptional Sotheby's International Realty affiliates serving Connecticut and South Florida," said Flanagan. "This luxury brand, one of the most recognizable names in real estate, is an ideal fit for me. Our new affiliation will provide me with many more opportunities for collaboration and expanding my network nationally and internationally to the great benefit of my clients."

Alex Ohlandt, brokerage manager for William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty in Hartford County, said, "Dana is an experienced, detail-oriented and passionate sales associate who cares deeply about her clients. She is skilled in the art of making connections and delivers excellent, personalized service and results. I am so excited to welcome her to our team."

Flanagan will be joined in her move by two additional sales associates: Ryan De Lello, an experienced agent with sales in Connecticut, and Jessica Nevin, a dually licensed agent in New York and Florida who now calls Fort Lauderdale home and brings a background in recruiting and leasing.

"This collaboration is a testament to the unmatched global network of Sotheby's International Realty, with a footprint that reaches down the block and around the world," said Daniel de la Vega, president of ONE Sotheby's International Realty. "We are proud to welcome Dana and look forward to the incredible contributions she will bring to the table."

Born and raised in Connecticut, she spends her personal time enjoying outdoor sporting activities from golfing, wakesurfing and wakeboarding in the summer to skiing in the winter.

EHACC Grants Available

The East Hampton Arts & Culture Commission welcomes grant applications from East Hampton organizations and individuals with programs and/or projects that enrich the lives of East Hampton residents through the arts.

Deadline to apply is April 1; email applications to arts@easthamptonct.org or drop them off at the town manager's office at Town Hall.

Eligibility: One of two \$500 grants are available to be awarded to individuals or organiza-

tions residing in East Hampton. The commission reserves the right to award a grant to an individual or organization it determines will have the most potential impact of arts and/or culture on the town. Incomplete forms will be denied; applicants can resubmit.

Criteria for awarding grants: The artistic and organizational quality of the organization and/or project and its likelihood of continuing viability or success. The organization's or project's accessibility and service to the East Hampton community. Grant recipients must credit the East Hampton Arts and Culture Commission on all press releases, posters, print advertising and programs.

Evaluation: An interview may be requested of the candidate prior to awarding the grant. An update of your progress will be required six months post-award date and a final report will be required one year post award date.

Applications are available at www.artsforeasthamptonct.org

Cabin Fever Talk

The Chatham Historical Society's next Cabin Fever talk will be Saturday, Feb. 4, at 1 p.m., in-person at East Hampton Public Library, 105 Main St.

East Hampton native and avid historian Dean Markham will present "It's a Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight." He will talk about the history of fires that have plagued the town – such as the May 2012 blaze that destroyed the 1880 Bevin Bell Factory.

All are invited.

EHMS Volleyball Registration

Student/athletes in seventh or eighth grade who are interested in playing for the boys or girls volleyball teams can register at FamilyID.com. Students must have a physical within a 13-month period in order to participate.

The deadline for registration is Monday, Jan. 30. For more information, call East Hampton Middle School athletic director Michael Mercaldi at 860-463-6837.



New Historical Society Officers... The newly elected officers of the Chatham Historical Society (CHS) are shown here in front of the CHS Museum. From left are Marty Podskoch, board member; Paula Alm, secretary; Don Burr, treasurer; and Carol Morris, president. Absent from photo were Debbie Day, vice president, and Andrew Dickinson and Maggy Morales, board members. Morris replaces the retiring Sandy Doran, who served as president for the past 32 years. Likewise, Burr, the former secretary, replaces as treasurer Mike Doran, who retired after serving approximately 25 years. Anyone interested in joining the historical society are invited to the next meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 7, at 7 p.m., in the CHS Museum at 6 Bevin Blvd. Photo by Maggy Morales.

Lions' Humanitarian of the Year

East Hampton Lions' Humanitarian of the Year for 2022 is Robert "Bob" Atherton – and he will be honored this weekend.

Until recently, Atherton chaired the Commission on Aging and worked on the big picture of improving the lives of seniors. He's been very active on many levels of the senior center – recently organizing all of the volunteers and organizing the Meals-on-Wheels program. But his great love is talking with other people. His own Meals-on-Wheels route should take a half hour however he spends more than hour with the extra time

just touching base with the homebound. He is also extremely active in the Haddam Neck Covenant Church and has worked its chicken barbecue for years.

A banquet will be held at Saint Clements Castle in Portland on Sunday, Jan. 22, at 1 p.m. Atherton will be honored along with eight other humanitarians that were chosen by other clubs in Lions District 23-C. All are invited to attend. Tickets are \$55 and may be obtained by calling Lion Mary Krogh at 860-977-5760.

Belltown Garden Club Meeting

The Belltown Garden Club of East Hampton will meet this month at Balleck's Garden Center, 91 Maple Ave., East Haddam, at 6 p.m. Monday, Jan. 23.

Nancy Balleck-McKinnon will give a presentation on the types and care of orchids. Participants are encouraged to bring an orchid they have and may need help with understanding why it is not reblooming.

Members of the public and prospective members are welcome. The East Hampton Belltown Garden Club is a member of Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut and National Garden Clubs.

Call Ellen Pettengill at 860-754-8403 for more information.

Volunteer Drivers Sought

Volunteer drivers are needed for the CRT Meals-on-Wheels program at the East Hampton Senior Center. Folks can commit to one hour a week or a month, or be a regular or substitute driver.

Driver opportunities available Monday-Friday. Call the senior center for more details at 860-267-4426 or email seniorcenter@easthamptonct.gov.

Little League Registration Open

East Hampton Little League registration is now open for the 2023 spring season. Registration will be open till Feb. 12.

Head to Belltownll.org for more information.

Dean's List

East Hampton residents David D'Antonio, Alexis Harris and Dylan Levesque made the fall 2022 Dean's List at the University of Saint Joseph in West Hartford.

D'Antonio and Harris are nursing majors, and Levesque is a health science major.

Grants Available for Capstone Project

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.

Deadline to apply is Feb. 1. Applications are available at www.artsforeasthamptonct.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.

Troop 57 Bottle Drives Return

Troop 57 is returning to live in-person bottle drives beginning Saturday, Jan. 21. The drive will be held at the American Distilling parking lot at 31 East High St. (Route 66) from 9 a.m.-noon.

The troop is discontinuing its porch drop-offs, so all are asked to save their bottles and cans for the in-person drives. Future drives will be March 18, May 20, July 22, Sept. 16 and Nov. 18.

KoC Spaghetti Supper

The Knights of Columbus Belltown Council 6190 at St. Patrick Church in East Hampton will sponsor its semi-annual spaghetti and meatball dinner Friday, Jan. 27, from 4:30-7:30 p.m., at the church parish center, located at 47 West High St. (Inclement weather date is Feb. 3.)

Take-out and dine-in meals will be offered.

Meal prices are \$13 for adults and \$12 for seniors. Children 5 and under eat for free. The meal will include a salad, bread, dessert, coffee, tea, soda, water and punch drinks. Proceeds will support local charitable programs. Raffle prizes and musical entertainment will be offered as well.

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

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

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Obituaries

Marlborough

Sandra Cullen

On Sunday, Jan. 15, Sandra Cullen, 80, of Willington, passed away peacefully with her family at her side. She was a loving mother, grandmother, sister, nurse, and dear friend to all who knew her. She is at peace now, and will be dearly missed.



She was born in Brooklyn, N.Y., on Groundhog Day, Feb. 2, 1942. Her family soon moved to a home they built in North Brookfield, Mass., where she was raised with her brother Paul, "Babe," and sister Ginger. She graduated from nursing school, class of 1962, and worked at various hospitals until moving to Tolland. Sandy then began working as a nurse and then ER supervisor at what would become her work home and family, Johnson Memorial Hospital, for the next 35 years, until her retirement in 2006.

