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News Bulletin

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

Volume 47, Number 38

Published by The Glastonbury Citizen

October 13, 2023



Webelos Woods... Cub Scout Pack 109 Webelos Den recently spent a weekend at "Webelos Woods" held at Camp Workcoeman in New Hartford. The scouts earned several badges for outdoor activities. Pack 109 is sponsored by the Westchester Church in Colchester. For more information about the pack, email westcongchurch@gmail.com. Pictured at Webelos Woods are, from left, Liam Raulerson, Drew Martin, Den Leader Becky Berta and Delaney Berta.

Bill Black Remembered For Service, Devotion

By Michael Sinkewicz

Former Marlborough First Selectman Bill Black, who passed away last week at the age of 81, was fondly remembered for his dedicated community service and devotion to his town.

Black, a Democrat, amassed a lengthy career in local government that spanned decades, beginning in 1979 with a seat on the Board of Finance. He would later earn a spot on the Board of Selectmen in 1982, returning for a stint in 2003, according to the town clerk's office.

In 2006, Black won a special election to finish out a term as first selectman. The following year, he then won a full term, which concluded in 2011.

Along with his time as the town's chief executive, Black also spent time serving in a variety of capacities, including the Zoning Commission, Planning Commission and Charter Revision Commission.

"He was very respected in Town Hall," said Town Clerk Lauren Griffin.

Riva Clark, who served on the selectmen with Black, described him as a "private person" who was "wonderful to work with."

"He was generous with his knowledge, gracious and witty, and always provided agendas and documents prepared for meetings to give us time for review," she said. "As first selectman, he was instrumental in getting sewers and sidewalk projects started, after being stalled for years."

Clark praised Black's 40 years of municipal work, expressing that "Marlborough will be forever a better town for the service he provided."

Tax Collector Barbara Murray served with Black when he was in office and was personal friends with both him and his wife Gerry.

"He was an absolute joy to work with," she said. "He was always a gentleman and everyone loved him. He was very bright."

Murray recalled with a laugh a time when Black stumbled upon her and a previous town clerk chatting, and told them both to get back to work.

Murray responded, "Bill, you go back to your office and finish your work."

Black shook his head: "Oh, you Republicans." The story was emblematic of Black's character, Murray explained.

"He could take a joke and he never raised his voice or said anything bad about anyone."

During his tenure, she continued, Town Hall ran smoothly.

"Everybody respected Bill and there was no drama when he was here," she expressed.

The town, she added, will remember him. "It's a loss," she said. "He represented our town very well."

Gerry Black worked in several capacities in town, including a period in Murray's tax office. "She was a wonderful, dedicated worker," she recalled.

Outside Town Hall, a black and purple funeral bunting was displayed to honor the life and public service of Black.

Town Manager David Porter said he signed-off on the flag, expressing that it sets a precedent moving forward to remember individuals who contributed to Marlborough.

"I think we should continue to do the same thing," he said.

While Porter, who in August became Marlborough's first-ever appointed administrator, was not present for Black's achievements, he *See Bill Black Remembered, page 34*

Benny's Run Promotes Wellness, Advocacy

By London Brazal

Last Saturday, Oct. 7, was a chilly, rainy day, but still more than 100 runners of all ages turned out for the Benny Fund's annual Benny's Run 5K and Kids Fun Run. On Oct. 7, more than 100 runners of all ages came together to support the organization and participate in the two races.

Tim Seidl of Somers won the race with a run time of 19:19, Erica Wilcox from East Hampton was the fastest female at 25:14, and Leo Giambarresi won the kids' race.

The Benny Fund founder Holly Neiweem was happy with the turnout despite the weather. "The event went great despite it being a pretty rainy day. The kids' run was held after the 5K and was incredibly cute!" said Neiweem.

The Benny Fund is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization committed to the enhancement of mental health and the prevention of suicide through advocacy and education. The organiza-

tion strives to promote open discussions about mental health within households, schools, and the community, while simultaneously working towards eradicating the stigma and silence surrounding these issues. This is achieved through various mental health advocacy campaigns, including Benny's Run and #projectlove, as well as donations for educational programs focused on mental health and suicide prevention. In addition, scholarships are granted to high school students.

Erica Wilcox is a licensed professional counselor with her practice, Wilcox Wellness, in town. Through counseling and programs, she has witnessed the impact of mental health stigma on her clients and in her personal life. "Over the last three years, I have certainly seen an increase in mental health education, awareness, and conversations," said Wilcox. "We as a collective community are moving in the right

direction."

As a participant in the race, Wilcox was happy for the community to come together to support the same cause. She especially loves writing messages of hope on the race bibs taped to the Sears Park pavilion. "Movement is medicine and I have found on a personal and professional level how empowering and healing running can be for mental health and overall well-being," added Wilcox.

To continue to fight against the stigma surrounding mental health, Wilcox provided three points to help: education and empathy, advocacy and support, and building trust and connection.

Education and empathy are the start of understanding mental health. "The more correct and up-to-date information, the easier it becomes to learn that nobody is immune to

See Benny's Run, page 33

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Community Fund Issues Call to Apply for Funds

Andover's Greater Together Community Fund at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving has released its open call for 2023 project proposals. Up to \$10,000 will be awarded in grant funds to one or more proposals. To date, \$22,261 has been awarded.

All projects must benefit the residents of Andover. For further details on project guidelines and how to apply, visit hfpg.org/Andovercf. Project applications or grant proposals will be accepted until Nov. 10.

In 2019, the Hartford Foundation established a \$100,000 Greater Together Community Fund for each of the 29 towns in the Foundation's region, which includes the town of Andover. The purpose of the Greater Together Community Funds is to support resi-

dents in taking ownership around the needs in their towns, encourage broad and inclusive civic engagement and anchor the Hartford Foundation in each town.

In January 2022, the Hartford Foundation gave an additional \$50,000 to each Community Fund with half of the funding being maintained in the fund's endowments and the remaining half to support current grant-making efforts.

Current members of the Andover Greater Together Community Fund Advisory Committee are: Marianella Chalfant (co-chair), Michele DeLuco, Kirsten Erlandsen, Jody Gross, Suzanne Heise (co-chair), Lori LaCroix, Amy March, Bill Penn, and Chip Ware.



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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. Also call Palazzi for all luncheon reservations and transportation needs, including rides to medical appointments. For all Young at Heart events including movies, call Sue Schmidt at 860-604-1057, and call Town Clerk Carol Lee at 860-742-0188 ext. 2 for all trip information. For all senior events and information, visit the senior page of the town website, andoverct.org.

Senior Luncheon: Friday, Oct. 20, at noon, at Town Hall, with lunch from Chili's. Speaker will be Mark Hand, a broker who will explain the various changes in senior benefits for 2024. Reservations required for all lunches – no walk-ins accepted.

Shopping: Tuesdays. Manchester – Oct. 17 and 31. Willimantic – Oct. 24.

Trips: Christmas Party, Dec. 1, at Villa Louisa's, Christmas Show, Friday, Dec. 8. Contact Carol Lee for information.

Flu Clinic: Held at the town hall community room on Thursday, Oct. 12 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.;

no reservations necessary. COVID boosters and pneumonia shots available if needed. Bring your insurance cards, Medicare or Medicaid cards. Questions, please call Palazzi.

Health Clinic: Saturday, Oct. 21, from 9:30 a.m. -2:30 p.m. in Vernon. If enough seniors are interested in going transportation will be provided.

Movie: Wednesday, Oct. 25, 1 pm. Transportation available. Call Palazzi.

Vendor and Tag Sale: Saturday, Nov. 4, at the Andover Elementary School gym, from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. All monies will benefit the senior luncheon program.

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, all medical appointments, and to the monthly farmers markets, are available by calling Palazzi. All seniors, veterans and disabled are welcome. If you have a caregiver, they may come with you.

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.; the senior food pantry is open the opposite Wednesdays, also from 9-9:30 a.m.

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

Songshiners: Thursdays, 9:30 a.m.
Bingo and Baskets: Oct. 27, 5:30 p.m., dinner; 6:30 p.m. game. Cost is \$12 per person.

Thanksgiving Dinner Potluck: Thanksgiving Day, 3 p.m. Early sign-up is preferred. To RSVP, call the church. State who you are and how many people will attend and what you are able to bring to contribute.

Revolutionary War Headstones

On Tuesday, Oct. 24, at 6:30 p.m., Andover Public Library will welcome Randall Nelson of Nelson Architectural Restoration in Wilmington with a talk about "Revolutionary War Headstone Replication at the Ancient Burying Ground in Hartford."

Nelson will provide a brief history of the oldest cemetery in Connecticut – Hartford's Ancient Burying Ground – and the work involved

in making replicas of the four badly deteriorated headstones for four Revolutionary War veterans. Nelson will also talk about the problems involved with researching the histories of these vets, as well as provide a bit of history of brownstone quarrying in Connecticut.

RSVP is not required but is requested for planning purposes. To do so, call the library at 860-742-7428.

Library Friends Book & Bake Sale

The Andover Friends of the Library group will hold its annual Book & Bake Sale this weekend.

New this year is a "Preview Sale" on Friday, Oct. 13, from 6-8 p.m. On Friday night, admission to preview is free for Library Friends and \$5 for others. The regular sale, free to all, is Saturday, Oct. 14, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Both Friday

evening and Saturday sales will be conducted at the First Congregational Church of Andover, 359 Route 6, across the street from the library.

For directions or more information, call the library at 860-742-7428 or visit the library's Facebook page at www.Facebook.com/AndoverPublicLibrary.CT.

Absentee Ballots Now Available

Absentee ballots for the Nov. 7 municipal election are now available in the town clerk's office at Town Hall, or online at andoverct.org.

Book Book & Bake Sale

The Andover Friends of the Library group is preparing to hold a Book & Bake Sale on Saturday, Oct. 14, and is in search of gently-used books – fiction and non-fiction books for adults and children – as well as playable DVDs, CDs or game discs.

Donations may be brought to Andover Public Library, 355 Route 6, Andover, until Monday, Oct. 9, at 7 p.m. Do not leave donations outside the library or in the library's book drop. Drop-off hours are Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

For more information, call the library 860-742-7428.

Pumpkin Patch Fundraiser

The Andover Congregational Church Food Pantry is holding a Pumpkin Patch Fundraiser to benefit the food pantry.

The patch is located next to the church at 359 Route 6 in Andover, and will remain open daily from 11 a.m. until 6 p.m., right through Halloween.

The pantry will be selling regular and specialty pumpkins that were grown on an Indian Reservation in New Mexico, locally grown apples, cider, mums, home-baked goods and apple fritters.

A local craftsman will again have on display his refurbished antique wheelbarrows and benches to sell.

Purchases will benefit the food pantry.

Vendors Wanted

Andover seniors are looking for vendors for Saturday, Nov. 4, to sell their wares at a combined tag and vendor sale to be held at the Andover Elementary School gym from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Cost of a table will be \$20 for one table or \$30.00 for two tables. If you would like to be a vendor, contact Cathy Palazzi at 860-916-6122.

Andover Halloween Fun Day

Andover Halloween Fun Day will take place Sunday, Oct. 29, at 1 p.m., rain or shine, outdoors at the Town Hall gazebo area on School Road, between the Town Office Building and the elementary school.

Attendees are asked to come dressed in costume. Decorate your car or truck "trunk or treat" style for the trunk-decorating contest. Call/text Annmarie Daigle at 860-983-7442 to reserve a spot. Vehicles must be parked by 12:45 p.m.

Nothing is to be distributed by trunk participants. The event is rain or shine.

December Events for Seniors

A pair of events are coming up for Andover seniors in December. For more information, call Carol Lee at 860-989-6988.

Christmas Party: Friday, Dec. 1, at Villa Louisa in Bolton. There will be a buffet luncheon, music, dancing and raffle prizes. Cost per Andover senior is \$20.

A Christmas Carol: Friday, Dec. 8. Andover Seniors will travel to the Legacy Theater in Branford to see the 2 p.m. performance of *A Christmas Carol*. Cost is \$20 per Andover senior. Call Lee to reserve a spot. Transportation will be provided for the first 20 people to sign up.

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RE10-6-23

From the Editor's Desk

Observations & Ruminations

By Mike Thompson

In the mood for a movie that has some local flavor? Well, next week you're in for a treat.

Next Thursday, Oct. 19, Cinestudio in Hartford is going to be showing the comedy/thriller *Blow Up My Life*, which was written and directed by Marlborough couple Abby Horton and Ryan Dickie.

The movie tells the story of Jason Trumble (played by Jason Selvig), a disgraced pharmaceutical employee who accidentally discovers a deadly opioid vape conspiracy. The discovery sends him on the run to expose the crime — with a trail of chaos in his wake.

The indie film — which was released last month — has generated some positive reviews so far, with *MovieMaker Magazine* calling it “one of the coolest and most ambitious films we saw this year.” The movie also won the Best Film Award at the Harlem International Film Festival.

Not only was the film made by a couple of Marlborough residents, it was shot in Middletown and other area towns.

Next Thursday's showing at Cinestudio will also feature a Q&A with Horton and Dickie. It's a one-night-only event, with showtime at 7 p.m. General admission tickets are \$10. For tickets and more information, visit cinestudio.org/film/blow-up-my-life.

If you like cheese, and you like to hear good things about local businesspeople, then I've got some news for you.

Lily Orr, the pasteurized cheesemaker at Cato Corner Farm in Colchester, has signed on as the new ambassador for Connecticut Grown, a state program whose mission is to sustain and grow Connecticut agriculture and aquaculture.

Orr, who was raised on a multigenerational dairy farm in Thompson, will be “highly visible” throughout the state's entire agricultural landscape, the state Department of Agriculture said in a press release. Her duties will in-

clude range from making video content and social media posts to appearances at agricultural fairs and visiting farms in every corner of Connecticut.

Orr was raised at Fort Hill Farms in Thompson, a third-generation dairy farm committed to sustainability and diversification. After graduating from the University of Connecticut with a degree in Natural Resources and Environmental Science, she worked at Connecticut Farmland Trust, assisting with easement acquisition and managing the CT Farm-Link program.

“We are excited to welcome Lily Orr to the CT Grown team,” said Bryan P. Hurlburt, commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Agriculture. “Lily is a great asset to the Connecticut agricultural community and an ideal candidate for this role. She has the education, experience, and personality to make a strong connection with the people of Connecticut and demonstrate the value of our agricultural industry by showcasing the amazing farms, farmers, and producers throughout our state.”

As part of her ambassadorship, Orr will regularly meet with farmers to help amplify their presence and spread awareness about the foods and products they are producing. She will also produce content for social media, blogs, and newsletters — including creating informative and educational videos.

“I grew up on a farm that was very diverse; we had dairy cows, a plant nursery, pick-your-own berries, a corn maze, an ice cream shop, a biodigester — you name it,” said Orr. “Through it all, my grandparents and parents instilled in me to be proud of what we grow, produce, and give back to the local community. I'm honored to assume a role that will help spotlight Connecticut farmers and the growing agricultural potential of our state with the CT Grown brand.”

That's pretty cool news for an employee of a

Editor's Desk continued on page 8

Bulletin Board

I was cooling my heels in the doctor's office a while back when I picked up a magazine about home décor that included an article on something called “feng shui.” (Someday I'm going to find a doctor or dentist who subscribes to Micro Brews Monthly or Scandinavian Beach Thong Graphic, but I'll probably have to move to Texas first.)

Anyway, for those of you who lack the necessary intellectual curiosity (actually, I got tired of looking out the window at the parking lot waiting for someone to back into somebody else's car) to read an article about home decorating, feng shui is an Asian philosophy.

Feng shui maintains that the proper arrangement of your furniture can enhance the channels of positive energy in your life. For instance, the article claimed that it's beneficial to locate your “romantic space” in the eastern part of the house (I'm thinking this may have something to do with the fact that the sun always rises in the east); your trophy room in the south (not applicable in my case since my “athletic career” ended before the advent of participation awards); and your kids in the west (which, I should point out, makes perfect sense since it is as far as you can get from the east).

The writer also talked a lot about mirrors and the importance of not allowing people to sneak up behind you, which (not being from New York City) struck me as a bit peculiar. But, in all fairness, I guess it's tough to be completely serene if you're constantly worrying about somebody pussy footing up behind you and giving you a crack on the back of the head.

Now if you read this column with any regularity (indeed, if you've merely read the first three paragraphs here), you have probably recognized that I am not what you would describe as a particularly deep thinker. I am not embarrassed to admit that my most passionate concerns mostly revolve around issues such as “What's for dinner?” and “I hope it includes gravy.”

Questions such as “What is the meaning of life?” and “Why am I here?” rank well below puzzlers such as “Why do middle-aged men have more hair growing out of their ears than on the top of their heads” and “Do you think people who watch football will ever drink Bud Lite again?”

Nevertheless, personal boorishness aside, it turns out I've practiced feng shui for over 20 years—in fact, ever since I got married—I just didn't know what it was called. Soon after our marriage, as my bride and I moved into our new abode, she saw where I'd placed the couch and asked, “Don't you think the couch would be better over there under the windows?”

Silly me, I thought it was a question.

“No,” I said.

“Oh,” she replied.

But it wasn't just a little “oh”—a mere verbal acknowledgement of my differing opinion. No, it was one of those “ohs” that comes rife with meaning, all of it bad for me—the kind of “oh” the Spanish Inquisitors murmured when one of their inquisitees suggested that maybe using contraception wasn't really such a bad thing considering how tough it is to send 27 kids through college; the kind of “oh” your mother mouths when your latest girlfriend remarks that she supports her three children from two prior marriages by working full time as an exotic dancer; the kind of “oh”... well, you get the picture.

“You know,” I said, “on second thought, I think you're right. The couch would look much better over there under the windows.”

“I thought so, too,” she said.

So there you have it, harmony through the arrangement of furniture. You can call it feng shui if you want. I call it survival.

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. Phone: 860-633 4691. The *Riverast* can be reached any time via email at bulletin@glcitizen.com.



Fall Festival Fun... Pumpkins, mums, apples and scarecrows were all in attendance Saturday and Sunday at the annual Fall Festival at St Peter's Episcopal Church, Hebron. The mums and pumpkins were various shapes, sizes and vibrant colors. The happy scarecrows are, from left, parishioners from the Baez family — Erica, Jeff, and their children, Ella and Eva; the Rev. Ron Kolanowski, rector, and his daughter, Anna Engler. If you missed this event, the pumpkins and mums are available for purchase daily on the church grounds until gone. A portion of the proceeds will be given to another community nonprofit organization, as is St Peter's policy.

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Tree Removal Thanks

To the Editor:

A great big thank you to Colchester Parks Department and Todd's Tree service for cutting all the dead trees on Jurach Road. Much safer to drive and walk on our street.

Paulette Armandi — Colchester

Hamas

To the Editor:

The Hamas brutal attack on Israel has support from Iran and Russia. The Hamas terrorists were trained by Russia's Wagner group. The same Wagner group committing atrocities in Ukraine. “Hamas apparently knew how to get around Israel's Iron Dome defenses... And who gave it to Russia? Looks like it was Donald Trump, at the request of Putin.” (Tom Hartmann) Israel Said to Be Source of Secret Intelligence Trump Gave to Russians. Mr. Trump boasting about some of Israel's most sensitive information to the Russians could damage the relationship between the two countries and raises the possibility that the information could be passed to Iran, Russia's close ally and Israel's main threat in the region. (New York Times, 5/16/2017) Trump says he had ‘absolute right’ to share info with Russia (ABC News, 5/16/2017) Trump revealed highly classified information to Russian foreign minister (Lavrov) and ambassador (Washington Post, 5/17/2017).

The \$6 billion funds came from oil sales that were

allowed and placed into accounts set up under the Trump administration. The U.S. unfroze \$6B in Iranian money during a prisoner swap. The money is in a bank account in Qatar monitored by the U.S. Treasury and can only be spent on humanitarian aid. All purchases must be verified by the U.S. Treasury Department. (CNN, Meidas Touch)

Annie Steinbrecher — Marlborough

Vote for Transparency

To the Editor:

I've had the privilege of holding a front-row seat for the past two years to view how the town operates. It is clear there is a need for greater transparency and efficiency, and to that end, I'm pleased to support John Matra and Claudia Riley for the Hebron Board of Selectmen.

One need only observe meetings to know that a change is needed. Like many of you, I am deeply troubled by the way individuals are treated differently during public comment or in written communications, simply because they hold a different opinion than the status quo. There is an unwillingness to share information with the public. And there is resistance to truly listening to what the town wants, particularly when it comes to the future of the Horton Property.

That's why we need individuals like John and Claudia, who bring decades of experience in management, human resources and volunteer service. They deeply love this town, care about its future, and have pledged

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Published Every Friday by The Glastonbury Citizen

87 Nutmeg Lane • Glastonbury, CT 06033

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Advertising Representatives:

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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: Letters must be 300 words or less, and must be submitted by Tuesdays at noon. Email is preferred; send to bulletin@glcitizen.com. All letters must be signed, and include the writer's town of residence and daytime contact phone number. Writers are limited to one letter per week. Anonymous letters will not be published. All letters are subject to editing for grammar, spelling and clarity, and are also subject to fact-checking. No form of harassment or personal attack (such as bullying or name-calling) will be tolerated. There is no guarantee that all letters will be published.

