Volume 47, Number 41

RIVEREAST ===

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# News Bulletin

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

Published by The Glastonbury Citizen

November 3, 2023



The Great Pumpkins... It was time once again for the annual pumpkin-carving at the Muskatallos. This year's carvers include: Jon, Alissa and Ben Ives, Matt, Cassie and Ethan Bystrek, Clara Guilmette and Tyler Day, Andrew, Amy and Jake Boudreau, Carolyn and Ray Larrivee, Erin Muskatallo and Alex Denoyelle, Robyn Wilmore, Jake Strong, Shannon Law, Walter Squier, Derek, Daniella and Cameron Hunt, and Carla, John and Luka Muskatallo.

# First Selectman Race Enters Final Stretch

By Michael Sinkewicz

Control of Colchester's municipal boards is at stake on Election Day next Tuesday, Nov. 7, as Republicans look to maintain control of local government and Democrats aim to reclaim seats they lost in the previous campaign.

Republicans scored major victories during the 2021 election cycle, capturing the first selectman's office and the boards of selectmen, finance and education. Democrats will attempt to curb the GOP's momentum this year at the polls.

With less than a week until the crucial day, party leaders and candidates made their final pitches to constituents before they head to the ballot box.

## The Race for First Selectman

Incumbent first selectman, Republican Andreas Bisbikos, is seeking a second term overseeing Town Hall. He's cast himself as the only candidate with the necessary experience to effectively govern Colchester, promoting a campaign message of "people before government."

"It has been an honor representing the Town of Colchester these last two years," he told the *Rivereast*. "I've poured my heart and soul into Colchester because I love this town. Giving back to the town that has provided my family everything is something that I will forever treasure."

Bisbikos expressed that he's received a "tremendous amount of support" from all political affiliations and that residents have recognized "the undeniable progress our town has made these last two years."

"In these inflationary times, many voters also

recognize that I'm the candidate with a proven track record of fighting for low taxes and keeping Colchester an affordable place to live," he

While Bisbikos didn't make any predictions regarding the outcome of the race, he said that if elected he looks forward to "enhancing our community while keeping it affordable for everyone"

"There is so much we can accomplish together," Bisbikos added.

His Democratic challenger is Bernie Dennler III, who currently works as the office manager to the Lebanon first selectman and who previously served as vice-chair of both the Colchester Board of Finance and the Economic Development Commission. Bisbikos has labeled his opponent during the campaign as a "socialist" who would raise taxes and has described him as a Democratic "puppet" — claims Dennler has denounced.

Dennler launched his campaign in January, long before his opponent officially entered the race. After knocking on doors and engaging with the community, he believes residents are ready for a change.

"I really feel that there's a powerful movement in this town to bring back civility and stability," Dennler told the *Rivereast*.

While the election cycle has featured several divisive and heated moments — notably at candidate forums — Dennler said he believes the Democratic ticket has run a "successful campaign."

"We've done it in a way that's respectful," he said. "Win or lose, I'm proud of the way I handled the campaign."

See First Selectman Race, page 35

# EHHS Students Host 'Meet the Candidates'

By London Brazal

Candidates for local office in East Hampton gathered at Town Hall for a forum hosted by the Advanced Placement United States Government class. On Oct. 26, candidates in attendance were able to introduce themselves and answer two common questions and one random question with ninety seconds for each one. Students emphasized how it was not a debate and they were looking for a night of civil discourse.

Superintendent of Schools Paul Smith said there were candidates who couldn't make it due to sickness and prior commitments.

The Board of Education started the night, with three of five contenders present. Democrat Edie DeSimone has 20+ years of experience in education, mainly in special education. In a five-year plan, DeSimone wants to see how CO-VID-19 affected testing results and look at how to educate with changes such as AI on the rise. With that, she wants to create opportunities for students no matter what post-graduation option they choose.

Democrat Matt Engelhardt said he believes that the greatest attribute of the school district

is the people. With Smith retiring next June, Engelhardt said that, if elected, his main goal would be finding a new superintendent who is trustworthy, supports various programs, and can connect with the community and school district. Over his term, Engelhardt said he wants to promote mental health resources and invest in keeping students in the classroom.

Democrat Paul Wisniewski said he wants to see the continuation of mental health programs and create more resources for students. He believes that mental health affects test scores and it is best to expand what the district has in place. Furthermore, Wisniewski wants to apply for grants that will help lower costs. In office, he would like to see transparency and work with the Board of Finance and Town Council.

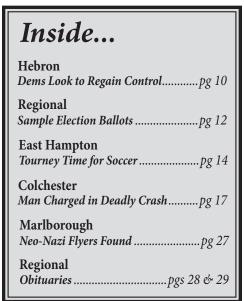
Among the Board of Finance candidates, Democrat Anthony Spagnoletti was the only candidate to attend the forum. Spagnoletti is a civil engineer and chose town as a good place to settle with his family. He said he knows raising taxes will happen but wants to work to receive grants to help offset costs. One of his focuses is

to revitalize more industries and continue the expansion of the Village Center.

The last group of candidates were the 10 residents running for Town Council. Republican Deb Cunningham has experience on town boards and said she sees a need to engage people while finding new ways to transmit information. Cunningham supports the Economic Development Commission and wants to attract midsize businesses to town while coordinating with the Middlesex Chamber of Commerce.

Republican Brandon Goff is an East Hampton native looking for reelection. In office, he said he wants to have a proactive mindset and work with the town manager, superintendent and finance directors by hosting more meetings. He believes that boards, such as the Conservation-Lake Commission and Commission on Aging, need more recognition. Goff said he enjoys how the community gets together and wants to support features that keep generations of families in town.

Republican Rosemarie Hecht is also a town See 'Meet the Candidates', page 24





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## **AHM News & Notes**

AHM Youth and Family Services has announced the following.

Screenagers: The Next Chapter: Wednesday, Nov. 8, 6:30 p.m., at AHM, 25 Pendleton Drive, Hebron. This is a documentary that explores the impact of screen time and digital technology on teenagers and their families. Parents, educators and youth in grades 6-12 are invited to attend. This showing is free. RSVP to prevention coordinator Jenn Boehler at jenniferb@AHMyouth. org or 860-228-9488 ext. 22.

Dinner and Training for home-based early childcare providers will be Wednesday, Nov. 15, from 6-8 p.m., at AHM. Have dinner and learn about the Office of Early Childhood Sparkler App and how to use it with families in your

program. The program is free, but register by Nov. 10 by emailing Becky Murray at beckym@ahmyouth.org.

Winter Fun with your Little One: Mondays, Dec. 4, 11 and 18, from 9:30-10:30 a.m., in the Family Resource Center at Gilead Hill School, for children birth-5 and caregivers. Cost is \$20/family. Make some holiday creations with them to share with friends and family. There will be discussion on stress reduction for parents and creating meaningful family rituals and memories. Register at ahmyouth.recdesk.com/Community/Home. For more information, contact Murray, Ashlee Parks at ashleep@ahmyouth. org, or the Family Resource Center at 860-228-0871



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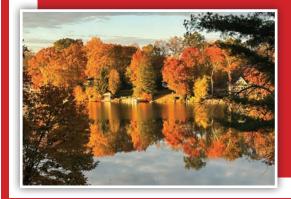
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Commission
and Sustainable
CT Team

# PUBLIC FORUM & DISCUSSION

Tuesday, Nov. 14th 7:00pm

**Marlborough Elementary School Cafeteria** 

- Marlborough Strengths
- Impacts of Population Trends
- Status of Chronic Disease & Residents' Health
- Cost of Housing & Affordable Housing Needs



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## • RHAM •

# **School Board Ballot Preview**

By Michael Sinkewicz

There are six open seats this cycle on the RHAM Board of Education. Next week on Tuesday, Nov. 7, voters will once again head to the polls to determine the makeup of the regional school board.

Voting for each of the three member towns will be held from 6 a.m.-8 p.m. For Hebron, the polling location is Hebron Elementary School at 92 Church Street; for Marlborough, voting is held at Marlborough Elementary School on 25 School Drive; for Andover, voting is conducted at the Town office building located at 17 School Road.

During the last municipal election in 2021, voters overwhelmingly endorsed Republican candidates, taking control of the RHAM school board, which had been under Democratic leadership.

In Hebron, with two seats up for grabs, Republicans are proposing Michael Beaulieu, who has lived in town for nearly 30 years. He works in compliance for a large financial

services firm. In the community, Beaulieu has volunteered with local sports leagues, the Church of the Holy Family and is a Hebron Lions board member.

Running against Beaulieu are Democrats Maura Curran Baker, a vice president of actuarial and analytics at Travelers Insurance, and incumbent Heather Summerer — who, amongst Hebron's five representatives on the board, is the only Democrat; she is the associate director of public affairs at Pratt and Whitney.

In Marlborough, with two open seats, Democrat Drew Golfin, a retired actuary with a PhD in mathematics, is seeking a position along with Amy Romanchuck, an unaffiliated candidate endorsed by Republicans; she has spent 19 years as a public school teacher.

Both of Andover's seats are being selected this election cycle. Democrats Scott Sauyet and Kirsten Erlandsen are running uncontested from the Republicans.







Autumn Food Drive... Recently, RHAM Middle School students competed in an autumn food drive, affectionately called "The Food Fight." Team competed against each other to bring in donations and earn points for their teams. The food drive wound up being the most successful one in over five years, with about 1,800 items collected to distribute to the food banks in Hebron, Andover and Marlborough. Social studies teachers Karl Jancis and Mark Mishriky led the efforts on their team, helping to lead their students to victory.

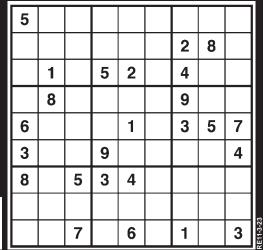


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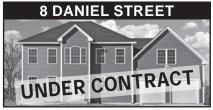
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## **From the Editor's Desk**

## **Observations & Ruminations**

By Mike Thompson

Each year, I have the "no negative letters the week before election" policy. Each year, I'm pleased to see that everyone cooperates. But I have to admit, I had my doubts this year.

Regular readers have likely noticed just how ugly the letters have gotten in recent months. And while Colchester of course takes the grand prize for vitriolic rhetoric, other towns have been joining in too. It's been rather brutal – and I'll admit, I wasn't sure folks would be able to rein it in this year.

So when I sat down over the weekend to start to gather the letters, I took a big sip of coffee and braced myself. But......you all did it!

The letter-writers were able to, for the most part, stay positive. Sure, there were some I needed to edit to get rid of the criticism, but mostly everyone played ball. I very much appreciate that.

And at the same time I can't help but wonder: why can't you do this more often?

The hate and insults and mud-slinging spewed on these pages, particularly come political season, is just depressing. Sure, it's been this way at the national level for years, but it's sad to see that trickle down to the town level. Especially the *Rivereast* towns. We should be above this.

And really, what does it accomplish? Does all the nastiness really win people over? Yes, it's true that in many towns unaffiliated folks are the largest voting bloc – but does all the rancorous rhetoric really work on them? I hope not. I'd like to think that, even in 2023, you can still win more flies with honey than with vinegar.

One thing all the nastiness does do, however, is discourage good people from running for office. Even if you have great ideas and hopes for your town, why open yourself up to that? Why subject yourself (and your family) to merciless attacks from a string of keyboard warriors you've

likely never even met? Life's too short.

Every autumn, folks in Rivereast-land show they can stay positive the week before Election Day. I challenge you all to keep that going for the other 51 weeks of the year – or at least a majority of them.

And now, as Monty Python would say, for something completely different. I love Polish food – and as far as I'm concerned, there aren't enough opportunities to partake of it. So I was happy to see this notice float across my email inbox earlier this week:

The Ladies Guild of SS. Cyril and Methodius Church and the Polish Cultural Club of Greater Hartford, Inc., are co-sponsoring a Polish Holiday Fair on Saturday, Nov. 18, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m, in the Lower Hall of SS. Cyril & Methodius Church, located at 63 Popieluszko Court in Hartford – directly behind the rectory at 55 Charter Oak Ave.

Dine in or take out some delectable-sounding Polish cuisine: kielbasa sandwiches, placki (potato pancakes), soup, and a variety of Polish desserts such as paczki, chrusciki, nalesniki, babka and Polish rye bread. And of course, homemade potato/cheese pierogi will be sold by the dozen.

The fair will also feature various vendors, and a large collection of Polish items for sale – folk arts and crafts, dolls, textiles, crystal, etc., as well as opłatki. Vintage jewelry, ceramics, hand-made wood items, gift baskets, and a White Elephant Table will also be featured.

The event is free and open to the general public, and is handicapped-accessible (via an elevator). For more information, call 860-659-0356 or email francespudlo@att.net.

See you next week – and don't forget to turn back your clocks!



Donation for Honor Guard... Bonnie Johnson, treasurer for Honor Rotary, A Foundation for Colchester, Inc., recently presented a donation to Bob Kvederas, commander of the Colchester Veterans Honor Guard, with (from left) John Mainella, Vic Battaglioli, Tom O'Meara, Dave Johnson, Bob Hamilton and Al Letendre attending. The Honor Guard serves at military funerals.

## Reader Forum • Reader Forum • Reader Forum • Reader Forum

## Reelect Walck

To the Editor:

Please elect Alison Walck to Town Council. Alison continually demonstrates a thorough and detailed understanding of the budget and is forthright in questioning where our money is spent. She has a balanced approach for addressing all the competing needs for the police, EMS, education, seniors' issues, the lake and a new firehouse while keeping East Hampton affordable.

Ray Zatorski – East Hampton

## **Running for BOE**

To the Editor:

Hello. I have lived in Colchester with my wife for the past 28 years raising two boys and I'm now running for the Colchester Board of Education. For those who don't yet know me, I hope this will begin to earn your trust and vote Nov. 7.

I've been around, worked with, inspired, and mentored, kids of all ages and abilities through over 14 years of Town Rec coaching and other youth civic involvement including Cub and Boy Scouting. I hold an engineering degree and an MBA concentrated in organizational development with over 40 years of broad-based experience involving complex and diverse projects of all sizes. I hope to augment and expand conservative thinking on the BOE through my knowledge, wisdom and expertise in operations management, strategic and tactical planning, resource allocation, risk management, and cost/schedule management to develop objectively justified, fair, and economically reasonable education budgets.

I am not a financial bean-counter. I'm a facilitator, critical thinker, and problem solver, proficient working in multi-faceted interactive settings advancing opportunity, accomplishing joint objectives, and maintaining common purpose. My aim is to ensure Colchester remains a place to raise our children and stays a place to live and grow old in, through fair/balanced budgets that optimize both student's learning experience and the liv-

ing experience of us adults.

I operate respectfully, ethically and with integrity and will be open to new considerations and ideas but always objective using data and facts, not emotion, in deliberations and decisions. I will remain steadfast ensuring students have the intellectual, physical, and creative tools to be successful but will be fiscally responsible and principled in ensuring economic realism is applied to budgets and appropriations in order to stem the juggernaut of ever increasing expenditures and tax burden.

Thanks and Respectfully, John Consiglio – Colchester Candidate for Board of Education

## Professionalism, Integrity, Knowledge

To the Editor:

For all the years I've been on the Board of Selectmen (BOS), I've worked diligently to serve and represent Colchester citizens with professionalism, integrity and knowledge. I ask questions, come to meetings prepared, and weigh decisions on the impact they will have on our town. I've often spent days in preparation for a meeting researching an issue, speaking with staff for clarification, and listening to citizens' input. This has always been a job I've taken very seriously.

I'm also an advocate for Colchester. During my tenure on the BOS, I've been an advocate for public education, a new senior center, for the William J. Johnston Middle School serving seven years as the building committee liaison, for field irrigation beginning in 2016 as a member of the Field Sustainability Committee, for elderly tax relief chairing the Elderly Tax Relief Task Force, for open space supporting the purchase of multiple properties including the latest Sablitz property purchase, for fire apparatus replacement serving on the subcommittee that recommended it, for two additional firemen in 2020 and 2023, for the Norton Park project, and for many additional issues, including adding additional police officers removed by the BOF from the proposed budget.

## **Bulletin Board**

"At last," exclaimed my wife, "scientific proof that you and your scruffy associates are half-wits!"

"I'm sorry, did you say something? I was just checking TV listings for 'Sex Sent Me to the ER' reruns. I can't believe people say there's nothing to watch on TV anymore."

"It says in this magazine that researchers from the Indiana University School of Medicine measured the brain activity of 10 men and 10 women as they listened to excerpts from a book. The results indicate that most men use only the left side of the brain when listening, while most women use both sides."

"What was the book, A Child's Guide to the Women's March on Washington?"

"Actually, it was a John Grisham thriller, wise guy."

"Did it occur to you that maybe men only need half as much brain power to absorb the same amount of material?"

"Oh, please."

I figured I had her on the run now. "I presume this scientific report you're so excited about appeared in some women's magazine?"

"Actually, the study appeared some time ago in one of the more prominent news publications."

"Well, there you have it. Everybody knows the national media—excepting the sports list-

ings, of course—is dominated by weak-kneed liberals who let their wives pick out their clothes and handle the family finances."

"You haven't bought a chief for yourself in 40 years. And need I remind you that I handle the

"You haven't bought a shirt for yourself in 40 years. And need I remind you that I handle the checkbook in our house?"

"Only because I'm too lazy to keep it current."

"Plus you can't add or subtract."

"I can't help it if I only have 10 fingers."

"They might be more useful if your knuckles weren't dragging on the ground."

"Look, you can't believe the social science stuff in these magazines. Some little weasel probably printed it so his girlfriend would think he was sensitive and caring in hopes that she'd be more receptive to his depraved sexual demands."

"It's science."

"Yeah, cooked up by a bunch of people who live in the middle of the world's largest cornfield."

"It's still science," she insisted.

"Just tell me...what's the advantage of listening with your entire brain instead of half your brain?"

"Well, for one thing, maybe you wouldn't need to be told twice to do something." "Oh." She had me there.

"Maybe if you guys listened with your entire brain, you'd be able to read a Spiderman comic book and still be able to hear the phone ringing on the coffee table two feet away from your ear"

"I can hear it just fine. I just don't feel the need to talk to some jackass named Jason about supposedly free solar panels."

"Okay, I'll give you that one."

"Well, thanks for meeting me halfway."

"You're welcome."

"Bully."

"Halfwit."

Jim Hallas

## **Rivereast Hours of Operation**

The offices of the *Rivereast News Bulletin* and *Glastonbury Citizen*, located at 87 Nutmeg Lane, Glastonbury, are open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. The *Rivereast* can be reached any time via email at bulletin@glcitizen.com.

## RIVEREAST -

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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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My professional experience includes being a Montville teacher for 37 years, president of the Connecticut Education Association for 6 years representing 41,000 teachers, and a member of the Colchester Board of Education. Currently, I serve on the Chatham Health Board and BOS.

With your support and vote, I'll bring my knowledge and experience to the Bernie Dennler team of experienced individuals and new faces who are working together for Colchester. Thank you to Denise Turner and Debbie Bates, selectwomen extraordinaire, for their support and bipartisan work these past two years. Please vote Bernie and Row A on Nov. 7.

Thank you,

Rosemary Covle - Colchester Note: Coyle is a member of the Colchester Board of Se-

## lectmen but said she is speaking as an individual.

**Vote for Augie** To the Editor:

Augie Arndt has my vote for the East Hampton Board of Education. Augie has a proven track record as he is presently serving on the board replacing a member who previously resigned. Vote for Augie on Nov. 7!

I want Augie to represent my grandchildren as well as all children of East Hampton.

Linda Dzagan - Middle Haddam

## **Vote Row B in Colchester**

Dear Colchester Residents:

As a voter in Colchester, I have been following the election season very closely. I have done a lot of research on the candidates running for office on both the Republican and Democratic tickets. As someone who was a registered democrat for over 30 years, I strongly support the Republican team because they are the team fighting for the people, not identity politics.

On the Board of Selectmen, I strongly support Art Shilosky, Cliff O'Donal, and Taras Rudko because they bring a level of experience and trustworthiness to the ticket. They will complement our first selectman, Andreas Bisbikos, very well.

On the Board of Finance, we have two solid picks with Andrea Migliaccio and Michael Dubreuil. They bring a strong level of financial knowledge and transparency to the ticket. John Consiglio will also bring that passion to the Board of Education.

Other important positions include John Ringo for treasurer, Shannon Nazario for town clerk, and Jeff Digou for tax collector. They are all solid candidates. John Ringo brought millions of dollars of investment returns in for the town, Shannon Nazario promises honesty and integrity to the town clerk's office, and Jeff Digou will bring class and respect to the tax collector's office.

Please join me in voting for Colchester's team. Let's continue to keep Colchester affordable and safe!

Sincerely, Michael B. Begun - Colchester

**Voting for Jeffery Duigou** To the Editor:

On Oct. 27, Jeffery Duigou, the Republican-endorsed candidate for tax collector, wrote an article on "Voting for American Values." As a senior citizen, veteran, Colchester business owner, and resident/taxpayer for 45 years I was quite impressed with his messaging. Since building a home in town in 1986, Jeffery has been a member of St. Andrew Church. Jeffery and his family have been active in the church with teaching catechism, participating in choir, starting and leading a BSA Venture Crew in the mid-2000s and graduating an Eagle Scout, on the board of ACTS CT, and he has recently taken an oath to protect our Christian church, as well as protect widows and orphans.

Jeffery also served our American citizenry as a direct report to a US Army Major General during his 30+ year career as a consulting engineer/scientist. He also enforced federal and state statutes for several governmental agencies during his career. This is an exemplary track record. He is fully capable of enforcing state tax statutes as well as educating seniors and veterans on available tax relief programs. I am confident in Jeff Duigou's continued support in the Colchester Comeback program and he will make an excellent tax collector for our town. Please join me on Nov. 7 in continuing our American values by voting for Jeff Duigou for Tax Collector Line 7B on the ballot as well as the entire Republican slate.

> Sincerely, Rich Tanner - Colchester

## **Hold Everyone Accountable**

To the Editor:

The Hebron Board of Finance's authority is to the bottom-line town budget; that includes RHAM BOE (pass-through to regional towns, no BOF changes), Hebron BOE and Town Government that is presented at referendum for voters. It is the town manager's and the two superintendents' responsibility to work with their staff and respective boards regarding budget details. The BOE and BOS are responsible for presenting budgets to the BOF that will pass at referendum. Additionally, all board meetings are formal and follow specific rules for

Public comments made to the boards should be within that board's authority and relevant to the current agenda. Not all adults present during the May 25 BOF meeting conducted themselves within established meeting procedures. Children's comments were relevant to the BOE. By making the BOF members the object of parents' wrath, the BOE was able to side step any direct scrutiny of the actions that they took including but not limited to bud-geting for significant salary increases for some administrators. Are you really swayed by misinformation and fear-mongering? The pandemic had a significant impact on our schools and we had fluctuating student enrollment and additional needs.

Utilizing pre-pandemic information for 2018-19 Hebron school budgets and enrollment and comparing with

2023-24 budgets and enrollment find that actual funding over four years increased 12.87%, while actual enrollment increased 5.9%. The BOE submitted the budget for 2023-24 with a 14.57% increase over 2022-23. It is the BOE's responsibility to deliver a budget to be considered at referendum rather than forcing the BOF to make changes to their bottom line. Vote for people who are willing to do the hard work of balancing their budgets and holding everyone accountable. I'm not voting partyline - I am voting for people whose words match facts

Diane Del Rosso - Amston

Note: Del Rosso is chairperson of Hebron's Board of Finance, but she said she is speaking as an individual Hebron

## **Turkey Dinner Thanks**

To the Editor:

On behalf of Haddam Neck Congregational Church Ladies Aid, thank you to everyone who supported our annual takeout turkey dinner on Oct. 28. It was a great success with 100 dinners ordered! This event is a great example of team work for our little church, with our members and friends from our sister church Second Congregational of Middle Haddam, working most of the weekend to prepare a full turkey dinner with all the trimmings and homemade pies. But our preparation is worth the effort when we see how happy and excited you are to pick up your meals.

All our love and gratitude,

Haddam Neck Congregational Church

Supports Markham, Solomon To the Editor:

It is a pleasure to have the opportunity to support and vote for Dean Markham and Jack Solomon for Town Council on Nov. 7. Both candidates share a strong interest in the future and the health of Lake Pocotopaug. As a Connecticut legislator, Dean began urging the State to assist East Hampton with a grant to conduct a watershed and lake management plan. Funds were provided to East Hampton and the Lake Task Force was created. Jack moved his family to East Hampton when he purchase Boy Scout Island.

As a member of the Lake Commission, Jack has been working to provide a clean and healthy lake for East Hampton. Because of his generosity, Laurel Island is available for family and town events. As a property owner, on the Lake he became a member of the Lake Commission to help provide a clean lake for East Hampton residents. These efforts are making a difference and we can be proud of a healthier lake.

Dean has deep roots in East Hampton and is a life resident. His stories show how committed he has always been to the community and to its residents. He represented East Hampton as our State Representative and now works as a CPA, helping residents with their fi-nancial questions. He has a deep family heritage in East Hampton and can tell many interesting stories about the

Both of these gentlemen will take the time to listen to taxpayers and work with them to discuss their ideas and concerns. Both men are very thoughtful and great listeners. Both men will work together as Town Council members to provide a strong and fair government. It is important that they admire and depend on each other and will work very hard for our community!

We look forward to voting for all the members of the Democratic team on Nov. 7!

Respectfully, Barbara and Ray Moore - East Hampton Note: Barbara Moore is chair of the East Hampton Democratic Town Committee.

## **Overwhelming Support**

To the Editor:

I want to thank your readers in Hebron for the overwhelming support and encouragement they have offered to the whole Democratic team in the run up to this year's election. It is exciting to know that the Democratic slate of individual residents collectively speak for so many in town who often remain silent.

Please vote for John Matra and Claudia Riley for Board of Selectmen, and of course you know all the rest, simply Vote Only Row A to elect the fellow town residents that you have already told us best represent your views on the way Hebron should move forward. Any last questions you may have will be answered at www. hebrondems.com.

Remember to find time to vote on November 7th. It is painless, and polls are open before and after work! Do not let all those good wishes go to waste.

Sincerely, David Rose

Member, Hebron Democratic Town Committee Candidate for Board of Assessment Appeals

## Would Be a Privilege

Dear Colchester Residents:

Eight years ago, I became your tax collector. My goals have been to bring the tax collector's office up to date, streamline payments and billing and ensure the office follows all legislative changes. Using new tools, the tax collection rate has increased from 98.4% to 98.9%, the highest rates Colchester has ever achieved. By collecting the taxes that are due to the town, we add revenue to keep the mill rate lower and bring in much-needed revenue the town uses to provide services.

For 21 years I've lived here with my husband and son and been actively involved. I worked for the Colchester Business Association, volunteer with the Colchester Lions, Boy Scout Troop 72 as well as a Sunday School Teacher for Colchester Federated Church and a member of Colchester PTO's.

I am a Certified Connecticut Municipal Collector (CCMC). I'm also a Certified Connecticut Municipal Official (CCMO) received from the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities. I'm the president of the New

See Letters, page 6

## BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY

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56 Crossroads Lane, Glastonbury Sarah Bezdelovs 860.816.3034



81 Shipman Drive, Glastonbury Emily Turker 860.559.5554



110 Stonepost Road, Glastonbury Bryan Feery 860.508.3898



137 South Road, Marlborough Anna Planeta 860.982.4427

**NEW LISTING** 

\$194,000 **NEW LISTING** 

5 Wildwood Road, Portland Bev Magner 860.328.0755



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25 Rushforde Drive, Manchester Jamie Bell 860.604.8459



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CALL AHEAD FOR WING ORDERS TO GO! 



## ★ Letters cont. from page 5

London County Tax Collectors Association and serve as a board member of the CTX, Connecticut Tax Collectors Association. My financial and customer service experience comes from nine years in banking, 10 years in the finance department as a contract administrator for IBM. four years managing a medical store and eight years as Tax Collector for Colchester.

I want every resident to know that I am here and willing to listen and work with you. If you have any questions, please reach out to me at work. I'm in the office all the time and willing to work with you and for you.

It would be a privilege to continue to serve Colchester as the tax collector. I'd be honored for your support on

> Michele Wyatt CCMC Town of Colchester - Tax Collector



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Filet Mignon

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Fresh Perspective

To the Editor and Residents of Portland: Join me in supporting Karen Renner and Angela Hammond for election to the Board of Education. Both Karen & Angela are engaged in the Portland community and anxious to listen to the needs of our community. Each candidate will bring a fresh perspective to the board of education. They both understand the challenges facing the board as we explore options to ensure we have appropriate facilities to meet the learning needs of our children while remaining fiscally responsible to our community. These two candidates share a passion for student safety and academic success. There is always a need for new ideas to maximize board effectiveness.

Please support Karen Renner & Angela Hammond when you vote on Nov. 7!

Stacey Benham - Portland

Note: Benham is a member of the Portland Board of Education, but said she is writing as an individual.

## Tango2 Banquet

To the Editor:

On behalf of the Tango2 Research Foundation, we would like to thank everyone who has supported and/or donated to our upcoming banquet.

Our mission is to lead the way in finding a cure for Tango2-related deficiency disorder. We will do this by helping to fund, coordinate and guide scientific research that leads to a better understanding of how Tango2-re-lated deficiency disorder mutations affect people at the most basic cellular and biochemical pathway levels.

We are very grateful to our donors including: Toyota of Colchester, American Distilling, The Village Bistro (Chester), Two Brothers Café (East Hampton), Charlie's Water Wagon, Smiles for the Future, Ken Barber, Gelston House and D'eliana Market (East Hampton).

Hope is building around a potential treatment. Recent research is finding that B vitamins prevent the most life threatening of Tango2.

Tickets are still available. They can be purchased by going to https://www.justgiving.com/page/banquet. We are looking forward to seeing everyone on Nov. 5 from 5-9 p.m., at St. Clements Castle in Portland.

Stacey Gibson and Jodi Brazal Tango2 Research Foundation Committee

## **Choosing Coyle**

To the Editor:

Having volunteered in town for over a decade, first serving as a committee member and currently as chairman of the Open Space Advisor Committee, I have had the pleasure to work with Rosemary Coyle in her capac ity as an elected town official.

Rosemary has been the committee-connection to Colchester leadership as the representative from the Board of Selectmen. Rosemary participates in monthly meetings, engaging in conversation on related issues, and continues to work to find solutions to advance Colchester's goals to protect and strengthen the rural character and open space that we all enjoy. Despite all of priorities and pressing issues that emerge in town government, Rosemary always has time to work with the committee on the issues at hand and takes action on items that will strengthen and improve our community and the quality of life that defines our town. Her commitment to the town is unwavering and I believe we all benefit from her dedication and service.

Thank you, Rosemary, and thank you for choosing to run again to support our community!

Respectfully submitted, Will Hochholzer - Colchester

## Hasen for Hebron

To the Editor:

I have had the pleasure of working with Mann Hasen for two years and would best describe him as dedicated, professional, and reliable. As members of the Hebron Republican Town Committee, we have collaborated on fundraisers and at meetings. We both love Hebron and believe people should be involved and invest in the things they love. He brings a valuable skill set with 30 years of experience in the informational technology field. He will be an asset to the Zoning Board of Appeals with a focus on maintaining Hebron's small-town charm and beauty.

Please support Mann and the Republican slate by vot-

Kim Hills - Hebron Note: Hills is a candidate for the Hebron Board of Edu-

## **Wonderful People**

Dear East Hampton Residents:

I'd like to take this time to say thank you to all the wonderful people who have served as volunteers on our Town Council who are not running for reelection: Chair-Peterson, Pete Brown and Kevin Reich, No matter your political affiliation, these people kept our town moving forward.

Running for Town Council this November, I've learned a lot, but what I've really taken away from the experience is seeing all the dedicated people who put countless hours into making hard decisions. We have a unique town where we don't have a huge business tax base. Tough decisions have to be continually made to keep your taxes down.

I've also made a lot of new friends who I would've never known if it had not been for the RTC chairperson, Deb Cunningham. She has also dedicated countless

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hours volunteering on the Board of Finance. With any luck, I hope to serve with her, Bridget McLellan, Brandon Goff and Alison Walck on the next Town Council for our

I encourage everyone who can to get involved. Even if it's a few hours a month. A new program in town is Community Cares. This program will provide all types of services for our elderly. From car rides, to gardening, or just having someone to talk to.

I will look forward to serving you.

Rosemarie Hecht - East Hampton Candidate for Town Council

## **Wyatt Cares About Colchester**

To the Editor:

Please join me in reelecting Michele Wyatt for Tax Collector in Colchester. I have known Michele Wyatt for many years from volunteering through the Colchester Club. She cares about Colchester and always goes out of her way to help others.

She is a certified tax collector and has the highest collection rates the town has seen in a long time. She is extremely knowledgeable about her office and always eager to help. I have seen Michele go out of her way to help

On Nov. 7, join me in voting for Michele Wyatt. Paula Sablitz Jervasi - Colchester

## Your Vote Was Never So Important

To the Editor:

Colchester Republicans have assembled a team of candidates that will do its part to continue the journey of returning our community to traditional American values. Colchester Republicans aren't perfect but they are our only hope of curtailing taxes and spending to allow citizens, and especially our senior citizens who have lived in Colchester for all or many of their years, an opportunity to remain in Colchester. And similar to how you manage your personal finances, the Colchester team will critically assess all proposed spending. This is most important today as costs for food, energy, homes, vehicles, and loans among others have skyrocketed, and there is no evidence that this trend will subside.

Though Colchester Republican candidates can't impact national politics, they can and will do their best to manage Colchester finances. Vote Republican in the Nov 7th election as your vote will directly impact your future and the trajectory of the Colchester community.

Paul Bureau - Colchester

Note: Bureau is vice chair of the Colchester Republican Town Committee but said he is speaking as an individual.

## **Goff for Town Council**

To the Editor:

As voters in Connecticut's small towns do, I expect you want a balanced municipal government that understands it is responsible to everyone in town and can be entrusted to govern equitably. Brandon Goff is running for re-election to East Hampton's town council. Reflecting on Brandon's recent two years of council service I can tell you he is a man of steadfast principle who "trusts but verifies" with probing questions and offers considered opinions for discussion.

Brandon was born and raised here, and after a tour in the submarine service (as a navigation electronics technician), he returned to town with his wife. He was hired by Northrop Grumman as a technician and to teach electronics soldering as well. In recognition of his reliability and abilities he has been promoted to test engineer which usually requires a college degree and years of experience.

His political experience mirrors his employment achievements. While serving on the council he was seen as a man of principle and Republicans in 12 towns trusted him to be their state senator from the 33rd District. It is obvious that they saw him as a man who could best serve as their political voice in the legislature as he has done on council.

Brandon is just the sort of Belltown native that should be given the opportunity to continue serving us in a leadership position. Vote for Brandon Goff for East Hampton's Town Council.

George Coshow - Middle Haddam

Vote Row A

To the Editor: First, I want to commend the East Hampton High School AP Government students for the well put together and very well moderated candidate forum they hosted last Thursday. They demonstrated professionalism well beyond their years, and exemplified the bright future the youth will bring to this town, and anywhere they choose to reside. This forum demonstrates that education cannot go backwards in East Hampton, and the bare minimum is to maintain the funding for teachers and services we already have, and what's the harm in having a frill or two, to benefit the majority of our students?

The Democrats vow, not to spend blindly, as some would like you to believe, but to maintain and improve the quality of life for all residents in town, by governing honestly and transparently. We vow to listen to residents when they speak, and to take all sides into consideration when making our decisions, holding our debates in the public, so residents can see how the decisions are made.

Vote Row A to bring the public back into town governance.

Paul Wisniewski – East Hampton Candidate for Board of Education

## Wyatt Deserves our vote

To the Editor:

It's hard to get 100% agreement on anything in Colchester these days but you can come pretty close if you say that the budget process is painful. And after all of the dozens of meetings, hundreds of hours, conversations, heated debates, and sometimes multiple votes, we pass our town and board of education budgets.

But none of it would matter at all if the process stopped there.

Colchester does not get any of the money it needs to run the town without the very hard work done by our tax collector confirming that everyone's bills get in the mail and following up with anyone who has any questions or issues. Then all inbound payments must be correctly attributed and accounted for. All to assure that everyone pays their fair share to keep the critical services of the town running. The task is daunting, details matter and rules and regulations are rigorous.

We are incredibly fortunate in this town to have a highly dedicated, impeccably qualified, experienced tax collector in the person of Michele Wyatt. She conducts herself with the utmost professionalism and decency and does not take her duties lightly.

She has the energy required to push through and make sure it all gets done. If there is a question, she is more than happy to help.

As a certified Connecticut Municipal Collector, President of the New London County of Tax Collectors, and board member of the Connecticut Tax Collectors, Michele stays informed of any important changes to relevant laws and makes sure Colchester stays compliant.

It is imperative that we reelect Michele on Nov. 7 and let her continue her excellent work for the Town of Col-

> Sincerely, Vincent Rose - Colchester

## **Tierney for Portland Clerk**

To the Editor:

I am writing in support of Michael Tierney as Portland's town clerk. I've known Michael all of his life. He is a fifth-generation Portland resident and has always been involved in the Portland community. As current town clerk since the beginning of 2022, Michael has supported the Portland Veterans by preparing the annual Memorial Day deceased veteran list. He assists with the public communications around placement of American Flags on veterans' graves and makes sure people could get a flag for any veteran that did not initially receive one. Michael also helps distribute the Veterans Day Dinner tickets, and has assisted with serving food and clean-up at that event. Whenever I stop into his office, I always see him treating customers with respect and kindness.

This is the type of person we want as our town clerk, and I hope you will join me in voting for Michael.

Bill Willinsky - Portland Note: Willinsky is a member of the Portland Veterans Committee, but said he is speaking as an individual.

To the Editor:

With less than a week until the municipal election in Portland I am asking for your support one last time. I have previously written about my background and experience, as well as the issues in Portland that are important to me. But what about my character? I believe that I will bring three important Cs to the selectman position: commitment, communication, and collaboration. My commitment to community service has been demonstrated through many volunteer activities and my nine years on the Portland Board of Education. I am a strong communicator with the ability to listen, as well as to provide thoughtful and constructive input as a decision maker.

Finally, in my professional career as a manager and my years on the Board of Education I have proven to be a collaborative team player. The Board of Selectmen is a team, and I understand the importance of working together for Portland.

The combination of my experience, character, and knowledge of the issues facing Portland have prepared me to be a very effective selectman, and I respectfully ask for your vote on November 7th. See you at the polls!

> Andrea Alfano - Portland Candidate for the Board of Selectmen

## **Strong Local Government**

To the Editor:

Nov. 7th holds immense significance for our town and the democratic process. On this pivotal day, I urge you to prioritize your civic duty and exercise your right to vote in this crucial election. Your vote is not just a personal choice, but a collective decision that shapes the future of Colchester.

I strongly recommend casting your vote for Row A, especially Bernie Dennler, as it represents a return to a higher standard of leadership and a renewed commitment to maintaining a well-managed town. By supporting the Democratic candidates aligned with these principles, you contribute to the establishment of a strong, accountable, and responsible local government. Your participation ensures that our town continues to thrive under capable and dedicated leadership.