She lived a full life and had many interests, which included being an Avon lady (President's Club member) for many years, visiting and selling Skin So Soft, jewelry and makeup to all! Bowling on Sunday night mixed leagues and Wednesday women's leagues at Vernon Lanes was a passion for her and her purple bowling ball. She was a member of the Moose Lodge Eastern Star, where she danced many a night away. She loved spending time with her grandson Nick, and watching him grow up to be a fine young man who she was very proud of.

Many a family night was spent playing various card and board games. Especially Scrabble, where her word wizardry was legendary. Movie night was usually a movie Grandma chose as we enjoyed popcorn and laughs together. Early in life she enjoyed many travel adventures and later traveled through the many, many books she read and shared, with her dear friend Betty. Lunch with her friends at Olive Garden or 99 always brought joy to her; shrimp scampi was her favorite!

Elvis, Neil Diamond, Baby Yoda, hummingbirds, Beanie Babies, jewelry and hats all brought her much enjoyment.

She was predeceased by her parents, Paul and Hope Crespo along with brother Paul "Babe" Crespo, all of North Brookfield; her daughter-in-law, Michelle Anne Cullen, who she helped care for during her brief illness; and ex-husband, William J. Cullen of Tolland.

She is survived by her son, Paul Cullen and his second wife Michele of Marlborough; her grandson, Nicholas of Westminster, Colo.; her sister, Ginger Moody-Walters of Adamsville, Tenn.; as well as many nieces, nephews and a large extended family including the Bovins, Cebulas, Hamiltons, Bouchards and Roches.

The family would like to thank the staff at Evergreen Health Care in Stafford Springs for all their compassionate care during her illness. Special thanks to Dr. Parikh, Brenda, Ashley, Sophie, Jamie, Fran, Angela, Marie and everyone who made Sandy feel so special and cared for.

A celebration of her life will be held Saturday, Jan. 21, at the Tolland Memorial Funeral Home, 375 Merrow Rd., Tolland. Calling hours are between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., followed by a luncheon to share fond memories.

In typical Sandy fashion, please wear something cheerful to honor her love of festive colors.

To leave online condolences, please visit www.pietrasfuneralhome.com.

Portland

Richard Lee Harmon

Richard Lee ("Bud") Harmon, a resident of Portland for over 60 years and the beloved husband of the late K. Jean (Treese) Harmon, passed away at Middlesex Hospital in Middletown on Tuesday, Jan. 10.



Born Aug. 12, 1934, on top of the dining room table at his maternal grandmother's farm in Armstrong County, Pa., Bud is the older of the two sons of Marion and Della (Shick) Harmon. He attended schools in Sugar Valley and in Marion Center, Pa., graduating from Marion Center High School, after which married his wife on Jan. 1, 1955, and served for two years in the U.S. Army, including a posting at an Army base in Germany where his wife was able to join him.

Upon their return to the U.S. in 1956, they relocated from western Pennsylvania, initially to Garfield Heights, Ohio, and then in 1962 to Portland, where he has lived since. He worked in the stamping and tool-and-die industry, first for Dayton Progress Corporation in Dayton, Ohio, and then after 1980, as a co-owner of Har/Mac in Milford. He was quite successful with his co-owned business and he and his partner were able to sell this business and retire in the 1990s.

Bud is survived by two sons, Bradley Lee Harmon of Cabot, Ark., and Mark David Harmon of San Mateo, Calif.; two grandchildren, Richard Lee Harmon II (and his wife Courtney) of Portland and Lisa Nicole Harmon of Conway, Ark.; four great-grandchildren, Ethan, Breana, Jacob and Samuel; one brother, Marion Newton Harmon (and his wife Ruth) of Corfu, N.Y.; and the many nieces, nephews and cousins of his very large extended family.

Bud was preceded in death by his wife, by his parents, and by his son-in-law, Ed Louie (Mark's partner).

He was very much devoted to his family and loved his family very much, and they were devoted to him and loved him deeply.

Bud and his wife traveled extensively, especially after his retirement in the 1990s. Even while he was working, there were annual family fishing vacations to Quebec when his sons were boys, as well as regular trips to western Pennsylvania to see and visit with extended family. Bud and his wife were able to travel to all 50 states and to many of the Canadian provinces, all with an emphasis on the outdoors and visits to national, state and provincial parks.

He was a hunter and made an annual trip to the family hunting camp in Elk County, Pa., to be with and hunt with his father, uncles, brother, son, and nephews. Bud also had a lifelong passion for fishing, taking his wife and sons on many fishing trips with a small boat he purchased in the 1960s. After he retired, he became an avid local hiker, enthusiastically participating in frequent hikes offered by the Portland-based Meshomasic Hiking Club as well as doing day-hikes on his own of sections of the Appalachian Trail in the northeast.

Calling hours and services were held in Connecticut at the Portland Memorial Funeral Home, 231 Main St., Portland, on Wednesday evening, Jan. 18. Bud will be cremated, and his and his wife's ashes will both be interred at a family plot at Mt. Zion Cemetery (Beautiful Lookout) in New Bethlehem, Pa. The date of the interment in Pennsylvania has not yet been set by the family, but will likely occur in the spring.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may

be directed to the Portland United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 459, Portland, CT 06480-0459; or to the Middlesex Land Trust, deKoven House, 27 Washington St., Middletown, CT 06457 (and online at middlesexlandtrust.org/).

Written condolences may be sent to the family home at 9 Hale Rd., Portland, CT 06480-1113.

Andover

William S. Sutherland

William S. Sutherland, 61, of Andover, beloved husband of Dawn (Madore) Sutherland, passed away peacefully surrounded by his loving family. Bill was born Dec. 29, 1961, at Rockville Hospital. He was the son of the late Charles and Catherine (MacDonald) Sutherland.



He is survived by his wife, Dawn (Madore) Sutherland; and their three sons, Benjamin and his wife, Liz Sutherland of Wells, Maine, Ethan Sutherland of Amston, and Bailey Sutherland of Andover; as well as his sisters, Joan Redding of Georgia, Beverly Bull of Florida, Brenda Bosse of Stafford Springs, Bonnie Colburn of Rockville, Kenneth Sutherland of Willington, Roger Sutherland of Mansfield.

Bill loved the idea of going new places. He had an itch for adventure, loved getting people to try new foods and was most proud of some of the accomplishments when coaching Andover Youth Baseball. He shared in the excitement of Andover's first district win. He also loved fishing with his family, and anything to do with the Red Sox or the New England Patriots. He will be greatly missed by all his friends, family and co-workers. Bill was a skilled aerospace machinist for over 40 years, ending his career as a quality engineer at Raytheon Technology.

A celebration of life will be held Saturday, Jan. 28, from 2 to 4 p.m., at Brooklawn Funeral Home, 511 Brook St. in Rocky Hill. All are encouraged to come and share the memories of Bill. The burial will be at the convenience of the family.

In lieu of flowers, please donate in Bill's name to the Andover Volunteer Fire Department.

Portland

Susan Violet Furness

Susan Violet Furness, 75, of Newington, passed away peacefully Sunday, Jan. 15.



Susan was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, sister and friend, who will be missed by many. She was born Sept. 18, 1947, to the late Doris and Chester Frohock. She graduated from Newington High School in 1965 and married soon after. She happily raised her children and was very involved in their lives and community by volunteering for many years with Brownies, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, Sunday School, and in Newington's school system.

Susan then worked for the Connecticut Conference Office of the United Church of Christ, retiring after 29 years as registrar, who kept tally of all the churches and helped countless churches find their ministry staff.

Sue is survived by her husband, Peter Furness; daughter, Kristin Otis Medvecky (Trevor) of Portland; son, Justin Otis of Manchester; stepson, Scott Furness (Susana) of Florida; grandchildren, Jaxon and Erik Medvecky and Liam Furness; siblings, Sally Noonan (John) and Richard Frohock (Beth); several nieces, nephew and cousins.