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to listen to all town residents, even those with different opinions than their own. John and Claudia will commit to creating a more transparent town government, while identifying areas where we can be more fiscally efficient to assist during tight budget years ahead. Most importantly, they will treat everyone with respect and explain their reasoning behind the decisions they make.

Hebron needs a shift in tone and a change in direction. We have much work to do to ensure that our rural town character remains intact while we plan for the future. John and Claudia are up for the task, and I ask you to join me in voting for them on Nov. 7.

Sincerely,
Tiffany V. Thiele – Hebron

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

A Vote for Hebron

Dear Hebron Citizens:

Who are we? We are your neighbors, friends, teachers, coaches, and community volunteers seeking to continue to serve Hebron and its residents. We are a group of individuals from diverse backgrounds and experiences who work collaboratively with our town officials and residents to address the important issues facing our great town. We will hear your concerns, listen to your ideas, and find answers to your questions. We will ensure that your voices are heard; that your tax dollars are used responsibly; that our schools are financially supported; that parents remain involved in their children's education; and that our town remains accessible and affordable for all families, old and young.

We know Hebron. We know its history, values, and people. In combination, our slate of candidates has resided in Hebron for 218 years. We are invested in this town, in the families that live here, in the schools that teach our children, and in the businesses that support our community. We shop at the same stores you do, buy gas at the same gas station, and eat at the same great local restaurants in town. When you vote for us, you are voting for people who care about what matters to Hebron and its residents.

Who are we? We are the Hebron Republicans (Row B) and we are asking for your vote on November 7th.

In Collaboration,

Allyson Nadeau-Schmeizl, Jim Dedonato, Keith Petit, Mann Hasen, Peter Kasper, Sera Coppolino, Michael Beaulieu, Joe Margaitis, Steve Weir and Kim Hills

Remembering Bill Black

To the Editor:

Marlborough lost one of its best last week. Bill Black served on its Board of Finance, the Charter Commission, Board of Selectmen, and as its first selectman. When it looked like there was just not going to be enough money to complete our sewer system project, Bill came up with a solution – one so ingenious that no one else could have come up with it. We have sewers thanks to Bill Black.

He was the right guy at the right time for our town. We both liked cars. He'd always wanted to go to Carlisle. We went. He wanted to go to Hersey. We went. In June of 2010 I drove my then 40-year-old Cadillac to California for a tour with other vintage Cadillacs. My wife Barbara had enough sense to fly. Bill would call me every day to see how the trip was going, and midway across Kansas it was not going well. On our phone call he said he was growing concerned. "Bill, YOU'RE concerned?? You are sitting in an air-conditioned office looking out your window at cars going by on picturesque North Main Street on a beautiful summer day. It's 90 degrees and humid here in Russell, Kansas, 1,500 miles from home, in a car older than most of our town's residents, unable to exceed fifty on I-70, with a no-longer-working air conditioning, and a local tornado warning? YOU'RE concerned? Have I got that right?" A couple days later, I learned the cause of my car problem, and I mentioned it to Bill. "Yeah, I figured that was what it was." Yup. Vintage Bill Black.

Marlborough lost one of its best; I've lost a good friend.

Jack Murray – Marlborough

Bats Are Not Spooky

To the Editor:

Halloween is just around the corner, and bats are often associated with the ancient holiday. Bats are far from spooky, but this is the perfect season to shed light on these fascinating creatures of the night. Therefore, Oct. 24-31 is International Bat Week, an annual celebration designed to raise awareness about the need for bat conservation. Bats are captivating animals that play a vital role to the health of the natural world and therefore global economy. Worldwide, bats are at work eating tons of insects, pollinating flowers, and spreading seeds that grow new plants and trees. Our local bats consume insects that destroy crops and/or spread disease. Without bats, we would be in trouble.

As a state-licensed wildlife rehabilitator, I have

been caring for injured and/or orphaned bats for more than 25 years. Nine kinds of bats call Connecticut home. All are insectivores, and each fills a particular niche. Unfortunately, due to many factors including a warming climate, habitat destruction and a devastating fungal disease (white-nose syndrome), eight of the nine kinds are endangered.

To celebrate bats, allow me to introduce our local bat buddies through a series of species profiles, starting with the big brown bat (*Eptesicus fuscus*), a true farmers' friend because of its insect diet, which includes many crop and forest pests. It's the only bat not currently listed as endangered although its numbers, too, have been steadily falling. The remaining "endangered eight" control pests such as mosquitoes that spread disease and moths that produce crop-destroying larvae, but they don't prey on "good" insects such as bees and butterflies.

In upcoming letters read about all nine kinds, each of which is unique. View bats in their true light; you'll come away with a new appreciation of bats and see the need to conserve them.

Thank you,
Maureen Heidtmann – East Hampton

Paper Shred Postponed

To the Editor:

The Hebron Green Committee is announcing that our annual paper shred event normally held in November of each year will be postponed until April of next year. We have not chosen a specific date yet, although we hope to schedule it close to Earth Day which is April 22. Just as a reminder, this event is open to residents (no businesses) of the RHAM towns of Hebron, Andover and Marlborough, with a limit of five boxes or bags of papers per vehicle. We always see a huge turnout at these events, and want to make sure that everyone can participate who wants to. So stay tuned over the winter for our announcement of the specific date for our 2024 paper shred.

Mike Harder
Hebron Green Committee

Wanat for Town Council

To the Editor:

Service. Advocacy. Activism. Three words that immediately come to mind when I think of Karen Wanat. Wanat is running for East Hampton Town Council and has my vote.

I met Karen as a PTO volunteer almost 10 years ago when my children attended Memorial School. Karen was in a leadership position at the time and I remember wondering, "How does this small business owner and mother of three have the time, energy and passion to contribute so much to our school community?" Over the years I've had the pleasure of following and working with Karen on a number of community projects within and outside of our schools. It's clear to me that Wanat is a candidate who cares about people, is a critical and creative thinker, and ready for anything. Never afraid to stand up for human rights and justice, I admire Karen's hard work for the benefit of the whole. This is the type of leadership I want for East Hampton, a town I've called home for nearly 50 years.

I'm voting for Karen because we deserve representation that will listen to understand and work to make progress, rather than pretend to listen and then just respond with the same old politics as usual. Vote Karen Wanat for Hampton Town Council!

Leslie Fielding Cygan – East Hampton

Time for a Change in Colchester

To the Editor:

I have been a Colchester resident for 73 years and have always been active in the community, whether as a volunteer, an appointee to a commission, or as an elected official.

I served on the Board of Selectmen for eight years as well as the Sewer & Water Commission, Youth Services Commission and the Commission on Aging. Through all the years of attending many, many meetings I have never witnessed the chaos I have seen these past two years. The bullying, name-calling and disrespect from our first selectman has been unbelievable. Is he even aware of The Southeastern CT Council of Governments? This is an organization of representatives of several neighboring towns who meet monthly to share ideas, programs and solutions to potential problems. Is he too busy preparing for his next photo op and can't be bothered to attend these meetings?

Mr. Bisbikos' two-year term has been a continuous display of childish behavior, petulance, poor time management and misdirected priorities. (Banning books?) This is an embarrassment to the entire community, including both political parties. It's time to make a change!

On Nov. 7, we must vote for Bernie Denner to restore civility, professionalism, experience and decency to our local government. Bernie and his entire team will bring Colchester back together again.

Please vote "Row A" on Nov. 7.

Goldie Liverant – Colchester

Bullying is Not Leadership!

To the Editor:

This is actually a difficult letter for me to write. I prefer writing letters that state the strength of our candidates and what they stand for, i.e., education, decency, tolerance, and open-mindedness. However, after reading the letter from Jeff Murray stating that our Board of Selectmen would continue to serve with "professionalism and integrity" I had to respond.

For years I taught management supervisory skills. I explained that good leaders do not use intimidation. Leadership is not screaming, swearing, and threatening people. Genuine leaders lead by example. Decisions are made for the good of all. Leaders focus on issues. They are mindful that personality should not factor into decision-making. Bullying is not leadership and displays a definite lack of integrity. Andover's vice selectman is anything but professional.

We recently celebrated our town's 175th anniversary. The vice selectman, who now wants to be the first selectman, offered no assistance or support for

our celebration. He did not even attend our dedication. This is a town leader who had zero interest in the commemoration of our town.

As we see on a grand scale in this country, controlling and dictating is not governance.

Creating animosity and discord among one sector while catering to another is not a recipe for success. Leaders understand that everyone has the right to be heard and not discounted. Everyone has value. And all Andover residents deserve respect. No elected official should feel he or she has the right to verbally abuse any resident.

Please consider the future of Andover. Consider the need for civil debate. Consider the need for ideas to bring families to our town.

Catherine Magaldi-Lewis – Andover

Note: Magaldi-Lewis is chair of the Andover Democratic Town Committee.

East Hampton EDC

To the Editor:

I am writing to extend a heartfelt invitation to you to join our local Economic Development Commission in East Hampton. As the chairperson of the commission, I understand the vital role that engaged community members and business owners play in shaping the future of our town.

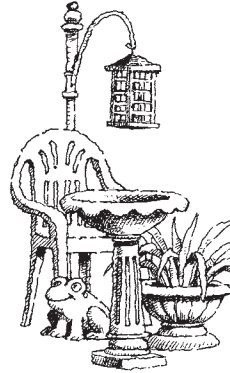
Our commission is dedicated to fostering sustainable growth, supporting local businesses, and enhancing the overall economic well-being of our community. By becoming a member, you can contribute significantly to these objectives while enjoying numerous benefits:

- 1. ****Influence and Impact:**** Your expertise and insights can directly shape policies and initiatives that will benefit our town's economic landscape.
- 2. ****Community Pride:**** Being part of a group dedicated to improving the local economy is not just a responsibility but a source of pride, showing your commitment to the well-being of our town.
- 3. ****A Voice in Decision-Making:**** As a member, you'll have a direct say in how we allocate resources and prioritize projects that can positively impact our community.

Your involvement is essential to our mission's success. We meet regularly to discuss strategies, address challenges, and implement initiatives that benefit our town. Your unique perspective and experience as a business owner will be a valuable addition to our team.

If you are interested in joining our commission or would like more information, please do not hesitate to reach out to us at edc@easthamptonct.gov. Together

See Story, page 6



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★ Letters cont. from page 5

er, we can work towards a brighter economic future for East Hampton.

Thank you for considering this invitation. We look forward to welcoming you to our commission and working together to make a meaningful difference in our community.

Warm regards,
Marlene J. Geary, Chairperson
East Hampton Economic
Development Commission

Supports Spear

To the Editor:

I am supporting Sarah Spear in her candidacy for the Portland Board of Education. This is an easy choice to make. I have known Sarah as a neighbor for five years. She is energetic, smart and deeply committed to the children, parents and schools in Portland. I've been impressed by her gracious manner and ability to look at an issue from different angles. She also has financial experience and a history of work in the nonprofit sector focused on young people. She is a team player and an excellent listener.

I'm sure that, if elected, Sarah will work diligently for each and every student in the Portland school system.

Barbara Sequenzia – Portland

New Friends in Portland

To the Editor:

Having lived in Portland for 15 years, I relied on a busy career (with significant Hatch Act restrictions) to justify my failure to connect with the people or governance bodies of my own community. I followed Portland politics through the RiverEast and other local newspapers. Recently, one year into retirement, but with preconceived notions firmly intact, I looked online to find what I expected to be a small, minimally active group of local Democrats.

After attending only two Democratic Town Committee (DTC) meetings and participating in a fun-filled trivia contest fundraiser at Farrell's, my eyes (and mind) have been opened! I take the opportunity of this letter to report that Portland has an active, vibrant, inclusive and warmly welcoming group of Democrats working hard on multiple levels to assure that our community and its leadership representatives remain diverse and attentive to the social and economic needs of all Portland's residents.

With member concerns ranging from light bulb and brochure supplies in DTC's Portland Fair tent to reviewing grant-funded sidewalk installation to finding cost-effective community water sources and using the town's educational resources appropriately, this committed, knowledgeable and hard-working group has its collective fingers on the pulse of Portland. As is evidenced from the DTC Facebook page(s), members also manage to have fun while doing so.

As a still-new community member (at least by many of Portland's multi-generational resident standards) and a registered Democrat who has just begun looking to become politically involved, I write as a citizen to invite other until-now-uninvolved community members to join me in continuing to check out the DTC. You won't be disappointed!

Cynthia L. Tyler – Portland

Know Your Candidates

To the Editor:

I've been a Hebron resident for 35 years. It's only been recently that I've gotten involved in town politics. I never knew how much I didn't know about how our town government works. It's been eye-opening.

The candidates running on the Hebron Democratic ticket are so very impressive. They were all thoroughly vetted and are running for positions based on their strengths. They aren't simply running because we need to fill a seat which is often the case. We deserve better than that and the Hebron Democratic candidates are ready, willing and able to serve.

I invite you to check out their bios on hebrondems.com. You'll be as impressed as I am.

Be informed. Stay informed.

Kim Goldberg – Hebron

Thank You, Colchester

To the Residents of Colchester:

Thank you to the residents of Colchester who voted for me in the NOV 2021 election to the Board of Assessment Appeals. It has been a privilege to serve you these last couple of years as the Chairperson of the BOAA.

At this time, I will not be able to re-run as your incumbent this November due to family medical issues. Please continue to support the town of Colchester as change starts at the municipal level.

Sincerely,
Karen Godbout – Colchester

Well Well Well – Water

To the Editor:

"Yet, this chamber is, for the most part, silent – ominously, dreadfully silent. There is no debate, no discussions, no attempt to lay out for the nation the pros and cons of this particular war. There is nothing, we stand passively mute..." -the late Sen. Robert Byrd

When political candidates turn their backs on water conversations, they turn their backs on the people. Which in turn means, the people generally turn their backs on those candidates. When it comes to the Raymond Brook Watershed in Amston, a.k.a. 17 Kinney Rd., the old Horton property, the town's 88 acres, in the past two years, only about five people, political or not, have publicly mentioned drinking water. However, the state's leading well water remediation expert met with residents twice, spoke before

Hebron's Green Committee and wrote two important letters. Letters warning our boards and committees about serious threats to surrounding residential wells. Meanwhile, misquoted by Hebron's BOS chairman, the expert was being called back into court to defend yet another case of well water contamination here in Connecticut.

It is political season and not one word from local candidates about fractured bedrock aquifers, clean drinking water, safeguarding soils or saving 17 Kinney. Nada. Nothing. It appears the "Demo-Publicans" running our towns and country are intimidated and therefore refuse to broach such real-life issues. Instead, we read about candidates in glowing letters reminiscent of grade-school report cards.

The future of the USA clearly stands in the hands of the public. If you want discussions, about residential water protections, start reading. Be prepared to defend water yourselves because, at this point, no local candidate has volunteered to defend it for you. #Save17 is still non-partisan and still determined to protect Hebron's RBWatershed.

Jean Tulimieri – Amston

Supports Engelhardt

To the Editor:

As a parent in the East Hampton Public School District and an educator in higher education, I support Matt Engelhardt, a Democrat running for East Hampton Board of Education. I have been fortunate to get to know Matt since moving to East Hampton eight years ago and have always been impressed by his commitment to the community and to our education system. He has worked tirelessly to support public education both in his career and in his personal life.

Matt's career has been in communication strategies in both K-12 and higher education which provides him with the ability to build bridges in communication between the Board of Education, Town Council, and the Board of Finance. He also has experience in coordinating focus groups and conducting data analysis in superintendent searches across the entire state. These skills will be critical as we enter a search for new superintendent.

In addition to his experience, he possesses multiple characteristics that make him a strong candidate for Board of Education: integrity, teamwork, and a good sense of humor. Matt is a deep thinker who has a strong commitment to honesty and fairness. He is a hard worker who takes on challenges and knows how to be a supportive team member. He also has a good sense of humor, which helps him make connections with others. Matt's experience and personal qualities make him a strong candidate for Board of Education where he can continue to support our community.

I will be voting for Matt Engelhardt on Nov. 7 and encourage others to do the same.

Respectfully,
Courtney Brosious – East Hampton

Thank You, Derek

To the Editor:

The Trustees and Proprietors of Bacon Academy which manage the historic Bacon Academy built in 1803, the Day Hall which houses the Colchester Co-operative Nursery School and the Foote House built in 1702 would like to thank Derek who owns Grundmann Landscaping in Colchester.

Derek, who played baseball at Bacon Academy and went on to play in college took it upon himself to refurbish the historic Town Green's baseball base paths/ infield a few years ago. Just this week Derek said "it's time to give the basepaths a refreshing look" and cut and cleaned the existing basepaths.

Derek and his crew (Grundmann Landscape Company) should be commended for this service to and for the Trustees. Derek and Gerard Grundmann are owners of the company.

Once a baseball player, always a baseball player. Thanks Derek.

Donald Levine – Colchester

Climate Change Misinformation

To the Editor:

Responding to the letter from Mr. Prentice in Andover regarding his comment that he was grateful his grandchildren were attending Catholic school to prevent them from "contamination and indoctrination of fear-mongering climate-change fools," I would like to enlighten him. I am not Catholic but I can read. From "Catholic Social Teaching 101" I quote: "Catholic teaching insists that climate change is a grave moral issue that threatens our commitments: to protect human life, health, dignity, and security; to exercise preferential options for the poor; to promote the common good of which the climate is part; to live in solidarity with future generations; to realize peace; and to care for God's good gift of creation."

In a papal encyclical letter, Pope Francis declared "that the science of climate change is clear and that the Catholic Church views climate change as a moral issue that must be addressed in order to protect the Earth and everyone on it."

Pope Francis further "shamed and challenged world leaders (on Wednesday past) to commit to binding targets to slow climate change before it's too late, warning that God's increasingly warming creation is fast reaching a point of no return."

I doubt very much that this will influence Mr. Prentice into accepting the reality of scientific evidence of climate change, but he should at least know where his religious leaders stand on this issue.

Sandra Marshall – East Hampton

What I Stand For

To the Editor:

Lots of letters and misinformation are floating around about myself thanks to Mr. Werme.

Serving on the Board of Finance you have to look through the lens of what is 'affordable' based on our revenue stream. Nobody wants to deprive children of quality education. I certainly do not! But what I did vote for was a reduction (again not a cut) from the BOE 2023-2024 budget because I believe we found some savings and opportunities, which by the way did not include eliminating teachers! I also voted to support the armed security officers, the police lieutenant and the hiring of a police officer. Which the later was rejected by all seven Town Council members, including two Democrats.

Running for Town Council includes many responsibilities to our taxpayers and education is a part of our town's budget. But my goal is to secure grant money to lessen burden on our taxpayers.

I will work to commission our new firehouse creating a Public Safety Plan that would build out a road map of short- and long-term goals for police, fire and EMS services. I will support the care and upkeep of our beautiful lake. And yes, I will work to improve services for our senior community, not just the senior center but holistic services that serve many not just a few who attend the center.

I will always keep a sharp eye and weigh all the data in my decisions that have financial implications to our town. Yes, Mr. Werme, it's not always easy to make tough decisions that impacts our residents' pocketbooks.

Looking forward to serving on Town Council and thank you for your vote on Nov. 7!

Respectfully,
Deborah Cunningham
Republican Town Council Candidate

School Start Times

To the Editor:

I am a student at Bacon Academy in Colchester. I am writing to you to address why Connecticut school start times should be pushed back later.

Set that alarm later! Evidence shows that a later start time for middle and high school students would be beneficial. There is the AAP (American Academy of Pediatrics) that recommends that middle and high schools should delay their start time until 8:30. Overall quality of life, it improves productivity, and improves health. The National Sleep Foundation out of Washington, D.C., also recommends more sleep. Minneapolis and Minnesota schools found that starting school at 8:40 a.m. improved attendance, and led to less sleeping in class, more productivity, and less depression. CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) and the AMA (American Medical Association) also find that they are beneficial. Usually the common ground between schools following this policy has a start time at around 8:30. The delay starting time improved grades, less suicides, less drug use, obesity, etc.

As a senior in Bacon Academy I have struggled with getting up in the morning within my past six years of being at WJMS and Bacon Academy. Talking with many students, many also feel that school starts

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way too early and it is impossible to get a good night's rest. I feel as though pushing school start times even an hour can greatly compensate for students' lack of sleep. Many students, especially teenagers, need 8-10 hours of sleep per night.

Sincerely,
Gabe Mahon - Colchester

Supporting Augie Arndt

To the Editor:

I'm in support of Augie Arndt running as a Republican for Board of Education in East Hampton. He is honest, has integrity, is a good businessman and is family oriented. I also like his time spent volunteering in various rolls with sports in town.

He does his research, comes to Board of Education meetings prepared and is aware of the many issues facing the Board of Education.

I also support him for his stance on armed security guards in our schools. Please consider voting for Augie in November.