Dave Koji - Colchester Candidate for Board of Selectmen

## **Election Day is Here!**

To the Editor:

Every two years, our town comes together to vote for those they think will keep our town headed in the direction they want it to go. That day has come again. On Tuesday, Nov. 7, please vote for the candidates that you feel would do everything in their power to make Hebron the type of town you want to call home. For me, and I hope for many of you, those people are the Republican candidates: Peter, myself, Jim, Sera, Joe, Kim, Alley, Brad, Mann, Steve, and Mike. I have known many of them for years, as have you. They volunteer in town, with the Lions Club, the RHAM Boosters, Hebron PTA, assorted sports clubs, and many other organizations. Many have served in your town government for years already. Doing their best to maintain Hebron's charm, keep taxes low, and provide needed services to all residents, even those not old enough to vote yet. They are all good citizens dedicated to our town.

I am honored to know them, campaign with them, and to stand beside them on Tuesday as we await your decision. I am proud to be counted in their number because of what they stand for. They are all volunteers. They give to the community simply because they love it. They donate their time so our government can be more affordable, representing you and keeping the town moving in the direction you want it to go. Please support them on Tuesday. Let them know that you agree Hebron is beautiful. Hebron feels like home because of their efforts, and the efforts of many Republicans before them. Vote on Tuesday for the best candidates, my friends and colleagues, Peter, Jim, Sera, Joe, Kim, Alley, Brad, Mann, Steve, and Mike.

Keith Petit - Amston Chair, Republican Town Committee **Board of Selectmen Candidate** 

Note: Petit is a member of the Hebron Board of Education, but said he is speaking as an individual.

## The Best Choice

I'm voting for Dennler and the Democratic team on Nov. 7 because they are the best choice for Colchester. **John Farrell – Colchester** 

## **Vote for Jeffery Duigou**

To the Editor:

I would like to tell you about my husband, Jeffery Duigou, running for Colchester tax collector. He has been a volunteer in our town for decades, in many facets. We have lived here since 1986 and our three children attended our public schools and graduated from Bacon Academy. Jeff has volunteered for the Town of Colchester sports leagues, coaching and assisting in Colchester Cougar football, baseball, basketball, and soccer. He brought the UConn cheerleaders to town for the Colchester Cougar Cheerleaders jamboree, as well as the UConn football coaches who attended the annual family preseason picnic.

This all happened during his attendance at UConn as a graduate student while working full-time as a consulting engineer/scientist participating in the construction of Rentschler Field in East Hartford. He has been a leader in scouting and has risen to the level of scoutmaster, helping young men in Colchester achieve many things as well as guide trips to Gettysburg, Battleship Cove and Block Island to name a few. He has cooked for many breakfast and spaghetti dinner events for scouts and St. Andrew's Church.

Jeff has been a volunteer for our church while we raised our children here in Colchester. I know the hard work ethic Jeff has in volunteering as well working in his profession, even rising to the level of vice president at his place of employment, and being an excellent provider to his family. I hope you will join me in voting for Jeffery Duigou for tax collector on Line 7B on Nov. 7.

You will be glad you did!

Sincerely, Cari Duigou - Colchester

## Cliff O'Donal for Colchester

Dear Colchester Residents:

Please join me me to support Cliff O'Donal for Board

of Selectmen on Tuesday, Nov. 7.

Cliff's experience as a successful business owner, longtime resident of Colchester, and being engaged in our community would be a great asset to the board. As a business-owner he understands the needs of our town.

Cliff has been engaged in many of our board meetings, and has the best interest for our town and its citizens.

This is the time for voices of reason, positive initiatives, and Cliff is the candidate to help us achieve this.

Respectfully, Deborah Bates - Colchester

Note: Bates is a member of the Colchester Board of Selectmen, but said she is speaking as a private citizen.

## Vote with Context

To the Editor:

We are in the final days before the election. East Hampton has tough choices to make. We're going to choose our representatives based on party affiliation and buzzwords that resonate most with our emotional connections to our town. That's not a criticism; it's just how things shake out in every election. The problem with buzzwords is that they don't include context. So here is my context on a few of those items.

Taxes. They're going up no matter who gets elected. Not popular, but true. Contracts negotiated years ago have to be covered. Costs of services and materials will have to be covered. Infrastructure and maintenance will have to adapt.

Wants versus needs. Who gets to decide where the line is drawn? Are school Chromebooks a need? I think so. It follows that access to reliable internet is also a need. Are senior services a need? To me, yes. So it follows that appropriate senior center staff is also a need. Is public safety a need? Of course. So proper allocation of resources is

Budget. Oh boy was this a debacle. If you can remember back to the spring and summer of 2023 (seems like so so so long ago now) you might recall how much consternation resulted from the budget process. Well, that

See Letters, page 8

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★ Letters cont. from page 7

process is starting again very soon. We need more and better communication between the various town boards and between the boards and the community. Let's not wait until the budget is presented to determine what our

We can improve quality of life for everyone – water systems, public amenities, consolidated emergency services, and improved accessibility of public spaces. But the only way to achieve progress is to vote for it. Responsibility means more than just promising impossible tax cuts, it means conversations and commissions with purpose. The Democratic slate of candidates is focused and ready.

Jordan Werme - East Hampton Candidate for Town Council jordanforeasthampton@gmail.com

## Please Elect Deborah Cunningham!

On Nov. 7, the residents of East Hampton will have the opportunity to vote for many qualified candidates.

I urge you to vote for Deborah Cunningham for Town Council. Deb has been involved in East Hampton for many years and has always kept the residents in town foremost on her agenda.

**IT DOES** 

MATTER,

**DOESN'T** 

an enslaved people.

Please vote on Nov. 7 and vote Row B!

Susan McCann - Middle Haddam

## **Hebron - Water Conservation**

To the Editor

Congratulations to the Town of Hebron on your recent recognition by the Connecticut River Coastal Conservation District (CRCCD).

The Certificate of Appreciation recognizes the Town's contribution and support of District activities for 2023-24 fiscal year. The CRCCD includes 26 towns in the lower CT River

watershed and adjacent coastal watersheds, which includes Hebron. This recognition is evidence that our town leaders

value water quality for everyone in Connecticut as well as the residents of Hebron.

The recent open space designation of the O'Connor property furthermore exemplifies the towns commitment to environmental preservation. This property has very similar characteristics to that at 17 Kinney Rd., which deserves the same open space considerations.

Furthermore, the results of the recent town wide survey clearly conveyed that the people of Hebron want to preserve the 17 Kinney Rd. property for many reasons including its delicate watershed properties and unique

Hebron residents need to hold the town accountable to find a cost effective and environmentally suitable solution for the Department of Public Works facility.

Ruins of a Once Great Society

As the survey results overwhelmingly concluded, the town should refurbish and upgrade the current Old Colchester Location! #Save17

Greg Shortell - Amston

## **Hebron Row A**

To the Editor:

This Election Day, let's put principles above personalities and party in Hebron and vote Row A only. Although I am not a registered Democrat, it is clear that Hebron's Democratic candidates reflect the values and priorities important to myself and a vast majority of Hebron's residents. Conservation of our distinct rural character, a first rate educational system, a green environmental policy and preservation of our historical heritage are the vital issues of the day.

These concepts and ideals are well established in Hebron. They are acknowledged in the 2004 Plan of Conservation and Development and clearly stated in the 2014 POCD which notes on page 23 our commitment to "identifying the natural, cultural and historic systems in Hebron that are important to recognize, value and preserve. Hebron has had a long history of caring for its environment, and preserving those aspects that make it

In January 2022, the Hebron Affordable Housing Plan Working Group survey reported that the "Rural Characteristics" and "Public School System" are the number one and number two reasons people live in Hebron. Less than a year later, in December 2022, the Hebron Racial Justice and Equity Committee survey came to the same conclusion, with 78% reporting that "Rural Setting/Close to nature" was what brought them to, and keeps them in, Hebron and 64% were drawn here, and stay here, because

The time to act is Nov. 7. It is clear that the candidates listed on Row A have the thoughtful, respectful and forward-thinking principles Hebron is in need of now. I urge the voters of Hebron to resist party politics and help usher in a new era of government for the people and by the people, vote Row A only.

Kevin J. Tulimieri – Amston

## **Your Voice Matters**

To the Editor,

On May 3, 2022, my husband Jeff and I were cleaning up from a late dinner, having spent the afternoon and early evening running our children to their various activities, when we looked at the clock: 7:45 p.m. We quickly determined that despite our plans to vote in the referendum occurring that day, neither of us had made it there. We left the dishes in the sink, packed the kids in the car, and raced up to Hebron Elementary School to cast our ballots. Later that evening, the results were posted: the budget had passed with 528 voting 'yes' and 526 voting 'no.' Could it really be that our two votes, almost forgotten and cast with only a moment to spare, had made the

The answer is yes. Here, in this small town, your voice matters. Your vote could be the deciding vote - to elect an official, to pass a budget, to determine how our town will evolve in the coming years. You have a say in what comes next for this town that we all love so much. All you have to do is show up on Nov. 7 and vote.

I am writing to ask you to do just that - vote. Make our voice heard. Certainly, as a Democrat running for Hebron's Board of Education, I hope that you will be casting that ballot for me and my friends on the Democratic slate. As a veteran educator and school administrator, I know that I have the experience and perspective necessary to ensure that our schools remain great places to learn. So yes, I hope that you're voting Row A, but most of all, I hope that you come out to vote on Nov. 7!

Eleisha LeMay - Hebron Candidate for Board of Education

## Row A for A+ Leaders

Colchester Residents:

Colchester residents, vote Row A on Tuesday, Nov. 7. I've had the pleasure of getting to know the Row A candidates this past year. They truly want what is best for all residents of Colchester. They are all concerned about fiscal responsibility and ensuring our tax dollars are spent

The Row A candidates care about our town and are willing and eager to do the hard work to move our town forward and bring people together. Their vision for Colchester includes maintaining and properly funding our town services, including ensuring our safety services like fire, EMT and police are well equipped; our public buildings, spaces and fields are well maintained and serviced; and our schools provide a quality education for our children in a safe, clean and well staffed environment. This focus will keep Colchester a great place in which to reside, make it an attractive town to people considering moving to the area, and help stimulate economic growth. The Row A candidates care about our small businesses and want to work to ensure they will thrive as well.

Bernie Dennler and all of the Row A candidates will work in Colchester's best interests. Vote row A for A+ leaders on Tuesday, Nov. 7.

Suzanne Salemi – Colchester

## John Rizza for Marlborough

To the Editor:

It is political letters time. How do we learn who people are, what they really believe, how they would behave in office if elected. For me, the only answer is to go back in time, to see who they were, what they have said and done on the way. I have to know if I believe in the person, not just the rhetoric.

During his 25 years in Marlborough, John has quietly and consistently built teamwork. He has quietly and consistently focused on people, not labels, not status, not politics. John believes in listening, learning what concerns people, learning what people and groups of peo-ple have in common. Not stopping there, he then seeks means of collaboratively addressing those concerns for the common good. John sincerely wants to know, and thoughtfully wants to build on, what unites us.

Communication, collaboration and above all empathy....look past rhetoric and that's where you will find John.

Do you know how I know? Because John's personal ministry is feeding the homeless; because as he serves people he listens to them; because he has quietly done so for years. You don't see it on Facebook, he just does it. I also know because he drives around all winter with



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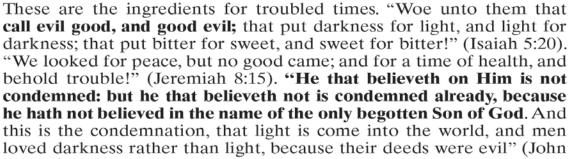
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he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil" (John 3:18-19). "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap" (Galatians 6:7). Those who mock will one day be shocked!

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Consider what we now have: A generated inflation, a war against fossil

fuels (the life-blood of our country), an out-of-control border invasion,

rising crime finding no punishment, the police handcuffed and defunded,

criminals sent back to the streets, schools teaching CRT, gender and

sex education, instead of reading, writing and arithmetic, the silencing

of political opponents, freedom of religion being threatened, drugs

killing thousands, depression, suicide, etc., making for an unhealthy

society. All of this in pursuit of a Marxist/socialist transformation, "The

**Great Reset,**" etc. Common sense, discerning truth from error, knowing

right from wrong-such are no longer in style. Those in power have no

**interest in returning** to the values of our Declaration and Constitution.

The governmental system seeks to perpetuate the conditions which it

creates, making recovery difficult. What the public ought to know is

being deliberately concealed by the media. People are being controlled

and forced to conform under the pretense of caring, which makes for

The Assured Consequences!

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"There is no God else beside Me; a just God and a Saviour; there is none beside Me. Look unto Me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else" (Isaiah 45:21-22). "I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live" (Deuteronomy 30:19). "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me" (John 14:6). "But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name" (John 1:12). "Verily, verily, I say unto you, **He that heareth My word, and** believeth on Him that sent Me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life" (John 5:24).

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hats and gloves in his car in case he sees people who need them. He doesn't allow a busy, crazy world to leave people behind, if they are in his orbit.

John believes whole heartedly in empathy; he lives it. But, as John modestly says, "it's just an extension of

Bring John onto Marlborough's Board of Selectmen. Ann Terezakis - Marlborough

## **Voting for Democrats**

My fellow Hebronites:

On Nov. 7, we have the privilege, honor and civic duty to vote and the opportunity to elect our neighbors to serve our town. I am voting to support the Democratic slate - a dedicated, hard-working team who have come together because they care deeply about Hebron. They will listen to our concerns and work to make Hebron a

place where townsfolk are heard and treated with respect. Did you know that on average, only about a third of us vote in municipal elections? Have you made a plan to

Mary Rose - Hebron

## **Vote for Water**

To the Editor:

Water is seeking to continue as a member of Hebron's community. Water has been a resident of this area for roughly three billion years, long before Hebron was founded. Hebron was first established, in the area of Church Street and Kinney Road, circa 1704. Since that time, Water has continued to be involved in every aspect of life despite how it's been treated. Water is a familiar face in Hebron, has volunteered on every board and committee and participated in every sporting and cultural event in town. It's found in every school, household, working farm, corn field and apple pie. After all, apple trees enjoy tall drinks, of clean water, as much as cows do.

Water has always been an equal opportunity employer. It doesn't discriminate based on gender, race, color, breed, religion, fur versus hair, plant versus bug, every living thing is welcome, including blue-green algae. Water has also stood strong in the face of being insulted, ignored and underrepresented.

When available, Water is a long term supporter of local businesses, sustainable living and tourism. Water fueled the early mills in town as successfully as it now fills swimming pools and hydrates our selectmen. Look around and you'll see Water's contributions everywhere. From great pizza to affluent aquifers, notable trees to wetlands, the Raymond Brook and beyond, I can think of no candidate more qualified or civic minded than Water.

If you like food, trees, being alive, in home plumbing, long hot showers after strenuous zoom meetings or even those perfect little ice cubes for your big plastic tumblers, then vote for Water. 17 Kinney Road is an excellent example of Water's brilliant contributions and long term loyalty to Amston/Hebron residents plus all life downstream. Vote for a future, vote for Water. #save17

Jean Tulimieri - Amston

## **Vote for Colchester Comeback Team**

Dear Colchester Residents:

It is amazing how much the town has changed in the last two years. We have all new playgrounds, pickle ball courts, basketball courts, and field irrigation for the children. We are witnessing the construction of a new senior center, and a medical driver was secured for our seniors. The Town Green and the Gazebo look better now than they have in decades. Safety has been prioritized with 24/7 fire & EMS coverage and new equipment for our first responders – all while keeping our taxes low.

Since day one, my son has worked tirelessly for the Town of Colchester. He has sacrificed a lot to give back his heart and soul to the town he loves. The same people who flood the newspapers with angry letters did so in 2021. All the noise cannot deny the progress and dedication that we have seen in the last two years.

I encourage everyone to vote for Andreas Bisbikos and his solid team as they are the only team dedicated to keeping taxes low while moving the town forward.

Sincerely, Demetra Bisbikos - Colchester

## What I Stand For

To the Editor:

As the residents of East Hampton head to the polls on Tuesday, I would like everyone to know what I personally stand for. I believe in open, honest and transparent communication. I have never misrepresented myself, and I have a public social media profile which I am not ashamed of in any way. I will answer your questions, whatever they are, to the best of my ability. Education and discussion is the best way to understand others, remove bias, and make informed decisions. I am dedicated to serving the best interest of every resident in the town of East Hampton

I support and respect everyone in this town regardless race, religion, gender, age, sexual orientation, education level or socioeconomic status. Every resident deserves the same respect. Every resident has same human rights. Please vote for those who you feel truly care about you as a person, and who will respect you, your needs, your opinions, your experiences and your feelings. Discrediting or discriminating against someone, based on anything other than their actions is wrong, and I will not tolerate it. I vow to respect you, the residents of East Hampton, and I truly hope that I have the opportunity to serve you, and maintain East Hampton as a place that we all are proud to call home.

Karen Wanat - East Hampton Candidate for Town Council KarenWanat@gmail.com

## **Vote Your Wallet – Row B**

Dear Colchester Residents:

As a small business owner, I understand the importance of fiscal responsibility and living within our means. With the inflationary price of goods and services, we need people in the office who will fight for us to keep our hard-earned income. Candidates such as Andreas Bisbikos (first selectman), Andrea Migliaccio (Board of Finance), and Art Shilosky (Board of Selectmen) have a proven track record of fighting to keep taxes low in town.

I have been very impressed with Andreas' dedication to our town, especially with his promotion of small businesses. This shouldn't be a surprise to anyone as he has grown up in a small business his whole life. His parents have taught him important skills that related to the hard work to get the job done. He has not only delivered on almost all his campaign promises, but he has fought to keep our town affordable in the process. Our town is vibrant again and things are finally getting done.

Andreas' Colchester Comeback can't continue without a solid team behind him. Please join me in voting Row B this Nov. 7.

## Sincerely, **Duane Palmes - Colchester**

## Spear for Board of Ed

To the Editor:

I am writing in support of Sarah Spear for the Portland Board of Education. Sarah is currently a member where she serves on the personnel committee and the district's Equity and Inclusion Coalition. She has been a part of developing and monitoring the district's budget and goals. As a parent and an educator, I appreciate Sarah's commitment to learning from families and district staff to make informed decisions.

I have known Sarah for seven years and have seen firsthand the qualities that make her such an asset to students and families in Portland. She sets clear goals and does the research and the work to accomplish them, facing challenges with an open mind and collaborative spirit. She possesses a deep knowledge of our schools and strives to build positive relationships within our community. She can be counted on to serve with dedication and integrity.

Sarah has two children in the district. Decisions she is a part of making affect those closest to her, so she cares deeply about giving this role her best. Furthermore, Sarah asks about and listens to parents' concerns with genuine interest. Her enthusiasm for finding solutions leads to improvements that benefit students with diverse needs across all grade levels. She does an excellent job of representing families on the Board of Education.

Please join me in voting for Sarah Spear on Nov. 7.

Colleen McClain – Portland

**Experience for Marlborough** To the Editor:

Next Tuesday, the voters of Marlborough will have an opportunity to vote for the candidates best suited to serve them for the next four years.

Many of the board and commission races are uncontested because there are only enough candidates on the ballot to fill the positions available. But this is not the case with the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance.

When it comes time to cast my votes, I will vote for those I feel will best serve our community. Some of those who I will support served with me on the Board of Finance.

For Board of Selectmen, I will be voting for Mike Nastri and when it comes to selecting Board of Finance candidates, I will cast votes for Karen Paul and Jack Fiddler. Mike, Karen and Jack have all shown that they make careful and thoughtful decisions. They have shown that they can be trusted when it comes to deciding how your tax dollars are spent.

I trust that Mike Nastri will carry those traits on to the Board of Selectmen and we need experienced people like Karen Paul and Jack Fiddler to continue their work on the Board of Finance.

Please join me in supporting these three candidates. I can assure you that they will not let you down.

Ken Hjulstrom – Marlborough

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

## Please Support Jim DeDonato

To the Editor:

We are fortunate, as a community, to have so many dedicated and qualified people step forward to volunteer for one of Hebron's many boards. I have had the pleasure to get know so many of these folks over the years and am thrilled at the number of good people on this year's ballot.

One person that has my support and I encourage you to support as well, is Jim DeDonato. Jim, his wife Tracey, and their family have lived in town for over 20 years and have given countless hours of their time volunteering in many capacities. Jim has come forward with the hope of now being able to serve on Hebron's Board of Finance.

Jim's professional background as an attorney and his derstanding of finance and business management would give this board a strong and qualified voice. Most importantly, his love for this Town and his commitment to represent all constituents with an approach characterized by honesty, integrity, and transparency make him a wonderful candidate for this position. Having served on the Board of Finance in the past, I am confident that he brings the skillset and demeanor necessary to represent us effectively in this key role.

Please come out and vote. Vote for people whose focus is on supporting and giving back to our community. Vote for Jim DeDonato!

Peter Kasper - Hebron **Note:** Kasper currently serves on Hebron's Board of Selectmen but said he is writing as an individual.

## Vote for Bisbikos

To the Editor:

I am writing to express my support for my friend of more than 12 years, Andreas Bisbikos. Amidst the diverse narratives and impressions that

surround him, I want to shed light on the real Andreas. Over the course of our friendship, he has always been kind and incredibly good to my family.

One of Andreas' most admirable qualities is his unwavering commitment to doing what is right, even when faced with fierce opposition.

Beyond the surface - beneath the political rhetoric that is often tossed his way - you'll find an individual of integrity, warmth and compassion. He champions the well-being of our children and families, putting their interests above all else. His commitment to his beliefs and tireless work ethic are truly commendable, as he dedicates himself to serving our town's citizens.

Please join me in voting for Andreas Bisbikos, along with the entire Republican slate (Row B), on Nov. 7.

Together, we can ensure a brighter future for our com-

Andrea DePaola - Colchester

## Support Bernie, Chapman and Belding

Please join me in supporting Bernie Dennler for first selectman; also, please vote for Scott Chapman and Karen Belding for the Board of Finance. This team will move our town and our schools in the right direction. Bernie has the right temperament and experience to move Colchester forward towards a more civil and bright future. He knows the town government inside and out and has the right set of experiences to be successful on day one, from his time as the vice chair of the Colchester Board of Finance to his service to the Town of Lebanon. I have gotten to know Bernie over the last few months, and he is a man of integrity and values.

Karen Belding and Scott Chapman will be thoughtful leaders on the Board of Finance - listening to citizen input and carefully balancing the town's needs against affordability. They know that sometimes, the cheaper short-term option will cost far more in the long term. A vote for Belding and Chapman will protect property values and help move the town and schools forward. Vote for Bernie, Chapman, Belding and the rest of the Democratic slate on Nov. 7.

Jeremy McKenzie - Colchester

## **Grateful for Hebron**

To the Editor:

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If you had asked me several years ago whether I would run for local office someday, I likely would have said no, but I am so grateful that friends and town leaders asked me to run for the Board of Finance in Hebron. It has given me a different lens on the passion of people in Hebron (regardless of political affiliation) to work toward one common goal...to be a part of a great community to live in and to raise a family. I'm grateful for the people I've been able to meet and learn from throughout this journey, and for the tremendous support of family and friends as I navigated what was very new territory for me as a candidate for office.

My ask of the community now is to vote on Nov. 7.

Make a plan before Election Day and wake up on 11/7 knowing what time of day you'll head over to Hebron Elementary School to vote.

Participating in elections is a fundamental right in this country that is not to be taken lightly. It is heartening to me the level of dedication and commitment that all candidates have devoted to this process, and it is up to each citizen to fulfill their part of the electoral process by casting a vote.

I would be grateful for your vote to serve on the Board of Finance. Regardless of the outcome, I will continue to be proud to serve this community.

Brian Thibeault - Amston Candidate for Hebron Board of Finance

## Vote for Line A

To the Editor:

Please join me in voting for Line A to move Colchester forward.

Most critically, we must elect Dennler as the first selectman and Chapman and Belding to the Board of Finance. This team will put the needs of our schools and town first while ensuring civil discourse and listening to their constituents. Chris Rivers, Michelle Millington and Stefanie Trac-

ey-Calash are the right team for the Board of Education. Ćhris is an Army veteran and West Point graduate with a robust public policy background. Michelle has a long history of serving the community as a volunteer and social worker. Finally, Stefanie is an active community member sitting on the board of CASTLE and has a masters in higher education administration from Boston College.

Rosemary Coyle, Denise Turner, and Dave Koji are the best choices for the Board of Selectmen. They bring the right mix of experience and volunteerism to town

Line A is the best choice for Colchester! Line A is the only choice for our schools!

Nicole G. McKenzie - Colchester

## **Please Vote for Matt**

To the Editor:

The existing East Hampton Board of Education met for the final time last week, fittingly receiving a presentation on the district's progress. While test scores and AP participation tell part of the story, there are so many more measures of success to consider.

Take the brilliant performance of the students at last week's candidate forum, successfully moderating a highpressure conversation in front of an audience of adults

Or look at the incredible productions across all grade levels and buildings. With the help of dedicated volunteers, students put on excellent shows that demonstrated that East Hampton values the arts. Our schools are also succeeding at supporting stu-

dents of greatest need. Belltown's special education prorams are the envy of other districts, successfully keeping kids engaged and in the classroom. For the most part, students' essential needs - such as good nutrition and emotional and physical safety - are being met.

But there is always room for improvement. We are still struggling to recover from the pandemic. Schools are

See Letters, page 29



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Hebron • Heb

# Democrats Look to Reclaim Board Majorities

By Michael Sinkewicz

Republicans are hoping to maintain control of Hebron's boards of selectmen, finance and education on Election Day next week - but the town Democrats have other ideas.

Voting will be held at Hebron Elementary School, 92 Church Street, from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Tuesday Nov. 7.

In 2021, Republicans saw overwhelming victories that kept their majorities on the three major boards. They hope to sustain that momentum at the polls this year.

Keith Petit, chairman of the Republican Town Committee (RTC), told the Rivereast this week that residents remain satisfied with GOP leader-

"People don't see Hebron as inherently broken," he said.

Meanwhile Democrats will attempt to retake control, arguing that the community is ready for a change.

"People are really excited," Democratic Town Committee Chairman, Erin Bussiere, said during a phone call this week. "They're interested in new, fresh ideas and excited that Democrats are well organized."

## The Candidates

Republicans currently hold a 3-2 majority on the Board of Selectmen; three seats are open this election cycle. The board's vice chairman, Republican Gail Richmond, is not seeking reelection; neither is Democrat Marc Rubera.

Incumbent selectman, Republican Peter Kasper, who previously served on the Zoning Board of Appeals and Board of Finance, is aiming to capture another term. Kasper has been heavily involved in the town's ongoing Public Works facility project, including serving on the former project survey committee; he was appointed to the town's new "Department of Public Works (DPW) Action Committee" last month.

Joining him on the ticket is Petit, who currently serves on the local school board; he has also served on the CIP Committee and the

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Challenging them on the ballot are Democrats Claudia Riley, a political newcomer, and John Matra, who currently serves on the Hebron Green Committee. Riley has worked for nonprofits as a social justice advocate and is the vice president and community liaison officer with Webster Bank.

Petit expressed that "elections are tough" and that he's nervous for next week. As both a candidate and a chairman, members of the ticket look to him for leadership.

"That's a lot of weight," he said. "I've hopefully guided them well."

Bussiere said that flipping control of the Board of Selectmen, and installing a Democratic chairman, "would represent change in our town."

There are two open seats on the Board of Finance this cycle; Republicans currently hold a 3-2 majority.

Jim DeDonato, a political newbie, is the Republican nominee; he works for a London-based insurance company handling liability insurance

Democrats nominated Adam Ockman and Brian Thibeault for the finance board. Ockman works as an actuary and has over 20 years of experience in the life insurance and annuity industry. Thibeault is a retirement actuary and has worked in financial services his entire career.

For the Board of Education, where there are four seats up for grabs, seven candidates are battling to fill the spots.

Republicans are running it back with three incumbents: Joe Margaitis, the board's secretary, Ally Nadeau-Schmiezl, a member of the Connecticut Suicide Advisory Board and a former member AHM Youth and Family Services as well as the Connecticut Children's Medical Center Family Advisory Council, and Sera Coppolino, a RHAM High School teacher. They are joined by Kim Hills, a teacher at RHAM.

Elizabeth Alexander, a senior director of sales

**Historical Society** Cemetery Program

The Hebron Historical Society has been researching individuals buried in the Burrows Hill Cemetery, and will share its findings Saturday, Nov. 4, at 11 a.m., at the Old Town Hall,

with Veritas Technologies, Eleisha LeMay, a school administrator with nearly 20 years' experience in education, and Brittany Loudenback, who has experience working with a non-profit that raises funds for higher education, are the Democratic candidates for the Hebron Board of Educa-

Democrat David Rose is looking for a reappointment on the Board of Assessment Appeals; he is running unopposed.

For the Planning and Zoning Commission, Democratic vice chair Frank Zitkus is running once again. Janet Fodaski, who currently serves on the Board of Finance, is eyeing a new position on the commission. Democratic Davis Howell is running as an alternate member; he is being opposed by Republican Bradley Franzese.

The Zoning Board of Appeals candidates are Democrats Bryan Smith, who currently serves as an alternate; he served as senior project manager on technology projects for several Connecticut companies and upon his recent retirement, began training to be a Hebron school bus driver. Smith is joined by Amy DeCesare, who works in insurance. Will Alexander, whose background is in project management and construction, is the Democrat's alternate candidate.

Mann Hasen, who's worked 30 years as an IT professional, is the Republican nominee; Freshman state Rep. Steve Weir (R-55) is looking to keep his position as an alternate member.

**Closing Arguments** 

Both slates of candidates and party leaders have been out in the community knocking on doors and pitching their ideas to voters.

Bussiere said the Democratic campaign has been successful, regardless of the ultimate outcome next week. Still, she does think her party will fare well at the polls.

"I do expect us to flip these boards," she said. Bussiere added that the only challenging, and

## **Pet Food Drive**

The Shake a Leg! pet care business is hosting a pet food drive through Dec. 1, to benefit the Hebron Dog Pound, the Hebron Interfaith Human Services food pantry and the Marlborough food pantry.

Shake a Leg! is collecting canned dog and cat food, dry food and cookies/treats, clean blankets/dog beds, and cat litter. All donations are appreciated.

Pick-up in Hebron, Amston or Marlborough can be arranged, or items can be dropped off in Amston. Contact Suzanne Savage via phone/ text for details, at 860-368-9125.

frustrating, aspect of the campaign has been was the rain that has consistently popped up each weekend. Otherwise, she said "it's been a pretty smooth campaign."

Petit expressed that there was some frustration amongst Republican constituents that there was a delay in shipping campaign signs.

'There's definitely a desire out there for people to show they support our side," he said.

Regarding the civility of this election cycle, Petit agreed with Bussiere that the tone was largely respectful, although there were a few lapses. At times, candidates may have forgotten about their mutual love for the community, he stated.

"Sometimes that messaging gets lost," Petit said. "Overall, it's going well."

The RTC chairman expressed that while no-

body has a crystal ball, he thinks Republicans are "going to do well" next week.

Hebron residents are "overwhelmingly happy," he explained.

"Our party, for the most part, has brought that to them."

Last month, the Hebron election cycle did experience a brief hiccup after 30 political lawn signs supporting Democratic candidates were swiped from local residencies; they were retrieved over a week later.

Bussiere did not blame or accuse Republicans of being involved, but indicated that they should've been more vocal in condemning the act.

Petit previously asserted that a public statement from the GOP regarding the incident was unnecessary because it was common knowledge that the party stood against sign stealing. Last week, he called the Democratic reaction a "media play."

# **Turkey Shoots**

Through Nov. 19 Skungamaug Fish and Game Club will hold its annual turkey trap and shoots Sundays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., through Nov. 19, at the club, 423 Jones St., Hebron. The shooter with the best shot on their turkey paper target wins a frozen turkey.

## Community CPR Training

The Hebron Fire Department (44 Main St.) is offering free AHA Heartsaver CPR classes for those who live or work in Hebron. Adult, child and infant CPR and choking emergencies are covered.

The classes will be offered from 6-9 p.m. Wednesday Nov. 15. Call Donna at 860-228-3022 ext. 162 to reserve your seat.

> **Transfer Station Hours Change**

The Town of Hebron Transfer Station and Recycling Center, located at 550 Old Colchester Rd., will change to its winter hours on Sunday, Nov. 5. The new hours will be:

Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m.; and Sunday, 7:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Also, the transfer station will be closed Thursday, Nov. 23, due to Thanksgiving.

## Striving for a **Healthy Brain**

The program "Striving for a Healthy Brain" will be held Wednesday, Nov. 8, from 6-7:30 p.m., at Douglas Library, 22 Main St., Hebron.

All are invited to learn about research in the areas of diet and nutrition, exercise, cognitive activity and social engagement, and use handson tools to help incorporate these recommendations into a plan for healthy aging.

Pre-registration is needed to confirm headcount. Contact Tonya Maurer at 860-539-9287 or multitasking@comcast.net for more infor-

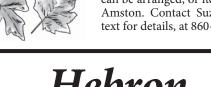
## St. Peter's News & Notes

St. Peter's Episcopal Church, located at 30 Church St., holds two services of Holy Eucharist each week, at 8 and 10 a.m. All are invited to the church hall for coffee and conversation after the services Priest is the Rev Ron Kolanowski

Meetings and Events: Balance Class, Mondays, 10-11 a.m.; Fellowship Café (Memory Workshop): every Tuesday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Buildings and Grounds Committee: first Tuesdays, 7 p.m.; Virtual Coffee Hours: Wednesdays at 10 a.m.; Vestry: third Thursdays, 7 p.m.; Building Networks International, Fridays, 7:30

Outreach: Food Donations: Items for various local food pantries can be placed in the brown donation box outside Phelps Hall.

For more information, visit stpetershebron. com, search for St. Peter's Hebron on Facebook, or email office@stpetershebron.com.





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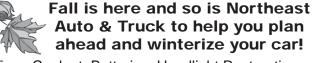
Everyday Low Price \$10.00 Basic Wash

18 Liberty Dr., Hebron (behind the Hebron Post Office)

860-228-WASH



## FULL SERVICE REPAIR FOREIGN & DOMESTIC!



Tires, Coolant, Batteries, Headlight Restoration, Brake Lines, Radiators, Heat and more!

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# HEBRON'S ONLY BARBER SHOP

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Keeping Hebron Handsome!

3 Barbers to lessen your wait time!

Haircuts \$21 Juniors & Seniors \$18

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00AM-5:30PM; Thursday noon-7<sub>PM</sub>; Saturday 8:00<sub>AM</sub>-noon; Sunday & Monday - Closed

7 Liberty Drive, Hebron (next to the post office)

Hebron • Heb

## **Christ Lutheran News & Notes**

All are invited to worship at Christ Lutheran Church (LCMS), located at 330 Church St., on Sundays at 9 a.m., with the Rev. James Wiese. People can also join worship live online at www. facebook.com/clchebron/live.

**Sunday Coffee Hour:** 10 a.m., after the morning service.

**Sunday Adult Bible Study:** 10:15 a.m., following Coffee Hour.

**Craft Fair and Free Quilt Show:** Saturday, Dec. 2; this is a fundraiser for "Elaina's Lift." Interested vendors can request more information

at CLCHebron. Fellowship@gmail.com.

Caring Shepherds: Caring Shepherds distributes household and hygiene items, as well as food pantry staples, Bibles, and prayers. For more information, call Caring Shepherds Ministry at 860-228-1152.

Early Childhood Center: The center offers childcare, preschool and before/after school in a Christian environment. The center is open to all walks of faith. Ande Shutler is director. Call 860-228-5134 for more information. Application forms are at www.clecchebron.org.

## **Gilead Congregational Church News**

Gilead Congregational Church, an Open and Affirming Congregation located at 672 Gilead St., has announced the following. For more info, see the church bulletin at gileadchurchucc.updates.church, email gcc@gileadchurch.net, or call 860-228-3077.

**Worship:** Worship is at 10 a.m., followed by coffee hour. Services are also available on You-Tube at www.bit.ly/GileadChurchUCC and on Facebook at tinyurl.com/GileadChurchUCC.

**Upcoming:** 11/4: Homeless Awareness Night, starts at 5 p.m.; 11/6: Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.; 11/7: AA Meeting, 7:30 p.m.; 11/8: Yoga, 9:15 a.m.; 11/8: Choir Practice, 7 p.m.

**Faith, Film and Food:** Friday, Nov. 3. Bring a dish to share. Dinner starts at 6 p.m., followed by dessert and a movie.

**Youth Group:** Youth are invited to participate in the annual Homeless Awareness Night on Saturday, Nov. 4. The event begins at 5 p.m. and there will be activities throughout the evening, overnight and on Sunday morning.

**Annual Membership Meeting:** Sunday, Nov. 5, following the worship service.

Card-Making with Gayle: Thursday, Nov. 30, 6 p.m. Cost is \$15, with a portion of the proceeds going to CT Foodshare. Register with Gayle Sylvester at gayle.sylvester@comcast.net.

Community Thanksgiving Service: Sunday, Nov. 19, 7 p.m., at the United Brethren Synagogue, followed by refreshments at St. Peter's Church community hall.

**Confirmation Classes:** The classes will meet monthly at 6 p.m. beginning Sunday, Nov. 12.

## **Church of the Holy Family News**

The Church of The Holy Family, 185 Church St. (Route 85), celebrates weekend Masses Saturday at 5 p.m. and Sunday at 9:30 a.m.; and weekday Masses Tuesday at 7 p.m. and Thursday at 6:30 a.m. Visit holyfamilyhebron.org for more information. The church office can be reached at 860-228-0096.

Church Collecting for Homeless Shelter: The church collects items for the Windham Region No Freeze Hospitality Center, which provides assistance to homeless adults. The shelter is now preparing for the overnight stay program, which commences Nov. 1. Needs are: Men's: insulated gloves and warm hats; athletic crew and winter weight socks; sweat pants, hoodies and boxer briefs (M,L,XL,2XL). Women's: insulated gloves and warm hats; athletic crew and winter weight socks; sports bras (M up to 4XL); T-shirts (M and up); tampons, sweat pants and hoodies (M,L,XL,2XL); and

briefs (sizes 6 and 7). Cleaning Supplies: Size XL disposable latex-free gloves; Windex; toilet bowl cleaner; Lysol or Clorox wipes, and shower cleaner. Gift Cards: \$15 Stop & Shop cards for gas to assist people living in their cars; and \$25 Walmart cards to purchase items needed immediately. Please call to arrange the pick-up of gift cards. Miscellaneous: 8'x10' tarps; shampoo; men's and women's stick deodorant; inexpensive ear buds; rain ponchos; hand warmers; office supplies – black Sharpies, masking tape and yellow highlighters; sturdy adult backpacks; washcloths; pillow cases; toothpaste & toothbrushes; first aid supplies; paper towels; TP (great need); and 13- and 55-gallon trash bags. Place donations of goods in the designated collection box next to the church's Cry Room. Place large quantities of donations in the Cry Room. For more information, call Monica or John McKerracher at 860-228-4211.

## **Douglas Library News & Notes**

Douglas Library, located at 22 Main St., has announced the following. For more info and full program descriptions, and to register, call the library at 860-228-9312 or visit www.douglaslibrary.org.

**Friday Films:** Nov. 3, *Barbie* (rated PG-13); Nov. 10, *Mission Impossible: Dead Reckoning Part 1* (PG-13). Bottled water and individually wrapped snacks will be provided.

Holiday Closings: Saturday, Nov. 11, for Veterans Day. Also, for Thanksgiving, the library will close Wednesday, Nov. 22, at 4 p.m., and remain closed Thursday and Friday, Nov. 23 and 30. The library will be open Saturday, Nov. 25, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Navigating the Holidays with Those with Dementia: Wednesday, Nov. 8, 5:30 p.m. This is a session to share information about navigating the holiday season with loved ones with dementia or any cognitive decline.