Lincolville, Maine carried a special place in Sue's heart with its mountains, lakes, shoreline and history. She loved vacationing there her entire life, often surrounded by her family at the beach and dinner table.

The family would like to extend our greatest appreciation to the staff at Portland Care and Rehab who cared for Sue during her last four years.

A Remembrance of Life service will be held Saturday, Jan. 21, at 11 a.m., at Church of Christ Congregational, 1075 Main St., Newington. The service will also be livestreamed – see the church's website for details.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation on Susan's behalf to the Alzheimer's Association, act.alz.org/goto/SueFurness.

East Hampton

Beverly Warga

Beverly (Calchera) Warga, fondly known as Bev, 79, of East Hampton, formerly of Stafford Springs and Tolland, passed away peacefully surrounded by her loving family on Tuesday, Dec. 20. She was born Aug. 11, 1943, in Stafford Springs, and was the daughter of the late Alfred & Alda (Bono) Calchera.



Bev was involved with emergency medical services over many decades and in many different areas. She started her career in 1971, being the first woman in Connecticut to receive her EMT certification. From there her dedication to the field continued as she joined the Tolland Ambulance; then she moved to dispatcher at Troop K State Police in Colchester. She then transferred to dispatcher in Glastonbury Police Department in 1977, where she stayed until her retirement in 2015.

She served in many positions over the years at the Glastonbury Police Department, retiring as the victim service coordinator. She was also the first responder instructor for many years for the police, fire and ambulance. Bev was also an original board member at inception back in 1986 of the Critical Incident Stress Team and an integral part of this team until 2011. Bev last worked the Sandy Hook tragedy as a mental health professional.

Bev was always ready to help anyone in need – night or day she could be depended upon. She was also on the Town of East Hampton Board of Finance, and was a Colchester-Hayward Volunteer firefighter for over 30 years, Connecticut State Police Auxiliary Trooper, and Town of East Hampton Volunteer Ambulance Association member.

Bev was a strong, driven, independent, caring, giving, fun, smart, intelligent "BADASS" that was always laughing and smiling. She loved the sun, beach, summertime, and spending time with her grandkids, whether it was playing with them, going to their games, or listening to their music.

Bev was a devoted mother and grandmother who will be greatly missed. Even though she is gone, she left a huge mark on all that she touched, helped and taught, and she will never be forgotten.

Bev is survived by her daughter, Lisa Foreman and husband Marvin of East Hampton; and her son, Ronald Trapp Jr. and wife Mary of East Hampton; and her son in-law, Jon Lane Sr. of Vernon. She is also survived by her grandchildren: Ashley Foreman, Jonathan Lane Jr. and wife Michelle, Lindsay Gosselin and fiancé Anthony Valenti, Kristopher Lane, Joshua Lane and fiancé Caitlyn Trudeau, Adam

Trapp and wife Ashely, Lauren Trapp and Kali Trapp. She is also survived by her great grandkids, Ben and Molly Lane and Peyton Leclerc. She is also survived by her sister Marilyn and the late Joe DeCarli of Florida and brother Alfred (Tut) Calchera and wife Linda of Willington.

Bev was predeceased by her eldest daughter, Tina Marie (Trapp) Lane, in June 2022; and her grandson, Nicholas David Gosselin, in January of 2017.

The family would like to thank Chestelm Health & Rehabilitation Center in Moodus for providing comfort and care on her final days.

Friends may call at Spencer Funeral Home, 112 Main St., East Hampton, on Saturday Jan. 21, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., including memorial service. Burial will be private at the convenience of the family.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made in Bev's name to the Glastonbury Police Department or Town of Glastonbury (Special Gifts & Equipment Funds), 2108 Main St., Glastonbury, CT 06033.

Portland

William Paul Leighton Sr.

With great sadness we announce the passing of William Paul Leighton Sr. of Portland. He died at age 52 on Thursday, Jan. 5, surrounded by his loving family.

William "Bill" Leighton Sr., born Oct. 12, 1970, lived his life selflessly and with pride and honor, son of his wonderful mom Mary Leighton of Portland and father Gerald Leighton of Busti, N.Y.

He leaves behind many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews who he loved very much.

Bill was a carpenter by trade. He loved work-

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Obituaries cont.

ing with his hands and had a very successful career doing what he loved.

Everyone that knew him loved him. From the counter lady at the pizza parlor to the worker at Cumby's. His quiet, loving demeanor was felt by all those that knew him. His devotion to family and friends was incomparable. He was always there to lend a helping hand without hesitation or complaint.

Bill remained young at heart his entire life. His love of comics, horror movies, roller coasters, WWE wrestling and video games didn't ebb with age. His big, infectious laugh is something that will be missed but never forgotten.

In 1996, Bill married his high school sweetheart, Sue, and shared a lifetime of love and laughter. Bill and Sue went on to have three beautiful children, Billy Jr., Colby and Bethany.

Bill put his entire family's needs above his own and has always been and will always be their "Superman." He will forever be loved and missed by many, especially his sisters Lisa and Cindy, his brother Dave, his mother-in-law Carolyn and his brothers Dan and Jerry, and their mom Linda.

He will be greeted in heaven by his grandparents Mary and Harry Brahen, and Velma and Gerald Leighton.

The family invites you to come and pay your respects at Portland Memorial Funeral Home at 23 Main Street in Portland today, Friday, Jan. 20, from 5-7 p.m.

Colchester

Harry Edward Downey

Harry Edward "Sam" Downey passed away peacefully Thursday, Jan. 12, at the age of 87. He was born July 17, 1935, to his parents Harry and Julia (Allis) Downey. He attended West Hartford schools and graduated from Hall High School in 1953. He served his country as a member of the Connecticut Air National Guard, serving as a member of their crash rescue team for a term of nine years and attaining the rank of staff sergeant.



In 1959 he married Grace Cooper, the love of his life, and together they started an insurance brokerage firm under the name of Sam Downey & Associates that specialized in providing employee benefits for municipal and school district employees, insuring over 50,000 public sector personnel.

Sam became involved in the Colchester Jaycees where he eventually served as regional president. He also became deeply involved in local politics as a member and chairman of the Colchester Republican Town Committee, and as a campaign manager for several Republican candidates. His interest in local government was evident as he served as the Borough of Colchester Warden and a member of the Board of Burgesses for several terms. He was elected to the Board of Education, served on the School Building Committee and the Board of Tax Review.

Sam was well-known for his dedication to youth sports. He coached and managed both Little League and Babe Ruth baseball teams for several years, and was also one of the founding fathers of the Colchester Cougars Football organization, as well as its first chairman. The Cougars' longtime objective was attained when

football was adopted by the Colchester Board of Education. He was also a member of the Eastern Connecticut Approved Football Officials and refereed countless local games in this position.

The most important part of his life was the family he loved. In addition to Grace, his bride for 63 years, he had four children: Lisa (Martin) Sedlmeier, Patrick (Janet) Downey, Melissa Cavrell and Betsey Downey, as well as a very special ex-son-in-law, Carl Cavrell. His pride and joy were his grandchildren: William, Kathleen, Jacob, Shannon, Kevin, Timothy, Daniel and Jonathan, as well as his great-granddaughter Gabriella. His presence in our lives will be sorely missed.

Sam's family would like to thank the wonderful nurses, doctors, technicians and staff at the W. W. Backus Hospital for their overwhelming compassion and kindness throughout his hospice stay.

Sam's funeral services will be privately held. There will be no calling hours.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a memorial donation, in Sam's name, to The American Cancer Society.

The Aurora McCarthy Funeral Home in Colchester is assisting with arrangements. To share a memory or express condolences to his family, please visit www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

Colchester

Diane Marie McNichols

Diane Marie McNichols, of Colchester, passed away at Middlesex Hospital Tuesday, Jan. 17. She was 77 years old. Born on May 29, 1945, in Boston, she was the daughter of the late George and Gertrude (Codero) Hemsworth.