Jim Radavich - East Hampton
Republican Board of Finance Candidate

Vote for Wilkinson

To the Editor:

Relief was what I felt when I heard that Marcus Wilkinson was running for alternate on the Marlborough Board of Finance, much like I felt when he was chosen to be on the committee to select our new town manager. I felt relief because we need as many people like Marcus in our government as possible. Yes, Marcus brings years of experience in law and conflict resolution and practical business experience. But far more than that for me is his character. Marcus brings reason, sensibility, practicality and civility. He is committed not only to the betterment of the town but to the betterment of the town processes—through inclusion, collaboration, transparency and communication.

I encourage everyone to vote for Marcus, but a special shout out to those that don't normally vote. Ironically, those who don't vote because they think they don't make a difference are exactly the people who can make a difference. Vote for a capable person who wants to bring people together and make the town a better place. See you at the polls.

Catherine Schuster - Marlborough

Logical Choice!

To the Editor:

I would like to express my complete support for Edie DeSimone for Board of Education. She brings with her 22 years of experience within the field of education, which I find unique amongst those presently on the board. She believes in supporting educators and parents while always keeping the focus on maximizing the greatest success of all students. She also recognizes that while achieving this, there must also be a balance within the towns budget for the benefit of all. As someone who has recently achieved the honor of being considered a senior citizen, I very much appreciate this perspective. She has expressed that a high quality school system is equal to a highly desirable town which attracts families. This ensures growth of the town and the ability to ensure quality of life for the residents of East Hampton. I ask that you support Edie DeSimone on Nov. 4, for the Board of Education.

Thank you,
Gail Cavanaugh - East Hampton

Andover Needs Anne!

To the Editor:

This election, Andover has a chance to restore some quiet sensibility to the Board of Selectmen. We can elect Anne Creme. Ann is quiet and reserved, which can sometime mask her steely core. Anne is a woman of strong values, someone who will listen carefully to all sides before making a decision. Anne's presence will bring some much needed balance to the Board of Selectmen.

Andover needs Anne! Please vote for Anne Creme for the Andover Board of Selectmen.

You have probably noticed the lack of decorum and the increase in conflict on the BOS lately. Vote for Anne Creme for her leadership qualities!

Julia A. Haverl - Andover

Asklar & Nastri

To the Editor:

When it comes time to vote for Marlborough's Board of Selectmen candidates on Nov. 7, I would encourage you to consider casting your votes for Joe Asklar and Mike Nastri.

Joe Asklar has proven his dedication to our community over the course of the last several decades as an elected official, longtime fire marshal and as a member of the Marlborough Volunteer Fire Department. Joe's continued membership on the Board of Selectmen will provide a valued level of continuity, which would greatly benefit our community.

Mike Nastri has also proven himself as a member of the Marlborough Board of Finance, including time as the BOF chairman. I feel that Mike can carry that experience forward as a member of the Board of Selectmen.

Marlborough will be facing many challenges going forward and a lot of critical decisions will need to be made in coming years regarding the funding of future projects as well as addressing the issues pertaining to business development, maintenance of infrastructure and responding to the needs of our residents. Joe Asklar and Mike Nastri have both proven that they would be well equipped to face these challenges.

Please join me in supporting Joe and Mike on Nov. 7.

Ken Hjulstrom - Marlborough

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

Don't Blame the Media

To the Editor:

An article dated Oct. 6 in USA Today was titled "President Biden Blames the Media for Americans Negative Views on the Economy." The Biden Administration ignored warnings that trillions in spending would damage the economy and spur inflation. The Biden Administration doubled down on reckless spending with the misnamed and misguided Inflation Reduction Act. Why weren't funds still left over from prior relief bills spent?

Food, energy and shelter are still rising. Go to the gas station, grocery stores or go home and be reminded that your paycheck, if you are employed, is less valuable. For those in the lower and middle class, including myself as a retiree, inflation disproportionately affects us. President Obama's own economic adviser Larry Summers, an outstanding economist, warned President Biden of the dangers of inflation.

The Biden Administration has ignored, denied and dismissed the blame for the damage it has done for the economy for far too long. It is time the Democrats be held accountable for what they have created. Don't blame the media for negative views.

Victor Bonanno - Portland

Supports Alfano

To the Editor:

My friend Andrea Alfano is perfect for the Portland Board of Selectmen. She is smart, thoughtful in her decisions and is not afraid of the hard choices necessary. We have volunteered side by side from preschool events, Junior Women and school fundraisers to many community projects in between. She served on the Board of Education working tirelessly for years on behalf of our kids. Andrea understands budgets, balance, collaboration and hard work. She is both responsible and responsive. I'm proud to support her campaign.

Please join me in voting for Andrea.
Bernice Zampano - Portland

Supports Coyle

To the Editor:

Very few people have worked harder for the people of the town of Colchester over the last 30+ years than Rosemary Coyle. Whether or not you intend to vote for her, I believe that she has earned our gratitude and our respect.

That said, I also believe that she deserves our vote in November. No candidate for Board of Selectmen is more qualified or has a better track record of successful projects and tasks completed for the town of Colchester.

We need a town government that can operate from a position of competence, respect for others, honest disagreement and good faith discussion.

I am very proud to support Rosemary Coyle, Denise Turner, Dave Koji, Bernie Denler and the other fine Democratic candidates this November. We need adults in the room who know how the town works, and are willing to work together to get things done.

Respectfully,
Vincent Rose - Colchester

Colchester Democrats' Message

To the Editor:

The Democrats in Colchester are running on a togetherness theme. Yet, who do they feel specifically needs to be brought together and how is unclear to me.

Some people feel our government and schools are too underfunded. Some do not.

Some people feel racism is a local public health issue. Some do not.

Some people feel it's okay to prominently display a book about drag queens in the children's library. Some do not.

Some feel Republicans won in 2021 using dirty tricks. Some do not.

So, are Democrats trying to get together with people that don't agree with them? Or getting together with those that support their agenda? I hope this is made clear before the election.

Be well to all,
James D. McNair III - Colchester

Vote Yes on Open Space

To the Editor:

There will be a public meeting (Special Town Meeting) at the library on Thursday, Oct. 26, at 7 p.m., to approve the purchase of the O'Connor property, a 115-acre lot in the southwest corner of town, and a 5-acre lot behind St Peter's Church that is a strategic addition to existing open space.

It is vital that supporters of these projects, and supporting friends and family members in town (one person: one vote) actually turn up on that Thursday and vote to secure these properties for the town and our heirs.

Please vote 'yes.'

Yours sincerely,
David Rose - Hebron

An Essential Civic Duty

To the Editor:

With Election Day just a few weeks away, I have recently found myself reflecting on the importance of voting to American democracy and I want to stress how vital it is for our community members to engage in active participation in elections at any level. During my academic career at UConn, I was deeply involved with the Public Interest Research Group (PIRG) and their ongoing campaign to increase voter registration and election participation; however, through my work on the project, I noticed a common sentiment among non-voters that feel as though their vote doesn't matter and therefore actively choose not to participate in elections of any kind, whether federal, state, or municipal.

Voting is an essential civic duty, a fundamental right and an active responsibility granted to every American citizen in the United States Constitution. By voting in elections, individuals uphold and protect the democratic values upon which our nation was founded and shape the future of their communities, allowing citizens to have a direct hand in the governmental decision-making process and ensuring that their concerns are adequately represented. Additionally, voting is a way to honor the efforts made by

the countless individuals who fought for suffrage and equality throughout American history. By exercising their right to vote, Americans pay homage to those who advocated for democratic principles and paved the way for uniform political franchise not restricted by an individual's race or gender. Voting is a tangible demonstration of appreciation for the rights and freedoms that have been won through the struggles and sacrifices of previous generations.

I encourage all Portland voters to prepare for the upcoming November 7th municipal election. In our small town, it only takes one vote to distinguish between winner and loser: your vote matters.

Sincerely,
Jillian Crawford - Portland
Candidate for Board of Selectmen

Endorses Loudenback

To the Editor:

I am writing to express my strong endorsement for Brittany Loudenback as a candidate for the Hebron Board of Education. Brittany's dedication to our community and her passion for improving our educational system make her an outstanding choice for this important position.

Having known Brittany for several years, I can attest to her unwavering commitment to providing our children with the best possible educational experience. She has consistently shown a deep understanding of the challenges facing our schools and a strong desire to work collaboratively to find solutions.

One of the qualities that sets Brittany apart is her ability to listen to the concerns and ideas of parents, teachers, and students. She is approachable and empathetic, making her an excellent advocate for the voices within our community. Brittany believes that every child deserves access to a high-quality education and is dedicated to ensuring that our schools meet the needs of all students.

I wholeheartedly endorse Brittany Loudenback for the Hebron Board of Education and encourage all residents to support her in the upcoming election. Let's work together to ensure that our schools continue to thrive under her leadership.

Sincerely,
Lindsay Eng - Hebron

Democrats for Andover

To the Editor:

It's impossible to count the good reasons to vote for Andover's Democratic slate. The competence, the experience, the compassion of the candidates speaks volumes. Note the long-town involvement of people like Kim Hawes for Fire Commission and of Emily Timreck and Linda Armstrong for BAA. Note the compassionate but quiet determination of Anne Creme for BOS. Note the fierce educational advocacy of Shannon Louden and Caitlin McIntosh Greenhouse for BOE. Oh yes, and note the sheer number of women running on the Democratic ticket!

In 2023, there are uncountably many reasons to vote against Republicans.

When the country elects Republicans, we get the current House caucus, which cannot accomplish anything other than backstabbing and infighting. (When

See Story, page 8

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Town's Aa3 Rating Affirmed by Moody's

By Michael Sinkewicz

Moody's Investors Service this month confirmed Colchester Aa3 issuer and general obligation unlimited tax (GOULT) ratings following its review of information from the town's 2022 fiscal performance.

A review was initiated on Aug. 4 due to a lack of sufficient information for the 2022 fiscal year, according to a Moody's press release.

Moody's stated that the Aa3 rating "reflects the town's moderate debt burden, low pension liability and strong wealth and income profile."

"Colchester's financial operations have generally been balanced, and the town has used surpluses to add to fund balance in recent years," the statement read. "The town's available fund balance and liquidity ratios are in line with Connecticut peers despite being lower than the Aa3 rated peers in other states."

Moody's also said the town's "strong revenue performance resulted in a small surplus in 2022."

"We expect the town to continue to show surpluses in 2023 and 2024. The town has steadily paid down its debt, which has kept the fixed costs ratio low."

Colchester has around \$27.3 million of debt outstanding as of June 30, 2021, the release stated.

The Aa3 rating signifies that financial obligations are "judged to be of high quality and are subject to very low credit risk," according to Moody's rating scale.

Colchester Finance Director Mary Williamson told the Riverast this week that the notifications means that "our rating is not in jeopardy anymore."

After handing over draft financial documents,

Williamson explained that the town's rating was affirmed. However, she added, the town only utilizes the agency for one major bonding obligation, the William J. Johnston Middle School roof project. Another agency, S&P Global Ratings, which the town predominantly relies upon, has not yet sent the town its rating.

Williamson explained that S&P will base its decision around the same financial information provided to Moody's, and will pose similar questions, including why the 2021-22 audit process was significantly delayed. With major projects coming up, including the bonding of the new town senior center, a healthy rating is essential.

"It's highly unlikely that we'd experience anything negative," Williamson said, expressing confidence in the outcome.

Colchester Board of Finance Chairman Andrea Migliaccio previously confirmed that the town had been placed on a fiscal watchlist as a result of a long overdue financial audit report. The alert was a "heads-up" but not an actual penalty, she said, and the notice came from one rating companies that the town "doesn't use" — Moody's.

The 2021-22 final audit has yet to be completed. When it's concluded, the finance department will move onto the 2022-23 audit (the town is currently in the 2023-24 fiscal year).

Williamson said people have a "misunderstanding" regarding how the audit is conducted. It is not done in-house; information is sent to the auditor, and the town responds to questions as

they arise. She called the process a "collaboration." "It's very complex," she said. "My number one goal is to make the best financial decisions."

Still, she acknowledged that residents or officials who constantly press for the prompt completion of the report are justified.

"I understand that," she said. "It's scary to not have it"

She added, "we're on the home stretch."

Williamson couldn't pinpoint a specific date, but estimated that the audit would be done by the end of the month.

"I'm proud of the effort," she said.

Longtime Chief Financial Officer Maggie Cosgrove retired in June, 2022. Williamson, who took over earlier this year after Cosgrove's predecessor, Debbie Kratochvil, and has been steadily working to prepare the documents for an audit, on top of normal day-to-day responsibilities.

The Board of Selectmen also agreed this year to hire two temporary employees through Robert Half to assist the finance department with the audit; those contracts have since expired. Cosgrove, however, was added onto the payroll as a consultant, as well.

Regarding any criticism directed at her office, Williamson said she "doesn't necessarily view that harshly."

"I understand why," she said, adding that people often jump to conclusions.

Still, Williamson encourages patience as the process unfolds.

"It's hard for the people that come in every day and work their butts off in the trenches," she said. "It undermines their hard work."

According to Connecticut General Statutes, "All municipalities shall have all their financial statements audited at least once annually."

Youth Football Recap

The Colchester Cougars youth football squads were in action against the Tolland Eagles on Oct. 1, and then against the Plainfield Panthers on Oct. 8. Here is how they fared:

Seniors: Defeated Tolland, 38-18, to move to a 5-0 record for the season. The offensive line had solid blocking all day to provide running lanes and rushing touchdowns by Noah Garvie, Dominic Helm, Xaden Medina and two touchdowns for Mason Howard. Vinny Arrigoni also scored a touchdown on a kickoff return. The defense was solid all game with first half interceptions by Adam Bigelow and Mason Howard and two second half fumble recoveries by Xaden Medina.

The following week, the seniors shut out Plainfield 46-0, to move to a record of 6-0. Scoring started early with rushing touchdowns by Xaden Medina and Noah Garvie. Colton LaFlash and Jameson Grant each added their first career touchdown runs while Dominic Helm returned an interception for a TD and Xaden Medina returned the second half kickoff for his second TD of the day. Mason Howard made 5 of 6 extra point kicks. Cody O'Bryon, Brendan Kastrup and Charlie Gorman made big plays all day on both sides of the ball. Sam Collazo, James Wissler, Gavin King, Noah Garvie and Jake Hashem made big tackles all game.

Juniors: Topped Tolland, 39-21. The offense, led by QB Jakob Sheehan and RBs Nik Ibriham, Liam Beeler and Keegan King, had its best performance of the season so far. The defense led by Jack Wissler and Allen Marshall came up

with some huge stops on 4th down.

The following week, the Juniors had a hard-fought loss against Plainfield on Sunday. The offense came up short on a last-minute drive. The team will put everything they have into getting a big win vs. RHAM this week.

Micros: Defeated Tolland, 26-20. Down 20-19 with 3 minutes left in the game, the Cougars started what would be their final drive and take the lead 26-20 with just over 30 seconds left on the clock. The offensive line showed their strength pushing Tolland back and creating running lanes for the backs, who fought for every yard. On the defensive side of the ball many different players contributed to making the plays when needed.

The following week, the Micros fell to Plainfield, 33-13. The Cougars never seemed to get it on track throughout the game, falling behind early in the first half and never managing to overcome the deficit. The Cougars were heavily penalized throughout the game including having touchdowns called back.

Peeewe: Despite the obvious physical differences in both clubs, Colchester gave a good effort in its loss against Tolland. The morning did not go without some shining moments: the high motor of Sullivan King resulted in King breaking into the back field from the DT position for several tackles for loss, to include a fumble recovery. The Cougars also had their first completed pass of the year. Teddy Ramer snuck out of the back field into the flat and caught a perfectly thrown ball from QB1 Braden MacFarland for an 8-yard gain.

The following week, against Plainfield, the Cougars made several attempts to work the ball down the field with several running backs against a tough Plainfield defensive line. Sullivan King eventually busted out over 70 yards for his first touchdown of the year. Two stiff arms and a spin move and he was off to the races. The Cougar defense played well, forcing several three and outs. The Cougars look to build on their efforts this weekend against RHAM.

October Project Graduation Fundraiser

All are welcome to play miniature golf on the Colchester Town Green Sunday, Oct. 15, during the Colchester Farmers Market.

This portable mini-golf fundraiser will be set up from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Cost is \$5 for those under 10 years old, and \$10 for those 10 and older. Donations will also be accepted, and hole sponsorships are still available. Visit baconacademy-projectgrad.org for more information.

All proceeds will benefit Bacon Academy Project Graduation, whose mission is to enhance drug and alcohol-free awareness by providing safe and healthy graduation events for all graduating seniors of Bacon Academy.

Farmers Market Wraps Up Sunday

The Colchester Farmers Market will wrap up this Sunday, Oct. 15, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., on the Town Green.

The market will feature various vendors selling fresh vegetables, local fruits, meats, cheeses and more. There will also be crafts, sweet treats and a food truck.

Check out the market's Facebook and Instagram pages (@ColchesterFarmersMarketCT) for more information.

After handing over draft financial documents,



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Champions Karate Party

On Saturday, Oct. 28, Champions Karate will celebrate its second year of being a Colchester business. From 6-9 p.m. that night, it will hold its second annual birthday and costume party.

If interested in learning more about martial, you are welcome to come by and talk with Sensei Josh Seals.

Champions Karate is located at 199 Old Hartford Rd.

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Aid and Support After Pregnancy

Knights of Columbus Spellman Council 6107 will hold the initiative Aid and Support After Pregnancy (ASAP) from Oct. 7-31. The Knights will collect supplies for new mothers in need.

Suggested items include diapers, formula, clothing, wipes, and toys.

Donation containers, for new and gently used items for babies from birth to age 1, will be placed in the vestibule of St. Andrew Church,

128 Norwich Ave., and at the handicapped-accessible entrance Monetary donations are also appreciated and those checks should be made to KofC Council 6107 and clearly marked for ASAP initiative.

The checks can be left in the marked collection box located by the donation containers or mailed to KofC Council 6107, P.O. Box 46, Colchester, CT 06415.

Absentee Ballots Available for Election

Town Clerk Gayle Furman has announced that absentee ballots for the Nov. 7 municipal election will be available in the town clerk's office from Friday, Oct. 6, through Monday, Nov. 6.

Absentee ballot instructions: Fill out an application for an absentee ballot. You may obtain an application in the town clerk's office or online at colchesterct.gov (click on Departments, then Town Clerk then Forms), or visit oabr-sots.ct.gov. This will link you directly to the Secretary of the States website where you can fill out a downloadable form. You must be a current Colchester voter at the time of the application.

After the town clerk's office receives the completed application, you will be given an absentee ballot to fill out. If you apply in person, you can fill out the ballot at that time or take it with you

to return within the specified period.

Deadlines for receiving the fully filled-out ballot and enclosed envelopes are:

If delivered in person, it must be delivered to the town clerk no later than Monday, Nov. 6, at 4:30 p.m.;

If delivered in person by a family member, or qualified designee (such as a caretaker, police officer in town, or registrar/deputy registrar of voters in town), it must reach the Town Clerk's office by the end of polls on Election Day;

If delivered by mail it must be received no later than 4:30 p.m. on Election Day; or

If put in the Election Drop Box, must be placed by the 8 p.m. close of polls on Election Day.

For more information, call the town clerk's office at 860-537-7215.

Senior Center Trips

Colchester Senior Center is offering a pair of trips. Call 860-537-3911 for more information. Trips are available to Colchester Senior Center members and their adult guests over the age of 18. Senior center membership is free for Colchester residents aged 55 and older. There is an annual fee of \$15 for seniors residing outside of Colchester.

Pacific Northwest & California: April 14-21, 2024. Explore the natural beauty from Seattle to San Francisco. Trip includes transportation to airport, airfare, hotels and 11 meals (six breakfast, one lunch and four dinners). Double occupancy is \$3,529/person if booked before Oct. 14. Registration can be made at the senior center.

New York Botanical Gardens – Holiday Train Show: Thursday, Dec. 7, leaving at 8 a.m. See model trains and trolleys zip along over winding tracks past replicas of more than 140 New York landmarks made from plant material such as pinecones, orange slices and cinnamon sticks. You will also spend some time on Arthur Avenue, the "Little Italy" of the Bronx. Cost is \$112/per person. Sign up before Nov. 7 or until sold out. There is an annual fee of \$15 for seniors residing outside of Colchester.

Pumpkins & Pooches

Pumpkins & Pooches is back, and will be hosted by the Colchester Dog Park at Hop Culture Farms & Brew Company on Cato Corner Road. The event will take place Sunday, Oct. 29, from noon-6 p.m.

This will be a day filled with pet-related vendors, a cornhole tournament, canine costume contests, raffle, and, of course, beer. Pumpkin decorating and other activities for the kids will be available.

Families, kids and dogs are welcome. Dogs must be vaccinated and on leashes. No retractable leashes, please.

Pre-registration is needed for the cornhole tournament. Cost is \$25/two-person team. The tournament is double-elimination; boards provided. Email tagnobark@gmail.com to register by Oct. 23.