**Medicare Info Session:** Tuesday, Nov. 14, 1 p.m., or Tuesday, Nov. 21, 6 p.m. Learn the insand-outs of Medicare with Mark Macrina, a local insurance agent.

**Book Discussion**: Wednesday, Nov. 15, 7 p.m., at the American Legion, located next door. Read and discuss *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus. Copies of the book will be available for checkout at the Adult Circulation Desk and also available on Libby. Must be over 21 to attend.

**Book Sale:** Saturday, Nov. 18, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. This is the last book sale of the year. The \$5 bag sale begins at 1 p.m., with no limit on how many bags can be purchased.

Teens! Looking for Volunteer Hours? If so, help set up the book sale Friday, Nov. 17, from 2:30-4:30 p.m. and then take down on Saturday, Nov. 18, from 3-4pm. The library will also need volunteers to help with kid crafts on Saturday, Dec. 2, from 3-5 p.m., during the Hebron Holiday Fest. Email teens@douglaslibrary.org if interested.

Chess Night: Pickup games are held every Thursday at 3 p.m. in the Community Room.

Children's Storytime: Tuesday and Thursday at 10 a.m. No registration is required. All classes are Family Classes for children age birth to 5. This program is free and open to the public. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

## **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.

Chatham Health Flu/COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic: Tuesday, Nov. 7, 1-3 p.m. There will be the regular flu vaccine, along with the reformulated version of the COVID-19 vaccine, and it is expected that the high dose flu vaccine for 65+ will also be available. Consent forms available at Chathamhealth.org. Bring your insurance card and ID; United HealthCare is not accepted. Preregistration not required.

Fire Safety/Prevention and Q & A with Fire Chief Chris Bray: Tuesday, Nov. 28, 11 a.m. Preregistration encouraged.

Holiday Mason Jar and Rock-Painting: Wednesday, Nov. 29, 12:30 p.m. Cost is \$5 and all supplies will be provided. Pre-register by Monday, Nov. 27

Yoga: Mondays and Wednesdays, 10:15-11:15

a.m., through Nov. 22; next session runs Nov. 27-Dec. 20. Fee is eight classes for \$24; drop-in fee is \$5 per class.

**Movie Mondays:** On Nov. 6 at 12:30 p.m., see *And So It Goes*, starring Michael Douglas and Diane Keaton. On Nov. 20 at 12:30 p.m., see *Barbie*, starring Margot Robbie and Ryan Gosling.

Speaker: A Life Well-Lived is a Life Well-Planned: Tuesday, Nov. 14, 11 a.m. Does your family know your health care goals? Learn how to start the conversation. Sponsored by Middlesex Health

**Speaker: Healthy Holiday Eating:** Wednesday, Nov. 15, 11:30 a.m. Lindsey Kent (registered dietitian at ShopRite of East Hartford) will share tips to stay healthy during upcoming holiday events.

Weekly Shopping Trips: Fridays; pickups begin at 10 a.m. starting Nov. 3. Upcoming schedule: Stop & Shop, Nov. 3; Big Y, Thursday, Nov. 9 (as the center is closed Nov. 10); Walmart, Nov. 17; Big Y, Tuesday, Nov. 21 (note the special date). Pre-registration required by the prior day at 10 a.m.

## **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.

## **Parks and Recreation News**

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

Restorative Yoga and Sound Bath: Thursday, Nov. 16, 6:30 p.m., at the Douglas Library community room. Enjoy 60 minutes of restorative yoga, with the sounds of gongs and Tibetan bowls. Suitable for all bodies and skill levels.

Fee: \$25.

After School Holiday Crafting: Mondays, Nov. 20, 27 and Dec. 4, 11, for grades 3-6, at the Hebron Elementary School library. There will be a new craft each session. Cost is \$100.

**30+ Basketball:** Drop-in games for all skill levels ages 30 and over. Tuesdays through Nov. 21, from 7-9 p.m., at the RHAM High School main gym. Cost is \$3 (cash only) each visit.

## The Worship Center News & Notes

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

Worship: Services are Sundays at 10 a.m., indoors, and are also broadcast on Facebook at www.facebook.com/TheWorshipCenter-Connecticut and on YouTube at www.youtube.

com/@theworshipcenter9733.

Life Groups: Meet Mondays at 6:30 p.m. at the Caseys' home in Hebron, and the second Wednesday of every month from 7-8:30pm at the Swensons' home in Columbia, for worship,

prayer, Bible study and fellowship.

Journey Group: For grades 6-12. The mission of the group is to support the youth of Hebron and surrounding towns in their spiritual development. Meets every other Sunday directly after the service; lunch is provided. Upcoming meet-

Youth Group: First Friday Fellowship!: Typically held the first Friday of each month from 6-9 p.m. at the church.

Virtual Prayer Night: Tuesdays, 7-8 p.m., via

Zoom. Contact the church office or website for a link and meeting ID.

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

Fellowship Luncheon: Soup It Up!: Sunday, Nov. 5, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Come bring hearty soups from your kitchen. Tasty breads, sandwiches and salads included.

Donations Sought for HIHS: The Hebron Interfaith Human Services (HIHS) food pantry is in critical need, and The Worship Center is helping to collect monetary, food and goods donations. Items can be dropped off at the church on Sunday mornings, or donate directly to HIHS at 26 Pendleton Dr., Hebron; hours are Tuesday/Thursday 8 a.m.-6 p.m., and Friday, noon-5 p.m. Contact HIHSCT.org to give online, or email hsfoodpantry@gmail.com for more information.

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



The Hebron Democrats want to know:

# What is your plan to vote on November 7<sup>th</sup>?

Here are some suggestions so you don't forget!

- ✓ Put a sticky note on your steering wheel the night before
- ✓ Set a reminder alarm on your phone
- ✓ Find a voting buddy and remind each other to vote until you both vote!

## YOUR VOTE MATTERS!

THE 2022 HEBRON BUDGET ONLY PASSED BY 2 VOTES! Let's work together for positive change in local government.

Truth, trust, and transparency!
Vote Row A! Vote Democrat!

Please stop by our tent and say hello on Election Day!



Scan here to learn more about our candidates or visit **hebrondems.com** 

Paid for by the Hebron Democratic Town Committee, Janet Fodaski, Treasurer

## ★ Sample Ballots ★Sample Ball

## State of Connecticut Official Ballot Andover November 7, 2023

OFFICE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
PARTY	First Selectman Vote for One		Selectman Up to Two	Town Clerk Vote for One			f Finance Up to Four			Education Jp to Two		Assessment te for Up to The	
DEMOCRATIC	● 1A	● 2A	■ 3A	● 4A	● 5A	● 6A	● 7A	● 8A	● 9A	● 10A	● 11A	■ 12A	13A
PARTY	Jeff Maguire	Scott Person	Anne Creme	Carol H. Lee	John Tyczkowski	Jay Kamins	Brian Briggs	Louise Goodwin	Caitlin Greenhouse	Shannon O. Louden	Emily Timreck	Linda L. Armstrong	
REPUBLICAN	● 1B	● 2B	● 3B	● 4B	● 5B	● 6B	7B	8B	● 9B	● 10B	● 11B	● 12B	13B
PARTY	Adrian Mandeville	Paula King	Jeff Murray	Carol H. Lee	William Desrosiers	Kelly Wood			Brianne S. Lanzieri	Steven D. Fuss	Adrian Mandeville	Alan E. Roy	
PETITIONING CANDIDATES	1C	2C	3C	4C	5C	6C	7C	8C	9C Kimberly R. Person	10C	11C	12C	13C
WRITE-IN VOTES	● 1D	● 2D	● 3D	● 4D	● 5D	● 6D	● 7D	● 8D	● 9D	● 10D	● 11D	● 12D	● 13D

OFFICE	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
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DEMOCRATIC	● 14A	● 15A	16A	● 17A	● 18A	● 19A	● 20A	21A	22A	23A	● 24A	● 25A	26A	● 27A	● 28A
PARTY	Scott Person	Anne Creme		Annmarie Daigle	Patrick Dougherty	Jay Kamins	William J. Munroe				Kimberly Hawes	Mark Williams		Scott Sauyet	Kirsten Erlandsen
REPUBLICAN PARTY	14B William Jed Larson	15B	16B	17B	18B	● 19B Fred Oliver	© 20B William Desrosiers	© 21B Kathleen Skorka	Joan Ross	23B	● 24B Wallace E. Barton Jr	© 25B Kurt J. Boehm Jr	26B	27B	28B
PETITIONING CANDIDATES	14C	15C	16C	17C	18C	19C	20C	21C	22C	23C	24C	25C	26C	27C	28C
WRITE-IN VOTES	● 14D	● 15D	● 16D	● 17D	● 18D	● 19D	● 20D	● 21D	● 22D	● 23D	● 24D	● 25D	● 26D	● 27D	● 28D

## State of Connecticut Official Ballot Colchester November 7, 2023

OFFICE PARTY	1 First Selectman Vote for One	2 V	3 Selectmen Ote for Up to Thri	4	5 Town Clerk Vote for One	G TOWN TREASURER VOTE FOR ONE	7 TAX Collector Vote for One	8 Board of Full Vote for	9 F Finance Term Up to Two	10 Bi V	11 IARD OF EDUCATIO OTE FOR UP TO THRE	12 On E	13 Board of Asses Vote for L	14 SMENT APPEALS IP TO TWO
	1A	O 2A	3A	4A	5A	6A	7A	8A	O 9A	10A	11A	12A	13A	14A
DEMOCRATIC PARTY	BERNIE Dennler	ROSEMARY COYLE	Denise Turner	David Koji	GAYLE FURMAN	SEAN GILLESPIE	MICHELE WYATT	SCOTT A. Chapman	KAREN BELDING	MICHELLE MILLINGTON	CHRISTOPHER RIVERS	STEFANIE TRACEY- CALASH	Krista Kardys	Andrew J. Cournoyer
	○ 1B	2B	○ 3B	4B	○ 5B	○ 6B	○ 7В	○ 8B	○ 9B	10B	11B	12B	13B	14B
REPUBLICAN PARTY	Andreas Bisbikos	TARAS W Rudko	CLIFTON D. O'DONAL	ARTHUR P. SHILOSKY	SHANNON NAZARIO	JOHN RINGO	Jeffery J. Duigou	ANDREA Migliaccio	MICHAEL Dubreuil	JOHN D. Consiglio				GLENN Shilosky
	10	O 2C	30	40	5C	6C	70	8C	90	100	110	120	13C	14C
LIBERTARIAN PARTY		JASON LaChapelle												
WRITE-IN VOTES	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	( 3D	4D	<u> </u>	O 6D	70	O 8D	90	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	120	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Sta	ite of (	Conn	ecticut	Officia	ıl Bal	lot E.	Han	npton	Nov	embei	r 7, 2	2023	
													r

PARTY	1	2	3 Town Council Vote for Up to Fivi	4	5	6 B	7 OARD OF FINANCI ITE FOR UP TO THRE	8	9	10 Board of Vote for L	11 Education P to Four	12	13 Zoning Board of Appeals Five Year Term Begins 2023 Vote for One	14 Zoning Board of Appeals Five Year Tern Begins 2024 Vote for One
D	1A	2A	○ 3A	— 4A	5A	( ) 6A	7A	8A	O 9A	10A	11A	12A	13A	14A
DEMOCRATIC PARTY	Karen Wanat	JORDAN WERME	DEAN Markham	RICHARD KNOTEK	JACK Solomon	Kurt Comisky	TED Turner	ANTHONY Spagnoletti	PAUL Wisniewski	EDIE DeSimone	MATT Engelhardt	Kenneth Barber	BRIAN Spack	EVAN Giza
_	1B	2B	○ 3B	4B	○ 5B	○ 6B	7B	8B	○ 9B	10B	11B	12B	13B	148
REPUBLICAN PARTY	ALISON Walck	Bridget McLennan	Brandon Goff	Rosemarie Hecht	DEB Cunningham	JIM Radavich			Augie Arnot				MARIA Peplau	Michael Olzacki
WRITE-IN VOTES	<u> </u>	) 2C	○ 3C	<u>4</u> C	<u> </u>	0 60	) 7C	0 80	O ac	) 10C	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

## State of Connecticut Official Ballot Marlborough November 7, 2023

OFFICE PARTY	1 V	2 Selectmen Ote for Up to Three	3	4 Town Clerk Vote for One	5 Town Treasurer Vote for One	6 Tax Collector Vote for One	7 V	8 OARD OF FINANC STE FOR UP TO THR	g E IE	10 BOARD OF FINANCE ALTERNATE VOTE FOR ONE	11 BOARD OF VOTE FOR I	12 Education Ip to Two	13 Board ( Vi	14 IF Assessment A Ite for Up to Thre	15 IPPEALS E
DEMOCRATIC PARTY	) 1A	2A	3A	○ 4A	○ 5A	O BA	○ 7A	O BA	O 9A	O 10A	O 11A	12A	) 13A	O 14A	15A
DEMOCRATIC TARIT	JOHN Rizza			Lauren A. Griffin	Michael J. O'Neil	Barbara Lazzari	JACK FIDLER	William Guzman	KAREN Pakulis-Paul	MARCUS Wilkinson	JEAN Wilson		Koreen Ryan	John H. Grasso	
D	() 1B	○ 2B	○ 3B		○ 5B	○ 6B	○ 7B	8B	98	O 10B	O 11B	O 12B	13B	148	15B
REPUBLICAN PARTY	JOSEPH J. ASKLAR	LOUISE L. Concodello	MIKE Nastri	Lauren A. Griffin	MICHAEL J. D'NEIL	Barbara Lazzari	CHRISTOPHER WHERRY			SALVATORE V. SENA JR.	Amy Kuhrt	Kerri Barella	Zina D. Planeta		
WRITE-IN VOTES	) 10	) 2C	) 3C	4€	<u> </u>	0 60	) 10	○ вс	) gc	) 10C	<u> </u>	<u>120</u>	) 130	<u> </u>	<u> 150</u>

OFFICE PARTY	16 Planning C Vote for U	17 COMMISSION IP TO TWO	18 PLANNING COMMISSION ALTERNATE VOTE FOR ONE	19 Zoning Co Vote for U	20 Ommission Up to Two	21 ZONING COMMISSION ALTERNATE VOTE FOR ONE	22 Zoning Boari Vote for U	23 D OF APPEALS JP TO TWO	24 Zoning Board of Appeals Alternate Vote for One	25 REGIONAL BOARD VOTE FOR L	26 O OF EDUCATION IP TO TWO
D D	16A	17A	18A	19A	O 20A	O 21A	22A	23A	24A	O 25A	26A
DEMOCRATIC PARTY	JOAN D'CONNELL		Dianne Dunn	WILLIAM B. Lardi	CHARLES DENLER	NICK Hale	Erica Gorman		ANTHONY M. Bratz	DREW Golfin	
D D	16B	17B	18B	19B	20B	21B		23B	24B	25B	26B
REPUBLICAN PARTY	BRETT HALLDEN	Mark. A Stankiewicz				JOHN A. Murray	LEA Georgiades		ZINA D. Planeta	Amy Romanchuck	
WRITE-IN VOTES	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	O 20C	<u>21C</u>	O 22C	O 23C	O 24C	<u>25C</u>	O 26C

## State of Connecticut Official Ballot Hebron November 7, 2023

PARTY	1 v	2 Selectmen Up to Thre	3	4 Board of Vote for U	5 Finance P to Two	6	7 Board of I Vote for U	8 Education P to Four		10 Board of Assessment Appeals Vote for One	11 Planning a Comm Vute for U	NOI22	13 Planning and Zoning Commission Alternates Vote for One	14 Zoning Board Vote for U	15 D OF Appeals Ip to Two	16 Zoning Board Alter Vote for U	MATE	18 Regional Board Vote for U	19 of Education P 10 Two
Democratic Dietri	() 1A	() 2A	3A	() 4A	( 5A	() 6A	) 1A	() BA	9A	() 10A	() 11A	) 12A	() 13A	() 14A	( 15A	() 16A	17A	( 18A	() 19A
DEMOCRATIC PARTY	CLAUDIA RILEY	JOHN Matra		Adam Ockman	Brian Thibeault	ELEISHA LEMAY	Elizabeth Alexander	BRITTANY Loudenback		DAVID Rose	Frank Zitkus	JANET Fodaski	DAVIS Howell	Bryan Smith	Amy DeCesare	WILLIAM Alexander		Maura Curran Baker	HEATHER Summerer
	() 1B	O 28	38	() 48	58	0 68	() 7B	() 8B	0 98	108	118	12B	138	<u> </u>	158	<u> </u>	17B	188	198
REPUBLICAN PARTY	Peter Kasper	Keith Petit		JAMES DeDonato		SERA Coppolino	JOE Margaitis	KIMBERLY R. Hills	ALLYSON Nadeau- Schmeizl				Bradley Franzese	MANN Hasen		STEVE WEIR		MICHAEL Beaulieu	
WRITE-IN VOTES	<u> </u>	) z	) 3C	() 4¢	<u> </u>	) 6C	) n	0 80	) gc	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

State of Connecticut Official Ballot Portland November 7, 2023
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OFFICE PARTY	1 FIRST Selectman Vote for One	2	3 Selec Vote for U		5	6 Town Clerk Vote for One		8 DARD OF EDUCATI FULL TERM TOTE FOR UP TO THR		10 BOARD OF EDUCATION TO FILL VACANCY FOR TWO YEARS VOTE FOR ONE	11 Board of Asses Vote for U	12 SMENT APPEALS IP TO TWO	DE APPEALS	14 Zoning Board of Appeals Five Year Term Begins 2024 Vote for One
DEMOCRATIC PARTY	1A	2A	3A	— 4A	5A	6A	) 7A	8A	O 9A	10A	11A	12A	13A	<u>14A</u>
DEMOCRATIC FARIT		JAMES K. Tripp	JILLIAN Crawford	ANDREA G. Alfano	JOHN H. Dillon		Laurel Steinhauser	SARAH SPEAR	Meg Scata	KIM Nagy- Maruschock	CHRISTOPHER DARBY	KENNETH KEARNS	Rose Aletta	CYNTHIA ROMAN
D	() 1B	2B	○ 3B	○ 4B	○ 5B	O 6B	О 7В	○ 8B	9B	10B	11B	<u>128</u>	( 13B	14B
REPUBLICAN PARTY	RYAN J. Curley	MICHAEL A. Pelton	MICHAEL "JULIO" HERNANDEZ	SHAUN P. MANNING	ROBERT Hetrick	MICHAEL V. TIERNEY	KAREN R. Renner	Angela J. Hammond			WILLIAM Donahue	PETER Castelli	KURT R. Peterson	Robert Casati
WRITE-IN VOTES	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	) 3C	<u></u> 40	<u> </u>	0 60	) 10	0 80	O 9C	) 100	) 110	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	140

Regional • Regional •

# Standout Athletes of the Week(s)

By Josh Howard

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

Chelsea Woods - East Hampton High School (Volleyball): Woods, a senior, dished up a season-high 31 assists and added 20 digs as the Bellringers beat Valley Regional in four sets on Oct. 12. The following day, Woods tallied 19 more assists and served up seven aces as the Bellringers beat Portland in three sets. The Bellringers finished the regular season with a record of 15-1, winning the final 13 matches.

Josh Weers - RHAM High School (Football): Weers caught four touchdown passes as the Raptors finished what they started five weeks ago, downing Avon 30-16 on Oct. 13. The game originally kicked off on Sept. 9, but play was suspended due to lighting before the conference rivals finished the game this past Friday. Weers, a senior, hauled in scoring strikes from 13, 20, 9, and 46 yards as the Raptors led 27-8 prior to the postponement.

- Bacon Academy (Soccer) drey Palm Palmer scored a pair of goals as the Bobcats earned a big divisional victory, defeating Fitch 4-0 in Groton on Oct. 11. Palmer led the way offensively for the Bobcats, who also received

goals from Alyssa Blanchette and Mia Hageman. Palmer, a junior, posted two more goals last week in a 5-0 win over RHAM on Oct. 25

Gio Discenza - Portland High School (Soccer): Discenza, a senior, netted a baker's hat trick - scoring four goals – as the Highlanders blanked North Branford 5-0. The five goals were a seasonhigh for Portland, who also got a goal from Ben Sorrell. Assisting in the scoring onslaught were Brody Quinn, Aidan Peterson, Alex Dawson, and Cooper Beck - each dishing out a helper.

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

Brian Collison - East Hampton High School (Soccer): Collison, a senior, scored a goal on Senior Night as the Bellringers defeated Portland 3-2 on Oct. 18. Sebby Woodson and Parker Gustine each added goals for the Bellringers, who celebrated Collison and ten other seniors prior to the match. The win improved East Hampton

Lilly Carroll - Portland High School (Soccer): Carroll, a senior, scored the only goal of the match on a penalty kick as the Highlanders defeated East Hampton 1-0 on Senior Night at TD Bank Oakwood Soccer Park on Oct. 20. Carroll's

goal turned out to be the difference as the team celebrated four seniors (Carroll, Ava Maselek, Camryn DiMauro, and Selena Shukis)

Troy Miller - RHAM High School (Soccer): Miller netted a hat trick, scoring three goals, and dished out an assist as the Raptors defeated East Catholic 5-0 on Oct. 16. Miller, a senior, then scored two more goals in a victory over E.O. Smith on Oct. 19. The prolific scorer finished the regular season with a team-high 18 goals.

Troy Johnson - Bacon Academy (Soccer): Johnson scored a pair of goals as the Bobcats tied Norwich Free Academy 2-2 in an Eastern Connecticut Conference (ECC) divisional showdown on Oct.14. Senior captain Coby Butterfield assisted on both goals and NFA knocked in the game-tying goal on a controversial call with 14 seconds remaining in regulation to tie the game.

And here are the Rivereast Standouts of the Week for the week of Oct. 23-30:

Skip Coogan - Bacon Academy (Football): Coogan recovered a state-record six fumbles including one for a touchdown, as the Bobcats blanked Montville 61-0. Coogan, a sophomore, highlighted a dominant defensive unit that also got three forced fumbled and an interception from senior Avatar Disher as Bacon Academy registered their second shutout of the season, also blanking Bethel 21-0 in the season opener.

Lillian Tabellione - Portland High School (Cross-Country): Tabellione finished fifth overall, running a 21:17, at the Class S State Championships at Wickham Park on Oct. 28. Tabellione beat out 139 other competitors and led a talented group of Highlanders that placed seventh overall as a team with Meghan McPhee (13th) and Ariana Hettrick-Rivera (17th) also having top-20

Gabby Wiesner - East Hampton High School (Soccer): Wiesner scored a pair of goals as the Bellringers defeated Lyman Memorial 2-1 in the team's regular season finale on Oct. 27. Wiesner, a senior, scored both of her goals on perfectlyplaced corner kicks from Maya Korczak as the Bellringers ended the regular season on a threegame winning streak.

Lani Fecho - RHAM High School (Volleyball): Fecho continued to stuff the stat sheets as the Raptors wrapped up a 16-3 regular season with a three-set victory over Enfield on Oct. 23. Fecho, a senior, had a dozen kills, nine digs, six aces, and a block. Sophomore Meredith Weir added 11 kills and eight digs as the Raptors closed the regular season with a perfect road re-

To nominate an athlete for a Standout of the Week or with sports-related comments, email joshhowardsports@gmail.com.

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## **Senior Center News & Notes**

East Hampton Senior Center, 105 Main St., announces the following. Registration is required for all programs unless noted; register at myactivecenter.com or by contacting the center at 860-267-4426 or seniorcenter@easthamptonct.gov. Senior center hours are Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Masks are encouraged, but not required. Visit the senior center online at www.easthamptonct.gov/east-hampton-senior-center.

**Holiday Closing:** The center will be closed Friday, Nov. 10, for Veterans Day.

**Lunches:** Served Monday through Friday, to ages 60 and up. Call to reserve a meal or sign up online. Reservations for the next day's meal are due by 11 a.m. the day before. Meals are free; a \$3 donation is requested.

Weekly Activities: Quilting Group: Mondays, 9 a.m.; Mexican Train Dominoes: Mondays, 9:30 a.m.; Setback: Mondays and Thursdays, 1-3 p.m.; Bible Study: Tuesdays, 1 p.m.; Bingo: Tuesdays, 1-3 p.m., in person and via Zoom; Cross-Stitch & Embroidery with Shannon: Wednesdays, 1:30 p.m. -- Bring projects to share and work on together; Tai Chi: Thursdays, 10:30-11 a.m. -- next session begins Nov. 20; Tap Dance: Thursdays, 11:15 a.m. Cribbage: Fridays, 9:30-11 a.m. -- let the center know in advance if you plan to attend; Mahjong: Fri-

## Clean Energy Fair to Return

East Hampton will hold its Clean Energy Fair Saturday, Nov. 4, from 1-4 p.m., at East Hampton High School, located at 15 Maple St.

The fair will host a range of exhibitors offering people various ways to save on energy. Exhibitors include: Earthlight Technologies, Eversource, Newington Electric, PosiGen, Connecticut Home Solutions, Renew By Andersen, RW Heating, EcoSmart Home Services, Energy In Action Mobile Exhibit and the East Hampton Commission on Aging.

Snacks and drinks will be available. No registration is required; all area residents are welcome. This event is sponsored by the East Hampton Clean Energy Task Force. For more information, email ehcetf@gmail.com.

days, 10 a.m.-noon – call also to put your name on a list if interested in learning how to play; **Textile Group**: Fridays, 1 p.m.

**Wii Bowling**: Every other Thursday at 11 a.m.; **Cornhole**: Every other Thursday at 11 a.m.

Writing Our Lives to Open Our Hearts: There are two groups; one meets Thursdays, 10-11 a.m., and one meets every other Thursday, 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Groups meet in-person or via Zoom.

**Open Enrollment Medicare:** Monday, Nov. 6. Be sure your health insurance coverage is up to date. Call the senior center for an appointment

**Don't Forget to Vote!:** Polls will be open Tuesday, Nov. 7, from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. at Town Hall, 1 Community Drive. Transportation will be available from 1-3 p.m. by calling the senior center at 860-267-4426.

Games and Crafts: With the East Hampton High School Interact Club Tuesday, Nov. 7, from 10 a.m.-noon. Visit, play games, and create holiday decorations. Register at the senior center.

## **Registrar of Voters News**

Municipal elections will be held Tuesday, Nov. 7, at the East Hampton High School, 15 North Maple St., from 6 a.m.-8 p.m. The ballot will include candidates for Town Council, Board of Education, Board of Finance, and Zoning Board of Appeals.

Election Day registration will be available on Nov. 7, at the polling location.

## **Police News**

10/24: Curt Hart, 43, of Killingworth, was arrested and charged with failure to drive right and driving under the influence, East Hampton Police said.

10/25: Timothy J. Smith, 52, of 8 South Wangonk Trl., was arrested and charged with second-degree failure to appear, police said.

10/28: Molly Rothchild, 31, of Windsor, was arrested and charged with violation of probation, police said.

From Oct. 23-29, officers responded to 18 medical calls, six motor vehicle crashes and seven alarms, and made 20 traffic stops, police said.

## **Christ Episcopal Church News**

Christ Episcopal Church, 66 Middle Haddam Rd., Middle Haddam, holds in-person and Zoom services at 10 a.m. each Sunday. All are welcome. To connect electronically, go to www. christchurchmiddlehaddam.com for directions. The Holy Eucharist is celebrated with the Rev. Diana Rogers.

**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 lead the group, which meets at 9:55. New students welcome. Contact neel-richard16@gmail.com for information/dates.

## Bethlehem Lutheran Church News

Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church, located at 1 East High St., has updated its schedule. Starting Nov. 5, Bible Study will be 9-9:45 a.m., and services begin at 10 a.m. Church pastor is Jamie Stall-Ryan.

# Veterans Day Breakfast Boy Scout Troop 8 will host a Veterans Day

Boy Scout Troop 8 will host a Veterans Day breakfast Sunday, Nov. 12, from 8-10 a.m., at VFW Post 5095, located at 20 N. Maple St.

Veterans eat for free; suggested donation for non-veterans is \$10, to help the scouts continue this yearly tradition.

## **EHNS Touch-a-Truck**

East Hampton Nursery School will hold a Touch-a-Truck event Sunday, Nov. 12, from 2-4 p.m., rain or shine, at East Hampton High School, 15 North Maple St.

There will be police cars, fire trucks, construction trucks and other trucks and vehicles. There will also be local food trucks, face-painting and a 50/50 raffle.

Suggested donation: \$5 per person/\$20 per family. Cash or Venmo accepted.

All proceeds will support the operating costs of East Hampton Nursery School and its students.

For more information, contact EHNS at ehnsfundraisers@gmail.com.

**Thanksgiving Baskets:** Sign up in the Parish Hall to make a donation or call Mary Boretz at 860-267-0365. Food is needed for four families this year.

For more information or if in need of assistance, contact Donna Hryb, senior warden, at 860-633-0472 or donnadubehyrb@gmail.com.

'Energy In Action' Coming to Fair

The Energize CT "Energy In Action" mobile exhibit will be a feature of the East Hampton Clean Energy Fair Saturday, Nov. 4, from 1-4 p.m., at East Hampton High School, 15 Maple St.

In addition to this exhibit, the Clean Energy Fair will show people ways to reduce energy use and save money. Snacks and drinks will be available. No registration required; all area residents are welcome.

This event is sponsored by the East Hampton Clean Energy Task Force. For more information, visit ehcetf@gmail.com.

## Performance of 'Messiah'

Haddam Neck Congregational Church will host a performance of Handel's *Messiah* by the New England Chamber Choir on Sunday, Nov. 26, at 4 p.m.

The free performance will be held in the church sanctuary, located at 408 Quarry Hill Road, Haddam Neck. Visit www.haddamneck-congregationalchurch.org for directions or call 860-993-5311 for information.





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SCAN TO MEET THE 2023 REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES



# **Tourney Time for Bellringers Soccer**

Hartford.

By Josh Howard

After making the state championship match a year ago, the boys soccer team at East Hampton High School eyes another successful tournament run this fall.

The Bellringers closed the regular season schedule with a 1-0 win over Shoreline Conference (SLC) rival Cromwell last Thursday, wrapping up an 11-2-2 regular season.

Playing on an unseasonably warm late-October afternoon at East Hampton High School, senior Ethan Marshall scored the only goal, hammering home a shot past Cromwell's all-conference goalie Thomas Garcia midway through the first half.

'They moved me out to right wing and luckily Parker [Gustine] saw me on the corner and set me up with a nice shot on goal," recalled Mar-

Marshall's blast proved to be the difference as East Hampton's swarming defense was flawless for 80 minutes and the team's efficient offense controlled the tempo for much of the match.

Cromwell head coach Angelo Morello called the Bellringers "the best team in our conference" and added, "I thought we played better in the second half, but they are skilled, they are

The win earned East Hampton a first-round

Middle Haddam Public Library, 2 Knowles

Rd., Middle Haddam, has announced the fol-

lowing. 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

a.m.-2 p.m.; Tuesday and Friday, 3-6 p.m.

Library Hours: Monday and Thursday, 10

bye in the SLC tourney and Marshall said it was important to head into the postseason on a high

"We wanted to play hard and put pressure on the other team and we got the job done," added Marshall. "We want to build off it and continue to get wins."

After winning their first nine games this fall, East Hampton ran into a few roadblocks as the season aged — mostly on the injury front.

Starting goalie Thomas Fenton missed the last five games of the regular season with a concussion and sophomore standout Colin Marshall suffered a leg injury early in the season that has kept him out of action since September.

We've had to look to our bench and see who can step up," East Hampton head coach Rocco Christiana stated. "The players are really starting to work as a unit and the depth of our team got better this year - we are more well-rounded."

Filling the void in net is senior captain Finn Piper, a field player who stepped up during Fenton's absence and posted his first shutout in the win over Cromwell.

Christiana called Piper the "heart and soul of the team," praising him for his continued sacrifice for the betterment of the program.

"All these kids have huge hearts and they all

Mahjong: Mondays at 10:30 a.m. Experi-

Fiber Arts: Thursdays, 10 a.m.-noon. Bring

Fly Fishing with Rowan Lytle: Thursday,

Nov. 9, 7 p.m. Call the library for more infor-

your spinning wheel, knitting, weaving, embroi-

enced and new players welcome.

dery, etc. All are welcome.

**Snowflake Bazaar Nov. 4** 

work hard," added Christiana, who is the reign-

ing SLC Coach of the Year in 2022 after guiding

After winning the SLC tournament a season

ago, the Bellringers worked through the state

tournament before falling to Old Saybrook

(2-0) in the Class S state championship on an

ice-covered field at Trinity Health Stadium in

state title fueled a team featuring a pair of re-

turning all-conference players in Fenton and

motivated than we were last year," he added.

"We're building on what we did [last season]

Ethan Marshall said being on the cusp of a

"We were super motivated; we're even more

the Bellringers to a conference title.

Westchester Congregational Church in Colchester will hold its Snowflake Bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 4, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., at Markham Meadows Campground.

The bazaar will offer the famous Cookies by the Pound, as well as crafters and raffles. All proceeds benefit the church.

> **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.

and are playing for the players that are injured. The guys that can't play, we are out there for

East Hampton's .800 winning percentage is the eighth-best in Class S with the state tourney slated to start next week.

Despite the injury setbacks and a gauntlet of a schedule, the Bellringers are again in prime position for a postseason push.

Christiana added that no matter who is on the field, the expectations are the same.

"When we lose someone, someone else steps up," he added. "We bring some other people up and continue to play hard."

Visit ciacsports.com for a complete list of fall's high school sports tournament schedules and results.

## **Autumn Leaves Fair**

Christ Episcopal Church, 66 Middle Haddam Rd. (Route 151), will hold its annual Autumn Leaves Fair Saturday, Nov. 4, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., at the Parish Hall.

Various baked goods, jellies, jam and pickles, handmade items, silent auction offerings, pottery, and artisanal crafts will be for sale.

Turkey Shoots

The Belltown Sportsman's Club will hold Turkey Shoots Sundays, Nov. 5 and 19, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., on the club grounds off of Tartia Road, which is off of Route 16. (Follow the

Bring your own shotgun or one will be provided. Gauge is 20 and 12. The club will supply the shells. Cost is \$4 a shot.

Refreshments will be available. For more information, call Kurley at 860-638-7221.

## Parks and Rec **Upcoming Events**

East Hampton Parks and Recreation has announced the following upcoming events. For more information or to register, call 860-267-7300 or visit easthamptonct.myrec.com.

Zumba Class: Mondays and Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m., at Center School. Drop-in fee is \$10, or buy a 10-class card for \$50.

Riverside Reptiles: Monday, Nov. 6, 3:30-4:30 p.m., at Memorial School, for students in grades K-3. Fee: \$25.

# **CHECK OUT OUR MONTHLY SPECIALS!**

Middle Haddam Public Library News

11/4/23 through 11/30/23

**Grey Goose** Vodka 80°

\$43<sup>99</sup>(1.75 L)

**Canadian Mist** Whisky 80°

\$18<sup>99</sup>(1.75 L)

Skyy Vodka 80°

\$19<sup>99</sup> (1.75 L)

Wild Turkey Bourbon 101°

\$43<sup>49</sup> (1.75 L)

Bacardi Lt. & Gold Rum 80° \$19<sup>99</sup>(1.75 L)

Sale Dates

**Dewars** 

Scotch 80° \$**34<sup>49</sup>**(1.75 L)



Barefoot Wines \$18<sup>99</sup>(3 L box)

Crane Lake Wines \$10<sup>99</sup>(1.5 L) Woodbridge Wines

\$11<sup>99</sup>(1.5 L)

Cavit

Wines

\$12<sup>29</sup>(1.5 L)

Clos Du Bois Chardonnay \$18<sup>99</sup>(1.5 L)

Gato Negro Wines \$999<sub>(1.5 L)</sub>

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# Rotary Launches 'Paws for a Cause' Fundraiser

**By London Brazal** 

Rotary recently launched a new fundraiser, Paws for a Cause, in support of the police department to train a new police K-9 and handler.

Police Chief Dennis Woessner said police K-9s are very beneficial as they are used for tracking a suspect who fled a crime scene. Police dogs who specialize in tracking have a strong sense of smell that humans do not possess. "They can also be used to locate missing individuals, adults or children," explained Woessner. "They can search a large area or building in a relatively short period of time, and they afford additional protection for the police officers."

Furthermore, police dogs are able to detect narcotics in enclosed and open areas such as a car or park. Woessner also mentioned how they can provide a psychological deterrent to criminal behavior. "They are a huge hit with the kids when the K-9 makes visits to a school, daycare, or other community events." East Hampton's police dog has been to the schools, Boy Scout meetings, and many other public events.

After seven years of service with the East Hampton Police Department, K-9 Ardo will be retiring in the first quarter of 2024. Ardo suffered an injury during training in September 2021 and had surgery on his left rear knee. Unfortunately, he never fully recovered. Ardo was trained to "alert" officers in the presence of certain drugs including marijuana. Ardo is no longer able to distinguish the difference between marijuana and other drugs, so he cannot be used to establish probable cause or reasonable suspicion for a further search for any drugs.

Rotary described Ardo's career as long and distinguished with many certifications. Ardo was cross-trained as a patrol and narcotics K-9 with tracking and evidence recovery. He and his handler John Wilson participated in the CT K-9 Olympia placing Top 10 multiple times. Their best performance was placing 4th overall

and winning the tactical obedience competition. The Rotary thanks Ardo and Wilson for their time serving together while wishing Ardo to "live the good life." Wilson is not retiring but will not be the handler for the new K-9. The police department is in the process of selecting a new K-9 handler.

Several years ago, when the department decided to establish a K-9 program, they sought the community's help in raising funds. "The overwhelming support we received from the residents and businesses in town was amazing," said Woessner. Now that Ardo will be retiring, the current budget did not allow for the purchase of a new dog, training expenses for the handler, overtime hours, or the required equipment for a new dog. "Without donations from residents and businesses, the K-9 program would no longer exist."

When the Rotary Club heard about Ardo's retirement, they wanted to be part of the fundraising efforts and formed a committee. The Paws for a Cause fundraising effort started with a \$3,000 check from Rotary. Rotarian Kevin Reed is the chair of the K-9 fundraising committee.

A slot has been reserved at the Connecticut State Police K-9 Academy in February for the town's next K-9 and handler, making the fundraising time-sensitive. The East Hampton Police Officer K-9 program has established a fundraising target of \$20,000 to supplement the program's requirements. As of publication, the fundraiser has hit over 30% of its goal.

Checks with 'K-9' listed in the memo field can be mailed to East Hampton Rotary at P.O. Box 358 or donations can be made online by going to easthamptonct.rotary7980gives.org and selecting "Paws for a Cause." Any inquiries can be made by emailing easthamptonctrotary@gmail.com.

## **Turkey Plunge Nov. 4**

On Saturday, Nov. 4, the 14th annual East Hampton Turkey Plunge will be held at Sears Park. Registration is at 9:00 a.m. followed by plunging at 10 a.m.

The Turkey Plunge is a tradition in East Hampton and this year more than 100 plungers of all ages will take a "dip" into the chilly November waters of Lake Pocotopaug – all in support of the East Hampton Food Bank. As always, costumes are encouraged. Bring your family and friends to cheer on your favorite

plunger or team.