Diane was a successful realtor in the '80s, helping many families to find their perfect home. She later turned her talents towards the crafting world where she was a busy craft artist, creating many items for friends and family. Most importantly, she will be remembered as a woman who was fiercely devoted to her family. She loved caring for her children, grandchildren and anyone who walked through her door. She treated everyone as if they were family, and would always have fresh cookies to offer. She greatly enjoyed cooking for her loved ones and was happiest hosting family gatherings and holidays.

Her passing will be mourned by many, but she will always be remembered with love by her children, Lori Miller and her husband John Saitta of Rockfall, David McNichols of Montville, William Nantz, Jr. of Colchester, Mark Nantz of Colchester, Christine Foley and her spouse Richard Krepcio, Jr. of Colchester; her brother, Frederick Solmo of Colchester; eight grandchildren, Taylor and Heather Miller, Phoebe and Zander Nantz, Kyle and Ethan Foley, and Dylan and Emily Krepcio; as well as several nieces, nephews and extended family members and friends.

In addition to her parents, Diane was predeceased by her first husband, William Nantz in 1969 and her second husband, Ronald McNichols in 2005.

Funeral services will be held at the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home, 167 Old Hartford Rd., Colchester, on Saturday, Jan. 21, beginning at 9:30 a.m., with a calling hour, and the funeral service at 10:30 a.m. Burial will follow in Linwood Cemetery in Colchester.

To share a memory or express a condolence to the family, please visit www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

Standout Athletes of the Week

By Josh Howard

Here are the *Rivereast* Standout Athletes of the week for the week of Jan. 9-15:

Jackie Russell – East Hampton High School (Basketball): Russell, a junior, scored 19 points, knocking down three shots from beyond the arc as the Bellingers earned a convincing 51-19 road victory over Old Saybrook on Jan. 13. Sophomore Liana Salamone, the team's leading scorer this season, did her usual damage by adding 20 points. Next up for the 10-1 Bellingers is a Shoreline Conference clash against Portland at East Hampton High School tonight, Friday, Jan. 20 at 7 p.m.

Lily Tabellione – Portland High School (Track & Field): Tabellione won both the 1,000 meters and the 3,200 meters at the Shoreline League Meet on Jan. 12 at the Floyd Athletic Center in New Haven. Tabellione, a junior, ran a personal-best 3.12.16 to win the 1,000m by more than a second and then ran a blistering personal-best 12:00.57 in the 3,200m to easily win the distance event by over 12 seconds. The Highlanders finished third overall as a team at the multi-school conference competition.

Dani Poudrier – RHAM High School (Cheerleading): Poudrier has been a great

leader and role model on the Raptors cheer squad, which cheers at all the home basketball games and will compete in conference and state meets in the coming months. Poudrier, a senior, also helps out with the middle school cheer squad, mentoring the next generation of Raptors cheerleaders. Poudrier and her cheer squad will next be performing when the girls' basketball team welcomes Rocky Hill to RHAM High School tonight, Friday, Jan. 20 at 6:45 p.m.

Skyelyn Schoen-Rene – Bacon Academy High School (Basketball): Schoen-Rene, a freshman, scored a career-high 12 points, including 10 in the fourth quarter, as the Bobcats held off Killingly 48-40 on Jan. 13 to remain undefeated. The game was tied heading into the fourth quarter before Bacon's defense clamped down, holding Killingly to a mere four points over the final eight minutes. Katelyn Novak led the four quarter charge, scoring five straight points as the Bobcats took the lead early in the final frame and never looked back. Next up for the 11-0 Bobcats is a road test at Waterford High School tonight, Friday, Jan. 20. Tip-off is 7 p.m.

Tri-County Legion Baseball

Registration is open for those interested in participating in tryouts for one of Tri-County American Legion baseball program's 2023 summer teams. Deadline to register is Jan. 31.

Serious players who will be between the ages of 13-19 in 2023 – and who have a parent residing in Andover, Colchester, East Haddam, East Hampton, Hebron, Lebanon or Marlborough – are eligible. Depending on interest, Tri-County is again preparing to enter teams at all four levels of American Legion baseball: 19U, 17U, 15U and 13U.

Tryouts will begin on weekends in February at some nearby indoor facilities. The tryout dates are available on the Tri-County Legion website but age group schedules will be finalized and shared with registrants after the deadline.

Interested players should register at www.tcleague.com or contact GM Len Lampugnale at Lampugnale@comcast.net or at 860-295-0437 for more information.

Radon Test Kits Available

January is Radon Awareness Month. If you would like a free radon kit, the Chatham Health District has acquired a limited number of radon test kits from the Connecticut State Health Department.

One test kit is available per residence for those living within the district. Once the test is complete, you will need to mail the kit in for analysis at no charge to you. The results will be sent to you and will not be public information.

Test kits are available while supplies last; please only take one if you are committed to following the directions and mailing it out.

If interested in a test kit, call 860-365-0884.

Scholarships Available for Area Students

Carl Guild and Associates has announced its community scholarship program for local high school seniors entering college in the fall.

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

Deadline for applications is April 1. Visit www.carlguild.com/scholarship for an application, ask your school's guidance counselor for one.

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RivereastNewsBulletin

LEGAL NOTICE MARLBOROUGH PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

The Marlborough Planning Commission will hold the following Public Hearing Tuesday, January 24, 2023 at 7:00 PM in the Marlborough Elementary School cafeteria, located at 25 School Dr, Marlborough. Public Forum Sustainable CT Racial and Social Equity 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. Mark Stankiewicz, PLANNING COMMISSION CHAIR

LEGAL NOTICE MIDDLE HADDAM HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION MEETING
Thursday, January 26, 2023
6:30 pm at TOWN HALL

Public hearing will be held to consider the following: Application 575 for a Certificate of Appropriateness at 65 Middle Haddam Road, Middle Haddam – to install an oil tank outside the Rectory of Christ Church – for applicant Christ Church. The foregoing application is available for public review at the East Hampton Building Department. At this hearing interested persons may be heard and written communications will be received.

LEGAL NOTICE OF ACTIONS PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION HEBRON, CONNECTICUT

The Hebron Planning and Zoning Commission took the following actions at their Regular Meeting, which was held on Tuesday, January 10, 2023, at 7:00 P.M.:

- Petition 2022-11 and 2022-12** – Petition of Roger G. Barrett, Jr. to amend the Special Permit and Site Plan for a legal, non-conforming use at 326 Gilead St. Application filed under Section 6.B.3 of the Hebron Zoning Regulations. **Approved with conditions.**

The video recording of the Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting can be seen using the following link: <https://transcripts.gotomeeting.com/#/s/d7e214de955b4a2bd3d-08da8e0057f7219b67ac45f038b3f29544dd82c824d9>

LEGAL NOTICE of SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

Wednesday, February 1, 2023 at 6:45 P.M.
Buck-Foreman Community Room, 265 Main Street, Portland, CT 06480

The electors and those persons eligible to vote in town meetings of the Town of Portland, Connecticut, are hereby warned and notified that Pursuant to Section 503(f) of the Town Charter, a Special Town Meeting will be held by the Board of Selectmen on February 1, 2023 at 6:45 P.M. in the Buck Foreman Community Center to consider and vote upon whether the Town shall (1) enter into a binding option agreement, (2) execute an affidavit of site control, and (3) enter into a long-term power purchase agreement in support of the development of a commercial-scale solar photovoltaic array at the Portland Landfill, located at 39 Sand Hill Road (the "Landfill"), as described below:

- ITEM 1. To Approve and Authorize the Town of Portland, acting through its First Selectman, to enter into a binding option agreement with Greenskies / Clean Focus ("Greenskies") to use the Landfill for development of a commercial-scale solar photovoltaic array thereon. The binding option to agreement is for a term of up to two (2) years, with payments to the Town of \$2,000 for the first year, and \$2,500 for the second year. This binding option agreement is a required element of Greenskies' application to the state's competitive Non-residential ("NRES") Program for solar development.
 - ITEM 2. To Approve and Authorize the Town of Portland acting through its First Selectman, to execute an affidavit attesting that Greenskies, through the binding option agreement, has appropriate control over the Landfill, in support of Greenskies' application to the state's competitive NRES Program. This affidavit from the Town, as the landowner, is a required element of Greenskies' application to the state's competitive NRES Program.
 - ITEM 3. To Approve and Authorize the Town of Portland, acting through its First Selectman, to enter into a power purchase agreement with Greenskies, for a term not less than twenty (20) years, to develop a commercial-scale solar array on the Landfill, if Greenskies is successful in the State's competitive NRES Program.
- A copy of the complete resolution to be voted on is available for public inspection in the Town Clerk's Office and on the Town's website at www.portlandct.org.
Dated this 18th day of January 2023
Attest: Ryan J. Curley, First Selectman

LEGALS

TOWN OF MARLBOROUGH BOARD OF FINANCE PUBLIC HEARING LEGAL NOTICE

Wednesday, February 1, 2023
6:30 p.m.
MES Cafeteria
Zoom Link Below

The legal voters of the Town of Marlborough are hereby notified and warned that a Public Hearing will be held at the Elmer Thienes/Mary Hall Elementary School Cafeteria, 25 School Drive, Marlborough, CT on Wednesday, February 1, 2023 at 6:30 P.M. for the following purpose:

- To discuss a special appropriation in the amount of \$250,000 for settlement of pending litigation as recommended by the Board of Finance.

Board of Finance
Mike Nastri, Chairman
Topic: BOF Public Hearing
Time: Feb 1, 2023 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81006041033?pwd=bnJzRnFUU2FjeFhtZXVsK3lGaW9UZWZ09>
Meeting ID: 810 0604 1033
Passcode: 7aw2cg
Dial by your location
+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)
Meeting ID: 810 0604 1033
Passcode: 192584

TOWN OF ANDOVER LEGAL NOTICE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

The Andover Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing at 7:00 p.m., January 23, 2023 to solicit public comment and answer questions regarding proposed amendments to its Zoning Regulations. More particularly, the proposed amendments involve changes to Sections 5.a.01, and Section 24 (Definitions) of the zoning regulations so allow for municipal land uses by way of a Special Permit in the Andover Rural Design Zone and to modify the definitions pertaining to municipal uses

Topic: Planning and Zoning Commission- Regular Meeting
Time: Jan 23, 2023 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88186144359>
Meeting ID: 881 8614 4359
Passcode: 560130
Dial by your location+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)
Comments, concerns, and questions may be presented at the public hearing or be submitted to the Andover Building and Land-Use Office in writing a minimum of 48 hours prior to the time/date of the Public Hearing. Copies of the proposed changes are available for review on the Planning and Zoning Commission page of the town's web-site (andoverct.org) or at the Building and Land-Use Office, Town Hall, 17 School Road.
Jim Hallisey
Zoning Agent

Reader Forum • Reader Forum

★ *Story cont. from page 7*

You are entrusted to do the right thing for the residents of Hebron and make decisions based on present facts and not on future speculations that are intended for obvious political favors.

Hebron residents are well aware of the efforts to modernize and improve the town public works facility and we all appreciate the efforts of the selectmen, town manager, building committee and various others have expended to find a solution.

So, I ask, if you continue to table this issue until this solution is found would you then grant Kinney Road a scenic designation? If that facility is located on the Horton property with an outlet road on Kinney Road, would you still consider the road scenic? I think not.

Because the traffic congestion and outlet to Route 85 and the increased traffic on the road would certainly negatively affect the decision.

In closing, I would trust that the P&Z will reconsider in a timely manner the decision to rightly grant Kinney Road a “scenic road” designation as outlined in the town ordinance.

**Harry P. Hansen – Amston
Kinney Road Resident**

Criminal Referrals to DOJ

To the Editor:

Jan. 6 Committee’s four criminal referrals go as follows:

18 U.S. Code § 1512C Tampering with a witness, victim, or an informant:

Lawyer Passantino told Cassidy Hutchinson that he could help her find a job — and eventually passed on contacts for Trump lawyer Justin Clark and Trump adviser/Gettr CEO Jason Miller. “They know you’re loyal. They want to take care of you... they have good opportunities for you.”

18 U.S. Code § 371 Conspiracy to defraud the United States:

If two or more persons conspire either to commit any offense against the United States, or to defraud the United States, or any agency thereof in any manner or for any purpose, and one or more of such persons do any act to effect the object of the conspiracy, each shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than five years, or both. In other words, to make an agreement to impair, obstruct, or defeat the functions of the U.S. gov’t by deceitful or dishonest means.

18 U.S. Code § 1001 Conspiracy to Make a False Statement:

Donald Trump, John Eastman, Ken Chesebro and others conspired to get fake electors to file falsified electoral certificates to the National Archives and to Congress.

18 U.S. Code § 2383 - Rebellion or Insurrection:

Whoever incites, sets on foot, assists, or engages in any rebellion or insurrection against the authority of the United States or the laws thereof, or gives aid or comfort thereto, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 10 years, or both; and shall be incapable of holding any office under the United States.

In its sweeping 845-page report, the Jan. 6th Committee spotlights some of the MAGA accused rioters, who played outsized roles or provide connective tissue to the panel’s findings. Also released were transcripts of interviews. Many people took the 5th to all or most questions from the January 6th Committee includes: Michael Flynn, John Eastman, Roger Stone, Jeffrey Clark, Enrique Tarrio, Alex Jones, Charlie Kirk, Kelli Ward, Jenna Ellis, Kenneth Chesebro, Mike Roman, Michael McDonald, Nick Fuentes, Phil Waldron, Julie Fancelli. (*The Guardian*, MSN, MSNBC, CNN, Yahoo, CNBC, Bloomberg, <https://january6th.house.gov/final-report>)

Annie Steinbrecher – Marlborough

Myopic Government

To the Editor:

It’s inexplicable that Hebron’s leaders oppose Kinney Road as a scenic road. The 2014 POCD publicly stipulates all the current scenic road criteria in effect for the past 21 years. Kinney Road qualifies. It’s inappropriate for the town to change criteria in mid-review. That’s simple rule of law. Revising criteria now is like arresting someone for breaking a law that has yet to be made.

Spending taxpayer money for a lawyer and PR campaign to promote a personal agenda, not yet approved by the electorate, is wrong. Linking scenic road designation with PWC construction may also require further SHPO investigations according to statements on the town website.

Recently, Hebron passed a visual blight ordinance. Kinney Road residents are promot-

ing this town initiative. They have the right to determine if proposed Public Works intrusions on Kinney Road will introduce visual blight lowering their property values! Town officials shouldn’t be so callous just because it’s not their neighborhood.

PW Administrator Kevin Kelly has cited Burnt Hill as Hebron’s quintessential scenic road. My family has owned land along Burnt Hill for over a century. Burnt Hill and Kinney Road share similar characteristics. Both have pre-settlement and significant historic connections. Kinney Road is actually older. Both have a similar numbers of historic structures c1850-1970. The African-American/Yankee stone-walls on Kinney Road are superior to Burnt Hill examples. The major difference is that Burnt Hill landowners have worked hard to remove invasive species keeping the land productive and view open. Town land along Kinney Road, some of Hebron’s best farmland, was allowed to grow up into rural invasive blight, obscuring the view.

Hebron officials need to stop pretending the PWC is electorate supported, wasting taxpayers money for ego projects, and clean up their own back yard first!

**John Baron (Suburban Peasant)
Hebron**

Burnt Hill Park

To the Editor:

Hebron is fortunate to have such a beautiful recreational facility at Burnt Hill Park.

The park is utilized by most youth sport leagues including baseball, football, soccer and lacrosse. We frequently receive glowing compliments from visiting team coaches and parents regarding the field conditions. Several tournaments have been hosted, bringing in teams from surrounding towns and adding revenue to local businesses.