Meet the Candidates Forum

On Tuesday, Oct. 17, from 2-4 p.m., AARP Chapter 4019 will hold its annual Meet the Candidates event, at Colchester Senior Center, 95 Norwich Ave.

Candidates for first selectman, Board of Selectmen, Board of Finance and Board of Education are invited to be on the panel. Other candidates are invited to be in the audience. Attendees are invited to bring their questions. Come early as space is limited. Light refreshments will be available.

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Two Weekend Crashes Lead to Serious Injuries

By Michael Sinkewicz

Colchester Fire and Emergency Medical Services responded to two separate motor vehicle accidents on Sunday morning, resulting in serious injuries and the temporary closing of the highway.

Fire Chief Steven Hoffmann did not have an update on the individuals involved in either accident as of press time.

According to state police, two individuals were transported to Hartford Hospital via LifeStar helicopters following a crash near the Exit 17 on-ramp on Route 2 in Colchester.

The vehicle was traveling west bound and drove off the right shoulder due to an "unknown reason" while executing a left turn, police stated.

The car struck a concrete culvert, causing it to roll over multiple times and ejecting the occupants of the vehicle. The suspected driver, Quashaun Whitehead, 38, of Bloomfield, was being treated for suspected serious injuries and the passenger, Terry Broadnax-Snype, 36, of Hartford, was being treated for suspected minor injuries, according to police.

Emergency personnel responded to the scene at 4:17 a.m., according to Hoffmann. Colchester officials were joined by units from Salem, Hebron and Middletown.

Hoffman said the surrounding the scene

by exit 17 was shut down for nearly six hours, reopening around 10:30 a.m. While response crews cleared the area by 6:00 a.m., the state police's accident reconstruction team continued to investigate the scene, he said.

Two minutes prior to that incident at 4:15 a.m., Colchester personnel responded to a motorcycle accident call on Route 16 at Cemetery Rd. Hoffman stated that the individual was riding an ebike.

The male rider was transported to the hospital via ambulance, Hoffmann said.

"The injuries weren't critical," he stated.

Hoffmann expressed that electric bikes can reach high speeds – most can exceed 20 miles per hour – which are accelerated by the hilly roadway.

"You get a good amount of speed going down," he said.

The particularly section of road has been prone to incidents and hazardous conditions.

"We get a good amount of accidents on Route 16," Hoffmann said. "We go there quite a lot"

On Sunday morning, Colchester First Selectman Andreas Bisbikos notified the community that local crews had been dispatched.

"Let us pray for their recovery and keep them in our hearts," he wrote on Facebook.

Red Cross Blood Drive

American Legion Post 54 will host a Red Cross Blood Drive Tuesday, Oct. 31, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., at Saint Joseph Polish Club, 395 South Main St.

While donations of all blood types are needed, the Red Cross especially needs type O Negative and type B Negative blood donors right now. Download the American Red Cross app or go to the Red Cross website at www.redcrossblood.org to make an appointment. Walk-ins can also be accommodated.

Contact Al Letendre at letendrej@sbcglobal.net for more information.

Dine & Donate!

All are invited to support the nonprofit group Girls on the Run Wednesday, Nov. 8, at Oz N Bones BBQ, 43 Hayward Ave.

From 5-8 p.m., 10% of all sales (dine-in or takeout) will be donated to Girls on the Run, a nonprofit organization that designs programming intended to strengthen girls' social, emotional, physical and behavioral skills to successfully navigate life experiences. There is a local Girls on the Run team right in Colchester, at Jack Jackter Intermediate School.



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Calling All Artists!

Colchester Music Boosters is in need of a design to launch its group and help get its first fundraiser off the ground. The winning design will be printed on T-shirts to be sold as a fundraiser to support music education in Colchester Public Schools. The winner will receive a free T-shirt.

Colchester Music Boosters is a group of parents and community members dedicated to sup-

porting the music programs of the Colchester Public Schools. Through fundraising, the group said it hopes to provide funds to help cover costs of music field trips, guest musicians, and other music opportunities not normally covered by traditional school budget funds.

More details can be found on Facebook at Colchester Music Boosters, Inc., or by emailing colchestermusicboosters@gmail.com.

Senior Center News & Notes

Colchester Senior Center, 95 Norwich Ave., has announced the following. Unless noted, registration is required for all programs. For full descriptions and to register, call 860-537-3911, email csc@colchesterct.gov, or visit www.colchesterct.gov/senior-center.

Monday, Oct. 16: 9 a.m., Making Memories, Exercise with Anne; 9-11 a.m., Flu/Covid Vaccine Clinic, by appointment; 10 a.m., Sittercize; 11 a.m., Learn to Sign; 12:30 p.m., Mahjong, Bridge; 12:45 p.m., Setback; 1:30 p.m., Keys, Bags, Names, Words Movie Screening.

Tuesday, Oct. 17: 9 a.m., Making Memories; 9:45 a.m., Tai Chi; 10 a.m., Book Club; 12:30 p.m., Pinochle; no Bingo today; 1:30 a.m., AARP 'Meet the Candidates' Forum.

Wednesday, Oct. 18: 9 a.m., Making Memories Program, Walking Group meet-up at the Air Line Trail in Amston; 10 a.m., Adult Coloring, Sit & Be Fit; 11 a.m., County Fair luncheon; 1:30 p.m., Sewing Circle, Line Dancing.

Thursday, Oct. 19: 7:15 a.m., Krucker's trip

departs; 9 a.m., Exercise w/Ann; 10 a.m., Sittercize, Wii Bowling, Shopping Trip; 11 a.m., yoga; noon, Chair Massage; noon-3 p.m., Senior Benefits Counseling by appointment only; 12:30 p.m., Dominoes; 1 p.m., Knit & Crochet.

Friday, Oct. 20: Senior center closed, as the floors are being cleaned. There are no programs, lunch or transportation today.

Pumpkin Centerpiece: Thursday, Oct. 26, 1 p.m. In this crafting session, make a centerpiece out of real pumpkins, ribbons and silk flowers. Cost is \$5 for supplies. Space is limited.

Halloween Costume and Pizza Party: Tuesday, Oct. 31, 11 a.m. There will be traditional Halloween festivities including games and a costume parade and contest. The festivities will be followed by a lunch of pizza, garden salad, choice of soda or bottled water, and spooky desserts. Costumes are encouraged, but not required. Tickets are \$6 if you wear a costume and \$7 if you do not. Tickets are on sale through Friday, Oct. 27, or until sold out.

Fire Department Open House

Colchester Fire Department will hold an Open House event Sunday, Oct. 15, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., at 52 Old Hartford Rd. All are invited to come meet their local firefighters and EMS providers.

There will also be equipment on display, and fire prevention and safety information available.

Events will include: vehicle extrication demonstration, fire extinguisher training and demonstration, firefighter gear try-on, blood

pressure screenings, an ambulance tour, Touch-a-Truck, Smokey Bear visit, Gator UTV and marine units on display, CPR/Lucas device demonstration, Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) demonstrations, state police seat belt convincer, and more.

Also, hot dogs will be available for lunch while supplies last, and the fire museum at 100 S. Main St. will be open for tours. There will be antique fire truck rides to the museum.

Parks & Rec News & Notes

Colchester Parks and Recreation has announced the following programs and events. Registration required unless noted. For full descriptions and to register, visit www.colchesterct.gov/recreation-department. Parks and Rec. can also be reached at 860-537-7297 or at Town Hall, 127 Norwich Ave.

325th Birthday Events: Use the Passport to view the schedule of events, restaurant week, tours and more on the Parks and Rec. website. Use the passport page to collect stamps of all the places you visit. Drop off your stamped passport for a chance to win one of three prizes. Printed passports are available at the Town Hall as well.

Pumpkin Painting: Wednesday, Oct. 18, 3-4 p.m. Bring a pumpkin and decorate it at the RecPlex pavilion. Supplies provided; just bring your own pumpkin. Wear clothes that can get messy. All ages welcome.

Trick or Trunk: Saturday, Oct. 28; rain date Oct. 29. Decorate your car/truck "trunk" with a Halloween theme and hand out candy to the trick-or-treaters; please bring two bags of candy per child. Register by Oct. 22. Limited to the first 50 trunks.

Young Yogis: Wednesdays, Oct. 18-Nov. 8, at Colchester Elementary School. Each class will combine yoga and mindful practices. This class is for children enrolled in CES in grades K-2. The instructor will meet students after school and walk them to the location of the class in CES. Parents/guardians will sign out their child at 4:30. Cost: \$50.

Introduction to Pottery Wheel Course: Wednesdays, Oct. 25-Nov. 15, 12:30-2:30 p.m., at 43 Hayward Ave., second floor. This course is a way to advance beyond clay hand building and learn how clay can be shaped by using the pottery wheel. Students have free access to the use of open studio time over the four

Land Trust Hike

Colchester Land Trust will hold a 14-mile hike on the Richard H. Goodwin Trail Sunday, Oct. 22, at 9 a.m. Board member Lisa Hageman will lead the hike.

Meet at the Chapal Farm Preserve parking lot on Route 82 in East Haddam. Hikers will be transported to the eastern end of the trail at Darrow Pond in East Lyme. The trail is an easy to moderate hike. Approximate duration: 5 hours.

Hikers must register by Wednesday, Oct. 18, at www.colchesterlandtrust.org. The hike is free for CLT members, and \$5 for non-members.

For more information, contact Lisa at lter-rillhageman@comcast.net or 860-918-1537 (text or call). Bring adequate water and snacks for the hike. No dogs are permitted on the trail.

Polish Dinner

The St. Joseph's Polish Club at 395 South Main St. will have a dine-in or takeout polish dinner Friday, Oct. 13, from 5-6 p.m. Dinner will include pierogies, golumpki, kielbasa, kapusta, rye bread with butter, and a dessert.

Advanced ticket sales on sale now. Tickets are \$15/each and on sale at the bar during normal business hours: Monday-Friday, 4-10 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, noon-10 p.m.

Call 860-537-2550 for more information.

Ahavath Achim News

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

Tuesday: Aggaddata class, 6 p.m.; Talmud class, 6:30 p.m.; Kabbalah class, 8 p.m. on Zoom; call for link.

Shabbat Schedule: Friday at 6:30 p.m., in-person and on Zoom - Shabbat; Saturday morning, 10 a.m., in-person and on Zoom - Shabbat service.

There are daily Facebook Live classes on Ken Alter's Facebook page; Ask the Rabbi and Jewish Trivia are also featured.

For more information, or a link for services or classes, call 860-537-2809. Office hours are Wednesday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

A Look at Historic Art

All are invited to take a look at Colchester's historic art this Saturday, Oct. 14, at 2 p.m., at Nathan Liverant and Son Antiques, 168 South Main St.

The forum "Needle and Thread" will feature rare needlework treasures made in Colchester between 1780 and 1815. This Invitation to Learn forum will be led by Nathan Liverant and Son's third generation owner, Arthur S. Liverant, and historian Kevin J. Tulimieri.

The forum is free and all are welcome. For more information, visit www.liverantantiques.com.

325th Birthday Gala Tickets Still Available

All are invited to Colchester's 325th Birthday celebration gala on Friday, Oct. 13, from 7-10 p.m., at Priam Vineyards, with music, passed hors d'oeuvres, and a free beverage. Gluten-free and vegan food options will also be provided. Cocktail attire required.

Tickets are \$40 each. Tables can be reserved in groups of eight or 12. All attendees will receive a free commemorative book with pictures of Colchester's history.

Tickets can be purchased in the recreation or town clerk's offices during normal business hours. For more information, call the recreation office at 860-537-7297.

Ukrainian Food Dinner

On Saturday, Oct. 14, St. Mary Ukrainian Church, 178 Linwood Ave., will have a traditional Ukrainian dinner from 1-6 p.m.

The dinner features kielbasa, kraut, stuffed cabbage, and pierogis. borscht soup, dessert and drinks will be also available for sale. The dinner will also include Ukrainian music and arts and crafts tables, and more.

The event is eat-in or takeout. All are welcome. For more information, call 860-537-2069.

Vendors Wanted

Colchester Federated Church's annual Fall Market will be held Saturday, Nov. 4, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. - and vendors are wanted.

The event will showcase local crafters, vendors and farmers, as well as an Upscale Tag Sale, bake sale and raffle.

For a table at the fair, contact Renee Misbach at rouillette01@snet.net for more information.

Avoid Senior Scamming

On Monday, Oct. 23, at 10 a.m., the Colchester Commission on Aging, in partnership with the Colchester Senior Center, will present "Tips to Avoid the Target of Scammers."

Chuck Maynard, assistant vice president of Colchester Dime Bank, and Gary Dawson, learning and development manager of Dime Bank in Norwich, will discuss phishing, calls or emails from persons who pretend to know you, changing your passwords, money mule scams, grandparent scams, gift card scams, etc.

All are invited to come and hear how you can protect you and your loved ones' personal information and privacy. Light refreshments will be served. Space is limited, so register with the senior center at 860-537-3911.

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Two Awarded the Ralph Paley Spirit Award

By London Brazal

Two outstanding citizens have been honored with a community leadership award for their contributions and dedication to their fellow residents.

On Sept. 21, the Waverly Senior Center honored Nancy Jones and Kevin Backman of Portland with this year's Ralph Paley Spirit of Portland awards.

The awards, named in honor of a man well-known for his dedication to the town, recognize folks who share the late Paley's passion for giving back to the town.

In 2009, the Portland Senior Center introduced the Town Spirit Award to recognize the "unsung heroes" of Portland. Following the sponsorship by members of the Paley family in memory of Ralph "Mickey" Paley, the award was renamed in his honor.

Paley made Portland his home for most of his life, co-establishing Paley Brothers Hay and Shavings alongside his brother, Hyime. Together, they successfully managed the business for over half a century. Paley was an active member of the Congregation Adath Israel Synagogue and quietly supported numerous organizations and individuals through anonymous donations.

Senior Services Administrator Sarah Elliott-Caratasios, who presented the award, said Jones exemplifies dedication and selflessness, enriching the lives of numerous Portland residents through her tireless efforts.

"Nancy's commitment to creating a positive impact in Portland is nothing short of inspiring," said Elliott-Caratasios. She added that Jones' steadfast commitment to volunteering with Meals-on-Wheels has guaranteed that elderly neighbors receive not only nourishing meals but also much-needed companionship.

Elliott-Caratasios also praised Jones' initiative of crafting bears for those facing adversity – noting that the bears have brought comfort and joy to countless individuals. Jones' "tireless efforts have touched the lives of so many, providing comfort and support to those in need," Elliott-Caratasios said. "Nancy's generosity knows no bounds, and her compassion has become a cornerstone of our community."

Backman was described as someone with a heart filled with compassion and a deep understanding of community. "Kevin's heart is as genuine as they come," said Elliott-Caratasios. For years, Backman has devoted himself to volunteering at the Portland Food Bank, ensuring that individuals in need have consistent access to nutritious meals.

Backman has also reached out to assist individuals facing adversity or experiencing homelessness, and is a volunteer with the Parks and Recreation Department.

At the event, Portland First Selectman Ryan Curley spoke to celebrate the spirit of Jones and Backman. Elliott-Caratasios also commemorated the volunteers at the senior center for their



Nancy Jones, left, and Kevin Backman are the winners of this year's Ralph Paley Spirit of Portland awards.

work, including Carlotta Lord, June Martin, Alexis Chiccarello. "It truly takes a village," Elliott-Caratasios said. Judy Thompson, and Administrative Assistant

Family History Program

On Sunday, Oct. 22, the Portland Historical Society will present a special program entitled "My Aunt Gracie" by Brookelyn Grant. The program will begin at 2 p.m. and will be held in the Mary Lou Rice Room at the Waverly Senior Center, 7 Waverly Ave.

Brookelyn, a student in Middletown, is the daughter of Eric Grant and Erin Stannard Grant. She has prepared a family story about her

Great-Grand Aunt Gracie, a Portland resident who is now in her 90s. Brookelyn will describe what her Aunt Grace Larry has told her about growing up in one of only 15 Black families in Portland, where she went to school, her church and other memorable events.

All are welcome. The event is open to all, free of charge, and refreshments will be served.

Parks and Rec. News & Notes

Portland Parks and Recreation offers a variety of programs for adults and children. For a complete list of programs, full course descriptions, or to register, visit portland.recdesk.com or call 860-342-6757. Advanced registration is required.

Curious About Yoga, But Don't Know Where to Start?: Wednesdays through Oct. 25, 6-7 p.m., at Riverfront Park. Drop-ins welcome.

19th Annual Come on Over 5K: Saturday, Oct. 21, at Riverfront Park. Registration for runners ages 19+ is \$25. Walkers and runners under 18 years old pay \$20. Register by today, Sept. 29, for a free T-shirt.

Tai Chi: Wednesdays or Saturdays through

Oct. 21, at Riverfront Park. Times are 9:30-10:15 a.m. on Wednesdays and 10:30-11:15 a.m. on Saturdays.

Adult & Youth Dance Classes: A variety of tap, ballet, jazz and cardio classes for ages 6 months to adult. Classes are held at Dance with Miss Alicia studios at 332 Marlborough St.

Adult & Youth Martial Arts: Classes for children ages 3 and up are held at The Inner Circle at 332 Marlborough St.

Youth Gymnastics Classes: Classes for toddlers and children ages 6 and up are held at The Inner Circle.

Self-Defense for Women: Sundays, Oct. 15 or Nov. 12, 6-7 p.m., at The Inner Circle.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection

The Lower CT River Council of Governments will hold the last Household Hazardous Waste collection event of the year on Saturday, Oct. 21, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., at Haddam Elementary School, 272 Saybrook Rd., Higganum.

This free collection is open to residents of the RiverCOG, region which includes East Hampton & Portland. No commercial or business waste allowed.

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

Resident Named Commended Student

Principal Kathryn Lawson of Portland High School announced last week that Aleksandra (Sasha) Connolly has been named a Commended Student in the 2024 National Merit Scholarship Program.



A Letter of Commendation from the school and National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC), which conducts the program, was presented by Lawson to Connolly.

About 34,000 Commended Students throughout the nation are being recognized for their academic promise. Although they will not continue in the 2024 competition for National Merit Scholarship awards, Commended Students placed among the top 50,000 students who entered the 2024 competition by taking the 2022 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT).



Best in Snow!... Public Works employee Brian Steffman recently attended the Connecticut Association of Street & Highway Officials (CASHO) Snow Plow Safety Competition and took home first place for the Town of Portland. "Congratulations to Brian and the entire DPW crew on a job well done!" First Selectman Ryan Curley shared on Facebook.

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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.

Zion will hold its first Sunday School gathering of the season, known as Rally Day, on Oct. 15, from 10:15-11:30 a.m., in the Fellowship Hall. Families with school age children (3-12) are invited to see what Zion's religious instruc-

tion program is all about. There will be games, activities and snacks for the kids, and coffee and conversation for the adults. Call Sylvia LeShane at 860-342-0658 if you plan to attend or have any questions.

All are welcome. For more information 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.

Friends' Fall Book Sale

The Friends of the Portland Library will hold its annual Fall Book Sale on Saturday, Oct. 21, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., and Sunday, Oct. 22, from 10 a.m.-noon, at the Portland Library, located at 20 Freestone Ave.

There will be a special preview sale for Friends' members only on Friday, Oct. 20, from 3-8 p.m. Anyone interested in becoming a Friend can join at the door. Members will receive an imprinted reusable bag as a thank you for their support.

The sale will offer thousands of hardcover and paperback books, DVDs, CDs, puzzles and games.

At Friday's members-only preview sale, all books will be available for \$10/bag. On Saturday, books will be available for \$10/bag from 10 a.m.-11:30 and books and DVDs will be available for \$10/bag from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. On Sunday all items will be available for \$3/bag (but only \$2/bag for members!)

The Friends of the Portland Library is a volunteer-based nonprofit organization whose mission is to support the Portland Library in its efforts to offer quality services and programs. If you would like to help with the Fall Book Sale, contact Maureen at MLTSherman@gmail.com.

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 Donation Info: The senior center asks that residents 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 senior center. People are asked to only leave donations for the Food Bank, and only during food bank hours.

Next Week's Programs: **Monday:** Light Aerobics, 9:30-10:30 a.m.; SynoCize Exercise, 10:30-11:30 a.m. **Tuesday:** Bears on a Journey, 9:30-11 a.m., making fleece teddy bears for cancer patients - donations are sought of light fleece, one yard or more, for making bears (to donate, call 860-342-0809); watercolor class, 9:30 a.m.-noon - to register, email bivenne@yahoo.com; Coupons for Troops, 1-4 p.m.; Setback, 1 p.m. **Wednesday:** Light Aerobics, 9:30-10:30 a.m.; SyncoCize Exercise, 10:30-11:30 a.m.; Tai Chi Quong, 1 p.m.; Social Duplicate Bridge, 12:30-4 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesday, multipurpose room. **Thursday:** Stretch & Tone, 9:30 a.m.; Knit & Stitch, 10 a.m.; Mahjong, 12:30 p.m.; Scrabble, 1 p.m. **Friday:** Light aerobics, 9:30 a.m.