Liberty Bank will match 25% of all donations/ pledges collected on the day of the plunge as part of the annual Liberty Bank Turkey Drive, a community partner in helping the local food bank stock their shelves for Thanksgiving.

For more information or to donate online to support your favorite team or plunger, visit tiny. cc/ehturkeyplunge, email turkeyplunge@gmail. com, or text the Turkey Plunge Hotline at 860-670-1143.

## **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 east-hamptonpubliclibrary.org, or on Facebook at facebook.com/EastHamptonLibrary.

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

Children's Programs: Bubbles & Beats!: Mondays, 10:30 a.m., for ages 18 months to 5 years (drop-ins and siblings welcome.); 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.

**Family Storytime:** Saturday, Nov. 4, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Best for ages 3-5. No registration required.

a.m. Best for ages 3-5. No registration required. **DIY Days: Puff Paint:** Saturday, Nov. 11, 11

a.m.-4 p.m., for grades K-8. Activities available

while supplies last. No registration required.

Nintendo Switch Game Play – Grades 1-5: Saturday, Nov. 18, 2-3 p.m. Play *Just Dance 2023*.

**Teen Programs: Bored? Games!:** Tuesday, Nov. 7, 1-3 p.m., for grades 6-12. Play a variety of board games. There will be snacks and prizes.

Nintendo Switch Game Play – Grades 6-12: Saturday, Nov. 11, 2-3:30 p.m., for grades 6-12. All skill levels welcome.

**Teen Movie Matinee:** Wednesday, Nov. 15, 2 p.m., in the Community Room. See *The Giver* (rated PG-13)

Adult Programs: Cookbook Club – Chicken: Tuesday, Nov. 7, 6:30 p.m. The library will provide plates and utensils; all you need is your dish and 12 copies of the recipe to share.

**Belltown Book Brunch:** Friday, Nov. 17, 11 a.m. Drop in for coffee or tea, a breakfast treat, and bookish banter.

**LibrarYoga with Amie Meacham:** Saturday, Nov. 18, 10:15 a.m., for adults, in the Community Room. All levels welcome; bring your own mat if you have one.





# East Hampton Democrats

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KAREN WANAT



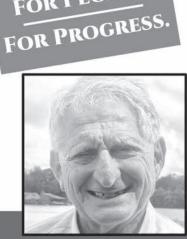
**JORDAN WERME** 



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RICH KNOTEK



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- Excellent schools, meeting the needs of students and the community.
- Preservation and responsible stewardship of Lake Pocotopaug.
- Robust and responsive police, fire, and Ambulance services that keep us safe.
- Well-maintained roads, parks, playgrounds and services.

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# VOTE ROWA

Paid for by the East Hampton Democratic Town Committee, Terry Concannon, Treasurer

# Family Legacy Continues: Business Handed Down

**By London Brazal** 

After 30 years in the automotive industry, Tony Flannery of Belltown Motors announced passing down the family business to his son, Anthony IV.

Tony started his entrepreneurial journey by buffing cars in his garage. He and his brother Owen created Flannery Enterprises in 1994 as their skills complemented each other as Owen mainly handled paperwork and the financial side of the business.

In 2000, the brothers established Belltown Motors in East Hampton with a three-bay garage, one mechanic, and a secretary. The company of four would soon grow into a multi-divisional company handling various aspects of the automotive industry. The front building, now used as the tire and service center and showroom, was the only service on the property.

The area surrounding was all wood with some of the land contaminated from older oil changes before the Flannerys moved in. Since 2010, the Flannerys worked to clean up the land. With yearly tests, including neighboring water systems, they took care of the fields. None of the wells were affected and this year, the tests came back fully clean.

Each year, the business continued to grow as they upgraded to six bays for tire repair, auto repairs, and auto body services. In the back of the property, they constructed another building that hosted NAPA Auto Parts. In 2016, the Flannerys built a new location for NAPA at 72 E High St. and the old location became a center for truck and tractor-trailer collision work.

Today, Belltown Motors has roughly 38 employees and covers eight towns for AAA. At 80 E. High St., the company has a tire service center, mechanical repair, and car and commercial truck collision repair. "We are the second largest, if not the largest in the state for truck collision repairs," said Tony. A good amount of their business comes from Ryder and Penske who bring in trucks constantly.

While reflecting on his time at Belltown Motors, Tony explained that the biggest challenge is help. "It's really hard to get enough people that re-

flect our standards," Tony said. As a family-oriented business, the company believes in time off with family, getting along, and working as a team. Ultimately, Belltown Motors strives to have a positive atmosphere at all times.

Last year, Tony and Owen started creating an exit strategy for Owen's retirement. They hired a chief financial officer, Paul Randall to help. This year, Owen was able to officially transition out.

Tony's son, Anthony is now transitioning to take on more responsibilities at Belltown Motors. Growing up, Anthony began racing go-karts at the age of seven. While attending Vinal Technical High School, he helped with oil changes and basic chores. Seeing a need for good mechanics, Anthony attended the University of Northwestern Ohio (UNOH) to get certified as a diesel technician and an associate's degree in business management.

At UNOH, Anthony joined the racing team and by his second year, became the crew manager, working as a liaison and managing sixty students with six race cars. With races at Eldora Speedway, Anthony trained for NASCAR. At the same time, Tony was asked to purchase Fowler's Auto Wrecking but initially turned it down. Then, with hopes that Anthony would take over the salvage yard, Tony added Fowler's to the company while commuting 20 hours each weekend to watch Anthony race.

By keeping it a secret, Tony allowed Anthony to decide what he wanted to do. "Coming from such a family-oriented business, it made it easier to come back," Anthony said. "It was every little boy's dream to just crush and demo stuff." Ultimately, Tony always supported the choices of his sons but wanted to create something they could always come home to. Anthony's son, Anthony V, could also have the opportunity to take over one day. "I look forward to giving my son the opportunity but we will never force this upon him," added Anthony.

With new changes on Belltown Motor's radar, they continue to advance with the upgrades in the automotive industry. By the new year, the whole facility is looking to achieve I-CAR Gold Class, "the highest role-relevant training achievement



Tony Flannery of Belltown Motors is handing down the family business to his son, Anthony IV. By staying family-oriented, the family is able to maintain a sense of community. With Tony is his son Anthony, his grandson Anthony V, and his daughter-in-law Erin.

recognized by the collision repair industry."

Belltown Motors is known for its commitment to the community, donating to multiple organizations around town. As the youngest of ten, Tony was accustomed to his parents being involved in town and enjoyed helping others.

"I love the village and its atmosphere, everything we have invested in is to help the community," Tony said. He added he feels blessed to assist in any way. "I'm fortunate that I can."

## **Local Wangunk Art Show to Open**

A reception for the art show "Kyle O'Neil: A Retrospective Journey" will be held at the Russell Library in Middletown Friday, Nov. 3, with doors opening at 5:30 p.m.

O'Neil is an East Hampton resident.

Welcoming remarks will begin at 6 p.m. in the Hubbard Room, with commentary from state Sen. Matt Lesser (D-9) and Middletown Mayor Ben Florsheim, followed by an award ceremony. Afterward, those in attendance are encouraged to come to the lobby of the library to mingle, enjoy some harvest-inspired refreshments, and view O'Neil's art. Registration is recommended via the library's website at www.russelllibrary. org, under "Events."

Wangunk Elder Gary O'Neil (Red Oak) and his daughter Kyle O'Neil (Bright Star), both of East Hampton, will be displaying Indigenous Wangunk art at the Russell Library throughout the month of November. The collection is a retrospective reflecting Kyle's journey as an artist.

There will be an opportunity to learn more about the Wangunks with Gary O'Neil at the Russell Library in the Hubbard Room on Monday, Nov. 20, at 6 p.m. O'Neil will speak about the history of his people, who lived in Middletown and surrounding areas until the early 1800s. He is a direct descendant of the Jonathan Palmer line of the Wangunks. Registration is also recommended via the library's website, under "Events."

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# Resident Charged in Deadly New Year's Eve Crash

**By Michael Sinkewicz** 

A Colchester resident was charged last month for his involvement in deadly car crash that occurred last New Year's Eve.

Hunter Fellows, 21, is facing four felony charges, including second-degree vehicular manslaughter, according to state police.

Fellows was also charged with two counts of second-degree assault with a motor vehicle, misconduct with a motor vehicle, failure to drive in the proper lane, and operating a vehicle under the influence while under the age of 21 with a blood alcohol level exceeding .02, police stated; he is scheduled to appear in Norwich Superior Court

The charges stem from an incident that took place at around 10 p.m. on New Year's Eve, 2022, when police and emergency response crews were dispatched to a one-car accident on Route 16 in

The driver of the car was identified as Fellows, who was 20 years old at the time of accident. He was taken to Hartford Hospital with significant injuries, police said.

The front seat passenger, 20-year-old Nicholas Anderson of Colchester, was treated for non-lifethreatening injuries. Two backseat passengers, Chance Fish and Mason Fish, from Norwich,

were ejected from the vehicle and taken to the hospital with serious life-threatening injuries, police said.

On Jan. 4, Mason Fish, 19, died as a result of his injuries.

In March, Fellows told police that he didn't remember anything regarding the accident and that he didn't recall getting into the vehicle, according to the affidavit obtained by the Rivereast. Fellows told police that he traded his dirt bike for the car of one of the victims, a 1991 Pontiac Sunbird, on the day of the accident, which was later involved in the crash.

According to affidavit, Fellows was drinking alcohol earlier that day, and operated the vehicle while impaired by alcoholic beverages. Toxicological analysis of his blood samples showed that his BAC was .12% at the time of the crash. Under the age 21, individuals in Connecticut are considered legally intoxicated at a .02 BAC or higher, according to the state Department of Motor Ve-

A detective with the Collision Analysis and Reconstruction Squad determined that, while traveling westbound on Route 16 near the intersection of Cemetery Road at 34 mph in rainy conditions, the Pontiac Sunbird Fellows was driving veered off the left side of the roadway, striking a tree with its left fender, according to the affidavit. Upon impact, the rear of the car rotated upwards resulting in a secondary impact with the tree along the windshield and edge of the roof.

The convertible roof mechanisms were fractured, police stated, and the roof was partially folded. The backseat passengers, who were not secured, were thrown through the opening in the roof, the report stated.

The detective concluded that the causative factor in the incident was Fellows failing to drive the car within the right lane of the roadway and crossing completely over to the left lane before impact. There were no obvious roadway defects; the road was wet, police stated. An inspection of the vehicle reveled no abnormalities of mechanical defects that would've contributed to the accident, the affidavit said.

One of the victims told police that during the day, he and Fellows "had a few beers," according to the report. The drinking, the victim added, stopped around 8 p.m. The victim, Anderson, stated that they were traveling to get gas in the

He told police that the roof "may not have been secured properly" and he tried pulling it down prior the crash, according to the affidavit. Anderson said that it was raining and foggy and "very difficult to see the road." He described the speed of the car as "reasonable and normal," the report

Fellows was charged on Oct. 12, according to police. Bond was set at \$500,000.

## **Ahavath Achim News**

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

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

Wednesday: Hebrew, 2:30 p.m., Jewish Literacy, 3:30 p.m.

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

Shabbat service. **Senior Center Trip** to Botanical Gardens

Colchester Senior Center is offering a trip to the New York Botanical Gardens on Thursday, Dec. 7, to see the Holiday Train Show. Deadline to sign up is Nov. 7.

Bus departs 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. There is an added fee of \$15 for seniors residing outside of Colchester.

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.

## Dine & Donate!

All are invited to support the nonprofit group Girls on the Run Wednesday, Nov. 8, at Oz N Bones BBO, 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 Intermedi-

## **President's List**

Colchester residents Amanda Boulay and Ashley Varjenski made the summer 2023 President's List at Goodwin University in East Hart-

## **Absentee Ballots Available for Election**

Absentee ballots for the Nov. 7 municipal election will be available in the town clerk's office 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

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

For more information, call the town clerk's



Please join us in welcoming our new **Physician Assistant** Pamela Frappier who will be seeing

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It was wet and muddy when the Colchester Cougars' Juniors squad played Tolland on Sunday - but Colchester prevailed, 20-13.

## Youth Football Recap

squads were in action the past two weekends including the first round of playoffs on Sunday. Here is how they fared:

Sunday, Oct. 29

Seniors: Lost their opening playoff game to the Killingly Redmen, 27-12. It was a wet and muddy game with several fumbles, but the Cougars never gave up and fought to the last whistle. Noah Garvie and Xaden Medina each had a rushing touchdown. The defense featured several goal line stands and tackles by James Wissler, Xaden Medina, Sam Collazo Colten LaFlash and Charlie Gorman.

Juniors: Defeated Tolland in a bowl game, 20-13. Many played in roles that they were not used to, such as PJ Broduer, who played TE and had a spectacular catch down the field. Taydien Serrano, Teigan Cardona and Gerrett Berg Johnson all played running back for the first time in their career. Gaberiella Bishop scored her first touchdown of the season.

Micros: Wrapped up the with a friendly bowl game versus Tolland. The approach at practice all week and during the game was to have fun, mix up the lineup a bit, and get many of the kids more plays than usual. It was wet, muddy, and a

## Annual Fall Market

Colchester Federated Church's annual Fall Market will be held Saturday, Nov. 4, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at the church, 60 Main St.

The event will feature over 40 local crafters, artisans, vendors and farmers. Have lunch at the Rustic Streats food truck, pick up some goodies at the bake sale, and visit the Upscale Tagsale. There will also be a raffle table.

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The Colchester Cougars youth football little cold, but the team left the field with smiles. Sunday, Oct. 30

Seniors: Ended the regular season defeating the Griswold Wolverines 40-7, to finish the season a perfect 8-0. Mason Howard got the scoring started early, on the Cougars' second play of the game. Dominic Helm continued his strong season with three touchdowns, Gavin King scored his first touchdown on a big catch and run, and Adam Bigelow added the final score late in the fourth quarter. The defense was led by Xaden Medina, Noah Garvie, and Colton LaFlash. Jacob Hashem, Jameson Grant, Brendan Kastrup, and Malik Jacques-Morales added big tackles throughout. Adam Bigelow and Gavin King also each added a fumble recovery.

Juniors: In the last regular season game of the season, the played hard for all four quarters, but lost to Griswold.

Micros: Fell to a tough Griswold team. The Micros were able to move the ball offensively and sustain drives but had too many possessions that didn't result in points. Defensively, they also had moments where they dug in and forced turnovers on downs, but Griswold found and attacked vulnerabilities.

Pee-Wee: With a team of 35, Griswold flexed their muscle early and often against a young and undersized Colchester team. Heading into the fourth with the score 35-0, Colchester finally crossed the goal line with a 23-yard run by Teddy Ramir. Sullivan King completed the 2-point conversion for the last play of the season for the Cougars.

## **Project Graduation Election Day Fundraiser**

The Bacon Academy Class of 2024 will be raising funds for their end of year graduation festivities by selling Munson's chocolate bars at the Bacon Academy polling location on Election Day, Nov. 7, from 7:30 a.m.-7 p.m.

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. Direct donations are always welcome.

Visit baconacademyprojectgrad.org for more

## From the Superintendent's Desk...

In the world of K12 education, standardized assessments have long been a measure of student success and school performance. They provide a uniform metric to compare student achievement across different districts, states, and even countries.

However, standardized tests only offer a snapshot of a student's capabilities at a particular moment. They don't fully capture the breadth of a student's abilities, or reflect the progress they may have made over the course of a year.

The key? Balance. We need to balance the insights provided by standardized tests with in-house

Data teams in our district are focusing on how students are doing on a daily, weekly, and monthly basis. This data provides a more detailed picture of student performance, including their strengths, areas for improvement, and growth over time.

By using this in-house data, we can modify our curriculum and instructional strategies to better support each student. It allows us to identify gaps in our teaching and adjust our approaches to ensure every student is learning effectively.

Incorporating in-house data measures and modifying instruction isn't just about improving test scores. It's about supporting each student as an individual, recognizing their unique learning styles and needs

Looking back at the previous year, we're pleased to see the positive impact of this balanced approach on our students' performance. In particular, we are proud to announce that Bacon Academy has been ranked #6 in the state, with 80.4% of students in grades 11~&~12 meeting the college-andcareer-readiness (CCR) benchmark on at least one of the following: SAT, ACT, AP, or IB. Additionally, many students have earned three or more dual enrollment credits cumulatively during their high school career. If you would like to view the full student performance summary as presented at the September 26, 2023 Board of Education meeting please go to tinyurl.com/t9926pz4.

Daniel Sullivan, Colchester Superintendent of Schools

## Jack-O'-Lantern Recycle

The Colchester Agricultural Commission is sponsoring a collection of pumpkins and jack-o'lanterns after Halloween to benefit the Colchester Livestock Food Bank (CLFB). The collection will take place from Nov. 1 through November 15 at designated drop off locations.

Accepted donations include whole pumpkins, jack-o'-lanterns, and pumpkins painted with non-toxic paint. Marked pallets will be placed at participating locations and will then be collected by the Colchester Livestock Foodbank and local farmers. Girl Scout Cadette Troop #63223 has created brightly colored signs to mark each pallet collection bin.

Participating locations for drop off starting Nov. 1 include: Colchester Elementary School; Jack Jackter Intermediate School; William J. Johnston Middle School; Bacon Academy; Colchester Town Hall; and the Colchester Senior Center. Pumpkins can also be dropped off at Savitsky Farm, 195 Cato Corner Road, as well as Rose'N'Petal Farm, 348 Westchester Road (Route 149). Donations after Nov. 15 can be dropped off at Rose'N'Petal Farm.

More information about the CLFB can be found on the town website under the Agriculture Commission's page. For more information or questions, call Donna Rosenblatt at 860-267-4975.

## 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, Nov. 6: 9 a.m., Making Memories, Exercise with Anne; 9-11 a.m., Flu/Covid Vaccine Clinic; 10 a.m., Sittercize; 11 a.m., Learn to Sign; 12:30 p.m., Mah Jongg, Bridge; 12:45 p.m., Setback.

Tuesday, Nov. 7: 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m., Rides to the Polls; 9 a.m., Making Memories; 9:45 a.m., Tai Chi; 10 a.m., Seasonal Crafting; 12:30 p.m., Pinochle.

Wednesday, Nov. 8: 9 a.m., Making Memories Program, Walking Group meetup at the Air Line Trail in Amston; 10 a.m., Adult Coloring, Sit & Be Fit; 10:30 a.m., Men of the Civil War; 1:30 p.m., Cardio Drumming; 2 p.m., Sewing Circle; 2:30 p.m., Senior Center staff meeting.

Thursday, Nov. 9: 9 a.m., Exercise w/Anne; 10 a.m., Sittercize, Wii Bowling; 10:30 a.m., Shopping Trip; 11 a.m., Yoga, Fire Prevention Talk; noon, Chair Massage; noon-3 p.m., Senior Benefits Counseling by an appointment only; 12:30 p.m., Dominoes; 1 p.m., Knit & Crochet.

Friday, Nov. 10: Senior Center is closed for the Veterans Day holiday.

Upcoming Events: A Tribute to Veterans: Monday, Nov. 13, 10 a.m. Storyteller/historian Arnie Pritchard will present "This Business of Fighting: A Human Face on World War II." Pritchard has created a story based on hundreds of letters and other family papers found in a World War II army foot locker belonging to his father Anton (Tony) Pritchard. The story focuses on Tony's front lines in Europe during the war and all the emotions that he conveyed in his letters. Refreshments will be served.

Open Enrollment: Fridays, Nov. 17 and Dec. 1, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. by appointment. Open Enrollment runs through Dec. 7, annually, and it's your opportunity to make changes to Medicare, especially Medicare C (Medicare Advantage Plans) or Medicare D (prescription drug coverage plans). Meet with a certified CHOICES counselor who is specially trained in Medicare. Call the office to schedule your appointment.

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## 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.colchester-ct.gov/recreation-department. Parks and Rec. can also be reached at 860-537-7297 or at Town Hall, 127 Norwich Ave.

Audition Notice: It's a Wonderful Life Live Radio Play: Audition to be part of the Colchester Actors Theatre inaugural production. Producers are seeking actors ages 14-adult for various roles in a 1940s-style radio play of the holiday classic It's a Wonderful Life. Auditions will be held Nov. 20 and 21 at 6 p.m. Rehearsals will be Nov. 29, 30 and Dec. 4-7. Show date: Dec. 8 at the Colchester Federated Church. Sign-up in advance to reserve your audition spot.

Adult Actor's Lab: This scene study program includes guidance from a seasoned actor and director. Classes run Thursdays, Nov. 9, 16 and 30, and are for ages 18 and up. Cost: \$75/resident, \$80/non-resident. Instructor: Randall Delone Adkison.

Beginning Acting: For ages 14-18. Classes run Mondays, Nov. 6, 20 and 27. Cost: \$75/

resident, \$80/non-resident. Instructor: Randall Delone Adkison.

**Muscial Theatre: Acting the Song:** Don't just sing the song; act it out! For ages 14-adult. Cost: \$75/resident, \$80/non-resident. Instructor: Randall Delone Adkison.

**Intermediate Yoga: For ages 18 and up.** Mondays beginning Nov. 6. Fee: \$70/resident.

Gentle Yoga: Online with Facebook Live. For ages 45 and up. Four-week classes are held on Mondays in re-occurring sessions. Next class is Nov. 27-Dec. 18, from 4:45-5:45 p.m. Cost: \$35/resident, \$40/non-resident.

Yoga, Mindful Tools and More: Tuesdays, Nov. 28-Dec. 19, or Wednesdays, Nov. 29-Dec. 20, afterschool at Colchester Elementary. This class will have children making, using and taking home tools to help support yoga and mindful practices. The class is for children enrolled at 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 pick up their child at 4:30 p.m. Cost: \$55. There is a maximum of eight students allowed.

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Republican for BOARD OF SELECTMEN



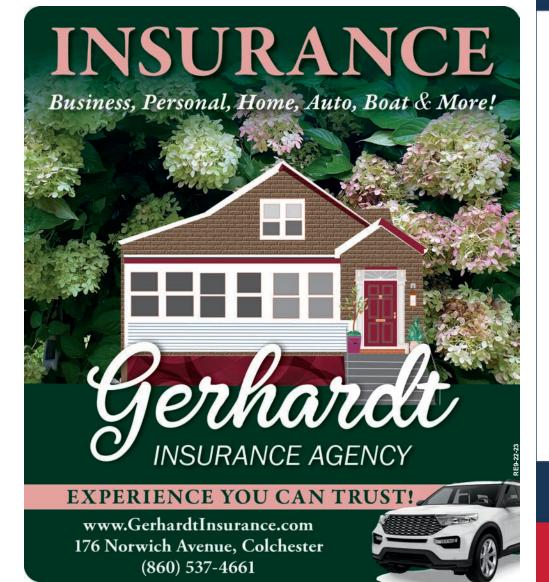
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- ★ Previously a member of Colchester's Zoning & Planning Board
- ★ Member of the Colchester Lions Club Board of Directors
- Member of the Colchester Business Association's Board of Directors
- ★ A union member of Plumbers Local 777 and the Operating Engineers Local 478 in Connecticut
- ★ A member of the Executive Board of the Mechanical Contractors of Connecticut
- ★ President of the Nutmeg Construction Group, Inc.
- ★ Evangelical Christian and attend my church faithfully

I have lived and paid taxes in Colchester since 1974. My wife Bev and I have been married for 34 years and together we have 7 children of which 4 are graduates of Bacon Academy. As a Republican running for the Board of Selectmen, I bring over 40 years of experience in owning and operating several successful businesses in Colchester and the state of Connecticut. I am a financial conservative but stand ready to listen to any and all ideas brought forth by our citizens for the betterment of our town. I will bring a lot of experience to the table, along with my leadership, integrity and work ethic. I believe in "People before Government"

Vote REPUBLICAN on November 7th, 2023

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## **Portland Veterans Day Activities**

Portland has three upcoming events to honor military veterans.

On Saturday, Nov. 4, the annual Veterans Day Breakfast will be hosted by American Legion Ormont Post 69 from 0700-1000 (unless the food runs out sooner.) The all-you-can-eat menu includes egg omelets (ham, cheese or plain), bacon, sausage, creamed chipped beef, toast, grits, coffee, tea and orange juice, for a suggested donation of \$8 per adult. Takeout is available.

On Saturday, Nov. 11, at 11 a.m., there will be

## **Police News**

10/28: James Chrystal, 49, of 798 Glastonbury Tpke., was arrested and charged with second-degree threatening, interfering with arrest and disorderly conduct, Portland Police said.

a short wreath-laying ceremony at the Portland Veterans Memorial Park, located behind Town Hall, 33 East Main St.

Then, at 6 p.m. on Nov. 11, the annual Veterans Day Dinner will be held at the Portland High School cafeteria. Sponsored by the Portland Veterans Affairs Committee and the American Legion Ormont Post 69, this dinner is made possible by the very donation from Sebby Milardo and his family and employees at Melilli Caffe and Grill. There are 250 free tickets available for local veterans and their significant other/guest.

A maximum of two tickets per veteran can be picked up at the Portland Town Clerk's Office, 33 East Main St., or at Quonset Surplus, 11 Pickering St.

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## **Portland Library News & Notes**

Portland Library, 20 Freestone Ave., has announced the following events. Registration is required for all programs unless noted. To register and for full program descriptions, visit or call 860-342-6770. The library is also on Facebook and Instagram.

Hours: Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Masks are optional. Holiday Closings: The library will be closed Friday, Nov. 10, for Veterans Day; it will be open Saturday, Nov. 11, however. Also, for Thanksgiving, the library is closing at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 22, and will remain closed Thursday and Friday, Nov. 23 and 24. It will reopen Saturday, Nov. 25.

LGBTQ+ Social and Support Groups: Teens are invited to social meetups at the library on the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. Support groups will meet on the third Wednesday of the month, with a parent and caregiver support group running concurrently in another room at the library. For more information, contact Jenn Renk at 860-342-6770.

Family Craft Night: Fall Paper Strip Décor: Monday, Nov. 13, 6:30 p.m. This activity has steps that are appropriate for all ages, but a parent or guardian must be with children to help with supervision. Registration is required and space is limited.

Children's Programs: T-Rex Tea Party: Tuesday, Nov. 7, 11 a.m., for kids in pre-k through grade 2. Have some light refreshments while enjoying dinosaur songs, stories and

## **Turkey Shoots**

Portland Fish and Game Club will hold its annual Turkey Shoots Sundays, Nov. 5-18, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., across from the Exchange Club Fairgrounds on Route 17A. There is a Super bird every week.

The cost is \$3 for one shot or two for \$5. Food and drink will be available. Families are welcome.

more. Wear your fanciest or fiercest attire.

Late Fall/Early Winter Storytimes: Preschool Storytime: Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m., Nov. 14-Dec. 19; Storytime for Toddlers and Tots: Mother Goose on the Loose: Wednesdays at 10:15 a.m. or 11:15 a.m., Nov. 15-Dec. 20.

**Drop-In Lego Building:** Monday, Nov. 20, noon-2 p.m., for kids of all ages. No registration required. The library will supply the Legos.

Animal Detectives: Tuesday, Nov. 21, 2 p.m., for ages 4-10. Presented by the Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center. Learn how to read clues animals leave behind – and recreate an animal track to bring home. Space is limited.

**Teen Programs: Paint Your Pet:** Tuesday, Nov. 7, 4-6 p.m., for ages 13 and up. Local artist Nancy Roman will walk teens through creating watercolor portraits of their favorite fourlegged friends. Bring a 5x7 photo of your pet to the program. If you don't have a pet, Roman has photos you can use.

Adult Programs: Art Reception for "Lessons Learned In-Person: An Exhibition of Artistic Growth in Watercolor": Saturday, Nov. 4, 1 p.m., sponsored by the Friends of the Portland Library. The reception features a selection of works by local artists, curated by Bivenne Staiger. The exhibit runs through Nov. 30.

**Book Clubs: Talk About Books:** Tuesday, Nov. 7, 1 p.m. *Horse* by Geraldine Brooks will be discussed; **Mystery Lovers Book Club:** Tuesday, Nov. 14, 1 p.m. *Two Nights in Lisbon* by Chris Pavone will be discussed.

Coffee Tastings & Food Pairings: Wednesday, Nov. 8, 6:45 p.m. Try different types of coffee.

Knifty Knitters: Saturdays 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. The Knitters (and Crocheters) of Portland are open to all adults, regardless of experience level. Beginning fiber artists are welcome. Later this November the library's display cases will feature a selection of works that the members of this group have donated to the Friends of the Portland Library to auction off; check in with staff to see how to bid.

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# Democrats Offer Opportunities to Meet Candidates

In July, Portland Democrats formally endorsed a slate of 12 candidates for municipal office. Since the announcement, the Portland Democrats have offered community members many opportunities to meet their candidates, including a "Food Tour" that had candidates and supporters enjoying meals at Eggs Up, Campagna, Farrell's, Melilli's, and Portland Ale House.

"We are proud to have put forward such an experienced and community-minded slate of candidates," said April Graves, vice chair of the Portland Democrats. "These candidates are making a real effort to connect with Portland residents to hear about the issues that matter most to them, and we were pleased with the strong turnout we had at Melilli's last Saturday as candidates and community members gathered for breakfast."

Present at the gathering were Board of Selectmen candidates Andrea Alfano, Jillian Crawford, incumbent John Dillon, and Jim Tripp; Board of Education incumbents Meg Scata,

> **Resident Starts College Early**

Rory Platt of Portland has joined the fall 2023 class at Bard College at Simon's Rock in Great Barrington, Mass. It is the nation's first early college.

The college is home to about 400 students who engage in a liberal arts and sciences curriculum and graduate from college one or two years ahead

## **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), Sasha Connolly

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).

## St. Mary Basket Raffle

St. Mary Ladies Guild will sponsor its annual Bountiful Basket Raffle. Tickets will be available for sale on Saturday, Nov. 11, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., in the rosary room and after all weekend Masses.

The drawing will take place on Sunday, Nov. 12, after the 10:30 a.m. Mass. All are welcome to attend. However, you need not be present to win.

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

Sarah Spear, and BOE Chair Laurel Steinhauser; Zoning Board of Appeals candidates Rose Aletta and incumbent Cynthia Roman, and Board of Assessment Appeals incumbent Ken Kearns.

At breakfast, education and the ongoing school facilities challenges were a topic of conversation.

"Since my time serving on the Board of Education, I've been following the school facilities issue," said Andrea Alfano. "It's going to be at the forefront of what the Board of Selectmen is facing going forward. I have demonstrated my ability to work collaboratively with other elected officials to take action."

Sarah Spear noted, "Each incumbent Democrat on the BOE is running for reelection. In

## **Voter Registration** and Absentee Ballots

The municipal election will be held Nov. 7. Voting will run from 6 a.m.-8 p.m., at Portland Middle School, located at 93 High St.

Absentee ballots are available from the Portland town clerk's office, by calling the office at 860-342-6743, or by visiting www. portlandct.org/voting-info for online application options.

The registrar of voters will additionally be holding a limited registration session in their office on Monday, Nov. 6, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., for those who have moved into town, become citizens, or turned 18 after Oct. 31.

Election Day registration will be available at the polls, for those needing to register. Once registered, people will be able to vote each meeting and with each vote, we have demonstrated our commitment to put students' and staff's needs first, joining with families to ensure their children are being prepared for life after graduation."

Fellow Board of Education member Meg Scata added, "We don't shy away from the tough issues when it comes to setting policies, strategic planning, implementing state and federal mandates, and finding funding for programs for all of our students. We work tirelessly to be informed and take advantage of professional development opportunities."

'When it comes to our children's education and navigating the challenges of today's educational landscape, having experienced leaders on the Board of Education is critical," said Laurel

"Our district needs leaders who understand the issues, who aren't there with their own personal agendas, but who value public education and want to work collaboratively to make sure our schools are a place where every single student can thrive."

Ongoing town projects, economic development, and a lack of representation of women on the current Board of Selectmen were also topics of conversation.

"As a young female candidate with plans to raise a family in Portland in the near future, the maintenance of our strong school system and success of our ongoing town projects is something I care about deeply," said Jillian Crawford. "I know I will bring a fresh perspective to the Board of Selectmen."

Michael Wrang, a community member in attendance, added "I believe Ms. Crawford will bring fresh ideas and renewed energy to the board. It is imperative to get more young people involved in serving our local community."

Community members are invited to join Democratic candidates for the final stop on their "Food Tour" this coming Monday, Nov. 6, from 8:30-10 a.m., at Sarah's on Main.

## Native American Programs at Library

November is Native American Heritage Month, and Portland Library has two special programs coming up via Zoom, to celebrate. The programs can be attended from your own home or from one of the library's computers.

Quinnetukut: Our Homeland, Our History: Tuesday, Nov. 14, 6 p.m. In this presentation, led by Schaghticoke Tribal Nation education director Darlene Kascak, participants will get a more complete and accurate view of the history of Connecticut that takes the perspectives of Native people into account.

Etuaptmumk: Two-Eyed Seeing in Our Dai-

ly Lives: Tuesday, Nov. 28, 6 p.m. Etuaptmumk is a Mi'kmaw saying that translates to "two-eyed seeing." This concept refers to learning how to see the strengths of Indigenous knowledge from one eye and the strengths of Western knowledge from the other. Kascak and IAIS educator and ecologist Susan Scherf will discuss how people can include this "two-eyed seeing" concept in

Registration is requested for either or both programs, by visiting www.portlandlibraryct. org or calling 860-342-6770.





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## **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 Portland Project Grad 2024 at phs.project. grad.2024@gmail.com for an application.

Deadline to sign up is Saturday, Nov. 11.

**Bingo Night**The Portland Exchange Club will hold a Bingo Night Thursday, Nov. 9, at Concentric Brewery, located at 91 Main St. Games start at 7 p.m.

Admission is \$20 for four cards to be used for all 10 games with prizes for the winner of each game. A portion of the proceeds to benefit Port-

## **Portland Election Day Information**

Portland's municipal election will be held Tuesday, Nov. 7, with voting from 6 a.m.-8 p.m. at Portland Middle School, 93 High St. Bring identification with vou.

Curbside voting will be available for those with disabilities. If you want to utilize this service, call the town clerk's office at 860-342-6743 when you are on your way to the polls. Park in the circle at the entrance to the polls and put your hazard lights on. This will alert the poll

workers that you have arrived.

Election Day registration will be available at the polling location, for those needing to register to vote. Once registered, you will be able to vote in the election.

Any outstanding absentee ballots must be received by the town clerk or deposited into the election drop box at the rear of Town Hall no later than 8 p.m. Nov. 7 to be counted. Absentee ballots will continue to be issued through Monday, Nov. 6, by the town clerk's office. Emergency absentee ballots will be issued through the end of the election by the town clerk's office for those who qualify.



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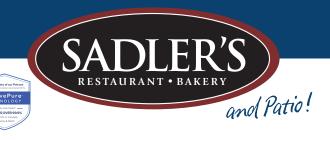
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## THINKING THANKFUL

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## **Portland Food Drive**

On Sunday, Nov. 5, starting at 1 p.m., volunteers will be in different neighborhoods handing out grocery bags for the annual Bag Food Drive to benefit the Portland Food Bank.

These volunteers will return on Sunday, Nov. 12, to collect the bags.

For more information or to help, call Kelly Mainetti at 860-685-1985 or Shaun Manning at 860-398-0936.

## **Methodist Church** Holiday Bazaar

Portland United Methodist Church will hold its Holiday Bazaar Saturday, Nov. 18, at the church, located at 381 Main St. The event will feature hand-crafted gifts, a bake sale, and several kinds of soups. A portion of the proceeds will go to charity.

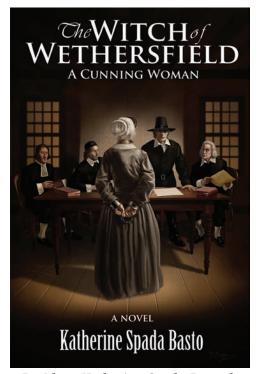
## **Charity Raffle**

St. Mary Freestone Council 7 Knights of Columbus is again holding an annual raffle as part of ITS ongoing efforts to raise funds to support various local charitable activities.

This year's raffle offers all cash prizes: grand prize, \$1,500; second prize, \$1,000; third prize, \$500; fourth prize, \$500.

Tickets are \$5 each and will be available after Masses, as well as from any Brother Knight. The winning tickets will be drawn at 7 p.m. on Dec. 2 in the church hall.

Call Frank Magnotta for more information at 860-342-2191.



Resident Katherine Spada Basto has announced the publication of her third historical novel, The Witch of Wethersfield: A Cunning Woman.

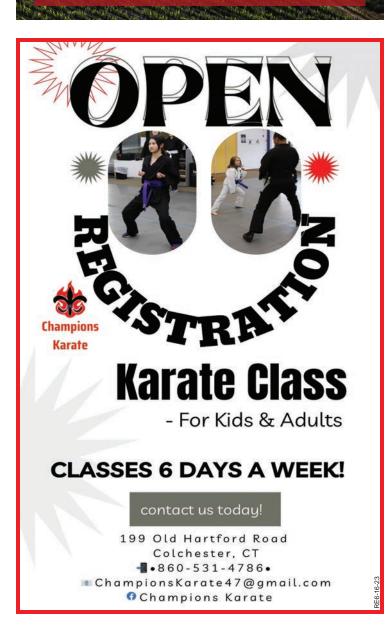
## **Local Author Releases** Third Book

Portland resident and award-winning author Katherine Spada Basto has announced the publication of her third historical novel, The Witch of Wethersfield: A Cunning Woman.

Based on the true story from 1600s Colonial Connecticut, the tale of Katherine Harrison, an outspoken and brash woman, takes one back to the Puritan times, when anyone who was different or contentious, could easily be accused of a

Basto conducted research into Harrison's trial, the depositions from angry, envious neighbors, and the ultimate verdict of her trial.

The Witch of Wethersfield: A Cunning Woman is available on Amazon, B&N and selected bookstores. Spada Basto will be available for limited speaking engagements.



Portland • Portland •

## **History Uncovered: The Three Brainerd Place Houses**

The Portland Historical Society and the Bartlett Hill Community are sponsoring the presentation "History Uncovered: The Three Brainerd Place Houses," by Portland resident Alain Munkittrick, on Thursday, Nov. 9, at 7 p.m., at the Waverly Senior Center, 7 Waverly Ave. The public is invited for free, and light refreshments will be served.

Munkittrick will present the results of his research into the architectural and family histories of three of Portland's historic houses,

which are to be restored as part of the new Brainerd Place development of the former Elmcrest Psychiatric Institute campus: the Hart-Jarvis House (1830), the Erastus Brainerd Jr. House (c.1855), and the John H. Sage House (1884). Besides architectural documentation of these houses, Munkittrick will present rare family photos and the first public airing of historic home movie film footage he discovered which dates to the early 1930s.

## First Congregational Church News

The First Congregational Church of Portland, located at 554 Main St., is a member of the United Church of Christ. The church is an "open and affirming" congregation, welcoming everyone.

On Sunday, Nov. 5, worship is at 10 a.m. The Rev. Julie Olmsted will preach with her sermon titled, "The Rope." This is also New Member Sunday when the church welcomes several new members. Following worship Coffee Hour will take place and is a time of fellowship for all who participate.

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

For more information, email first.church. pct@sbcglobal.net or call 860-342-3244, or follow the church on Facebook at The First Congregational Church of Portland, CT.

## **Senior Center News & Notes**

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

Food Bank 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.

Foodshare: Monday, Nov. 6, 1 p.m.