Hebron Day is held annually at the park and includes kids games and rides, music, food trucks, crafters and a car show. Last year, in conjunction with the Juneteenth Celebration, there were over 2,000 attendees. The park also hosts other annual events such as the Easter Eggstravaganza, Halloween Trunk or Treat, and the 5K Road Race.

The parks department does an exceptional job maintaining Burnt Hill Park and all the athletic fields in town. Every day you will find people walking on the miles of hiking trails, working in the community garden, or doing yoga in the pavilion. Hebron residents continue to benefit by the actions taken nearly twenty years ago by the town leaders to create this wonderful facility. I hope you and your family enjoy the park too.

Ken Jardin – Hebron

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

Another PW Option

To the Editor:

In the face of the current debate concerning a location for the Hebron public works facility, I’d like to put forward another option for consideration:

The Town of Hebron and the Hebron Lions have enjoyed a good working relationship for many years. Virtually all of these dedicated Lions are residents of the town of Hebron, and their work has put us on the map, especially for their annual Hebron Harvest Fair and Christmas drive-thru. In addition, they generously fund numerous local causes.

The Lions may yet serve this community again, by holding the answer to the location for the new public works facility. One could make a strong case for this geography, due to its central location in Hebron, off Route 85 and residing next to a State of Connecticut DOT sand/salt facility.

Some ideas for exploring this option:

1.) The Building Committee, Board of Selectmen and town planner could set up a meeting with the Lions to discuss mutual benefits of this option. Is there a spot within their grounds offering both the least intrusive and most efficient means of locating this facility?

2.) The town could explore a multi-year lease of the space required for the facility. This would provide the Lions with an annual revenue stream to preserve and enhance their wonderful programs.

3.) The town could offer improvements to the Lions’ grounds in their entrances and roads via paving, a traffic light for enhancing flow during events and facilitating safe entrancing and exiting of town vehicles, and improved shuttle bus service for the two busy fair weekend days... utilizing the commuter lots, schools, and library lot to offset any parking spots lost to the public works facility.

The location of the state-owned sand/salt lot adjacent to the Lions’ grounds has the potential to be a huge bonus to this location. More ideas on this to come next week...

Kirk Smallidge – Hebron

Colchester Celebrates MLK

To the Editor:

The first selectman’s office, the CORE Commission, and Cragin Memorial Library are hosting a reading to honor and celebrate MLK. Readings will be excerpts from Dr. King’s speeches and writings.

This community event will take place on Saturday, Jan. 21, from 11 a.m.-noon at Cragin Memorial Library. Everyone is welcome and we look forward to sharing this celebration with you.

**Shawn Pelletier, Andreas Bisbikos,
Kate Byroade
Colchester**

Scenic Road Shenanigans

To the Editor:

What in the world is happening in Hebron? The legally fulfilled Scenic Road request for Kinney Road has been delayed again. The completed request was submitted on Aug. 23, 2022, and at the public hearing on Nov. 15, the town planner reported, “all requirements have been satisfied.” Since then, a steady stream of misinformation has been publicized. Please allow me to share the truth. The Scenic Road request for Kinney Road actually exceeds the “criteria to be met” described in Town Ordinance Section § 313-5. A group of six characteristics are listed, with three being necessary to meet Scenic Road status. Kinney Road meets four of those requirements. In addition, 17 out of 18 households signed the petition supporting Scenic Road status, a near unanimous majority.

So why, five months after receiving the request, is the town planner seeking legal counsel? Is it a coincidence that on November 17th, during discussion of the Scenic Road request, the chairman of the Board of Selectmen stated the need to have “all our ships heading in the same direction” and voiced concerns “we’re not all in the same page”? Is it a coincidence that on Jan. 5th the Board of Selectmen acted outside of established procedure, ignoring a direct request from the chairman of Planning and Zoning, and appointed two new members to the Planning and Zoning Commission? Is it a coincidence the Town Manager has taken the highly inappropriate action of speaking out in public against a pending Planning and Zoning vote?

Following the selectmen’s comments of Nov. 17, I shared the definition of totalitarianism from the Oxford Dictionary: “A system of government that is centralized and dictatorial and requires complete subservience to the state.” Are these words now turning into actions? Please visit Kinney Road Matters on Facebook and #Save17.

Sincerely,

Kevin J. Tulumieri – Amston

Real Leadership Returns

Dear Neighbors in Colchester:

I cannot even begin to tell you how excited I am to watch Bernie Dennler’s recent announcement running for first selectman in Colchester this coming November.

I have known Bernie for several years. I have had many opportunities to watch how he seeks out ideas, listens to people and delivers a thoughtful response. He is so proud to be a part of Colchester and recognizes the potential of our great town. He has experience in municipal government. He served on the Board of Finance and brought sensible solutions and a calm voice of reason in addressing challenges and road-blocks others let get in the way of doing the right thing for the people.

We can be better. Bernie Dennler has demonstrated leadership to take us to better. Don’t take my word for it. Check him out. He would love to speak to you personally and hear your thoughts. Give him a chance to show you he is the best choice to lead Colchester into the future. Let’s elect a leader with integrity. I am voting for Bernie Dennler in November. It’s a clear choice for me.

**Respectfully submitted,
Mary Bylone – Colchester**

A Great Success!!

To the Editor:

This year Adopt-A-Family Holiday Giving was a great success! What an amazing turnout of donated toys we received this year from Portland Vet. We can’t thank you enough. We were able this year to help out four families that we adopted this year and put a huge smile on their faces and ours too.

Portland Fire Dept. Co.1 would like to thank the following for your generous donations: Bud’s Cafe, CSB Inc., Petzold’s, Portland Golf Course, Red Technologies, Magic Mirror, Schultz Electric, Portland NAPA, Winchester Cafe, Law Office of George A. Law, Water and Sewer Specialties, Guilmette Auto, DiMauro Oil, Hintz and Co., Portland Dental Care, Richard McGinley, Portland Memorial Funeral Home, Jarvis Airfoil, Valli Construction, Portland Automotive, Portland Dairy Queen, Portland Electric, Portland Transmission, A&N Subway of Portland, Jarvis Group, Thompson Landscape, Gotta’s Farm, Clear Blue Water Systems, Quonset Surplus Store, Cans 4 A Cause – Jeff Myjak, Portland Vet and Daniels Oil Co.

And a big thank you to my holiday wrappers, Linda Martin, June Martin, Rose, and also to my delivery crew too.

Have a safe and healthy 2023

Portland Fire Co.1 Holiday Delivery

Citizens Prepared to Respond

To the Editor:

The East Hampton Ambulance Association is planning CPR training during the month of February, which is Heart Month. East Hampton is a designated American Heart Association Heart Safe Community, with the goal of a trained responder and AED within minutes of every cardiac event. It has been proven that early CPR along with early defibrillation increases the survival rate of the cardiac arrest victim.

East Hampton currently has several AED units in town. They are located at Sears’ Park, St. Patrick Church, Anchor Lodge, American Distilling, all schools, the Senior Center, EH Little League Field, Team Fitness, East Hampton Town Hall and Public Works Department. They are carried by our police department, fire department and ambulance.

The East Hampton Ambulance Association is planning a Training and will announce that information very soon. This will be free to our residents. Our Chief, Donald Scranton is planning this opportunity for the community.

Become a part of a lifesaving team of first responders!

Keep Safe and Help Others!

Barbara Moore – East Hampton

Christmas Thanks

To Our Kind Community:

Thank you for making our Christmas fantastic and memorable. Because of your community support, all of our residents recieved a gift for Christmas and there was a lot of holiday cheer in our facility. We want to thank the following for their contributions to our holiday spirit.

Thank you to Barbara Piotrowski, for your donation of gifts and decorations. We miss having you work here and are glad that you are still thinking of us. Thank you to Verna Blume for helping to coordinate gift donations and for wrapping presents. Thank you to McKenna’s Flower Shop in Norwich for donating Christmas mug arrangements for every resident in our facility. All of our residents really enjoyed the smell of pine and fresh flowers.