Trip to Blue Iris Farm: Thursday, Oct. 19, bus leaves the senior center at noon. Cost is \$20/person, plus a \$5 transportation fee paid to the

driver. Seating limited; call Sarah or Alexis to register, at 860-342-6761.

Oktoberfest: Monday, Oct. 19, 11:30 a.m. Food by Sarah's on Main, music by Dave Golowski on the accordion. Seating is limited; call Sarah or Alexis to register at 860-342-6761.

Blood Pressure Clinics: 10:30-11:30 a.m. on the first Monday of each month (note: if that day is a holiday, 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.

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.

Absentee Ballots for November Election

Absentee ballots for the Nov. 7 municipal election are now available from the town clerk's office at Town Hall, or by visiting www.portlandct.org/voting-info.

Call the Portland town clerk's office for more information, at 860-342-6743.



Halloween Extravaganza... Portland's Tony Rome and the Peacemakers - pictured here - will play their first Halloween Extravaganza concert Sunday, Oct. 29, at 1 p.m., at Concentric Brewing, to benefit Portland Food Bank. Costumes are optional.

YFS News and Notes

Portland Youth and Family Services has announced the following. For more information or full descriptions, like and follow YFS at www.facebook.com/PortlandCTYouth or www.instagram.com/PortlandCTYouth, or visit www.portlandct.org/youth-services. If you have any questions or are interested in ways to help out, contact Courtney at Cftzkee@portlandct.org or 860-342-6758.

Youth & Parent LGBTQ+ Support-Style Groups: Wednesday, Oct. 18, 6-8 p.m., at Portland Library, 20 Freestone Ave. There are separate groups for LGBTQ+ youth and parents of those youth; the groups are co-facilitated by Q+ and local volunteers. If you're a local business and looking to support these groups, contact YFS.

POWER Up Portland: Prevention & Wellness Council: Wednesday, Oct. 25, from 6:30-7:30 p.m., on the first floor of the Buck-Foreman Community Center, 265 Main St. All are invited to help work as a community on youth sub-

stance use prevention, positive mental health, and becoming a recovery friendly community.

Halloween On Main: Friday, Oct. 27, 4-6:30 p.m. Businesses welcome trick-or-treaters on Main Street! Look for the pumpkins in their windows to signify their participation in the event. YFS will allow businesses not located on Main Street to set up in front of Brownstone Intermediate and on the basketball courts. Reach out to Courtney to sign your business up. A map will be out a week prior to the event.

Youth LGBTQ+ Drop-In Night: Wednesday, Nov. 1, 6-8 p.m., in the library.

Crafters Wanted

Portland High School Project Graduation is hosting a Holiday Craft and Vendor Fair on Saturday, Nov. 18, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Crafters and vendors interested in a space may contact PortlandProjectGrad2024@pshs.projectgrad.2024@gmail.com for an application.

Deadline to sign up is Saturday, Nov. 11.

Free Paper Shredding

The Lower CT River Valley Council of Governments (RiverCOG) is holding a residential paper shredding event on Saturday, Oct. 14, from 9 a.m.-noon, at the Chester Town Hall, 203 Middlesex Ave., Chester.

This event is free to residents of the RiverCOG region, which includes East Hampton and Portland. Visit www.rivercog.org/household-hazardous-waste for more information.

Blessing of the Animals

In remembrance of Patron Saint of the Animals, St. Francis of Assisi, the Blessing of the Animals will take place Saturday, Oct. 14, at 11 a.m. (weather permitting) on the rectory lawn of St. Mary Church, 45 Freestone Ave.

All pets - furry, scaly, feathery - as well as stuffed animals are welcome to receive a Blessing from the Rev. John Antonelle. This gathering is open to all members of the community.

Art Exhibit at Library

A collaboration of artists is exhibiting their work in the Mary Flood Room of Portland Library, 20 Freestone Ave., through Oct. 18.

The artists represent employees of the library, members of the Portland Library board and members of the executive board of the Friends of the Library. The exhibit has been assembled to illustrate the many aspects of creative expression. Among the works displayed, curated by Lucinda Patrick, will be paintings, needlework, baskets, miniature books and photographs.

Residents Graduate

Portland residents Brooke Delissio, Ryan Cyr and Desmond Cleary recently graduated from the University of Hartford.

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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.



Hitting the Beach... The King, Hlasyszyn, Gould, Walsh, Ward and Levasseur families – all from Colchester – recently visited Outer Banks, N.C.!



From Marlborough to Michigan... Frank and Jane Valvo of Marlborough brought the *Rivereast* to a family reunion at Ryerson Lake in Fremont, Mich.



Top of the World... Joe Balskus of Portland is shown here on Mt. Cheam in Agassiz, British Columbia, Canada. Balskus visited and worked on a dairy farm in the foothills of the Cascade Mountains.



Money, That's What I Want... Pictured are East Hampton residents Molly (left) and Maureen Maturo at Money Island, which is one of the Thimble Islands, located off Stony Creek.

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Celebrating 275 with Caribbean Music

By London Brazal

To kick off a large celebration, the Congregational Church of East Hampton will host the St. Luke's Steel Band as part of the Sunday service on Oct. 29.

In November, the Congregational Church of East Hampton will be celebrating 275 years. Before the church was established, the Ecclesiastical Society was petitioned three times. Studies show that the Connecticut Colonial General Assembly approved the request to establish an Ecclesiastical Society in East Hampton on Nov. 30, 1748, once the necessary funds were collected.

The first petition was presented April 29, 1743, because none of the established churches were close to the village center. The second petition was sent to the Honorable Assembly on Oct. 8, 1744, as the first request was not satisfied. The third petition, dated April 29, 1746, affirmed that specific rights had been granted in response to the 1744 petition. It also stated that they had successfully employed a pastor for eleven months annually and were on the verge of constructing a new meeting house.

Congregational Church News & Notes

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

Saint Luke's Sacred Steel: Sunday, Oct. 29, during the 10 a.m. service.

Church school classes meet every Sunday.

The Yarners meet every Thursday from 10:30

At the October 1748 Honorable Session, it was reported that the church was officially settled and granted liberty to the Congregational Church. In 1948, the church was rebuilt in a Greek Revival architectural style, replacing its predecessor, the South Congregational Church, which had been destroyed by fire in 1941. Prior to that, two previous churches had stood at the same location: one erected in 1755, followed by another a century later.

The church acts as a central hub for both social gatherings and enjoyment, featuring a front lawn that doubles as the town's green space, hosting concerts, picnics, and various other activities. Individuals from various faith backgrounds can attend the worship services. The church describes services as traditional yet intimate. The religious community serves on the motto, "No matter who you are, no matter where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here."

One member of the congregation, Karen Gallmon, attended a service at the Congregational Church of Newington where the St. Luke Sacred Steel band performed. During the service,

Gallmon described the post-prelude as a joyous celebration. "Everyone was standing, bouncing around, and clapping along," explained Gallmon. "One woman that could barely stand was still bouncing and loving the music."

After seeing the band perform in January, Gallmon knew she wanted to host the group in town. With the 275th anniversary coming up, she said it was the perfect time. Last year, the congregation hosted the New England Chamber Choir and had a strong attendance.

"It was uplifting to see people that I haven't seen in 25 years or so to come to the event. And I hope they do the same this time," said Gallmon. She also explained that this should not be looked at solely as worship. "It's a fun musical event to celebrate the joy of music. And anybody is welcome to join."

In 1999, after being inspired by a visit from the Heavenly Fire, a liturgical steel band hailing from Massachusetts, St. Luke's Episcopal Church in New Haven made the decision to establish its own steel band. Beyond their church performances, this ensemble became recognized throughout Connecticut, participating in concerts and events across the state. The expansive community steel band is guided by its current

leader, Kenneth Joseph.

Ever since the inception of the St. Luke's Steel Band, a subset of its members has been dedicated to performing liturgical music during mass. This particular ensemble, now identified as St. Luke's Sacred Steel, is under the leadership of Director Debby Teason and Assistant Director Donna Johnson.

Sacred Steel delivers a Caribbean Mass at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in New Haven on a monthly basis and makes visits to other churches in Connecticut for special services throughout the year. The ensemble has a repertoire of liturgical music in various styles and enthusiastically collaborates with choirs at their home church as well as those they visit.

Much like the congregation of St. Luke's Episcopal Church, the members of the band predominantly hail from the West Indies, representing the islands of Trinidad and Tobago, Antigua, Barbados, Grenada, Jamaica, and St. Kitts and Nevis.

St. Luke's Sacred Steel will play at the Congregational Church's regular weekly service at 10 a.m. on Sunday, Oct. 29. Families and all members of the community are encouraged to attend regardless of religious denomination.

Haddam Neck Covenant Church News

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

Operation Christmas Child: Samaritan's Purse's Operation Christmas Child delivers shoe boxes filled with toys, school supplies and hygiene items to children in America and around the world who live in difficult circumstances. We welcome community participation in this wonderful mission project. The boxes are available at the Church Office and need to be returned by Nov. 12.

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.

Children's Ministry: For children in grades K-5, held in Fellowship Hall during our worship service. The theme is "Friends with God" and is taught through Bible stories where the characters are friends with God and tell about God's love for us. A toddler nursery is also available. All are welcome.

Vocal Choir: Choir rehearsals are held Wednesdays at 7 p.m. New members are always welcome.

Adult Bible Study: Sundays at 10:30 a.m. in the Music Room. The study is on the Book of Revelation.

Office Info: The office can be reached at 860-267-2336; hours are Tuesday and Thursday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., and Friday, 8 a.m.-noon. The church website is www.hncovenantchurch.org.

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.

For more information about CCEH and its activities, visit cc-eh.org or call the church office at 860-267-4959 during office hours: Monday and Wednesday, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

9/20: Kurt Comisky, 64, of 62 Wopowog Rd., was arrested and charged with driving under the influence and failure to drive right, East Hampton Police said.

9/28: Jeffrey Gorham, 56, of 4 Smith St., was arrested and charged with driving under the influence, police said.

10/3: William DiPoalo II, 36, of 127 Flatbrook Rd., was issued a summons for operating with a suspended license and operating an unregistered and uninsured motor vehicle, police said.

10/3: Richard Vezina, 57, of 143 Colchester Ave., was arrested and charged with second-degree failure to appear, police said.

10/5: Joseph Albert III, 41, of 49 Grove St., Portland, was issued a summons for misuse of plates, traveling unreasonably fast and operating an unregistered and uninsured motor vehicle, police said.

From Sept. 25-Oct. 3, officers responded to 38 medical calls, nine motor vehicle crashes and 10 alarms, and made 30 traffic stops, police said.

Police News

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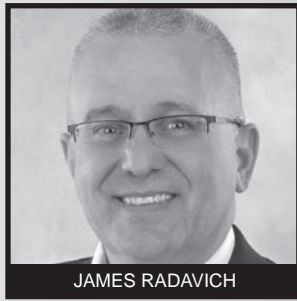
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Anxiety Speaks to Host Community Fundraiser

By London Brazal

Two students use the power of advocating to help students struggling with anxiety and foster a safe learning environment. Jewel Miranda and Charlotte Cascio started a nonprofit called Anxiety Speaks, built on helping other students because they know how it feels to deal with anxiety.

Miranda graduated from East Hampton High School (EHHS) earlier this year. For her capstone project, Miranda created Anxiety Speaks. She was interested in starting a program as she struggled with anxiety in school and noticed many other classmates feeling the same way. A special education teacher, Steve Krupp, suggested creating a nonprofit, and after loads of paperwork, it was officially registered. Miranda attends Southern Connecticut State University and is studying special education. Her goal is to bring Anxiety Speaks to the collegiate level.

"The biggest challenge was trying to get through all of the paperwork. Now, it's coming up with cool fundraiser ideas," said Miranda.

During freshman year, Charlotte Cascio, a member of the EHHS Class of 2024, wrote an essay about anxiety. It mainly expressed the concern that teachers were not noticing when a student was struggling with anxiety and the problems in her eighth-grade experience. A year later, she read her speech in a YouTube video and presented it to the teachers at a monthly staff meeting. Cascio said many of the teachers were in tears and supportive of the cause.

Cascio created lanyards with the phrase, "Anxiety stops here," to remind teachers to ask students about their day. "This gives students an

opportunity to be more comfortable about talking about their day," Cascio said. She also noted that Assistant Principal Jackie Russell has been a major supporter and always wears her lanyard.

One challenge Cascio talked about was the fact that some teachers became complacent, reverting to how things were the way before. Cascio wants to keep pushing and remind teachers to notice anxious signs.

After seeing Cascio's work with the lanyards, Miranda asked to team up. For one fundraiser, the two sat at a band and chorus concert talking about their nonprofit. They raised over \$500. With the money, they put together fidget toy baskets with journals and various fidgets such as pop-its and stress balls for each classroom.

"We wanted to put in fidget toys that were quiet so they didn't distract others in the class," Miranda said. "The journals are for people to keep or just write once and put it back."

During last school year, the two had their own table on Mental Health Day. They had various giveaways, and by the end of the day, all of the fidget toys and candy were gone. Anxiety Speaks also hosted a yoga event with the Technology Coordinator Irene Kuck as their yoga master.

On Oct. 29, Anxiety Speaks is hosting a fundraiser at Lakeside Bar & Grill from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. With a theme of Rock N' Roll Bingo, a \$50 admission ticket allows guests to play, eat food donated by Lakeside, and enter a raffle to win a 28" Blackstone Griddle donated by Ace Hardware. Cascio and Miranda are very grateful for the donations from local businesses. Prizes for bingo winners come from small businesses

including Paul's and Sandy's, Po's Rice and Spice, Old Bank Flowers and Greenery, Le Chic Boutique, Salon D'Amore, and other donations from family and friends.

The two are very grateful and thank everything for their support. They are excited to see it all come together. "I'm excited to see everyone there and we are fortunate for Lakeside for donating all of the amazing food and their venue," Cascio added. There are a total of 60 spots with only a few more open. To ask about purchasing a ticket, go to [anxietyspeaksjm12](https://www.instagram.com/anxietyspeaksjm12) on Instagram.

With the money raised, Anxiety Speaks is going to host a guest speaker at the high school to talk about their experiences. Cascio and Miranda are looking to get The Benny Fund's founder, Holly Neiveem, as her organization aligns closely with Anxiety Speaks' message. The two also like the fact she is from East Hampton and has spoken at the school a long time ago.

In the future, Cascio and Miranda said Anxiety Speaks wants to start spreading its message to the other schools in the district, and then expand statewide. The two are motivated to spread awareness of anxiety and help other students going through the same experiences.



Anxiety Speaks founder Jewel Miranda (right) teamed up with Charlotte Cascio (left) to help other students struggling with anxiety. The nonprofit works to help students with anxiety and create a safe environment at school.

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's P.O. Box number is 123.

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

Mahjong: Mondays at 10:30 a.m. Experienced and new players welcome.

Fiber Arts: Thursdays, 10 a.m.-noon. Bring your spinning wheel, knitting, weaving, embroidery, etc. All are welcome.

Local Mushroom Informational Walk: Saturday, Oct. 14, with Judy Buonocore. Meet at the library at 12:30 p.m. to carpool, or at the Hurd Park Pavilion at 1 p.m.

Write Here - Writers' Group: Monday, Oct. 16, 7 p.m. Get away from the distractions at home, come down to the library and write. Contact the library to pre-register and for further information.

Reception - AC Proctor Recent Paintings: Saturday, Oct. 21, 2-4 p.m.

Medicare & Health Insurance Explained: Monday, Oct. 23, 7 p.m., with Springli D. Sage.

Banish the Blank Page (Writers Workshop/Meet-up Group): Monday, Oct. 30, 7-8:30 p.m. There will be writing exercises, constructive criticism, and an opportunity to seek the opinions of other writers. All genres. Contact the library to pre-register and for further information.

CommuniTea: Saturday, Nov. 11, 10 a.m.-noon. This is a monthly gathering to visit with neighbors, friends and other library patrons. Have a cup of tea; coffee-drinkers welcome.

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

EHMS Basketball and Cheerleading

Student/athletes who are interested in trying out for boys' basketball, girls' basketball or cheerleading teams can register online through FamilyID.com.

Athletes must have a physical within a 13-month period in order to tryout. Deadline for registration is Sunday, Nov. 5.

For more information, call EHMS athletic director Michael Mercaldi at 860-463-6837.

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](https://www.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.

Family Pumpkin Decorating!: Saturday, Oct. 28, 10:30 a.m.-noon. Drop in to decorate a pumpkin, then take it home to display. All ages are welcome to participate, and all supplies will be provided. One pumpkin per family. Registration required. Pumpkins are donated by Paul's and Sandy's Too.

Monday Movie Madness: Frankenweenie: Monday, Oct. 30, 6 p.m. Bring blankets and get comfy (some chairs will be available). Popcorn will be served. Movies at the library are sponsored by the East Hampton Prevention Partnership.

Children's Programs: Storytimes: Toddler Time: Wednesdays, 10:15 a.m., for children ages 18 months to 3 years; Stories & Songs: Wednesdays, 11:15 a.m., for ages 3-5 years; Baby Rhyme Time: Thursdays, 10:15 a.m., for ages birth to 24 months, and their caregivers.

Bubbles & Beats!: Mondays at 10:30 a.m. Sing songs, dance, and pop some bubbles. For ages 18 months to 5 years. Drop-ins and siblings welcome.

DIY Days: Grades K-8 - Homemade Stamps: Saturday, Oct. 21, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Children are invited to create a different toy, game, or treat

Appetizers With Our Candidates

The Republican Town Committee will be host "Appetizers with Our Candidates" Thursday, Oct. 19, from 6-8 p.m., at The Dublin, 42 E. High St. All are invited to come visit with East Hampton's Republican candidates.

There will be complimentary appetizers and a cash bar, as well as a raffle basket fundraiser. For more information, email ehctgop@gmail.com or visit www.facebook.com/EHCTGOP.

together. These activities are available while supplies last. No registration required.

Family Storytime: Saturday, Oct. 14, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Best for ages 3-5. Sing songs and read books; families can stick around after for a craft, sensory play, and socializing. No registration required. Siblings welcome.

Halloween Happening!: Monday, Oct. 30, 10:30 a.m. Ages birth-5 are invited to a special Halloween storytime and craft. Costumes encouraged. No registration required.

Teen Programs: Teen Advisory Board: Tuesday, Oct. 17, 6 p.m. Teens in grades 6-12 are invited to discuss programming, collection development and more. TAB meets monthly and always welcomes new members.

Nintendo Switch Game Play: Grades 6-12: Saturday, Oct. 21, 2-3:30 p.m. Play with friends and discover new games. All skill levels welcome.

HallowTWEEN! Grades 4-8: Saturday, Oct. 28, 1 p.m. Play ghoulish games and enjoy some treats. Costumes are welcome. A movie matinee will start at 2 p.m.

Adult Programs: Book Club: Tuesday, Oct. 17, 6:30 p.m. Valerie Perrin's *Fresh Water for Flowers* will be discussed. Books are available at the circulation desk.

Belltown Book Brunch: Friday, Oct. 20, 11 a.m. Drop into the library on select Fridays for coffee or tea, a breakfast treat, and bookish banter. Register or drop in.

Music in the Library: Celtic Halloween with Ringrose & Freeman: Tuesday, Oct. 24, 6 p.m. Learn the origins of some Halloween traditions with a mix of stories, singing and upbeat instrumental tunes with fiddle and guitar. Light refreshments to follow performance.

KoC Spaghetti Supper

The Knights of Columbus St. John Paul II Council 6190 at St. Patrick Church will sponsor its semi-annual spaghetti and meatball dinner Friday, Oct. 20, from 4:30-7:30 p.m., at the church parish center located at 47 West High St.

Takeout 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 and a punch drink. Canned soda and bottled water will be available for \$1. Proceeds will support local charitable programs. Raffle prizes will be offered as well.

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

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

Save a Horse - Buy Art!

Connecticut Draft Horse Rescue (CDHR) invites all to join them Friday and Saturday, Oct. 20 and 21, for an opportunity to purchase selected artwork by painters and photographers at the Essex Art Association, 10 North Main St., Essex. Admission is free.

Opening night, with refreshments, is Friday, Oct. 20, from 6-8 p.m. Gallery hours on Saturday are 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Proceeds from art sales benefit CDHR, a nonprofit organization, located in East Hampton, that is dedicated to saving the lives of neglected or abused draft horses as well as draft horses headed to slaughter.

For more information on the event or to check out the rescue work of CDHR, visit www.ctdraftrescue.org or www.facebook.com/ctdraftrescue.

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Art Association Show Saturday

The East Hampton Art Association will hold its 43rd annual Fine Art Show Saturday, Oct. 14, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., at the Congregational Church of East Hampton, 59 Main St. in the Village Center. It will be held on the lawn if the weather is nice or in the church fellowship hall in case of rain.