Next Week's Programs: Monday: Light Aerobics, 9:30-10:30 a.m.; SynoCize Exercise, 10:30-11:30 a.m.; Blood Pressure Clinic, 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.; Social Duplicate Bridge, 12:30-4 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesday, multipurpose room.

Tree-Lighting and Parade
Portland Youth & Family Services and Parks & Recreation are coordinating the annual Tree Lighting and Parade on Sunday, Dec. 3, beginning at 4 p.m., in front of Brownstone Intermediate School.

Portland High School chorus and band members will perform traditional holiday songs. Santa will be coming to light the tree too.

Parks & Rec. is looking for businesses and organizations to participate in the parade that starts at 5 p.m. Reach out to Courtney Fitzkee at cfitzkee@portlandct.org or 860-342-6758 if interested in participating.

## **President's List**

Marina Seley of Portland made the summer

2023 President's List at Goodwin University in **QUONSET SURPLUS** (860) 342-0612 \_11-13 Pickering Street M-F 8-5 **Portland** Sat 8-4 Sun 8-12:30 🗸 **Get Your** Sights Set On **Hunting Season** · Kamik & Muck Boots Wigwam Socks Headnets Deer Dander Deer Cover Scents & Attractants Carhartt Clothing

Thursday: Stretch & Tone, 9:30 a.m.; Knit &

Stitch, 10 a.m.; Mahjong, 12:30 p.m.; Scrabble, 1

p.m. Friday: Closed for Veterans Day. Sweet Salute: Wednesday, Nov. 8, 2 p.m. Honor veterans with dessert delights. Call Sarah or Alexis for more information or 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

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.

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## 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.

Self-Defense for Women: Sunday, Nov. 12, 6-7 p.m., at The Inner Circle, 332 Marlborough St.

Women's Drop-In Basketball: Mondays, 7:30-9 p.m., through May, at Portland Middle School. Men's Drop-In Basketball: Tuesdays, 7:30-9 p.m., through May, at Portland Middle School.

Heartsaver First Aid, CPR & AED Course: Saturday, Nov. 11, 12:30-3:30 p.m., at the Buck-Foreman Community Center at 265 Main St.

## Trinity Episcopal Church News

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

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

The church's Parish Pantry Providers are continuing to help stock the shelves of the Portland Food Pantry. The Providers are collecting Thanksgiving items for November.

The church is open for prayer and meditation on Fridays from 2-4 p.m., and there is also a gathering in the church office at the same time, for Anglican Prayer beading. No prior beading experience is required. All are welcome.

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

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

## **Youth Soccer Recap**

The Portland youth soccer teams were in action last week. Here are some highlights:

U9 Boys Red Raptors: Fell to East Hampton, in a narrow loss. Portland was down early before cutting into the deficit when Elliot Parmalee netted one to end the first half with an assist from Clayton Trojanowski. The second half saw Portland come alive on offense with Trojanowski scoring twice and Declan Stachelek adding one of his own. Christian Rosario and Wilder Yardis (2) recorded the second half assists. Max Finkelstein and Jackson Coiteux manned the nets with Coiteux making an epic save on a breakaway to keep the game close in the second half. Miles Burdick and Isaiah Curzan showed masterful defense to hold the opponent at bay.

On Sunday, the Red Raptors defeated Vernon. Stachelek sparked the team's scoring on a penalty kick followed by goals from Yardis, assisted by Trojanowski, and Coiteux, assisted by Elliot Parmalee. Coiteux added a second half score with an assist from Max Finkelstein, while Trojanowski found the back of the net on an assist from Nolan Heller. Evan Kowalchik was a defensive wall in support of Finkelstein and Rosario, who split the goalie role to complete the shutout. Cooper Strong fired multiple shots on goal while applying constant pressure on the Vernon defense.

U10 Girls Red Pandas: Suffered two weekend losses. On Saturday against Wethersfield, the team's offense showed many bright spots highlighted by a penalty kick score by Oliva LeCara and a well-struck goal by Anya Pereira after a perfect Ellie Heller pass. An own-goal by Wethersfield produced by a strong Pereira corner kick rounded out the team's Saturday scoring. Paige Campbell and Callie Lawrence showed mid-field creativity, and defenders Charlotte Fagan and Caroline Martinez repeatedly pushed back Wethersfield's speedy attacks.

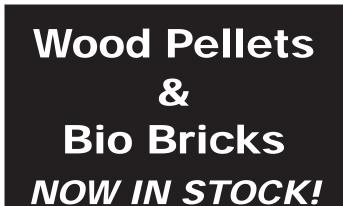
In Sunday's loss against a well-organized Bristol team, the Red Pandas resiliency was on full display, when Anya Pereira broke through the defense to strike one just inside the right post in the latter part of the second half. Campbell's field energy and spirited goal-tending produced several exciting moments. Outside midfielders Lawrence and Heller did excellent work bringing the ball up the sidelines. Fagan, Martinez, and Gabriella Lardizzone held the Red Pandas' defensive line strong for most of the match, while Charlotte Cyr and Emma Hodge worked the midfield.

U11 Boys Earthquake: On Saturday, they topped Glastonbury 5-1, with Logan Duberry, Ben Martinez, Tucker Parmelee, Andrew and Christian Quesnel all connecting with the back of the net. Sunday's game was a 9-7 loss to East Hampton. Ben Martinez had his first brace of the season and Tucker Parmelee netted his second brace. Marshall Clarke, Christian Quesnel and James Kowalchik also added to the tally in a well-contested match.

## Dean's List

Portland residents Jessica Nolan and Marina Seley made the summer 2023 President's List at Goodwin University in East Hartford.





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Andover • Andove

# Polls Open Next Tuesday

By Michael Sinkewicz

Control of Andover's major boards and commissions is up for grabs on Election Day next Tuesday, Nov. 7. Voting will take place from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m at the Town Office Building, located at 17 School Rd.

This week, Democratic Town Committee (DTC) Chairman Catherine Magaldi-Lewis gave her final assessment of the election.

'The best I can say is if people are paying attention to what is really happening in Andover then we have a good chance of winning," she told the Rivereast.

She urged everyone to come out and vote, adding that if anyone is searching for a ride, they can reach out to the DTC to pick them up; residents can contact andoverdemsct@gmail.com to schedule transportation, she said.

Republican Town Committee (RTC) Chairman Carol Barton did not respond to a request for comment before press time.

All five of the Board of Selectmen seats are open this election cycle; Republicans currently hold a 3-2 majority, but Democrats are in possession of the first selectman's chair.

That first selectman, Jeff Maguire, once again sits atop his party's ticket. He is joined by incumbent Scott Person, who is looking to hang onto his own seat. Democrats are turning to Ann Cremé, who is the vice chair on the Planning and Zoning Commission, to pick up an additional selectmen seat and the board majority. Both Crème and Person are also seeking reelection on the zoning commission, as well; they will face-off against current Republican chairman Jed Larsen. There are three open seats on that commission.

Regarding Maguire, Magaldi-Lewis previously stated that the town has "gotten quite a bit done

She asserted that "bringing humility" to the selectmen is a major priority for the Democratic

The current vice chair of the selectmen, Republican Adrian Mandeville, is challenging Maguire for leadership of the board. Fellow incumbents Jeff Murray and Paula King are also seeking reelection this year.

Barton has expressed that a top objective for the entire GOP slate is fiscal responsibility.

"We have to look at what we can afford," she

Four seats on the seven-member Board of Finance are available this year. Democrats are running incumbents Louise Goodwin and Brian Briggs, along with newcomers Jay Kamins and John Tyczkowski. Magaldi-Lewis has described Kamins as a voice who would be down the middle, which is "so needed." Tyczkowski, meanwhile, is "very energetic." He is a younger candidate who will bring "fresh ideas."

For Republicans, incumbent William Desrosiers looks to retain his finance board seat; he is joined by Kelly Wood.

Barton noted that both parties have new faces this year, which she said was an asset.

"It's good because people are willing to step up and support the town," she said during the sum-

mer. "You don't say 'yes' unless you know what you're getting into.'

Incumbent Democrat Caitlin Greenhouse is a candidate once again for the local school board. She will be joined by fellow incumbent Shannon

Republican Steven Fuss is seeking reelection, along with newcomer Brianne Lanzieri. Kim Person is petitioning onto the ballot. There are four seats up for grabs with five candidates run-

Longtime town clerk Carol Lee is cross-endorsed and running unopposed.

Mandeville is also eyeing a seat on the Board of Assessment Appeals, along with incumbent Republican Alan Roy. Democratic incumbent Linda Armstrong is seeking another term aside newbie Emily Timrick; all three board seats are

Patrick Doherty, a member of the Economic Development Commission, is seeking an alternate seat on the zoning commission, along with Annmarie Daigle; they are running unopposed.

For the Zoning Board of Appeals, Republican

chairman William Desrosiers - who's also on the finance board — is seeking reelection; incumbent Kathleen Skorka is running once again, joined on the ticket by Fred Oliver.

Democratic incumbent William Munroe seeks another term, along with Jay Kamins — who's running for the finance board.

Republican Joan Ross is running as an alternate.

Wallace Barton Jr., Republican chairman of the Fire Commission, is on the ticket again this year. Incumbent Democrat Mark Williams is running once more, joined by Kimberly Hawes; there are three open seats this election cycle.

"These are very smart people," Magaldi-Lewis previously stated regarding the slate. "They're people that want to do good, who are open to the other side."

Barton has expressed that "government is not easy" and it's commendable to see residents step up to volunteer.

'You can't always complain about what's happening if you're not willing to put your name in and change it," Barton said.

## **Senior Citizen News & Notes**

Palazzi if you need one.

Senior Luncheons will be held at the Town Hall community room at noon Friday, Nov. 17, and Thursday, Nov. 30. Reservations required for all lunches; no walk-ins accepted.

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 pro-

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

Registrars in Session

The Andover registrars of voters office will be open Monday, Nov. 6, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., to admit those seeking to vote in the Nov. 7 municipal election – provided their age, citizenship or residence was attained since Oct. 31.

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

AA Meetings: Saturdays and Mondays, 7

**Sonshine Stampers:** Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. 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.

## Tag Sale for Senior Lunch Program

Andover seniors are hosting a tag and vendor sale on Saturday, Nov. 4, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., at the Andover Elementary School gym, to raise money for their senior luncheon programs.

There will be a variety of vendors and many tag items to choose from. For more information, call Cathy Palazzi at 860-916-6122.

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.

Shopping: Willimantic - Thursday, Nov. 9; Manchester - Tuesday, Nov. 14.

Election Day Rides: Rides to the polls are available on Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 7. Call

## Cover Story • Co

★ 'Meet the Candidates' cont. from page 1

native and she said her main goal is to keep East Hampton affordable. With years of leadership experience, she said she wants to improve communication among departments and the community. Hecht is interested in sitting down with businesses and students to analyze their needs. With that, she said she wants to meet with other boards and research what can be done to attract mid-size businesses.

Democrat Rich Knotek has previous experience on multiple municipal boards. He said he wants to remain observant of the changing landscape of town and assess the needs of the community. With future financing, he wants to work with the Economic Development Commission to further expand the tax base. To Knotek, leadership is important and promotes the idea of regular workshops among boards.

Democrat Dean Markham is a lifelong resident of town with government experience on a local and state level. He said he sees a need to work with the Board of Education and the Board of Finance, along with the public, to properly send information out. On Town Council, Markham said he wants to set an example and commit to town policy. To help with financing, Markham encourages the use of a consultant to write grants.

Republican Bridget McLennan currently serves as the chair of the Board of Finance. One idea she has is to update and utilize the town website while improving communication. She said she wants people to get involved with the budget process before it is too late. To McLennan, public safety ranks high along with education, and to that end she said she hopes to budget for another police officer.

Democrat Jack Solomon has a doctorate in physical chemistry with knowledge in research, development, and technology planning. As a Rotarian, he said community service is important to him, and that he wants more community members to get involved with the various boards. Improving communication is one of Solomon's goals while being transparent and

Republican Alison Walck said she is looking for reelection while focusing on small, incremental changes. Agreeing with other candidates, Walck wants to improve communication to get information out well before the public votes. In general, she plans to keep the town affordable and focus on attaining more resources for the older population.

Democrat Karen Wanat, a native of East Hampton, has been involved with the Parent Teacher Organization and is the Director of the Center School Drama Club. Wanat's goal is to bring open, honest, and transparent discussions to town politics. She wants to encourage tri-board meetings for people to talk and listen while learning from each other. Wanat supports the idea of having another police officer and wants to make sure the town has adequate resources for emergency services.

Democrat Jordan Werme retired from the National Guard and works with a nonprofit focused on the prevention of substance use among young people. He has a proactive perspective and wants to meet people where they are. Werme wants the Town Council to be transparent and act as a facilitator. Also, Werme wants to improve the quality of life by collecting data and observing the changing landscape.

To listen to the full forum, visit EHPS News on YouTube and click on the 'live' category. The election will be held at the East Hampton High School on Nov. 7.

Note: Candidates are listed in alphabetical order by last name, regardless of party.





860-685-1985.





# News Bulletin

Taking a Cruise... Greyson Taradejna of Colchester recently took a trip to Bermuda aboard the Royal Caribbean ship "Liberty Of The Sea."



Visiting Maine... Donna Read of East Hampton brought her Rivereast with her on a trip to Kittery, Maine.

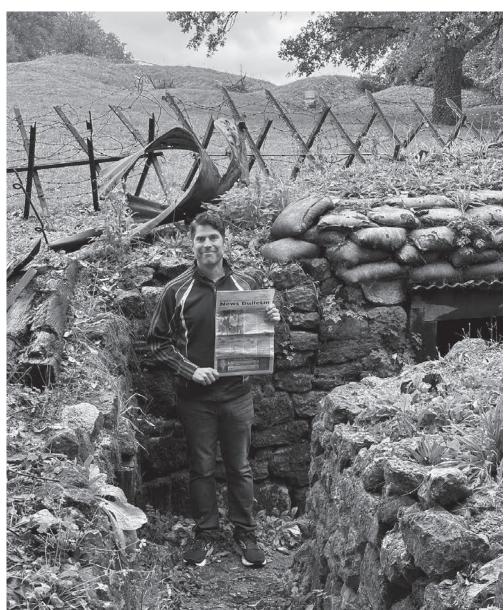
## Where in the World is the *Rivereast*?

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.





Just Plane Fun... Our first time on a plane!



In the Trenches... The Rivereast News Bulletin made its way over to France recently, when Matt Waltz of Amston paid a visit to the World War I sites and Champagne country. Matt's shown here with the Rivereast in the French front line trenches of the "Butte de Vauquois" battle site/memorial, which played a role in the overall battle of Verdun.

# Where in the World

## Going on a trip? Bring along the Bulletin!

Submit your travel photo holding the Rivereast News Bulletin, and you will win a \$25 Gift Card to Campagna Restaurant if your photo is one the four entries selected!

To enter, email your photo and address to: bulletin@glcitizen.com



Marlborough • Ma

# **Voters Head to Polls Next Week**

By Michael Sinkewicz

Marlborough residents will head to the polls next Tuesday, Nov. 7 to vote in the 2023 munici-

In-person voting will be held at Marlborough Elementary School on 25 School Drive from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.

This week, officials from both the Democratic and Republican town committees made their final pitch to voters ahead of Election Day.

## The Candidates

Currently, Democrats hold a 3-2 majority on the Board of Selectmen. Two Democrats, Deb Bourbeau and Betty O'Brien are up for reelection in 2025, leaving three seats — and control of the board — at stake next Tuesday.

Incumbent Democrat Amy Traversa is not seeking reelection this year. Democrats instead turned to John Rizza — a 25-year resident of Marlborough and a political newcomer — to maintain the party's majority. His background is largely in property management.

Incumbent Republican Greg Lowrey is not seeking another term. The selectmen candidates this year are incumbent Joe Asklar, Mike Nastri — an unaffiliated candidate endorsed by the GOP who currently serves as chairman of the Board of Finance — and Louise Concodello, who has served on several committees, including 28 years on the local school board.

For the local Board of Education, Democrats are proposing Jean Wilson, who previously served on the RHAM school board. Incumbent Kerri Barella and Amy Kuhrt are the Republican candidates; they successfully petitioned onto the ballot, defeating two Republican Town Committee (RTC) endorsed candidates in a pri-

The Democratic Board of Finance candidates are incumbent Jack Fidler — who is also interim chairman of the Democratic Town Committee (DTC) - Karen Pakulis Paul, who currently serves as an alternate member, and Will Guz-

Marlborough Senior Center, 17 School Dr.,

is open for activities. Call 860-295-6209 for the

center's hours and more information. Transporta-

tion is Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays; call 36

hours in advance of your appointment to guaran-

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.

Meals-on-Wheels, noon; Congregate Meal, noon.

Menu: plain beef burger on a bun (ketchup, mus-

tard, mayo), lettuce & tomato, potato wedges w/

Monday, Nov. 6: 8-Ball Pool, 10 a.m.-noon;

man, who works as a financial controller. Marcus Wilkinson, a business lawyer, is running for an alternate seat.

Republicans are running Christopher Wherry, a 10-year resident of Marlborough and a business owner. Salvatore Sena is aiming to retain his alternate seat on the board.

Incumbent Town Clerk Lauren A. Griffin is cross-endorsed, as is Barbara Lazzari, the candidate for Tax Collector; she is currently the chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission and the part-time tax clerk in Marlborough.

For Board of Assessment Appeals, the candidates are incumbent Korean Ryan, an unaffiliated candidate endorsed by Democrats, and John Grasso, a member of the Zoning Commission. Republican Zina Planeta, a local realtor and school bus driver, is running against them; one seat is up for grabs. Planeta is also a candidate for an alternate seat on the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Planning Commission chairman Mark A. Stankiewicz, a Republican who has served on the commission for 10 years, is seeking reelection, along with incumbent Brett G. Hallden.

Democrats are running Joan O'Connell, a retired nurse who has served as a mentor with AHM Youth and Family Services as well as Sustainable CT. Diane Dunn is running for an alternate seat; she is unopposed.

For the Zoning Commission, Democrats are proposing Bill Lardi, who previously served on the Water Pollution Authority and Zoning Board of Appeals, along with Charles Denler, who comes from a family of builders, and Nick Hale, an alternate candidate who is a UConn student studying political science and public policy; he interned for a state representative during the latest legislative session.

Republicans are offering John A. Murray, who is seeking reelection as an alternate member on the commission.

Tuesday, Nov. 7 - Election Day: Meals-on-

Wednesday, Nov. 8: 8-Ball Pool, 10 a.m.-

noon; Not Just Quilters, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.; Meals-on-

Wheels, noon; Congregate Meal, noon. Menu: or-

ange juice, boneless chicken Marsala, pesto pasta/

Italian-style veggies, dinner roll/cookie; Cards,

Thursday, Nov. 9: Meals-on-Wheels, noon; PD

Friday, Nov. 10: Senior center closed in obser-

Congregate Meals: All meals are served with

milk, bread and margarine. Suggested donation:

Lea Georgiades, a lifelong Marlborough resident, is the Republican candidate for Zoning Board of Appeals. Democrat Erica Gorman is running against him. Anthony Bratz, a mechanical engineering supervisor and an alternate member on the Marlborough Water Pollution Control Authority, is eyeing an alternate posi-

## **Final Pitch**

Fidler told the Rivereast this week that Democrats had a "very strong" campaign this year. He said that, through door-knocking, meet-andgreets, mailers, newspaper letters and social media posts, he feels his group has effectively communicated with voters leading up to Election Day.

"We have had an incredible group of workers that have been eager to get involved in the campaign and we were able to tackle a lot of the projects we hoped to at the start of 2023," Fidler stated. "Countless months have gone into preparation for this election and we hope the voters recognize this and provide their vote in return."

His final message to voters: the Democrats are "ready and willing to work for the people of Marlborough."

"Our slate has a variety of work and professional experience," he said. "It showcases a blend of seasoned residents and fresh new perspectives. We feel that it reflects the people of Marlborough as a whole."

Fidler said he expects results next Tuesday to be close, but added that he's "very confident."

'The deciding factor is going to be voter turnout," Fidler said. "Unfortunately, these municipal elections tend to have low turnout numbers. We hope that we have provided a candidate slate that gets the voters excited to come to the polls."

Judy Kelly, vice-chair of the RTC, said the GOP slate - especially the selectmen candidates — bring needed experience to government.

"The community knows what they bring to the table," she said this week, emphasizing that the candidates are familiar with the issues facing the town. "A lot of people have faith that their needs will be met."

She added that "you couldn't fund a more hardworking trio."

Across the slate, Kelly believes Republicans will be successful next week.

'We have a decent shot," she stated.

Overall, she believes the campaign this year has remained civil, with candidates on both sides offering ideas, not attacks; there hasn't been any "backstabbing," she explained.

"The townspeople appreciate that," Kelly said.

## **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.marlcongchurch.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@marlcongchurch.org for more informa-

Nov. 3 is All-Saints Sunday. The service will

include the tolling of the church bell as each name is read of those within our church family who have recently passed. The service will be led by Christian Education/Junior Youth Director, Gwen Lawson, with the Rev. Valerie Seaver serving Communion. Holy Communion

including children, with parental guidance. The bread used is gluten-free.

Annual Fall Tag Sale: Saturday, Nov. 4, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. The Great Hall will feature clothing, antiques and collectibles, tools, furniture, seasonal items, housewares, linens, toys and games, electronics, and more.

is open to all, regardless of church affiliation,

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@marlcongchurch.org.

**Historic Teas of the Past** 

fer a program called Historic Teas of the Past on

Sunday, Nov. 5, from 1-4 p.m., at the Marlbor-

ough Arts Center, 231 North Main St.

chase. Door prizes will be available.

ough Preservation Society.

The Marlborough Historical Society will of-

This drop-in event is open to the public. Dif-

ferent types of medicinal teas will be available to sample, and complimentary snacks will be

served. Packaged teas will be available for pur-

Entrance fee is \$15; children under 12 are free. All proceeds go to support the Marlbor-

# Available for Election

are now available in the town clerk's office, 26 North Main St., during regular business hours. Applications must be filled out to re-

for more information or if you need any

# **Absentee Ballots**

Absentee ballots for the Nov. 7 election ceive a ballot.

Call Lauren or Martha at 860-295-6206 help obtaining an application.



## Discovery Zone learning Center



45 Pendleton Dr. **Hebron** 860-228-3952

152 Hebron Rd. **Marlborough** 860-295-8003

2 Orlando Dr. Columbia 860-228-8885

Infant, Toddler, Preschool, School Age Programs Monday-Friday 7am-6pm Year Round Ask about our curriculum & special programs! 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 cleanup. 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 www.marlboroughct.net for a complete

## 2024 Medicare Annual Enrollment This is the Time to Make Changes for 2024! October 15th-December 7th

Senior Center News and Notes

Wheels, noon.

Exercise w/ Anne, 3-4 p.m.

vance of Veterans Day.

Aetna, Anthem, CarePartners, Cigna, Connecticare, Humana, United Healthcare, Wellcare

## **Dental Plans Medigap Supplements Advantage Plans**

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## **ADVERTISERS** The Glastonbury Citizen and Rive

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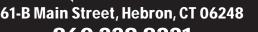
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Marlborough • Ma

# Neo-Nazi Flyers Found in Marlborough

By Michael Sinkewicz

Flyers belonging to a New England hate group were found in Marlborough driveways last week, sparking community condemnation.

Town Manager David Porter told the Rivereast that there were a "small number" of reports of flyers being found on two Marlborough streets. The leaflets were from The Nationalist Social Club, an organization the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) describes as a "neo-Nazi group" that was formed in eastern Massachusetts in

According to the ADL, members of the club consider themselves "soldiers at war with a hostile, Jewish-controlled system that is deliberately plotting the extinction of the white race" and the group is seeking to create an "underground network of white men who are willing to fight against their perceived enemies through localized direct actions."

"I encourage residents to discard the fliers with the rest of their household garbage and then to continue living the values of kindness and inclusion that have long made Marlborough the wonderful community that it is," Por-

It was unclear how many flyers were left throughout the community. When asked if the incident was being investigated, Marlborough Resident Trooper Douglas Bernier stated that "there is no information available on this matter."

The Coalition on Diversity and Equity (CoDE), which covers Marlborough, Hebron, Andover and Columbia, stated on Facebook that the flyer included an image of a white man

Community Sing

Carolyn Brodginski of Seat of Our Pants invites the community to attend a free singalong upstairs in the Thienes Lounge at Marlborough Congregational Church, 35 S. Main St., on Friday, Nov. 3, at 7 p.m.

Words and cords are provided for over 100 songs, and everyone who loves to sing, including musicians, are welcome to this monthly gathering. Enter through the yellow front doors of the church.

**Election Day Bake Sale** 

The Marlborough PTÓ will hold an Election Day Bake Sale Tuesday, Nov. 7, from 6 a.m. until 10 a.m. or sold out. The PTO will sell baked goods and coffee in the school cafeteria.

## Winter Clothes Drive

The 2023 Marlborough Winter Clothes Drive runs through Sunday, Nov. 5. The drive is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Marlborough

All are asked to consider donating any new or gently used coats, jackets, gloves, mittens or blankets that you will not be using or that your children have outgrown to the annual winter clothes drive. Clothes can be dropped off in the drop box at St. John Fisher Church (basement).

There will also be a collection on the Marlborough town green on Saturday, Nov. 4, from 9 a.m.-8 p.m.

Marlborough Lawn & Tree **Got Dead Trees?** CALL US TODAY! Call for Tree Removal **Senior Citizen** Discounts Stump Grinding Lawn Expansions & Landscape Rejuvenation **Bucket** Truck Service Available **Fully Insured** 30 Years Experience VISA Visit us at: www.marlboroughlawnandtree.com 860-220-3786

with a rifle saying, "New Englanders! You are being replaced. Organize and resist!"

CoDE stated that it "condemns the Nationalist Social Club and all it stands for."

"We ask all area residents, and especially white men (the group's recruitment target), to speak up and unequivocally decry its hate-filled message — showing beyond a doubt that hate has no place in our communities," the group

The incident also sparked a reaction from both of the local Democratic and Republican town committees, who released a joint statement denouncing hate speech.

"With recent news of white supremacy groups spreading replacement theory fear mongering in multiple towns throughout CT, including Marlborough, the Marlborough Democratic and Republican Town Committees want to offer a joint statement condemning this type of hatred," the committees stated. "Our mission and values align with Marlborough's Equity Statement, and we are in agreement that there is no room for bias, racism, bigotry, and prejudice or violence in Marlborough. This type of behavior is not welcome in our beautiful town.

Similar incidents involving the Nationalist Social Club have been experienced across Connecticut in recent weeks and months. Last month, The Trumbull Times reported that residents in its community found leaflets from the same group in plastic baggies that contained small rocks.

## Holiday Art and Gift Sale

A Holiday Art and Gift Sale will take place at the Marlborough Arts Center from Nov. 10 to Dec. 9. The gallery will be open every Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 1-4 p.m.

The sale will feature handcrafted items including stained glass decorations, small sculptures, wooden bowls, handmade soaps, and hand-woven articles as well as over 100 original framed paintings and photos. All are priced from \$10 to \$200.

The Arts Center will accept cash, check, or credit card payments. It is located at 231 N. Main St. and is accessible from routes 2 or 66, and has handicapped-access and on-site parking.

For more information, visit the website www. marlborougharts,org or call 860-647-6363.

# **Teenagers Sentenced** in 2021 Kidnapping

By Michael Sinkewicz

Two teenagers were each sentenced last month to eight years in prison for their role in the kidnapping of a woman outside a Marlborough supermarket in 2021.

Rochene Wiggins, 17, of East Hartford, had previously pled guilty to first-degree robbery and conspiracy to commit kidnapping in the second degree. In addition to his eight years in prison, he was also sentenced to three years of probation after his release, and faces up to 10 years in prison if he violates any of the release conditions.

Codefendant Kenneth Gordon, 22, who also pled guilty, received the same sentence during his hearing on Monday.

According to the arrest warrant affidavit, the defendants approached the then 64-yearold woman in the parking lot of a Big Y supermarket Marlborough on Sept. 11, 2021 and demanded money from her. The victim told police that the two males placed a bag over her head and that she was forced into her vehicle at gun point after she attempted to resist their demands.

The affidavit states that the defendants took the victim to multiple ATMs to withdraw money and that she was struck in the face up to six times with the gun. She told police that one of the defendants threatened up to 10

After being found by authorities, the victim was taken to the hospital with serious injuries, including a broken femur, head trauma and a damaged kidney, according to the affidavit.

The defendants set the car on fire behind a liquor store off the Berlin Turnpike, police stated.

Wiggins was 15 years old at the time of incident. During the sentencing on Oct. 18, Superior Court Judge David Gold said that handing out a harsh sentence to an individual who was so young during the crime was "heartbreaking," according to the Hartford Courant.

"I just cannot get past the terror this woman must've felt," the judge stated.

Wiggins pled guilty under the Alford doctrine, which means he did not admit guilt but acknowledged that there was sufficient evidence for a conviction.

The Courant reported that the victim was not present at Hartford Superior Court, but a representative read a letter on her behalf expressing that she is still experiencing emotional trauma as a result of the incident.

According to the affidavit, during the altercation in the supermarket parking lot, the victim asked the two males, "Why are you doing this to me?" One of the defendants responded, "Because you're white and my mother is very

The victim was instructed to exit the vehicle, which was made difficult due to the injuries sustained during the parking lot altercation. She was found by police at Hummingbird Drive in Berlin, the affidavit stated. She was yelling that she had been carjacked and assaulted.

## **Special Voter Registration Session**

The Marlborough registrars of voters will hold special voter registration session Monday, Nov. 6, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., at Town Hall, to register voters before the Nov. 7 municipal election.

Eligible are people who, after Oct. 31, turned 18, became a naturalized citizen or moved into town. Active servicepersons, former servicepersons who have been discharged within the calendar year, and anyone who has been out of the country are also eligible.

There will also be Election Day registration Nov. 7, in the large conference room at Town Hall, from 6 a.m.-8 p.m. Proof of residence in Marlborough is required. In order to cast a ballot on Election Day, the applicant must be registered to vote and cast their ballot no later than 8 p.m. Applicants who continue to be in line after 8 p.m. will not be able to participate in the election. All applicants must have completed the registration process before 8 p.m. in order to cast a ballot on Election Day.

able, in the town clerk's office. The office can be reached at 860-295-6206. A copy of the Election Day ballot can be

Absentee ballot applications are also avail-

viewed at www.marlboroughct.net.

For more information, call the registrars at 860-295-6166.

**Holiday Closing** 

The offices of Marlborough Town Hall, Senior Center and Public Works will be closed Friday, Nov. 10, in observance of Veterans Day.



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## Obituaries

East Hartford

## Karen Anderson

Karen (Jepson) Anderson, wife, mother, grandmother, sister and artist, completed her journey with cancer on Saturday, Oct. 21, at home. Born in Chicago, Ill., Karen resided in Haddonfield, N.J., and Meriden, before settling in East Hampton in 1976.



After earning a Bachelor of Science in mathematics from the University of Hartford, Karen became a project cost estimator for the real estate construction firm Carabetta Companies. She then joined the law firm of Dzialo, Pickett and Allen in Middletown, as the firm's first real estate paralegal.

In 1993, she received a master's degree in early childhood development from Central Connecticut State University and formed a private preschool, My School, Inc., where she was the head teacher for many years. Her overarching philosophy was that education should be child-

Always gifted with a sense of palatial design, shape, color and drawing skill, she began a lifelong love of plein-air and studio oil painting with the East Hampton Art Association and the Madison Art Society. She greatly enjoyed a group painting trip to Tuscany, Italy where she painted in the rustic countryside and enjoyed staying in a Roman fort that was converted to a guest house by a patron of the arts. Many of her paintings that she chose not to sell now hang proudly in the homes of her family and friends.

For her entire life, Karen enjoyed summers on Leete's Island in Guilford - first in the family cottage of her youth, and later with her own family in the cottage next door. Karen considered Leete's Island her hometown because no matter where her winter homes were, she would always be able to spend summers on the Island and visit with family and lifelong friends. She cherished the summers spent there and was very happy when her own children and their families came to love the Island as well. She was truly a 'Life-long Lover of Leete's Island".

Karen was predeceased by her parents, Jack and Louise (Lutton) Jepson.

She is survived by her husband of 55 years, Ray; sons, Sean (Amy), Michael (Janice) and Jason (Carrie); grandchildren, Jack, Ivy, Ben and Elliot; her brother, John Jepson and niece Jean and nephews Jonathan and Joshua; sister and brotherin-law, Diane and Tony Petras; niece, Stephany Gorman Dorsey and her son Alex; and cousins, Jan Bauer, David Jepson (Sharon) and Richard Jepson, Russell Naylor and Wesley Naylor.

Special thanks to those who provided loving care to Karen: her entire family, especially daughter-in-law Carrie, RN, Chris Yi, Hannah, Jan and Laverne of Middlesex Health Hospice and Palliative Care, and oncologist Dr. Robert

Calling hours were held Thursday, Nov. 2, at Doolittle Funeral Home, 14 Old Church St., Middletown. A brief service was conducted towards the end of calling hours.

Charitable donations in Karen's memory may be made to your local food bank or to Faith Lutheran Church, 300 Washington Street, Middletown, CT 06457.

To share memories or send condolences to the family, please visit www.doolittlefuneralser-

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Colchester

## David Ernest Glazier

David Ernest Glazier, 69, of Colchester, passed away on Saturday, Oct. 28, at Bristol Hospital. Born May 1, 1954, in Norwich, he was a son of the late Albert and Virgina (White) Glazier. David worked for many years as a field service engineer at Design Resource.



David will always be remembered as a hardworking man who held a deep appreciation for nature. Every year he looked forward to the arrival of the migrating Baltimore Oriole birds. He was a member of the Lake Hayward Association where he could often be found fishing, kayaking, or sailing, and during the winter he enjoyed cross-country skiing across the lake. In late September he and his wife Linda would go camping at Mollidgewock State Park in New Hampshire to enjoy kayaking and canoeing on the river and hiking surrounding areas for waterfalls. He was truly at his happiest whenever he was outdoors. When he wasn't out in nature, he loved to relax on the back deck playing his guitar or getting lost in an episode of Star Trek. The only thing that he enjoyed more, was spending time with his family.

He is survived by his wife, Linda Glazier; children, Desiree Nazro and husband Adam Nazro, and Monique Park and husband Michael; stepchildren, Rhea Brown and AJ Kaufman and wife Heather Kaufman; brothers Albert Glazier, Terrance Glazier and Michael Glazier; grandchildren, Jacob and Nathan Park; and numerous other extended family and friends.

In addition to his parents, he is predeceased by his brother Bob Glazier.

Calling hours will be held Monday, Nov. 6, from 5-7 p.m. A memorial Mass will take place the following day, Nov. 7, at 10 a.m., directly at St. Andrew Church, 128 Norwich Ave., Col-

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorial donations be made to a charity that benefits

To sign the online guest book or share a memory of David, please visit www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com.

Colchester

## Joann Vechinsky

Joann Vechinsky, 72, of Colchester, passed away peacefully Saturday, Oct. 21. Born to her parents Olga and Michael Savitsky, she was a lifelong resident of Colchester and a graduate of Bacon Academy. She went on to earn her associate's degree from Eastern Connecticut State

In 1972, she married John M. Vechinsky, with whom she shared 46 years of marriage before his passing. She worked for many years as a receptionist for the Colchester Veterinary Hospital and as a Bookkeeper for Nutmeg Electric.

Joann enjoyed daily walks and always stopped to talk with her neighborhood friends. She enjoyed feeding birds, with a special affinity for cardinals, gardening, reading and baking. She was a devoted member of St. Mary's Ukraine Catholic Church. In recent years she became very active with the Colchester Senior Center, taking many trips with her friends and enjoying her tai chi classes. But her true passion was her selfless devotion to her grandchildren, AJ and Emmerson.

She is survived by her son, Christopher Vechinsky; son, Matthew Vechinsky and his wife Jennifer; grandson, AJ; granddaughter, Emmerson; sisters, Barbara Koepke and Andrea Savitsky; her faithful dog, Beaux; as well as

many nieces, nephews and friends.

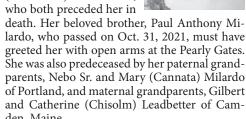
She was predeceased by her husband, John, as well as her brother, Michael.

In lieu of flowers, donations made by made to St. Mary's, ASPCA, or Wounded Warrior Project.

Portland

Nancy Anne Milardo, Nancy Anne Milardo, 56, of Albany, N.Y., formerly of Middletown/ Portland, passed away unexpectedly Thursday, Oct. 19.

Nancy was born Jan. 25, 1967, in Middletown. She was the daughter of Nebo S. Milardo Jr. and Carol (Leadbetter) Milardo,



Nancy leaves behind her sister, Elaine Milardo of Bremen, Maine, formerly of Middletown, and half-brother, Josiah Milardo of Whitehall, N.Y. Nancy also leaves behind a few aunts and uncles, several cousins and a magnitude of friends and former colleagues who loved her

Nancy graduated from Portland High School in 1985 and went to work at Connecticut Underwriters, Inc. at 19 years old. There she worked her way up through the ranks and ended her career as an underwriting assistant. She loved her colleagues, especially Maureen and Suzy and most importantly Henry Stone, the owner.

She loved listening to music most of all, especially with her brother Paul. They had a very special bond. Her love for music genres spanned from Led Zeppelin to Taylor Swift. Most especially, she worshiped and followed the Dave Matthews Band (DMB) and was thrilled to have attended their concert in Saratoga Springs, N.Y.,

Nancy was an animal lover. She adored her cats: Moonie, Princess Puff-Puff and Mae. She donated to several animal charities especially The Asher House and animal rescue.

Nancy would travel to Maine and spend most of her winters with our beloved mother as much as possible after she became legally blind in Oct. of 2005. Her mother "Ma" was the single most important person in her life other than her beloved brother Paul and her cats. They spent time having their coffee and admiring Ma's flowers and watching the hummingbirds together.

Nancy's two cousins Becky and Rachel were very special to her. They were very close and both very helpful and compassionate when Nancy lost her eyesight. She had several friends who helped her, especially Bonnie, Athena, Marco and Karen, during that traumatic time. Andy was also a very dear friend in the last

As her dear friend Andy wrote and best friend Donna shared, "To her friends, Nancy was a bright light that shined in this world." Donna went on to share that "she was devoted, compassionate and had a great sense of humor. There was no way you would leave her presence without having a few great laughs!"

Nancy will be greatly missed, but it is comforting to know she is at peace and no longer suffering.

In the words of the DMB, as Nancy was their #1 Fan, "Turns out not where, but who you're with that really matters."

In lieu of flowers, donations in honor of Nancy can be made to the Asher House Sanctuary.

## Hebron

## Kathleen Sawyer

Mrs. Kathleen Mary Brimley Sawyer, 79, of York, S.C., formerly of Hebron, passed away Thursday, Oct. 19, at Wellmore of Tega Cay in Tega Cay, S.C. Kathleen was born April 23, 1944, in Hartford, to the late Austin and Amy O'Hearn Brimley. She was the widow of David Albert Sawyer.