Thank you to the local Girl Scout Troop for caroling around the building and bringing Holiday Cheer to us. Thank you Grace Gorreck, president of the National Honor Society at Bacon Academy, for coordinating gift donations with the students. And thank you to the students at Bacon Academy for their generous donations of lovely gifts. A special thank you to the staff at Harrington Court. We know that many of you were our “Secret Santa” and got us personalized gifts. Your thoughtfulness is much appreciated.

We know there are many more people to mention who have helped us this year and in past years. You are always in our thoughts.

We enjoyed our Christmas this year and hope everyone else did. We hope for a happy New Year for all.

**Sincerely,
Mary McMurray, Harry Steere, Pauline
Wirzbicki, and Machael Erardy
On Behalf of the Resident Council of
Harrington Court**



LEGALS

TOWN OF MARLBOROUGH BOARD OF FINANCE TOWN MEETING LEGAL NOTICE

Wednesday, February 1, 2023
7:00 p.m.
MES Cafeteria
Zoom Link Below

The legal voters of the Town of Marlborough are hereby notified and warned that a Town Meeting will be held at the Elmer Thienes/Mary Hall Elementary School, 25 School Drive, Marlborough, CT on Wednesday, February 1, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. for the following purpose:

- To vote on a special appropriation in the amount of \$250,000 for settlement of pending litigation as recommended by the Board of Finance.

Board of Finance
Mike Nastri, Chairman
Topic: BOF Town Meeting
Time: Feb 1, 2023 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/8682404777?pwd=NGlHTVhneVcrUUFoYXZkZkNkYzZzZz09>
Meeting ID: 868 2404 7771
Passcode: jJD26k
Dial by your location
+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)
Meeting ID: 868 2404 7771
Passcode: 720102

2TB 1/20, 1/27

TOWN OF PORTLAND PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Portland Planning & Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, February 2, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the Buck Foreman Room (2nd Floor), 265 Main Street, Portland, CT. Public access through Zoom link A at www.portlandct.org to consider the following:

Application #22-17: Proposed amendments to the Town of Portland Zoning Regulations:
Article 2 Definitions, to amend people. Article 2 Definitions, to add Cannabis; Cannabis Establishments; Cultivator; Delivery Service; Dispensary Facility; Food and Beverage Manufacturer; Hybrid Retailer; Micro-cultivator; Product Manufacturer; Product Packager; Retailer; Transporter. Article 5.1 Permitted Uses Business Zones. Article 6.1 Permitted Uses Industrial Zones. Add Article 9.18 Cannabis; Add Article 19.18.1 Locational Requirements. Application of the Town of Portland Planning and Zoning Commission.

Application #22-18: 34 Gospel Lane. Proposed Special Permit for change of use to add 2,950 sq. ft. gym business to existing building. Application and property of MJS Realty Ventures LLC. Map 31, Lot 26. Zone IP.

At this hearing interested persons may appear and be heard and written communications will be received. A copy of these applications are available for review in the Portland Land Use Department.
Dated at Portland, CT this 18th day of January 2023
Robert Ellsworth, Chairman
Planning & Zoning Commission

2TB 1/20, 1/27

LEGAL NOTICE, TOWN OF MARLBOROUGH, CONNECTICUT BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS

THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS WILL HOLD HEARINGS AND/OR DELIBERATIONS AT THE SENIOR CENTER: 17 SCHOOL DRIVE, MARLBOROUGH CT THE DATES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

2022 REAL ESTATE, PERSONAL PROPERTY & 2021 SUPPLEMENTAL MOTOR VEHICLE GRAND LISTS
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 08 2023: 6:30 P.M. TO 9:00 P.M.
SENIOR CENTER

2022 MOTOR VEHICLE GRAND LIST
WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 20 2023: 6:30 P.M. TO 9:00 P.M.
SENIOR CENTER

Applications and other information will be available online at the Town of Marlborough's Assessor page www.marlbroughct.net under "Forms and Information" or in person from the Assessor's office.

An application can be requested by email at assessor@marlbroughct.net from Wednesday February 1st and must be returned on or before the end of the working day Monday, February 20th. All applications must be physically returned to the assessor's office (no emails or postmarks) with an original signature or an appointment for hearing will be denied.

2TB 1/20, 1/27

LEGAL NOTICE ANDOVER BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Assessment Appeals of the Town of Andover will be in session in the Community Room, Town Office Building, 17 School Road on the dates listed below. The purpose of the hearings is to appeal assessments placed on the October 1, 2022 Grand List for Real Estate, Personal Property pursuant to Section 12-111 of the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut and Supplemental Motor Vehicles for the 2021 Grand List. Applicants must fill out appeal form and the last day for appeal form to be received by the Town Clerks Office is February 20, 2023. (Please note February 20th is a Legal Holiday and the Town Office Building will be closed so, written appeals should be hand delivered on or before February 16th by 4 p.m.)

The dates for the sessions are as follows:

- Saturday, March 4, 2023, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 7, 2023, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- Thursday, March 9, 2023 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 21, 2023 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

All appeals are by appointment only. Appellants will be notified, in writing by mail of their appeal hearing date and time.
Andover Board of Assessment Appeals
Georgette Conrad
Linda Armstrong
Alan Roy

1TB 1/20

LEGAL NOTICE of PUBLIC HEARING - BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Wednesday, February 1, 2023 at 6:30 PM
Buck-Foreman Community Room, 265 Main Street, Portland, CT 06480

Pursuant to Sections 503(f) and 506 of the Town Charter, and Section 7-163e of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Portland Board of Selectmen shall hold a public hearing on Wednesday, February 1, 2023 at 6:30 P.M. in the Buck Foreman Community Center to consider public comments and questions, both orally and in writing, on the proposed use of the Portland Landfill, located at 39 Sand Hill Road (the "Landfill"), for the development of a commercial-scale solar photovoltaic array.

The public hearing will be followed by a Special Town Meeting to consider and vote upon whether to enter into a binding option agreement with Greenskies/Clean Focus ("Greenskies"), and execute all necessary documents, including a lease with Greenskies, necessary for the development of the solar project. A copy of the proposed Special Town Meeting resolution is available for public inspection on file in the Town Clerk's office and online at www.portlandct.org.
Dated this 18th day of January, 2023
Attest: Ryan J. Curley, First Selectman

1TB 1/20

Town of Portland 2022 Grand List Assessment Appeal Hearings

The Board of Assessment Appeals will meet in March at the Portland Town Hall to hear appeals on Real Estate & Personal Property Assessments. Written application to appeal **MUST BE** submitted to the Assessor no later than 4:00 p.m. on February 20, 2023 and forms are available within the Assessor's Office or downloadable online at <https://www.portlandct.org/assessment-appeals>

Senior & Totally Disabled Homeowners Tax Benefit
Starting February 1 (through May 14, 2023), the Portland Assessor's Office will begin taking applications from resident homeowners aged 65 years and older (and/or totally disabled) for tax credits based upon 2022 total net income. 2022 Federal Income Tax Return and your 1099 Social Security is required as proof of income. Current State income limits are \$40,100 for single applicants and \$49,300 if married. If you are currently on the program and did not file last year, it is time to renew your application.
Please contact the Portland Assessor **860-342-6744** if you have any questions or visit our website <https://www.portlandct.org/assessor>

1TB 1/27

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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, sterling coins, kitchenware, cookware, automotive, books, radios, clocks, lanterns, lamps, knives, hunting, fishing, military, Masonic, fire dept. and more. Donald Roy 860-874-8396.