Lesley Braren will be the judge. Original artwork will be accepted; no crafts. There will

be first, second and third prizes awarded as well as two purchase awards. The Purchase Award by the East Hampton Arts & Culture Commission of \$300-\$500 must depict an East Hampton theme/connection or created by an East Hampton artist will be presented as a gift to an East Hampton facility. There will also be a \$100 purchase award by Serra Associates. For more information, call 860-267-9061.

Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet

The East Hampton Athletic Hall of Fame will induct the following at the annual Hall of Fame Banquet on Friday, Oct. 27, at Blackledge Country Club in Hebron:

Kelsey Booth, 2008 Girls Cross Country Team

State Champions, Charles "Sonny" O'Neil and Michael Mercaldi. Tickets and information for the event are available by contacting Mike Vasquenza (860-308-6621, mjvasquenza@gmail.com) or Tom Seidl (860-543-4782, seidl@sbcglobal.net).

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.christ-churchmiddlehaddam.com for directions. The Holy Eucharist is celebrated with the Rev. Diana Rogers, supply priest.

Donations: Food items for East Hampton Food Bank may be placed in the black totes at the rear of the church. Clean returnable bottles and cans are collected in cans by the shed.

Sunday School: The Rev. Joanne Neel-Richard and Emily Vick will lead the group, which meets at 9:55. New students are always welcome. Contact neelrichard16@gmail.com for information/dates.

Save the Date: The Autumn Leaves Fair will take place Saturday, Nov. 4, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Crafts and baked goods are needed.

Thanksgiving Baskets: Sign up in the Parish Hall to make a donation. Food is needed for four families this year.

For more information or if in need of assistance, call the church office at 860-267-0278 or contact Donna Hryb, senior warden, at 860-633-0472.

Free Paper Shredding

The Lower CT River Valley Council of Governments (RiverCOG) is holding a residential paper shredding event on Saturday, Oct. 14, from 9 a.m.-noon, at the Chester Town Hall, 203 Middlesex Ave., Chester.

This event is free to residents of the RiverCOG region, which includes East Hampton and Portland. Visit www.rivercog.org/household-hazardous-waste for more information.

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Chicken Marsala

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Stuffed Pork Chop

Stuffed with broccoli, gorgonzola cheese and ritz crackers in a brown cognac sauce

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Republicans Meet Next Week

The next meeting of the East Hampton Republican Town Committee will be held Tuesday, Oct. 17, at 6:30 p.m., at The Lakeside Bar and Grill (upstairs meeting area), located at 81 North Main St.

All are invited to come help continue strategizing for the 2023 municipal election. The public is welcome to attend. Email ehctgop@gmail.com for more information.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church News

Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church, located at 1 East High St., is proud to announce its search for a new pastor is over. All are invited to welcome Pastor Jamie Stall-Ryan to our congregation.

Stall-Ryan has an extensive military background and has recently retired. His last post was chaplain at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in Groton.

Also, the church will hold a free spaghetti dinner in the parish hall Wednesday, Oct. 18, at 5 p.m. All are welcome.

The church holds Bible study on Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. Services begin every Sunday at 10:45 a.m. Sunday school is held during services.

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Transportation Lunch & Learn

A Transportation Lunch & Learn program will be offered at East Hampton Senior Center, 105 Main St., on Monday, Oct. 16, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. River Valley Transit and the Kennedy Collective will share the changes to the public transportation including the Dial-A-Ride service for older adults. The changes should make your ride more enjoy-

able, the senior center said. The mobility specialist from the Kennedy Center will share how they can assist you in using the transportation system. Call 860-267-4426 to register and for transportation if needed. Marlborough Healthcare is sponsoring the lunch.



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Garden Club Presentation on Bats

All are invited to come learn about bats at the Belltown Garden Club's next presentation on Monday, Oct. 23, at 6:30 p.m. at East Hampton Public Library, 105 Main St.

Guest speaker Maureen Heidtmann will present "Bats: Winged Wonders," an overview of bats of the world, with an emphasis on local species. Heidtmann is a licensed wildlife rehabilitator focusing on bats, and she has been for over twenty years. She also holds a master wildlife conservationist certificate, and a permit from USDA to keep non-releasable bats for educational purposes.

For more information, call Kathy at 860-575 0077.

Lake Drawdown Starts Today

The owner of the dam for Lake Pocotopaug is planning a lake drawdown to begin today, Friday, Oct. 13.

The drawdown will give residents an opportunity to work on seawalls and do beach cleanup. Residents are reminded that activities along the shoreline may require an Inland Wetlands permit.

Residents should call the Land Use Department at 860-267-7450 as soon as possible concerning questions and applications before doing any work in the lake watershed.

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RHAM Wrestler Goes National

By Josh Howard

Ben Fournier, a senior at RHAM High School, is proof that wrestling is a lifestyle.

After winning a class title and finishing as the runner-up at the State Open last winter, Fournier has taken the next steps in his wrestling journey by competing in tournaments across the country.

Earlier in October, Fournier competed at the Journeymen Fall Classic in New York and he now preps for his next stop in North Carolina where he will compete in the SUPER 32 Challenge, one of the nation's preeminent preseason high school wrestling tournaments set to take place this weekend.

"This year was obviously a big year because it is my senior year – I wanted to go to all the big tournaments," said Fournier. "It's fun traveling and seeing how I can compete and hold up against everyone in New England and nationally."

After exploring a variety of athletic endeavors throughout his formative years, Fournier continued to play football and lacrosse into high school before realizing he had to make a difficult choice.

In an effort to further excel on the mats, he chose to forego both field sports prior to his junior year. The decision to wrestle year round yielded immediate dividends as he quickly worked his way up the local wrestling ranks.

As a junior last winter, he was crowned the 106 lb. Class M State Champion, defeating Cesar Rodriguez of Platt in the title match.

Following his class title, he finished as the runner-up at the State Open, falling to Xavier High School's Raekwon Shabazz, who was later crowned the New England Region Champion and National Champion in the weight class.

Fournier's feats from a season ago have earned him the distinction of being ranked No. 1 in Connecticut and No. 2 throughout New England in the 106 lbs. weight class.

To sharpen his skills in the offseason, Fournier invested his time and efforts into training with luminaries of the sport. He spent an intensive two weeks in Pennsylvania training with several NCAA Division I wrestlers; including reigning national champion Pat Glory of Princeton University. This training allowed him to brush shoulders with other top national prospects, elevating his game to new heights.

"Before I was [wrestling] just doing it for fun, but it's cool to get the experience of being able

to go places with it – it's been a lot of fun," noted Fournier.

Fournier said the countless hours of training and preparation that goes into being a year round wrestler can be draining, yet the rewards outweighs the daily grind.

"Some days are better than others, but when you get your hand raised after winning the match that is the real goal," he added.

Heading to the national tourney in North Carolina is the next venture in what has been a wild ride since Fournier entered RHAM High School. He had wrestled throughout youth and then had his freshman year at the high school canceled because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

He admitted that he was feeling a little "burned out" by the sport at the time but recalled having that spark reignited after RHAM wrestling head coach Ryan Fitch talked with him following a football practice in the fall of his sophomore year.

The chat with Fitch would pay big dividends as he rejoined the wrestling team the winter of his sophomore year where he would finish fourth overall in Class M and sixth overall at the State Open in 2022.

Fournier says he feels a "night and day difference" between now and when he first stepped back onto the mats as a second-year high school wrestler.

"It's the small thing that takes you from being good to great at different levels," added Fournier, who pointed to his improved speed and balance while wrestling. "It doesn't sound like much, but when you're on the mat competing those can make a difference."

Fournier's excellence isn't restricted to the mat. He is also actively involved in his community serving as a volunteer of his local Hebron Fire Department and as BSA Scout where he has a full calendar as he is currently on the precipice of obtaining his Eagle Scout Rank and is currently serving as Troop 28's current Senior Patrol Leader.

Along with his outside interests, Fournier also wants to wrestle at the next level and has been in active discussions with local and regional college wrestling programs, exploring opportunities that would cater to both his academic interests in criminal justice studies and his refined wrestling talent. Though many institutions expressed interest, Fournier is still currently evaluating his options where he will pursue his future goals and



RHAM senior Ben Fournier, shown competing at the Central Connecticut Conference tournament last winter, will compete in the SUPER 32 Challenge in Greensboro, N.C., on Oct. 21-22. Photo by Glastonbury Sports Photography.

is also considering careers in ROTC and military leadership training.

But for now, Fournier is focused on competing in the Super 32 Challenge that will take place Oct. 21-22 in Greensboro, North Carolina.

The national tournament will be excellent preparation for the upcoming high school wres-

ting season as he seeks to repeat as Class M champion and hopes to add a State Open title to his growing list of accomplishments this winter. He also aims to help RHAM bring home their first state team title since 2002 after the Raptors finished as the runner-up last winter, losing to Avon by a half point on a controversial call.

Regional • Regional • Regional • Regional • Regional • Regional • Regional

Standout Athletes of the Week

By Josh Howard

Here are the *Riverast* Standouts for the Week for the week of Oct. 9 - 15:

Ava Machowski - RHAM High School (Soccer): Machowski, a senior, has continued to light up the scoreboards, scoring three goals in the Raptors 4-0 win over Plainville on Oct. 5. Machowski's hat trick upped her goal total to 18 through the first eight games as RHAM have won seven of those matches, qualifying them for state tournament.

Kiera Stewart - Bacon Academy (Volleyball): Stewart dished out 22 assists as the Bobcats defeated Killingly in four sets on Oct. 6. Stewart, a senior setter and team captain, is coming off consecutive all-state selections during her sophomore and junior seasons on the court. On Tuesday, the Bobcats won a second straight game, defeating Wheeler in three set and next host Waterford today (Friday, Oct 13) at 5:30 p.m.

Olivia Correia - East Hampton High School (Soccer): Correia scored a pair of goals as the

Bellringers defeated New London 4-3 on Oct. 4. Correia, a freshman, led a Bellringers offensive unit that scored their most goals in a game since a season-opening 6-1 win over North Branford/Hale Ray on Sept 9. Marissa Martin and Rachel Boudreau also scored in the win over New London, which snapped a four-game losing streak. The Bellringers next host Bolton on Wednesday, Oct. 18 at 3:45 p.m.

Ava Maselek - Portland High School (Soccer): Maselek scored a pair of goals as the Highlanders defeated Westbrook 3-0 on Oct. 3. Maselek, a senior, led the offensive charge that also got a goal from Camryn DiMauro. Portland's defense – headed by Gracie DeRing, Lilly Carroll, Katie Hickey and Elli Hannah – posted their fourth shutout of the season and then blanked their fifth opponent on Monday, downing East Granby 1-0. The Highlanders travel to Cromwell this Saturday (Oct. 14) for a conference clash with the Panthers at 9 a.m.

STEAP Grants Target Infrastructure Upgrades

By Michael Sinkewicz

Hebron, Marlborough and Andover each landed substantial Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP) grants last week, allowing the communities to make significant local improvements.

The grants were part of a \$24.5 million bundle distributed to 60 towns across the state. Broadly, they aim to address infrastructure improvements, including road projects, sewer and drainage upgrades, sidewalk and pedestrian upgrades and recreational facility repairs.

Hebron will receive \$474,000 for the Hebron green pedestrian connection and parking improvements; the town will match \$80,000.

The Hebron Green District contains 36 acres across 33 different properties, located around the intersection of routes 66 and 85. Notable buildings in the district include the current and former Town Hall, Douglas Library, American Legion, Public Records Building, amongst several others.

The funding represents a considerable contribution to the Hebron Center Plan, which looks to safely connect residents between local sites through walking, while lessening the impact of vehicles on the community.

For Marlborough, the town was allotted \$262,000 for the Blish Memorial Park Boat Ramp reconstruction and ADA improvements; a \$256,839 town match is attached.

On Aug. 8, the Marlborough Board of Selectmen applied for the state grant to address boat access to Terramugus Lake.

Andover was awarded \$500,000 for phase II of its recreation facility enhancements; the town will contribute \$150,000.

State leaders celebrated the announcement, including state Sen. MD Rahman (D-4), who represents Andover; state Rep. Cathy Osten (D-19), whose district includes Hebron and Marlborough; and state Rep. Steve Weir (R-55), whose district includes Andover, Hebron and Marlborough.

"I am grateful to Gov. Lamont's administration for their support of these important local projects," stated Rahman, whose other towns also received state funding. "They will provide meaningful support and improvements for housing in Glastonbury and local recreation in Andover and Bolton. I'm looking forward to the community benefits this support will help create"

Osten expressed that the grants are "particularly useful for eastern Connecticut towns because they are small-town grants, not urban grants, and they are specifically tailored to preserve the historical integrity and beauty of our small towns, while at the same time improving the local economy and quality of life."

She added, "Both of these grants are going to have a positive impact for folks in Hebron and Marlborough, and I hope local leaders keep the ideas coming for future grants."

On Facebook, Weir highlighted the specific areas the funding would be targeting, calling the grants "great news for the 55th District."

Raptors Shake Loss, Prep for Stretch Run

By Josh Howard

Head coach Ray Bell's message to the RHAM boys soccer team following the Raptors 1-0 loss to Rocky Hill last Friday was simple, yet inspiring.

"This is a defining moment," Bell told his team after the defeat.

"This could be good for us as a team," added Bell. "We'll have to see how we rebound after this – that's the key."

Prior to the loss, RHAM had been exceeding expectations, losing only one game in their first eight contests while racking up five quality wins.

Following a scoreless first half at Rocky Hill High School, the home Terriers took the advantage for good when a deep kick from Rocky Hill senior captain David Czubat slipped through the arms of RHAM goalie T.J. Machowski in front of the goal before Noah Kazmierczak scored what turned out to be the game-deciding goal in the 57th minute.

Late in regulation, RHAM nearly tallied the equalizer in similar fashion when senior Zuriel Sarosh found the back of the net after the ball slipped out of the hands of Rocky Hill's goalie Kyle Demarest. However, the goal was waived off after the official determined that Demarest was interfered with while having both hands on the ball at the time of contact.

The controversial call kept is a one-goal deficit and senior Troy Miller fired one final desperation shot in the closing seconds that was just off the mark, officially snapping a two-game winning streak and dropping the Raptors to 5-2-2.

"This wasn't an indication of the first eight games of the year. We didn't really play as a team tonight," said Bell. "I think we were more worried about officials rather than worrying about our play, and we tried to pick up our intensity the last five minutes when it should have been like that for 80 minutes."

Rocky Hill head coach Paul Horta was impressed with his team's ability to battle with RHAM, who he called Class M title contenders.

"If we play this team ten times they might beat us nine times, but it will always be a battle," added Horta.

Bell credited Rocky Hill for being the more

aggressive team, yet said the way RHAM played was not indicative of the first eight games where they played with a sense of urgency and went toe-to-toe with the top teams in the area.

The Raptors started the season with a 3-0 win over rival Bacon Academy and also posted victories over Tolland (1-0), Manchester (2-0), South Windsor (3-1), and conference powerhouse Glastonbury (1-0).

Miller has been the main force offensively, scoring the game-deciding goals in the pair of 1-0 wins, scoring on a spectacular bicycle against Tolland and hammering home the crucial kick against Glastonbury.

Captaining the team on the field are senior defender Alexander Grillo and senior midfielder Jacob Dooley.

Bell said his captains are "lead by example" type of players that have set a standard for how to play the right way.

The veteran coach also credited Machowski, who has been in net for five shutouts so far this season.

"He's saved our butts plenty of times," Bell said of his keeper.

Following the loss to Rocky Hill, RHAM rebounded with another quality win, defeating Farmington 2-1 on Tuesday, earning win No. 6.

Miller scored a goal and dished out an assist, feeding Michael Thatford for the team's other goal. The victory qualified the Raptors for a spot in the Class M and kept them atop the Central Connecticut Conference (CCC) East where they remain undefeated (3-0-1) within the region.

RHAM now enters the stretch run of the regular season, playing five of their final six games at home, including a conference bout with East Catholic on Monday (Oct. 19) at 3:45.

Bell hopes that his team is consistently playing with anticipation "rather than reaction" by the time the state tourney starts in November.

After competing at a Class L level a year ago, where they won in the opening round of the state tourney and almost upset No. 2 seed Xavier in round two, the Raptors are playing at a Class M level this fall.

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Committee to Explore Next Steps for Public Works

By Michael Sinkewicz

The Hebron Board of Selectmen took two major actions during their Oct. 5 meeting regarding the Department of Public Works (DPW) building project: the town's survey committee was officially disbanded and a new nine-member committee was formed to handle the next steps with the project.

The "Department of Public Works Action Committee" will include members of the Hebron Public Building Committee, former members of the Building Project Survey Committee and resident taxpayers interested in serving.

While the new committee was formally established, members will officially be appointed by the selectmen during their next meeting on Oct. 19, after which the new body will be activated.

The committee will be charged with the day-to-day operations of the ongoing project, answering to town officials and the selectmen, who will sign-off on all committee expenditures. Included in their duties will be determining the costs and viability of constructing a new DPW facility. Their reports will be provided to the selectmen, and the town manager will distribute updates to the community.

Both motions to disband the survey committee and form the new group passed by 4-0 tallies; selectman Gail Richmond was absent.

During the Sept. 21 selectmen meeting, the board had expressed interest in dissolving its survey committee, who had completed its objective of creating and disseminating a town wide survey.

The new committee will use the results to guide their decision moving forward. Perhaps most significantly, the committee has a firm grasp on the community's preferred site choice. The survey results revealed that the public is largely against relocating the town's Public Works facility to Kinney Road. Instead, the majority of the 725

respondents preferred keeping or expanding the current site on Old Colchester Road.

When asked for a preferred DPW site choice, 69% of respondents selected the Old Colchester Road location. Construction at Kinney Road — or the Horton Property — was the second highest vote with 16%. A hybrid option that would primarily involve the Kinney Road, but with a proposed salt storage shed being placed at an off-site location, was listed at 10%.

Even with the town's pivot back to the Old Colchester Road site, several factors remain uncertain. Town Manager Andrew Tierney previously stated that the availability of an adjacent Ever-source parcel is uncertain, and official confirmation won't be received until the end of the year. Without the expansion, he warned that the transfer station would likely need to be eliminated or relocated from the site.

Selectman Tiffany Thiele, a Democrat, said during the meeting that the town "needs to be creative and think about how we can develop proposals that keep the transfer station open."

This week, she told the *RiverEast* that the town should also be proactive with determining the future of the Kinney Road property. She expressed that it will be important that the community has a "greater voice" in what happens with that parcel. That perspective could be communicated in many ways, she added, including the formation of another committee.

Peter Kasper, the selectmen's former liaison on the survey committee, will likely serve on the newly formed action committee. During a phone call this week, he said the body was formed to be a "catalyst" for ideas and to focus on the next steps, acting as the "point committee" to accelerate a potential idea to a future referendum.

The DPW project continues to be a focal point

in the community. Through public hearings, a survey and the hiring of a consulting firm to assist the town, progress has generated passionate reactions throughout town — namely from Kinney Road residents who objected to the facility being built near their homes, amongst other concerns.

Kasper acknowledged that he "wishes it could've moved faster," but overall, the project is being handled correctly.

"The next step is the right one," he said.

Previous decisions and actions were done to "build the most confidence" and to be "transparent" to the community. He added that the thought process was, "How do we do it the right way?"

Kasper, a Republican, is running for reelection to the Board of Selectmen this November. As a potential member of the new committee, he emphasized that residents should not be compelled to vote for him out of fear of the project potentially being stalled.

"I'm a volunteer," he said. "If the public wants another volunteer, I fully respect that."

If he did lose his selectmen seat, Kasper indicated that he would most likely step down from the action committee.

"I wouldn't want to overshadow anyone," he expressed, adding that he was confident that whoever wins would do a good job in serving the committee.

Senior Center News & Notes

Russell Mercier Senior Center has announced the following. Registration required for all programs, unless noted. To register, and for more information and full program descriptions, call the senior center at 860-228-1700. The senior center newsletter is online at <https://hebronct.com/town-departments/senior-center>.

Hope Farm Animal Sanctuary Craft Fair: Sunday, Oct. 29, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., at the Coventry Firehouse, 1755 Main St., Coventry. Proceeds support the many rescue animals at the farm: cows, horses, pigs, sheep, bunnies, dogs and cats. If you'd like to donate raffle items, reserve a craft table (\$30) or volunteer to help with the farm's daily chores, call Lisa at 774-289-4361.

Veterans' Appreciation Lunch: Wednesday, Nov. 8, noon. The lunch is free for any veteran and a guest. Doors will open at 11:45 a.m. and lunch will be served at noon. Meal will be tossed salad, pasta with meatballs, garlic bread, dessert, tea and coffee. Pre-registration is absolutely required for everyone by Friday, Nov. 3, at noon.

Bus Trip to Cracker Barrel: Tuesday, Oct. 24, leaving at 11 a.m. and returning approximately 2 p.m. Travel to the Cracker Barrel in East Windsor for lunch and browsing in their store. Cost for the bus is \$5, lunch is on your own. Seating is limited.