Kathleen was a loving wife, mother, grandmother and friend. She raised her family in Hebron, where she was very active in the community and served as the probate judge for 10 years. In 1996, she and husband, David, moved to Bonita Springs, Fla., where Kathleen pursued a career in massage therapy and as a yoga instructor. Kathleen loved to spend time with family and friends at her cottage, for over 30 years, on Highland Lake in Stoddard, N.H., and also watching the sunsets on the beach in

She is survived by her sons, Jason Sawyer (Carrie Haynes) of Nosara, Costa Rica, and Garth Sawyer of York, S.C.; sister, Barbara Whited; brother, Richard Brimley (Hazel); and grandchildren, Gabrielle Sawyer, Adin Sawyer, Isla Sawyer, Jessica McMorrow and Samantha

Services will be held at a later time. Memorials may be made to www.americanbrainfounda-

M. L. Ford & Sons Funeral Home, Clover, S.C., is serving the family of Mrs. Sawyer. Online condolences may be made at www.mlfordsons.com.

Hebron

## John Gene Gagliardo

John Gene Gagliardo of Hebron, beloved husband to Susan, loving father to Adam and Andrew, and brother of Fred Gagliardo, passed away Thursday, Oct. 26, at 75, after a battle with cancer. Born Sept. 8, 1948, in Jamaica, N.Y., John's unmistakable accent persisted even after four decades in Con-



As a lifelong die-hard Yankees fan and lover of baseball, in his 20s John was a dynamite second baseman on the "On Tap" softball team in Queens, N.Y. In Hebron, "Mr. G." coached not only his sons' basketball and Little League teams but continued to mentor young players long after his sons moved on.

After earning his BS from Long Island University and MBA from St. John's University, John dedicated 37 years with the IRS as a large case audit manager. Even in retirement, he embraced teaching by engaging with college students through the Becker CPA review program.

During John's more than 30-year golfing legacy at Blackledge Country Club, he often could be seen playing alongside his son Andrew. Pride in his Italian heritage inspired many trips to Italy and his love of cooking where he endeavored to perfect his pizza crust and traditional Italian

John's precision as a tax auditor was evident in the detailed itineraries he crafted for his adventures with Susan, from Peru to Poland, from Alaska to Auckland. Equally adept at home im provement projects, John loved spending countless hours on upgrades and modifications to his family home over the last 40 years. Described by a friend as "the cornerstone of the neighborhood community," John's legacy is one of kindness and dedication - from coaching sports to volunteering with the Hebron Interfaith Human Services as treasurer for eight years.

In addition to Susan, his loving wife of 51 vears, John leaves behind his sons, Adam and Andrew, and his brother, Fred.

John once said he hoped to be remembered as "an okay guy." To those fortunate enough to have known him, he was nothing short of exceptional. He will be greatly missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Calling hours were held Wednesday, Nov. 1, at Mulryan Funeral Home, 725 Hebron Ave., Glastonbury, followed by a funeral Mass Thursday, Nov. 2, at the Church of the Holy Family, 185 Church St., Amston.

In John's memory, contributions can be made to the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation.

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



## ★ Letters cont. from page 29

## Reelect Nadeau-Schmeizl

To the Editor: I want to say 'thank you' for the ongoing support I have received during this election season. I genuinely enjoy serving and working for you! Those of you who have reached out over the last four years or over the last four weeks know that I do not take this responsibility lightly. My favorite part of serving on the Board of Education is listening to others and finding common ground. I am excited to continue to collaborate with parents and school leadership on our current district advancement plan including the following priority areas that remain close to

Safe School Climate: Children with emotional and physical wellness are best positioned to reach their full potential. On behalf of your children and mine, I will continue to work hard to ensure our schools are safe and the unique needs of each student are met.

Achievement: Academic growth is key. However, this goes beyond "test scores" as we continue the path of rebounding successfully from the pandemic. I will continue to bring my passion for data and to ask questions to ensure we stay on track.

Collaboration: The current Board of Education is a cohesive and experienced team. Each member's strengths are leveraged to respond to identified needs. I am not interested in getting stuck on differences and will focus on our shared commitment and bringing community voices together to inform solutions.

Thank you for your vote on Nov. 7! I look forward to the opportunity to continue to work for you on the Hebron Board of Education team.

Allyson Nadeau-Schmeizl - Hebron Note: Nadeau-Schmeizl is currently serving on the Hebron Board of Education, but said she is writing as an

## Now It's Up to You

To the Editor:

You know about the problems faced by Hebron citizens and the town. You know who is responsible for

Now it is up to you. Vote to fix these problems by electing responsible and responsive leadership at all levels of town government. Vote for the Democratic ticket. Thank you in advance for voting for a better future

Denise Rodosevich - Amston

## **Principles Over Groupthink**

To the Editor:

for Hebron.

I am excited and welcoming the challenge to become a member of the Colchester Board of Education. I'm a resident of 28 years and with my wife have raised two boys here and love the community. I hope to earn your trust and vote Nov. 7 to ensure Colchester's school district remains fully supportive to the needs of our students while ensuring Colchester remains affordable to all citizens whose tax dollars provide 70% of the revenue.

I hold an engineering degree and a MBA concentrated in organizational development with over 40 years of broad-based experience that I will use to augment and expand conservative, objective, critical thinking on the BOE. I will apply and leverage I will my knowledge, wisdom and expertise in operations management, strategic/ tactical planning, resource allocation, risk management, and cost/schedule management to develop objectively justified, ethical, and economically reasonable education budgets that stop the juggernaut of ever increasing expenditures and tax burden. Being ethical, supporting the BOE's members, agenda and teachers seem paramount critical BOE attributes for many, but when "groupthink" takes over the economic realities of the business of education, it leads to non data-driven decisions that ignore critical information, morals or ethics that postures a particular agenda not shared by all taxpayers.

I am not a financial bean-counter. I'm a facilitator, critical thinker, and problem solver proficient in accomplishing joint objectives and maintaining common purpose. I operate respectfully and with integrity, always exploring/considering new ideas but will always be objective using data and facts, not emotion, in deliberations and decisions, and will be steadfast ensuring students have the intellectual, physical, and creative tools to be successful while being fiscally responsible and principled in ensuring economic realism.

Thomas Owen Tierney

It is with extreme sadness that we announce

the passing of Thomas O. Tierney on Friday,

Oct. 20, after serious heart surgery. Tom was

born Sept. 27, 1949, to Mary Sullivan Tierney

and Vincent James Tierney. He was a lifelong

resident of Portland and a proud 100% Irish-

Peggy Baines Tierney for 45 years. They have two sons, Michael V. Tierney and Patrick R.

(Heather) Tierney, both of Portland. Tom is

also survived by his sister, Eileen (Red) Little of

Glastonbury; brother, John (Gerri) Tierney of

Cromwell; his cousin, Betty (Bill) Martyszczyk

of Plantsville; nephew, Will Little; niece, Melissa

with whom he owned Tierney Brothers Package

Store for many years and raced with at Water-

Tom was predeceased by his brother, James,

Tierney; and sister-in-law, Sandra Baines.

Tom was married to, and best friends with,

Obituaries cont. —

Portland

Sincerely, John Consiglio - Colchester Candidate for Board of Education

## Dillon, Tripp Fit the Bill

To the Editor:

We all know that we are in unusual times, and I'm deeply concerned for our planet, women's rights, gun violence, war, and issues that face us in a small community.

Voting is very important and that is why I will be voting for more women representation with Jillian Crawford and Andrea Alfano. Women are an extremely important voice in politics.

The ability to make good decisions is also a good reason in selecting a candidate. John Dillon and Jim Tripp fit the bill.

Please be sure to cast your vote!

Gail Landry - Portland

## **Would Be Valued Addition**

To the Editor:

Vote for Bridget McLennon for Town Council. I have had the privilege to work with her on the Board of Finance and she represents civility, common sense and strong leadership that is needed on the Town Council. She has been an advocate for our police and our town's first responders. She always supported the addition of a lieutenant position and an additional officer behind the scene and in front. She spoke in support of them prior to our first budget vote, but ended up siding with the majority as she believes unity is more important than being antagonistic.

In a cacophony of noise during the budget season, she was a soft but strong voice of reason that did her best to be a conduit between opposing voices. She will be a valued addition to our Town and has my recommendation to be the next Town Council chair.

Russell Bonaccorso – East Hampton

## **Positive Change!**

To the Editor:

I am very excited to know that positive change is on the horizon in Colchester! The Democratic candidates are truly exceptional team players who will listen to residents at town meetings and will collaborate to find common ground.

Civility and maturity should be two cornerstones of municipal government and we have the opportunity to elect a strong Democratic team who will deliver these two qualities. As a community we need to uplift one another and not tear each other down. Please take the time to vote on Tuesday, Nov. 7, and vote for the candidates who will lead with professionalism - vote for the Democratic team!

Tamara Dimitri - Colchester

## Marlborough - Questions & Research

During my career as financial sontroller, Manager and Analyst in manufacturing I was responsible for a \$65M budget, financial statements, capital plans, variance analysis, cost accounting, monthly/annual closings, payables/receivables and payroll. I passed the CPA exam but stayed in manufacturing and expanded my career into Human Resources.

As an alternate on the BOF I researched prior years of budgets to follow the trail of spending, capital projects, reserves and I read minutes from those BOF meetings. Those numbers told the story and showed trends - the story of yesterday. Like personal budgets, Marlborough's budget can change - prices, weather, breakdowns, roof leaks, vehicle repairs, outdated technology, power outages, accidents occur, potholes appear, etc. The budget includes the interrelationships of town/school revenue streams, unassigned fund, taxable property assessment from the Grand List, tax collection trends, tax levy, mill rate calculation.

Then comes the analysis and long-term-planning. What makes up the Grand List? Homes, property, autos, businesses? What numbers changed and why? What do we need more of? How many years left on our debt and how large is the debt? What about the complexities of capital funding? Who pays for what, when? How do these numbers effect each other? More numbers telling stories - stories of today and tomorrow. There's a lot of complexity and responsibility being on the BOF; a lot of questions and research to balance needs/wants. I'll admit it - I don't want to pay more taxes either. I take this posi-

Please consider the importance of the knowledge and ability of the candidates you choose on Nov. 7. I humbly ask for your vote for the Board of Finance.

Karen Pakulis-Paul – Marlborough

Note: Pakulis-Paul is an Alternate member of the Board

of Finance, but said she's speaking as an individual.

To the Editor: Vote for Bernie and candidates this election. You're getting a team that is there for Colchester. I believe them to be fair, honest, and workers for this beautiful town we

There for Colchester

## Patricia A. Olson - Colchester

## **Hebron BOE**

To the Editor:

The time has come for change at the Hebron Board of Education. The most recent budget cycle was made more difficult by the lack of action by the members of the Hebron BOE. The initial proposed increase to the budget was a whopping 14%, which is ridiculous. I value education. I know how hard teachers and staff work to provide the best learning environment possible for our kids.

My problem with the current BOE members, some of whom are running for re-election, is that I don't feel like there is enough oversight of or inquiries into how the schools are spending their budget. There is not enough emphasis on forward thinking. A large portion of the initial increase was to cover a hole left behind by expiring grants. Did these grants just decide by themselves to expire this year? Was the superintendent or "business manager" not aware of this? How was this not planned for? I did not see any current BOE members ask these questions or put any pressure on the administration to explain themselves. While Hebron struggled to pass it's budget, in part because of the large BOE budget increase, the BOE members did approve a raise this summer for both the superintendent and "business manager."

Additionally, there was a facilities study done recently on the state of our schools. I'd like to see that report. I wonder how many issues were made worse because the administration has been kicking the can down the road on regular maintenance. I can tell you that GHS smells like mold, no matter how hard they try to Febreze-it away. We need BOE members who will make the best decisions for our children and hold the administration

Clint Thompson - Hebron

## **Supports Manning**

To the Editor:

I urge the voters of Portland to join me in voting to reelect Shaun Manning to the Board of Selectmen on Tuesday, Nov. 7. A lifelong Portland resident, Shaun is a dedicated family man, an active Portland volunteer fire-fighter/EMT and a local business owner.

Shaun is dedicated to the Town of Portland and its citizens. He strives to make Portland a town which serves all our citizens. He understands our young people need a strong education to grow and become successful citizens. Proper updating and maintenance of town infrastructure including roads, water and sewer systems are necessary to encourage further business growth. As a volunteer member of the Portland Fire Department he is keenly aware that proper training and safety equipment for the police and fire departments ensure all our citizens are safe and protected when an emergency situation arises. Shaun strives to balance these objectives within our town budget in order to keep Portland growing into a strong and vibrant community.
Shaun along with Ryan Curley and the rest of their

team will continue to provide Portland with strong leadership and a road to continued growth.

Kimberly Hanna - Portland

## **Three Fantastic Candidates**

To the Editor:

Colchester, next Tuesday we have the opportunity to vote for three fantastic Board of Selectmen candidates: Rosemary Coyle, Denise Turner and Dave Koji.

Rosemary's 37-year career as a school teacher, followed by her years of service to the town, demonstrate her advocacy for both our youngest and oldest citizens, and everyone in between. She is known for doing her research, working across party lines, and getting things done. Denise is a lifelong Colchester resident who brings experience with senior care, volunteerism with youth, and more to the team. And Dave has made a big, positive impact on Colchester in so many ways - starting successful local businesses, coaching in our youth sports leagues, chairing the ARPA committee, managing marketing for Youth Services, and even teaching residents to play pickleball! All three of these candidates will bring positivity to our town government, and I can't wait to attend the next Board of Selectmen meeting with these folks representing us.

I'll be voting for Rosemary, Denise, and Dave on Tuesday, along with Bernie Dennler and the rest of Row A! Let's bring Colchester together again by voting in this awesome team.

Susie Milner - Colchester

## **Crawford for BOS**

Dear Fellow Portland Residents

Though I publicly announced my candidacy for Board of Selectmen only four months ago, I feel as though I have been campaigning for your vote for 24 years. As someone who grew up in Portland, I recognize a feeling of deep kinship that we share with each other. I have proven leadership experience and lasting commitment to positive development within our town and school system. Through my studies as a Political Science student at UConn, I have a solid understanding of public policy and municipal governing; I will continue to further my education through law school beginning in the Fall 2024 semester.

Over the past four months, I have spent as much time as possible committed to community service, volunteering at Portland Senior Center, Portland Exchange Club, Portland Fair Association, Chatham Children's Connection and several other Portland organizations.. I have been canvassing all across Portland, having knocked on over 1,500 doors in the past few months. During my time canvassing, I noticed that there was a common sentiment among many Portland residents that feel as though their values and opinions are no longer recognized in politics; the radicalization of political viewpoints at a national level has led the moderate American to feel as though their voices are unrepresented. My priority as a selectman would be to represent this disenfranchised group of voters: it is possible to coexist as Democrats and Republicans in America and in Portland, we just need the right people to represent us.

Please vote for me on Nov. 7.

Sincerely, Jillian Crawford - Portland Candidate for Board of Selectmen

## **Town Council**

To the Editor:

For East Hampton Town Council, please vote Row B for Deb Cunningham, Brandon Goff, Rosemarie Hecht, Bridget McLennan and Alison Walck. They know it is your family, your community and your money

Linda Úrsin – East Hampton

## Vote to Reelect LaChapelle

Dear Colchester Citizens:

On Election Day please join me in voting for Jason LaChapelle for Board of Selectmen (BOS) in Colchester. Jason has a strong work ethic; he works two jobs to support his family. He also volunteers his time to coach soccer and currently serves on the BOS.

Over these past two years Jason has served with integrity. Jason is present – in person – for public meetings in order to answer directly to "you" the citizens of Colchester.

Jason is not beholden to political party bosses. He is not afraid to ask the tough questions and he holds all his fellow board members accountable. You can always count on Jason to make decisions based upon what is in the best interest of Colchester, not a political party.

Colchester needs people like Jason to represent "the people." Someone who will not be silenced or bullied into going along with votes that are not in the best interest of our community. Jason is open to new ideas in town governance and how best to serve the citizens. He believes that all policy discussions should be in the open, not behind closed doors. I know Jason has and will continue to make decisions based upon facts and the current needs of the town and what is best for you, the citizens of Colchester.

Please vote LaChapelle - Row C

Deanna "Dee" Bouchard, Chair Colchester Independent Party

## **Have Your Voice Heard**

Dear Colchester Voters:

This week's letter to the editor is only supposed to be positive, refrain from attacking other candidates or their supporters, and not raise any new issues. That is certainly a difficult task since the political climate effused by the two major political parties in Colchester has been especially volatile this election cycle with finger-pointing coming from both of them. There's an old saying popular in Texas, where I was born and raised, which goes, "You can make a pancake as flat as you want, but it's still got two sides?

While these parties have dominated the turbulence we see and hear in Colchester, the largest voting sector in Colchester (over 30%) identifies as Unaffiliated. Hence, these voters always play a significant role in deciding the outcomes of major town elections, like the one hap-pening next Tuesday. Yet, for the most part, these vot-ers will have to choose candidates from the two major parties, with which they are disinclined to be connected. For them, it likely comes down to picking the lesser of two evils from their perspective. However, I invite Colchester's largest voting sector to follow the jocular advice from Captain Jack Aubrey in Master and Commander, One must always choose the lesser of two weevils!" Before deciding whom to elect, do your own research to identify the least of the worm-like creatures that have infested our town politics.

Nevertheless, if you are registered to vote in Colchester, be sure to do so next Tuesday because your vote matters. At the end of the day, in Colchester every vote counts, especially when there's only 5,300 of them. Don't miss your opportunity to have your voice heard on Nov.

> Eradicate the weevils. DeAva Lambert - Colchester

## **Support Rosemary Coyle**

To the Editor:

I have known Rosemary Coyle for over 30 years, but I have come to know more about what she does for the Town of Colchester over the past 10 years or so. I was on the William J. Johnston Middle School Building Committee and currently I serve as the Chairman of the Senior Center Building Committee. Rosemary has been the liaison to the Board of Selectmen for both committees.

Rosemary attended and still attends almost every meeting the committees have held. She takes notes, asks important questions and was always available to help the committees any way she could to make our work go smoothly. If we had a technical question regarding procedures or help with local and state agencies, she always worked on getting the committees the information they needed.

I have always known Rosemary to be very passionate

about the Town of Colchester. I have watched her work with community members regardless of their party affiliation. She may not have always agreed with a person's position, but she always respected the person and listened o what they had to say

In today's world, in a smaller community like Colchester, we need someone of her talents, traits, disposition and passion in always putting the needs of the town first. Sometimes that puts her at odds with others, but again, what drives her decisions is "what is best for Colchester".

On Nov. 7, I will be supporting Rosemary Coyle for another term as a selectman for the Town of Colchester as we need more people with her integrity as leaders of our community. I urge others to vote the same way.

Tony Tarnowski – Colchester Note: Tarnowski is chairman of the Senior Center Building Committee but said he is speaking as an individual.

## The Children

To the Editor:

I will be voting for Angela Hammond for Board of Education in November's Portland town election. Angela is trustworthy and a very good listener. You can feel comfortable voicing your opinions and concerns. She appreciates everyone's point of view. Angela realizes that the children in our schools today will be running our schools and town boards tomorrow and wants to help keep teamwork and communication a top priority. With her new granddaughter entering our school system in a few years you can rest assured the children will be her top priority. Oh and did I mention we've been friends for almost 50 years, beginning when she was Angela Rusakowicz.

Vote for Angela because our town needs more people like her in leadership roles.

Lisa Delesdernier - Portland See Letters, page 30

## ford Speedbowl. Besides his parents, he was also predeceased by Peggy's parents, Margaret and Chick Baines;

brother-in-law, Robert Baines Jr.; his cousins, Michael, Patricia and Ed Sienkiewicz, William Sullivan, John Sullivan; aunt, Anne Sullivan;

uncles Thomas and Bill Sullivan; and Jack Sullivan, his mother's cousin.

Tom worked at Eastwood Chrysler-Plymouth while in high school, and later for 38 years with The Town of Glastonbury as mechanic and fleet superintendent of vehicle maintenance, retiring in 2008. He was a highly skilled mechanic and worked constantly on vehicles for friends and family. He took great pride in the work he did.

Frequently, Tom could be found working in his garage, driving his Marina Blue 1967 Corvette to local car shows or around town, or just sitting in his recliner enjoying a NASCAR race on TV. As a member of St. Mary Church in Portland since birth, he was a fourth-generation parishioner and never missed a Sunday Mass.

In lieu of flowers, those who wish to make a memorial contribution can do so to St. Mary Church, 45 Freestone Ave., Portland, CT 06480 or go to The American Heart Association online for donation details.

Visiting hours were Monday, Oct. 30, at the Portland Memorial Funeral Home, 231 Main St. A funeral Mass was celebrated at St. Mary Tuesday, Oct. 31. Burial followed at Center Cemetery, Bartlett Street Ext. in Portland.

forced to rely too heavily on volunteers and donations for supplies and even capital items. The annual budget battle disheartens too many educators, leaving some of our best and brightest seeking employment elsewhere.

We need leaders who are ready to help meet the challenges as well as celebrate the successes. I feel strongly that I am poised to be one of those leaders. I've been blessed to find many people throughout this community who likewise believe in me, and their support has been

humbling. Now I ask the voters of East Hampton to join them. On Nov. 7, please vote for me and the rest of row A. Let's work together to build on progress and support the needs of our superb schools.

Sincerely, Matt Engelhardt - East Hampton Democrat for the Board of Education

## Thank You, Colchester

To the Editor:

As we approach Election Day on Nov. 7, I want to thank my fellow candidates for their support, guidance and friendship. I also want to thank the citizens of Colchester, who have been so gracious with their time. Your support, whether it be in person, on the phone, in the newspaper or a thumbs-up during our sign-waving, has been our inspiration.

Colchester is a beautiful place to live, learn and play. But our fullest potential is still to come! Under the lead-ership of Bernie Dennler as first selectman he will bring our town together to tap into our fullest potential! He will restore trust, transparency and accuracy, maintain affordability and build on Colchester's strengths.

It takes a team! Join me in voting Row A on November 7: Bernie Dennler for first selectman; Denise Turner, Rosemary Coyle and Dave Koji for Board of Selectmen; Karen Belding and Scott Chapman for Board of Finance; Michelle Millington, Chris Rivers and Stefanie Tracey-Calash for Board of Education; Michele Wyatt for tax collector; Gayle Furman for town clerk; Sean Gillespie for treasurer; Krista Kardys (myself) and Andrew Cournover for Board of Assessment Appeals.

It's time, Colchester! Vote Row A on Nov. 7 and elect the team who can bring our town together and move us Thank you,

Krista Kardys - Colchester Candidate for Board of Assessment Appeals

## One Great Town

To the Editor:

Several recent letters to the editor have pointed fingers at some of the Democratic candidates for Town Council, as following in the footsteps of Washington progressives, because we have been described as very "diverse" in our ideas. The Democratic ticket was selected precisely because they brought a wide variety of thought, ideas and energy to serve the people of East Hampton. Fingerpointers should reflect that when one points a finger, he/ she has three more pointing right back at them. I would also suggest to those misinformed letter-writers that it isn't Washington directing us, but in the words of former Congressman and Speaker of the House, Tip O'Neill, that "all politics is local!"

Our Democratic candidates are intelligent, active in a wide array of the fabric making up our community, having an ear to the ground and willing to represent the many voices of our town. East Hampton in my mind is a wheel with many spokes. Take one or more of the spokes away and it weakens the wheel. Together they make for a well functioning community. A strong educational system, which we have, enhances our economy, and of course our tax base. Well-trained and equipped fire department, emergency ambulance service and police officers give us comfort to know we live in a safe town. A Public Works department that maintains our roads, keeps streets open after snow storms and an award-winning library and active senior citizen center, are a few of the many spokes

making East Hampton a great place to live.

The Democratic candidates for Town Council, Jack Solomon, Karen Wanat, Jordan Werme and Rich Knotek, join me as a "diverse" team, pledged to transparency in government, willing to listen, representing all our citizens while continuing to make this a wonderful place to

> Dean Markham - East Hampton Candidate for Town Council

## Character & Future of Colchester

With Election Day 2023 fast approaching it is with sincere appreciation my husband and I want to thank each and every one of you who opened your door and expressed your thoughts, concerns & ideas to our son, Bernie Dennler. Every interaction he had was meaningful and will be a contributing factor to how he serve should he be so fortunate to be elected to the office of first selectman.

Each one of us arrives into adulthood with qualities and characteristics that define who we are, with both nature and nurture playing a significant role in molding and shaping us into the people we become.

From an early age it was evident that Bernie was born with an awareness of the world around him, a thirst for factual knowledge, a desire to know how things happened, why things happened and, more importantly, how to effect change. However, these innate traits merely set the stage for him to become the caring, compassionate, critical-thinking problem-solver you see as a candidate

Although "the call to serve" runs deep with a multigenerational family history of firefighters on both sides of his family and a grandmother, who dedicated her service to both her Colchester church and community, it was his ability to assimilate observed actions into his own character that make him a sincere, quality individual & perspective first selectman.

As a graduate of Bacon Academy, a lifelong resident of Colchester, a homeowner, a taxpayer, a frequenter and supporter of our local businesses, one who knows the enjoyment of a walk in the woods; he cares about the quality of education, the need to hold taxes low, secure alternative sources of funding, and maintain and improve our access to open space.

Please, vote for Colchester's best future - Vote Bernie. Sincerely,

MaryGrace Adams Dennler - Colchester

To the Editor:

It says a lot about a person when they volunteer to fill a Board of Ed vacancy during a time when boards across the country were drawing attention for "hot topics." But Augie Arndt doesn't back down from a challenge. During his time on the board, I have seen him go out of his way to understand every board policy and study every agenda item. Is that his job as a board member? Yes, it is. But not everyone does their job. Augie does. He goes above and beyond to make sure he's doing the right thing for the district. Augie is a community volunteer who is dedicated to answering the call to serve the East Hampton community. Augie has support from both sides of the political aisle.

Join your neighbors and vote for Augie Arndt on Nov.

Christina Tammaro-Dzagan - East Hampton **Note:** Tammaro-Dzagan is departing Board of Education chairperson, but said she is speaking as an individual.

## Kinder, Gentler Council

To the Editor:

We will ask for opinions and will get agreement. We will seek differences and get unity. We will seek civility and make progress. We will seek to accomplish by asking for efforts. We will seek compromise for the best results. We will ask for respect, humanity and civil discourse. We will listen as to hear and act on what the people desire, and we will make the difference we seek to make.

We will all work together to make East Hampton a better place to live.

Please vote row "B" for a kinder, gentler Town Coun-Alison Walck - East Hampton

Note: Walck is a member of the East Hampton Town Council, but is speaking as an individual.

## **Arndt for BOE**

To the Editor:

Please join us in voting for Augie Arndt for the Board of Education. Being a father with children in our school systems, he always has our children's best interest in mind. The skill set he brings at budget time is invaluable to the Board of Education. The town of East Hampton has been so lucky to have him serve on this board already and we need him to continue for the sake of our children!

Vote for Augie Arndt on Nov. 7; you won't be disappointed!

## Darin and Chrissie Aloia - East Hampton

## **Endorsing Rizza**

To the Editor:

I am writing to express my endorsement of John Rizza as a candidate for the Marlborough Board of Selectmen. In this pivotal time for our community, it is crucial to have a leader who embodies a genuine commitment to the well-being of every individual. John's core values and dedication to serving the underserved make him the perfect fit for this role.

His fresh perspective is vital. Unencumbered by political agendas, his voice offers reason and inclusivity, essential for progress. John prioritizes listening, a quality often absent in traditional politics. His investment in community issues promises genuine advocacy. Introducing a new voice fosters diverse ideas and solutions, criti-

Please join me on Nov. 7 in voting for John Rizza for the Marlborough Board of Selectmen.

Thank you, Karen Wilkinson - Marlborough

## Vote for Engelhardt

To the Editor:

Readers, Neighbors, Friends - I hope you vote for Matt Engelhardt for the East Hampton Board of Educa-

I have known Matt for more than 20 years, and he has spent most of that time working in or advocating for education at all levels. Matt believes the backbone of our community is education, and, not to sound cliché, that children are our future. Matt has always looked forward to becoming involved in town government, and wants to advocate for our East Hampton students, teachers, and staff.

Matt and I moved to East Hampton to raise our family because of the schools, recreation, and the beautiful small town feel. We love it here, and the schools have gone above and beyond to help our girls grow. I know that many other families feel that way, and a vote for Matt will ensure that our schools continue to flourish and help many generations of students grow.

## Respectfully, Megan Engelhardt -- East Hampton

## Vote Row A

To the Editor:

I am a candidate for reelection to the Board of Selectmen (BOS) in Colchester. As an incumbent, I have worked across the aisle to make the best decisions for our community. I have in the past chaired the CHVFD Tax Exemption Revision Committee, as well as the AD Hoc Committee for Diversity and Inclusion. I have been in full support of the new Senior Center project, as well as other initiatives put forth by the first selectman including the field irrigation, although I would have liked for us to take it further and include a plan to bring the fields totally up to par, along with an ongoing maintenance

My family has a long history in this community. I was born here and went through Colchester's school system. I am currently employed by a local nursing facility as a therapeutic recreation director. I also participate in other volunteer opportunities in town, including sitting on the governing board of the Colchester Historical Society.

I am proud to be running alongside Bernie Dennler, candidate for first selectman and a fourth-generation Colchester resident, who has the knowledge and demeanor to keep us moving in the right direction. The rest of the Democratic slate is an amazing group of individuals from diverse backgrounds who have stepped up to run for BOS, BOF, BOE, BAA, treasurer, and our current town vlerk and tax collector who are running for reelection. I ask for your vote for myself and this team on Tuesday Nov 7. Vote row A.

Thank you, Denise Turner - Colchester Candidate for Board of Selectmen

## A Leader for Colchester

To the Editor: On Tuesday, I can't wait to vote for Bernie Dennler as our next first selectman. Bernie is a real leader who I know we can count on to fight for all of us in Colchester. He was a leader on the Board of Finance. He is a leader in our community. And he will be a leader as first selectman. He's exactly the kind of person you want in that

Whether you are a Democrat, Republican, or unaffiliated voter, Bernie will be someone we can all count on. He will be a first selectman for everyone.

Stacy Silberman - Colchester

## **Vote Row A for Colchester!**

To the Editor:

I will be voting for Row A on Nov. 7!

Bernie Dennler and his team have proven to me and many others that they truly care about the town of Col-chester and all of its residents. I have witnessed how hard they all have been working to talk and listen to the citizens and businesses. I am positive with how hard they have been working toward getting elected, only proves how hard they will work once they become elected. We deserve kind and competent leadership who truly care about the well-being of the citizens they represent. This is why I will be voting for Row A on Nov. 7 and you should

## Beth Tiezzi - Colchester

## **Baker for RHAM BOE**

To the Editor:

My name is Maura Curran Baker, and I am excited to be running for the RHAM Board of Education in Hebron. I have lived in Hebron since 2002. My husband and I have two children that attended the Hebron and RHAM schools, one in college and one at RHAM High School.

My family has been active in school, sports, music, Scouts and church activities in Hebron. I was a long time Girl Scout leader. In addition, I have worked at Travelers Insurance for twenty-eight years, where I am a vice president of actuarial & Analytics. My passion for education and community activities, combined with my background in business and as a working mother, will help me continue the important work of the Board of Education for our local schools.

I am excited to bring my skill set and independent viewpoint to the RHAM Board of Education, as well as to advocate for respectful discussion of the issues relating to our schools. My years as a working mother interacting with the Hebron and RHAM school systems position me well to advocate for the best possible education and opportunities for all students. I am honored to run for the Board of Education and for the opportunity to work on behalf of RHAM's students, teachers and staff, as well as the taxpayers, to further our excellent school system.

Please vote for Heather Summerer and me for the RHAM Board of Education and for the other fantastic Democratic candidates on Row A. Make a plan to vote on Tuesday, Nov. 7!

## Maura Curran Baker - Hebron

Thank You for Your Support! To the Editor:

As the election approaches, I want to ask for your support when you cast your ballot on Nov. 7. My decision to run for Town Council is to bring leadership, collaboration and improve oversight to all our boards and commissions. East Hampton is facing much needed expenditures that need to be prioritized base on the 'need' it brings to the overall community and not just a few. Hard choices in services should be examined and justified based on our current revenue stream.

I am proud of our community, the residents, the schools and our New England characteristics that we call home. I will work to preserve these characteristics, fiscally and responsibly on your behalf.

As Ronald Reagan once said, Republicans believe every day is the Fourth of July, but the Democrats believe every day is April 15th! Please join me in celebrating the Fourth of July by casting your ballot for me and all Republican candidates. Remember it is your family, your community and your money!

> Deb Cunningham - East Hampton Republican Candidate for Town Council

## Bernie, My Son, for Colchester

To the Editor:

The time has come for a father to do what fathers do best, support their children!

As residents of this wonderful community I'm sure you have all kept yourselves informed about where my son, Bernie, stands on leading Colchester as your first selectman.

The platform he is running on is not his, but yours the community of Colchester.

It is based on thousands of citizens and business own ers sharing their concerns about the direction they think Colchester needs to be heading.

My son has always been a great listener and openly listens to others without passing judgment.

He looks to make each conversation a positive interaction regardless of whether he & the other individual(s)

have differing viewpoints. My wife and I taught our children to be honest, caring and respectful to all. Bernie respects everyone & acts with integrity regardless of politics. That's just who Ber-

nie is. He has come from a family of farmers, firefighters, educators and small business owners, and knows the hard work and dedication each involves.

Bernie respects family values and family traditions Even with a busy schedule he still makes time to spend with his mother and I; whether it's an early morning get together, or a hike into the woods to a secluded fishing hole known to us for it's native trout. Should we be fortunate enough to catch one, we admire its beauty and then release it back to its environment. This is memorable father-and-son time that is truly treasured.

Bernie has the character and ability to bring local boards together, communicate across party lines, be open-minded, and build solutions based on collabora-

Please, join me - vote for my son, Bernie Dennler, Nov. 7.

Thank you!

Bernie's Dad, Bernard W. Dennler Jr. - Colchester

## Vote for Deb Cunningham!

To the Editor: As the chairman of our East Hampton Republican Town Committee, I have witnessed, first-hand, Deb Cunningham's work ethic and dedication! She works endless hours each week making sure that she is always fully informed and ready to tackle whatever task comes before us. There is no doubt in my mind that Deb will bring this same work ethic and enthusiasm as a member of our Town Council. She is a conservative candidate who believes in limited government and fiscal responsibility. East Hampton would be lucky to have her as a member of the Town Council.

Vote for Deb Cunningham on Nov. 7!

Melody Philhower - East Hampton

## The Best Candidate

To the Editor:

I'm a longtime friend of Bernie Dennler's and I can say with full confidence that he is an excellent choice for our first selectman. He acts with integrity, honesty, and really cares about this town. Not only because he grew up here and has had a passion for community and politics for as long as I've known him, but on top of it, he is a great person. He actually loves doing this kind of work and would give due justice to our community. He has a high moral code and standard for how things should be done. He is the best candidate to see that things are addressed and accomplished in a way that we all can stand behind - regardless of party affiliation.

I feel just as strongly for the entirety of the Democratic team - their competency, experience, and ethics feel like a burst of positivity for this town.

Be sure to come out and vote on the 7th!

Shannon Noonan - Colchester

## Portland, Not Politics

To the Editor:

My name is Robert "Bobby" Hetrick and I am running for re-election for the Portland Board of Selectmen. In my first two years on the board I have learned a great deal about how the town operates and how much money it costs to do things. I try to ask as many questions as possible of town employees and of town residents I encounter around town. We need to know what the residents want and how the town can accomplish our goals, at a rate we can afford. We have started some important infrastructure projects and have many more to come in

I have enjoyed my time the last two years working for the residents of Portland. It's about Portland, not politics. I want what is best for Portland, not what is best for any one group of people. I hope I can count on your support, come out and vote on Nov. 7.

**Bobby Hetrick - Portland** Republican Candidate, Board of Selectmen

## **Exciting Leadership Opportunities**

To the Editor:

Hello neighbors! I am so excited about several of the candidates for elected office this year! I met Board of Selectmen candidate John Rizza this past summer, and was immediately impressed by his quiet and confident lead-ership style, and his authenticity. He clearly wants what's best for our town and its residents, and will be quite an asset in this leadership role. Then there's Bill Lardi for Zoning. What a wealth of experience he brings to that role! And Drew Golfin for  $Bo\hat{E}$  – wow. And these are just a few on the slate! All are residents who have achieved success in their professional lives, and who are now willing to give freely of themselves, for our community.

These folks aren't political, per se, but they are genuine and available at this time in their lives to give back to our

amazing community. Please vote. I certainly will!

Julie Revaz – Marlborough

## Thank you

To the Editor:
This is the last week of letters before our municipal election on Nov. 7. I just wanted to take this opportunity and say three more things:

1. Thank you! Thank you to all the volunteers. Thank you to all of our neighbors who shared ideas, concerns, and questions. Thank you to the students, families, teachers, staff, and community who work every day to make our schools great. Thank you to my fellow board members for working together to solve problems over the last

2. Please vote. Voting matters. Your voice deserves to be heard as we select the leaders who should be solving problems on our behalf over the next couple of years.

3. I'm asking for your support. Your vote will help me continue to focus on improving our schools for all our students. Your vote will help me continue to work across party lines to solve problems.

Our local elections and government should be focused on solving problems for our community while remembering we are all neighbors. That's why I'll be voting for Bernie and the entire democratic slate. I hope you'll join me.

Christopher Rivers - Colchester Candidate for the Board of Education

## **Accentuate The Positives**

To My Colchester Neighbor:

Author Anna Sewell once wrote, "It's good people who make good places." From several months on the campaign trail with my running mates on Row A to the past couple of years volunteering for Colchester's Democratic Town Committee, I agree with Ms. Sewell's sentiment. Time and time again, every time we're together, doing the work, good is all I see. It's been a privilege and an honor to be surrounded by

such competent, compassionate, and intelligent people who only care about one thing - Making Colchester a better place to live. Everyone who's been kind and brave enough to join this campaign to serve our community has little interest in "big tent" politics. We only care about our Colchester neighbors and doing what's right for the whole community. We can work across the table.

I truly hope that Colchester comes out to vote for positive change on Row A, but no matter what happens on the 7th, just knowing that I've been able to share my time and will continue to do so with such a remarkable group of people means only one thing – I've already won.

Your vote matters, and I hope to see you at the polls. Sincerely, Scott Chapman - Colchester Candidate, Board of Finance

Arndt and Engelhardt for BOE To the Editor:

In a previous letter, I proudly endorsed Augie Arndt for East Hampton Board of Education. Augie is someone with excellent character, an outstanding work ethic, kindness and intelligence who is running to maintain his seat as a member of the BOE, and I wholeheartedly support him. Today I extend my support to candidate Matt Engelhardt as well

Matt distinguished himself during budget season as a leading citizen advocate for the students of East Hampton. He regularly attends BOE meetings to learn about our district's successes and challenges. Matt's intellectual curiosity, civility and excellent communication skills will contribute greatly to the function of the Board. His extensive experience in coordinating superintendent searches will be invaluable as East Hampton embarks on the challenge of finding a successor to Superintendent

Effective Board of Education members work together toward the common goal of providing the best possible education for the children in the community. I fully anticipate that, upon election to the BOE, Matt will join Augie in working collaboratively with the entire Board toward this goal. Please join me in casting your votes for Augie Arndt and Matt Engelhardt for East Hampton Board of Education.

Nancy Oakley - East Hampton

Note: Oakley said this endorsement represents her personal views and is not made in her official capacity as a member of the East Hampton Board of Education.

## **Portland BOE**

To the Editor:

The ballot for Portland's municipal election can be confusing. Looking at the ballot there are 4 open seats for the Board of Education. The highest vote-getters will join three Republicans already seated on the BOE and one Democrat, Kim Nagy-Maruschock, running unopposed for the seat previously held by Sharon Peters.