ADVERTISERS

The Glastonbury Citizen and Riverast News Bulletin will make every effort to see that all advertising copy is correctly printed. The publisher assumes no liability or financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertising, but will reprint, without charge, that part of an advertisement in which an error may occur, provided that a claim is made within 5 days of publication. The liability of the publisher on account of errors in or omissions from any advertisement will in no way exceed the amount of the charge for the space occupied by the item in error, and then only for the first incorrect insertion. Also, the publisher takes no responsibility for statements or claims made in any advertisement, and will upon request, reveal the name and address of the person or persons responsible for placing any display advertisement, political or otherwise, except for "blind" box ads. The Glastonbury Citizen Inc. reserves the right to reject advertisements which it deems unsuitable for its publications. Every effort will be made to verify the legitimacy and propriety of all ads for the protection of our readers. The Citizen will take requests for specific placement of ads and will try to accommodate everyone's requests. The Citizen cannot guarantee specific placement.

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RE1-20-23

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Matt Faski Sales Associate

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35 Hayward Ave., Colchester, CT 06415

EMPLOYMENT

PART-TIME RESIDENT CARE ATTENDANT: For 2nd & 3rd shifts. Please call Christal at Greystone 860-342-2509.

PART-TIME COOK / KITCHEN ASSISTANT: 3-4 days/wk, includes every other weekend. Please call Christal at Greystone 860-342-2509.

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HELP WANTED: Full time laser marking machine operator wanted. Set up and tend laser marking or engraving machines. Call 860-658-0808 leave message and phone number or email wnarog@bmi-cad.com

SHEET METAL MECHANICS & HELPERS: Full time, apprenticeship program offered, health insurance, 401(k) plan. Pay range \$20 - \$30/hour. Call 860-828-3762.

WAREHOUSE POSITION: Seeking full time, energetic, organized individual for small local company. Great family type work environment. Occasional heavy lifting/Light phone duties/Customer contact. \$20-\$25 an hour DOE /Plus benefits! Training provided. Apply in person at: Yost Associates 224 Eastern Blvd Glastonbury M-F 8:00-5:00 POSITIVELY NO PHONE CALLS!

WELDER/FABRICATOR: Custom sheet metal fabrication, light structural, 45-50 hour per week with good benefits, health insurance, and 401(k) plan. Pay range \$25 - \$35/hour. Call 860-828-3762.

SELL CHEESE AT AN AWARD-WINNING FARM Nationally-recognized cheesemaker seeks a cheesemonger (sales person) for our farm shop. Job description at www.catocornfarm.com/contact

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF EAST HAMP-TON IS SEEKING A PART-TIME ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT to work in the Church Office an average of 10 hours per week. Responsibilities will include welcoming guests/visitors to the office, answering phones, church record keeping, assisting with preparations for Sunday worship services and other duties as needed. The right individual must have strong organizational skills, computer proficiency, and a pleasant, get it done attitude! Experience with MS Office and Google Docs is required, and experience with Breeze CHMS is a plus. Please forward resume/cover letter to Peter Strickland at sunbeam@comcast.net or send to 57 Main St., East Hampton, CT 06424

WESTSIDE MANOR, a residential care home, is searching for a positive, outgoing and compassionate person to fill our ATTENDANT POSITION. 3PM-11PM part time. 11PM-7AM part time. Attendee Responsibilities: General Housekeeping, Meal Prep, Assist in Medication Administration, Benefits of Attendee: Medical (full time) Dental (full time) Interviews are conducted on the spot. Please call prior to coming to schedule. Job Types: Part-time Salary: \$18.00/hr

HELP WANTED: DuBosar Irrigation Landscape Construction Company looking to hire laborers, technicians, and equipment operators. Great starting pay and work environment. Experience in industry helpful but will train. Reasonable workday hours, starting March-April. Valid driver's license a plus but not necessary. Immediate positions also available for snow removal. 860-206-4705

PART TIME - SECRETARIAL flexible afternoon hours. Must have good typing and grammar skills. Insurance Industry, working out of home based business, separate office. 18.00 per hour to right person. 5 day a week schedule. Call David at 860-922-9154. Serious Inquiries Only.

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.

COOK WANTED: Stop in to The Greenleaf Cafe in Hebron for details. Or call 860 228-8148

WAITSTAFF WANTED: Flynn's Grill restaurant Monday-Friday 7am -2pm, hourly plus tips (19-23/hr). Apply in person 860-657-8159

SEAMSTRESS WANTED: FOR DRAPERY WORKROOM. HADDAM. Must have sewing experience, non-smoker, Part time or Full-time: M-F, Call Susan 860-306-4252.

EDUCATION: PARAEDUCATOR

Marlborough Elementary School is accepting applications for a Paraeducator for the remainder of the 2022-23 school year. 5 days per week, Monday-Friday, 6.5 hrs/day. Please send a letter of interest, application, resume and references to Holly Hageman, Superintendent, Marlborough School District, 25 School Drive, Marlborough, CT 06447 or email to gmonte@marlborough.k12.ct.us. For application see website, www.marlborough.k12.ct.us. (District, Employment Opportunities, Non-Certified Application) or call 860.295.6236. EOE

1TB 1/20

Certified Nurses Aide (CNA) Assisted Living

Not your average CNA position available at Colebrook Village. We are looking for a family oriented, fun and dedicated CNA to join our team. Colebrook Village is a community of independent, assisted living, and memory care residents. It is a privilege to serve our residents and to work alongside our amazing staff. If you are looking for a change and want to be appreciated for the important work you do, reach out for details about this unique health care opportunity! 401k, Dental, Life Medical, Vision

Please call Kristina Pink: 860-801-1114

CTB-122

Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) Assisted Living

Not your average LPN position available at Colebrook Village. We are looking for a family oriented, fun and dedicated LPN to join our team. Colebrook Village is a community of independent, assisted living, and memory care residents. It is a privilege to serve our residents and to work alongside our amazing staff. If you are looking for a change and want to be appreciated for the important work you do, reach out for details about this unique health care opportunity! 401k, Dental, Life Medical, Vision

Please call Kristina Pink: 860-801-1114

CTB-122

TOWN OF ANDOVER CT VACANCY - Accounting Associate

The Town of Andover is seeking applications for a full-time Accounting associate. This position is responsible for the daily operations of the finance department at the town of Andover. This position involves the performance of a variety of professional accounting and financial control functions for the Town of Andover. The job description and application for this position are available at www.andoverct.org. This position is 30 hours per week, Monday-Thursday. This position is in the AFSCME local 1303 of Council #4 AFL-CIO and subject to collective bargaining. To apply, send a Resume and Cover Letter to the Office of the Town Administrator, Town Hall, 17 School Rd, Andover, CT 06232. Or email it to adminassistant@andoverct.org This posting will remain open until the position has been filled. EOE M/F

3TB 1/20, 1/27, 2/3

EMPLOYMENT

HELP WANTED
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BOARD CLERK

The Town of Marlborough is accepting applications for part time Board Clerks for approximately 3 to 6 hours per month. This position is responsible for transcribing minutes and motions for boards and commissions. The position requires attendance at meetings on weeknight evenings. Candidates must have excellent writing skills and be proficient in word processing on a personal computer. A Town of Marlborough Employment Application and Board Clerk job description are available in the Town Clerk's office, online at marlbroughct.net or by calling 860-295-6206. Completed applications are to be submitted to the Town Clerk, P.O. Box 29, 26 North Main St., Marlborough, CT 06447.

Open until filled.
 We consider applicants for all positions without regard to race, creed, religion, gender, national origin, disability, age, marital or veteran status, sexual orientation, or any other legally protected status.

3TB 1/20, 1/27, 2/3

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CTT-5-23

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CTP-19-22

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CTE-5-20

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RES-16-22

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RES-19-26-22

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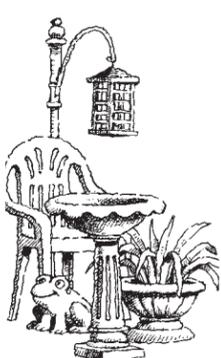
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RES-7-1-22



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CTE-5-20

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RES-10-20

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