Tips for Cooking for 1 or 2: Tuesday, Oct. 31, 10:30 a.m. Lindsey Kent, registered dietician at ShopRite, will lead a talk all about cooking for 1 or 2. This event is free.

Mason Jar & Rock Painting: Wednesday, Oct. 11, 10:30 a.m. All supplies included; cost is \$5 per person. If you'd like to stay for lunch that day (\$3 suggested donation), sign up by Tuesday, Oct. 10, at 9:30 a.m.

Flu/COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic: Wednesday,

Trunk-n-Treasure

Gilead Congregational Church will hold its first Trunk-n-Treasure event Saturday, Oct. 21, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., at the church, 672 Gilead St. Rain date is Sunday, Oct. 22, from noon-4 p.m.

There will be a tag sale event, and will also feature some crafters. There will be over 20 trunks/tailgates/tables that will be full of various items.

If you have stuff to sell, there are still a few spots available. To reserve a parking spot, contact Judy Brandi at judithbrandi@comcast.net or 860-530-1584.

Indigenous Peoples Day Proclamation

Also at their meeting last week, the selectmen approved a proclamation for Indigenous Peoples Day, which was observed on Monday Oct. 9; it was approved by a 3-0 vote, as Democrat Mark Rubera was absent for that part of the meeting. The proclamation was read by Thiele, who added that the statement was written by Amy D'Amaddio, president of Hebron's Coalition on Diversity and Equity (CoDE).

The proclamation acknowledged that before Hebron was "founded," there were indigenous communities that lived on the land, including the Mohegan and Wangunk tribes.

It continued by stating that Connecticut recognizes five indigenous tribes under state law — the Schaghticoke, Golden Hill Paugussett, Mohegan, Mashantucket Pequot, and Paucatuck Eastern Pequot — each with distinct qualities, history and contributions to the community.

Therefore: "The Board of Selectmen for the Town of Hebron, in the pursuit of shared responsibility and promotion of knowledge about indigenous peoples, unifying communities, combating prejudice, and eliminating discrimination against indigenous peoples, recognize Monday, October 9th as Indigenous Peoples Day, and encourage residents to educate themselves and their children about the role, culture and traditions of indigenous people."

Absentee Ballots for Election

Absentee ballots for the Nov. 7 municipal election are now available at the town clerk's office located at 15 Gilead St.

To request an absentee ballot, complete and submit an application, online, by mail or in person, to the Town Clerk, Town Office Building, 15 Gilead St., Hebron, CT 06248. There is a ballot drop box located at the front door of the Town Office Building that can be used for

depositing applications and ballots at any time.

Town office hours are: Monday through Wednesday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; Thursday, 8 a.m.-6 p.m.; and Friday, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. For more information, call 860-228-5971 ext. 125.

In-person voting for the Nov. 7 election will be held at Hebron Elementary School, 92 Church St. Polls will be open from 6 a.m.-8 p.m.

The DPW project continues to be a focal point

Generations of Drum Production

Alexa Odoj of the Marlborough Junior Ancient Fife and Drum Corps will lead a presentation on the history of fifing and drumming at Old Town Hall, 26 Main St., on Wednesday, Oct. 18. The program, which is offered by the Hebron Historical Society, will begin at 7 p.m.

The colonial music style of fifing and drumming has been kept alive throughout the centuries, in large part due to the efforts of Connecticut musicians. Over the years, fife and drum corps have proven to be not only a military tool, but a source of some of the state's finest artists.

The most renowned drum makers of the 19th century were the Brown family, hailing from what is now known as Bloomfield. Rudimental drummers across the country are dedicated to the preservation of these historical artifacts.

In Odoj's presentation, she will discuss the significance of Connecticut's fife and drum tradition, the history of the Brown family, and her experience restoring a Brown-made snare drum.

All are invited to the program. Donations are appreciated.

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Calling All Artists and Fine Crafters

The Marlborough Arts Center is accepting submissions for its Holiday Art and Gift Sale, which will take place Fridays through Sundays from Nov. 10 to Dec. 9.

Artists may display up to five paintings. Crafters may display small crafts subject to reasonable space limitations. A fee of \$10 is required. Items must be priced under \$200.

Paintings and craft items can be dropped off at the Arts Center Saturday, Oct. 28, or Sunday, Oct. 29, from 1-4 p.m.

For more information, visit www.marlbrougharts.org, call the Arts Center at 860-647-6363 or email marlbroughartscenter@gmail.com.

Masquerade 5K Road Race

The Marlborough Lions will hold their annual Masquerade 5K Road Race Sunday, Oct. 29, starting promptly at 10:30 a.m.

This certified 5K will feature runners in costume and will follow the same course around Lake Terramuggus as the Lions' Memorial Day weekend race. The race will utilize electronic timing with computerized race results.

Entry fee is \$30 per runner. Shirts will be provided to those who pre-register by Oct. 15, with additional shirts being available on race day subject to availability. There is also a \$60 package price for families (immediate family members only) participating in the race. Same-day

registrations are accepted. Runners will start near the entrance to Blish Park on Park Road and will proceed on a course which circles Lake Terramuggus.

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

To register or for more information, call Lions President Megan Lloyd at 413-687-5537 or email meadams9182@hotmail.com. Registration forms are also available online at ItsYourRace.com.

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. Transportation is Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays; call 36 hours in advance of your appointment to guarantee a ride.

Also, the Food Bank is located at 3 Wilhenger Drive (860-295-6008) and is open every Tuesday from 10 a.m.-noon and 3:30-5:30 p.m. The food bank is open to qualified residents in need of food.

Monday, Oct. 16: Assistance, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.; 8-Ball Pool, 10 a.m.-noon; bingo, 1-3 p.m.; set-back, 3-4 p.m.; Congregate Menu: stuffed pepper w/ gravy, rice, vegetable medley, wheat bread, fresh fruit.

Tuesday, Oct. 17: Assistance, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.; Flu Clinic, 10 a.m.-noon; Meals on Wheels, noon; Girl Scouts, 3:15-4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 18: 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: cracker crumb cod with tartar sauce, mashed potatoes, green and yellow wax beans, 100% whole wheat bread, fresh fruit; set-back, 1-4 p.m.; Sophisticated Dancers, 5-7 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 19: Transportation, 8 a.m.; Tai Chi, 10:30-11:30 a.m.; Meals on Wheels, noon; PD Exercise w/ Anne, 3-4 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 20: Assistance, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; 8-Ball Pool, 10 a.m.-noon; Meals on Wheels, noon; Congregate Meal, noon. Menu: orange juice, mild beef and bean chili, shredded cheese/baked potato, sour cream/sliced carrots, 100% whole wheat bread, chocolate pudding with topping; Cards, 1-4 p.m.

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

Congregational Church News & Notes

Sunday Worship and Sunday School at the Congregational Church of Marlborough, United Church of Christ, 35 South Main St., is at 10 a.m. Worship is streamed live every Sunday at mcc.marlbroughchurch.org and recorded for later viewing at the website. Childcare for infants and toddlers is provided downstairs in the nursery but children are always welcome at the worship service. All children in the community are welcome and invited to attend Sunday School. Contact Gwen Lawson at the church office at office@marlbroughchurch.org for more information.

Oct. 15 service will be led by the Rev. Valerie Seaver. Her sermon title is "What Are You Wearing?" based on Psalm 106:1-6 and Matthew 22:1-14.

Women's Circle, led by Seaver, will meet Wednesday, Oct. 18, at 6:30 p.m., upstairs in the lounge. Women of all ages are invited.

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

Outreach: The church collects non-perishable food items year-round for Marlborough Food Bank with a basket located in the narthex for Sunday worshipers to bring their donations. The Drive Thru Café provides a takeaway hot meal at the church to Marlborough Food Bank clients usually on the last Sunday of every month (except July and August). Once a month the youth groups pre-

pare and serve a meal to residents at Florence Lord Housing. Once in May and November, the church sponsors the evening meal at the St. Vincent De-Paul Soup Kitchen in Middletown.

AA: Meets downstairs in the Great Hall with three scheduled meetings: Wednesdays at noon and another at 7:30 p.m., and Thursdays at noon.

ACOA: Meets in the Youth Room Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m.

Second Blessings Thrift Shop: The shop is open Fridays from noon to 3 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., through Dec. 23. For more information, contact the church office. The shop sells 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 Seaver's direct line at 860-295-0432 or email pastorval@marlbroughchurch.org.

Resident on Volleyball Team

Gabriella Johnson of Marlborough is playing on this fall's women's volleyball team at Eastern Connecticut State University.

Johnson, who wears number 12 and plays pin, is a junior who majors in English.

From the Superintendent's Desk...

Pre-Budget Development Community Forum

In educating the whole child at MES, our goal is for each child to develop academically as well as socially-emotionally to their fullest potential. We are committed to meeting learners where they are and leading them to acquire fundamental knowledge and skills. We create learner-centered conditions where students are active in their acquisition of knowledge as they build meaning, ask questions, and explain their reasoning. We hold high expectations for all students and their progress is monitored regularly so that appropriate instructional and programmatic adjustments can be applied for their benefit. In support of academic aims are our school values of respect, responsibility and safety. Through strong relationships between students and teachers, with families as partners, our students are thriving and experiencing the joys of MES. MES' recognition as a State School of Distinction in Math and ranking 15th out of 182 schools on the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) assessment in 2022 as well as exceeding state accountability targets in 2023 represent our improvement efforts and investments in students.

The Marlborough Board of Education will be engaging in the development of its annual budget, beginning with the Board of Finance Budget Kickoff Meeting on Oct. 19 at 7 p.m. in the MES library, followed by the Board of Education's Pre-Budget Community Forum on Oct. 26 at 7 p.m. in the MES library. The public is invited and encouraged to attend these public meetings. Information about the school's budgeting process can be found on the newly updated school district website at www.marlbrough.k12.ct.us under the budget tab.

Our budgets are designed to provide the necessary investments in staffing, curriculum, instruction, professional development, and operations as outlined in the district's Strategic Continuous Improvement Plan to run an outstanding, safe, and happy school. With the support of the Town, Board of Education, and the residents of Marlborough through the funds the budget provides, as well as through grants and revenue funds, we have been successful in:

- Retaining and recruiting a highly-qualified and caring staff within community-valued class sizes as well as maintaining critical supports for students through related services including utilizing multi-year grant funds for Registered Behavior Technicians (RBTs) to build upon our Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) program to meet students needs.
- Implementing a Literacy Program which is aligned to the Science of Reading- including comprehensive, explicit and systematic foundational instruction in grades K-3.
- Implementing the K-6 Math Program with fidelity and positive student outcomes.
- Supporting a robust Essential Arts and After-School Club program providing students with a well-rounded learning experience.
- Expanding our integrated PreK program serving three and four year olds with special needs as well as peers.
- Investing in school safety and security systems as well as the addition of a full-time School Resource Officer (SRO).
- Updating instructional technology in all learning spaces and launching an improved school district website.
- Investing in Facilities and Technology to maintain and improve upon the school infrastructure, including plans to conduct an Architectural Study to inform Capital Planning.

We are deeply grateful for the support of MES families who send us their wonderful children everyday and greatly appreciate the community's support of our collective commitment to the elementary children of Marlborough.

Holly Hageman

Marlborough Superintendent of Schools

Art Classes

The Marlborough Arts Center is offering a class in creative journaling for teens, with parents welcome to participate. Classes will meet Wednesdays, 6-8 p.m., through Nov. 8. Instructor Susan Hourihan will guide the class in using creative techniques to work through anxieties.

One-session drop-ins are accepted; drop-in fee is \$60. Registration forms are available at www.marlbrougharts.org.

For more information, please call the Arts Center at 860-467-6353 or email Susan: sanshourihan1994@gmail.com.

Fall Cemetery Clean-Up

The annual cemetery fall clean up is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 4, at Marlboro Cemetery. Volunteers are invited to participate and are asked to meet at 9 a.m.

Residents are asked to remove any personal items and decorations prior to the clean up. All items found to be in violation of cemetery rules and regulations or a hindrance to maintenance will be removed. These items include shepherd hooks, glass objects, items hanging from trees, pots, or items beyond the front of the stone. Consult the town website, www.marlbroughct.net, for a complete listing.

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Obituaries

Portland

**McClure Ellsworth
Celebration of Life**

A Celebration of Life will take place Saturday, Oct. 28, from 2-5 p.m., at the Senior Center, 7 Waverly Ave., Portland, in memory of McClure "Mac" Ellsworth, who passed away after a short and unexpected battle with cancer on Sunday, July 30.



Mac's daughter Marissa and his sisters Deb and Sarah invite relatives and friends to enjoy food and music that Mac loved and to share fond memories and stories of him. Please let the family know if you will be attending by sending an email to Deb at ADells06480@gmail.com.

East Hampton

Bruce Moquin

Bruce Moquin, 68, of East Hampton, beloved husband to Mary (Evarts) Moquin, entered into eternal rest suddenly Monday, Oct. 9. He was born in Rockville to the late Richard and Bernice (Whipple) Moquin and grew up in Coventry.



Bruce worked many years as a butcher and meat supervisor for many years at Ellington Super Market until opening a small restaurant, The Snack Shack, in East Hampton. Upon retirement he worked at Blackledge Country Club which gave him time to enjoy the outdoors.

He loved meeting and connecting with people; everyone was a friend. He enjoyed traveling anywhere warm and spending time with family. He was an avid Red Sox and UConn fan, and loved to fish and be outdoors, especially with his dog Bella.

Besides his wife Mary, he is survived by son, Mark and Jessica Moquin of East Hampton; daughter, Wendy and Shawn Defelice of Marlborough; stepsons, Andrew and Luke Brooks; stepdaughter, Emily Brooks; grandchildren, Khanur Defelice, Reagan and Ryder Moquin; and step-grandson, Liam Pavlov; as well as two sisters and a brother.

He was predeceased by his parents and wife Joanne.

Friends and family will gather at Spencer Funeral Home, 112 Main St., on Monday, Oct. 16, from 5-7 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made in Bruce's name to the Food Bank at 43 West High St. East Hampton, CT 06424.

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

Colchester

Jacob Edward Kniska

It is with great sorrow and deepest heartache that we announce the passing of our beloved son, Jacob Edward Kniska. Jake returned home to God peacefully in his sleep at his home on Wednesday, Oct. 4.



Jake was born Nov. 24, 1988, on Thanksgiving Day. From the moment of his birth until the time of his passing he was loved and cherished unconditionally by his family and all who knew him.

Throughout Jake's life he had a lifelong passion for athletics. In his youth he participated in football, baseball, basketball, and tae kwon do in which he earned his black belt. In high school he participated in football, basketball, baseball, and track. In his junior year at St. Bernard High School, Jake found a love for wrestling. He was at a late age to begin the sport but through dedication and hard work he excelled at it. Jake continued to wrestle at the college level at Plymouth State University. In addition, he competed in numerous adult wrestling and grappling tournaments, some of which were with his brother at his side.

Jake found his real passion in all aspects of physical fitness. He became a dedicated personal trainer and nutritionist. He loved to help people be the healthiest and fittest that they could be. Jake loved the gym and working out. With his hard work he competed in competitive power lifting in which he excelled, breaking records for his age group. Jake's latest passion was that of professional body building. He dedicated himself to all aspects of the sport with hard work and sacrifice. Jake competed in numerous competitions with great success, the last one being only a few days before his passing. Jake also was an avid Dallas Cowboy fan. He watched and cheered his team on at every chance he could.

Jake will be dearly missed for his beautiful smile, infectious laugh, his sense of humor, and most of all his loving heart.

Jake leaves behind his beloved parents, Edward and Brenda Kniska of Colchester; his little brother, Dylan Kniska of Marlborough, for whom Jake loved and adored from the first moment he set eyes on him. Jake leaves behind his partner in life Kimberly Marcel, her three children and their two fur babies, Thor and Teddy. Kim was the absolute love of his life, and we will be forever grateful for the true love that she showered on our son.

Jake leaves behind a large and beloved extended family, consisting of numerous aunts, uncles and cousins. Jake treasured and enjoyed hanging out with them all, especially at family holidays and gatherings. Jake also leaves behind a network

of friends, old and new, who he cherished.

Jake was predeceased by his maternal grandparents, Robert and Janice Martingano; his paternal grandparents, Edward and Jean Kniska; his uncle, Robert Scott Martingano; and his auntie, Colleen Martingano Sellick.

The family asks in lieu of flowers that you do one kind thing for someone every day in Jake's memory, as this will make a difference small or large in their lives. In addition, tell the people who are the dearest to you that you love them at every opportunity, as this was Jake's daily practice. "I love you" were the first three words in his vocabulary.

We love you, our dearest boy, always and forever, until we are together again in God's heaven.

Services for Jake will be held at the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home, 167 Old Hartford Rd., Colchester. Calling hours will be from 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 15. Immediately following calling hours will be a celebration of Jake's life at the St. Joseph's Polish Club, 395 S. Main St., Colchester. The family asks that you bring your fondest memory or story of Jake to share with all who loved him.

Colchester

Priscilla D. Prior

Priscilla D. Prior, of Colchester, passed away Thursday, Oct. 5. Priscilla was born in Hartford Nov. 6, 1952, to the late George and Doris (LaChance) Dean. She graduated from Northwest Catholic High School in 1970, before attending dental assistant and then nursing school.



She married her beloved late husband, William Prior, on March 30, 1985. The couple then settled in Colchester where they made their home and raised their family. After 28 years of marriage, Bill predeceased her Nov. 12, 2013.

Priscilla was a devoted wife and mother who loved her family above all else. She will be sadly missed but always remembered with love by her children, Christina Prior and Ken Patin, Matthew and Kaitlyn (Palmer) Prior, Jason and Ashley (Gattison) Prior. As anyone who met Priscilla was proudly told, she was also an extremely adoring Mémère to her grandchildren, Amelia, Noelle, Owen and Addison.

Priscilla will also be dearly missed by her siblings, Daniel and Cindy Dean, Robert and Gloria Dean, Mark and Carol (Dean) Gilbert, George Dean, James Dean, John and Jacqueline (Dean) Kiefel and their families, as well as a multitude of extended family and dear friends.

Always the caregiver, she had a long and fulfilling career as an LPN and group home manager before retiring from Oak Hill several years ago. When she wasn't working, she was volunteering with the Colchester Lions Club and at St. Andrew Parish in Colchester. She was known for her love of UConn basketball, the Green Bay Packers, Elvis and the Beatles. Priscilla loved people and had a unique gift of making everyone feel like family. She touched countless lives, and her spirit will continue to live in the hearts of those who knew and loved her.

Funeral services will be held at the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home, 167 Old Hartford Rd., Colchester. Calling hours will begin at 4 p.m. Friday, Nov. 3, followed by a memorial service at the funeral home on Saturday, Nov. 4, gathering at 10:30 a.m., with the services beginning at 11 a.m. Burial will be private.

Donations in Priscilla's memory may be made to the Alzheimer's Association (www.alz.org/CT).

To sign the online guestbook or share a memory of Priscilla, please visit www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

Simsbury

Karen Michaud Foley

Karen Michaud Foley, 74, of Simsbury, beloved wife of Michael F. Foley, died Wednesday, Oct. 4, with Michael at her side. She was born Nov. 22, 1948, in Hartford, daughter of the late Renaud "Mitch" and Carolyn (Emerson) Michaud and had lived in Simsbury for many years.



Mrs. Foley was a Connecticut State Police radio dispatcher for several years prior to her retirement from Konica Minolta in Windsor. Karen was a member of St. Mary Parish in Simsbury. She enjoyed her hobby of putting together beautiful family photo albums over the years, traveling around the United States and caring for her Yorkie "Prince."

In addition to her loving husband of 47 years, she leaves her children, Michael Foley and wife Lauren of Stockbridge, Vt., Matthew Foley and wife Liza of Hunter, N.Y., Nicole Foley Banks and husband Tracy of Rockville Vernon, her brother Clyde Michaud of East Hartford; her grandson, Damian Foley, granddaughter, Brooklyn Foley, granddaughter, Anne Marie Foley; many nieces and nephews and friends and neighbors.

She was predeceased by a sister, Kathryn M. Michaud of East Hartford.

Calling hours were held at the Vincent Funeral Home, 880 Hopmeadow St. in Simsbury, on Thursday, Oct. 12, from 4-7 p.m. A funeral service will be held at the funeral home at 10 a.m. Friday, Oct. 13. Private burial will be in St. Bernard's Cemetery in Rockville Vernon.

Donations in her memory may be made to St. Bernard Parish or St. Mary Parish.

Please visit Karen's Book of Memories at www.vincentfuneralhome.com for online tributes.

Marlborough

Kathleen McNally

Kathleen "Kathie" Elliott McNally, 72, of Marlborough and New Smyrna Beach, Fla., passed away Wednesday, Oct. 4, at Middlesex Hospital in Middletown. Born March 14, 1951, in Buffalo, N.Y., she was the daughter of the late John M. and Mary T. (Taylor) Elliott.



Kathie grew up in Delmar, N.Y., and was a graduate of the Maryrose Academy in Albany, N.Y. She later went on to achieve her bachelor's degree from Nazareth College of Rochester, N.Y., where she met her future husband, Thomas McNally, on Tom's first day of college. Kathie ultimately obtained her master's degree in teaching from Albany State.