All Democratic candidates on the ballot have a vested interest in education, with children attending Portland schools and an extensive background in education and/ or children's services.

This coming year, the town of Portland will be making decisions regarding school facilities that will impact the future of Portland. Time is of the essence. Electing the incumbent Democrats would be the logical course to keep tax dollars well spent over the coming year's budget

I am confident that all Democratic candidates will continue to work to ensure all students will be ready academically, and socially, to succeed after graduation.

Please join me in supporting Meg Scata, Sarah Spear, Laurel Steinhauser and Kim Nagy-Maruschock on Tuesday, Nov. 7.

Deborah Calavas - Portland

## **Leadership You Can Trust**

To the Editor:

I am writing to express my wholehearted support for Keith Petit, for the position of selectman in our town. I believe that he is the ideal candidate to represent the interests of our community and contribute positively to its growth and development.

I have had the privilege of witnessing Keith dedicate himself tirelessly to our town for many years. His commitment to community service and passion for making a difference in the lives of residents are truly inspiring. He has been an active member of several local boards (BOE, CIP), and his leadership has often resulted in positive change.

The current BOE is a true team, working only for the betterment of our schools. As one of the most cohesive boards in town, this is a testament to his and the board's willingness to put party politics aside to do what's best for children.

Throughout our life together, I have seen Keith demonstrate qualities of integrity and responsibility. He's a strong advocate for open and transparent government, and I know that he will work diligently to ensure that the voices of all residents are heard and valued. As a husband and a father, Keith has always exemplified the values of dedication and sense of duty. He never misses a single event our daughter is involved in, volunteers at the school on Veterans Day speaking to classes, and supports our family, and us as women, every step of the way. He understands the importance of ensuring that our town remains a safe, welcoming, and prosperous place for all.

I am excited to support Keith for selectman, and believe that he has the vision, experience and dedication needed to serve our town effectively. Please join me in supporting his candidacy and together, we can work towards a brighter future for our community.

Heather Petit - Amston

Note: Petit is chair of the Hebron Board of Education she is speaking as an individual.

# **Experienced & Trusted Team** To the Editor:

As incumbent candidates for the Hebron Board of Education, we want to thank you for your past support and ask for your vote on Nov. 7.

Our experience as board members demonstrates that we listen to all sides and act in a truly bipartisan manner. As a team, we rely on each other's strengths to make informed, collaborative, transparent, and at times, difficult decisions in the best interest of our children while maintaining Hebron's values for all residents. This kind of cooperation is necessary to respect all students and staff and keep our schools functioning effectively while maintaining high scholastic achievement.

Evidence of our commitment and experience include: Elected the only Democratic chair of a major town board, despite having a Republican majority; United, we rallied parents and supported student voices to ask for school funding to be restored; Increased family engagement in the budget process (i.e. spring ice cream social); Negotiated fair contracts with teachers, administrators, and support staff to help retain quality educators; Expanded School Resource Officer hours; Kept schools open safely during and after the pandemic; Sustained programs that resulted in rebounding performance post-

Approved a new math curriculum for grade 6, resulting in increased student achievement; Hired and retained a respected superintendent who is an active leader and education advocate; Supported a new District Advancement Plan to guide student learning and bud-

get decisions; Encouraged grant writing to save mone which resulted in winning a \$300K School Mental Health Workers Grant; Reviewed 100% of policies to ensure alignment with current laws and best practices; Help us continue to work to benefit our kids and our town.

Please vote to reelect Republicans for the Hebron Board of Education on Nov. 7.

> Sincerely. Sera Coppolino, Joe Margaitis,

Alley Nadeau-Schmeizl, Keith Petit Note: The four are members of the Hebron Board of Education but said they are speaking as individuals.

## **Augie for Progress**

To the Editor:

Serving on the BOE for the last year and a half has been an honor. We have a great team on the board and we focus on common goals. It has been energizing to be part

of the group that supports our district and community. I do not tow a party line. I don't believe the Board of Education should be a politicized board, and right now we do not operate as a board with a political agenda. I hope that continues after the election. I refuse to look at issues through a political lens.

I hope to continue focusing on smart and creative solutions, and to create more non-traditional post-grad-uation opportunities for our students without reducing the attention of traditional routes. My strength is with the budget and I look forward to working together with the three boards to make the entire budget process less volatile.

I know this is easier said than done, but if we could put political parties (and egos) aside and focus on com-mon goals we would foster progress for our community. Please vote Augie Arndt, Row B, for Board of Education. Augie Arndt – East Hampton

Note: Arndt is a current member of the East Hampton  $Board\ of\ Education,\ but\ said\ he\ is\ writing\ as\ an\ individual.$ 

## **Row B: Affordability & Progress**

Dear Colchester Residents:

It has been an honor representing the Town of Colchester these last two years. Our families can enjoy a new playground, pickle ball courts, basketball courts, and field irrigation. New businesses are investing in Colchester and businesses like the Granite Group are expanding where the old Jack's Chevrolet haunted our community for over a decade. Downtown Colchester can celebrate a newly revamped Town Green and Gazebo, while Lebanon Avenue will be invigorated with the completion of a streetscape project and a new senior center in 2024.

Our community has taken measures to increase safety as we secured 24/7 fire and EMS service, updated fire equipment, and secured new vehicles for both our fire department and police department. In 2024, the police department will see a historic expansion in their operating quarters and are poised to expand their number of officers, from 11 to 13, via a federal grant. There is no compromise when it comes to the safety of our town.

When it comes to fiscal responsibility and fighting for your wallet, there is only one candidate with a proven track record of doing so. With the most fiscally conservative record during my six years on the Board of Finance and two strong years of a relatively flat town budget, strengthened by strategic spending and strong revenue only one candidate brings the dedicated experience in achieving both affordability and progress.
 Greater progress and low taxes won't be possible with-

out the right team beside me. Our town needs a team that believes in affordability, accountability, and transparency. One that will support economic development and not let

identity politics destroy our traditions.

Let's continue the Colchester Comeback this Nov. 7 and ensure that our town remains affordable for every-

## Andreas Bisbikos Colchester First Selectman

## Vote November 7th!

To the Editor:

Whatever you believe, come out to vote Nov. 7. Whichever candidates you support the vision and the policy of, please come out to vote Nov. 7. This is a teachable moment to instruct our children about the history behind the right to vote. It is an impactful opportunity to model the importance of casting your vote in the United States of America. The ballot can be found at the website printed below. For many people, it is helpful to preview it before election day.:

https://portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/Town-Ballots/2023-November-Municipal-Town-Ballots
Thomas Jefferson said, "We do not have government

by the majority. We have a government by the majority who participate." Thank you for practicing your right to vote on Nov. 7.

Blessed to live in Hebron, Connecticut, and grateful for the opportunity to serve on the Hebron Board of

Kim Hills - Hebron

## Please Vote on Nov. 7!

To the Editor:

I'll keep this short and sweet - everyone in Hebron needs to make a plan to vote on Nov. 7! Set a reminder on your phone; put it on your Alexa or Google Voice; write it down on your calendar; put a big note on your refrigerator. Municipal elections are arguably the most important elections, as they help create the community you want to live in. Let your voice be heard!

I hope you will consider the extraordinary candidates running on row A. They are engaged citizens who care deeply about Hebron and want to make it better for everyone. I'd be remiss if I didn't mention two outstanding individuals running for the RHAM Board of Education in Heather Summerer and Maura C. Baker. Maura, another member of our affectionately dubbed "Team Actuary," has put two children through the RHAM system and brings this expertise and knowledge with her to the board. As a current member, Heather saved the school thousands of dollars through securing the donation of needed furniture after budget cuts. Her outside-the-box approach to problem-solving and keen insight on student needs is what we want in a RHAM board member.

I look forward to seeing you at the polls on Nov. 7! Sincerely.

Tiffany V. Thiele – Hebron Note: Thiele is a member of the Board of Selectmen but said she is writing this letter as an individual.

## Vote Row A

To the Editor: First selectman candidate Bernie Dennler and the row A Democratic team have been talking to voters since the spring. One thing they've heard consistently is that it is time for Colchester's elected officials to stop the chaos and bring things "back to normal" so that some real work can get done to start moving the town forward again. If you think it's time to bring competence, stability, and civility back to Town Hall, then please vote row A on Tuesday for the Democratic team. And make sure your friends and family members make it to the polls to vote

Bernie Dennler has the firsthand knowledge and demeanor to represent all of us in Town Hall. Incumbents Rosemary Coyle and Denise Turner (BOS), Town Clerk Gayle Furman, Tax Collector Michele Wyatt, Chris Rivers and Michelle Millington (BOE), and Andrew Cournoyer (BAA) bring experience and historical perspective to the table. When new candidates Sean Gillespie (Treasurer), Dave Koji (BOS), Scott Chapman and Karen Belding (BOF), Stephanie Tracey-Clash (BOE), and Krista Kardys (BAA) join them with their background knowledge and new ideas, our town will once again have a functioning team that will work to bring our town together towards a positive future.

Municipal elections are often determined by a handful of votes. Make sure yours is one of them. Please make it to the polls to have your voice heard. The three district polling places will be open on Tuesday from 6am-8pm. If you need a ride, please call 860-465-7909.

Thank you for voting, Monica Swyden, Chair Colchester Democratic Town Committee

## Let's Bring Colchester Together

Dear Colchester Residents:

Ten months ago, I set out on a campaign to begin the work of bringing Colchester together as a candidate for first selectman. Along the way, I've knocked on thousands of doors in every corner of our town to hear your stories, share my vision, and learn more about how Colchester's town government could better serve you.

I want to thank all of you who have taken the time to speak with me at your door, invited me into your homes, or reached out via email, Facebook, text, or by phone. Colchester has always been my home, but today İ'm more determined than ever to fight for its future. I know you are counting on me.

In my day job, I've worked on municipal budgets, building projects, coordinating operations in emergencies, and more. As a volunteer here in Colchester, I've served on Colchester's Economic Development Commission, as vice chair for our Board of Finance, and our Public Safety Subcommittee. I want to put my experience with it to work to better serve our town and to fight for all of us as residents and neighbors.

As first selectman, I will focus on efforts to bring our community together and support an environment of bipartisanship on our boards and commissions. Bringing Colchester together also means prioritizing investments in the places where our community comes together. That means ensuring the Senior Center project is completed on schedule and moving forward a plan to improve the condition of our sports fields and other recreation assets used by community members of all ages.

On Tuesday, I hope you will put your trust in me and the rest of the Democratic team. Let's get to work and bring Colchester together!

> Bernie Dennler - Colchester Candidate for First Selectman

## Time for Change

To the Editor:

If ever there was a time for change in our town, it's now. Our candidates stand for what's good, what's right. I'm thankful to be a part of something that just feels good.

It is so important that you know what your candidates stand for. Take the time to read their bios. They can make the difference for our town through transparency and a willingness to show up for all of Hebron's citizens. They see you. They hear you.

Vote vote vote.

#VoteBlueOnNov7th #RowA #Hebron Dems Kim Goldberg - Hebron

## **Fine Candidates**

To the Editor:

I wanted to share a few thoughts on the slate of Portland Democratic candidates. For the Board of Selectmen: Jillian Crawford is well educated and very hard-working. She is dedicated to public service, and brings a youthful perspective as well. Andrea Alfano is well qualified, with years of experience in prior of work on the Board of Education, and she has great business sense and analytical skills. John Dillon and Jim Tripp are both very experienced, involved in the community, and work well with others to get the job done.

The Board of Education candidates all dedicate their time to children and have backgrounds in education. They each convey thoughtfulness in their approach to education and youth development.

The Zoning Board of Appeals and Board of Assessment Appeals candidates are all very knowledgeable, capable, reliable, and have many years of experience.

I ask that you consider these fine candidates, and I ask that you complease don't forget to vote.

Theresa Asikainen – Portland

## I Support Spear

To the Editor:

I've gotten to know Sarah Spear through our kids' school activities and sports in Portland. Her kindness and curiosity strike me as particularly important attributes for a Board of Ed member to have. Sarah cares about supporting all students in our community. Since she currently serves on our Board of Education, Sarah is already an active participant in discussions taking place around school facilities, equity across our district, and supporting staff as they transition to a new reading curriculum next year.

All four Democratic incumbents on our Board of Education have my vote. In reelecting them, we're enabling them to continue the work they're already doing. Please join me Nov. 7 in voting for Kim Maruschock, Meg Scata, Sarah Spear, and Laurel Steinhauser.

Melissa Dewey Hoebel - Portland

## Transparency, Client Service Matters

Hello Colchester, I am Jeffery Duigou the Republican endorsed candidate for tax collector. During my campaign for tax collector for the Town of Colchester, I have met the wonderful citizens of this town while visiting hundreds of your homes with our first selectman on the campaign trail. The response by Colchester residents on the accomplishments of the current administration and my running for tax collector was >98% positive. I listened to your concerns as taxpayers and have taken those concerns to heart. I look forward to serving you as the new tax collector. Moving forward, my clients are the taxpayers of Colchester.

Over the past 30+ years as a professional businessman and consulting engineer/scientist, it was always important for me to provide transparency on serving client needs as well as professional and courteous service. I was a licensed professional with the State of CT enforcing Federal and state statutes while at the same time serving my clients' needs. I was able to fix problems on behalf of my clients with knowledge of the law and relationships with Federal and state regulators. The tax collector position is similar in responsibilities. I will follow the same statutes as did the current tax collector.

As a resident/taxpayer for 37 years it's time for a muchneeded change. If you want transparency and professional client service, as well as continuing the Colchester Comeback, vote for Jeffery Duigou line 7B on the ballot for your tax collector and Line B for the Republican slate.

Sincerely, Jeffery Duigou - Colchester **Candidate for Tax Collector** 

## A Team with Values

To the Editor:

Last week the Democratic leader of the Senior Center Building Committee, Tony Tarnowski, wrote a letter chastising me for questioning the project. Mr. Tarnowski has led the \$9.5 million Senior Center building project to disaster. The building project is behind schedule, over budget, and ultimately may not be usable without Republican intervention.

Mr. Tarnowski, a local Democrat, feels his years of volunteer work has earned him a shield that prevents him from accountability. All boards are composed of volunteers. If we don't hold board members accountable, there wouldn't be accountability in local government.

Citizens have asked Mr. Tarnowski to include meeting material with the agenda; items like schedules and financial documents. He keeps these documents secret from the public to hide his failure. We demand transparency!

A new senior center is desperately needed and our seniors deserve it, we need to vote Republican to turn this project around. Affordability, accountability, transparency – these are your Republican team's core values. We're committed to the well-being of our seniors, and

completing the senior center building.

First Selectman Andreas Bisbikos has a proven track record of accomplishments; he'll finish the senior center! For the Board of Selectmen, you have plenty of incredible choices led by the legendary Art Shilosky. Please consider Libertarian Jason Lachapelle who is a great choice to complement the Republican team.

For the Board of Finance please elect incumbent Andrea Migliaccio and myself, Michael Dubreuil. We embrace the BOF mission statement, "Balancing the needs of Colchester with its ability to pay." We understand the financial struggle of our neighbors while working to secure Colchester's success in the future, especially in our

On Nov. 7, I ask for your vote for Andreas Bisbikos and the Republican team on Row B. Let's move Colchester forward together.

Sincerely,

Michael Dubreuil - Colchester Republican Candidate, Board of Finance

## **Vote McLennan for Town Council**

To the Editor:

Bridget McLennan and I have served on Board of Finance together for several years. During that time, I have come to know her as reliable, trustworthy, and hardworking.

When Bridget says she'll do something she follows through. She has a stick-to-itiveness that is necessary as a board member.

Honestly, I'll miss Bridget on the Board of Finance and almost didn't write this letter, but as good as she is for East Hampton on the Board of Finance, she'll be great on the Town Council. She'll serve with the same selfless traits that she has displayed over her previous service to

the town. She is exactly what East Hampton needs.

Join me in voting for Bridget for Town Council on

Alannah Coshow - Middle Haddam Note: Coshow is vice chair of the East Hampton Board of Finance, but is speaking as an individual

## **Schools Never Stronger**

To the Editor:

As a Portland resident, parent, and former Board of Education member, I wholeheartedly endorse all four Democratic candidates for Board of Education. With these four women in office, our schools have never been

Laurel Steinhauser has served on the BOE since 2018, as chair of the Board for over a year. She is remarkably dedicated to the children and families in our community. and has the experience to continue leading the town's schools into the future. Laurel is kind, fair, intelligent, curious, and diligent. She leads with grace and courage, and an extremely strong moral compass guides her.

Meg Scata, a former librarian at Valley View School,

knows our district inside and out. She has been a Portland Public Schools employee and still has grandchildren whom she loves dearly in our schools. She has tremendous Board experience and represents our town BOE at the state level.

Kim Nagy-Maruschock is a teacher, a Portland parent, and brings a wealth of knowledge about children and education to the Board. Kim is thoughtful and makes decisions by weighing all the facts and options carefully.

Sarah Spear is a Portland parent and has tremendous experience in the non-profit world. Sarah has experience as a parent with the 504 and IEP process and is an advo-

cate for special needs families and their rights.

Laurel Steinhauser, Meg Scata, Kim Nagy-Marus-

See Letters, page 32

chock, and Sarah Spear are four women who have the best interests of our children, families, and tax dollars at heart. They have a history of hard work for our schools, and I am thrilled to have the opportunity to vote for every single one of them this Election Day. Please vote for the Democratic women candidates for BOE on Nov. 7.

Lauren Christensen - Portland

## Re-Elect Augie Arndt

To the Editor:

Undecided voters, consider reelecting Augie Arndt - he's the person who truly listens to our concerns and understands our children's needs. Augie's passion for education and his unwavering support for our students and teachers make him the right choice for a better future for our EH community.

Vote for Arndt this coming Tuesday!

Donata Barber - East Hampton

## **Voting for Rizza**

To the Editor:

Until a few days ago I hadn't given much thought to how the Marlborough ballot will look on Nov. 7. It has now become clear that if I want John Rizza to become one of our town's next Selectmen, it will be critical to vote for only one selectman candidate, John Rizza on the Democratic Line A. That way John's vote will not be diluted by adding to the other candidates' numbers. Despite the fact that one could vote for "up to three," I want my vote to help John win.

So I urge Marlborough voters who feel as I do that John will bring reason and a positive attitude to the board to vote for Just John. As a member of the Board of Selectmen, he will be a steady voice as together they work to find common ground in the best interests of all Marlborough residents.

My vote for the future well-being of Marlborough is for John Rizza!

Walter F. Carroll - Marlborough

## **Concerned About Children**

To the Editor:

This election, our town faces crucial challenges. One of the most important surrounds the education of our children. Schools should be a place where learning, personal growth, self-exploration, and opportunity are fostered among all children. As we navigate out of the pandemic, it is even more important that our schools provide a safe, culturally responsive, inclusive and innovative environment.

As a mental health professional, I am most concerned about the kids that have different and unique needs those with mental health concerns, kids who are part of the LGBTQIA continuum, and families that are part of minority racial and cultural groups. I know the Board of Education incumbents Sarah Spear, Laurel Steinhauser, Meg Scata and Kim Nagy-Maruschock have and will continue to support every child in our Portland schools.

I urge all Portland residents to vote this Tuesday and join me in supporting the Democratic candidates on row

> Thank you, Shelly Nolan - Portland

## **Still Waiting for Water Pipes**

To the Editor:

Last week's letter to the editor by Shaun Manning indicated the replacement of water pipes on Russell and Coe Avenue was his achievement as a BOS member. As a resident of this neighborhood, I can say no replacement of water pipes has been completed on either street, excluding repairs to burst pipes.

One week this summer pipes burst on Prout Street and Brazo Drive twice and then on Russell Avenue. This is a common occurrence with neighbors alerting other neighbors to fill containers when they see the water start running down the street.

It has been two years since it was announced that 1 million dollars in American Rescue funds would be used for this project. Since that time, money has been spent by the Board of Selectmen on pet projects and campaign promises, without recusal from BOS members, as pipes burst, and crumble as public works employees try to restore water to the area. A big thank you to the Public Works workers who are out fixing water pipes in the cold of winter and summer heat.

Replacement of the aging water pipe infrastructure should be a priority to keep safe drinking water available and in the event of a fire. Promises, apologies, and good intentions are worthless when morning comes, and you learn you have no water.

Once the pipes are replaced, then credit can be taken. Rose Aletta - Portland

## Vote Row A on Tuesday

Dear Colchester:

I've said it before and I'll say it again - our community is a special one.

I've found "my village" here as a parent. I've felt the generosity of neighbors as a homeowner. I've enjoyed the advantage of living near so many wonderful businesses as a resident. And I (and my children) have had the pleasure of learning from the incredible educators here.

Stepping up to volunteer and run for town office wasn't an easy decision, I'll admit it. Being in local politics makes you instantly vulnerable, but I'm so glad I jumped in. Not just because I'm thrilled to make a significant, positive impact on the community after next week's vote, but because I now get to add to my list of what makes Colchester special for me -

Our Democratic slate of candidates are as passionate about this place as I am. They have the experience, the fresh ideas, the willingness to work across the aisle. They are community members first and politicians second. And I am so proud to stand with them this election

Please join me in voting Row A next week - Tuesday, November 7th. Your voice and your vote matter, and if your list of what makes Colchester special looks anything like mine, I implore you to consider our team.

See you at the polls!

Sincerely, Stefanie Tracey-Calash - Colchester Candidate for Board of Education

## It's Your Money

To the Editor:

On Tuesday, Nov. 7, the voters of Colchester have a choice: Go back to the tax-and-spend policies of the past or continue the job that was started two years ago when you elected Republicans to power. Folks, change is not easy - it's messy sometimes - but the results are what matter. Please support the Republican slate to help finish the job we started.

I would like also to take a minute to support my friend Jason LaChapelle. Nobody has served this town with more guts and integrity than Jason. It does not matter your party affiliation he has worked hard for you and deserves your support. Please help me do everything I can to send him back to town hall to work for you.

Thank you, Tim Vaillancourt - Colchester

Note: Vaillancourt is a member of the Colchester Board of Finance but is speaking as an individual.

## **Taxing Your Emotions**

To the Editor:

Working with our financial director, I protected our bond rating by ensuring areas needing help were filled and reliably addressed, empowering our finance teams to secure our high bond rating. As a seven-year incumbent, I know our town finances better than anyone while complimenting my financial experience as a senior vice president financial advisor.

In my career, I have clients with significant assets while also managing modest funds of households needing more income to combat inflation. In both cases, they require specialized care to ensure they never run out of money. I convert my ability to employ complex investment strategies to Colchester municipal financial needs, reaching goals that would otherwise be unattainable without advisor care.

An example of the financial care I give the town is the handling of special education using existing funds to provide an internal lien instead of raising taxes, freeing up \$700k+ in education spending without a mill rate increase that aligned with that expenditure.

My biggest concern is a Board of Finance that would

increase your taxes based on emotions. Watching board members be amenable to all budget increases over the last seven years has sharpened my skills to combat the short-term wants lacking long-term goals that would have created tax spikes that wouldn't be recoverable. Without my efforts this year, your mill rate would have raised two mills, and BOE would have had \$700k less in available funds to spend on our schools.

I advocate for sound fiscal practices to ensure we don't exhaust assets on emotional triggers. Please support the Republican team to protect your mill rate while we continue to expand our town, provide safety, and support

education goals. Row B – Republican.

Andrea Migliaccio - Colchester Note: Migliaccio is chairman of the Colchester Board of Finance but said she is speaking as an individual.

## **Local Elections are Important!**

To the Editor:

If you vote for presidential elections, but not usually for our local elections, please vote locally! While who is running our country is an important consideration, your vote has more power in the local elections, as well as a more direct experience with your life. I'm putting a plug in for the Democratic candidates for the Hebron local election. While it is important on a national level for lawmakers to have experience with our laws and constitution, on a local level it's important to see who our candidates are. Do they show up for our community? Do they join in with our community on issues, community development and celebratory events? I believe our Democratic candidates running in Hebron, show up willing to do what is best for our community at large. Vote row A, Hebron!

## Carissa Johnson - Hebron

## **Vote for Alan Roy**

To the Editor:

I am voting for Alan Roy for Board of Assessment Appeals in Andover because I know Alan, a man of integrity, is committed to being fair and making decisions based on facts.

Alan is "an incumbent" and has demonstrated his ability to review the information presented at the appeal hearing and consider all reverent information as it pertains to fair equitable assessment and fair market value. He listens and is respectful of taxpayers as they present concerns or errors in their assessment. Also, there can be errors/mistakes on field cards regarding crawl spaces, basements (finished or not) the number of bedrooms. acreage, and square footage calculations, among others.

Alan will view the town assessor's assessment and the taxpayer's appeal with diligent care. The result being fair and equitable due process.

Please vote for Alan Roy for the Board of Assessment Appeals.

Respectfully, Brian D'Amour - Andover

## **Supporting Fiscal Responsibility**

Colchester Voters:

I first met Andreas Bisbikos when he applied for an internship in Congressman Rob Simmons' office years ago. At the time it was my job to select the summer interns. Andreas stood out among his peers. When I asked him why he was willing to give up a paycheck to work there (interns were not paid), he said he would be working nights so he would have the opportunity to learn how our government worked. He did every conceivable job and never complained. Instead, he asked questions like why does the federal government work like this and how is that practice good for our country? He told us that his family had a small business and how difficult it was to run a small business successfully. Andreas was never afraid to tackle a hard job and always completed them, telling us that he was there to work and to learn.

After he graduated from college, Andreas began to volunteer here in Colchester. His willingness to work hard and desire to learn and do what is best for our community carried over as he spent six years on the Board of Finance. He realized then and now that the tax dollars the town collects are our money and should be spent

As our first selectman for the past two years, Andreas has kept the budget flat and still provided the services to the town. That is what fiscal responsibility is all about and he understands it, believes in it, and keeps that promise to all of us. He always keeps in mind that it is your hardearned money that is paying for the town services.

I hope you will join me in voting for Andreas Bisbikos on November 7th. Vote for him for fiscal responsibility. Vote for him because you know he cares about our town. Vote for him because he has already proved to us that he can get the job done.

Thank you.

Betty Wagner - Colchester

## It's About Portland

Dear Portland Residents,

As we are now only days away from the election, I have been thinking back on the many conversations I have had throughout this campaign. Whether at folks' doors, at the fair, in our restaurants, or just out about town, I appreciated the time you all took to listen to my ideas, and more importantly, to share your thoughts on the issues that are important to you and to our community.

I am running for the Board of Selectmen because I love this town that has given me and my family so much. I want to leverage the skills I have developed over 22 years as an active volunteer in the Portland community and a 32-year career in the private sector to address the challenges we face as a community. This includes increasing our tax base through smart economic development such as the redevelopment of the riverfront brownfield site, investing in our infrastructure, transitioning our water supply to a Portland-owned source to provide relief to water customers, and supporting our outstanding schools by addressing our aging elementary school facilities. I am committed to keeping us moving forward. For me it is, and always has been, about Portland.

It would be an honor to serve our community on the Board of Selectmen. I ask for your vote this Tuesday, Nov.

> With sincere appreciation, James K. Tripp – Portland Candidate for the Board of Selectmen

## Who We Need

To the Editor:

I'm Gayle Furman, your town clerk and the Democratic candidate on the ballot this Nov. 7. Campaigning this year has been a pleasure. I have

enjoyed working with the rest of the dedicated Democratic team and especially meeting many wonderful Colchester's citizens. We have knocked on your doors and met some of you at our fundraisers. We have had great conversations with you and listened to your needs and opinions.

My nine years of experience, qualifications and certifications make me the best choice for continuing to be your town clerk.

The rest of the team, led by First Selectman candidate Bernie Dennler, is who we need to bring Town Hall and the rest of the town back to working on the issues and needs of our town. We have 14 dedicated candidates, some with historical knowledge and some who will bring new ideas to the table. Their only interest is to work together for the good of the community.

On Nov. 7, I am asking you to vote for myself and all the candidates on row A. We will work as a team with all the board members for the best interest of all the residents of Colchester.

> Gayle Furman, CCTC, CMC Colchester Town Clerk

## **Vote Hebron Dems**

To the Editor:

On Nov. 7, I'm voting for: John Matra (BOS) because of his human resources experience and board experience as the current president of the Amston Lake Association; Claudia Riley (BOS) due to her leadership and networking abilities as well as her volunteerism; Adam Ockman (BOF) for his analytical mind as an actuary and instinct to play devil's advocate; Brian Thibeault (BOF) because of his calm demeanor and financial background; Eleisha LeMay (BOE) because of her experience as a school teacher and administrator; Elizabeth Alexander (BOE) because as a successful businesswoman, she understands how to work collaboratively to reach a common goal; Brittany Loudenback (BOE) because she finds creative solutions and believes in the benefits of a strong educa-

Heather Summerer (RBOE) because as the incumbent on the RHAM Board of Ed, she has a proven track record of success; Maura Baker (RBOE) due to her financial background coupled with her volunteerism in the RHAM community; Davis Howell (Planning & Zoning alternate) because of his planning experience and dedication as a long time Hebron resident, Bryan Smith (ZBA) because as an incumbent on Zoning Board of Appeals he's looking to serve our great town further; and Amy DeCesare (ZBA) because as an attorney and community volunteer who studied Zoning Board cases, she's well-suited to represent.

We're incredibly lucky to have Frank Zitkus and Janet

Fodaski, (P&Z) David Rose (BAA) and William Alexander (ZBAA) ready on day one.

Thank you, Hebron, for an incredibly energizing election season. Let's work together and vote Row A. Please show up for the Democrats on Nov. 7!

## Erin Bussiere, Chairwoman **Hebron Democratic Town Committee**

## **Dear Portland Residents:**

I am currently serving my fourth term on the Board of Selectmen and I hope I can earn your vote on Nov. 7! It will be my fifth term and if elected, I will continue to work closely with everyone interested in making our town better.

I moved to Portland in 2000 and have loved being a part of this town since then in a variety of ways. From raising my three kids through the Portland school system, my three terms on the Board of Education (a great experience!), starting my business in town in 2011, helping relaunch the Unified Sports program into the school system, coaching our PMS track team (can't wait til the new track is done!), helping restart our wonderful Portland Lions Club, working with kids, advocating for more business in town and whatever else I can do to make this the best town in the state for families and everyone else.

I hope I can earn your vote and continue to do good work for you and everyone in town. Michael Pelton - Portland

**Current Board of Selectmen Member** 

## Keep a Good Thing Going

To the editor: Our children are safer today thanks to Republicans implementing the armed security officers into all of our

Our lake is cleaner today thanks to Republicans implementing a viable and cost-effective lake treatment program.

Our taxes are lower today thanks to Republicans pushing back against the Board of Education budget.

While Democrats control the federal and state governments, we need to pushback against them by voting

Republican at the local level to balance the scales. Let's keep a good thing going. Vote Republican.

Sal Nucifora – East Hampton

**Consider Authenticity** To the Editor:

I know I have written a lot about taxes, spending, and affordability. While I understand it probably gets a little samey" at times, I have no choice but to make this the focus of my attention. I have never come from a place of privilege where I can worry about things like personality or tone. My whole life, as far back as my childhood, has been floating between that thin line of drowning and barely staying afloat.

Living in this world I understand just how many of you are here with me. I understand your family, like ours, doesn't have the luxury to worry about anything other than keeping your heads above water. I understand every dollar you earn is earned away from your family. I know just how many sporting events, school functions, first steps, etc., you've missed doing your damnedest to provide for your family in a state that seems hellbent on making that as impossible as it possibly can. I know just how many times you've had to say, "I'm sorry bud, I can't. I have to work." I know how that look you get just shatters your heart. I know because I'm currently living it – working two jobs just to try and stay in the black.

Because of where I am, and how I got here, I am the only selectman who's ever taken seriously their job to ensure your hard earned dollars are well taken care of. Am I always the most well-spoken? No. Am I sometimes abrasive? Absolutely. Will I ever be perfect? Of course not. But I am authentic and passionate about making sure your time, and the money earned with it, is respected enough to not be wasted away.

Please consider voting row C - Libertarian on Tuesday, Nov. 7.

## Jason LaChapelle - Colchester Libertarian Candidate for Board of Selectmen

Bernie Dennler Has My Vote! To the Editor:

I've lived in Colchester for the past 37 years. My husband and I raised our children here and found Colchester to be a very friendly, respectful, and inviting town.

Now that our children have grown, I've become more interested in what's going on within our small-town government. I've attended or watched most of the Town Hall bimonthly meetings. In addition, I've either attended or watched two of the three first selectman debates. Bernie was able to articulate his plans for Colchester's future in a positive and informative way. I believe his professional experience working in a municipal government has prepared him for success as Colchester first selectman. In addition, I've had the pleasure of talking with Bernie and was impressed with how I felt I was listened to.

On Tuesday, Nov. 7, I will vote for Bernie Dennler. Penny (Pauline) Gadbois - Colchester

## What Are You Looking For?

Colchester Citizens:

Tuesday is Election Day! If you're undecided at all, please consider what you'd like to see from our elected officials in town .. Are you looking for professionalism, competence and leadership? Vote Bernie Dennler for first selectman?

Are you looking for significant local experience and passion for our community? Vote Rosemary Coyle, Denise Turner, and Dave Koji for Board of Selectmen.

Are you looking for financial expertise, fiscal responsibility, and a willingness to work on behalf of all citizens? Vote Scott Chapman and Karen Belding for Board of Finance. And vote Sean Gillespie for treasurer. Are you looking for bipartisan, compassionate lead-

ers who bring experience and innovative ideas for our schools and town? Vote Chris Rivers, Michelle Millington, and Stefanie Tracey-Calash for Board of Education.

Are you looking for seasoned Town Hall employees

with the perseverance to keep our town moving forward? Vote Gayle Furman for Town Clerk, and Michele Wyatt for Tax Collector. Are you looking for critical thinking, compassion, and consistency? Vote Krista Kardys and Andrew Cournoyer

for Board of Assessment Appeals.

This team of candidates has the skills, the determina tion, and the love for our community that's needed to

represent all of our best interests. Join me in heading to the polls on Tuesday, Nov. 7, and voting row A to bring our community together again.

Sincerely, Kyle Calash — Colchester

## **Endorsing Dillom**

To the Editor:

I am writing to endorse John Dillon and urge all Portland voters to reelect him to the Portland Board of Selectmen. I have known John for over 30 years. I was active with John with Boy Scout Troop 49 and witnessed his dedication, leadership and caring as a scout leader. John's credentials to continue on the Board of Selectman are exceptional. His career of over 35 years with the State of Connecticut, serving as statewide program director for the Office of Child Support Services, as chairman of the Portland Board of Assessment Appeals, as a Portland Inland Wetlands commissioner, as well as being the recipient of the Ralph Paley Spirit of Portland Award, make him someone who will serve and benefit the residents of Portland.

John and his wife Maura are lifetime residents and raised a family of three children in our town. He has shown dedication to detail in assisting the Board of Selectmen govern the Town of Portland. Please allow him to continue his service by casting your vote for John on Election Day!

David O'Brien - Portland

Consiglio Has My Vote

To the Editor: This summer I had the pleasure of having a lengthy conversation with Colchester Board of Education candidate John Consiglio and I was very impressed and inspired by his integrity, work ethic and commitment to conservative values. He has raised his own children, coached others on the field, and I am very confident in

his ability to serve on the Board of Education. On Election Day, John Consiglio has my vote

Christina Martin - Colchester

## Your Vote Counts!!

To the Editor:

Remember when you are at the polls, know your candidates. Do your research!

Look for the person who listens to everyone. Look for the person who is willing to work well with others. Look for diversity on all the boards. Look for the honest and respectful candidates.

Rosemary Gignac - Colchester Note: Gignac is a member of the Colchester Board of Education, but said she is speaking as a citizen.

## Open, Responsible Governance

To the Editor: Who do I want governing our town? East Hampton's

Democratic candidates!

I want competent people, committed to open, honest, transparent, and responsible governance.

I want leaders who will be accountable to all residents. We are a diverse town - young families new to town and seniors who have been here for decades - people who are financially secure and people who struggle because of underemployment, fixed incomes or other reasons. Each group has its own interests, needs, expectations, and concerns including affordability, access to town services, education, public safety, administrative, recreational, and social and other support.

I want the people governing our town to consider and weigh the different interests and concerns of all residents with the needs of our town and society and make the best policy decisions based on facts and data, input from residents and with an eye on preparing the town for future

I want leaders who are sensitive to affordability and who will make wise fiscal decisions. I want them to wisely consider "needs vs. wants," "cost vs. value," and "investment vs. expenditure." They are "For People."

They are committed to residents' needs and the town's future. They are "For People" - all the people. That means accountability to all the people, a responsibility to respectfully listen to all residents and voters and seriously consider their positions. They will craft policies and budgets that respond to residents' needs, town operations and maintaining our quality of life.

They are "For Progress."

To the Editor:

They will be responsible stewards of the town. They will maintain and preserve what we have now and accept the reality that growth is inevitable and needs to be planned for in a realistic and responsible way and being open to improving the quality of life when possible.

Brian Corvo - East Hampton

## **Supports Tierney**

The first contact most people have in the Portland Town Hall is in the town clerk's office. Michael Tierney has continued a long tradition of welcoming people and helping them conduct whatever their business might be, taking the time to direct them to the correct department.

Mr. Tierney brings a friendly, easy-going style as well

as a great deal of private sector expertise and business acumen to this office. He has had to learn a great deal about the responsibilities of the office after his appointment in 2022. He continues educating himself, learning about the office. He has continued the digitization of the Portland land records, a project started under long time town clerk, Bernadette Dillion. We now have records back as far as 1850. The project is on track for completion in 2024, back to 1841. He is researching best systems and practices for access with other towns' town clerks, to find the best solution.

Thanks to Mr. Tierney and Ryan Curley, Portland offers many other online services including dog licenses, Board of Selectmen meeting minutes back to the 1940s, accepting electronic recording of many documents and the ability to pay using a credit card. He continues to seek out better, more efficient ways to improve service. Mr. Tierney is also involved in our community. He is

a lifelong parishioner of St. Mary. As an Eagle Scout, he has volunteered his time and expertise with Portland Boy Scout Troop 2 for many years, serving in many leader-

While the current state of political discourse appears to be mired in acrimony and partisanship, the folks running for elected office in Portland are genuinely interested in working to improve the town without regard to party affiliation.

Get out and vote Nov. 7!

Craig Brown - Portland

## **Support BOE Democrats**

To the Editor:

Tuesday is Election Day and I will be proud to support Laurel Steinhauser, Sarah Spear, Meg Scata and Kim Nagy-Maruschock for the Portland Board of Education. I have seen these women in action. I've seen their track record and their attempts to create and implement policies that support all the diverse students of our community. Under Democratic leadership, our district has provided mental health professionals in each school and expanded mental health access through a unique partnership with the Community Health Center. After working in health care for over 20 years, I know how vital this in-school access to service is for busy families and children who may not otherwise be able to access care.

I know tensions can run high this time of year and elections can bring out the worst in folks. But what I have seen from these four candidates is the highest integrity when situations are fraught. They have the ability to come together, keep their cool, and work with the school administration to do what is best for our schools. In every decision they ask themselves "what is best for students, what is best for families, what is best for staff? That should be commended. This should be what we strive to have in our schools. And this is why we need to reelect Laurel, Sarah, Meg and Kim.

See you at the polls on Tuesday! Erin Livensparger - Portland **BOE Experienced Leaders** 

Dear Portland Neighbors: As incumbent members of the Portland Board of Education, we are writing to ask for your support as we seek reelection on Nov. 7. We are passionate supporters of public education and committed to continuing the progress we have made to ensure an excellent educational experience for Portland students. Some of this Board's

accomplishments include:

Portland students consistently perform above state averages. Post-pandemic, we are prioritizing providing curricular stability, mental health professionals, increased interventionists and paraprofessionals, and a stronger ELA curriculum to support our youngest learners.

We have managed the BOE budget carefully with minimal annual increases. In April, the state cut Portland's anticipated funding, leaving a hole in our budget. Through careful management, in partnership with our highly-skilled administrative team, we finished the year without a deficit.

We have supported the development of the Bridges, Harbor, and Transition Programs, designed to meet the needs of our students in-district, saving hundreds of thousands of dollars in outplacement costs annually.

We value transparency and have worked to make all PreK-12 curriculum available to the community through an online portal on the district website.

We evaluated long-term school facility needs and are collaborating with the Board of Selectmen to address aging infrastructure, ensure student safety, and provide an environment that optimizes teaching and learning.

We have successfully obtained grants to purchase hundreds of Chromebooks, ensuring our technology remains up-to-date and under warranty.

We supported the expansion of athletic and afterschool club offerings to meet student demand, and secured grant funding for major improvements to the High School weight room, enriching the educational experi-

In all that we do, we prioritize the academic achievement, safety, wellbeing, and growth of every Portland student. We humbly ask for your support so we can continue to serve the students, families and community we

> Sincerely, Kim Nagy-Maruschock, Meg Scata, Sarah Spear, and Laurel Steinhauser Candidates for the Portland Board of Education

## **Vote for Manning**

To the Editor:

Shaun Manning will have my vote for Board of Selectman on Election Day. His work on the board these past two years has proven that his only agenda is doing what is best for the town. Being an integral team member, he and the current board were able to: deliver upgrades to the public works garage, the senior center, and the sewer system; replace aging water mains, outdated fire apparatus, and the Portland High School track; begin the search for a new water source and study options for best use of our town schools. Infrastructure, public safety, and education have always been Shaun's priority for our town.

Please join me in supporting Shaun Manning for Board of Selectmen on Nov. 7.

Sincerely, Colleen Briggs - Portland

## **Bipartisan Thoughts**

To the Editor:

I have served on numerous boards and commissions under various first selectmen (selectwomen) and the one constant has been our combined love for Colchester, I have voted in every local election and my primary focus has always been, "What's Best for Colchester"! I admittedly lean toward fiscal conservative but equally lean toward socially liberal; a true middle-of-the-road voter. I have voted for Republican BoS members as well as Democratic BoS members and hope to continue to evaluate based on "what's best for Colchester."

This year after much consideration, it appears to be much different; I enthusiastically endorse Bernie Dennler and the Democratic slate of candidates. Yes, a lot of things have been done in Colchester, but they have been collaboratively done with ARPA funds, led by the bipartisan ARPA Committee with important contributions made by our department Heads.

It's been a long two-year wait but now is the time to make positive changes and support Bernie Dennler and his running mates. I can't think of a more caring, articulate and considerate individual to lead us into the future. Ron Silberman – Colchester

Note: Silberman is a member of various commissions and boards but said he is speaking as an individual.

## **Keep Moving Portland Forward**

To the Editor:

Two years ago, you put your faith in me and my team lead the Town of Portland. On Tuesday, Nov. 7, I am once again asking for your vote and your support to continue serving you. I am proud to run alongside a fantastic group of men and women who want nothing but the best for our town and its residents. Each candidate on my team has been personally vetted by me; I stand behind them and I am proud to run alongside them.

On Nov. 7, please vote for Team Curley on Row B, and let's keep moving Portland forward together.

Sincerely yours, Ryan J. Curley - Portland

Note: Curley is Portland first selectman, but said he is speaking as an individual.

## **Every Vote Counts**

To the Editor:

On Tuesday, Nov. 7, Marlborough voters will be going to the school community room to vote in the municipal election. Polls are open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Please take the time to vote! This is your opportunity to have a say in whom you would like to have as a member of our town's boards and commissions. In today's Rivereast newspaper, you will find a flyer with our complete list of candidates running for office. We welcome you to our website and Facebook sites for more information.

Please join me on Tuesday, Nov. 7, and vote for our candidates.

## Sincerely, Louise Concodello - Marlborough

Note: Concodello is a member of the Marlborough Board of Education and the Parks & Recreation, Lake Advisory and Nature Trails commissions, but said she is speaking as an individual.

## A Time for Change

To the Editor: The Colchester Democrats have a strong slate of candidates that includes some experienced candidates and some new with great new ideas.

We have a team that works together with a vision for civility and professionalism in Colchester with respect to all in our community.

I strongly believe we can take Colchester on a path to greatness that we can all be proud of.

Let's take this opportunity to make a great change in Colchester! Please join me in voting Row A on Tuesday.

Michelle Millington - Colchester Candidate for Board of Education

## **Support for Shannon Louden**

To the Editor

I am writing this letter to express my wholehearted support to re-elect Shannon Louden to the Andover Board of Education. Let me start by saying that I believe that every sitting member of our BOE brings great value and perspective to our board. Each member is worthy to continue as a Board of Education member.

I spotlight Shannon for a few reasons. She is criticized for sometimes having a critical tongue and feisty demeanor. But these traits are exactly why Shannon has been the highest-quality BOE member. She advocates for every single child, family, and member of the education community while looking out for the interests of the town. Shannon has never let any reason, political or otherwise, stop her from doing what was right for Andover Elementary School.

Shannon takes great pride in our school and always puts our Andover students first. She has shown full and unwavering support for the kids every single time. Shannon shows up for AES events to cheer the kids on, even though her son graduated from AES more than seven years ago. We need Shannon's passion, perspective, and legal expertise on our Board.

It is an indisputable fact that Shannon fights for the students of AES 100% of the time. She always acts in the best interests of our children, and I am asking families and all Andover voters to please vote for Shannon Louden for the Board of Education on Nov. 7. She won't let

Gerard (Gerry) Cremé - Andover Note: Cremé is chair of the Andover Board of Education, but said he is writing as a citizen.

## **Keep it Honest & Positive**

To the Editor:

I have had the pleasure of coaching many kids in our town. I have had the pleasure of volunteering in the schools and working with many children. In the past two decades of volunteering I have not once wondered if a child's family is Democrat or Republican; they are all treated equally. I have always been a registered Republican and two years ago I ran for the Board of Education, was elected, and have loved the experience! I have learned a lot about how the education system is run, how the town is run and how everything should function to-

I invite every candidate to reflect on their campaign; did you keep it positive? Did you stick to the matters that are important? Were you respectful to the candidates on all sides? Did you manipulate facts in order to promote yourself? I ask every voter to do your research! Many answers given during a campaign season do not reflect the actions of the person campaigning. Many candidates have been honest, even when they know people won't always like the answer. Many people say the voter will vote with their wallet. Please keep in mind that when the can is kicked down the road for too long, the final bill can be

Thank you to all the candidates that have kept things honest and positive; your integrity is appreciated.

Margo Gignac - Colchester Note: Gignac is a member of the Colchester Board of Education, but said she is speaking as a citizen.

## **Vote for a Better Future**

To the Editor:

If you're burnt out from all the letters to the Rivereast, please take a moment for one last letter. I'll refrain from talking about me and turn the focus to the amazing team of dedicated individuals who have participated in my campaign. The Marlborough Democratic Town Committee has spent countless hours knocking on doors, putting up signs, sending letters to the editor and the list goes on They are citizens of Marlborough, young and old, who all have one thing in common; making their town an inclusive and welcoming place to raise their families. Without their support I'm not sure my campaign would be in such great shape. I would be remiss if I didn't mention the amazing slate of candidates who I'm running with. Their qualifications speak volumes to what they bring to their respective boards and committees.

Lastly, I'd like to thank the countless number of Marl-

borough residents I met while on the campaign trail. The one common thread they spoke off was maintaining our town's natural beauty and small town charm for generations to come.

Please come out to the polls to vote for a better future for our town. As I said in my first letter to the Rivereast, "A country grows great when old men plant trees, the shade of which they will never sit in".

John Rizza - Marlborough Candidate for Board of Selectmen

## **Seeking Your Vote**

To the Editor:

Please remember to vote on Nov. 7 and remember that just a few votes can determine the outcome of an elec-

If you are still making up your mind who you want to vote for, please consider the entire slate of Democratic candidates. Each of us is qualified and has the proper skills and backgrounds to succeed in our respective positions. To learn more about each candidate, please see our bios on colchesterdemocrats.org.

In this final letter before voting day, I'd like to reiterate

who I am as a candidate.

I'm involved...I am running for the Board of Finance because I am an active community member and parent who paid close attention to all the budget activities this year and thinks there needs to be a change. I'm new to politics, but not to our community.

I'm skilled...I have multiple business degrees and a 20-year career in managing large project budgets and teams through agreeing on goals, actions and compromises towards a deadline. I recognize the financial challenges faced by a town like Colchester and am ready to roll up my sleeves and work with all the different boards, officials, and my fellow citizens to find better ways to get things done.

I'm caring...I've been a volunteer in our community for over a decade, with the soup kitchen, St. Andrew's children's orchestra, and as president of Colchester Baseball and Softball League. I believe in giving back and being a role model for my daughters and I am running for the BOF to do both - identify something I think should be improved and then try to do something about it.

Please go vote for Bernie Dennler for first selectman, along with myself and Scott Chapman for the Board of Finance, and all the rest of the Row A candidates, too!

Thank you for your support, Karen Belding - Colchester Candidate for Board of Finance

## **Dedicated, Energized Dems**

To the Editor:

Over the last several weeks, you've no doubt read countless LTEs about the candidates for this year's municipal elections. One of the most important things I can say about the Hebron Democratic Town Committee's endorsed slate of candidates is that it is full. That is to say that there are so many dedicated, energized Dems in town that not one person has had to be asked to be a place filler. The Dem candidates have been working tirelessly to win your votes. You'll see them out waving, knocking on doors, holding fundraisers, and participating in community events. With any luck, you've had the chance to speak with them and hear why they're running. Each of them has a bio on hebrondems.com.

Historically, non-presidential elections don't get great voter turnout. We saw a significant change in this trend with the multiple budget referenda this year. In fact, many of the people who've been working to earn your vote this fall were greatly involved in getting the budget passed so that we could keep the town and schools funded. It took a village then and it will take a village now. It may not always be simple to see the bearing these boards have on your life, but the people who sit on them make decisions that affect everything you do in town; from what you can buy here and where you can live to what books are available in the school and public libraries.

The polls will be open at Hebron Elementary School (on Church Street) from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 7. Please make a plan so that you don't forget then come out and vote Row A.

Nicole Matthews - Hebron Note: Matthews is a member of the Hebron Board of

## A Vote for Law & Order!

To the Editor:

Education, but said she is writing as a citizen.

A vote for Michele Wyatt as Colchester's tax collector is a vote for law and order! A veteran of the position, Tax Collector Michele Wyatt

brings unequaled experience and a track record of high ethical standards to this position. She has upheld the le gal duties and obligations of her job by holding three different first selectman accountable to Connecticut tax law during her tenure. What will she do for Colchester? Her job – exactly as defined by the Connecticut General State Statutes, for the benefit of all Colchester residents. She is an active, well-respected, and beloved Colchester Lion's Club member of 17 years (including serving as president of the club) and a crucial asset to our community's financial transparency and accountability for all residents.

A more qualified, dedicated candidate cannot be found. She worked an endless amount of thankless hours as the sole employee in the tax department for the last five months during the chaos that was our recent budget battle. Michele lobbied successfully at the state level for the option to keep Connecticut tax collector positions voted in at the will of the people, in order to uphold needed checks and balances on the powers of local government with balanced, impartial oversight.

A vote for Michele Wyatt is a vote for the values of non-partisan government, upholding of your rights as a taxpayer, and the secure functioning of town governance, regardless of your party affiliation! Keep town finances ethical and safe from influence; a vote for Michele Wyatt for Tax Collector on Nov. 7 is a vote for the safety and security of Colchester!!

Sara Mussen - Colchester

## **Actions Louder Than Words**

To the Editor:

I'm writing to you today asking for your support in this coming Tuesday's election. This ask comes not without a track record. Since I began my political involvement here in Colchester I have stood with my fellow citizens, regardless of party, to take a stand. That stand vour rights as citiz cal conservatism. On these topics there can be no doubt that I have stood with you and in some cases I have stood alone on your behalf.

People running for office often make promises that they end up not keeping. My promise to you is I will continue to stand with you to make sure that we as neighbors take care of one another. First and foremost, making sure that the town is living within its means and that we are not taxed out.

I'm not running alone, nor could I accomplish my promise to you without the support of a slate of candidates' worthy of your support. This year that includes not only the Republican slate of candidates, but also Jason LaChapelle, a Libertarian running for the BOS.

My ask of you is to look at the character of our candidates. Did that individual stand for you? Were your beliefs aligned? Did they do what they promised? Did they try? Did they take the time to educate you? Did they show up with the facts? Did they even show up?

Everyone has their own style, and everyone is at a different point in their journey. As a result, our communication styles are different. Some connect and some do not. We are not perfect, we are volunteers and yes, we make mistakes just like any other human being. The one thing that can't be argued is our passion and love of commu-

Taras W. Rudko - Colchester Chairman, Colchester Republican Town Committee Candidate for the Board of Selectmen

See Letters, page 34

Thank You and Please Vote! To the Editor:

I want to thank everyone in Hebron for their engagement this entire year, for listening to all of us candidates, and (let's face it) enduring the municipal campaigns over the past couple of months. I ask that you vote on Tuesday - not for our benefit, but for your own benefit and that of the town.

My running mates and I have shown over the past few weeks that we have the skill, the motivation, the dedication, and the best interests of the town. But we need your help – your vote – to truly make a difference. If you've just started reviewing your choices, I encourage you to read up on us at hebrondems.com.

To my running mates for all the boards: it has been an honor to run with you! You have shown true commitment at events, at town meetings, and in everything else you've done over the past few weeks – as well as your years of volunteerism. I look forward to working with all of you!

Finally, do you have a plan to vote on Tuesday? It doesn't have to be a complicated plan - in the past I've simply put a sticky note on my dashboard telling myself "go vote on your way to work." The polls are open at Hebron Elementary School on Church Street, Tuesday from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. It doesn't take long at all – I've rarely had to wait (except for that one time in 2020). Sometimes, I've been able to buy famously-tasty cookies nearby - I can't pass up a good snack!

Once again - thanks to all of Hebron, and I encourage you to Vote Row A!

> Sincerely, Adam Ockman - Hebron Candidate, Board of Finance

## Hammond and Renner for BOE

Portland Republicans have two great candidates running for BOE. Angela Hammond and Karen Renner are longtime residents, having educated their children in the Portland School system. Both have been active participants on various town committees in the past.

Angela has previously worked for the state Department of Education Office of Early Childhood Development and in the private sector at Aetna as an IT project manager. She has a passion for public education for all children regardless of backgrounds, disabilities, or ethnicity. She believes that our children are our greatest asset for our future and favors making available career and technical programs that will help our diverse students achieve a successful primary education. She recognizes that physical and mental health programs are keys for all students and safety should be our number one priority.

Karen is a real estate professional and an administrative assistant. She has had three children go through the Portland schools. Her concerns for BOE are parental rights, improving student achievement and curriculum, and special education.

Both candidates see the most serious issues facing the BOE are the significant facilities, capital improvement needs, and a decision on new construction and the possible closing of one or more school buildings.

Both Angela and Karen are good listeners and willing to champion for the residents of Portland regardless of party affiliation and are fair minded fiscally prudent citizens who want to make a difference in the future of our educational development.

Please give these two fine candidates your consideration on Nov 7, as I feel they will make an excellent addition to our BOE.

Rick Sharr - Portland

## Vote for Colchester

To the Editor: The citizens of Colchester deserve better. They deserve the sincere efforts of their town leaders to move Colchester forward while striving to maintain our small-town character. Bernie Dennler and his fellow Demo-

cratic candidates embody the values and sincerity to do this They are not radical socialists as some would have you believe. They want the same things you want: good schools, balanced budgets, and well-considered community amenities. As first selectman, Bernie will restore stability, effi-

ciency, civility, and real transparency at Town Hall. He will partner with civic organizations and small businesses to strengthen the Colchester community. Under Bernie, Colchester will pursue options for regional shared services with other eastern Connecticut towns through SECCOG and similar organizations. He will collaborate with local and regional organizations such as seCTer to strategically promote economic development. Other goals are to prepare a plan for the future of the Youth Center, our recreation fields, and other recreational spaces for youth and adults. Bernie will protect town services and prevent the privatization of public services like sewer & water, the transfer station, and public works.

To vote for Colchester, please vote for Bernie and the Democratic team! Bernie will work for Colchester!

John Barnowski - Colchester

## Conservatives for Row A

To the Editor:

We need a change in government in Hebron. Vote Row A for a change in government.

If you are a conservative and believe in low taxes, small government and majority rule; if you believe that following the town charter and its ethics requirements is important; if you believe that citizens should determine the fate our town, not bureaucrats; and if you believe that to be a free people, the government must follow the dictates of the majority while protecting minority rights; then please vote row A.

Once elected in Hebron, there seems to be little difference between Republicans and Democrats. Our local politics has become a contest between insiders who wish to retain their power and the rest of us who are compelled to pay for their pet projects. Policy should be dictated by the majority - does this need to be said in America? and yet this is not happening in our town. Regardless of your party, this time, vote for the outsiders, vote row A and let's reform our broken government.

(Because of the math in this multi-vote election, for row A to win, it is important that citizens vote only for that line. Using the extra vote is a vote against your preferred candidates.)

Vote Row A Only!

John Collins - Amston

## A Dependable Presence

To the Editor:

As the tax collector of Colchester, Michele has been a dependable presence in our chaotic town hall and has my vote for tax collector on Nov 7.

Michele's credentials give Colchester a solid foundation and it shows in our exceptional collection rates. She is a Certified Connecticut Municipal Collector (CCMC) as well as a Certified Connecticut Municipal Official (CCMO) with the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities. She is the President of the New London County of Tax Collectors and serves as a board member of the CTX; Connecticut Tax Collectors Association. Twenty+ years' experience in banking, finance, and municipal government serves us well.

Michele is a problem-solver who finds customeroriented solutions in the highly directed framework of tax collection without cutting corners. The tax collector's office is mandated by state statutes to collect both current and delinquent taxes. Michele took an oath to follow those rules and our town charter.

Colchester needs Michele's expertise in the tax collector's office. Please join me in voting for her and the entire row A on Nov. 7!

Regards, Amy Domeika - Colchester

## **My Core Values**

Dear Andover Residents:

I want to reaffirm my candidacy and the values I hold, which align with the responsibilities of a Board of Education member.

My core values revolve around integrity, collaboration, and an unwavering commitment to the well-being of our town and the education of our children. My dedication is firmly rooted in what truly matters: the heart of our community. It is this dedication to collaboration and ensuring our children's safety that distinguishes me and makes me the ideal choice for the Board of Education.

I believe in working hand-in-hand with other town boards, acknowledging that collaboration is essential for addressing the unique challenges we encounter. In Andover, our strength lies in our unity, and we must embrace a wide range of perspectives to make well-informed decisions that benefit us all.

My support for teachers, parents, and students is deeply rooted in my belief in their pivotal role in shaping our educational system.

I am wholeheartedly committed to ensuring that every voice in our community is heard. Your perspectives are invaluable in shaping the future of our educational system, and I am resolute in representing them.

I ask you to cast your vote in favor of the candidate who truly values your input, is dedicated to our community's well-being, and strives for the best for our children. Choose a candidate based on their commitment to our town, their collaborative spirit, and their devotion to our teachers, parents, and students.

It is an honor to represent these values as a candidate for the Board of Education. Your support and your vote will empower me to transform these values into tangible actions and work tirelessly for our community.

Thank you for your trust and support.

Sincerely, Brianne (Bree) Lanzieri - Andover

## Senior Center Referendum

To the Editor:

The Board of Selectmen has set a date for the Town Meeting of Nov. 14 to move to referendum of Nov. 28 to authorize an additional \$1.5 million to cover the budget shortfall for the construction of the new senior center.

There will be two questions on the ballot: Question 1: Is asking for approval of both the \$32,691 of State American Rescue Plan Act funds that have already been awarded and the \$575,000 of funds from a donation received from the Estate of Stephen J. Bendas. Both of these appropriations do not include any taxpayer money.

Question 2: Is asking for approval of the additional bonding amount needed to complete the project which is

These three amounts total \$1.5 million. This is the total amount needed to complete the designed project, purchase all previously chosen furnishings and have a complete workable kitchen.

In addition, Colchester has received a \$2.5 million grant from the Department of Economic Community Development (DECD) for the Senior Center Project.

Marge Mlodzinski – Colchester Note: Mlodzinski is a member of the Senior Center Building Committee but said she is speaking as an individual.

## We Are All Hebron

To the Editor:

There have been two occasions when I have attended Mass in recent weeks when the readings focused on what are described as the two greatest commandments that serve as the foundation and law on which our lives should be based: (1) love your God with all your might and (2) love your neighbor as yourself.

The recent reminders to love one's neighbor as oneself caused me to reflect on certain letters submitted to the Rivereast by various Hebron residents throughout this municipal election season. There have been multiple letters written by various residents that attack other Hebron residents who currently serve on our municipal boards and commissions or that attack residents who are willing to volunteer their time and talent and are running for election. While we all enjoy the right to express our views and opinions, I have found the multiple letters attacking individual members of our community to be demeaning and offensive and ones that do not benefit our

In my experience, the political views and agendas that divide our country at the national and state levels are not necessarily present at the town level because those who serve our community do so for the same small community. That appears to have changed this year in Hebron. Efforts to bring the divisiveness that divides our country at the national level to Hebron during this election season do not benefit our community.

Hebron needs individuals with diverse backgrounds to step up and serve on our town boards and commissions. Public attacks of individuals who are willing to do so are unlikely to encourage others to volunteer to serve. When we have the opportunity to vote on November 7, perhaps we should choose candidates based on their experiences and backgrounds, not based on personal attacks or their affiliation with a particular political party.

Michael McCormack - Hebron Note: McCormack is a member of the Hebron Board of Finance but said he is writing as an individual.

## Support for Karen Wanat

I would like to take this opportunity to support Karen Wanat for Town Council. Two of Karen's key strengths are her commitment to diversity and acceptance for all as well as her advocacy of a strong education system for our children.

Karen is very approachable and willing to speak with all who have a concern or questions about East Hampton, bringing a fresh perspective so desperately needed to the Town Council.

## Donna Goodspeed - East Hampton

The Future Looks Good To the Editor:

As I look back to where the Town of Colchester was at the beginning of Andreas Bisbikos administration and where we are now, I can't help but see the many improvements that have taken place in our town.

Taxes have been kept in check even with a substantial

increase to the Department of Education in Colchester, and that is no easy task, but by working together with a very knowledgeable Finance Board Chairman, Andrea Migliaccio, the Board of Finance unanimously sent a budget to referendum and it passed overwhelmingly. I think the future looks good for Colchester and I am

very happy for the progress that has been made in the past couple of years.

## Cliff O'Donal - Colchester Candidate for Board of Selectmen

## We Need Your Support

To the Editor:

It has been an honor to serve the town of Andover during the past four and a half years and I have many memories and experiences serving the community as one of your selectmen. This included walking door to door checking on residents after the storms of 2021 to unclogging Town Hall drains in 2022 when the selectmen were taking turns filling in for an injured town administrator. I've used my engineering skills specifying the three-phase power converter for the transfer station eliminating compactor breakdowns and lightning protection for Andover ball field irrigation system. I researched and recommended what I felt was the best and practical new vehicle for senior transportation. And let's not forget working as member of a great team of Select-men to get things done and the remarkable change in town that has occurred during our tenure.

During this election season I have written letters endorsing Democrats, Republicans, and a petitioning candidate. Before I endorsed them, I asked myself the following questions. Have their past actions contributed to a positive impact on the town? Have they fostered an inclusive environment instead of a divided one? Are they willing to put in the extra effort when required? And most importantly, are they willing to put their personal beliefs and politics aside and work together?

The accomplishments we have completed and that are in the works could not have happened without most of our elected officials willing to collaborate. This election, we need the continued support of like-minded and dedicated people like the ones I have endorsed willing to work together for the positive benefit of our community.

We have a great town with a group of dedicated candidates ready to serve. But we all need your support and your vote on Nov. 7.

## Jeff Murray - Andover Incumbent Candidate for Board of Selectmen

**Outstanding Job** 

To the Editor:

The Board of Selectmen (BOS) has done an outstanding job representing the residents of Andover. Jeff Maguire, first selectman, has led the BOS during these years, showing us his strong leadership. Scott Person and Jeff Murray served as members of the Building Committee, volunteering to help create plans for a community/senior center building. Scott supported the purchase of a bus for senior transportation when the DOT had funds to pay for this project. Scott keeps the soccer field mowed and watered as needed. Among other projects he has looked into cutting trees only as needed to help prevent power outages during bad weather.

Jeff Murray has given many hours of his time to work on the Veterans Monument Park project. He was the selectman who spearheaded the purchase of a car for senior medicals to save money for the town. Jeff is always ready to volunteer when needed. Paula King was instrumental in leading the 175th Anniversary committee to a fantastic finish. She volunteered so much of her time, energy and ideas to make this a wonderful celebration for the town. Adrian Mandeville has served as our vice chair, filling in when Jeff Maguire was out of town. He donates his annual BOS salary to the food pantry and senior luncheons. Adrian is a kind, caring individual who wants good things for our town. He has taken over production build on the Community Building and will be the "go-to" person as it is built since he owns a construction company and is very familiar with good quality workmanship. dges have been repaired, roads repaired, upgrades to public buildings have all been done under the current BOS. These are huge accomplishments.

Thanks go to the DTC and RTC for endorsing these fine people.

> Sincerely, Cathy Palazzi - Andover

## **Asking for Your Vote** To the Editor:

In recent weeks, I have had the privilege of meeting with many Portland residents at local functions and as I walked door to door throughout town. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who took a few moments out of their busy day to have a frank conversation with me about town issues and to offer kind words

of encouragement.

Over the last two years as a member of the Portland Board of Selectmen I have done my best to bring thoughtful dialogue, realistic expectations, sensible fiscal policy, and transparency to every issue. I have also leveraged 30 years of work experience in program administration and a deep appreciation for my hometown with every decision made. Above all, it has been my primary goal to ensure that the Portland Board of Selectmen continues to be what it has always been; a group of individuals working together across party lines to put Portland first.

Our future is bright with ongoing projects like the Brainerd Place development and riverfront properties improvement. Other important decisions on the horizon, like school facilities enhancements and development of a town-owned water source, will benefit our town for years to come.

It is my sincere desire to continue my tenure on the

Board of Selectmen, to serve our great community, and to ensure that beneficial projects continue moving toward

a successful conclusion. I ask for your vote on Nov. 7. John Dillon - Portland

Candidate for Reelection to Board of Selectmen

## Parents' Rights vs. Students' Needs

I commend Kim Nagy-Marushock, Sarah Spear, Meg Scata and Laurel Steinhauser of the Portland BOE for successfully guiding our schools through COVID and its aftershocks. The entire Board deserves credit for that, but these four have developed an inclusive style, one that constantly asks, 'How do we make this work for everybody?'

As part of that, the current BOE leadership knows that parents have the right to be heard. They've bent over backwards to weave those many concerns together to address student's needs. That's the priority. It's critical because each kid has their own path.

This means not telling students what to think, but teaching them how to listen and assess new ideas and experiences. How to play fair, how to be civil, and how to make amends when you screw up.

I look forward to returning Kim, Sarah, Meg, and Laurel to the Portland BOE. They've certainly earned it.

Regards,

Andy Bauer - Portland Note: Bauer added that he is a recently-retired middle school teacher with 34 years of experience.

## **Endorses Current BOE**

To the Editor:

As the upcoming school facility improvement project looms, it is important to recognize the progress the current BOE leadership has made in this important project – changing leadership now would be detrimental to its momentum! Please take a moment to recognize the significance of consistent, responsible, and collaborative leadership. With this in mind, I enthusiastically endorse the current Board of Education.

Laurel Steinhauser, Meg Scata, Kim Nagy-Maruschock, and Sarah Spear are intimately familiar with our district's facility challenges and have been invested in the ongoing work of identifying the best solution to our aging infrastructure, one that prioritizes high quality teaching and learning and balances the needs of our students, teachers, families, and community. They have a track record of prudent decision-making and cooperation which is precisely what we need to navigate these critical changes effectively. Let's ensure the future of our education system is in capable hands.

Sincerely Elizabeth Trojanowski - Portland

## We Need Jim Tripp

Portland Voters:

We need Jim Tripp serving us on the Board of Selectmen. Jim is an outstanding candidate with a background rich in the qualities needed for the job. He has a proven track record serving on both town policy boards and on Portland community service organizations. Jim received the 2022 Ralph Paley Spirit of Portland Award, he is a member of the Portland Lions and the Brownstone Quorum. His public service resume includes serving on the Portland Board of Selectmen, a member of the Board of Education and serving on the Park and Recreation Committee. Jim is currently Chairman of the Water and Sewer Commission. Jim knows the importance of prioritizing Capital Facility expenditures for strategic infrastructure investments which are the backbone of the town's quality of life and provide the framework for appropriate residential and commercial development.

Jim has a wealth of knowledge and experience regarding town matters and is committed to listening to residents and working to establish policies that will provide services and programs that are needed.

Fred Knous - Portland

## **Smart Financial Candidate**

To the Editor: I am writing this letter to share that I strongly support Karen Pakulis Paul for the Board of Finance for Marlborough. In her current role as Board of Finance (alternate) she has a history of digging in and asking questions about many finance topics.

She has the tenacity and intelligence to get into the details, listen to town residents, and make sure that the Board of Finance allocates our financial resources in the best way possible. She has prior experience working in a variety of finance related positions, including as a financial sontroller and financial analyst.

I know her to be a kind person who listens to people and can work with others effectively as a team. She is a problem-solver and loves our town as much as we do. I am looking forward to voting for her on Election Day.

Truly yours, Pam Thompson - Marlborough

## **Vote for Shannon Louden**

To the Editor:

Please join me in voting for Shannon Louden on Nov. to serve for another four years on Andover's Board of Education. I was quite taken aback by all of the recent letters in the Rivereast criticizing the BOE and wanted to write this letter to support Shannon and her important advocacy for the BOE's budget to allow Andover Elementary School to continue to do what is best for the students.

I also was surprised by the letters that suggested that the BOE's budget is inflated. This school year's budget for AES was approved unanimously by the entire BOE. The town then approved of the town's budget, which included the budgets for AES and RHAM, by a two-thirds majority!
When 80% of AES' budget is spent on staff salaries

and benefits, there is not much wiggle room in trying to trim the budget while keeping the school in operation. Further, AES' student population has been steadily growing such that it has increased by 15% in just the past three years! Shannon is fiscally responsible and also recognizes the growing needs of AES as it continues to expand and attract new residents to Andover.

I suggest that the critics of the Andover Board of Education's budget turn their attention to Andover's levy for its financial contribution to the RHAM school budget. AES' budget of \$4.2 million currently supports 208 students while Andover's \$4.4 million contribution to RHAM's budget currently supports only 149 students; that's more than a 30% greater expense per student to pay for Andover's students at RHAM!

I know that Shannon is very proud to support AES and its students, and I hope that you will join me in supporting Shannon to allow her to continue her work on the Andover BOE.

Sincerely,

Julia Haverl - Andover

## Cover Story • Co

## ★ First Selectman Race cont. from page 1

Like Bisbikos, Dennler declined to peer deep into the crystal ball, but described the 2023 election cycle as a "year of change."

On Election Day, he expressed, "I think you'll see change."

Dennler's final message to voters: "I love Colchester. I'm doing this for you. I want to take my experience and passion to serve our community

## The 2023 Ballot

For the Board of Selectmen, seven people are running for four seats. Incumbent Democrats Rosemary Coyle and Denise Turner are seeking reelection, as is Jason LaChapelle, who was elected to the board in 2021 as a Republican but is running as a Libertarian this year.

Republican Deb Bates is not seeking reelec-

Coyle and Turner are joined on the Democratic ticket by Dave Koji, who currently serves as the chairman of the town's ad-hoc ARPA

On the Republican side, Taras Rudko, the Republican Town Committee chair, is running; Rudko had previously served on the select board, but was voted out of office in 2021. He's joined on the ticket by Art Shilosky — the former two-term first selectman whose current term on the finance board is expiring this year and Cliff O'Donal.

There are two open seats on the Board of Finance; Republicans currently hold a 4-2 majority and two of their spots are up for grabs this

The board's Republican chairman, Andrea Migliaccio, is running for another six-year term. She's joined by political newcomer Michael Dubreuil.

Democrats will counter with Scott Chapman and Karen Belding; their victories would give Democrats control of the board.

For the Board of Education, three seats are available this year. Stefanie Tracey-Calash joins incumbents Michelle Millington and Chris Rivers as the Democratic nominees. Republicans who hold a 4-3 majority — are proposing newcomer John Consiglio.

Democrat Gayle Furman is seeking another term as town clerk. Newcomer Shannon Nazario is looking to unseat her on the Republican side. Furman has been a controversial figure in recent weeks, following Republican allegations of wrongdoing - allegations that she vehement-

## TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON **ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS NOTICE OF HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Regular Meeting at 7:00 pm on November 13, 2023 at the East Hampton Town Hall - 1 Community Drive and via Zoom meeting (see Town website for details) to consider the following: ZBA-23-007: Tommaso Progano, 12 Terp Road, Reduce westside setback from 25' to 16.75' for Garage, Map 06/ Block 14/ Lot 5/6

2TB 11/3, 11/10

## TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON **ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS NOTICE OF HEARING**

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ZBA-23-007: Tommaso Progano, 12 Terp Road, Reduce westside setback from 25' to 16.75' for Garage, Map 06/ Block

ZBA-23-008: Flanders Road Estates LLC Flanders Road Increase height size from 30' to 32'7.5" for single family home Map 26/ Block 87/ Lot 6

ly denies.

The current town treasurer, Republican John Ringo, will attempt to retain his position. He will be opposed by Sean Gillespie on the Democratic ticket.

For tax collector, incumbent Democrat Michele Wyatt is being challenged by Republican newcomer Jeffery Duigou.

And for the Board of Assessment Appeals, Democratic incumbent Andrew Cournoyer is running again, alongside Krista Kardys. Republican Glenn Shilosky is running as well; there are three seats open.

## How The Chairs Feel

Monica Swyden, chairman of the Democratic Town Committee (DTC), said that once her party began door-knocking in the spring, the message they heard from residents was clear: 'People in Colchester want change."

"The 14 candidates running for office knew that this campaign wasn't going to be easy," she told the Rivereast. "Despite the ad hominem attacks, they have been graceful under pressure. We've worked hard, knocked more doors than any campaign ever has, engaged the community like never before, and recruited wonderful new

Swyden described the Democratic campaign as "phenomenal, positive and fun."

"Despite the efforts from the other side to throw us off base, we have done exactly what I promised the Rivereast we would do back at our caucus in July — stay authentic and tell the truth," she asserted.

The final verdict is now in the hands of voters, Swyden expressed. She echoed the sentiment delivered by Dennler, to bring civility back to Town Hall.

"I am hopeful that voters want to move in this new direction and change course, but at the end of the day on Tuesday, all that will matter is who cast their ballot and who didn't," Swyden said.

She added that Democrats "are taking noth-

## TOWN OF PORTLAND **PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION** LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Portland Planning & Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, November 16, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the Buck Foreman Room (2nd Floor), 265 Main Street, Portland, CT.

Application #23-03: Proposed amendment to the Town of Portland Zoning Regulations, Article 9.7.1.A.1 add Miniature Dwarf Goat to small Animals and new Article 9.7.2.A.h to add acreage requirements and restrictions to the number of Miniature Dwarf Goats that can be kept. Application of Ronald Doucette. Dated at Portland, CT this 31st day of October 2023

Robert Ellsworth, Chairman Planning & Zoning Commission

2TB 11/3, 11/10

## **LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF HEBRON**

At the October 26, 2023, Special Town Meeting the electors and voters of the Town of Hebron adopted an ordinance entitled "Hebron Housing Choices Advisory Committee Ordi nance" which in part reads:

Purpose: The Housing Choices Advisory Committee will serve as a planning and advisory body, and as a center of expertise and communication, with the objective to ensure Hebron offers a full range of housing choices for all households. The Committee will work through the Board of Selectmen, in coordination with other boards, commissions, and departments, while also engaging businesses, organizations and residents on matters pertaining to housing diversity and

The Ordinance also outlines the term, membership, powers and duties of the Committee.

The entire text of the ordinance is available in the Office of the Town Clerk and at www.hebronct.com.

This ordinance will become effective on the twenty-first day after this publication (November 18, 2023).

Andrew J. Tierney Town Manager

1TB 11/3

ing for granted" and will be working to bring voters to the polls next week.

Her final message to the community: "No matter which candidates you choose to support, please come out and exercise your right to vote on Tuesday. Please talk to your friends and families about voting as well. Sometimes people are shy to talk about voting, but it's really a wonderfully kind gesture to influence someone to exercise their rights."

Meanwhile, Rudko said he believes that candidates on each side were able to get out and spread their distinct visions for the future. The tone of the campaign, he said, was similar to prior election cycles.

"I think it went typical," he told the Rivereast. "There was nothing out of line. I think it was just as contentious [as previous years]. There were no surprises."

He added that sometimes a slice of national political divisiveness trickles down to the local level, but that it doesn't often become the focus of the election.

Rudko also opted not to make any firm predictions for outcome of the race. But he said he felt both political parties presented clear agendas and it was evident which incumbent candidates were running on their records and who opted not to do so.

'The folks that got their messaging across will do better," he said.

The Republican side, Rudko said, has promoted steady spending, and added that differs from the Democratic ticket.

"It boils down to how do we best serve the community," he said.

His final message to the voters was to examine each candidate closely: "actions speak louder than words."

After constituents evaluate those decisions and see what candidates actually did, "there's

Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 7. Polls will be open from 6 a.m.-8 p.m.

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septic system, generator hookup, plus an oversized 2 car garage with lots of storage space also adds to this unique home. A huge rec room with sitting area and ½ bath is located over the garage along with a screened-in porch, lower-level finished room with built-ins adds nicely to the square footage of this home. Attached as an added bonus is an adorable in-law apartment containing a living room, kitchen and bedroom with ensuite bathroom. Patricia Lujan will be hosting this open house.

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

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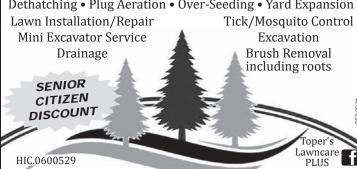
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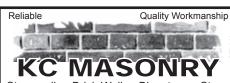
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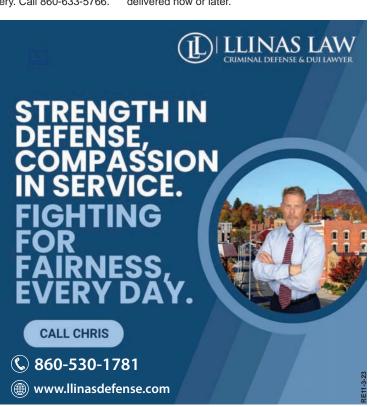
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