Kathie taught 5th grade at St. Thomas School in Delmar, N.Y., and later went on to tutor English as a Second Language (ESL) in the Glastonbury school system. Her final position was at East Hartford High School where she taught ESL for 15 years.

Kathie was a woman of considerable faith, and attended St. John Fisher Church in Marlborough, and was a communicant of Our Lady Star of the Sea in New Smyrna Beach, Fla. In her spare time, she enjoyed reading and playing tennis, spending summer vacations with her extended family at Hanford Bay on Lake Erie or Lake Terramuggus, visiting the beach and hunting for the best bargain at TJ Maxx. She enjoyed playing games with family and friends and always had a smile on her face despite her illness. Her greatest joy in life, however, was her

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★ *Letters, cont. from page 34*

Voting for Democrats Just Makes Sense

To Our Friends in Hebron:

Frequent readers of the *Rivereast* will notice that the Hebron Democrats are on a roll. Our full slate of candidates is engaging the town, meeting its citizens, attending its local board meetings, and writing (and receiving!) many letters to this newspaper – all for volunteer positions. We are demonstrably motivated to do what we can for Hebron.

Imagine what we could do to help as motivated elected members!

If you'd like to reach out to us to meet us, ask us questions, or find out how to support us, we'll be at the Harvest Moon Festival on Saturday the 21st. Or you can contact us directly at dems@hebrondems.com. Or check out our website to learn more about us. We'd love to hear from you!

Adam Ockman – Hebron Candidate for Board of Finance

Seeking Reelection

To the Editor:

My name is Joe Margaitis and I am seeking reelection to the Hebron Board of Education.

My family and I have been fortunate to see the transformative power of Hebron's schools. Because of this, I am committed to the ongoing enhancement of our two elementary schools.

With a degree from UConn and a career spanning over two decades in leadership roles with substantial responsibilities, I have had the opportunity to utilize these skills over the past four years on the BOE. My tenure with the board has been marked by significant milestones, including crucial decisions such as hiring a new superintendent and the re-opening of schools in the fall of 2020.

As chair of the resource management committee, I have advocated for responsible budgeting, especially in the face of a growing student population. Collaboration is key to our success. I have worked on the Shared Services committee, seeking ways to collaborate with neighboring towns and local boards to drive efficiency and savings. I believe there is more we can do, particularly in fostering communication and synergy with the Board of Finance and Board of Selectmen.

The heart of Hebron is our school district. It is a

beacon that attracts families to town, and it is our collective responsibility to nurture it for the long-term benefit of all.

In my spare time, I am also honored to serve as a coach for RHAM Youth Soccer (our girls are having another great season!).

I invite you to join me in this journey towards an even brighter future for Hebron. Together, we can create an educational landscape that empowers our children and ensures Hebron remains a community that prides itself on exceptional education.

Thank you for considering my candidacy, and I look forward to the opportunity to continue serving you and our town.

Joe Margaitis – Hebron

Thoughts Welcome!

Dear Portland neighbors:

The Portland Library is in the midst of a long term planning process that will guide our priorities over the next several years. The Library Board of Directors and the Strategic Planning Committee want to make sure our decisions reflect your needs and aspirations for future library services. To that end, the Library will be hosting two Community Craft & Conversation sessions to hear from you, our community. The sessions will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 24, at 6:30 p.m., and Thursday, Oct. 26, at 1:30 p.m. Please consider joining us to paint a pumpkin coaster and share your thoughts! Light refreshments will be provided.

You can register for either conversation by visiting www.portlandlibraryct.org and viewing the calendar of upcoming events. If you are unable to make it to either session, keep an eye on the library website for a survey coming out soon for another opportunity to share your thoughts and feedback! With gratitude,

**Laurel Steinhauser, Chair
Portland Library Board of Directors**

Hebron Crossroads

To the Editor:

On Nov. 7, the voters in Hebron have an opportunity to make a choice. We are at a crossroads, one direction is dysfunctional business as usual, and the other direction is an exciting new future. A valuable asset has been identified within walking distance of Hebron center. Combining unique historical and vital environmental features, the property at 17 Kinney Rd., a.k.a. the Horton property, can lead Hebron into a future of unparalleled educational experiences and

vibrant Eco-Tourism.

Utilized as Open Space and an outdoor classroom, 17 Kinney Rd. can enhance the 56 acres of commercial and mixed-use Village Square land available along Route 66 and Horton Boulevard. Imagine shops and apartments with a view of 300-year-old hedge row farmland and unique stonewall laneways. Imagine residents of new affordable housing having easy access to the beauty of nature. Imagine conservation and development working together. Preservation of 17 Kinney Rd. is now supported by the Land Preservation Manager of Joshua's Tract Conservation and Historic Trust, Bryan Avery, who shared his vision, "With minimal effort I can picture groups of moms pushing strollers down stone dust paths in these laneways, preschoolers playing peek-a-boo over the walls,

high school students researching how wildlife uses the forest blocks compared to field blocks, perhaps even a community orchard where elementary school kids can collect apples, all within walking distance of the town center." This will not only be picturesque, it will be a powerful economic engine, drawing scores of visitors each year.

It is time for new leaders to capture this new vision. I urge Hebron's voters to elect John Matra and Claudia Riley for the Board of Selectmen and Frank Zitkus, Davis Howell and Janet Fodaski for Planning and Zoning. Together we can create a new future and embrace our past. Please vote Row A only.

**Sincerely,
Kevin J. Tulimieri – Amston**

LEGALS

**Public Notice
Town of East Hampton, Connecticut Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Agency Wetlands Agent Approval**

Pursuant to CGS Section 22a-42a (c) (2) the following application has been approved by the duly authorized agent of the Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Agency of the Town of East Hampton for an activity within the Upland Review Area.
Number: IW-23-020
Applicant: Linda DiCaprio
Location: 83A North Main Street
Activity: Grade and landscape slope within Upland Review Area.
Jeffrey M. Foran
Duly Authorized Agent
Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Agency
1TB 10/13

**TOWN OF COLCHESTER
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
October 26, 2023
6:30 p.m.
Town Hall, 127 Norwich Avenue,
Colchester, CT**

1. To modify Town Ordinances, Chapter 129 Article VIII. Colchester Tax Exemption Ordinance for Volunteer Firefighters as recommended by the Colchester Fire Chief. The Board of Selectmen at their October 5, 2023 meeting recommended sending the revisions to a Public Hearing on October 26, 2023 at 6:30pm at Town Hall 127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, CT for public comment and subsequent approval by the Board of Selectmen.
2. To adjourn said meeting.
A copy of the proposed ordinances may be obtained at the Town Clerk's Office.
Dated at Colchester, CT this 10th day of October 2023. Gayle Furman, Town Clerk

Andreas Bisbikos, 1st Selectman
Rosemary Coyle, Selectman
Jason LaChapelle, Selectman
Debra Bates, Selectman
Denise Turner, Selectman

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
TOWN OF ANDOVER
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
7:00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2023**

The Andover Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, October 18, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. on the application of Vincent Grimaldi, at which a request for a variance for the property at 357 Lake Road, Andover will be heard. The public hearing will be held in person in the Community Room of the Town Hall, 17 School Road, Andover. The applicant is seeking relief from Section 11.2 of the Andover Zoning Regulations so as to allow for the reduction in the sideyard setback requirements from 25' to 18' so as to allow for the construction of a 21' x 21' shed. Comments/questions will be taken during the hearing. Written comments submitted to the Building and Land Use Office a minimum of 24 hours prior to the hearing will be entered into the public record of the hearing. Additional details can be found at the Building and Land Use Office, 17 School Road, Andover, or by contacting the Office at 860.742.7305 ext. 4220.
2TB 10/6, 10/13

**TOWN OF COLCHESTER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
LEGAL NOTICE OF AGENT DECISION**

Notice is hereby given that on October 3, 2023, the Duly Authorized Agent for the Colchester Conservation Commission made the following decision:
W2023-3086: 155 Westchester Road; Jeffery Naples-Applicant/Owner; Assessor's ID 05-14/016-000; Portion of proposed 28' X 44' accessory building, driveway, parking area, site grading and erosion & sediment controls within 75' Upland Review Area.
APPROVED WITH STANDARD CONDITIONS.
Dated October 3, 2023
Conservation Commission
Falk van Plachecki, Chair
1TB 10/13

**LEGAL NOTICE
PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION
HEBRON, CONNECTICUT**

The Hebron Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing at a Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, October 24, 2023, at 7:00 P.M., to be held virtually through the GoToMeeting Platform, on the following:
1. **Petition 2023-07** – Petition of Paul Fichera requesting Special Permit approval for an accessory structure (garage) that exceeds 900 square feet on a lot under 5 acres in size, pursuant to Section 2.E.8. of the Hebron Zoning Regulations, premise located at 103 Burrows Hill Road, Residence-1 District.
2. **Petition 2023-08** - Petition of John Tarquinio / The Tarquinio Estate for a Special Permit to change a non-conforming use to a conforming Rural Business Use in accordance with Section 6.B.3.7. of the Hebron Zoning Regulations at 33 East Street, Residence-1 District.
3. **Petition 2023-05** - Petition of the Hebron Planning and Zoning Commission to Amend the Hebron Zoning Regulations to delete existing 6.D Moratorium on Cannabis Establishments; Proposed Section 6.C.5 Cannabis Establishments to address prohibition; and Identify "Cannabis Establishments" in the use table for each Zoning District as prohibited.
Dated at Hebron, Connecticut, this 11th day of October, 2023.
Natalie Wood, Chair

Planning and Zoning Commission
Oct 24, 2023, 7:00–10:00 PM (America/New_York)
Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.
<https://meet.goto.com/502373085>
You can also dial in using your phone.
Access Code: 502-373-085
United States: +1 (408) 650-3123
Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts:
<https://meet.goto.com/install>
Legal Notice will be published in the Rivereast News Bulletin on October 13, 2023 and October 20, 2023.
2TB 10/13, 10/20

**TOWN OF COLCHESTER
PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION
LEGAL NOTICE**

The Colchester Planning & Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on October 18, 2023, beginning at 7:00 PM in the Colchester Town Hall Meeting Room at 127 Norwich Ave, Colchester, CT, concerning the following matter:
Notice of Zoning Violation and Order to Cease and Desist dated September 28, 2023 and issued to Niantic Bay Group, LLC of 1967 N. Rose Hue Path, Hernando, FL 34442 for failure to provide required affordable housing within the Jordan Lane Affordable Housing Development (P&ZC Application 2021-015) that was permitted pursuant to Section 8-30g of the CT General Statutes a/k/a the Affordable Housing Appeals Act. Niantic Bay Group, LLC has been Ordered to attend this public hearing to be heard; to demonstrate that the violations have been corrected, and to show cause as to why said Notice and Order should not remain in effect. Property Locations: 34 Jordan Lane (ID#03-00/001-514); 24 Jordan Lane (ID#3-00/001-517); 22 Jordan Lane (ID#3-00/001-518); 20 Jordan Lane (ID#3-00/001-519); 16 Jordan Lane (ID#3-00/001-520); 12 Jordan Lane (ID#3-00/001-521); and 10 Jordan Lane (ID#3-00/001-522). Zoning District: Suburban Use (SU).
At this hearing, interested persons may be heard and written communications received. A copy of the Notice of Violation and Order to Cease and Desist is available in the Land Use Department and Town Clerk's Office, Colchester Town Hall, 127 Norwich Avenue, and may be inspected during regular business hours (8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday).
Planning & Zoning Commission
Joseph Mathieu, Chair
2TB 10/6, 10/13

Cover Story • Cover Story • Cover Story • Cover Story • Cover Story • Cover Story • Cover Story • Cover Story • Cover Story • Cover Story



Black and purple funeral bunting was displayed outside Marlborough Town Hall this week in honor of former first selectman Bill Black, who passed away last week at the age of 81.

★ *Bill Black Remembered cont. from page 1*

recognized the importance of his legacy.

"He provided a lot of faithful service to the town," he said.

Ken Hjulstrom, who lost the 2007 first selectman race to the notable Democrat, said Black was admired by those who knew him.

"I ran against him and it came as neither a surprise nor a disappointment to me that he won by a wide margin," he stated. "Bill was a dedicated public servant and he was very well-liked by those in our community."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PETS

DOG OBEDIENCE CLASSES: starting soon. Offering Puppy Kindergarten; Basic Manners/What Rescue Dogs Need and Want; CGC/Therapy; Scent Work. Over 25 years experience. Michelle Larson, PAWS-N-HEEL DTC, 860-267-6040, paws-n-heeldogtraining.com.

WANTED TO BUY

ALWAYS BUYING OLD TOOLS: old, used, antique hand tools. MACHINIST, wood-working, engraving, and workbench hand tools and tool chests. Hunting equipment and firearms, also of interest. Fair and honest offers made. Call with confidence, Cory 860-322-4367.

WANTED TO BUY: loose and bulk change, and old sterling silverware for cash. Also purchasing silver coins and any item made of sterling silver. Will make house calls. Call/text Dom 860-836-5013, email dmbappraisal@sbcglobal.net.



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CT1-12-23

REAL ESTATE

RENTALS

EAST HAMPTON: One bedroom townhouse. First floor; kitchen, dining area, large living room, includes stove, refrigerator, disposal, and dishwasher. Second floor; full bath, large bedroom, ample closets. Park-like setting, deck, adjacent to lake, 2 parking spaces, on-site laundry. Inquires call 860-633-7319, 8am-5pm.

GLASTONBURY CONDO RENTAL: Gorgeous 1 bd at Hale Farms. Recently remodeled with newer cabinets, appliances, flooring, contemporary bath. AC, open floor plan, large rooms w/lots of closet space, heat & hot water included, 2 pools. NO Pets. Credit/references required. \$1600. Armand 860-810-0550.

GLASTONBURY HOUSE FOR RENT: Beautiful house in quiet neighborhood. 2 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, new appliances. Air-conditioned, Emergency generator. Private yard with cabin! Available Nov 1st. \$1,850/mo. Minimum one year lease. NO pets/ No deals. 860-944-2600 for appointment.

GLASTONBURY VILLAGE CENTER: 2 Bdrm \$1,440. Including Heat/Hotwater. Center of Glastonbury. Large 2 bdrm, lvg room, 1 bath, kitchen w/dishwasher, gas range, laundry facilities. large storage area and private parking. Trash, heat, and hot water included. Excellent condition. Perfect for someone looking for a well-kept apartment. \$1,440/mo. 860-798-7403.

TWO BEDROOM APARTMENT: for rent in Hebron, 2nd floor. Recently remodeled. \$1600 per month plus security. 860-604-6665.

UNITS FOR RENT COLCHESTER: Multi-use/Shop/Storage space available for rent in Colchester. 2 sizes available. 68x24 or 30x24. Call 860-748-0206.



Call for the scheduling of an open house.



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CIT10-5-23

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RE10-13-23

OPEN HOUSE Sunday, Oct. 15th • 1-3pm



18 School Drive, Marlborough • \$279,900
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Terri D. White, REALTOR
Stone Crest Realty
(860) 671-0987
terri_white@live.com



REB-15-23

★★★★★ **OPEN HOUSE** ★★★★★
Sunday, October 15th, 2023 • 12:00-2:00PM
177 Reidy Hill Road, Hebron • \$589,900



Traditional Cape Cod home nestled on 2.29 acres of mature landscaping and beautiful perennial gardens. This rare home offers 4 bedrooms with 2 ½ baths along with a huge rec room over the garage with a sitting area and ½ bath. Includes a screened in porch, lower-level finished room with built-ins adds to the sq.ft. Country kitchen with stainless steel appliances and gas stove, family rm with gas FP, newer Buderus furnace, new septic system, generator hook-up plus an oversized 2 car garage with lots of storage space. Attached is an adorable in-law apartment with a living room, kitchen and bedroom with full bath, just adds to this unique property. Indora Chaviaras will be hosting this open house.

MCCORRISON D.W.FISH Real Estate
4 Main Street, Hebron
860-228-9451
Roderic "Mac" McCorrison, Broker



RE10-13-23

EMPLOYMENT

Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) Assisted Living

We are seeking family oriented, fun, and dedicated people to join our team! Offering not your average LPN shifts, per-diem shifts available on ALL shifts including **11pm-7am!** Colebrook Village is a proud community and home to Independent, Assisted Living, and Memory Care Residents. It is a privilege to serve our residents, alongside our amazing staff. If you are looking for a change and aspire to be appreciated for the important, and honorable work you do; reach out for more details! A Unique Healthcare Opportunity Awaits! Medical, Dental, Vision, Life, 401k

Call Cheyenne Baker at 860-801-1114 or email CBaker@colebrookvillage.com

CIT9-21-23

Certified Nurses Aide (CNA) Assisted Living

We are seeking family oriented, fun, and dedicated people to join our team! Offering not your average CNA positions, ALL shifts including **3-11pm & 11pm-7am**. Colebrook Village is a proud community and home to Independent, Assisted Living, and Memory Care Residents. It is a privilege to serve our residents, alongside our amazing staff. If you are looking for a change and aspire to be appreciated for the important, and honorable work you do; reach out for more details! A Unique Healthcare Opportunity Awaits! Medical, Dental, Vision, Life, 401k

Call Cheyenne Baker at 860-801-1114 or email CBaker@colebrookvillage.com

CIT9-28-23

EMPLOYMENT

COLCHESTER WINE AND SPIRITS: is looking for a part time liquor store clerk. Stop in person to apply at store. 99 Linwood Ave, Colchester.

COOK WANTED: Stop in to the Greenleaf Cafe in Hebron or call 860-228-8148.

DRIVER & PCA NEEDED: part-time. For appointments, shopping, errands, cleaning, cooking and personal care depending on which position. Experience preferred. Excellent driving record required for driving position. \$18.25/hr. Weekly pay through payroll company. Background check and drug test required. 860-949-7016.

FT/PT CLEANER: helper wanted. Early until 2pm. Please stop in to Marlborough Country Bakery.

LABORER WANTED: Hebron, minor landscaping, other outside assistance, transport provided as necessary. \$15-\$20/hr, paid daily. Good for high school students. 860-377-0188. Text best.

MARLBOROUGH WINE & SPIRITS: needs a part-time sales assistant. Great pay. Please call 860-295-9460 or stop in.

PAINTER OR HELPER WANTED: Year round. Commercial work. Transportation to Glastonbury Required. 860-916-6332.

SATURDAY WAITRESS NEEDED: experience a must for a fun, friendly breakfast restaurant. Apply at Eggs Up Restaurant on Rt 66, Portland.

Mechanical CAD Drafter:
Seeking Mechanical Drafter skilled in AUTO CAD, Microstation or similar to generate CAD fabrication and detail drawings based on contract plans. Experience with Microsoft Excel, Word, and Outlook. Extracting data from Contract Plans and creating detailed drawings. 3D experience, piping and hanger experience a plus. Microstation proficiency preferred. While proficiency in Microstation is preferred, we also accept candidates with expertise in AutoCAD. The ideal candidate should have a minimum of five years of drafting experience, demonstrating the ability to produce high-quality 2D drawings suitable for fabrication and construction. Salary is negotiable based upon experience. Benefits include: Health Insurance, Dental Insurance, 401K, Vacation, Life and Disability Insurance.
Please send resume to: P.O. Box 186, Colchester, CT 06415 or email to beth@eaglemanufacturinginc.com

REB-09-23

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REB-13-21

Part-Time Library Assistant Douglas Library of Hebron

The Douglas Library of Hebron is looking for a Library Assistant I to assist us as we work to provide a welcoming, safe, and diverse environment for the members of our community. Ideal candidates will be technologically-savvy, passionate about providing excellent customer service, and can work independently and in groups. This position requires the ability to answer questions in person, on the phone, and through digital means. The Library Assistant I will need to interact with all age levels, be able to perform circulation functions using an automated system, shelve library materials and maintain shelf order. Must be comfortable with MS Office, web services and consumer electronics. Interest or experience in assisting with teen programming a plus. Requires a high school diploma or equivalent; relevant work experience preferred. Starting wage is \$15.45 per hour. Nights and Saturday availability a must; 14 hours a week with occasional opportunity for more. Please send a completed town application found here <http://hebronct.com/employment>, a letter of interest and resume to the Town Manager, Town of Hebron, 15 Gilead Street, Hebron, CT 06248 by November 3, 2023. EOE.

1TB 10/13

HELP WANTED
Help needed in our Printing Department.
Hours available Mon. - Fri.
Email Jim for more information
jim@rarereminder.com
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CIT9-28-23

East Hampton Public Schools is seeking Substitute Teachers

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Please apply online at:
<http://www.applitrack.com/easthampton/onlineapp/>
For further information contact Mary Clark:
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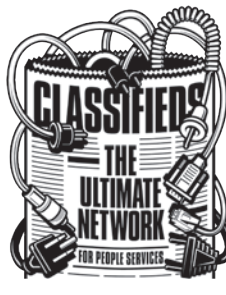
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